

Under "Taxation", the Commission has made four recommendations: taxable cash allowances in the order of \$500 for each dependent child up to 16 years of age payable to the mother; the lowering of the married status exemption from the present \$1,000 to \$600 when the dependent spouse is under 60 years of age (when the dependent spouse is age 60 and over, the extra exemption would be the same as the individual personal exemption); a marriage partnership taxation unit composed of the two spouses who could either aggregate their incomes in a joint return or file separately. It recommends that the provinces that have not already done so amend their respective Succession Duties Acts to abolish succession duties on assets passing from one spouse to the other.

WOMEN IN PUBLIC LIFE

Under "Participation of Women in Public Life", the Commission has five recommendations: that women's associations within political parties amalgamate with the main bodies of the parties; that two qualified women from each province be summoned to the Senate as seats become vacant; and that women continue to be summoned until a more equitable membership is achieved; that financial qualifications for eligibility for membership in the Senate be abolished; that more women judges be appointed to all courts within government jurisdiction; and that those provinces that have not already done so require women to be liable for jury duty on the same terms as men.

Under "Immigration and Citizenship", seven recommendations have been made to amend sections of the federal Immigration Act and Regulations and the Canadian Citizenship Act, which are discriminatory. In this regard the Commission recommends that the Department of Immigration review its policies and practices to ensure that the right of wives to make independent application for admission to Canada is always respected and that wives are made fully aware of this right.

The Commission recommends amendment of the Act and Regulations to eliminate the phrase "head of a family", wherever it appears, and to substitute the exact meaning intended in each case.

Under "Criminal Law and Women Offenders", 14 recommendations have been made. These include the closing of the federal women's prison at Kingston, Ontario; removal from the penal setting of persons found guilty of public intoxication and the development of treatment facilities for female alcoholics; repeal of Section 164(a) and (c) dealing with vagrancy, equal protection from sexual abuse for all young people, male and female. The Commission has also made recommendations in regard to detention practices, custodial programs, parole supervision and establishment of a "half-way house" network for newly-released women prisoners.

Under "Poverty", the Commission has recommendations for: a guaranteed annual income to be

paid by the Federal Government to the heads of all one-parent families with dependent children; an increase in the Guaranteed Income Supplement of the Old Age Security plan to maintain the income of the recipient above the poverty level; a network of hostels for transient girls and women, and expanded friendship centres directed and staffed by people of Indian, Métis and Eskimo ancestry.

Under "Plan for Action", four recommendations are made to ensure implementation of the Commission's recommendations and that a continuing watch is kept on women's rights and freedoms.

The Commission based its recommendations on the general principle that everyone is entitled to the rights and freedoms proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The following principles in particular were appealed to: that the full use of human resources was in the national interest; that there should be equality of opportunity to share the responsibilities of society as well as its privileges and prerogatives, that women should be free to choose whether or not to take employment outside their homes; that the care of children was a responsibility of mother, father and of society; that special treatment related to maternity would always be necessary; and that, for an interim period, special treatment for women would be required to overcome the adverse effects of discriminatory practices.

Six of the Commissioners, Chairman Florence Bird (the former Anne Francis), Lola M. Lange, Jeanne Lapointe, Elsie Gregory MacGill, Doris Ogilvie and Jacques Henripin, signed the report, subject to observations in separate statements by Jacques Henripin, Elsie Gregory MacGill and Doris Ogilvie.

Commissioner John P. Humphrey presented a minority report.

FAR EAST TOUR BY PM

Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau will attend the conference of the Commonwealth heads of government in Singapore from January 14 to 22. On his way to the meeting, Mr. Trudeau will visit Pakistan (January 6 to 9) and India (January 10 to 13). On his return trip, he will visit Indonesia (January 22 to 25) and Ceylon (January 26 to 28), in response to invitations from the heads of government of these countries.

The Prime Minister's visits to Ceylon, India and Pakistan will give him an opportunity to discuss with government officials Canada's extensive bilateral relations with their countries, particularly in trade and development, and to survey with them world and Commonwealth problems of common concern.

Canada's relations with Indonesia, the most populous country of Southeast Asia, are developing rapidly. The Prime Minister's visit will indicate the importance Canada attaches to its role as an Asian and world power.