



JOYCE  
BEATON

Working women

Sometimes stepping from the role of wife and mother into the business world is nothing more than a step from one service role to another. The only difference for many women is that they now get a salary and have a limit on the number of working hours required of them.

Unless they are sufficiently educated in a profession most women are secretaries, waitresses, cleaning staff and sales clerks. Even if they do have a profession there are many women, who because they are afraid to speak up, continue to do the housekeeping chores "because she's the woman in the office."

**Make coffee**  
Secretaries for years have been complaining they have enough to do without running into the boss's office with coffee. I once had a job where my boss considered it part of my job to pick up a few groceries while on my lunch hour. His wife gave him a list and he simply passed it on to me to fill with the words "you'd know better than I do what to get."

I've also been asked to type personal letters even though it wasn't my job to do the typing, "because you type faster and better than I do."

Job descriptions are not always as explicit as the one I saw in a newspaper recently. "Efficient, well groomed, happy, no hang-ups conscientious secretary. Coffee maker, receptionist, file clerk, telephone answerer, invoice typist, errand runner, janitor, etc." At least it was honest but I can't help wondering about that "etc."

If a woman has a male superior it is not unusual to be referred to as "his girl." Would he think of calling male subordinates "his boys?" How many of us were supposed to be flattered with the expressions "sweetheart" or "that's my cutie" when asked to run a special errand? Say that to a fellow male worker and you're liable to have your teeth full of fist.

**Consolation**  
I know of an office not too far from here that once a year holds a luncheon for the male employees. There are five women in the office and they are given bottles of perfume as consolation gifts. Most of the women are so brainwashed they accept the perfume as a lovely gesture and don't realize the put-down.

It's important that women in business be accepted fully by their male counterparts. It's not such a big deal to have the door held for us or our cigarettes lit if it's far more meaningful to ask our opinions, if you would seek the opinions of men in the same jobs. It's more important to call women by name and to include them in shop talk lunches.

Within the last few years women have been accepted (grudgingly sometimes) into press boxes, press clubs, overall planning sessions, and even policy-making meetings. It's a rarity for a woman reporter to be excluded from covering every segment of the community (although it does still happen).

**He may be she**  
Things are changing in every line of work as more and more women enter the labor force. In a recent bulletin put out by Office Overload the following advice was given, "When you enter an office with both a man and a woman in it, don't automatically assume that he's the boss. She may be his boss. Introduce people by full name and job title uniformly. (Not George Grant, our production manager and Susie his assistant, but George Grant, production manager, and Susan Jones, assistant production manager)."

**Indelicate**  
As executive assistant and office manager for a firm a couple of years ago, I received a phone call one day. The male voice said, "I'd like to speak to your boss."

"I'm the boss," I told him. "No, I mean I want to speak to someone who knows what they're talking about," was his reply. He assumed I didn't because the subject was such an indelicate one as sewage treatment. Let's try for a little more diplomacy in our working relationships as men and women. I think the results will be profitable.

Joyce Beaton can be heard each Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. on radio station CKDS-FM, Hamilton (dial 95), when she interviews interesting women of the area. Her books "Alive and Well" (\$3.) and "Now It's My Turn" (\$3.95) are available from Goldenglow Publications, Box 134, Milton, Ont.

Year in review continued

five bed recovery house for alcoholics opened on Steeles Avenue after two years of effort by a 21-members steering committee.

The Jaycee's in Georgetown bicycled 393 miles to the Olympic Games in Montreal to raise \$1,000 for Countryside, the home for mentally retarded in Hornby.

By the month's end, over

1,000 citizens signed petitions protesting council's move to build a \$900,000 addition to the town offices; the Halton police commission endorsed high-speed pursuit training for the police force; and Ontario Hydro opened an office in Acton to deal with citizens affected by the expropriation of land for the transmission line.

The 50th anniversary project of Branch 129, Royal Canadian Legion--improvement of Remembrance Park--was delayed for a year.

Early reports showed that the town had a \$625,000 surplus in its 1975 budget.

**AUGUST**  
A tornado struck Georgetown and gave Collin Gibson, Herald sports editor and his fiancée, Susan Frawley, a ride of a lifetime just days before they were married. Damage by the twister was estimated at \$100,000.

The low bid which council accepted for reconstruction of the arena came in at \$137,225. It was well below the originally estimated cost of \$350,000 but wrangling on the addition to the town office dominated headlines for the rest of the month. As at first council, receipt of a 1,700 signature petition of protest, delayed sending the bylaw to the On-

tario Municipal Board for final approval. Council then fought over whether to retain the architects and finally called for a committee to review the entire issue.

Downtown business men in Georgetown informed council of their opposition to a site of land near the Gordon Alcott Arena to be rezoned from industrial to commercial.

**SEPTEMBER**  
The return to school by students, the postponing of discussion on the municipal complex until after the municipal elections and the Oakville United Way, which was canvassing local industry, made headlines in September.

Downtown Businessmen in Georgetown, like downtown businessmen across the province, were sold on the idea of improving the commercial core. Individuals and groups

Continued page 25



Film star Richard Burton comes to Georgetown for the filming of the United Artists production Equus. Five Herald staff members are used as extras, including Myles Gilson, above



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