

Barbara Ann Scott today

Barbara Ann Scott, Canada's darling of the Forties, created a sensation which brought Canada into the international figure-skating scene as never before. Today even those too young to have seen her skate recognize her name as a legend.

Today, she lives a rather different life in the United States, as the wife of a prominent Chicago business man.

"B.A.", as she is affectionately known, says her "main interest" now is Thomas V. King. He is general manager of two of Chicago's largest wholesale department stores, the 25-storey Merchandise Mart, and the Apparel Center, both owned by the Kennedy family. Barbara Ann spends much of her time in social engagements connected with Tom's business.

When business obligations permit, Barbara Ann pursues the other love of her life — horses. The little girl who used to write Santa Claus for skates and horses may have hung up her skates, but the devotion to horses endures.

Showing American saddlebreds is a full-time hobby that B.A. and Tom enjoy together. Barbara prides herself in the grooming and tender care she gives to their present seven-year-old grey mare, King's Regal Lady.

Although B.A. does no figure skating now, and has no direct involvement with it, she always has an objective interest. But she feels figure skating today "has changed so much! For example, when I skated we did six figures on each foot! Today they do only three! Barbara Ann Scott's career in profes-

Barbara Ann Scott, figure-skater, was: Junior Canadian Champion, 1940 (age 11) Senior Canadian Champion, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1948 North American Champion, 1945, 1947 European Champion, 1947, 1948 World Champion, 1947, 1948 Olympic Champion, 1948

sional show business began in 1948, after her four spectacular championship performances that year. Following an ice show which opened in New York in December 1948, a pro tour of Canada in 1950, and many other appearances in North America and overseas, she joined the Hollywood Ice Revue. Here she replaced Sonja Henie, former world figure-skating champion and movie star whom Barbara Ann, as a girl, adored. As a result of her financial success, an organization called the St. Lawrence Foundation was established to help her share part of her earnings with crippled children in Canada. In 1950, B.A.'s autobiographical book, Skate With Me, was published by the St. Lawrence Foundation.

After skating five years with the Revue, and turning down other offers, including a movie contract with MGM, B.A. finally made the move to step away from her professional career. Always a perfectionist in her art more than a seeker of fame, B.A. admits she never really enjoyed the hard, coldness of show business, and looked forward to settling down to domestic life. In 1955, she married the then-publicity director for the Revue and became Mrs. Thomas V. King. (From Canadian Skater, March-April-May issue.)

PM and Margaret separate

The Prime Minister's office issued the following announcement on May 27:

Pierre and Margaret Trudeau announce that, because of Margaret's wishes they shall begin living separate and apart.

Margaret relinquishes all privileges as the wife of the Prime Minister and wishes to leave the marriage and pursue an independent career.

Pierre will have custody of their three sons, giving Margaret generous access to them.

Pierre accepts Margaret's decision with regret and both pray that their separation will lead to a better relationship between themselves.

Opening up more jobs to women

Labour Minister John Munro and Manpower and Immigration Minister Bud
Cullen recently made a joint announcement of the first phase of an "Affirmative Action Program" designed to improve and enhance the employability of
women in Canada. "Affirmative Action"
involves a series of positive steps
undertaken by employers to remove
barriers to employment and to achieve
measurable improvements in hiring,
training and promoting qualified workers
who have in the past been denied access to certain jobs.

In elaborating on this program, Mr. Munro stated that "it originated in December 1975 during a federal-provincial conference on human rights, and was conceived in close collaboration with provincial and human rights agencies in order to secure co-operation among companies awarded federal contracts." "There are more than 1,000 such contractors across Canada," he added, "and they will be provided with Affirmative Action Program guidelines and necessary consultative services."

The program guidelines, a joint effort of Manpower and Immigration and Labour Canada, detail such points as: making preliminary analysis of the present situation in a company to determine if there is a need for affirmative action; how to organize such a program; how to monitor the program and get "feedback"; and how to use if necessary, available internal and external resources.