

The Federation of University Women in Canada

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On Behalf of the Educational Committee of the Federation
of University Women in Canada.

The Educational Committee of the Canadian Federation of University Women desire at the next meeting of the Federation to raise certain questions about the limitations of women in the professions and in higher education. The situation is briefly this. It is now over fifty years since women were first admitted to universities in Canada. They already form one-third of the total undergraduate student body. Of this number only an inconsiderable proportion as compared with men continue their studies beyond the undergraduate stage. Comparatively few have made any contributions to their professions or to the knowledge of any subject by research.

About one-third of the women graduates of our universities enter the teaching profession .85% of the Canadian elementary and secondary teachers are women. In the Universities women constitute no more than five or six per cent of teaching staff even when the temporary student demonstrators are included in the field of open competition in the universities (which would exclude household science and nursing) women hold not one per cent of the permanent posts. On account of the lack of data it has not been possible to carry the comparison into other professions. The committee is therefore confining its investigations to the teaching profession.