

University of Montana

ScholarWorks at University of Montana

The Montana Women's Resource, 1975-1986

University of Montana Publications

12-1-1979

The Montana Women's Resource, Winter 1979

University of Montana (Missoula, Mont. : 1965-1994). Women's Resource Center

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.umt.edu/womensresourcecenter>

Let us know how access to this document benefits you.

Recommended Citation

University of Montana (Missoula, Mont. : 1965-1994). Women's Resource Center, "The Montana Women's Resource, Winter 1979" (1979). *The Montana Women's Resource, 1975-1986*. 15.
<https://scholarworks.umt.edu/womensresourcecenter/15>

This Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by the University of Montana Publications at ScholarWorks at University of Montana. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Montana Women's Resource, 1975-1986 by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks at University of Montana. For more information, please contact scholarworks@mso.umt.edu.

Montana Women's Resource

Winter 1979

Vol. 3

No. 2

Women and Montana Politics

Dussault First Woman Majority Leader; Counters Sexism with Humor

In an interview with House Majority Leader Ann Mary Dussault, (D), in Helena, Dussault mentioned that a revision of the Human Rights Commission budget could have a major effect on women. The budget review does not concern the upper and middle levels of state employment; it concerns the lower end, which is where the greatest number of women is concentrated. The outcome could limit general funds going for health, education and social services, in which the primary receivers of these services are women.

Dussault was questioned about her background, and how that influenced her decision to become a politician. She said that politics were "not unfamiliar" to her, because her father has always been active in the Democratic party. She said that it was probably easier for her to step into her position as House Majority Leader than it might be for other women because it wasn't unknown to her.

Dussault mentioned a problem that exists within the system she works in; that is, sexist words or behavior of some legislators. Dussault said that if she chose to make an issue of the presence of sexism, she could not get on with business. So she handles the sexism with humor. Sometimes it is appropriate to challenge the sexism, and then she does, she said.

NOVICIATE TRAINING

Before Dussault became involved in politics actively, she was in noviciate training to become a nun, but did not take the vows. She acquired an awareness



Rep. Ann Mary Dussault

of a feminine community focused on a common goal through this female atmosphere, she said. She termed this awareness "very positive and reinforcing." After leaving the convent, she became at ease in a "man's world", but she no longer considers it that, she said.

Dussault calls herself a "liberal feminist", but does not shut herself off from males' ideas and interactions. Her male peers elected her House Majority Leader, but being accepted by the "male political club" is not the final step, she said. "If I do a good job, then it will be easier for the next woman to step in", she said. "If I do a bad job, it will be said that a woman cannot handle this position."

In feminist theories the question arises "should we use the type of power that males have used to gain a feminist power, or should we do away with all power?" Dussault, on a tape from the "Women and Power" conference of '77 in Missoula said, "It's time to take the bull by the horns and to play the game", terming it "go for broke" time. She said that unless we go for broke, we manipulate ourselves into a "token woman" position, and are satisfied with being one woman in an all-male arena.

Dussault uses the power that comes from her position not for her own gains, but to accomplish things. She has done this through her hiring process, seeking out the most competent women she can find for her staff, she said.

Speaking of how the legislature affects Montana women, Dussault said, "Any time a Legislature meets, the potential for impacting upon women's roles in society is enormous." A packet titled "Equality of the Sexes", produced by the FRA Council, produced an awareness of the equality issue many of the legislators had not been previously exposed to, she said.

Montana's constitution has strong provisions for equality, said Dussault, but they need to be carried out in the spirit of the law, not in the letter of it, she said. This can be done by women getting into upper levels of management, Dussault said.

Dussault's stand on the issue of abortion is the Pro-Choice stand. She spoke of the questions raised by the abortion issue, saying, "There is the question of the right of the potential child to go through its biological development, balanced against the right of a woman to determine the use of her own body. I have to take up with the latter side", she said.

When asked about the firing of Bella Abzug, Chairperson for the Committee on the Status of Women, Dussault termed it "not astute of (President) Carter". "Abzug is perceived as an institution, holding progressive philosophies, so the firing makes the presidential view relative to those issues questionable", said Dussault.

continued page 2

Capitol Interviews and Impressions

by Angie Helvey

I talked with several people in the halls and offices of the Capitol building, after my interview with House Majority Leader Dussault. (See p.1)

A nurse concerned with the issue of abortion came up to speak to me in the lobby of the House of Representatives, assuming I was a lobbyist. She said, "If abortions aren't given over to a doctor's care, women will have abortions anyway, through Mafia operations, and it will cost them hundreds of dollars. So they should be legal, to be safe and less costly."



Tracy Bier, a Missoula woman lobbying for the Pro-Choice Coalition, spoke of Rep. Dussault as "the epitome of the type of woman who makes it in politics." Only certain types of women can stand up under Legislative pressures, she said. Bier questions if women in the legislature are listened to, or if their opinions on a matter are just accepted, and she wonders if women must justify their answers to satisfy male legislators.

Bier has lobbied for two sessions, and said that becoming a legislator would not appeal to her. "A real struggle is involved in the system of legislation unless one has power (money) to be heard." Bier dislikes the cigarette smoke and sexist comments she encounters. "These men legislate our rights, so have control over our lives", she said.

Bier admires Rep. Dussault's ability to be a "comrade" and a "friend" to the male legislators she works with. "Dussault keeps in with the old boys", Bier smiled.

I was unable to speak with any male legislators, because they were in a hearing. Here is a comment from one male in the hall. When asked what he thinks of women being present in the Capitol, he said, "The gals in the departments and at the information desks are very helpful." Since he thought

I meant women in the traditional role of helper, I then asked what he thought of women in legislative positions. He said they were "just as effective and capable as males." He is a member of the State Pharmaceutical Association, and said that more women are being hired for pharmacy positions,

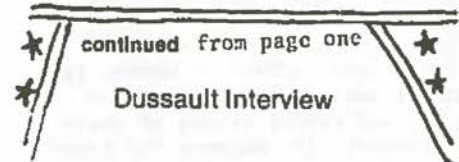
but that owners of small stores hesitate to hire women for night shifts, in case of robbery or rape.

Edith Cox, a former legislator now working on the state board of treasurers, said that she was "treated like a lady" during her term, having doors opened for her and bouquets and corsages given to her on special occasions, such as Valentine's Day. She had "never been treated better" and said that male legislators had listened to her opinions.

I asked a woman whose job is to pass out sheafs of bills after they are printed if she would consider becoming a legislator. She replied, "No, because too many decisions have to be made, and I don't feel qualified to make them." She could become qualified if she were dedicated to becoming so, but she has "too many other commitments." She has three children and her husband has dinner going for all of them by the time she gets home. Sometimes she works with the legislature until 1:00 or 2:00 a.m. and she is glad she works just ninety days a year.

Gerald Mueller, who works in the Lieutenant Governor's office, said, "Women's roles aren't limited here. They seem very confident. I detect no hesitancy in them when they relate to men." Mueller named Joan Wilde, a lawyer who gives legal counsel to the House of Representatives; Judy Carlson, special assistant to the governor; and Lois McBride, present position unknown to him, as an example of women in high positions.

continued on page 3



Dussault is presently making inquiries into abuses in prisons. She will decide whether the complaints are well-founded or superficial. Allegations range from misuse of funds to harassment, physical abuse, visiting privileges, and parole, she said.

Dussault is also interested in institutions for the developmentally disabled. This interest stems from her childhood, because she grew up with an older retarded sister.

"At the time I was growing up, there were few services available to help the family and the individual in this problem. My parents chose to keep my sister instead of sending her to a state institution, and I have enormous respect for them in that decision. "It needs to be stressed that the developmentally disabled are individuals despite their handicaps", she said.

Dussault's final comment about her experience in the Montana Legislature was that "Women bring a different feeling to the legislature. They come from their side of the traditional role society has set up for people, so their reasoning is different. But it seems that ultimately the women vote the same as the men. We only have a 'yes' and a 'no' button to push; I guess that's why", Dussault smiled. ♀ AH

Women in Management Positions

I noticed that most of the women in the capitol building wore dresses, and only a few wore pants.

I saw a calendar of January with activities legislative wives could occupy themselves with printed on it. The activities included handwriting analysis, cards, cross-country and downhill skiing, needlepoint, Bible study, a fabric show, and instructions on interior design.

Several incidents were related to me by various people I encountered: A seventy-year-old nun bought some cookies at a bake sale in the Helena mall. The nun found out after she had bought them that the sale was sponsored by anti-FRA workers and the proceeds would go to help rescind the ERA. The nun asked for her money back but they would not give it to her, so she threw the cookies away.



Sen. Pat Regan, (D), in a phone interview, gave an example of her experiences in relating to male legislative peers; "I had worked with the dean of the House for several years. One day he mentioned to me what a pleasure it had been to work with me, and said, 'You know, Pat, in all the years I've worked with you, I never once thought of you as a woman,' meaning his remark to be a compliment. Pat replied, 'You know, I never once thought of you as a man.' They chuckled as he realized his mistake.

A legislator remarked once, "If women were meant to be equal to men, God would have made six of His disciples women."

Another is quoted as saying, "I don't know why we need the ERA. My wife's happy." ♀AH

I spoke with two women in management positions to see how they viewed their interactions with men in their jobs.

Superintendent of Public Instruction Georgia Ruth Rice said that her office is currently working on an intern program for female administrators. Twelve women are interning in Montana schools as administrators. There has never been a female administrator in Montana before, said Rice. Some women who began the intern program dropped it to spend more time with their families, she said. "It isn't enough to train these women when they are adults to handles these large responsibilities. Training must start back in the community and in school when women form their first sense of themselves in society. Women are not taught to compete openly, rather they must compete in a subtle way and leave open competition to men," Rice said.

Many of the women who dropped the intern program had "unbelievable credentials" to become administrators but were "unprepared" because they had "moved up the ranks, but never stopped to get background to hold those positions," Rice said.

Many women now hold positions as consultants, but "it will take a good twenty years before things will equalize as far as opportunity goes," said Rice.

Rice said she is cautious in using the power from her position, and she listens to a group decision from her staff before she makes the final decision. "My staff is indispensable to me and they know it", she said. "If they get sick, I go home too."

Rice does not term herself a feminist. "I enjoy being a woman, and I feel good about myself. Some feminists have gone overboard in their demands, and that has hurt women as a whole. Feminism is not a single-issue matter, and feminists are making abortion the core of their theories. Items such as divorce laws and loan inequity should be looked at more", Rice said.

Gary Willis, who works in the personnel services division on Rice's staff, said the women who dropped out of the intern program "thought they wanted the higher position, and couldn't adjust to the demands of the job. Family ties came in the way. They weren't confident enough about themselves. The job frightened them, and they were awed by the men they worked with."



Supt. Georgia Rice

Another woman in a management position, Shirley Miller, also works on Rice's staff in the position of director of the special education unit. Miller said "Being a woman does not get in the way of my job. In fact, there are several males who are proud to have a woman boss, and their wives are proud of them, too."

Miller worked in Canada for several years and said, "The United States is far ahead of Canada in accepting women in higher positions. I didn't have as much trouble because I am older, but the younger women, who have less self-esteem, do" she said.

Miller's "biggest opposition to the women's movement is the women themselves, or p.b.'s, which stands for "pushy broads", she said.

"These women are loud and aggressive and do not acknowledge other women", said Miller. "They are mostly in their late 40's, and were the first to experience assertiveness training I think. I don't think it had all of the wrinkles worked out when they experienced it", she said.

The pattern that emerges in meetings that she is involved in through her job is that the men speak first, and women quietly point out inequalities after they finish, she said. ♀AH

House Bills Proposed in Legislature Affecting Women

Several bills have been proposed by representatives of the House concerning issues that will affect women if they are passed. Here are some of those:

House Bill #72: Would provide for a tax deduction if one uses child care. This would hold true even for women who pay wages to a relative for child care services, but it must be a person not declared as a deduction on one's income tax. This bill was introduced by Rep. Arlene Reichert, (D), Great Falls. As of Feb. 14, when the Resource was being typed, this bill had passed the House and will now go to the Senate.

House Bill #114: Would prohibit a zoning regulation against children. This was introduced by Rep. Steve Waldron, (D), of Missoula. It was killed in the House on Feb. 2.

House Bill #88: Would provide for grandparents' visiting rights of grandchildren of divorced parents. The grandparents must go to court during the divorce proceedings to get visitation rights, and must have an attorney with them. This too was introduced by Representative Waldron and is now law.

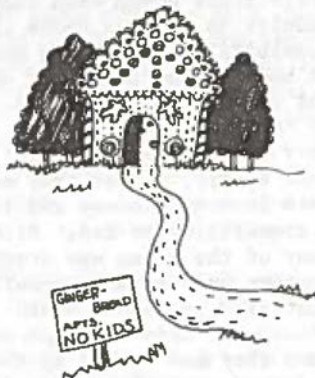
House Bill #161: Would provide a tax credit to renters, consisting of 20% of yearly rent paid being levied as a credit on Montana property taxes. This was introduced by Rep. Fabrega, (R), Great Falls, Rep. Huennekens, (D) Billings, and Rep. Vincent, (D), Bozeman.

House Bill #587: Would establish state regulations for the practice of lay midwifery. Presently only one nurse midwife practices legally in Montana, and due to a greater number of births at home, more are needed, said Deirdre Boggs, a Missoula lawyer who proposed the bill, in a phone interview. Lay midwives would be issued licenses after passing exams formulated by a board of nine members appointed by the governor.

Representatives Dussault, Waldron, and Polly Holmes, (D), Billings, introduced this bill.

A bill not yet introduced is one proposing a charge on marriage licenses, the money going to shelters for battered women and children to help with costs for services rendered.

House Bill #621: Would provide a reallocation of the \$30,000 that has been appropriated to displaced homemakers (women who had been homemakers and are entering the job market). Those funds were given to the homemakers during the last legislative session, but were not spent. This bill, introduced by Rep. Ellis of Missoula, would extend the availability of the money for projects.



Senate Bill #409:

In the Senate, a bill was introduced by Sen. Pat Reagan, (D), of Billings, which would provide that women who live separately from their husbands (not necessarily legally separated) may file rape charges.

Senate Joint Resolution #12:

Introduced by Sen. Jack Galt, (R), Martinsdale, this resolution would rescind the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment if it is not ratified by three-fourths of the state by March 22. This date is the original deadline, rather than the extended deadline, which was seven years after the ERA was first proposed. This resolution was passed by the Senate Feb. 13, and at press time, the House has yet to vote on it. The House has not heard a debate on the ERA since the ratification was passed in 1974.

Toll free number to call for more information at the Helena Capitol: 1-800-332-3408.

FAH

ERA: Work to See it Pass

A member of the ER Council, Dru Styskel, spoke with me on my Helena visit. Here are some suggestions Styskel gives if you, too, would like to see the ERA passed into law:

1. Write a letter to the editor of your local paper. Write on one topic only. The ERA and Pro-Choice are separate issues.
2. Write a letter to your legislators more than once. "They listen to their constituents!", Styskel said.
3. If you get some response, send a copy of both letters to:
ER Council
Box 297
Helena, Mt. 59601

or call: 443-7628. The number at the Capitol Building is 449-5500.

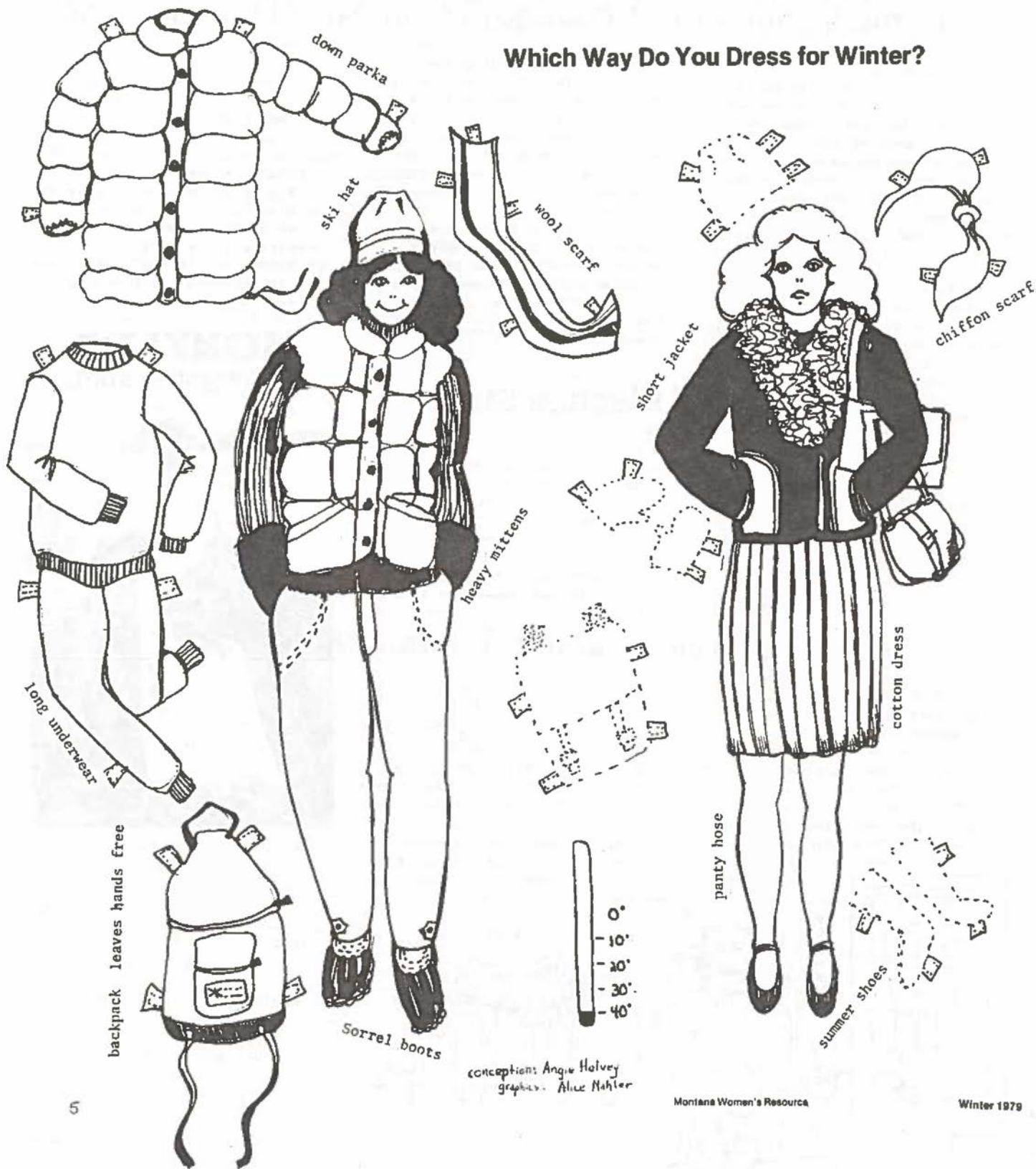
4. Visit the Legislature while it is in session, and lobby for your concerns.

Styskel cautions one to "Wear a bra and be well-groomed and not belligerent on your visit, or you will show that you are selling out and ruin the work we've done."

The heart of the ERA is the statement, "Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex."

The right to vote is at stake if the ERA isn't ratified, along with one's job rights and one's property rights, said Styskel. Styskel mentioned the 1977 Women's Year Conference in Helena where "women went to picnics and sat on their butts" but "they must realize that this issue brings everything down to the wire, and they must work to see it ratified", Styskel said. FAH

Which Way Do You Dress for Winter?



WOMEN AND TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE

The Women's Resource Center will hold its fifth state conference on April 27 and 28. The topic is Women and Technology.

Friday night, point-counter-point will feature a feminist and an environmentalist analysis of technology and women. Saturday morning a panel featuring three views concerning women and technology will discuss the history of women and technology, women and the need for sophisticated technology as a pre-condition for an end to sex stereotyping, and women and the development of appropriate technology. Questions and open discussion will follow.

Saturday afternoon, workshops in two series, the Hands-On series and the Information Sharing series, will deal with alternate energy, wiring/carpentry, self-help health, bike repair, and women and the "back-to-the-land experience", math anxiety, organizing women on energy issues, and non-traditional jobs for women using technology.

Saturday evening, a national speaker will tie the whole conference together. That speaker is Susan Griffith, author, poet, and teacher. She has written Women and Nature: The Roaring Inside Her, Like the Iris of an

Eye, The Sink, Voices, winner of a Grammy award, and "Rape: The All American Crime", an article from Women: A Feminist Perspective. Griffith has also taught at San Francisco University.

Panel speakers include Corky Rush, and Sally Hacker, and one more we are not yet sure of.

Registration for the conference is \$5.00. Housing and child care can be arranged. Orientation packets will be mailed out and if you would like to receive one, contact the Women's Resource Center. ♀AH

MONTANA THE TREASURE STATE



Promotional poster of the Great Northern Railroad circa 1900. (Montana State Historical Society Archives).

The Montana Women's History Project is collecting the personal and public histories of Montana women from all areas, occupations, and ethnic groups, focusing on the pre-depression period. For further information, contact the Women's Resource Center.

Women Part of Election Slate

Joy DeStefano is running for the position of President of ASUP. She is the first woman to run for that position in a long time. We tried to find out just how long it has been, but information was hard to find. Someone said that in the eight years they have been here at the UM, a woman has not run for president, but several have run for vice-president.

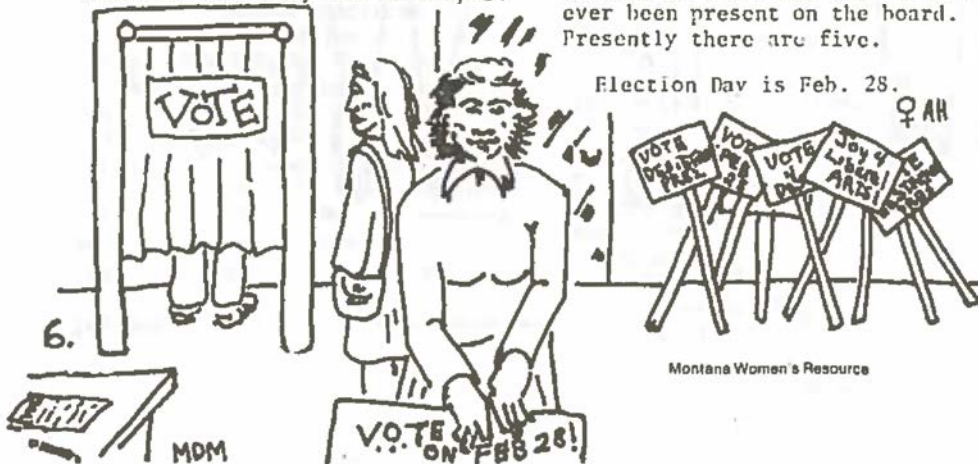
DeStefano will be running with Jim Weinbery, a Central Board member, as her vice-president. Their campaign will center on liberal arts, stressing the diversity of cultures present at the U of M. They will be doing work on the rape issue on campus if they should win. DeStefano has had political experience in the Missoula community and on campus.

Laura Jolicouer, a volunteer at the Women's Resource Center, is running as an off-campus delegate for a Central Board position. Jolicouer would like to see the Central Board meetings moved from the Montana Rooms to occupy a place in the UC mall at a time convenient for most students to participate in the meetings. A microphone would be provided to stimulate student involvement, she said. Jolicouer would like to see that each U1 student "realizes where the \$45 is going that they spend each year for Central Board. Jolicouer has participated in campus government on a California campus where she previously attended school.

Central Board had six women members in 1975, the most that has ever been present on the board. Presently there are five.

Election Day is Feb. 28.

♀AH



Montana Women's Resource

Winter 1979

Constitutional Convention Proposed Concerning Abortion



by Judy Smith

The Montana Pro-Choice Coalition is currently working in the Montana Legislature to defeat a resolution calling for a Constitutional Convention proposing an amendment to the U.S. Constitution which would prohibit all abortions.

A Constitutional amendment banning all abortions is a possibility. There are two ways of amending the Constitution: the first method, used exclusively since 1787, is for Congress, with a two-thirds vote in both houses, to propose an amendment, which then must be ratified by a vote of three-fourths of the states. The second method, yet to be used, is for Legislators of two-thirds of the states to call for a Constitutional Convention. The convention would provide an amendment, which would have to be ratified by three-fourths of the states before becoming law.

Nationally, the opponents of the right to choose are concentrating their efforts on a call for the Constitutional Convention. In a recent issue of the Catholic journal *The Wanderer*, Montana was targeted as one of the states where pressure would be placed to pass a constitutional convention (con con) resolution.

The Con Con Resolution, House Joint Resolution #15, was introduced in the Montana House by Representative Helen O'Connell of Great Falls in late January. The Pro-Choice Coalition immediately began to urge pro-choice supporters to contact their legislators and to ask them to vote against the resolution. Hearings were held by the House Judiciary Committee on Feb. 6. The hearings drew large numbers of pro-choice and opposition people. Pro-choice testifiers discussed the problems with the whole Con Con approach as well as the need for safe, legal abortion.

The Judiciary Committee voted 10-8 to recommend the resolution

and the House debate and vote was scheduled for Friday, Feb. 9. Pro-Choice supporters lobbied their legislators and generated many calls and letters. Montana anti-choice people organized mass letter-writing campaigns. Late Friday afternoon the bill was tabled when its proponents felt they might not have the necessary votes.

The resolution can not be brought up again until Feb. 17. Pro-Choice supporters still have time to contact their legislators and urge them to vote against the con con. Once the House votes, the resolution will go to the Senate. Supporters of the resolution need a majority of votes of the legislature; Pro-Choice supporters have a chance to defeat the resolution if they put in lots of hard work.

For more information on the con con, contact the Montana Pro-Choice Coalition, Box 9353, Missoula, Mt. 59807. Phone 728-3041. ♀ JS

Women in Montana Politics in History

Women's involvement in Montana politics has had a long and rich history. In the 1800's, women of the Montana Equal Suffrage Association and the Women's Christian Temperance Union worked to see the right to vote for women become a reality.

The latter group, led by Maggie Smith Hathaway, also worked for a law prohibiting the sale of intoxicating beverages, against the use of opium in childbirth (many were addicted), supported laws that required a female matron in all state and local penal institutions, and opposed prostitution, which they termed "the white slave trade", saying that women's low wages led them to that occupation.

In 1889, Eloise Knowles Haskell, a law student, became the

first woman lawyer and was admitted to the Montana Bar Association by a special resolution of the Legislature. In 1892, she ran for the position of Attorney General on the Populist ticket and lost, but worked as assistant to the winner for four years.

In 1916, Jeanette Rankin became the first female to hold a position in Congress. She voted against World War I starting, as did 50 others, and she was the only one to vote against World War II. Rankin was from Missoula, Montana. She was also the first woman to hold an elective national office anywhere in the world.

Representatives Hathaway of Ravalli County, Ingalls of Flathead County, and Burlin, county unknown, became the first women to hold that position in 1916.

May Trumper became the first female superintendent of public instruction in 1916.

In student government at the U of M, there existed an Association of Women Students in the 1950's and 1960's. A fee of \$1.50 was charged each woman student at registration to belong to this association. They supported the UM Pageant, Snow Weekend, a Lantern Parade, and a Big Little Sister Party. Ben Hansen, in a *Kaimin* editorial in 1967, called the association rull of "petty, invidious regulations", and he termed the Big Little Sister party "Gestapo-like." Summing his editorial up, he said that women "can vote to make their own decisions," and he condoned a vote in the next election that they do away with AWS. ♀ DS, AH



Winter 1979

Rape Task Force Meets

The Rape Task Force, spurred to form after an alleged gang-rape fall quarter aroused anger on the Missoula campus, meets in the Women's Resource Center to discuss ways to deal with the rape problem on campus.

Some questions raised by the group include, "How many rapes occur each year?", "Do we know how to counsel the victims effectively?", "Why do men rape?", and "Do we need better lighting on campus?"

At a February meeting, people who come in contact with the victims of rape on campus spoke about their ways of dealing with it and suggestions they have to improve.

Dr. Curry of the student health service on campus said very few rapes are reported to the health service. "I think it's because the women are uptight and embarrassed about it", he said. Curry termed rape statistics "inconsequential" because of this failure to report the rapes by the victims. Curry spoke of the health service as a "support mechanism" and said it does not try to push the victim to call rape referral agencies, such as Women's Place. He said no one is trained specifically in the rape area in the clinic, but the doctors are competent in dealing with the victims. Victims are sent to St. Patrick Hospital if it is a serious case. Campus security is not called, Curry said.

In the residence halls on campus, resident advisors (R.A.'s) handle the counseling of rape victims. Two rapes were reported on campus to the resident advisors and both were turned over to attorneys to handle, but the victims declined to prosecute out of fear that they may be attacked again, said Ron Brunell, assistant director of housing. Night security does not exist in the dorms due to lack of funds for it, Brunell said. "Usually flashers and peeping toms are reported, not rapes", he said.

There were six cases of wife beating in married student housing, and Brunell calls this area "too hard to organize" so students are not able to attend help sessions to deal with sexual crimes.

The Center for Student Development on campus is "having trouble coming up with a definition of rape", and they now term it "male assault", said Kitty Corak of the center.

Their position is such that they do not want to align themselves against the rapist, who may come in to the center for counseling, so they just counsel the victims and do not get involved in the legal aspects of rape cases, Corak said.

Beth Marianschild of Woman's Place stressed that a 24-hour hotline is open for women having problems with anything, not just rape. That hotline number is 543-7606. If it is after 5:00 when someone calls, an answering service puts the caller in touch with an on-call volunteer.

never-never land attitude

Students present at the meeting voiced their views on the rape issue: "A spotted consciousness exists on this campus. On one end is an awareness of rape, and on the other end is a never-neverland attitude that rape does not exist." "There should be more of a concentration on sexuality in the college curriculum." "I'd like to know what motivates men in our society to rape, especially when equality among the sexes is coming more to the fore." "Some women hesitate to use Women's Place or the Women's Resource Center as places to go for counseling after they have been sexually assaulted, because they are afraid of the politics involved with those places and think of them as militant organizations." "Others can't identify their assailants and so do not want to mention the rape to anyone."



Judy Smith of the Women's Resource Center spoke of a goal of the task force to institutionalize a method of dealing with rape on campus, so it will not continue to be dealt with haphazardly. Janna Rankin, a forestry professor and student advisor said it is difficult to institutionalize such a method, because each rape case is distinct, and there is such a small number of reported rapes.

If you have something to contribute about the issue of rape, don't hesitate to join in the Thursday meetings from 2:00 to 3:00. Or call Lynne Fitch at 549-8816 or 721-4922 for any input you may have. ♀AH



goings on goings on goings on goings on goings on goings on going

* MISSOULA:

Brown Bag: "Images of Women"

* The Brown Bag lecture series which meets each Wednesday in the Women's Resource Center at noon is dealing with the topic "Images of Women" this quarter. Diane Sands of the Center, the first speaker, dealt with images of women as they have changed through history. Amy Howard and Jo Hall of the Interpersonal Communications dept. spoke about women and language on Feb. 7. Feb. 14's Brown Bag topic was "Images of Women in the Media", part one, by Suzanne Lagoni, news director at KPAX T.V. station.

--Feb. 21: "Women and the Media", part two, by Sharon Barret, city editor of the Missoulian newspaper.

--Feb. 28: "Feminist Media", by Kathleen Coyne of the Center.

--March 7: "Violence Against Women" by Women's Place volunteers
Everyone is welcome. Attendance has been high, so come early to get a good seat.

nutrition

* Nutrition is being discussed each Thursday from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. in the Women's Resource Center, led by Pattie Stief. She explains what good nutrition is and how it helps the mind and body. Stief works out individual nutrition charts. She hopes to reach the dorm populace, who tend to be junk-food eaters, she said.

consciousness raising

* A consciousness-raising group has started at the Women's Resource Center, meeting Thurs., Feb. 15. If you were too late to join this group and would like to start your own CR group, drop in the Center and start a list of names for those interested.

feminist music

* The Women's Resource Center co-sponsored the Meg Christian Concert with Artemis Productions of Helena on Jan. 27. Appx. 400 people attended. Both groups will sponsor feminist Kay Gardner in a March 2 concert in the University Center Ballroom. Watch for posters stating details.

Military Ball protested

* About five women carried signs in front of the Eagles Lodge on Feb. 2 while the Military Ball was being held. They were protesting the election of a queen to the ball, and protesting the military itself. Joy DeStefano, speaking for the group, said a "mellow appearance" was the intention.

women's clinic picketed

* The Blue Mountain Women's Clinic was visited Jan. 27 by ten members of the Right to Life group, who protested abortions in the interests of the unborn. A clinic employee called the picketing "low-key", and said that some members of the Pro-Choice Coalition made phone calls to see if they could make an appearance, but it was decided that no confrontation between the opposing groups was best. An escort service for patients was provided to prevent possible harassment. A previous picketing of the clinic on Dec. 8 involved ten people also, and it was also a 'low-key affair. "The purpose of the picketing seemed to be mostly for the public view", said a clinic employee.

For appointments for a number of medical tests and for counseling, phone 542-0029. Call 721-1646 for business other than appointments.

women's festival

* Plans are being made for a Montana Women's Festival on or near July 13. Workshops teaching self-help, assertiveness, etc., will be featured. Last year the festival was held at Rock Creek near Missoula. A nationally known singer will be present for this 4th annual event.



* March 8 is International Women's Day. A pot-luck dinner, followed by a number of women speakers from diverse cultures, and an appearance of the Helena singing group Our Mother's Daughters will be part of the celebrations. For details, call the Women's Resource Center.

* Bozeman:

Focus on Women is planning its fourth annual Women Aware Conference to be held April 18-21. The first two days will feature a management seminar for males and females, discussing problems that may arise from women in management positions. Russell Bruch of the University of California at Davis will deal with the career angle of that question, and Theo Wells will speak from a counselor's viewpoint. Keynote speaker of the conference will be Nora Ephron, a journalist, and the theme of the conference will be power. Fee is \$5. Focus on Women's number is 994-2012.

Send \$1 or more

If you have enjoyed reading the Montana Women's Resource and deem it worthy of spending a dollar to have 3 issues mailed to you, please fill out the order blank below, clip it out, and mail it with your money to:

The Women's Resource Center
Newsletter Mailing List
UC
University of Montana
Missoula, MT. 59801

Many thanks to those who have contributed to the newsletter already. Feel free to offer suggestions.

subscription form

I want to receive the Montana Women's Resource. I am enclosing one dollar or more to help with production costs.

Name _____

Address _____

The Montana Women's Resource
Women's Resource Center
University of Montana
Missoula, Montana 59812

Staff:

Editor, Lay-out, Graphics:

Angie Helvey

Copy-Editor:

Laurie Behenna

Graphics:

Alice Mahler & MDM

Contributors:

Judy Smith

Diane Sands



Winter 1979

BOOKS

The Women's Resource Center in Missoula has a wealth of good books to read concerning all the different aspects of feminism.

Here is another sampling of some:

The Dollmaker, by Harriette Arnow, c. 1954, Women of Viet Nam, by Eisen-Bergman, c. 1974, Fertility and Family Planning, by Behrman, Corsa, and Freedman, c. 1969, Silent Voices, by Josephine Carson, c. 1969, The American Woman, by William Chafe, c. 1972, Herself, by Hortense Calisher, c. 1972, Through the Flower, by Judy Chicago, c. 1977, Slouching Towards Bethlehem, by Joan Didion, c. 1961, If They Come in the Morning, by Angela Davis, c. 1971, The New Chastity and other Arguments Against Women's Liberation, by Midge Decter, Killers of the Dream, by Lillian Smith, c. 1949, The Natural Superiority of Women, by Ashley Montagu, c. 1952, Women of the Forest, by Yolanda and Robert Murphy, c. 1974, and Our American Sisters, by Friedman and Shade.

These and other books may be checked out for two weeks, unless they are reference materials. If you have borrowed some books from the center and they are overdue, please return them.

Note: The Montana Women's Resource is funded by contributors.

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Missoula, Mont
Permit No. 100