

investment in the mining industry. Currently, acute differences exist between the federal and provincial governments over who is to take the largest portion of the natural resource producer's revenue.

With the opening up and expansion of jobs in the coal industry, some attempts have been made to relocate mining families from other depressed areas in the country. These transitions have largely been from the depressed areas of the Maritimes to the more prosperous areas of the West. Unfortunately, the attempts at relocation of the miners from the Cape Breton area of Nova Scotia have, by and large, met with failure. Many of the relocated families seemed unable to make the necessary adjustment successfully and by and large, have returned to their original homes.

In many instances mining had been a family occupation for many generations of Cape Bretoners. In many instances they had mined at the same mining site as a family and the unfamiliarity of their new surroundings in the West proved to be incompatible with their family heritage.

Because of the financial opportunities afforded by the Canadian coal industry, many individuals have found themselves able to achieve upward mobility both economically and socially. Positions of importance both in the industry or related to it have become available.

Recently the coal industry has also afforded opportunities to women looking for employment outside traditional areas. Unlike some of the parts of the world where women have been discouraged from working in the mines, this has not been the case in Canada. As a result, many women have been able to carve a place for themselves in the industry on a parity with the men.

As a result of the increased interest in and demand for coal for thermal use, development of coal reserves will put the mining industry in competition for capital with other energy projects in Canada. Western Canadian companies are planning capital outlays of C\$350 m. to provide new coal

supplies to Ontario Hydro, the organisation which supplies electricity to Canada's most highly industrialised province. Estimates of proposed projects in British Columbia have been estimated at C\$200 m. Speculation exists in Ontario around a proposed C\$700 m. coal-burning complex to provide lignite deposits that could feed an electric power plant.

#### Acknowledgements

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*Complex coal loading equipment stands on reclaimed land at Roberts Bank Superport, British Columbia.*



# Rhodes girls play it cool at Oxford

By Jack Archer

I expected to hear a successful battle-cry for Women's Lib. But the girl from Ottawa and Somerville College, Oxford, ignored the bait as if the movement was something the world could well do without.

"We're not show dogs," she said. "We're here to do a job of work and carry it out in the best way we know how."

But to many people Jessie Sloan is a special kind of girl. So are her three Canadian colleagues — Melanie Dobson from Riverview, New Brunswick, Eileen Gillese from Edmonton, Alberta, and Jacqueline Sheppard from St. John's, Newfoundland.

And there are twenty more like them from other parts of the Commonwealth, the United States and West Germany.

Special? Not according to them. But they are Rhodes Scholars, and the first women to be awarded the scholarships since the Sex Discrimination Act was passed in 1975 — an Act which many said would bring Cecil Rhodes storming from his grave.

But times have changed since the old Empire Builder and Oxford's most famous son set up a Trust Fund to find what he called 'the best man for the world's fight'. And Rhodes himself would probably have been among the first to admit that, in this day and age, women could share in that fight equally with men.

Rough, tough and dogmatic Rhodes might have been, but bias was not among his traits and he clearly specified in his will that no applicant for scholarship should qualify or be disqualified on account of his race, colour or religious convictions.

The day the Act was passed all was serene at Rhodes House, headquarters of the Trustees. The possibility of admitting women to the all-male fraternity had been on the cards for sometime and the Discrimination Act was the green light that was needed. The Trustees changed the terms of the Rhodes Will with clear consciences.

It was a simple change. After seeking a Ministerial Order, they omitted the words 'manly' and 'manhood' and that was that. But the principle remained the same:

choosing candidates who seemed most markedly to possess qualities of character and leadership and able to measure up to the exacting intellectual demands of Oxford.

Too often there has been an illusion that Rhodes Scholars are a breed of brawny men, more skilled in sport than academics, more adept at kicking a ball than wrestling with Plato and Aristotle.

Nothing could be further from the truth. Rhodes' desire was the perfect mix — intelligence combined with the qualities of character developed by sport and a love of open-air life, plus the most human gift of all — unselfishness.

And as for those manly skills, women have been engaged in them successfully for years — genetics and medicine, commerce and law. Cecil Rhodes would be proud of them.

Eileen Gillese says: "The world may have changed in its outlook, but we haven't. We have always lived in a male-dominated society, but it has never been a deterrent to achievement."