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Women Employed, a Chicago group founded in 1973, discovered thru a survey that the average female Loop employee earns \$7,700 less a year than a male counterpart. Here, women listen to the W. E. report.



# Progress? It marked time for women in '73

By Carol Kleiman

FOR WOMEN, 1973 was the best of times—and the worst of times. Giant steps were taken forward, and just as many backward.

It was the year Billie Jean King, tennis champion, beat Bobby Riggs, tennis promoter, in two straight sets. It was also the year of the hard-core male frontal nude in girlie magazines—for women.

Patricia Schroeder [D., Colo.], brought her daughter to the House during the session as a protest against federal day care cuts. And Rep. Yvonne Braithwaite Burke, 40, [D., Cal.], was the first member of Congress to be granted maternity leave; her daughter was born in November, the first baby ever born to an active member of Congress.

Abortions in the first three months of pregnancy were ruled legal by the Supreme Court. Day care was at a standstill.

There was good news and bad news. The Equal Rights Amendment failed in Illinois but only needs eight more states to pass.

WOMEN WERE making advances in job opportunities, but Women Employed, a Chicago group founded in 1973, found in a survey of Loop employees that women working in downtown Chicago earn an average of \$5,300, and men, \$13,000.

The U. S. Census Bureau shows more than 33 million women worked—and 40 out of every 100 wives were in the labor force. But less than one-hundredth of 1 per cent of all Small Business Administration loans went to women.

The role of women in the nation's labor unions is taking on new prominence. Between 1970 and 1972, women's membership in unions increased by 333,000. But few women are in positions of leadership in unions.

Publication of a book vital to women, "Our Body, Ourselves," by the Boston Health Collective, talks straight from the bosom to women about their bodies. Yet many women complained openly last year their doctors did not tell them what they need to know about birth control, hysterectomies, and breast cancer.

THE ILLINOIS SENATE barely confirmed the appointment of Felicitas Berlanga, 21, a student at Illinois State University, as a member of the Board of Governors, which rules the state university system. When the Executive com-



Perhaps the most publicized feminist-oriented court decision in history.

mittee turned her down, Gov. Walker said, "This is the fourth woman I've named to an important post who has been a victim of a vendetta against women in state positions. I leave it to the women of the state to decide what to do about this committee."

Ms. Berlanga got her appointment anyway, but Mary Lee Leahy, Nancy S. Philippi, and Beverly Adante were turned down for the posts—all cabinet levels—for which Gov. Walker had nominated them. Walker has appointed them to important state jobs.

The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission [E. E. O. C.] ruled that for purposes of leave and seniority, maternity must be treated like any other temporary disability. A California case on the issue is now before the Supreme Court.

Claire Randall, 54, theologian and ecumenist, became



For Patricia Shroeder [D., Col.], the House was the place to protest day care cuts.

secretary general of the National Council of Churches, one of the highest and most prestigious religious posts in the country.

The National Black Feminist Organization was founded by 30 women in May. Four hundred attended a December meeting in New York. N. B. F. O. is a political and economic movement to improve the plight of the black women. The image of women's liberation has been white middle class, its leaders say.

SANDRA McNEIL, marketing executive, became the first black woman to be named a brand manager at Quaker Oats. Black women increasingly got good executive posts, but in the economic crunch felt in '73, more unskilled women were unemployed than white.

Congress defeated an increase of the minimum wage. Killed in the same bill was the inclusion of household workers. The defeat affects women who earn low wages, in general, and black women in particular.

Two new Chicago art galleries, exclusively for women, were opened on the same floor and at the same address: Artemisia and ARC, 226 E. Ontario St. But women artists nationally complain of a lack of representation at major galleries.

The Harvard Club in New York ended its 107-year tradition and voted to admit females. In Chicago, a group of women filed action against 11 exclusive clubs that discriminate against women. The Illinois Liquor Commission is also investigating the clubs. In most of the 11 clubs, women are not permitted membership; where they are, they do not have equal privileges.

A rundown of other highlights of the year, good and bad:  
Education: More suits are being filed by women and

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Yvonne Braithwaite: . . . the year of the cen-  
first maternity leave . . . terfold turnabout play . . .



Cook County Hospital's Dr. Rowine Brown became  
first woman to head a major hospital staff.

# 'I am somebody' gets a boost in 1973

Cont. from 1st Tempo page

teachers charging sex discrimination, but progress is slow.

More women college professors are getting tenure and raises averaging about \$1,000. The highest increase last year was a \$13,000 raise. The University of Pittsburgh was stopped from firing a woman employee. Harvard finally filed its affirmative action plan, and the Boston National Organization for Women immediately filed a suit calling it inadequate. The University of Michigan has paid out thousands of dollars in salary raises but none in back pay, as ordered by the government, according to Dr. Bernice Sandler, Washington educational consultant.

The issue of sex discrimination in sports programs is heating up in the schools. At the University of Wisconsin, students taped remarks of a sexist professor and sent them to the federal government to investigate.

Barbara Sizemore became superintendent of schools in the District of Columbia. Hanna H. Gray, historian, was named provost at Yale University, first woman to serve at that level; she is currently dean of the school of liberal arts at Northwestern University. Dru Briggs, 44, a Bellevue, Wash., housewife, was elected president of Bellevue Community College.

WHILE THERE was good news, bad news predominated in education. There are fewer women in important posts at universities than there were last year, though some schools that have had no women in administrative posts now have one. E. E. O. C. now represents women in court actions; last year, they had to do it on their own.

There is an increased awareness at campuses about women's issues, says Dr. Sandler, with a woman's group active on most campuses. Most feminist campus groups report feeling a backlash last year, she says, in the form of stronger resistance from college administrators.

Health: Dr. Rowine Hayes Brown was named medical director of Cook County Hospital. Clinics opened nationally practicing menstrual extraction as a form of abortion. Internal Revenue Service ruled expenses—for abortion, vasectomies, and birth control pills are tax deductible.

Politics: In Illinois in 1972, there were four women altogether in the state legislature. This year there are eight in the house and three in the Senate.

The Equal Rights Amendment was endorsed by the 13.2 million members of the AFL-CIO at its annual convention. The National Women's Political Caucus named Frances Farenthold its first



The ARC [Artists, Residents of Chicago] Gallery, billed as the first nonprofit feminist gallery and art center in the Midwest, opened in 1973.

chairperson. N. O. W. took controversial stands on abortion, rates of pay, and lesbianism; it used the gallery of the American Stock Exchange for a protest against male domination of Wall Street.

DR. DIXY LEE Ray, 59, marine biologist, last January became the first woman chairperson of the Atomic Energy Commission. Dr. Ruth Lewis Farkas was named Ambassador to Luxembourg, a post Pearl Mesta made famous. Lindy Boggs, widow of former House Majority Leader Hale Boggs, became the first woman in Congress from Louisiana; she won a special election. Jeanne M. Holm became the first woman two-star general. And Lt. Col. Nancy Hopfenspieler took command of the U. S. Army post in Wurzburg, Germany, the first woman to hold such a major army command overseas.

Congressional committee hearings under the leadership of Rep. Martha Griffiths [D., Mich.] were held on credit for women, long a problem that makes women see red.

There were few women involved in Watergate, but at one point there were two in confrontation. Attorney Will Wine Volner, 29, special prosecutor on the Watergate Task Force, got to cross-examine Rose Mary Woods, President Nixon's secretary, about that 18-minute hum on the Presidential tapes. Volner is from Skokie.

Sports: Suzy Chaffee, Tenley Albright, and Mickey King, former Olympic stars were named to the board of directors of the U. S. Olympic committee. They were the first women on the board.

Stanford University awarded athletic scholar-

ships for women. The University of Chicago gave a scholarship to a woman swimmer and a woman basketball-softball player, in field hockey, basketball, golf, and other sports. Eleanor Brown bought the American Basketball Association's Kentucky Colonels.

Publishing: "Playgirl" appeared to tantalize American women with nude American male nudes. "Cosmopolitan" added male nudes "in good taste," according to Helen Gurly Brown, editor. "Viva" has male nudes that are supposed to be romantic—but there are more female nudes than male, reflecting its male publisher's sincere basic interest.

PLANS FOR three other new magazines for women were announced: "Woman-News," a feminist answer to Time magazine; "Women-Sports," published by Billie Jean King; and "Mistique," a new magazine for black women.

Charlotte Curtis, family editor of the New York Times, was appointed editor of its op-ed page, formerly an all-male domain.

Legal Actions: Chicago city women janitors fought for equal pay thru the state F. E. P. C. and the Chicago City Council. Susan Bates took her complaint to council hearings on the city budget, stating women do the same work but receive \$1,056 less in annual salary.

General Motors, charged with sex discrimination at Fisher Body plants, told E. E. O. C. it will have women in 20 per cent of the production and assembly line jobs by 1975.

Funds from AT&T settlement of its \$15 million discrimination suit are being funneled to women workers. There's also an additional \$23

billion being paid out in raises.

THE SUPREME Court ruled that the Armed Services could not have a rule that allows wives of service men to obtain benefits automatically that when applied to husbands of service women required specific qualifications.

Illinois school teachers successfully challenged the Board of Education's rule they have to leave jobs because of pregnancy. It's now in the Appeals Court.

The creation of E. E. O. C. litigation centers, staffed with lawyers, resulted in a flood of suits filed in sex discrimination suits.

Business and Professions: Changes in 52 sex-stereotyped job titles were adopted by the United States Census Bureau, eliminating men's jobs and women's jobs. The Bureau dropped "men" as a suffix and replaced it with "worker," "helper," and "operator."

Eight women were employed by the Georgia-Pacific Corp. woods department in Maine as foresters. They got a rating of "excellent" from their chief.

Female pilots began training at Eastern and American airlines. Female pilots already on the job, however, were laid off when the job crunch hit. They lack seniority.

Addie Wyatt of Chicago's Amalgamated Meat Cutters' Union, helped form the national Trade Union Women's coalition.

Sheli Rosenberg was elected first woman president of the Chicago Council of Lawyers.

In evaluating the year's progress by the nation's 33½ million working women, feminist attorney Linda Hirshman said, "From the standpoint of feminism and work-

ing women interested in seeing real equality to women, things are looking better. A cloud on the horizon is the state of economy, and if there is an increase in unemployment, then those with the least seniority will be let go—and that means women and blacks.

"Old attitudes are far from dead, but insofar as women are geared to working in productive labor, the opportunities for human ful-

filment for women have widened. Today the women with courage and fortitude has the opportunity to move ahead.

THAT'S HOW it went in 1973—two steps forward, two back. But a change of attitude among women has evolved, an improved self-image, a sense of "I am Somebody!"

The momentum from this conviction will be felt in giant strides forward in 1974.