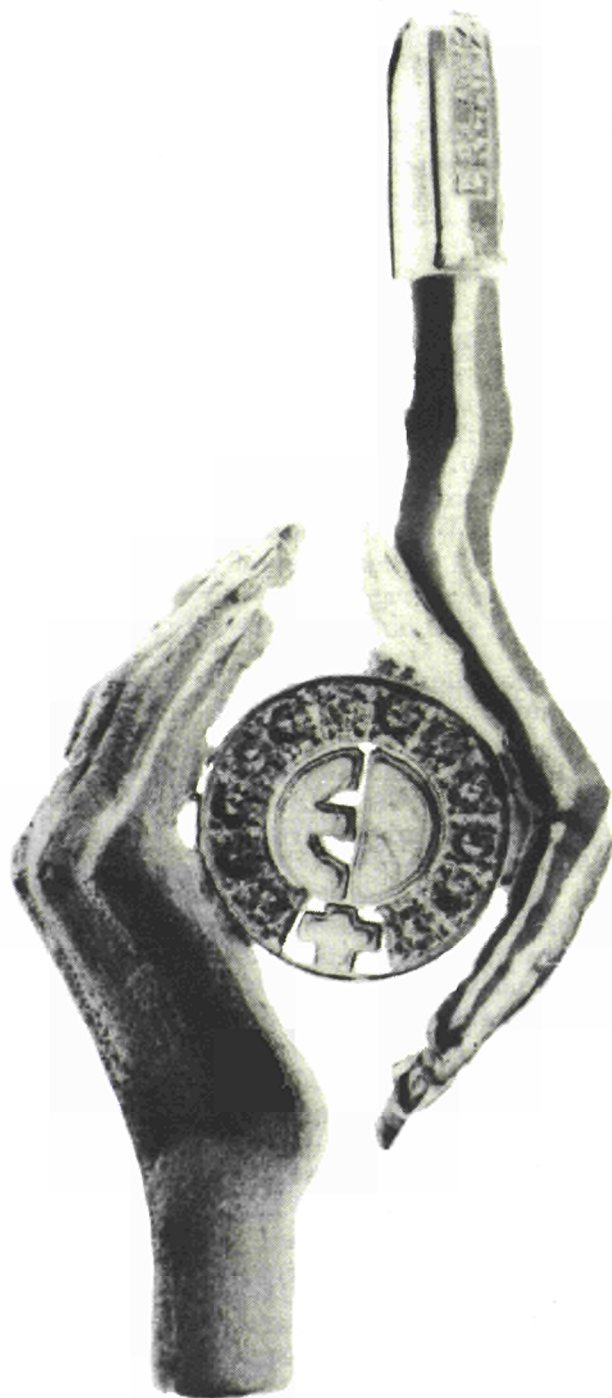


WOMEN OF EUROPE



N° 57 - 1988
NOVEMBER/DECEMBER



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Cover: Jewelry designed by Erlanz for the 1988 Women of Europe Awards (see inside, page 4).

Editorial work on this issue of Women of Europe was completed on 5 January 1989.

THE CHANGING EUROPEAN COMMUNITY

The new Delors Commission is set. As our readers already know, it includes - for the first time - two women Commissioners. This is good, but it is only a start. Both women have won their spurs - Christiane Scrivener in the French Government and European Parliament, Vasso Papandreou in the Greek Government. They are also responsible for two important areas (among the main ones looming on the 1992 horizon), just as they desired. Ms Scrivener is responsible for taxation, and Ms Papandreou social affairs. A woman will finally be in charge of women's affairs!

Here is the composition of the new European Commission:

- Jacques DELORS: General Secretariat and Legal Service, Monetary Affairs, Spokesman's Office, Planning Staff, Joint Interpreting and Conference Service, Security Office.
- Frans ANDRIESEN: External Relations and Trade Policy, Cooperation with the other countries of Europe.
- Henning CHRISTOPHERSEN: Economic and Financial Affairs, Coordination of structural funds, Statistical Office.
- Manuel MARIN: Cooperation and Development, Fisheries Policy.
- Filippo Maria PANDOLFI: Science, Research and Development; Telecommunications and Information Industries and Innovation; Joint Research Centre.
- Martin BANGEMANN: Internal Market and Industrial Affairs, Company Law, Relations with Parliament.
- Leon BRITTAN: Competition Policy, Financial Institutions.
- Carlo RIPA DI MEANA: Environment, Nuclear Safety, Civil Protection.
- Antonio CARDOSO E CUNHA: Personnel, Administration and Translation; Energy and EURATOM Supply Agency; SMEs, Crafts, Business and Tourism; Social Cohesion and Welfare.
- Abel MATUTES: Mediterranean Policy, Relations with Latin American and Asian Countries, North-South Relations.
- Peter Schmidhuber: Budget and Financial Control.
- Christiane SCRIVENER: Indirect Taxation and the Customs Union, Direct Taxation and Social Security Payments.
- Bruce MILLAN: Regional Policies (including integrated programmes).
- Jean DONDELINGER: Audio-visual and Cultural Affairs, Information and Communication Policy, People's Europe, Official Publications Office.
- Ray MACSHARRY: Agriculture, Rural Development.
- Karel VAN MIERT: Transport, Credit and Investment, Consumer Protection.
- Vasso PAPANDEKOU: Employment, Industrial Relations and Social Affairs; Human Resources, Education and Training.

SPANISH PRESIDENCY: Spain has the Presidency of the European Communities for the first half of 1989. It has scheduled an informal ministerial meeting on equal opportunity for men and women, to be held on April 28 and 29 in Toledo.

1988 Women of Europe Awards: First prize was awarded to the Association of Women against the Mafia in Rhodes, in the wings of the European Summit. Marianne Rombolá, widow of the mayor of Gioia Tauro, who dared to denounce her husband's assassins in court, received the prize, which was awarded, according to the Jury, for the courage and heroism of these women who are fighting for safety and against organized crime in Europe. "The Europe that we want," Ms Rombolá told the press, "cannot exist if crime continues to exist...I hope that we will be able to say in the very near future, 'Once upon a time there was the mafia...'" The prize, which was an initiative of the European Union of Federalists and sponsored by the European Commission through its Women's Information Service, consists of a piece of jewelry by the Spanish sculptor Erlanz in the form of two clasped hands, symbolizing the solidarity between men and women in building Europe. Second prize went to Alikí Yotopoulou-Marangopoulou, President of the League of Women's Rights and the first woman professor of criminal sociology at Athens University. The third prize was awarded to Jacqueline Rousseau, of Belgium, former President of the European Confederation of Liberal Women. Useful address: Ms Angèle Verdin, Chairwoman of the Committee for Equality, UEF, 66, rue de Trèves, B-1040 Brussels.

SOCIAL AFFAIRS COUNCIL

The Social Affairs Council held on December 16 adopted a resolution concerning women returning to work or entering the work force later in life. However, the Ministers were unable to adopt the Commission's draft directive to change the burden of proof within the general framework of equal treatment for men and women due to British opposition, whereas the other eleven delegations had accepted the draft with the addition of a last compromise from the Presidency.

Vocational Training: Commission Vice-President Marin officially launched IRIS, the European network of vocational training projects for women, in December, at a conference organized jointly with CREW (Centre of Research on European Women) and in the presence of representatives of the network's 72 projects. These projects (employment agencies, equality committees, training institutes, trades unions) involve banking, building, electronic and mechanical engineering, crafts, the environment, and many other areas.

Unemployment: According to Eurostat's statistics for September, unemployment continued to strike women (13.6% of the work force) harder than men (8%) in the Community as a whole.

Women and Employment: The European Commission (Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Education) has just published - in all of the Community's official languages - the final report of the seminar on migrant women and employment that took place in Brussels at the end of 1987.

Family: The European Commission has just published a report (V/1795/88, in French) called Activité féminine et composition des familles, comparaison entre pays de la Commission européenne. This report shows, with the help of graphs and charts, the correlation that exists between the number of young children a woman has and her occupational status.

European University Institute of Florence (Villa Schifanoia, I-50133 Firenze): Gisela Bock, director of the Centre of Research on European Culture, is currently laying the foundations for what may one day become the European Centre for Women's Studies, as called for by the European Parliament in September. Indeed, since becoming director of the Centre (which is two years old), Bock has not ceased to develop interdisciplinary research on women, for example, by holding seminars on women and work from the 15th to the 20th century, birth control, demographic policy and racism in 19th- and 20th-century Europe, motherhood and child benefits in Europe and the United States between 1890 and the 1940s, and gender in political thought, justice and morality. Current research includes an investigation of "poverty, motherhood and the rise of the western welfare states".

Civil Service: The European Institute of Public Administration (Maastricht, the Netherlands) has published an interesting working document on "women in the senior civil service: structures and courses of action" by Barbara Wurster (with the support of the European Commission). This report detects a trend towards more women in such positions, with a few exceptions. However, the starting percentages for high-level posts are still very low.

Culture: Commissioner Ripa Di Meana announced in December the creation of a European Support Fund for fictional screenplays for television and the cinema called "Europe SCRIPT Fund".

Symposia:

- * A legal symposium on Community directives on equal treatment was held in Barcelona in November. It was the first in a series of symposia organized by the Spanish administration, with the European Commission's backing, to raise the awareness of legal and judicial bodies to Community equal opportunity regulations.
- * A European seminar on affirmative action for women, organized jointly by the European Commission and Greek Government, was held in Athens in November. The purpose of the seminar was to evaluate the development of affirmative action in the Member States over the last few years, especially with regard to the Commission's 1984 Recommendation.

1992: THE BIG DATE

Equality: Another volume has been added to the "Document" series. It is the Final Report 1987 of the network of experts on the implementation of equality directives, available in English only. This report insists in particular on the need to define clearly, at the Community level, the notion of indirect discrimination.

Useful address: Publications Office of the European Communities, L-2985 Luxembourg

Sexual Harassment: A report on sexual harassment in the workplace called The dignity of women in the working world (available in English and French) has just been published, also in the "Document" series. This report contains a series of recommendations and a description of the situation in the different Member States (legislation, government initiatives, clauses in collective bargaining agreements, and research conducted so far). (See address above.)

To Know More about 1992:

- * Initiatives are coming thick and fast. To keep the public informed, the European Commission (Directorate General for Information, Communication and Culture, rue de la Loi 200, Brussels 1049) has published the following brochures in its "European Report" series: "The European Community in the World", "Eliminating Technical Barriers to Trade" and "Telecommunications: The New Motorways of the Integrated European Market".
- * According to the latest issue of Eurobarometer, two out of three Europeans want a "Europe without Frontiers" by 1992; however, 49% of the British respondents think that abolishing border controls would be "rather a disadvantage".
- * Still with the aim of public information - all the more necessary as 1992 approaches-, the European Commission has launched a new publication. It is JUS-Letter, a legal information bulletin on the rights of European citizens that is intended primarily for legal circles and associations. In addition, since December 1987, all European citizens may dial the number EURO-DROIT (235 94 78), in Brussels, on Thursdays between 2 and 6 p.m., for information and advice from a legal expert on the rights and duties stemming from European legislation. Written requests for information may also be sent to EURO-DROIT, c/o Press and Information Office, Commission of the European Communities, rue Archimède 73, 1049 Brussels.

Research: In July the Commission will confer awards on twenty young university teachers starting their careers who have conducted research on the subject of "After 1992: Monetary, political or institutional developments linked to completing the Internal Market" (European Commission, University Information, 200 rue de la Loi, 1049 Brussels).

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

'89 Elections: As the various political parties in the twelve Member States draw up their lists of candidates for the European elections that will be held in June (with women occasionally in good spots, as in the lists of Germany's SPD and FDP), it is worthwhile to take a look at the number of women Members of the current European Parliament (to be compared with the results in June!). Thus, women make up only 16.4% of the total, i.e., 85 of the 518 MEPs, with the Socialists in the lead (33 out of 165). The other female contingents are Christian Democrats (15 out of 113), Communists (9 out of 48), Conservatives (9 out of 66), Liberals (7 out of 46), ERDE (6 out of 29), ARC group (4 out of 20), the Right (1 out of 16), and the Independents (1 out of 15). The biggest national contingent comes from France, with 17 women MEPs, followed by Germany with 16, the United Kingdom with 12, Italy with 8, Denmark and the Netherlands with 7 each, Spain with 6, Belgium with 4, and Greece, Portugal, Ireland and Luxembourg with 2 each.

End-of-year plenary sessions:

At its December Plenary Session the European Parliament adopted the Community's budget within its deadline for the first time in years. The Parliament concentrated on a few major priorities, namely, food aid, the social area, education and youth, the environment, political action (in favour of the Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied territories, the victims of apartheid, NGOs working in Chile, and refugees), for which it increased

the appropriations. The Parliament also raised slightly the appropriations for fighting poverty and restored the appropriations that the Commission had proposed for male/female equality measures (it approved an increase of 350,000 Ecus, bringing the total - commitment and payment appropriations combined - to 2.4 million).

Also during its December session, the Parliament adopted the report by Dutch Liberal Jessica Larive on the **burden of proof in matters of equal pay and treatment for men and women**. In order to avoid a delay in the Council, which was scheduled to take a stand on this matter the next day (but was unable to do so - see "The Changing European Community" section in this issue), the Parliament approved an amendment proposed by Ms Larive to allow for the great diversity of situations in the Member States, especially concerning the judge's role. Thus, while the report initially recommended that the Member States incorporate into their legislation the measures needed to enable the courts to give an effective hearing to complaints in cases of presumption of discrimination, the compromise text that was adopted stipulates that Member States shall study how to introduce these measures into their judicial systems, with the possibility of the intervention of an independent body called on to report directly to the judge.

The Parliament had already had problems of this type on the agenda of its November plenary session. In particular, it adopted the report by Luxembourg Christian-Democrat Ms Lentz-Cornette calling for very strict, detailed measures concerning **minimal health and safety requirements in the workplace**. During this same session the Parliament adopted a series of resolutions asking the Commission to settle on a precise timetable for the social area along the lines of the White Paper on the Internal Market. The authors of these resolutions included Liberal MEPs Veil and Larive, Christian-Democrat Cassanmagnago, Socialist MEPs Dury, Salisch and Gadius, and all of the Communist women MEPs.

Committee on Women's Rights

The Committee's November session, chaired by Hedy d'Ancona, held a first, in-depth debate on the report by Spanish Conservative Llorca Vilaplana on the **exploitation of prostitution in the Community**. The Rapporteur noted that the Convention for the suppression of the traffic in persons and of the exploitation of prostitution and others, (UN A.G. Res. 317(IV)), which calls for clear, firm legislation in this matter, still has not been ratified by all of the Community's Member States (it goes back to 1949). She also denounced a string of deplorable facts, e.g., various types of complicity in the luxury-class call-girl trade, prostitution hidden behind a number of trades, the exploitation of the dependence of certain addicts, exploitation of immigrant women, vulnerability to disease (especially AIDS), and the laxism of the media (which continues to use advertising that depicts women as sex objects). A delegation from a Chilean farm union added its testimony through an account of the situation of women forced into prostitution because of poverty.

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The European Commission answered a number of written questions from Parliamentarians concerning the situation of women. Replying to Dutch Socialist van den Heuvel, it stated that, contrary to the past, the inspection regulation for boats sailing on the Rhine no longer contains any discriminatory clauses. Since April 1988, the only clauses concerning women specifies that pregnant women and women that have just given birth may not join the crew for at least 14 weeks after delivery. British

Labourite Megahy, who asked for recent statistics on the percentage of 18-year-old boys and girls enrolled in academic or vocational training courses, was given figures on secondary school and higher education enrolments showing that girls are more numerous than boys in some cases, namely, in Germany, France, Ireland, Luxembourg and the United Kingdom in secondary schools; and in Belgium, Denmark, Germany, France and Ireland in higher education. The Commission added that statistics on vocational training did not yet exist.

In addition: An urgent plea has gone out to the Christian-Democratic parties to support their "women's chapters" financially; parties and Governments are urged to send women delegates to international meetings; and Christian-Democratic Governments are exhorted to take the measures needed to guarantee the participation of women.

Environment

A woman has replaced Brice Lalonde (now Minister) at the head of the French section of the European Entente for the Environment (Secretariat: c/o François Roelants du Vivier, European Parliament, rue Belliard 97, B-1040 Brussels). She is Huguette Buchardeau, Lalonde's predecessor as France's Environment Minister.

Erratum: Shipbuilding: In issue N° 55 of Women of Europe (June-July-August), we incorrectly attributed the report on shipbuilding adopted by the European Parliament at its June Plenary Session to Ms Maij-Weggen. This report was drawn up and presented by another MEP, Ms Joyce Quin (British Socialist), to whom we present our sincerest apologies.

COURT OF JUSTICE OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

The EEC Court of Justice has ruled against France for discrimination, this time against men. France has maintained inequalities in favour of women in its Labour Code that the Court says are in violation of the 1976 EC Directive on sexual equality. The French legislation, the Court contends, maintains in effect for an indefinite period rights that are sometimes aimed at protecting women as elderly workers or parents, qualities that are shared by both male and female workers.

COUNTRY TO COUNTRY... FACTS, INSTITUTIONS, LAWS AND MILITANT ACTIVITIES

B E L G I U M

International Women's Day: The Women's Liaison Committee (*Comité de Liaison des femmes*, 1/a Place Quetelet, 1030 Brussels), chaired by Raymonde Dury and Hedwige Peemans Poulet, has begun working on preparations for March 8, 1989. The general theme will be "laughing at oneself".

Employment:

- * The Women's Labour Committee of the Ministry for Employment and Labour (*Commission du travail des femmes*, Ministère de l'Emploi et du Travail, rue Belliard 51-53, 1040 Brussels) has published its 13th activities report, covering the period from July 1987 to June 1988. According to Jo Walgrave, its Chairwoman, the Committee's work is no set of fireworks...but marks, slowly but surely, the path up the socio-economic ladder so that women will be found on every rung. In particular, the report reviews the impact of its first 47 official opinions as on June 30, 1988.
- * *Jeunes Filles et Femmes vers la Profession* is the title of a report by the French-speaking chapter of the National Belgian Women's Council (*Conseil national des Femmes belges*, rue de Florence 24, 1050 Brussels) based on a survey conducted in 27 technical and vocational schools. Among the survey's findings: All of the interviewees felt that it was as important for a girl to have degree as a boy. However, girls from the underprivileged classes often seemed to feel that raising a family was the normal goal of all women. A majority of the respondents also called for improving the image of housework, if possible through a wage.
- * The Belgian Secretary of State (Junior Minister) for Social Emancipation, Miet Smet (*Secrétaire d'Etat à l'Emancipation sociale*, rue de la Loi 56, 1040 Brussels) has had a very eloquent advert on affirmative action published in the countries papers. It shows three young women, looking fulfilled and self-assured, in an office. Underneath the caption reads, "The man your company needs may be here".

Taxation: Belgium's lower house adopted in December a fiscal reform bill that, as Senator France Truffaut said during the debates, is aimed, among other things, at improving the "family dimension" by taxing spouses' incomes separately, instituting a "marital quotient" (splitting the income of a household in which only one of the spouses works), setting aside a fraction of the income for helpmate spouses, raising the minimum tax exemptions for dependent children and children under three, and making childcare costs deductible. Ms Truffaut expressed particular satisfaction over the fact that the unfair system of combining spouses' incomes for tax purposes has effectively been abrogated.

Politics:

- * The Interior Ministry (Home Secretary) took an initiative regarding the October local elections that enabled women to be more "visible" on the voting lists by requiring that both first name and surname be printed on the ballot. As a result (?), 1,780 women - 368 more than in the last elections - were elected. This was 13.9% of the total elected.
- * "More Women Everywhere" is the slogan of the special issue of the *Bulletin de liaison de la Commission interfédérale des femmes du parti socialiste* (the Socialist Women's liaison publication) published at the end of the year.

Violence:

- * The December General Assembly of the National Belgian Women's Council adopted a resolution calling for an end to violence against all human beings, in the family as in society. The Council appealed to the Government, private organizations (to exert constant pressure) and the media to remain vigilant.

- * An average of 85 battered women a year seek refuge in the shelter set aside for them in Brussels (for information: Collectif des femmes battues, Tel.: 539.27 44). Similar centres exist in Liège (Tel.: 041/23 42 85) and La Louvière (064/21 43 33).
- * According to a report by the Secretariat for Emancipation on the experiences of 709 Dutch-speaking and 247 French-speaking women who had direct experiences of physical or sexual violence, 1/3 of the interviewees were the victims of sexual harassment and one out of eight women had been subjected to serious forms of sexual violence (by strangers in 1/3 of the cases, relatives in another 1/3 of the cases, and acquaintances in the last third of the cases). In addition, these acts were often repeated over long periods of time. Ninety-nine percent of the incidents were committed by men and 60% by persons of the same generation as their victims.

Housewives: The *Association des Femmes au Foyer* (Association of Housewives - Avenue Georges Henri 509, 1200 Brussels, Tel.: 734 28 41) elected Nicole Janssens to replace Françoise de Bellefroid, named Delegate for External Relations, as its President and Thérèse de Baets Vice-President at its statutory General Assembly. Speaking at an interview, de Bellefroid confirmed the association's claim for a benefit for housewives. In her opinion, a sum on the order of 12,000 Belgian francs (the amount currently granted in Germany) would be enough, but should be accompanied by a right to one's own social security benefits.

Family, Children:

- * "*Parents au travail : et la marmaille?*" (Where do working parents leave their kids?) is the title of a study that gives information on all of the childcare possibilities for children up to 12.

Useful address: Ministère de l'Emploi et du Travail, 51-53, rue Belliard, 1040 Bruxelles.

- * The *Conseil national des femmes belges* and *Nationale Vrouwen Raad* held a congress on "family and demographics" in Brussels in December. The participants concluded that the family remains the pillar of society and a family policy must be adopted that protects children's rights, gives distinct rights to housewives, and emphasises the couple's freedom of choice and the respect of that irreversible conquest, women's emancipation.

Poverty: Actions aimed at drawing attention to the pauperisation of families in Europe are on the rise throughout the Community. For example, the Family Law Centre of the Catholic University of Louvain will be hosting an international conference in Brussels on July 5-8 called "Work and Social Protection: Their roles in preventing the impoverishment of families in Europe. The conference will stress the importance of prevention and the family and European dimensions of poverty and precariousness. (Faculté de Droit, Place Montesquieu 2, 1348 Louvain-la-Neuve, Tel.: 010/47 47 30).

The Media: The *Commission Femmes-Image et égalité des chances* (Women - Image and Equal Opportunity Committee) of the RTBF (French-speaking national broadcasting company) is asking women who are sensitive to the issue of promoting equal opportunity for men and women to help it pick out systematically in the RTBF's radio and television broadcasts that which appears "discriminatory, sexist, paternalistic, uninformed or out of synch with current changes in society". Questionnaires are available from Angèle Verdin, CNFB, rue de Florence 24, 1050 Brussels.

Religion: In a presentation of Pope John Paul II's apostolic letter on "The dignity of women", Monique Hébrard expressed satisfaction over the fact that the Pope showed how indissociable the dignities of men and women are. However, she would also like the Pope to expound more on the meaning and requirements of this alliance between men and women, in allowing for the new aspects of their relations.

Army: Yanick Sablon, 19, is the first woman soldier to serve in the Belgian army. She began her service at the Saive Boot Camp, near Liège.

Sport: A symposium held at the Free University of Brussels by the Belgian Olympic Committee provided an opportunity to explore a series of questions about women and sport, especially the problems, whether gynecological or psychological, that may plague top athletes.

Symposia, Contacts:

- * The *Alliance agricole féminine* (Women's Agricultural Alliance - 21, rue de la Science, 1040 Brussels) organised a day of study on agriculture and 1992 in which special attention was paid to health problems and new models of consumption.
- * The *Groupement belge de la Porte ouverte pour l'émancipation économique de la travailleuse* (16, rue Américaine, 1050 Brussels), an association for the economic emancipation of women workers, will hold its General Assembly on February 23. Through its bulletins, this association keeps its members informed about jobs open to women in unusual sectors, criticises the current tax reform (because it does not make it easier for married women to work), and draws attention to the need for women to benefit from the new companies that are being created even in such traditionally "female" sectors as textiles and clothing.
- * The first Walloon "*Féminin pluriel*" ("Feminine Plural") Club (there are already 11 in Flanders) has opened in Mons (702 Parc de la Sablonnière, 7000 Mons).
- * To mark its 30th anniversary, the *Centre féminin de rencontres et d'échanges* (89 rue Saint-Henri, 1200 Brussels), has reasserted its will to continue its work, with a focus on helping single women and preventing the risks that threaten the weakest individuals, i.e., the physically, psychologically and socially most deprived.
- * *Contacts Informations Femmes 40/60* (17 avenue des Aubépines, 1180 Brussels) has opened an advisory office for women between the ages of 40 and 60 in the offices of Wolu-Service, 105 Boulevard Brand Whitlock. Hours are on Mondays, from 3.30 to 6.30 p.m. (information: Jo Poortmans, 673 62 48, or Monique Coenen, 375 66 64).
- * European Women's Management Development Network (rue Washington, 40, 1050 Brussels) has held a workshop on "The New Woman Manager - the international outlook".
- * The *Institut européen universitaire de l'action sociale* (European University Institute of Social Action - rue du Débarcadère 179, 6001 Marcinelle) is holding a European conference on May 24-25 on "Women in 1992: what family, what work, what mobility, what participation?" with the European Commission.

D E N M A R K

QUOTAS: At its last congress, the Social Democratic Party - Denmark's most powerful political party - decided to institute electoral quotas. From now on, each sex will have a right to 40% of the slots on the lists of candidates for local and departmental (i.e., county) elections, as well as within the party at both the local and national levels.

KVINFO: Lene Koch has been appointed director of the National Centre of Multidisciplinary Information on Research about Women, whose library has a catalogue containing more than 1,000 entries related to women's research. KVINFO also puts out a magazine called Forum for Kvindesforskning (Women's Research Forum).

Useful address: KVINFO, Nyhavn 22, 1051 København

Equality Council: The Danish Council for Equality (*Ligestillingsradet*, Frederiksgade 19-21, 1265 København) has two new members - a representative of researchers on women's issues and a representative from the Dansk Kvindesamfund (Danish Women's Society) -, bringing the total to 8 members. The Council is accountable to the Prime Minister.

Equal Opportunity at the University: Copenhagen University's Equal Opportunity Committee has held a hearing on equal opportunity at the university, especially as regards the male/female ratio among the "scientific" personnel. Women make up only a quarter of the university teaching staff, and this fraction is declining steadily. In contrast, girls make up roughly half of the student body. The University's Vice-Chancellor and five deans responsible for administration and the recruitment policy were thus asked to state what they intended to do to ensure a more equitable sex ratio in the "scientific" job categories.

DKN:

* The *Danske Kvinders Nationalråd* (Danish Women's Council), or DKN, has met with Denmark's women MPs to discuss several bills proposed recently by the Government concerning equal treatment, unemployment, pensions and benefits, the economic status of spouses who do not work outside the home, tax legislations, and the situation of the victims of violence or rape.

* The representatives of the DKN's 39 member organisations have discussed the situation of Nordic women based on a report called Women and Men in the Nordic Countries - Facts about Equal Opportunity (summary and explanations of the tables in English), presented by Ms Rita Knudsen. According to Scandinavia's female statisticians, the dominant position of men in statistics has resulted in a lack of precise statistics about women's living conditions. However, the available figures show, notably, that in Denmark women are as well educated today as men and that the same career choices are open to girls as to boys. Nevertheless, strong segregation along sexual lines still subsists, as a consequence of which women do not have the same careers as men.

The situation regarding equal pay has stabilised, and female employment is up considerably. The figures for 1986 show that 77% of Danish women are working. This increase in the employment rate is reflected in a steep

decline in the number of housewives. Today, only 10% of Danish women between the ages of 25 and 54 are housewives.

Useful address: Danske Kvinders Nationalråd, Niels Hemmingsensgade 10,
1153 KØbenhavn K, Tel.: 01 12 80 87

Trades Unions: The Danish Confederation of Trades Unions, LO, has held a conference on the situation of families with children and drawn up a report with four goals: 1) to show the particular problems of families with children; 2) to compare the economic situations of families with and without children but with identical incomes; 3) to reveal the economic factors that determine the situations of families with children; and 4) to make proposals on how to improve the situation of families with children.

F R A N C E

Michèle André's Programme: The French Secretary of State (Junior Minister) responsible for Women's Rights has unveiled, at a press conference, the broad lines of her programme, with special emphasis on the entry into and advancement of women in the working world, which is in turn dependent on improved training for girls. André points out that women, who make up 42% of the working population, but 54% of the unemployed, earn 37% less, on average, than men and tend to be concentrated in some 30 job categories (compared with 300 for men). She has also announced the creation of a "guarantee fund" to help women set up their own companies. This fund will grant a total of 15 million francs' worth of loans. Her programme also includes a special effort for women over 50, as well as encouraging women to take on positions of civic responsibility.

Film, Television: The *Centre Audiovisuel Simone de Beauvoir* (Syn Guerin, 29, rue du Colisée, 65008 Paris, Tel.: 4525 1775) is holding the first international festival of women's video films, called "Cathode Women", on February 9-12. Three awards of 10,000 French francs each will be conferred by the Jury to the best entries in the following three categories: fiction, documentary or news coverage, and artistic film. The FEMIS Award (consisting of the free use of equipment for the winner's next work) will be reserved for the work of a European film student. The CANAL Award will consist of the purchase of a film by this channel for broadcasting.

Académie française: A second woman has followed Marguerite Yourcenar into the prestigious *Académie française*. She is Hellenic scholar Jacqueline de Romilly, 75, who will fill André Roussin's vacant chair, after getting 18 of the 31 votes.

1992:

* In France, like everywhere in Europe, women are getting ready for 1992. For example, the *Groupement régional pour l'action et l'information des femmes et des familles* (Regional group for women's and family action and information) of the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Regional Council (GRAIF, 2 rue Henri Barbusse, 1341 Marseille Cedex 01) held a forum on women and Europe that included round tables on such subjects as setting up companies, employment, reconciling family and militant life, politics, and culture.

- * The 40th issue of the magazine Regards Femmes d'Ici et d'Ailleurs (12, rue Guy de la Brosse, 75005 Paris, Tel.: 4337 6128) sports a new section, "Europe", in hopes of becoming the "privileged purveyor of information" among women's associations in the Community, which "will have taken on a new shape 5 years from now".

Rural areas: The Fédération des Clubs de femmes de carrières libérales et commerciales et de professions diverses (federation of clubs of women professionals and other working women - Secretariat: Suzanne Millot, 15 rue de Ct. Tulasne, 37550 Saint-Auvertin), headed by Raymonde Martin, held its 12th congress at Arcachon. The congress focused on women and stimulating the territory through the creation of companies in rural and semi-rural areas. One of its conclusions was that one road to survival for rural society lay in the diversification of jobs, with a large contribution by women, since farms tend to collapse when men have to go it alone.

Education: Libertés et Communautés is the title of an excellent manual on civism published by Magnard. This manual for the 3rd form was put together by an all-woman team under the supervision of Danièle Carsenat and Sylvie Piquet, teachers at collège Blaise-Pascal at Plaisir (Yvelines). The last three chapters are devoted to Europe, i.e., the history and institutions of the European Communities, the reality and goals of "Our Changing Europe", and a European civic atlas "to achieve better understanding of our partners".

Feminist Studies: A symposium on women and the French revolution will be held on April 12-14 at Toulouse University-Le Mirail (5 Allées Antonio Machado, 31058 Toulouse Cedex, Tel: 6141 1105). Women are called on to contribute to a special issue of Les Cahiers du Grif on women and powers before 1789 ("Femmes et pouvoirs avant 1789") planned for autumn 1989 (3 cité d'Angoulême, 75011 Paris).

Useful address: Etudes féministes, 2/ter, passage des Marais, 75010 Paris.

Union des Femmes Françaises: The Union of French Women has just published the complete minutes of its tribunal (assemblée témoignages) on equality, dignity and solidarity that was held a year ago and attended by 170 delegates (UFF, 146 rue du Faubourg Poissonnière, 75010 Paris).

Association pour le Soutien et la Promotion de la Femme au Foyer (26 rue de Thionville, 59800 Lille, Tel.: 2074 3545): This support group for housewives held a round table on "time in the home...time to grow" at its annual meeting at the end of the year.

Contraception: According to a survey by France's National Institute of Demographic Studies, one out of three Frenchwomen (one out of two between the ages of 21 and 24 and 9 out of 10 30-year-olds) uses the pill. In contrast, the coil is used by 17% of all Frenchwomen and 25% of those between the ages of 30 and 40. In the past ten years the use of the pill has increased by about 0.5% a year and that of the coil has doubled.

Traffic in Women and Children: The Equipes d'action contre la traite des femmes et des enfants (21, rue Sainte-Croix de la Bretonnerie, 75004 Paris) continues to wage war against the traffic in women and children, to help the victims of "slavery by trickery or violence" by, among other things, publishing a magazine, Esclavages ("Slaveries") (subscriptions: CCP Paris 14 635-33).

The *Association nationale des Françaises à l'étranger* (National association for expatriate Frenchwomen - 9 rue Humblot, 75015 Paris) devoted a large part of its last quarterly to the presidential and general elections in France.

G E R M A N Y

70 Years of Women Voters: The 70th anniversary of the enfranchisement of women was celebrated with special flair by SPD women in Bonn. At the celebration, Social-Democratic Women's Chairwoman Inge Wettig-Danielmaier stressed that more women were in key posts in politics. The Vice-Chairwoman of the Bundestag's SPD group, Renate Schmidt, regretted that men still had not changed roles and attitudes enough (address: *Arbeitsgemeinschaft sozialdemokratischer Frauen*, Postfach 200 220, Kennedyallee 105-107, 5300 Bonn 2). Rita Süßmuth, for her part, urged women to make active use of their right to vote. She reminded her audience that 82.3% of the female electorate turned out for the January 19, 1919 elections, in which they voted for the first time, compared with 82.4% of the male electorate, while a scant 71.7% of women voters between the ages of 21 and 25 turned out for the January 1988 elections, compared with an average for the entire population of 83.1%. Irmgard Blättel, former President of the *Deutscher Frauenrat*, launched an appeal to the parties to give women a chance to exercise the rights that they won in 1918.

Politics: Rita Süßmuth has become President of the Bundestag following the resignation of Dr. Philipp Jenninger. Another piece of good news: She has been replaced by another woman at the head of the Ministry of Health, the Family, Women and Youth. The new minister is Ursula Lehr, a 58-year-old Christian-Democrat and professor of psychology and gerontology at Heidelberg University.

There are currently two female party vice-chairman: Irmgard Adam-Schwätzer of the FDP and Herta Däubler-Gmelin of the SPD.

Social Security: The *Deutscher Frauenrat* (German Women's Council) (Südstrasse 125, 5300 Bonn 3) has launched a campaign to defend women's interests in the proposed social security reform. The Council highlights two discriminatory aspects in the proposed reform, namely, a difference in the legal retirement age (65 for men, whereas women may retire as of 60; however, the Labour Ministry feels that the retire age should be the same for both), and the inclusion of the periods during which women forced to stop working to take care of their families pay reduced or no social security in calculating pensions. As things now stand, women are likely to continue to receive lower pensions. According to 1987 figures, 78.3% of female blue-collar workers and 57.4% of female white-collar employees were receiving pensions of less than DM900 a month, whereas the pensions collected by men were 33% higher, on average.

The *Deutscher Frauenrat* has a new President, Brunhilde Fabricius, and two new vice-presidents, Irmgard Jalowy (German Association of Catholic Women) and Helga Tölle (trades unions). All three were elected at the General Assembly at Bad Honnef in November. During this meeting the German Women's Council also adopted a plan with some 70 demands concerning, among other things, the social security reform, improving the image of women's work, improving the situation of immigrant women and measures against "sexual tourism".

Issue N° 9 of the Council's publication *Information für die Frau* contains an article on unemployment among women college graduates that gives some very detailed data, especially for Rhineland-Westphalien.

Health: While still Health Minister, Rita Süßmuth launched a new warning about the dangers of smoking for women, in which she called attention to the fact that 4,022 women died of lung cancer in the FRG in 1981 and more than 5,198 in 1987 (a more than 25% increase). She also underscored the harmful effects of smoking during pregnancy on the unborn child.

Key Positions: The more than 400 participants at a congress on economic power and women held in West Berlin in November ascertained that not even 1% of women employees hold key positions in companies (they hold barely 2,000 of the total of 52,000 key positions censused). The trades unions attending were in favour of a policy to ease the integration of women into the economic power structure and Gudrun Hamacher, a senior manager at IG Metall, proposed specific measures to help women in their companies. An expert on the matter, Camilla Krebsbach-Gnath, proposed creating a network to support "woman power".

Useful address: Senatorin für Jugend und Familien, 1000 Berlin.

Civil Service: The Greens (*Bundestagfraktion der Grünen*, Bundeshaus, 5300 Bonn) have drawn up a list denouncing the lack of women in key civil service positions. For example, there is not a single woman in a key post in the Ministries of Transport, Finance and Research, or in the Office of the President of the Republic or of the Bundesrat. While women made up 41% of Germany's civil servants in 1986, only 2.2% of them held positions of responsibility.

Trades Unions: At the convention of women employees of IG Metall (Wilhelm-Leuschner Strasse 79-85, 6000 Frankfurt), Chairwoman Gudrun Hamacher denounced the small number of women among the leadership of the steelworkers' trade union and in the iron- and steel-working industry in general. The participants were in favour of affirmative action but against the institution of quotas. They called for a shorter work day, were opposed to lifting the ban on working at night and on Sundays, and warned against the dangers of too much flexibility in working conditions.

Police: In Hamburg, where women began working in the police force in 1979, 400 of the city's 7,700-man force are women. Interior Minister Werner Hackmann (Innenbehörde, Pressestelle der FHH, Postfach, 2000 Hamburg 1) is pleased with the experiment and would like to extend it.

Restaurants: According to the most recent figures available, two-thirds of the 840,000 restaurant employees and 86,000 of the 200,000 chefs in Germany are women (actually, the real figures are higher, for married women often share in their spouses' work). In addition, roughly 50% of restaurant management permits are currently granted to women. The number of women cooks is also rising - 27% of the people starting out in this profession are women.

Useful address: NGG, Besenbinderhof, 2000 Hamburg 1.

Banks: Margret Mönig-Reane was elected to the leadership of the Banks, Trade and Insurance Trades Union at the latter's last convention. She is its only woman officer, although 60% of the union's members are women.

Deutscher Frauenring: Gertrud Wartenberg has been elected president of this organization to replace Irmtraud Steinkopf, whose term has expired.

: Erratum: The sixth item in issue N° 54 of Women of Europe should :
: read: CDU: The Federation of CDU Women, **composed of the 10** :
: **state (Länder) associations**, changed its name at the February :
: 1988 meeting of its federal delegates. It is now called the CDU :
: Women's Union (*Frauen-Union der CDU*).
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G R E E C E

Government: In the wake of November's reshuffle, Maria Kypriotaki has been named Deputy Minister to the Prime Minister with responsibility for matters of equality. Ms Kypriotaki has been a member of Parliament since 1977 and was Under Secretary in previous governments, primarily in the social sector.

Quotas: At a recent press conference in Athens the Women's Organisations Coordinating Committee (*Syndesmos gia ta Dikeomata tis Gynekas*, Solonos 41, 10672 Athens), created a few months before the Women's Rights League, called for the institution of a 35% minimum quota for women on voting lists and in all political decision-making bodies. A single women's organisation, *Omospondia Gynekon Elladas* (Federation of Greek Women), refused to back this demand. The Committee has sent out letters to the political parties, asking them for a quick response.

Statistics: The General Secretariat for Equality (Mousseou 2, Plaka, 10555 Athens) organised, with the International Institute of Research and Training for the Advancement of Women, a meeting for the producers and users of statistics in order to assess the work done by women more accurately. The discussions at this meeting revealed a series of flaws in the definitions and indicators used, as well as in data collection and questionnaires concerning women; the need to "measure" the unpaid work of housewives; and the need for specialised research to evaluate correctly the new forms of discrimination against women (especially those due to technological and other important changes).

Health and Safety in the Workplace: *Omospondia Gynekon Elladas* (Federation of Greek Women - Akadimias 52, 10679 Athens) has conducted a survey that reveals the following priorities for action: broadening the scope of the 1985 law on worker health and safety to include the public sector and companies with fewer than 150 employees; stipulating the maximum allowed levels of pollution caused by certain dangerous products and the frequency and type of monitoring of their levels; obtaining an objective scientific assessment of health and safety conditions for women in the workplace; and launching a women's awareness campaign about the risks incurred by exposure to an unhealthy environment at work.

Poll: The Greek chapter of the Young European Federalists (Tel.: 801 3849, Athens) carried out a poll called "1992: The People's Response" in the Peloponnesus in August. The purpose of this poll was to determine the trends in the Greek province concerning European affairs. In line with the second anniversary of the Women of Europe Awards, special attention was paid to the questionnaires filled out by women, which revealed that 63% of the women respondents saw 1992 as the "Year of European Union" and 48% of the female respondents felt that the most important event in the last half year was the Greek Presidency of the Communities.

Meetings, Seminars:

- * The Board of the Union of Greek Women (*Enossi Gynelon Elladas*, Aenianos 8, 10434 Athens) organised a pan-Greek meeting chaired by its Chairwoman, Margarita Papandreou. Ms Papandreou, speaking in an interview, recalled the organisation's priorities, especially those of strengthening its local chapters and its role in promoting peace. On the other hand, she refused to commit herself about the possibility of creating a genuine women's political party in Greece.
- * A seminar on affirmative action was held in Athens in November upon the initiative of the Greek Employment Minister and the European Commission and with the help of the General Secretariat for Equality and the Employment Agency. Representatives from all twelve Member States attended. On the whole, the participants insisted on the need for a solid institutional framework for developing affirmative action and referring to affirmative action in the pacts achieved through collective bargaining.

Useful address: *Geniki Grammateia Isotitas*, Mousseou 2, Plaka, 10555 Athens.

- * The Institute of Mediterranean Women's Studies (*Kentro Erevnon gia tis Gynekes tis Mesogiou*, 192/B Leoforos Alexandras, 11521 Athens) will be sponsoring a conference on March 16-19 on "The social history of women in Europe" under the aegis of the Council of Europe and with the collaboration of the Dutch Education Ministry.
- * The Greek Women's Rights League (*Syndesmos gia ta Dikeomata tis Gynekas*, Solonos 41, 10672 Athens) is in the midst of conducting a survey of sexual harassment in the workplace based on a sample of 10,000 working men and women. This year the League once again conferred an award on the advertisement that best expressed the new conceptions of men's and women's roles.

I R E L A N D

Poverty: The Council for the Status of Women (64 Lower Mount Street, Dublin 2, Tel.: 615 268) has just published a report on women's poverty in Ireland. The report was prepared by Anne Byrne of University College, Galway.

Health: The Steering Group of the Council for the Status of Women's Health Committee has published Positively Healthy, a report from the CSW's Health Conference, that covers reproductive problems, menopause, health in the workplace, travelling women's health, rape, poverty and mental health.

Children: The Employment Equality Agency (Mr. Kevin Folley, 36, Upper Mount St., Dublin 2, Tel.: 605 966) has published a national report on childcare and equal opportunity that says that as long as childcare is regarded as the sole responsibility of the mother, women will be denied equality at work. The report cites a 1988 study that found that 88% of non-working married women and 81% of married wage-earning men in Ireland are in favour of a national childcare system. According to another survey conducted in Dublin, almost two-thirds of women working full time in the home would like to work outside the home if childminding facilities were made available. The recommendations made in the report (prepared by Dr.

Anna McKenna, the Irish National Expert in the European Commission Network on Childcare Services) include tax relief for childcare costs and ongoing support for the workers who provide childcare services

Education: The Minister for Education (Department of Education, Marlboro Street, Dublin 1, Tel.: 717 101) has announced that the grant scheme for mature women, which has assisted 45 women since its commencement in 1985, is to be continued. Ten 1,000-pound scholarships are available.

Rape: The Taoiseach's Office (Prime Minister's Office) has indicated in a written reply that a new rape bill will be introduced shortly. Meanwhile, the Irish Supreme Court has handed down a very significant decision in relation to sentencing policy for rape offences, namely, that "mitigating circumstances" in rape cases were limited and that neither a victim's previous sexual experience nor the fact that she could be considered to have exposed herself by imprudence to the danger of being raped could conceivably be considered mitigating circumstances in any rape case. The Supreme Court's views have been welcomed by the Rape Crisis Centre (70 Upper Leeson Street, Dublin 2, Tel.: 614 911).

Equality: The Irish Centre for European Law (Trinity College, Dublin 2) has published a book called Sex Equality, Community Rights and Irish Social Welfare Law: The Impact of the Third Equality Directive, edited and prefaced by Gerry White and with a foreword by the Centre's director, Senator Mary Robinson SC.

Advertising: The Advertising Standards Authority (Shelbourne Road, Dublin 4, Tel.: 608 766) has revealed that only a small fraction of the complaints that they receive about advertisements in general relate to the portrayal of women in ads. Only 156 of the total of 1,703 complaints received since 1981 related to the portrayal of women. However, 44 of these complaints were upheld, compared with 211 overall.

Film: The Cairnes Theatre at University College, Galway, recently held a festival of films by and about women. It had a very international flavour, with films featuring women's experiences in China, India and Nicaragua.

I T A L Y

Women and Careers:

* FIDAPA, or *Federazione Italiana Donne Arti-Professioni-Affari* (Italian Federation of Women in the Arts, Professions and Business - via Domenichino 45, 20149 Milan) held a series of symposia in 1988 on women's roles in a number of areas, including labour (a symposium in Messina focused on the problem of female unemployment in the Mezzogiorno; female unemployment stands at 29% in Sicily); North/South cooperation (this theme was raised in Florence, with particular emphasis laid on the integration and schooling of immigrant children); and culture (a seminar

in Torino underscored the contributions of women as "producers of culture"). The problem of women and work was also raised at a colloquium of the European member federations of the International Federation of Business and Professional Women. The participants in a symposium on sexual violence approved a motion asking the Government to approve a law on sexual violence currently under study in the Senate. Finally, the FIDAPA publication *Notiziario* contains articles on "emerging" professions, protecting homeless women and the image of women in the writings of Leopardi and Pavese.

- * DEAL (*Donne Europee al Lavoro*, Foro Buonaparte 63, 20121 Milan), an organisation of European working women, raised the problem of women's careers at an international seminar called "*Manager sarà lei - Primo osservatorio Europeo su lavoro e carriere femminili*" (You Will Be Manager - First European Observatory of Female Labour and Careers) held in Milan in November. DEAL's current president is Maria Magnani Noja, mayor of Torino.
- * The *Associazione Professionisti di Verona* (Association of Professionals of Verona - via Gazzera 1, Verona) has conducted an investigation that reveals that of the 10,000 people included in the city's lists of people exercising professions recognised by the Italian Ministry of Justice, only 1,135 are women. The number of women is more or less equal to the number of men in only one case, that of pharmacists (women account for 47.6% of Verona's registered pharmacists).
- * A recent issue of the magazine *Minerva* (viale Giulio Cesare 151, 00192 Roma) contains articles about a survey conducted by the Crora Institute, Bocconi University (Milan) on women managers and the appointment of eleven women to senior positions within the Ministry of the Merchant Marine (a "small bombshell", according to the journalist).

Vocational Training:

- * The *Assessorato alla formazione professionale della Regione Puglia* (Puglia Regional Assessor's Office for Vocational Training - Largo Carabellese 5, 70121 Bari, Tel.: 534 660) has published the final report of *Progetto Donna : Dalla parità alle pari opportunità* (Project Women: From Parity to Equal Opportunity), edited by Lucia Berardino of its Studies and Programmes Office. The aim of the project, which was launched in 1987 and continued in 1988, was to help Puglia's women become more aware of the opportunities open to them, more capable of taking advantage of such opportunities, such as participating in programmes for young women in Bari, Taranto and elsewhere with the following career goals: executive secretaries, professional conference organisers, business audiovisual librarians, manpower organisers, fashion designers, etc.

Political Parties:

- * "Ideas and action from women in People's Europe" was the theme of the 8th National Convention of Socialist Women, held in Rome in December upon the initiative of and chaired by Alma Cappelletto. Built around five round tables and working groups on schools, work, information, culture, and Community institutions, the Convention took as a given that "Women's Europe already exists", in advance of political and economic decisions by men. The multitude of documents and resolutions adopted includes a final document asking the Italian Socialist Party to institute a minimum guaranteed quota for women of 20% in all its bodies, the final goal being, as Alma Cappelletto stressed, to have women make up 50% of the

These positions were backed by the high party officials who took the floor. It is impossible to give our readers an idea of the variety and richness of the discussions. Luckily, the organisers have promised to publish the Convention's Proceedings in record time.

Useful address: Renata Malerba, PSI, Via del Corso, Roma.

- * The Central Committee of the Italian Communist Party (*Movimento Femminili*, PCI, via della Botteghe Oscure, 00186 Roma) has decided to reserve about one-third of the seats in its executive bodies (a precise quota has not yet been set) for women. The situation varies greatly from one region to the next, from more than 30% in Emilia to less than 20% in the Mezzogiorno.
- * The *Conferenze delle Donne DC negli Enti locali* (Conference of Christian-Democratic Women in Local Government - Movimento Femminili, PCI, via della Botteghe Oscure, 00186 Roma) has held a symposium called "3,000 Christian-Democratic Women in Local Government: to reform the State and build Europe".

Discrimination: The Constitutional Court has ruled null and void an article in the 1986 law on the restructuring of Finmare that set different early retirement ages (55 and 50 years) for men and women, respectively, for redundant personnel. The Court stated that the rules on firings that prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex must apply in this case.

Housewives, Household Help:

- * A European symposium on the situation of housewives (*Movimento Nazionale delle Cassalinghe*), was held in Naples on the initiative of MOICA (Via B. Castelli, 4, 25060 Brescia-Mompiano). The participants demanded, if not a wage, at least an allowance based on the number of family members, as well as a pension and statutory accident insurance. Chairwoman Tina Leonzi reminded the participants that there were 80 million housewives in the Community and "without us, Europe would not exist".
- * Other women working in the homes, but this time the homes of other men and women, known as "*Colf*" (*collaboratrici familiari*, i.e., domestic help) in Italy, recently sent a delegation, led by the president of their Association, Clelia Caria, to Strasbourg for talks with Euro-Parliamentarians. Italian Christian Democrat Maria Luisa Cassanmagnago-Cerretti received the women's recommendations, which called for the creation of a European contract for housework (at least for salary and hours); action against undeclared help and the "abusive" agencies that sell the labour of foreign cleaning women; and recognition of the "professional nature" of their work.

Family, Couples, Children:

- * The number of population studies and surveys being conducted in Italy is growing. They show that the number of people living alone is rising (the number of "confirmed" singles is close to 30% of the adult population); the highest proportion of single women is found in the Mezzogiorno; people in the north marry less often and live together more often; the number of divorces is decreasing; and people who separate often do not get divorced. In addition, people are having smaller families, with three-child families becoming increasingly rare. Finally, an average of 210,000 abortions a year were performed between 1978 and 1986.

- * The Constitutional Court has decided that a person who refuses to pay alimony to a separated spouse or another person having the right to alimony may have part of his (or her) pension confiscated. The case leading to this decision was brought in Oristano by a separated woman.
- * The *Centro Studi e Ricerche sulla Maternità* (Centre of Study and Research on Maternity - Via Bagutta 12, 20121 Milano) held a symposium with the theme "Women and Children First: Birth and Delivery - What Will Change" about 18 months after the law on protection for the parturient and child while in hospital went into effect in Lombardy.

Symposia, Contacts, New Associations, Publications:

- * The magazine *Progetto Donna* (Via Trieste 13, 25121 Brescia) sponsored a symposium on the theme of "Adam's Rib - Contemplating the Difference" with the participation of experts in history, philosophy, anthropology and theology.
- * *La Tela per un patto di solidarietà tra le donne* (Web for a pact of solidarity among women) is the name of a new association in Terni (Studio Tecnico Architetta Morena Capotosti, Viale Cesare Battisti 63, 05100 Terni) to strengthen the dialogue with women in developing countries the world over. The initiative stemmed from a trip to Chile made by a group of women from Terni, who also had a chance to meet with some Uruguayan women and came back convinced of the need to express solidarity with women in "the South" more concretely.
- * The *Coordinamento ONG Donne e Sviluppo* (Coordination of NGOs for women and development - Via Raffaele Cadorna 29, 00187 Roma) held a symposium in Rome in November on the topic "Times and Places for Production: women, income, and international cooperation" that was attended by women representatives from Zimbabwe, Ecuador, Nicaragua and Brazil.
- * Nuoro, Sardinia, has hosted for the fourth time an international festival of documentaries for the cinema and television. The theme this year was "women and work in traditional societies".

Legal Advice: The *Centro Studi Condizione della Donna del Comune di Napoli* (centre for the study of women's status in Naples - Via Verdi 25, Naples) reveals that, according to its records, the women who used its legal aid service most between May 1986 and December 1987 were between 31 and 41 years of age, followed by women over 50. 50.81% of the women using this service were married and 77.65% of the questions asked concerned private life (separation, for example), compared with just 12.6% related to work.

Prize: The province of Milano is sponsoring a competition for research related to single women (their choices, life-styles, etc.). The competition is open to university institutes, research centres, associations, and foundations with experience in this field.

L U X E M B O U R G

New York Convention: Yes, but...: for Luxembourg's Government has two reservations concerning this UN convention on eliminating discrimination against women. Firstly, the Government feels that Article 7 of the Convention must not affect the validity of Article 3 of the country's constitution, which states that the Grand Duchy's throne is open to male

descendants only. Secondly, it contends that Article 16, Slg, on the choice of one's surname, goes too far in allowing children to choose between the father's or the mother's name.

Useful address: Chambre des Députés, 19 rue du Marché-aux-Herbes, 1728
Luxembourg

Church policy: In Mersch, a small town in the Grand Duchy, a 27-year-old woman, Marie-Christiane Ries, is vicar or, to be more exact, "pastoral assistant". She explained in an interview that her job consists of the following duties: ministering to the migrant workers (preparing the children for the sacraments, saying homily during the Sunday mass, which is attended by the Portuguese), the elderly, women and young mothers, and teaching the young people in the parish.

Craftsmanship: The *Chambre des Métiers* (41-42 rue Glesener, Luxembourg) sponsored an exhibition at the recent International Trade Fair of skilled trades considered typical or atypical for women, in which 16 demonstration shops revealed the current tendency for women to go into what are usually considered "men's trades". A bricklayer, a glassblower of decorative objects, a electromechanic, a weaver, a electrician, and a farrier, all members of the "fair sex", gave demonstrations of their skill. Luxembourg had 372 women apprentices in craftsmen's trades in 1988, compared with 1,174 male apprentices. While 81.50% of the country's girls still prefer the fashion and health industries, 21.11% nevertheless chose trades with an artistic slant.

Children: Of 3,000 books analysed recently during an exhibition organised by Luxembourg's Socialist women (Femmes Socialistes, 2 rue de la Boucherie, 1247 Luxembourg) with the help of German education expert Astrid Matthiae, only 80 showed behaviour that could be qualified as a male-female partnership.

Women in the Spanish-speaking World was the theme of the awareness days on the status of women in Spanish-speaking countries that were held recently by ACHILA, *Association culturelle hispano-latino-américaine* (Tel.: 44 53 36) in Luxembourg.

T H E N E T H E R L A N D S

Five Directives for Women is the title of a publication put out by the *Stichting Burgerschapskunde* (Foundation for Civic Studies). It describes the genesis of the Community's Directives concerning women and their implementation in the Netherlands, which is often hampered by existing national social security regulations. The publication can be ordered from the *Nederlands Centrum voor Politieke Vorming*, Postbus 349, 2300 AH Leiden (Tel.: 121 841)

Women's Aid Advisory Group: This group has just be set up for three years by the Secretary of State (Junior Minister) responsible for public health in order to advise the minister on the country's experimental women's health assistance policy (a budget of 3 million guilders a year until 1990 will be available to make women's health care a part of routine health care).

Equal Treatment: All women who apply for a job and have the feeling that they are rejected for "family" reasons may file a complaint with the Committee for Equal Treatment (*Commissie gelijke behandeling*, Postbus

30125, 2500 Den Haag, Tel.: 62 46 11). According to the Netherlands' 1980 equal treatment law, turning down an application for such reasons is a form of indirect discrimination, because only women are actually affected.

Women's Studies: *Vakgroep Emancipatiekunde en Vrouwenstudies*, a group specialised in emancipation and women's studies from the Higher School of Agriculture in Wageningen (for information: Joke Webbink, Tel.: (08379) 83932 or 83374), plans to publish a quarterly bulletin of women's studies documentation as of the end of 1988. Price: 15 guilders.

Cooperation Strategies: The Dutch Women's Council (*Bureau van de Nederlandse Vrouwenraad*, Laan van Meerdervoort 30, 2517 AL Den Haag), which publishes a quarterly bulletin on women's affairs (Subscription price: 22.5 guilders a year; account N° 3527100), has just published an issue devoted to cooperation strategies aimed at overcoming the differences that divide feminist groups. The Dutch Women's Council feels that such cooperation is cruelly lacking, although the multiplicity of feminist movements must be seen as a strength, not a weakness, as women are becoming increasingly active in a number of different areas (e.g., law and local politics). The strategies included grass roots action to provide personal assistance and broader strategies to expand the role of women in national politics and international associations.

International Archives for the Women's Movement (Postbus 19504, 1000 GM Amsterdam) is born of the merger of Information and Documentation for the Women's Movement and the publication *Lover*.

Literature: Maria Johanna Helena Meijer has written a book called *De Lust tot Lezen* (The Will to Read) (Prinsengracht 39, 1015 DL Amsterdam) on Dutch poetesses, with the help of Utrecht University. An English summary is included.

P O R T U G A L

Recommendation: The Under Secretary of State for Modernisation, Isabel Corte Real, reminding the Government of its responsibilities under the policy of equal opportunity, has drafted a recommendation calling affirmative action by the State to increase the number of women in decision-making positions in the Portuguese civil service "indispensable". The recommendation is based on an analysis of the current situation. She also asks her colleagues in the Government to give instructions to their departments aimed at promoting equal opportunity in recruiting, training, and working conditions.

Useful address: Secretariado para a modernização administrativa, Rua Almeida Brandao 7 - 3x, 1200 Lisboa

Affirmative action:

* Lawyers, trade unionists, researchers and parliamentarians from Portugal and abroad participated in a seminar on affirmative action held by the *Comissao da Condicao Feminina* (Av. da República 32 - 1°, 1000 Lisboa) at the end of 1988.

* The Commission on the Status of Women also organised a meeting on "Women and Employment Initiatives" with the Institute for Employment and Vocational Training and the Commission for Equality in Work and Employment at which the participants were able to share their experiences

and learn about the financial or other forms of support that are granted to new companies set up by women.

Association of Women Managers: Manuel Diogo de Freitas has been chosen as president of the association of women managers (AMME) that has just been created in the autonomous region of Madeira.

Useful address: *Associação Madeirense de Mulheres empresárias*, Rua Dr. Pita 32, 9000 Funchal, Madeira

Women Farmers: The Association of Portuguese Women Farmers (AMAP) offers "simplified accounting" courses for women farmers and members of their families. These courses are intended to help women farmers take a more active part in managing their farms.

Useful address: *Associação das Mulheres Agricultoras Portuguesas*, Calçado Ribeiro Santos, 19 - 1200 Lisboa

Night Work: The Portuguese Government is in favour of revising the 89th Convention on the Ban on Night Work for Women in industry. However, both women's organisations and the trades unions feel that this revision should take the form of a protocol in which the principle of this ban would be upheld but exceptions allowed under agreements to be reached in each country by negotiations between workers' and management associations.

Poverty: The national office coordinating women's movements has organised a meeting to make the public aware of women's vulnerable status in Portuguese society. Women are among the categories of the population that are the hardest hit by poverty and economic dependence, illiteracy and insufficient vocational training.

Useful address: *Coordenadora Nacional de Mulheres*, rua Filipe da Mata, 115A - 1600 Lisboa

S P A I N

European Movement: The new officers of the *Union de Mujeres por Europa* (Union of Women for Europe - Gran Via 43, 28013 Madrid, Tel.: 241 32 05) have been elected with Francisca Tarazaga (Socialist) as president, Teresa Mandizabel (*Centro democratico y social*) and Nieves Cervero (*Mujeres directivas y ejecutivas*) as vice-presidents, and Blance de la Cierva (Liberal) as secretary.

Health:

* The *Asociación Mujeres para la Salud* (women for health - Barquillo 44, 28005 Madrid, Tel.: 419 36 89) will be sponsoring a European conference on health from a feminist viewpoint in Madrid on July 22-25, 1989.

* Meanwhile, the Trades Union *Comisiones Obreras* has published a brochure on women, work and health (*Mujer, Trabajo y Salud*) under the slogan "woman, defend your health, make yourself heard" (Information: Gabinete de Salud Laboral de CC.OO., Fernandez de la Hoz 12, 28010 Madrid, Tel.: 419 17 50).

Education:

* The Women's Institute (*Instituto de la Mujer*, C. Almagro 36, 28010 Madrid, Tel.: 410 53 14) has conducted a study of the education of women in Spain. According to this study, girls account for 48.4% of school

enrolments between the ages of 6 and 14. Women make up 48% of the student body at the university, with a smaller presence in physics, geology, economics, and computer science and a greater presence in law, philology, geography, and history.

- * The *Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona* (08193 Bellaterra, Barcelona) is offering a graduate programme in social policy and sexual inequality from January to June 1989. This programme is designed with government administration personnel and professors in mind and includes 18 different subjects.

Women's Studies: The *Centre d'Investigació Històrica de la Dona* of Barcelona University (C. Brusi, 61, 08006 Barcelona, Tel.: 200 45 67) is offering a graduate-level women's studies programme, also from January to June 1989. This interdisciplinary programme will study the situation of women in Antiquity and the Middle Ages, women and health, how women are portrayed in modern art, women in ideology and literature, women and cinema, and women and new technology.

Suspension: The denunciation by the Women's Assembly of the *Universidad Complutense* of Madrid of a professor whose behaviour was considered sexist and insulting has led to the professor's being suspended for three months without pay.

Equality: The Spanish Constitutional Court has ruled in favour of a hospital auxiliary, Evangelina Rojas González, who was forced to leave her job (a three-month replacement contract) with the National Health Institute before the end of a 2-week trial period when her employers learned that she was pregnant.

Life Expectancy: According to the OECD, the average life expectancy of Spanish women is 78.6 years, or about 6 years more than Spanish men, but less than their sisters in Australia, Canada, France, Ireland, Japan, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland.

Drugs: About 100 women, most of them members of the Madrid-based anti-drug association, *Madres contra la droga*, demonstrated recently in front of the capital's chief police station to call for more effective action against drug traffickers.

Religion: According to *Claustros Necesitados*, an association that which looks out for the economic, health and other needs of women in religious orders, there are 927 convents (with some 14,761 nuns, a large fraction of whom are elderly) and 30 monasteries (housing some 900 monks) in Spain today.

Civil service: According to statistics released by the *Ministerio de Administraciones Públicas* (available from the Women's Institute), women accounted for 34.7% of Spain's civil servants in 1988, with a particularly high percentage of women (48.6%) in level B jobs (higher education), due to the large number of women in teaching. Women accounted for a scant 4% of career diplomats.

Madrid:

- * Some ten women, working under the coordination of several bodies, the *Fundación de la Salud* (Health Foundation) among them, have set up legal and health assistance workshops for prostitutes.

- * The *Alianza Popular* (People's Alliance) group in the Madrid municipal assembly has put forward a bill whereby Madrid women with at least one child and a yearly income of less than 3,000,000 pesetas would receive economic assistance.
- * The spokeswoman of the Parliamentary group *Izquierda Unida*, Isabel Villalonga, has stated that her party proposed that the regional government of Madrid set aside 2% of its budget for an equal opportunity plan for women.

T H E U N I T E D K I N G D O M

European Community Women's Lobby: Members of women's organisations from all over the UK met throughout October and November in Glasgow, Belfast, Cardiff and London to discuss the formation of the European Community's Women's Lobby and its Draft Charter (see Women of Europe N° 54). The meetings were facilitated by the UK Offices of the European Commission.

1992: Catherine McGuinness, chairwoman of the Employment Equality Agency of the Republic of Ireland, participated with representatives of the Northern Ireland Equal Opportunities Commission (including chairwoman Mary Clark-Glass, who hosted the discussions) and the Equal Opportunities Commission of the United Kingdom in discussions in Belfast in October on preparing women to take full advantage of the coming Integrated Market. UK EOC Chairwoman Joanna Foaster pointed out that the fastest growing group of workers in Britain were women with school-age children, meaning that employers will ultimately have to make more provision for making better childcare arrangements.

Children, Maternity:

- * The UK Government has frozen the child benefit for the second year in succession, at £7.25 per child, with no allowance made for erosion by inflation. The Government says it wants to target available resources to help the families that are worst off by making extra family credit payments available to those in need, for example. But the opposition says that these means-tested benefits have a low take-up rate and that the child benefit, which is paid to mothers, is fair, efficient, and cheap to administer.
- * Nevertheless, the Government seems to be coming round to the needs of working mothers. It has set up a working group to study the provision of better childcare for working mothers, after a recent report by Dr. Bronwen Cohen of the European Commission's Child Care Network showed that fewer than 2% of the under-fives in the UK have access to nurseries and less than 1% attend publicly-funded childcare facilities. Quite a bit of room for improvement!
- * The Equal Opportunities Commission for Northern Ireland has published a new guide to maternity rights for pregnant women called Maternity Rights for Women at Work. It contains very useful information for women, who are often unaware of such rights and vulnerable to discrimination.
- * Tricia Jennings was awarded £1,780 in compensation for having been sacked unfairly by her employer (a menswear shop in Edinburgh) after taking time off because of a threatened miscarriage. Sheila Wild, of the EOC's Legal Section, stated that cases of this type were increasingly common since

the 2-year continuous employment rule concerning the protection of pregnant women had gone into effect. Over the past two years, she said, inquiries relating to pregnancy-related dismissal have grown to 10% of the Legal Section's workload.

Equality:

- * Jo Richardson, Labour's Shadow Minister for women, told an October rally of trade unionists and equal rights campaigners in the House of Commons that women were being cheated of their legal right to equal pay. Women workers take home only 75% of the pay earned by men, she said. Claims for equal pay take up to four years to reach a final decision, and of the 3,800 claims made to date, only 12 have completed the complicated 15-stage legal process. The lobbyists rejected the views of the Confederation of British Industry that the Equal Pay Act threatens British competitiveness and could lead to inflationary wage settlements. The rally, organised by Ms Richardson, was supported and attended by the TUC (Congress House, Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3LS).
- * The Northern Ireland Equal Opportunities Commission (Chamber of Commerce House, 22 Great Victoria Street, Belfast BT2 2BA) has just published a new fastcard, "Where do Women Figure?", according to which there is more evidence that job segregation is still one of the biggest barriers to equality. Over 25% of all working women are employed in clerical jobs, compared with fewer than 8.4% of men; almost 25% of working women are employed in catering, cleaning and hairdressing jobs, compared with only 3.6% of men. Finally, overall, women's average earnings are only 74.8% of men's.
- * The Equal Opportunities Commission (Overseas House, Quay Street, Manchester M3 3HN) has called on both sides of industry to use negotiation to remove sex discrimination from working practices. The appeal, made in the OEC publication Negotiating for Equality, says negotiation is a sensible way to achieve this goal - it will save employers from having to defend themselves in potentially costly court cases and women the stress of legal action.
- * A recent EOC survey has revealed that women workers also get fewer company fringe benefits than men, due to traditional qualifying conditions, such as hours worked, length of service, and age, that often bar women from fringe benefits like pensions, profit sharing and preferential company loans. Part-time workers, 83% of whom are women, are the worst off.
- * The TUC has an Equal Rights Department, which was set up in September. It will be giving special emphasis to the needs of women and black workers, whose numbers in the labour movement are growing.
- * On the local scene, a seminar was held at the Stirling Management Centre in November by the Dunfermline District Council, with financial support from the European Commission's Women's Information Service, to sensitize local authorities to the need for an active equal opportunity policy at all levels of their activities. The working groups examined the implications of equal opportunity policy in the provision of local authority services (housing, leisure, planning, etc.) and local authority employment. Participants found the seminar a valuable introduction to equal opportunities and it is hoped that more such seminars will follow in 1989.

Businesswomen:

- * According to a recent survey, although the number of women in business is increasing, only 8% of the UK's executive workforce are women. Moreover, only 2% of businesswomen earn more than £41,000 a year, compared with 7% of businessmen. The female executive is more likely to work for a large company and is typically younger and more computer literate than her male counterparts. When she travels on business, she travels by train.
- * The third "Women in Business Exhibition and Conference" was held in London in early November. Those attending had a chance to discuss (and, in some cases, examine), office equipment, health care, self defence, business trips and services, etc. (Information: EUROCON, 43A Lower Addiscombe Rd, Croydon, Surrey CR0 6PQ).
- * The monthly Everywoman (34 Islington Green, London N1 8DU) is preparing a second, much enlarged edition of The Everywoman Directory of Women's Businesses.

Education: The National Union of Teachers has launched a campaign in England and Wales to promote equal opportunity for boys and girls after ascertaining that, 13 years after the passage of the Sex Discrimination Act, schoolchildren still make subject and career choices based on gender. The campaign wants teachers to use a specially prepared education pack that gives clear guidelines on issues such as examinations, school reports and careers.

The National Federation of Women's Institutes (39 Eccleston Street, Victoria, London SW1W 9NT), the largest women's organisation in the UK, has elected Jean Varnam, a WI member for 30 years, as its Chairwoman after Agnes Salter's resignation for health reasons. Sue Stockly replaces Jean Varnam as Vice Chairman. The NFWI has also launched a "Save the Child Benefit" campaign (see previous item) to combat the tendency to phase out this benefit, which is considered a crucial mainstay of child welfare.

Women in the Home: As part of the "Wages for Housework Campaign" (King's Cross Women's Centre, 71 Tonbridge St., London WC1H 9DZ), Mildred Gordon (Labour, Bow and Popular) presented in November a "bill behind the chair" to have women's unremunerated work counted in the gross national product.

Health: In her book Beating the Ladykillers (Gollancz Paperbacks), Dr. Bobbie Jacobson exhorts women to steer clear of tobacco and explodes the myth, for example, that smoking helps women to stay slim. Stress and emotional factors, she warns, mean that women find it harder to give up smoking due to stress and emotional factors, with the low-paid family woman most at risk. However, research by Dr. Martin Jarvis of the Institute of Psychiatry's Addiction Research Unit yields evidence that the figures on kicking the habit may be misleading - men may be no better than women. A word of warning, though, - over 1/3 of female school-leavers smoke.

Rape:

- * The Royal Ulster Constabulary has joined the ranks of police authorities that are setting up specialised units to deal with cases of rape and sexual violence. It plans to set up three teams in Northern Ireland to work closely with social workers and voluntary associations. The first team has already been set up under Inspector Charlotte McCracken.

- * In Scotland, the women's committees of Edinburgh and West Lothian District Councils and Lothian Regional Council have joined with the Edinburgh Rape Crisis and Lothian Victim Support Scheme to publish a leaflet giving step-by-step advice to women who want to report a sexual assault (June Bell, City of Edinburgh District Council, 3 Princes Street, Edinburgh EH2 2QP).

Language: Cambridge University's professors have voted, 348 in favour, 260 opposed, to remove sexist language from the university's "Statutes and Regulations", by introducing "his and hers".

Solidarity: Jane Grant, coordinator of the National Council for Voluntary Organisation's Women's Organisations Interest Group (Rosemary Daley, NCVO Policy and Promotions, 26 Bedford Square, London WC 1B 3HU), shows in her book, Sisters across the Atlantic: A Guide to Networking in the US, what British women in particular (but organisations across the Community should take note of her suggestions) can learn from the activities and organising of women in the US.

NEWS FROM EUROPE AND THE WORLD

United States:

- * There will be at least two women in the Bush Administration, and in high places. They are Elizabeth Dole, awaiting congressional confirmation for the position of Secretary of Labour, and Carla Hills, future US Trade Representative.
- * **Church:** The Anglican Church of the United States has its first woman bishop. She is Barbara Harris, a 58-year-old black, who was elected, over a male candidate, at Saint Paul's Cathedral, Boston. This landmark event almost coincided with the publication of Pope John Paul II's apostolic letter on women, *Mulieris dignitatem*, which clearly came out against women in the priesthood.

Canada:

- * **Women and the Multidimensionality of Power:** is the theme of the world summit that FRAPPE (*Femmes regroupées pour l'accessibilité du pouvoir économique et politique*, 822 rue Sherbrooke Est, Bureau 322, Montreal H2L 1K4) will be holding in Montreal in 1990 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the enfranchisement of Quebec's women. The organisers hope to formulate proposals for the UN and Governments and set up an international committee with a view to holding other summits on this same theme at regular intervals.
- * **Politics:** 39 women were elected to the Canadian House of Commons in the November 1988 elections. This was 12 more than in 1984.
- * **Media:** *Evaluation-Médias/Media Watch* (C.P. 1687, Succ. H. Montreal H3G 2N6), is a Canadian women's organisation founded in 1981 to improve the image of women in the media. This organisation has already achieved some results as a result of the demands it submitted to the Canadian Broadcasting and Telecommunications Board. It gives information and helps women who come to it with complaints of discrimination, notably by enabling them to work within groups.

Switzerland:

- * Marianne Frischknecht, delegate for equal rights for men and women (*Département de Justice et Police*, 2 rue Henri-Fazy, 1211 Geneva 3) has succeeded in getting the Administration of the Canton of Geneva to use feminine forms of trades, functions, ranks and titles from now on. She will be drawing up a glossary for this purpose, and also plans to propose masculine forms for traditionally feminine professions (e.g., "esthéticien", "jardinier d'enfants", etc.).

L A T I N A M E R I C A

In the European Parliament: The Parliament's Political Affairs Committee has adopted a report by German Christian Democrat Marlene Lenz on relations with South America that insists on the need to further the process of democratisation on the South American continent, take steps to alleviate the debt burden, conserve the environment (especially the Amazon Basin) and dismantle the drug rings.

Cuba: 900 people (including some men) participated in the Third Continental Encounter of Latin American Women held in Havana in October. The meeting, which was organised by the *Frente continental de Mujeres contra la Intervencion* (Continental Front of Women against Intervention - Apartado Postal 847, Managua, Nicaragua), revolved around the main theme of the situation of Latin American and Caribbean women in the 80's, with special focus on their place in politics, roles in coping with the crisis and changes in the media. The final declaration adopted at the end of the meeting (Fidel Castro spoke during the closing session) emphasised the region's major problems, namely, oppression, foreign debt and poverty.

Costa Rica:

- * Costa Rica's Deputy Minister for Culture, Youth and Sport, Adriana Prado, had talks with members of the European Parliament in the wings of its October Plenary Session and officials at the European Commission as part of a European visit. In her talks with Ms Quintin and Ms Deshormes she discussed in particular the European Community's policy in favour of equality for women and noted that equality between men and women was one of the four pillars of her national action programme (the other three are housing, employment and rural development). She also announced that Costa Rica expects to pass a law on this subject in 1989 that enshrines the principle of affirmative action for women and will result in major changes in the country's code on the family and property. The 34 articles "on the real equality of women" also provide for the creation of a women's defence department within the Ministry of Justice.

- * The *Centro Nacional para el Desarrollo de la Mujer y la Familia* (National Centre for the Development of Women and the Family - Sexto Piso Edificio Metropolitano, Apartado 10.277 San José 1000) has published a catalogue of ten "children's rights".

Argentina: The Under Secretary of Health and Social Action responsible for women's affairs has submitted a bill to parliament aimed at combatting the "invisibility of the phenomenon of violence in the home" (Information: ISIS Internacional, see above).

Brazil: The *Revista Brasileira de letras* published recently an article on Mercedes La Valle, an Italian journalist and foreign correspondent for several Brazilian newspapers in Italy, poetess, and translator of poetry from Portuguese, who has devoted her entire life to cultural exchange with Brazil and Portugal. She is very well known in Brazil, especially for her remarkable Italian translation, in verse, of *Os Lusíadas* by Camoë's (published by Guanda) (Mercedes La Valle, Associazione della Stamp Estera, Via della Mercede 52, Roma).

BOOKS, STUDIES, CONTACTS

Out of the Doll's House is the title of the book and recent 8-part BBC series giving a vivid, comprehensive description of women's experiences in the 20th century. The author, Angela Holdsworth, used interviews and archive documents and film "to show the bumpy road from here to there", covering such aspects of daily life as the house, girls' education, work, health, changing attitudes to maternity, sex, marriage, fashion and the road to equality (BBC Books, Woodlands, 80 Wood Lane, London W 12 OTT, Tel.: 576 05 95)

The latest issue of ILO Information (Bureau de Liaison de l'OIT avec les Communautés européennes, rue Aimé Smekens 49, 1040 Brussels, Tel.: 736 99 16) contains an article that contends that "the social umbrella" still provides unequal protection. According to the authors, who based their article on a recent ILO study, the main causes for this inequality are a definition of work that is still poorly adapted to the reality of female labour and the current economic crunch.

The latest issue of Cette violence dont nous ne voulons plus (*Association européenne contre les violences faites aux femmes au travail*, 71 rue Saint-Jacques, 75005 Paris, Tel.: 4628 7408) is devoted to the problem of sexual harassment and management that quotes at length from a report by Michael Rubinstein on the dignity of women at work. Rubinstein, who heads the Industrial Relations Law Report and the Equal Opportunity Review, prepared this study for the European Commission. The European Association against Violence Committed against Women at Work is headed by MEP Yvette Füllet.

Young Women's Newsletter (European YWCA, 94 Avenue Brugmann, 1060 Brussels) has published an article on a recent training programme for young Asian women to help them combat violence against women and children. The European YWCA has just begun circulating its newsletter in Greece (Julie Oldroyd, YWCA of Greece, 11 Amerikis, 10672 Athens), where it is expected to come out three times a year.

The ECPR Standing Group on Women and Politics (Sage Publications, 28 Banner Street, London ECLY 8QE) has published The Political Interests of Gender, by Kathleen Jones of the University of San Diego and Anna Jonasdottir of the University of Obrebro, that examines what political theory and communities would be like if women's interests were truly taken into account.

The latest issue of the international bulletin Femmes et Hommes dans l'Eglise (14 rue Saint Benoît, 75006 Paris) contains some articles on the church and reciprocity and the feminist renewal of the liturgy.

Treffpunkt, put out by the Federal Ministry for Youth, the Family, Women and Health (*Bundesministerium für Jugend, Familie, Frauen und Gesundheit*, Kennedyallee 105-107, 5300 Bonn 2, Tel.: 308 28 88) contains several articles on women and computers, as well as the information that some 20% of women employees in Germany were already working with new computer technology in 1985.

Third World: Women's Feature Service is a new service of feature articles by Third World women journalists that homes in on development problems from a woman's-eye view. This Rome-based service, with regional coordinating centres, is a project of Inter Press Service (via Panisperna 207, 00184), the Third World press agency that is well-known for its coverage of North-South and South-South problems.

As part of the Maternal and Child Health Campaign backed by the UN and 7 NGOs (including International Planned Parenthood Federation, Regent's College, Inner Circle, Regent's Park, London NW1 4NS), the magazine People has put out a video and film called "Two Mothers" that compares the very different experiences of two mothers in Kenya.

1992: Issue N° 17 of European Women's Management Development Network (Secretariat: 40 rue Washington, 1050 Brussels) announces the network's 5th conference, to be held in Stockholm on October 25-27, 1989, on the subject of Europe in 1992.

Andrée Dore-Audibert and Annie Morzelle follow the "humanist combat" of Irene de Lipkowsski, describing her role in the resistance and the search for a Franco-German dialogue, her election as a member of the RPF in 1947, her estrangement from the party and, afterwards, her work against alcoholism, in the feminist movement and in the Mondialist movement, in their book Irene de Lipkowsski, une Française du XXème siècle (Siloë Editerur, 22 rue du Jeu-de-Paume, 53003 Laval Cedex).

Anna Santoro and Francesca Vegliione (Centro studi Condizione della Donna, Comune di Napoli) have published a very complete catalogue of the writings by women from the end of the 14th century to 1860 - Catalogo della scrittura femminile italiana a stampa - in the Biblioteca Nazionale di Napoli's holdings.

Several interesting publications have come out in the United States:

- The Women's Movements of the United States and Western Europe, edited by Mary Fainsod Katzenstein and Carol McClurg Mueller (Radcliffe College, The Mary Ingraham Bunting Institute, 34 Concord Avenue, Cambridge, Mass. 02138, Tel.: (617) 495-8212), compares the feminist movements in several European countries with that of the United States;
- The American Woman 1987-88, by Sara E. Rix (W.W. Norton & Company, Inc., Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10110), gives an in-depth description of the situation of American women today, whether in terms of education, work, earnings, or family life. This important work was carried out by the Women's Research and Education Institute of the Caucus for Women's Issues, which is co-chaired by Representatives Patricia Schroeder and Olympia Snowe;
- Women Managers - Changing Organizational Cultures, by Gisèle Asplund (John Wiley & Sons Ltd., New York, NY, and Distribution Centre, 1 Oldlands Way, Bognor Regis, West Sussex, PO22 9SA), studies the differences between the performances of men and women, the reasons why women are often relegated to less interesting jobs, and the signs of change and hope;

- The latest issue of the monthly Marketing to Women (210 Chestnut Steet, Oneonta, NY 13820) contains sections on women and banking, women and health, women and philanthropy.

Banking: Women's World Banking (c/o Frineds of WWB/USA Inc., 104 East 40th Street, Suite 607, New York, NY 10016) has just published its annual report for 1987 that shows the extension of this important organisation's activities in more than 50 countries. The President, Michaela Walsh, notes that the WWB made astounding progress in 1987. For example, the organisation, which was founded in 1980, expanded its programmes to include 92 groups throughout the world, increased its capital to the current \$6 million, and helped in the granting of almost 30,999 loans to businesswomen. WWB has just created a new Regional Coordinating Committee to act more effectively with greater decentralisation and appeals to its members to make a special contribution to its capital to mark its forthcoming 10th anniversary.

Poverty: The European Network of Women (rue Stévin 38, 1040 Brussels, Tel.: 230 51 58) held a tribunal on the poverty of women in the Community in Brussels in November. During the tribunal, poor women were able to talk about their experiences amongst themselves and with representatives of the various Community institutions. The organisers regretted in particular the fact that women, although the hardest hit by the rise of poverty in Europe, are not included as a category in the Community's second anti-poverty programme.

Women and Politics: At its 7th Congress (Luxembourg, November 1988) the European People's Party adopted a resolution that includes the resolution approved by the Christian-Democratic women at their earlier meeting in Bonn. The resolution states that European women can play a decisive role today but that more women must be represented in decision-making bodies. Consequently, women must be put in meaningful positions on party lists and be backed by electoral systems providing for votes of preference.

Research: The European Foundation for Management Development (EFMD, Valerie Hammond, 40 rue Washington, 1050 Brussels) will be holding on April 24-25, 1989 its first conference on research under the title "Knowledge as a Corporate Asset" to show the importance of having access to the right knowledge, whether in business, government or universities. The Conference will be held at the *Instituto de Estudios Superiores de la Empresa*, in Barcelona.

The International Federation of Women Lawyers held its 13th Congress this fall at Belo Horizonte, Brazil, under the chairmanship of Teresa Assensio Brugiattelli. The participants (from more than 60 countries) discussed problems related to the courts and families, among other things. The four days were marked by the contributions of women of all different backgrounds who spoke about the problems in their countries, e.g., the persistence of legal polygamy, distinction between marriage and cohabitation, duties to one's companion and children, adoption, etc.

Time off of Women (King's Cross Women's Centre, 71 Tonbridge Street, London WC1H 9D2) held a conference in London in October called "to name the work and claim the wealth" in order to back demands for fair pay for the unpaid, unrecognised work of housewives and have this work included in the calculation of each country's GNP (as called for in the 1985 UN decision).

International Economic Association (contact Prof. Barbara R. Bergmann, Department of Economics, The American University, Washington, DC 20016) will hold its World Congress in Athens from August 28 to September 1, 1989. One whole day will be devoted to the problem of men's and women's roles in tomorrow's economy. The subjects that will be covered include the economics of divorce, economic incentives for getting and staying married, women entrepreneurs, the influences of religion and culture on economic roles and vice versa, and women's roles in socialist and capitalist countries.

EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

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