

"Dialogue Canada", a new French course that is based on an audio-visual teaching method and is intended to meet the peculiar needs of the Canadian public servant.

Other methods include the use of a programmed learning course on cassette tapes, which permits students to progress according to their own abilities, time and requirements.

Video tape is beginning to be used in the classroom to help students correct mistakes and to develop self-confidence. Computers now help to set course schedules, to process test results and to analyze the effectiveness of courses.

In addition, the Commission provides an extension service, specialized courses to meet special learning problems, a bicultural development program and a program to help employees retain their language skills between training sessions.

BRIEF PUSHES CANADIAN PLAYS

A brief was recently submitted to the Advisory Arts Panel and the Canada Council by the Playwrights' Committee of the Association of Canadian Television and Radio Artists (ACTRA) and the Playwrights' Circle.

One of its proposals is that the Canada Council issue a ruling limiting to 50 per cent the foreign content in the repertoire of subsidized Canadian theatres. The brief refers to the success of similar quotas in other media and in other countries.

In denying the "antic notion" that Canadians will not pay to see plays by Canadians, the brief concentrates on facts and figures, detailing theatre schedules with audience percentages. It points out that in recent years, when 19 Canadian plays were produced out of 108, 13 of these Canadian plays were "hits" (defined as a play that placed either first, second or third in box-office standings, or playing to better than 80 per cent of potential, or both).

The brief attacks the "pseudo-mythology, made up of equal parts of misconception, misinformation and outright ignorance, which allows them (Canadian artistic directors) to shirk their responsibilities not only to Canadian theatre, but to the world's dramaturgy, and to posterity". It points out that last year, when more than \$7 million passed through the hands of subsidized English-language theatres, something like \$14,000 came to Canadian playwrights. The brief goes on to say that "as a group, we yield to no-one in our admiration of Canadian artistic directors and the administrators with whom they work;

indeed we cherish them so deeply that we would like to spend most of our working lives with them".

The playwrights' document is part of a continuing campaign to ensure a significant Canadian presence in the Canadian theatre.

WOMEN UNDEREMPLOYED AND UNDERPAID (Continued from P. 2)

than women; assistant professors earn 5 per cent more; while for lecturers and instructors, the difference is almost 9 per cent. In the smaller colleges the percentage difference in men's remuneration over women's is almost half (48.7 per cent).

There are those who endeavour to explain these differentials on the basis of such factors as level of education, experience, sector of employment and work function. Yet studies carried out by the Royal Commission on the Status of Women of the factors accounting for the differential in the remuneration of academics, reveal that a substantial element of the wage differential appeared to be solely on the basis of sex.

This then, in summary, is the pattern of the Canadian female labour force in the early Seventies of the twentieth century. To those who have studied labour-force patterns in other countries, in other social and economic climes, there must be an uneasy sense of *déjà vu* - a sense of having seen somewhere before similar occupational segregation and wage-rate differentials. The affected group may have been a religious one, or a national one, or a racial one, or a political one. But whatever the makeup of the group, the factor which accounted for the peculiar labour force pattern was a common one - discrimination.

The present pattern of the female labour force in Canada today might well be used as the benchmark against which may be measured Canada's forward march in attaining equal opportunity for women. Token appointments of individual women to individual positions will not in themselves affect the pattern of the female labour force. But the removal of the barriers which now exist will inevitably be reflected in a balanced pattern. To this end, economists should be as deeply concerned as those who plead the cause solely on the basis of justice.

For the continuing underemployment and underpayment of one-third of the total labour force, is not only wasteful of human resources; it is detrimental to the Canadian economy.