



Claire Galloway, the new Engineering Queen.

By CHRIS FLEWWELLING  
The Provincial Government has undertaken the revision and translation of the provincial statutes in accordance with the Official Languages Act, which was passed April 18, 1969, with particular sections proclaimed as law September 1, 1969. The Act, among other things, states that all provincial laws should be in both English and French.

Work on the statutes comes under the Department of Justice and is carried out by the Law Reform Division, which was formed in the fall of 1970, although initial translation began in April, 1970. A spokesman for the Department of Justice has stated that, for some areas of the common law, this is the first time of translation into French.

The division has seven legal translators, four of them just recently hired, and works under a budget allowance for revision and translation of \$100,000. This is included in a federal-

provincial cost-sharing plan for translation of the statutes, the translation, with each government paying fifty per cent. The work of revision and trans-lation of the statutes, the spokesman said, is expected to be completed in about a year and a half.

## Women's Lib



By KATHY AND COLLEEN

"Liberated from what?" - Many people have asked this question of the Women's Liberation Movement. One need look no further than legislation within our own province.

While women may have the vote, full participation in public life is not expected of women in New Brunswick. Just one illustration of this is the fact that women may be exempted from jury duty merely because they are women. Not only does this indicate societies expectancy that a woman should be but half a citizen-it further discriminates against women by denying them the right to be judged by a jury of their peers. The Royal Commission on the Status of Women recommends that:

"... the provinces which have not already done so, require women to be liable to jury duty on the same terms as men."

Further discrimination lies in provincial legislation concerning marriage. New Brunswick does not recognize the concept of equal partnership in marriage. What this means is the assets accumulated by the husband during marriage are his exclusive property. When the marriage dissolves whether by death or divorce the wife has no legal right to his assets despite the fact that their accumulation was more than likely dependent upon her unrecognized but essential efforts in the home. Again the Royal Commission on the Status of Women recommends that the statutes be changed in order that the contributions of each spouse to the marriage be recognized.

The New Brunswick law code views the mother's consent for marriage valid only in such event as the father is dead, insane, or in prison. Is there any reason why a mother should not have equal responsibility for the welfare of her child? Furthermore, in this province there exists no minimum age for marriage with parental consent. The Report on the Status of Women, citing the high percentage of breakdowns in marriages between individuals under 18, recommends that the federal government enact legislation establishing 18 years as the minimum age in all cases regardless of consent. Pending the implementation on this law, provinces should raise the minimum age to at least 16 with consent of either parent.

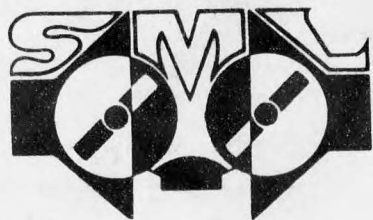
These are but a few of the glaring injustices that are within the provincial lawbooks. Liberation for every citizen begins with laws that ensure equal rights in our society. This is what Women's Liberation is attempting to accomplish.

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