

hand in hand with the serious, permanent emotional involvement that comes with marriage.

All this has been brought into focus for the purposes of this debate by the report of the Royal Commission on the Status of Women. There are 167 recommendations that have been put forward, and many of them, as has been pointed out by earlier speakers in this debate, will undoubtedly improve the status of women in our society. A good many of them, some 68, deal with the new responsibilities and the increasing role of working wives and working mothers.

The hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway made an eloquent plea for child-care centres and there is nothing further that can be added in this regard. I believe that women with their mystique—if I can use that word in the broad definition that is given in the dictionary—have a great contribution to make in the workaday world as well as in the increasing area of activity and responsibility, namely that of voluntary service. It is obvious that this is an adjustment that must be made if we are to make it possible for women to make the contribution that only they can make.

I am interested in seeing among the 167 recommendations the emphasis on the necessity of research and broader programs of self-help for our Indian and Eskimo peoples. The Indian, Eskimo and Metis associations have had among some of their most creative and vigorous leaders these voluntary lady workers. I agree most enthusiastically that this is a role that they can play with increasing effectiveness.

To bring these brief remarks to a close I should say, however, that I am on the side of John Humphrey who was the dissenter in the report of the Royal Commission on the Status of Women. Maybe he is a prejudiced male, but there are some areas that have been covered in the 167 recommendations which I agree call for some reservation. As an example, he mentions the quota system. The suggestion that was put forward by the ladies on the Royal Commission on the Status of Women was that the way to get equality of representation and of opportunity is to establish a specified quota of women designated for various appointments.

I do not think women themselves want to be placed in this specialized category, because I know from experience that if given the opportunity and if the legal restrictions and prohibitions are removed, as they are gradually being removed, women will find their niche without any condescending attitudes on the part of the dominating male to make sure that they get their equitable share of appointments by an arbitrary quota system. They want no special treatment in this regard.

Perhaps, finally, I can use the male cliché that is usually resorted to in discussions of this kind, that suggests that most men envy the special role and status occupied by women. One of the popular comic strips which depicts the typical middle-class family relationship in our society is Dagwood. These comic strips are a very penetrating commentary on our social phobias and hang-ups. The message that comes out loud and clear from Dagwood is that men are also on a treadmill. Perhaps

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they should launch a liberation movement of their own, because in the final analysis, as the old cliché says, the hand that rocks the cradle inevitably rules the world. George Meredith, another male commentator, put it in slightly different terms and I will close my remarks with a quotation from him as follows:

• (9:10 p.m.)

I expect that women will be the last thing civilized by men.

Mr. John Gilbert (Broadview): Mr. Speaker, it has been said by many people that Eve was born from the rib of Adam, but there is also a general feeling that it was not from the rib she was born but from man's funnybone.

Mr. Dinsdale: How about his backbone?

Mr. Gilbert: We find that a cruel joke has been played on women from the beginning, because the struggle for women's rights and their dignity has been hard and long and it is probably because of men's attitudes that the struggle has been so difficult. To bolster my contention I quote Aristotle, the Greek philosopher, as follows:

Woman may be said to be an inferior man.

And the German philosopher Nietzsche, who said:

Woman was God's second mistake.

Then there is the general feeling amongst many today that behind every great man stands a devoted and talented woman, his mother-in-law. I think it was Freud who said, "Despite my 30 years of research into the feminine soul I have not yet been able to answer the great question that has never been answered: What does woman want?" If Freud had been present in this chamber today he would have heard some of the rightful demands of women.

I am rather proud of the report of the Royal Commission on the Status of Women. I am very happy to see the Minister without Portfolio (Mr. Stanbury), in charge of Information Canada, present this evening because as you know, Mr. Speaker, just recently a small pamphlet was issued by the government telling Canadians how their tax dollar is spent. I would like to think that the minister in charge of Information Canada would summarize the report on the status of women and have it circulated throughout the country.

Mr. Stanbury: On a question of privilege, Mr. Speaker, the hon. member should know that has already been done. There is probably now in his hands a very fine summary of the report, which was financed by the government and distributed by the National Council of Women.

Mr. Dinsdale: Financed by the people.

Mr. Stanbury: By the government, on behalf of the people.

Mr. Gilbert: Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the information just given by the minister, but I thought he would have given it such wide circulation that it would be in the homes of all Canadians where every woman, child and