

International Women's Year

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Are Canadian Women Equal?

It is a difficult question. It suggests the joke in which the first chauvinist says: How's your wife? and the second says: Compared to what?

Canadian women, in the cold, clear eyes of the law, are now almost equal to Canadian men. They are probably — a difficult measurement — as free as women in the United States. But they are still encumbered. In practical terms there are very few women foresters or plumbers, very few engineers, very few members of the ordained clergy, very few surgeons and not many attorneys. Florence Bird, the head of the Royal Commission on the Status of Women, put it this way: They are "paid less (and) they are relegated to low-level jobs." It is a fact that most working women are in service or clerical jobs, and those

Janet Gardner, 19, goes dancing Saturday night and plays hockey with the Point Edward Ontario Supremes on Sunday morning.

doing the same work as men get less for doing it; the average man motor vehicle operator, for example, makes some 48 per cent more than the average woman operator.

There are other, less obvious forms of discrimination; many men (and some women) do not pay full, serious attention to the opinions of women — on politics, on economics, on religion, on art, on science, on culture and on peace and war. A woman who wishes to be accepted as a thinking, creative adult has often had to focus all her energies in that pursuit, forgoing marriage and children. Agnes Macphail, the first woman member of the House of Commons, once asked hundreds of "fine, alert and very capable women in business, the professions and the arts" why



"I don't want a hyena in petticoats talking politics to me. I want a sweet gentle creature to bring me my slippers." SIR R. P. ROBLIN, PREMIER OF MANITOBA, 1900-15.

they had not married and found "their reasons were the same as mine; the *person* could not be subjected."



Marriage was indeed an impediment to achievement. In early Québec single women, most particularly those in religious orders, conceived and established permanent institutions of great value and efficiency. Mlle. Jeanne Mance (who took vows but never actually entered a convent) built the first hospital in Québec, Hôtel Dieu, and staffed it with nuns of the Hospitalières de Saint Joseph; these women were recognized to be as capable of administering affairs as men. (Québec nuns maintained the tradition; in the nineteenth century there were ten thousand in the Province who ran schools, hospitals and orphanages of a quality comparable with similar, man-run institutions anywhere in the world.)

Single women in Québec who were not nuns also had certain established rights. They could hold property, and for a short time, between 1809 and 1834, women property owners (who were necessarily single) could vote. The Civil Code of the Province of 1866 put no limitations whatever on the property rights of single women, but married women were chattels. Under the Custom of Paris, enacted in 1510 and introduced to New France in 1627, they were legally incompetent and absolutely excluded from holding public office. They (and their single sisters) were not given the full franchise until 1940.

In the rest of Canada, the situation was different, though it would be hard to say if it were better or worse. There was no group of women with the authority of the Québec nuns, but the married women outside Québec by and large achieved status, as professionals and as persons, sooner than the married women within. Ontario passed the Married Woman's Property Act in 1872. Queen's University in Kingston admitted women in 1869, and in 1879 King's College in Halifax granted a B.A. to Sarah Maude Doane. (She declined to attend the convocation "because of all those men.") In the early twentieth century the Prairies were the most fertile area for women's growth; Emily Murphy and four other celebrated Prairie women forced the Canadian Government

to recognize Canadian women as "persons" in the eyes of the law.

What are the prospects today? Good but not certain, and in many areas disturbing. As Marc Lalonde, the Canadian Minister of Health and Welfare, put it: "Our society still has a long way to go in recognizing the equality of sexes in fact as in law. . . . Is it part of human nature or an inevitable consequence of biology that the average earnings of Canadian women participating full-time in the work force should be about half that of male workers? We can surely imagine a better society in which this gap would not be so great." In the last decade that gap has actually grown. (See page 3.)

But the progress is real, if not rapid. When Ms. Bird's Royal Commission made its report five years ago, it made 122 recommendations for Federal Government action. Seventy-nine have been partially or fully implemented.

The official International Women's Year is with us, and in this issue CANADA TODAY/D'AUJOURD'HUI attempts to tell you something about a subject which is as complex as the state of humanity. There are sketches of some great women of the past — present progress is built on past foundations — and it is interesting to note that they all lived a long time (devotion to freedom may be as vital to the body as it is to the soul). There are sketches of women now who are achieving things, and there are statistics which speak for themselves.



Women also speak for themselves. Most men have regarded women with affection but without much understanding; they honestly thought, and some still honestly think, that women want to stay home, keep house and raise babies beyond all else. Nellie McClung said long ago: "The stationary female and the wide-ranging male is the world's accepted arrangement, but the belief that a woman must cherish no hope or ambition of her own is both cruel and unjust." And a Canadian Broadcasting Corporation woman employee said only the other day: "I've been a secretary for six years, and whether you're a script assistant or a secretary . . . the problem remains the same: '*Servir ses Grands Seigneurs.*'"

"Politics unsettles men, and unsettled men means unsettled bills, broken furniture, broken homes and divorce. Men's place is on the farm." NELLIE MCCLUNG, HAVING SOME FUN AT THE EXPENSE OF PREMIER ROBLIN.

"In certain subjects terms have to be employed which certainly could not be used before women without great embarrassment. Of course if they want to endow a separate college, I have not the smallest objection. They may be useful in some departments in medicine, but in difficult work, in surgery for instance, they would not have the nerve. And can you think of a patient in a critical case, waiting for half an hour while the medical lady fixes her bonnet or adjusts her bustle."

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER WRITTEN BY A MEMBER OF THE MCGILL UNIVERSITY FACULTY IN 1890.

All Is Not Yet Well

As of last March, there were 9,137,000 persons working in Canada and 3,161,000 of them were women.

The number has risen spectacularly — over a million women entered the work force in the last decade. Many women have found jobs in the higher paid sectors, but the percentage, in some cases, actually declined.

In 1962, 11.2 per cent of persons classified as managers were women. By 1972, the percentage had climbed slightly, to 14.3. But during the same decade the proportion of women in the relatively well-paid field of communications declined from 55.4 per cent to 49.3, and the percentage of women holding professional or technical jobs went down from 41.6 to 41.2. (These percentages tend to exaggerate the status of women, since women dominate the lower paid professions — nursing, teaching and social work, but are few in the higher paid professions — law, medicine and engineering.)

The wage gap between men and women doing the same work has actually increased in many cases. In 1962, for example, there was a 6.7 per cent differential between the wages paid men and women operating cigarette-making machines. By 1972 the differential had gone up to 14 per cent.

The average full-time woman worker is now paid about 60 per cent of the wage paid the average man. By 1973 the dollars gap had gone from \$2,694 to \$4,719.

Income Differences by Sex

[NATIONALLY AND BY REGIONS]

1965	avg. income men	avg. income women	diff- ence
Atlantic	\$3,497	\$1,397	\$2,100
Québec	4,347	1,881	2,466
Ontario	5,094	1,952	3,142
Prairies	4,210	1,802	2,408
B. C.	4,749	2,019	2,730
Canada	4,551	1,857	2,694
1973	avg. income men	avg. income women	diff- ence
Atlantic	6,306	2,936	3,380
Québec	7,755	3,682	4,073
Ontario	9,093	3,834	5,259
Prairies	7,778	3,197	4,581
B. C.	9,448	3,604	5,844
Canada	8,310	3,591	4,719

Source: *Canadian Forum*, April-May 1975, *Income Distributions by Size in Canada*.

CBC Survey

The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation has surveyed the status of its own working women.

The CBC employs 10,445 persons, a quarter or 2,650 of them women. They constitute most of the secretarial and clerical force and only 7.5 per cent of the management. There is only one CBC woman producer outside Montréal, Toronto and Ottawa.

The average CBC woman employee has about the same level of seniority as the average CBC man, but she earns \$3,683 less.

The six-person survey task force, three men and three women, was headed by Kay MacIver.

They talked to some thousand women employees in group sessions and interviewed 484 individually. Here are some comments:

"I've applied for promotion four times. Each time I've been turned down without a reason being given, and in each case a young man got the job."

"I've been watched over like a three-year-old."

"Men keep you from being promoted if you're clever. They need you to strengthen their own positions."

"What your real job is as a secretary, is to make or get the boss and his cronies coffee."

"The day I married Wesley I did the best day's work I have ever done. He lighted all the candles of my mind." NELLIE MC CLUNG, PIONEER SUFFRAGIST.

The Bureau



The Department of Labour's Women's Bureau has been responsible for matters directly affecting Canada's working women since Sept. 4, 1954. Its main purpose is to have women accepted at all levels in the work force, and in this pursuit it compiles statistics and promotes surveys, studies and reports.

It first surveyed married working women, and it subsequently reported on such subjects as vocational training, maternity leave, continuing education, day care services and career opportunities. Its initial and yet unrealized goal is to secure equal pay for equal work.

One of its major recent documents, *Women in the Labour Force, Facts and Figures* (1973), describes the work Canadian women are doing, how much they are paid, whether they are married, what their absentee rate is and other useful information. *The Law Relating to Working Women* (1973) is also an excellent compilation.

Marion Royce was the first bureau director. In 1967, she was succeeded by Jessica Findlay, who resigned the following year. Sylva Gelber was named in 1968, and she still serves. She was a member of Canada's delegation to the United Nations Seminar in Ottawa last September, which examined models of government machinery which could be used in any country to raise the status of women.

Public Service

The Federal Government is Canada's biggest employer — it has 230,000 jobs, and 68,000 (or a third) are held by women.

Most of the women are non-professionals, and in the highest job category, that of senior executive, there are only a handful of women among hundreds of men. Still there has been improvement; in 1972 there was only one woman of that high rank.

The present looks best when compared with the not-too-distant past.

The Civil Service Act of 1918 permitted the holding of job "competitions on the basis of sex" which meant that the best jobs were only for men.

In 1921 the Commission barred women who

were not "self-supporting" from the Public Service, except in jobs where "no qualified males were available."

In 1947 this limit on married women — which had been relaxed during the war years — was reinstated. Married women were to be "retained or hired" only under "special circumstances."

In the fifties the wind began to shift. In 1954 the Women's Bureau of the Department of Labour was established, and in 1955 the ban on married women was removed. In 1967 the Public Service Employment Act specifically banned discrimination by sex, and in 1972 a directive was issued requiring that recruitment ads contain the words "this competition is open to both men and women."

If you are interested in learning more about women in Canada, the following organizations can provide you with additional information:

International Women's Year Secretariat

Privy Council Office
Parliament Buildings
East Block
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A3

Women's Bureau

Department of Labour
Sir Wilfrid Laurier Building
340 Laurier Avenue
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0J2

Action Urged

The National Action Committee on the Status of Women in Canada urges action in four areas:

1. Equal pay for work of equal value;
2. Child care;
3. Family planning and removal of abortion laws from the criminal code;
4. Matrimonial property and family law.

The NAC's Board of Management offers these supporting observations:

1. Equal Pay for Work of Equal Value. In 1972, after consulting with all the provinces, Canada ratified the International Labour Organization's Convention (No. 100), calling for "equal pay for work of equal value." Yet formal endorsement of this principle appears to have had little effect on the wage differential between women and men in the Canadian labour force. There continues to be no recourse in law for large numbers of women employed in female "job ghettos" — in clerical, service, sales and certain manufacturing occupations — where the pay is low. Clearly governments must respond vigorously with improved legislation in order to rectify entrenched injustices.

2. A Choice in Child Care. In 1973, less than 2% of the children of working mothers had access to formal day care arrangements of any kind (including lunch and after-school programs).

In 1975 there is still an enormous need for service. And yet, even where programs are available, the cost can be prohibitive; in a Canadian urban centre it can cost \$1,500 a year to place a child in full-day care — more than twice the cost to a family for full tuition for a student at a university.

3. Birth Control Services for All Who Need Them. Birth control counselling and services must be freely available to all who want and need them. While governments should take an active lead in disseminating information, counselling services should be offered through a wide variety of agencies, including hospitals, health units, churches, schools, social service and voluntary organizations. The question of access to birth control help for minors should be seriously examined.

4. Equal Partnership in Marriage. The Governments of Canada should be strongly urged to follow up studies in law reform with new legislation designed to secure equitable rights to property for both partners in a marriage (both during the currency of marriage and at marriage breakdown). While recognition should be accorded the matrimonial home as an important asset (so that equal rights be guaranteed in it to both spouses), law reform efforts should also ensure that other property be fairly divided.

For those who are interested in contacting the National Action Committee on the Status of Women, this is an abbreviated list of regional contacts; there are scores more.

Vancouver Status of Women
2029 W. 4th Avenue
Vancouver 9, British Columbia

Alberta Action Committee on the Status of Women, Mrs. J. A. Durand, President
1453 106A Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta

Action Committee on Status of Women
c/o Jane Abramson, Chairperson
2004-14th Street E.
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

Manitoba Committee on the Status of Women
c/o E. Feniak
447 Webb Place
Winnipeg, Manitoba

Ontario Committee on Status of Women
Lorna Marsden
410 Markham Street
Toronto, Ontario

La Fédération des Femmes du Québec
Pat Buesson
75 12è Avenue
Vimont, Québec

Gwen Black
Canadian Federation of University Women
P.O. Box 68
Sackville, New Brunswick

Margaret Colpitts
Provincial Council of Women
72 Shore Drive
Bedford, Nova Scotia

Status of Women Study Group
Marth Pratt, Acting Secretary
57 Newland Crescent
Charlottetown, P.E.I.

Newfoundland Status of Women Council
Sally Davis, President
Box 6072
St. John's, Newfoundland

NWT Status of Women Action Committee
Alison J. McAteer, Co-ordinator
P.O. Box 1225

Yellowknife, Northwest Territories

Yukon Status of Women Council
4051 - 4th Avenue
Whitehorse, Yukon Territory

"The misery of being under observation . . . is what I remember most vividly. . . . I was a curiosity and stared at whenever I could be seen in the House, the corridors or the dining room. Eating was the worst, it may be they thought I would eat peas with my knife or cool my tea in my saucer. . . . I was observed closely, so closely that I lost twelve pounds in the first month I was a member." AGNES MACPHAIL, FIRST WOMAN MEMBER OF THE CANADIAN HOUSE OF COMMONS.



"The word persons includes members of the male and female sex." THE BRITISH PRIVY COUNCIL, ON HEARING APPEAL FROM THE SUPREME COURT OF CANADA, 1929.

Emily Murphy



On July 1, 1916, Judge Emily Murphy, having heard her first case and found the prisoner at the bar guilty, was abruptly challenged by the prisoner's attorney, Eardley Jackson, who said she had no authority to pass sentence.

"You are not even a person," he said, and when Judge Murphy urged him to develop his argument, he noted that under a British common law decision of 1876, women were "persons in matters of pains and penalties but not in matters of rights or privileges." Being a magistrate was clearly a privilege.

The Provincial Supreme Court denied Mr. Jackson's appeal, and women were legally "persons," at least in Alberta. But the principle had not been established anywhere else in Canada. Judge Murphy decided that she would first establish it nationally and then insist that a woman be appointed — as a person — to the Canadian Senate.

She found Section 60 of the Supreme Court Act, which said that if five interested persons petitioned the Government for a ruling on a constitutional point, the Government would have to respond. She lined up the five — herself, Nellie McClung, Louise McKinney, Henrietta Muir Edwards and Dr. Irene Parlby.

In March, 1928, the Supreme Court of Canada took the "person" question under consideration. Five long weeks later they ruled resoundingly that "women, children, criminals and idiots" were not legally "persons." The five appealed to the British Privy Council, then Canada's court of last resort. Nineteen months later, on Oct. 18, 1929, Lord Sankey announced on behalf of the Council, that women were persons indeed.

The time had come to name a woman senator and the assumption was that it would be Judge

Murphy. It wasn't. Prime Minister Mackenzie King appointed Mrs. Cairine Wilson, who had campaigned vigorously for him in the past. When told of the appointment, Mrs. Murphy said, "Cairine Wilson is a good woman," and she never mentioned the matter again.

Judge Rejeanne Laberge-Colas, of Montréal, is the first woman to sit on Canada's Supreme Court. She has a law degree from the University of Montréal, a Ph.D. in civil rights and is founder and president of the Women's Federation of Québec. She is a member of the Public Security Commission on Montréal, the Board of Directors, University of Montréal and the Board of Childhood and Youth for the Province of Québec. A contractual member of the Bach Choir, she has sung in London, Paris, Brussels and Montréal.



Flora MacDonald, a Member of Parliament from Kingston and the Islands, has won a reputation of being consistently ahead of the pack — she was among the first to be alarmed about food prices. She is a Progressive Conservative and considered a politician of great potential.

Charlotte Whitton



Charlotte Whitton, Ottawa's (and Canada's) first woman mayor, was, literally, a fighter; she once punched a city controller who had made an invidious reference to her spinsterhood.

She died early this year at the age of 79, after serving as city controller, mayor (five times), alderman and regional councillor.

She was the classic example of the woman who was too bright and too feisty to stay home. She won scholarships in six subjects to Queen's University, Kingston, and graduated in 1918. She became a social worker, a writer, a lecturer, the first executive director of the Canadian Welfare Council, assessor to the Commission on Child Protection of the League of Nations, and a Gov-

Senator Renaude LaPointe, a distinguished Québec journalist for more than 30 years, joined the Department of Indian Affairs in 1970 and served as delegate to the UN that same year. She was appointed to the Senate in 1971, returned to the UN in 1972 and was elected speaker of the Senate in 1974.



ernment consultant on the transportation of British children to Canada during World War II.

She was elected an Ottawa controller in 1950, mayor in 1951 and again in 1952, 1954, 1960 and 1962. She was celebrated for sharp comment, to both men and women. To women she said: "Whatever women do, they must do twice as well as men to be thought half as good. Luckily it's not that difficult."

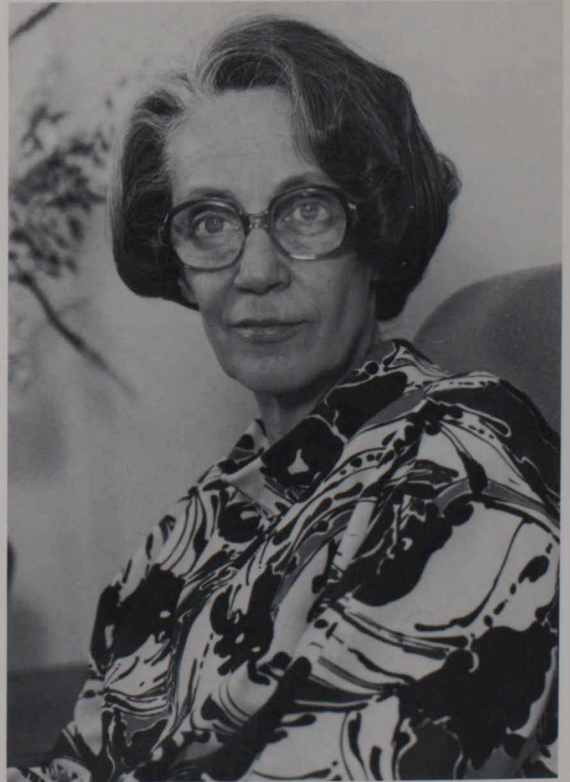
To the city aldermen and controllers she said, on one occasion: "Speak up, gentlemen, I am not opposed to male participation in government."

When the visiting Lord Mayor of London, wearing his regalia of office, noticed the corsage on her low cut evening gown and said, coyly, "If I smell your rose, will you blush?", she asked in turn, confidentially, "If I pull your chain, will you flush?"

In 1972 the city of Ottawa named the council chamber Whitton Hall, and when she died last January her body was laid out in state and she was given a civic funeral.

The Right Rev. William Robinson, Anglican Bishop of Ottawa, said on that occasion: "Long before anyone was talking about women's lib, she was woman's lib incarnate."

Katie Cooke is chairwoman of the 30 member Advisory Council on the Status of Women. She has been involved for years with the role of women in rural development and economic expansion.



Madeleine Parent

Madeleine Parent is a small-boned, fine-featured, slim, short woman, formerly of Québec's upper middle class, who was once tried and convicted of seditious conspiracy.

She decided to become a union organizer when she was an undergraduate at McGill University in Montréal. Later, she and her husband, Kent Rowley, were organizers for the United Textile Workers of America (AFL) and, more recently, the founders of the all-Canadian Textile and Chemical Union.

She began union work at a time when ten-year-old children worked for as little as eighteen cents an hour in Québec mills, when adults worked sixty-five hours a week and when there was no job security or seniority benefits. She met Rowley, and together they began organizing the Dominion Textile cotton mills. When the company refused to recognize the union, they led a hundred-day strike of more than five thousand workers. She became the particular target of Maurice Duplessis, the Premier, and had to carry her birth certificate always to disprove the planted rumour that she was a Russian spy brought to Canada by a Russian submarine. During the Lachute strike of 1947, the Duplessis government charged her with seditious conspir-

acy, and she was convicted and sentenced to two years. Fortunately, for her, the court reporter died before he finished transcribing the testimony, and since the conviction was under appeal, a new trial was ordered. The second time she was acquitted.

In 1967 she and Rowley moved to Brantford, Ont., and organized the Canadian Textile and Chemical Union. In 1971 they led the Texpack strike in Brantford and in 1973 the strike at Artistic Woodward in Toronto.

Erna Paris, one of the authors of *Her Own Woman*, soon to be published by Macmillan of Canada, says of Madeleine today: "She continues to work on behalf of the powerless, organizing immigrant women in the textile trades in particular. . . . Neither anger nor passion has failed her, and she's surviving mightily . . . as charismatic and as strong a woman as this Canadian century has known."

Pauline Jewett

Dr. Pauline Jewett earns \$50,000 a year, though she is opposed in principle to high salaries. She is president of Simon Fraser University on the outskirts of Vancouver, and she is paid more or

Madeleine Parent with representatives of textile workers in Brantford.



less the median for a university president.

"Actually I have very strong feelings against high salaries. I think that in the next few years enough Canadians will be concerned to see that something is done about these inflated incomes." She asked for the \$50,000 because "I was a woman going into this position for the first time, and I really felt that I would be sort of letting down the side if I didn't go in roughly at the same level as a man."

Dr. Jewett, Canada's highest-paid woman and the first to head a university, was picked from ninety candidates. She had a B.A. and M.A. from Queen's and a Ph.D. from Harvard and was formerly a Member of Parliament from Northumberland, Ont. She was also a former vice president of the Liberal Party and a candidate for the New Democratic Party though not, of course, at the same time.

She came to Simon Fraser when it was wracked by student and faculty dissent, and she has brought a measure of order out of a degree of chaos. She is a feminist but not a militant. "I look at it in humanist terms," she told reporter Robert McKeown. "I object to discrimination, but I look askance at women who want to do to

men what has been done to them. I'm very much against retribution."

Marie Andrée Bertrand

Marie Andrée Bertrand, a University of Montréal psychiatrist and criminologist, is one of Canada's most celebrated and original commentators of criminal law. When the five members of the LeDain Commission of Inquiry into the Non-Medical Use of Drugs finished its \$3 million, four-and-a-half-year study, there were two dissenters to the final report. One, Ian L. Campbell, of Sir George Williams University, thought the recommendation too lenient on users; the other, Dr. Bertrand, thought them too harsh.

She argued against treating possession of any drug as a crime and insisted that the proposed attempt to treat addiction by arrest and semi-compulsory treatment would be futile.

Dr. Bertrand was born in Montréal, holds degrees from three universities, is an author of many articles and books and is a recognized authority on women in crime as victims and offenders.

Marie Andrée Bertrand



Maryanne West

In 1971 Maryanne West, of Gower Point, near Gibson's Landing in British Columbia, decided to talk back to her radio.

Gower Point had neither TV or FM radio. The CBC AM network was its only electronic link with the outside world, and CBC had announced a new policy called Radio One/Radio Two. AM broadcasts would be limited to pop programs, news and ads. More demanding programs would be heard only on FM.

Ms. West wrote a protest brief, signed it, collected two hundred additional signatures, and took it to CBC. CBC was polite, but no plans were changed. So she sent a brief to the Canadian Radio-Television Commission, which was holding hearings on the proposal. CRTC reacted strongly; it ruled that the plan "showed too much concern about ratings and not enough to CBC radio's original function of reflecting to a national audience this total range of our living culture." Ms. West had found a career. She is now the leading spokesperson for the Friends of the CBC and a director of the Canadian Broadcasting League.

Pauline Jewett is Canada's first woman university president.



"It's a national pastime to take swipes at the CBC, and God knows they have plenty of faults," she recently told a reporter, "but they'll only live up to their best selves when they know there are plenty of people around who realize their importance. We really are the Friends of the CBC."

Jeanne Sauvé



Jeanne Sauvé, Minister of the Environment, spoke to the Canadian Conference on Women and the Law in February. These are excerpts from that address.

"We in Canada are very much a part of a world-wide catching-up process. . . . The place to begin . . . is in the statute books. . . .

"Under the Election Act, women have been treated differently in subtle but important ways, (being) required to (supply) information which is no business of the state's. The changes we are considering for the Act will alter this. The information required about female voters will cover no more and no less territory than that covering men. . . .

"In law, as in life, some of the unfair limits placed on women, some of the putdowns, look at first glance like privileges. . . . What about . . . the Criminal Code? . . . If a man and his accomplice are being pursued by the police and the

Maryanne West



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.



Emily Stowe and her Daughter Augusta Stowe-Gullen



In 1865 Emily Stowe, then 33, applied for admission to the University of Toronto to study medicine. "The doors of this University are not open to women," Rev. John McCaul, the university president, told her, "and I trust never will be."

"I will make it the business of my life that they will be opened," she replied, "that women may have the same opportunities as men."

She trained in New York and returned to prac-

Bette M. Stephenson, M.D. is the former President of the Canadian Medical Association (1970-71) and the author of Adolescent Alienation of the Family. She is married to Gordon Allen Pen-gelly, M.D., and they have seven children.



tice in Toronto. Here (male) doctors said she was practicing illegally, since the law required that doctors be members of the Ontario College of Physicians and Surgeons and she could not join, having never attended a Canadian medical school. She was first fined but then, finally, allowed to attend classes at the University. Her male classmates drew pictures on the walls designed to shock her. The walls had to be whitewashed four times during the year.

In 1880 she was accepted as a practitioner. She helped organize Women's Medical College in 1883, and she established the first women's suffrage club in the city under the protective title of The Women's Literary Club. Her daughter, Augusta Stowe-Gullen, was the first Canadian woman to be granted a degree by the Toronto School of Medicine.

Dr. James Miranda Barry



Dr. James Miranda Barry (a woman in disguise) was appointed the first Inspector General for Hospitals in Upper and Lower Canada in 1857. She died, at the age of 68, eight years later. During a long, tumultuous career she had won fame as a doctor and surgeon (she performed one of the first Caesareans in which both mother and child sur-

vived) and a reputation as a difficult, eccentric person to work with. The fact that she was a woman — and indeed a woman who had at some time given birth to a child — was discovered only after her death.

Lord Albermarle had met her when she was young. "I beheld a beardless lad, apparently of my own age," he wrote many years later, "with an unmistakably Scotch type of countenance — reddish hair, high cheekbones. There was a certain effeminacy in his manner, which he seemed to be always striving to overcome. His style of conversation was greatly superior to that one usually heard at a mess table in those days of non-competitive examination."

Carlotta Hacker, author of *The Indomitable Lady Doctors*, (Clarke, Irwin & Company Ltd., \$8.50), has concluded that "James Barry" was probably the daughter of James Barry, an Irishman who was a member of the Royal Academy, and a Mrs. Bulkeley. Barry, a friend of Mary Wollstonecraft, who wrote *A Vindication of the Rights of Women*, believed in the rights of women

and the value of education. Mrs. Hacker thinks the mystery of Dr. Barry is no great mystery. She was a very intelligent young woman who wanted to be a doctor, and the only possible way she could be one was to pretend to be a man.

Alice Wilson

Alice Wilson was sickly—with pernicious anemia—thin as a fossilized bone and indestructible. Despite the dinosaurian resistance of her male bosses, she became Canada's first woman geologist.

Miss Wilson was born at Cobourg, Ont., into a neatly classified world where the best jobs were for men only. She floundered around in Victoria College of the University of Toronto and was bedfast for two years before she went to work, first as a clerk in the Mineralogy Division of the University of Toronto's Museum, then as a clerk at the Geological Survey. She arrived in Ottawa and "looked at the Precambrian ramparts of the Canadian Shield across the Ottawa River and wondered about the earth we live on." Her boss, Percy Raymond, understood and encouraged her expanding ambitions. He got her official leave to go back to Victoria College, where she got a B.A. in modern languages and history.

She returned to the Survey in 1911 and was made a museum assistant, the first woman to hold professional rank. She was aiming much higher; she wanted to be a geologist, the ranking position in the Survey. Since she wasn't allowed to go on distant field trips, she picked the handy St. Lawrence Lowland for study, ten thousand square

Alice E. Wilson



miles drained by the Ottawa and St. Lawrence Rivers, with the best range of Ordovician fossils in Canada. In 1919 she became an assistant paleontologist, and in 1921 her first major work, *The Range of Certain Lower Ordovician Faunas of the Ottawa Valley with Descriptions of Some New Species*, was published as Survey Bulletin 33.

Her first bosses had been sympathetic, their successors were not. When the Survey issued automobiles to the men professionals for use in field work, Miss Wilson was given a bike. She bought a Model T on her own and threw the bike in the back, and her superiors were astonished at the ground she could cover. She picked her own work clothes, a Cossack costume with boots, and kept on digging. In 1926 the Canadian Federation of University Women awarded her a \$1,000 fellowship, but the Survey would not give her a leave of absence until a systematic campaign by the CFUW forced them into a partial retreat. Her male colleagues were routinely given leaves with full pay to pursue scholarly advancement, but Miss Wilson was given a split leave without pay, with the understanding that she would have to return after the first six months and make up for the lost time by doing extra work before she would be allowed to take the last six months. She was 45 when she went to the University of Chicago, and in 1929 she was awarded a Ph.D.

E. Cora Hind



In 1938 she became the first woman Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada; in 1940 she was made an associate geologist, and then, in the euphoria after World War II, she was made a full geologist. In 1947 she wrote *The Earth Beneath Our Feet*. In 1964 she died, quietly triumphant, at the age of 83.

E. Cora Hind

E. Cora Hind always did what she thought best. When she grew up, she redesigned the name her parents had given her (Ella), the way another woman might change her hair. The name parted on the side was not necessarily an aesthetic improvement but it suited E. Cora Hind.

She was born in 1861. Both her parents died before she was six, and her mother's sister, Alice, took her to her grandparents' farm at Artimests, Ont. She graduated from high school in 1882 and with her aunt went to Winnipeg, a small town with dirt streets, surrounded by underdeveloped prairies. She applied for a job on the *Winnipeg Free Press*, but was turned down, so she looked around for an opportunity. She found a shop selling typewriters, rented one for a month and taught herself to type with two fingers. She heard that Macdonald, Tupper, Tupper and Dexter, a law firm, had a machine but no one who could use it. They hired her, the first typist west of the Great Lakes, at \$6 a week.

In 1898 there was much speculation in the east about the effect of heavy rains on the wheat harvest, and Col. Maclean, of Maclean publications, who had used her typing services in Winnipeg, wired and asked her to survey the crop. She took a train west to Moose Jaw, then one south back to Winnipeg, looking out the train windows at the wheat fields, talking with trainmen, conductors and brakemen, stopping at occasional stations, renting a team, a buggy and a driver for closer inspection, and walking through the fields rubbing wheat heads between her fingers.

She had begun a new career, a free lance journalist specializing in agriculture. In 1893 she covered a dairy convention for the *Free Press* and was soon elected secretary of the Manitoba Dairy Association. In 1901, some twenty years after she'd asked for the job, *Free Press* editor J. W. Dafoe hired her as a full-time staffer, and she became the recognized authority on prairie agriculture in general and on wheat in particular.

She was an uncompromising perfectionist. When a Chicago paper carried the headline "Black Rust, Wheat Ruined, Outside Estimate 35,000,000 Bushels," she decided that it was

planted by speculators. Off she went on the train, and over the back roads in buggies, dressed now in what had become her distinctive costume, riding breeches, fine, high leather boots and sombrero (when she went to Toronto she added a beaded buckskin coat and a gold mounted cane). She reported that the Chicago headline was off by 20,000,000 bushels, and she was almost exactly right. She continued to be very close to exactly right for decades. In 1905 she estimated the wheat crop at 85,000,000, and it turned out to be 84,506,857. In 1907 she estimated 71,259,000 and it was 70,992,584. In 1909 she estimated 118,109,000 and it was 118,119,000.

In 1932 the *Morning Post* of London considered her achievements from a strikingly male point of view: "It would be strange enough if a man of great experience could soberly and accurately forecast the crop . . . but that such a faculty would be centered in a woman — this for some reason seems extraordinary."

E. Cora Hind lived to the age of 81, crowned not only by the golden grain of endless prairie fields, but by an honorary degree from the University of Alberta and a reputation that had made her name familiar wherever scientists were concerned with feeding man and womankind.

Margaret Lally Murray

Ma Murray, of Lillooet, British Columbia, an ungrammatical octogenarian of demure appearance, retired two years ago, at the age of 86, as editor of the weekly *Bridge River-Lillooet News*. At her retirement party she upbraided a room full of

Ma Murray



fellow journalists for not keeping the public properly informed of the failings of the Provincial government. "That bunch in Victoria will take away every scrap of initiative and freedom and democracy we have," she said.

Her audience was not surprised. Mrs. Murray, born Margaret Lally, has been unremittingly critical of governments for forty years. She and her newsman husband, the late George Murray, started the *Bridge River-Lillooet News* in 1933. He was elected to the Provincial legislature (and went eventually to the House of Commons in Ottawa), and she took over the editorship and gave the paper its distinctive tone, which emphasized the laws of survival and ignored the laws of libel. The acquittal of a man charged with murder, for example, was headlined: "Another Murderer Goes Free."

In 1944 she grew irritated with Lillooet, and leaving the *News* in charge of her son Dan, went to Fort St. John and started the *Alaska Highway News*. The town had three hundred regular inhabitants and some five thousand American soldiers, who were working on the Alaska Highway. It was a rowdy time. "It got so you could almost take the paper and wring the blood out of it," she said later. She was inclined to consider all the news fit to print, though she stopped running lists of the guests registered at the Fort St. John hotel when they produced seven divorce suits. She returned to Lillooet in 1958 and resumed the editorship of the *News*. After a bit she began a weekly

Doris Anderson is the editor of Chatelaine, Canada's notable woman's magazine. She graduated from the University of Alberta, worked in Toronto writing ads and radio scripts, went to Europe where she wrote fiction and then returned to Canada and joined Chatelaine as a staff writer.

column entitled "Chat Out of the Old Bag," in which she attacked anything that irritated her: "Many readers of such sheets as ours . . . have become so damned inverted, arrogant and uncharitable over the last two decades the press generally have quit writing editorials." She wrote hers to instruct the whole country, particularly Ottawa.

"The East doesn't know anything more about the North than a pig knows of Sunday," she wrote. And, on another occasion: "I've gone on all my life chasing this elusive writers' rainbow and never found the pot of gold at the end. If I'm spared to live to 90 — and my dad was 93 when he died — I'll grind out some good copy yet."

The Strickland Sisters

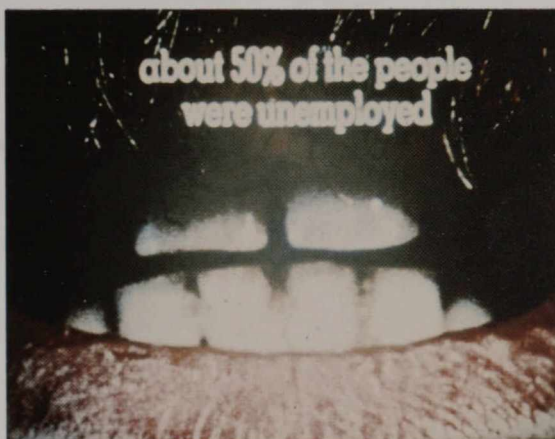
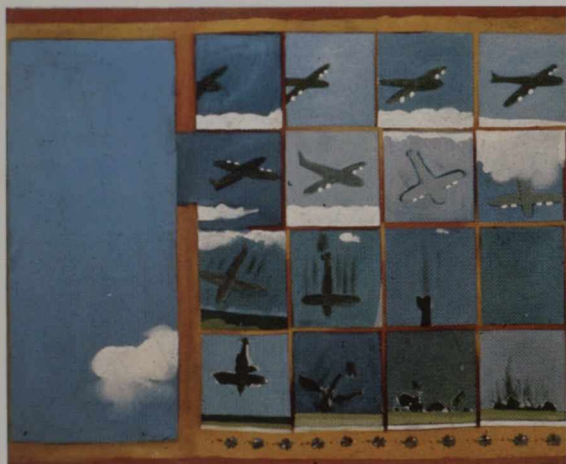
Catherine Traill and Susanna Moodie came to Canada in 1832, their husbands beside them and the backwoods, or the bush, before them.

They were very different in temperament and in fortune; Catherine had married an amiable and hard-working widower named Thomas Traill, and she would regard the hardships of her young life with a cheerful buoyancy. Susanna married John Moodie, a proper officer and gentleman who

Lorraine Monk is the executive producer in the Still Photography Division of the National Film Board of Canada. Among her triumphs were three Centennial books: Canada, A year of the Land, Call Them Canadians, and Stones of History (Canada's Houses of Parliament). She was responsible for opening the NFB Photo Gallery in Ottawa for the exhibition of the works of Canadian photographers.



Joyce Wieland's work eludes labels — it includes sculpture, painting, hangings, quilts, constructions and films. It combines sardonic humour with lyrical joy. Top right is a bronze sculpture entitled *The Spirit of Canada Suckles the French and English Beavers*, 1971. Below left is *Tragedy in the Air or Plane Crash*, 1963, an oil painting and a still from a 14 min. film *Rat Life and Diet in North America*, 1969. Below right is *Confedspread*, 1966, a brilliant assemblage of stuffed squares and oblongs and a still from the 35 min. film *Pierre Valieres*, 1972. Bottom is a large and powerful work titled *109 Views*, 1970-71. This irregularly-shaped canvas is an assemblage of quilted landscape scenes of the north.



had retired on half pay. Her married name suited her well. Her moods were often black, with reason; her husband, whom she loved well, could never adjust to the idea that a Canadian farmer, even though a gentleman, had to work with his own hands.

The sisters would produce two celebrated books on pioneer life: Catherine wrote *The Backwoods of Canada*, and Susanna, *Roughing It in the Bush*.



Catherine described the building of a log house, a logging bee—a work of social significance in which the neighbours pitched in. “The work went merrily on with the help of plenty of Canadian nectar (whiskey), the honey that our bees are solaced with. Some huge joints of salt pork, a peck of potatoes, with a rice pudding and a loaf as big as a Cheshire cheese formed the feast that was to regale at the raising—we laughed and called it a pic-nic in the backwoods and rude as was the fare, I can assure you great was the satisfaction expressed by all the guests of every degree.”

Susanna hated such bees—she found her male neighbours particularly abhorrent when they had a skinful—but she did learn to admire the hard-earned results of her own manual labour: “My husband and I had worked hard in the field, it was the first time I had ever tried my hand at field labour, but our ready money was exhausted—we could not hire and there was no help for it. I had a hard struggle with my pride, before I would consent to render the least assistance on the farm. . . . If we occasionally suffered severe pain, we often experienced great pleasure, and I have contemplated (with joy) a well-hoed ridge of potatoes on that bush farm.”

Catherine remained eminently practical; her *Backwoods* was intended to be basically a guide for the woman pioneer, as was her more explicitly named *A Female Emigrant's Guide*, which stressed the food and medicinal possibilities of native Canadian plants and the various ways of cooking plants and animals. Slowly, through their long lives (Susanna lived to be 82, Catherine, 98), the sisters gained fame. “I actually shed tears of joy over the first twenty dollar bill I received from Montréal,” Susanna would write. “It was my own; I had earned it with my own hand, and it seemed to



my delighted fancy to form the nucleus out of which a future independence for my family might arise.”

Susanna became a recognized great literary figure before her death in 1885; Catherine became that and more. She trained herself as a naturalist and wrote two basic works, *Canadian Wild Flowers* and *Plant Life in Canada*. A fern, *A. Marginale (Swa.) var: Traillae*, was named for her, and the Canadian Government gave her an island in Stoney Lake where she spent her last full years. Her final book, *Pearls and Pebbles*, was published when she was 92. Her backwoods had long been tamed but her own bright spirit was wild and free until the last.

Margaret Laurence

Margaret Laurence, Canada's great novelist, is the author of seven works of fiction, the latest a complex novel, *The Diviners*.

In the words of writer Don Cameron, she is “an ordinary person concerned about her kids, working her way through the shopping and the washing and the vacuuming, talking over her shoulder as she cooks an excellent roast, puzzling her way through issues like pollution, abortion, the population crisis.”

(Right) Celia Franca who was leading dramatic dancer with Sadler's Wells Theatre (now Royal) Ballet is the founder and artistic director of the National Ballet of Canada, and co-founder and artistic adviser of the National Ballet School. Her awards and honours, which include the Centennial Medal and the Medal of Service of the Order of Canada, are almost innumerable. (Bottom) Karen Kain, from Erindale, Ontario, is the rising star of the National Ballet of Canada. During the Ballet's long American tour, she danced *Swan Lake* with Rudolf Nureyev.







(Above) Four of these women, all with the National Film Board, worked together on six films on the identity of women in Québec. The first five have been shown, the sixth, on abortion, will be seen this summer. The two on the left are Jeanne Boucher and Hélène Girard, the two on the right are Anne-Claire Poinier and Marthe Blackburn. In the center is Madame Poinier, Anne-Claire's mother, who has brought in old photographs of Québec women for use and inspiration. (Below) The Edmonton Grads were the best women basketball players in the world between 1915 and 1940. They won 502 out of 522 games and once had a winning streak of 147 games. They never lost in 21 western Canada finals and went to the Olympics four times between 1924 and 1936 when they won all (27) their games and piled up 1,863 points to their opponents combined 297. In all there were 50 Grads. The team played here in 1922. The gent on the left is the coach J. Percy Page.



She was born in Neepawa, Manitoba, went to the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg, married an engineer named Jack Laurence, and went with him to England, Somaliland and Ghana.

Her novels examine life and life's questions in infinite detail. Her latest is specifically about the life of a woman novelist of 47, called Morag Gunn. As Ms. Laurence says, when a writer fashions characters "they are aspects of yourself." She writes of basic relationships, between men and women, between children and adults, between young and old. Here is a passage from *The Diviners* in which Morag recreates her past:

"Nobody much teases Eva Winkler, any more, either, because Morag gives them the bejesus if they do. Eva is her friend, her one true friend. She loves Eva. She looks down on Eva, too, a bit, because Eva is gutless as a cleaned white fish. It must be awful to be gutless. Gus Winkler still beats his kids, even Eva. He doesn't have to be drunk. In fact he hardly ever drinks and then only beer. He just likes beating his kids, that's all. You couldn't imagine Eva, so pale haired and always saying Oh sorry I didn't mean to even when she'd done nothing, you couldn't imagine her deserving it. Maybe Gus beats her because she's gutless like Mrs. Winkler, like all the kids there. In some awful spooky way Morag can understand this. If you ask for it, you sure as hell



get it. But she sticks up for Eva, because Eva is her friend. She doesn't stick up for Eva with Gus though. She never goes over there. She and Christie sit on the front porch and hear it happening. When it does, they never look at each other."

Ms. Laurence lives at Lakefield, Ontario, and has recently been a writer in residence at the University of Western Ontario and Trent University.

Colette Whiten's sculpture was a Canadian entry at the Paris Biennale de Jeunesse. Ms. Whiten, as seen, binds her models into position, then casts them in plaster. The resulting sculpture is supplemented with videotape, film and photographs which document the casting procedures and the great physical demands made on the models.





(Top left) Abby Hoffman is Canada's woman 800-meters champion. (Top right) Ethel Catherwood jumped 5 feet, 2.7 inches in 1928 and won an Olympic Gold Medal. (Bottom left) Ada Mackenzie won her first championship at 22 and was still going around in par in 1971, at 80. (Bottom right) Margot Kidder, born in Yellowknife, NWT, has been appearing in movies since 1969 (Gaily, Gaily) and in the last year there have been four — Gravy Train, The Great Waldo Pepper, Black Christmas and The Reincarnation of Peter Proud.



Women's Newspapers

A Woman's Newsletter
Box 1816
Charlottetown, P.E.I.

Windsor Women
76 University Avenue W.
Room 603
Windsor, P.E.I.

Emergency Librarian
c/o Barbara Clubb
32-351 River Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba

Quebecoises Deboutte
4319 St. Denis
Montréal, Québec
\$3 per year

Long Time Coming
Lesbian Feminist Paper
Box 161 Station E
Montréal, Québec
\$3 per year

Feminist Communication Collective
P.O. Box 455
Montréal, Québec

The Northern Woman
P.O. Box 314
132 N. Archibald Street
Thunder Bay, Nova Scotia

Pride and Prejudice
1386 Henry Street
Halifax, Nova Scotia

B.C. Federation of Women Newsletter
1240 Doran Road
North Vancouver, B.C.

Women Can
704 Richards
Vancouver, B.C.

Branching Out
Box 4098
Edmonton, Alberta
\$5 per year

Source
The Alberta Women's Newsletter
10006-107 Street
Edmonton, Alberta

Kinesis
2029 West 4th Avenue
Vancouver, B.C.
\$3 per year

Priorities
c/o 2803 Wall Street
Vancouver, B.C.
\$2 per year

Status of Women News
121 Avenue Road
Toronto, Ontario
\$3 per year

The Other Woman
Box 928 Station Q
Toronto, Ontario
\$2 per year

The Native Sisterhood
P.O. Box 515
Kingston, Ontario

Tightwire
(Women's Penitentiary Newspaper)
Box 515
Kingston, Ontario
\$2 per year

Clearing House for Feminist Media
P.O. Box 207
Ancaster, Ontario

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Barbara Astman of Toronto and recently a graduate of the Ontario College of Art, has produced thousands of prints documenting her life, herself, her friends and their activities. She says, "one thing that has remained constant . . . is my need to photograph people that I love. I never tire of photographing those I'm closest to," including herself, above. She alters her image by hand tinting and adds (in some cases) bright flower decals, mauve satin and/or black lace. Describing her work, Gary Dault says, she is constantly looking for "ways of displaying her considerable sense of irony and her delightful sense of humour that are tough, responsive, inventive, and beautiful to look at."

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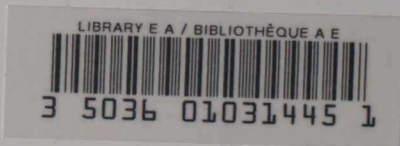
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