

# Home Economics - Not Just A Woman's Faculty

This article is second in a series on International Woman's Year and its effect on the U.P.E.I. campus.

Perhaps one of the most misunderstood faculties on Campus is that of Home Economics. To a great many students the very title "Home Economics" connotes "cooking and sewing" which, in actual fact, make-up only a small part of the courses offered in that field. Unfortunately Home Economics has been a female dominated profession which could account for its lack of appreciation.

You don't have to be a Home Economics major or a female to take any of the courses or benefit from them. For example, a course in Introductory Nutrition should be of value to anyone interested in being healthy. Family Finance would be useful to anyone interested in making the most of their money or whose profession would put them in a position to counsel people about their financial situation. If you are interested in Consumerism, Consumer Education

would be very interesting. Or, if you would just like to learn the principles of food preparation and earn a credit at the same time, try an Introductory Foods course.

Because the Home Economics profession has primarily been associated with women, males who initially enroll in a course will have a great social stigma to overcome. Most males complain that there is no need

for Women's Liberation Movement but in fact there are many professions where men are discriminated against so maybe we need a certain amount of liberation for both sexes before we can attain equality.

If there are courses in Home Economics that appeal to anyone male or female there is no reason that they should not take them.

The University has spent a great deal of money reno-

vating Dalton Hall and it should benefit as many people as possible. There has in past years been one or two males who have taken Home Ec. courses. We would like to hear their opinions. Also if anyone else has criticisms or comments we would welcome a letter from you in the next edition of the "Cadre".

R. MacDonald  
L. Doyle



## Recommendations At International Women's Day Conference In Toronto

Last Saturday I attended the International Women's Day Conference in Toronto. The mayor had "graciously" consented to let the women use the facilities of City Hall for one day - despite the short time period a great deal of constructive steps were taken and resolutions were passed. Let us hope these resolutions will not go the way of the Royal Commission Report on the status of Women, which is nowhere. The basic setup for the day was this: There were approximately six workshops held from 9 until 4, these being;

- 1) Women and World Peace
- 2) Female Sexuality and the Law
- 3) Women in Business and Professions
- 4) Day care and Welfare
- 5) Education
- 6) Legal rights in Marriage and Property Rights

Each of these workshops consisted of about 4 or 5 people qualified to speak in each area, plus all those concerned with discussing these topics. Each of these workshops formulated a number of resolutions which were to be voted upon at the general meeting held

at the end of the day. The following are extracts of some of the major resolutions passed:

- 1) enforcement of equal pay for work of equal value
- 2) safe legal abortion on demand, available in all parts of Canada and paid for by Medicare
- 3) equal opportunity for women to participate in Manpower training programs
- 4) language training programs equally available to immigrant women as well as immigrant men.
- 5) removal of laws that state an Indian women will

lose her Indian status and all its privileges if she marries outside her race

- 6) Good day care centres available 24 hours a day, free to all people - to be subsidized by large corporations and run on a nonprofit basis
- 7) freedom for women political prisoners in Chile and Viet Nam
- 8) establishment of paternity leave
- 9) that rape be classified as assault, thereby removing the need for proof of penetration etc, and eliminating the farce of investigating the victim's background

There were approximately 60 resolutions passed in all and each one was very well put together, proposing legislation that was long overdue. It is beyond the scope of my long term memory however to remember them all.

So some good ideas are coming out of I.W.Y. but lets all work to see that they are put into effect and not just given a patronising nod by those in business and government.

### Why Not-Degrading Propoganda

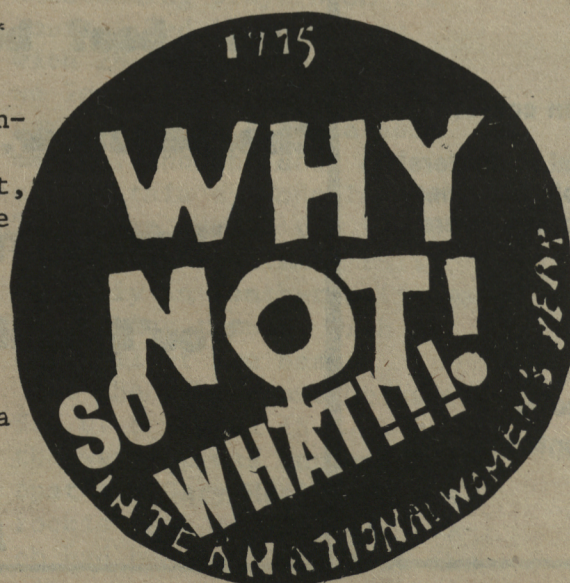
Why Not? This question logically follows the question "why?". Used as a slogan "why not" begs the question. Our government is spending thousands of dollars on posters, buttons and advertisements to ask an irrelevant question.

Women not only know why, they also know why not. Women are becoming more aware of themselves as persons seeking to reach their full potential whether it be in the home, with the working force or in any profession. Women recognize

the oppressive chains of outdated legislation and law that shackle people into believing that they are powerless, unworthy and inferior.

If we must ask Why Not, then why not more day care centers?, Why not more diversity in education? Why not look at some real concerns? Why not action on a human rights commission? Why not have a government committed to change instead of childish slogans and degrading propaganda

D. MacDonald



Mary-Lynne Ross