

wife helps them to escape, she is not held criminally responsible. . . . Under a proposed change to the Act, (she) . . . will be held responsible for aiding the accomplice. . . . The older concept was . . . demeaning. It perpetuated the idea of the woman as an appendage, a non-person. That kind of favour we don't need. . . .

"The law is sprinkled with inequitable favours. For example, up to now, an alien woman married to a Canadian man could apply for citizenship after a year of residence, regardless of language affiliations. But an alien man marrying a Canadian woman had to wait five years and meet language requirements. Under the proposed changes . . . the law will deal equally with both sexes . . . three years residence for all, no language exemptions for anyone. . . .

"The Criminal Code . . . reflects an obsolete concept of marriage. You get the impression of a relationship constructed along corporate or even military lines. What is home?, the Code seems to ask, without a commanding officer . . . (and it

makes it clear that the only possible candidate for the job wears trousers. . . . The Code when amended will say that a 'married person' must provide the necessities of life to his spouse. I am assured . . . that despite the use of the word 'his' the effect will be to recognize that a woman can be the household head. . . . The dignity of responsibility will descend on both sexes.

"Under the Immigration Act . . . a woman whose husband . . . must be deported finds herself in the position of having to leave too. . . . The woman is being treated not as an individual but as a non-detachable item of property. Never mind that she may have had absolutely nothing to do with the situation that caused her husband's deportation. Never mind that she had been here long enough to be a Canadian citizen. Never mind that the marriage may be on the rocks. She too must pack up and go. The idea (that if the 'head' of a family . . . goes, so must everyone else) will be eradicated by an alteration in the wording of the Act."

*Claire Trépanier is the curate of Our Lady of Fatima parish in the Longueuil suburb, outside Montréal. She has been a nun in the Order of the Blessed Name of Jesus and Mary for thirty years. As curate she delivers sermons, gives holy communion, prepares people for marriage and baptism and visits the sick. Her pastor, Father Guy Pratt, hopes that with the Bishop's consent, she will soon be moved up to deacon.*

*Dr. Michelle Cousineau, of Montréal, a general practitioner, works primarily with alcoholics and others who have nutritional problems. A graduate of the University of Montréal, Dr. Cousineau has been in private practice for 15 years and is a member of the American Medical Society on Alcoholism and consultant for the Québec Government on problems of alcoholic and drug addiction.*

