

STATUS OF WOMEN

Mrs. Harvey Noblitt.

A summary of the Brief submitted to the Status of Women Ad Hoc Committee by the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada.

Their Brief dealt with such topics as marriage, divorce and the domicile of women, women in the labour force, and taxation as it pertains to married women including estate and income taxes and pension benefits. **But** most of all it stressed the importance of women's role as homemakers.

They asked for Adult Education Courses where they do not exist; for day care facilities for working mothers; for Home Economics Courses in High Schools where they are not available; for compulsory pre-marital health certificates; for Family Centres to be established across Canada. They asked that abortion be taken out of the Criminal Code and be acceptable when carried out by a recognized doctor; that grounds for divorce be extended to include cruelty, incurable insanity and desertion; and that government enforce maintenance by husbands of their deserted wives and children.

In the field of women in the labour force, they asked for equality of sex where ability and experience are equal; for a \$2,000.00 exemption for the individual taxpayer; exemption for household help where there are dependent children and for a wage for farm women commensurate with their labours.

Many of these submissions were included in the final report of the Status of Women.

In February 1972 the National Ad Hoc Committee on the Status of Women submitted a brief to the government and this was supported by F.W.I.C.

The Ad Hoc Committee submitted recommendations re:

- 1) Day Care Centres
- 2) Family Planning — Contraceptives — Abortion
- 3) Divorce
- 4) Immigration
- 5) Citizenship
- 6) Women under the Criminal Code
- 7) Appointment of Women to Boards, Commissions and the Courts
- 8) Equal Pay
- 9) Inclusion of "Sex" and "Marital Status" in the Human Rights Codes and Commissions
- 10) Federal Status of Women Council

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"IT'S ALL IN THE STATE OF MIND"

"If you think you are beaten, you are;
If you think you dare not, you don't;
If you think you'd like to win, but you can't,
It's almost a 'cinch' you won't;
If you think you'll lose, you've lost;
For out in the world you'll find
Success begins with a fellow's will . . .
It's all in the state of mind."

"Full many a race is lost
Ere even a race is run,
And many a coward fails
Ere even his work's begun.
Think big and your deed will grow;
Think small and you fall behind;
Think that you CAN and you WILL—
It's all in the state of mind."

"If you think you are outclassed, you are;
You've got to think high to rise;
You've got to be sure of yourself before
You can ever win a prize.
Life's battle doesn't always go
To the stronger or faster man;
But, sooner or later, the man who wins
Is the fellow who thinks he can."

—From the British Columbia
Women's Institute News.

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Officers' Conference 1972

Mrs. Robert Weber, Secretary, presented a report of the 1972 Officers' Conference at the Annual Board Meeting but a full account of the Conference with pictures appeared in the Summer 1972 Issue of Home and Country and will not be repeated in this report.

The following Recommendations from the Officers' Conference Committee to the Provincial Board of Directors for the 1973 Conference were accepted.

1. That we have a 25th Officers' Conference and that the dates be May 1st, Registration May 2 and 3, Conference, and that the Conference be held at the University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario.

2. That the Pooling Fee be \$35.00.

3. That the following be discussion groups for our 25th Officers' Conference:

BRANCH LEVEL:

1st choice — Secretary-Treasurer

or — Citizenship and World Affairs Convener

or — Members-at-Large

DISTRICT LEVEL: Citizenship and World Affairs.

—That we do not have a delegate at Area Level for this Conference.

The theme of the 1973 Conference will be "When the freedom they wished for most was freedom from responsibility, then Athens ceased to be free and was never free again." — Edith Hamilton (historian).