

# feminist collections

women's studies library resources in wisconsin  
vol. 4, no. 4, summer 1983

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

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FROM THE EDITORS . . . . .	3
Report on progress towards the creation of a data base in women's studies.	
CONTRIBUTIONS INVITED . . . . .	5
ORAL HISTORY . . . . .	6
Women in the Holocaust: Wisconsin Survivors of the Holocaust Documentation Project, by Sara Leuchter.	
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS . . . . .	8
Rare Book Department, Memorial Library, UW-Madison: A Conversation with Assistant Curator Deborah Reilly.	
WOMEN IN PRINT: UPDATE . . . . .	12
Report on the first Northwest Women in Print Conference, and plans for a second Midwest conference.	
NEWS FROM UW-PLATTEVILLE . . . . .	15
By Jacqueline Ross, Director of the Women's Studies Program, UW-Platteville.	

Continued on next page...

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PERIODICAL NOTES . . . . . 16  
 New periodicals: For Us Women Newsletter; Ikon, Second Series; Out!; Women's Diaries; The Women's Review of Books; Women's Studies Research in Wisconsin.  
 Ceased publication: Sojourner: A Third World Women's Research Newsletter.  
 Special issues on Black writer Gail Jones; gender and secondary school curriculum; feminist fiction and poetry; the impact of Black women in education; substance abuse among women; 19th-century women and the frontier; women and education; and Nicaraguan women.

ITEMS OF NOTE . . . . . 20  
 Publications from the ALA Committee on the Status of Women in Librarianship; 1983 Ladyslipper guide to women's music; two new films, "The Wisconsin Farm Woman" and "Fighting for the Obvious"; ten years of women's history postcards from Helaine Victoria Press; and educational materials to promote girls' achievement in math science.

WISCONSIN BIBLIOGRAPHIES IN WOMEN'S STUDIES . . . . . 21  
 A new bibliography on "mainstreaming" women's studies.

NEW REFERENCE WORKS IN WOMEN'S STUDIES . . . . . 21  
 New sources on women and literature, women's employment and affirmative action, and guides to funding. Reviewed by Susan Searing.

BOOK REVIEWS . . . . . 26  
 A Disabled Woman's Critique of Literature Dealing With Disabled Women, by Kathleen Hagen.  
"The Physician's Hand": Work Culture and Conflict in American Nursing, by Barbara Melosh. Reviewed by Judith Walzer Leavitt.  
 Feminist Art History: A New Direction for the Eighties, by Estella Lauter.

SUPPLEMENT: INDEX TO FEMINIST COLLECTIONS VOL.4, 1982-1983

Feminist Collections is published by Susan E. Searing, Women's Studies Librarian-at-Large for the University of Wisconsin System, 112A Memorial Library, 728 State Street, Madison, Wisconsin 53706. Phone: (608) 263-5754. Editors: Susan E. Searing, Catherine Loeb. Graphics: Moema Furtado. Publications of the Office of the Women's Studies Librarian-at-Large are available free of charge to Wisconsin residents. The subscription rate outside Wisconsin is \$12.00/year for individuals and women's programs, \$24.00/year for institutions. This fee covers all publications of the Office, including Feminist Collections, Feminist Periodicals, New Books on Women & Feminism, and bibliographies, directories, and occasional publications produced throughout the year.

## FROM THE EDITORS

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In the fall of 1981, Linda Parker (then Women's Studies Librarian-at-Large) used this space to announce the formation of a national task force, dedicated to developing a computerized data base of information on women. In this issue, we review the history of the project and report on the latest stage -- the creation of a thesaurus of indexing terms.

The goal of a women's studies data base was first formulated during the annual meeting of the American Library Association in June, 1981, when a panel presentation titled "With Reference to Women" ignited the imaginations of many in the audience. The speakers focused on the need for better bibliographic control of writings about women. Feminist scholarship published in traditional disciplinary journals is still not adequately represented in existing indexes and online sources, they asserted, and the burgeoning alternative feminist press is virtually invisible.

At that ALA session, a number of librarians joined an ad hoc Data Base Task Force, which Linda Parker organized and chaired. The group continued to meet over the next two years at conferences of the ALA and the National Women's Studies Association, drawing more and more interested librarians. They debated such issues as how online records should be structured, how the project could be funded, how the data base could be made widely available, and so on. To document the need for online bibliographic retrieval in women's studies, the group undertook a systematic analysis of existing data bases and printed indexes using a detailed set of criteria devised by Sarah Pritchard, Women's Studies Specialist at the Library of Congress.

At about this stage, Barbara Parker, head of the Women's Studies Program at the University of Colorado, linked up with the task force. Barbara was already involved in building a computerized data base of non-sexist curricular materials for K-12 education. She dreamed of creating a model for an all-encompassing data base in women's studies, while accomplishing her own more limited objectives. Recognizing Barbara's expertise in automation, as well as her successful record of grant-getting, the task force was delighted to work closely with her.

The founding of the National Council for Research on Women in the fall of 1982 lent new impetus to the data base project. As a coalition of women's studies research centers -- some private and some public, some affiliated with universities, others independent -- the Council champions worthy projects that advance feminist scholarship, and assists centers in obtaining grant money to support collaborative research. High on its list of priorities is the establishment of a national information system in women's studies, to include reports of research in progress, working papers issued by centers and institutes, and directory-type data on individuals and organizations, in addition to periodical literature. Impressed by the planning and analysis already underway, the Council "adopted" the librarians' Data Base Task Force, providing the administrative expertise and anticipated financial support to make the

dream a reality.

Under the aegis of the Council, the task force has grown from a small group of librarians gathering in hotel and dorm rooms at ALA and NWSA conferences to a more diverse circle of librarians, faculty, publishers, and research administrators. Outside funds are currently being sought to underwrite technical development of the data base. Meanwhile, a sub-committee is compiling a thesaurus of indexing terms. The Thesaurus Committee met in New York on January 18 and again in Washington on April 19. At the Washington meeting, a development schedule was adopted that should lead to the availability of a useable thesaurus by early 1985.

Why has the creation of a thesaurus generated so much interest and enthusiasm at this stage? First and most practically, it is the one component of the project that can be tackled immediately without substantial outside funding. The intellectual labor on the thesaurus is being donated by the participating subject specialists, librarians, and indexers; the Council offers partial support for travel and other miscellaneous expenses from its small operating fund; and the Business & Professional Women's Foundation generously grants release time to its librarian, Cheryl Sloan, for coordinating the project.

The real sense of urgency and commitment, however, derives from this unique opportunity for women to appropriate the power of naming. The disregard for women in male-devised naming systems is everywhere evident, but especially so in some of the standard tools upon which scholars rely. Try locating references to battered women in Psychological Abstracts, for example. Although psychologists have increasingly observed and analyzed this form of victimization in the last decade, until 1982 there was no established heading under which their published reports could be quickly found. Even today, the term used is "Family violence," ignoring the plight of abused women outside traditional marriages.

The problems with existing standardized terminology range from the sheer invisibility of women (the Library of Congress, for example, has yet to provide a heading for Asian-American women) to the submergence of specific issues under broad categories or less familiar wordings. The pioneering works on comparable worth, for instance, are subsumed by the phrase "Sex discrimination in employment" in most library catalogs, while more recent studies may be filed under the newer subject heading "Equal pay for equal work." In neither case is a cross-reference made from the more commonly encountered catch phrase "comparable worth."

The charge to the Thesaurus Committee is to propose clear and authoritative terms and phrases for concepts relating specifically to women. This task of naming is critical in a field where the vocabulary is borrowed from many disciplines and changes with shifting perceptions and concerns in the larger society. Witness, for example, the current use of phrases such as differently-abled women, women of color, comparable worth, consciousness raising, and parenting, to describe new concepts or redefine old ones. Aware that the acceptable jargon will always be changing, the members of the committee see their work as creating a foundation upon which future data base users can

build.

The thesaurus will be designed for use not only in an online environment, but also in printed sources. It could, for example, assist feminist writers in indexing their own books. It should also prove useful to librarians, faculty members, and women's center staff who maintain files of pamphlets, reprints, and the like.

Although many structural and syntactical details remain to be resolved, the broad outline of the thesaurus is clear. Like most thesauri, it will provide the user with broader, narrower, and synonymous concepts. Under "abortion," for example, one might find "reproductive choice" listed as a broader term, "dilation and curettage" as a narrower term, and "women's clinics" as a related term.

Prior to the April meeting, 38 topical lists were gathered by the committee members. Among these lists were vertical file heading lists from the UW-Madison College Library Women's Reading Area, the UW-Whitewater Women's Studies Program, and the UW-Eau Claire Library's Helen X. Sampson Collection. The lists were merged into a single 175-page list which will ultimately form the basis for the final selection of terms.

The Thesaurus Committee plans to involve subject specialists from across the country in evaluating existing terms and proposing new ones in each of eleven different subject areas. Anyone who can recommend terms or phrases for the thesaurus, or can advise against offensive or vague terms in use within her discipline, should contact Susan Searing. Susan is working with the subject group on the women's movement, lesbian studies, feminist theory, and history, and she would particularly welcome suggestions in those areas. We will continue to keep Feminist Collections readers informed as work on the thesaurus and the data base progresses.

-- S.S.

## CONTRIBUTIONS INVITED

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Back in 1980, when Feminist Collections first began, we encouraged our readers to send us unsolicited contributions, ideas for articles or series, and critical response to the newsletter as a whole. We are now finishing our fourth volume of Feminist Collections -- a good opportunity to offer our thanks once again to the many readers who have written for the newsletter, and to reiterate our invitation for further contributions. Please let us know what you find most useful in Feminist Collections' pages, as well as what you would like to see (or write!) in the future. Address comments and queries to Susan Searing or Catherine Loeb, 112A Memorial Library, 728 State Street, Madison, WI 53706; or call (608) 263-5754.

# ORAL HISTORY

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## WOMEN IN THE HOLOCAUST:

### WISCONSIN SURVIVORS OF THE HOLOCAUST DOCUMENTATION PROJECT

The State Historical Society of Wisconsin recently published the Guide to Wisconsin Survivors of the Holocaust, a 200-page research aid to the more than 160 hours of interview tapes and 1,600 photographs collected for a special project of the Wisconsin Jewish Archives. The collection, housed at the State Historical Society and available to the public, represents more than two and one-half years of work by three staff members: interviewers Jean Loeb Lettofsky and Sara Leuchter (who edited the Guide), and photographer David Mandel. The oral histories were designed not only to record the survivors' testimonies of the Holocaust years, but to provide information on their pre-war life and subsequent resettlement into Wisconsin communities. The photographs of the survivors also document this lengthy period of time.

First of all, it is important to clarify some misconceptions concerning "Holocaust experiences." To most people, "Holocaust" is synonymous with "concentration camp"; even some survivors hesitate to call themselves such because they did not experience "the camps." Concentration camp life, however, was only one facet of the Holocaust experience. For example, there were Jews living in the Russian-occupied sector of Poland who lived in relative safety until June, 1941, when Germany attacked Russia. Those who survived in that area usually escaped from the ghettos to the forests, where they lived in the underbrush, often with groups of partisans. Some were even shipped to Siberia by the Russians and migrated to Central Asian U.S.S.R. after the German attack. Those who survived in Holland, Belgium, France, Germany, Hungary, Greece, Italy and west/central Poland, who did not experience "the camps," may have posed as Christians or survived by going "underground." Still others were able to flee Europe before the noose tightened after the start of the war on September 1, 1939.

It is interesting to note that during the Holocaust, oppressed women were treated with the same harsh distain as men, and in some cases, with greater contempt. The first task of the Germans, once they rounded up Jews, was to select those for immediate death. As this was often an arbitrary decision, many young, beautiful, and strong women were chosen along with the elderly, the children, and the infirm. Women were not always sent directly to concentration camps. The healthiest were often sent to slave labor camps, where they worked under the cruelest of conditions; the most attractive were often selected for prostitution.

The Nazis did not assign work to women commensurate with their ability to perform those tasks; it was assumed that one was to do the prescribed work until relieved from it by death. Slave laborers were used for just about everything, including munitions work and heavy construction. Within the concentration camps, women and men lived in separate sub-camps, where they performed similar tasks for the daily operation of the camp. Some of the most grueling work included that of the "Sonderkommando" (Death Brigade), who rid the gas

chambers and surrounding areas of corpses and debris. Others were expected to haul around large and heavy stones, simply for the amusement of the Nazis. The "equality" these women experienced as prisoners and laborers was a forced "equality," a condition of oppression rather than one of liberation. In effect, the "equal rights" accorded to them by the Nazis was a punishment rather than a reward; the Nazis were interested merely in utilizing the greatest number of bodies for labor.

Of the twenty-four persons interviewed for the project, eleven were women, natives of Poland, Holland, Germany, Austria, and Hungary. They were mostly in their teens and twenties; one was married with an infant born the day the Nazis entered her town. These women, although raised under somewhat different degrees of religious belief, had similar lifestyles. Those who still lived with their parents were either in school or working as clerks, tailors, and the like. No one expected that the growing anti-Semitic climate of the 1930's would lead to genocide.

Two of the youngest women fled Europe as children: one came to the United States with her sister in 1935 (at the age of 10); the other escaped with her family to Shanghai, China, in 1939 (at the age of 6). Both worked extremely hard as children to support their families, and continued to work in adulthood. One is currently employed; the other, recently remarried, ran the family business for several years after the death of her husband.

The lives of those women who remained in Europe changed drastically, seemingly overnight. Separated from their parents and loved ones, they were forced to survive under the harshest of conditions, including slave labor and starvation. One escaped from the Warsaw Ghetto, only to be deported to the largest munitions factory in Poland. Another, after being crowded into the Lodz Ghetto for close to five years, was sent to Auschwitz; from there, due to an administrative foul-up, she was transported to Berlin for slave labor in a factory, making time-bombs. Still another was sent to Auschwitz, where she was attached to the "Sonderkommando." Because she displayed such great physical strength (although she was practically starving), she was transferred to the destroyed city of Bremen to rid the streets of debris.

Several others survived in eastern Poland, at first under Russian control. One woman was transported deep into Russia, where she wandered from collective to collective, working for her keep. Several others escaped from ghettos and labor camps to the forests, stealing food and hiding in caves. One woman survived in Berlin with false papers, posing as a Gentile tailor. Another hid in Amsterdam, often receiving illegal radio bulletins for transmittal to the Underground.

It is surprising how quickly these women were able to return to a more or less "routine" existence after the war. Those years of hard labor did not make them eager to bury themselves in career work, although one woman did attend medical school before fleeing the Communists in Rumania. The foremost career they saw for themselves was motherhood; creating new families was a priority. Giving birth was one way in which they could get even with Hitler; they were creating what he had tried to obliterate.

Brought up in the male-oriented traditions of both European life and Judaism, these women have tended to retain that outlook, despite the "equality" they experienced as prisoners and laborers at the hands of the Nazis. They consider themselves wives and mothers rather than career women, although today, as older adults, several are employed: as nurse, tailor, translator, university coordinator. Most applaud the movement for women's rights, but in one instance, I was told by a female survivor that "women today are getting what they asked for" (in a negative sense). She believes that feminism has not only threatened younger women (who could be drafted), but that it has contributed heavily to the growing number of divorces (her daughter's included).

This short article can only provide an overview of the experiences of several women during the Holocaust years and afterward. The interview tapes created for the project provide a wonderful opportunity to do research in many areas, among them history, sociology, theology, and psychology -- and, of course, women's studies, where questions might focus on the relation of these women to their husbands and children, career choices, or what roles they see for themselves in the growing feminist movement. The interviews are rich in their description of cultures that have been destroyed, graphic in their detail of the horrors perpetrated by the Nazis and their followers, and moving in their account of the rebuilding of lives in distant Wisconsin. The photographs provide additional testimony to a lost way of life and to the determination of the survivors to begin anew.

All of the materials, including tapes, photographs, and finding aids, are available for public use at the States Historical Society, 816 State Street, Madison, or they may be ordered at no charge through inter-library loan. Copies of the tapes and photographs may also be purchased, at a small cost, from the Historical Society. The Guide to Wisconsin Survivors of the Holocaust is available for purchase from the State Historical Society for \$12.50, plus postage and handling.

-- Sara Leuchter

[Sara Leuchter, editor of the Guide to Wisconsin Survivors of the Holocaust, is a historian/archivist with the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. She is currently working on a special project to plan for statewide celebration of the bicentennial of the ratification of the U.S. Constitution.]

## SPECIAL COLLECTIONS ---

### RARE BOOK DEPARTMENT, MEMORIAL LIBRARY, UW-MADISON: A CONVERSATION WITH ASSISTANT CURATOR DEBORAH REILLY

- CL: To begin with, could you describe what you think people's preconceptions are of what they'll find in a rare book department?
- DR: I think that people's normal conceptions are that a rare book department is a very elitist place and that you get the third degree before anyone lets you use any of the material. Our attitude is a little bit different. We want a very healthy tension between preservation and access. But we

- definitely want people to be able to use our materials.
- CL: I think I always had a preconception that rare books meant old books. Do you think that's a common misconception?
- DR: There's a distinction being made today between rare books and special collections. It's a very fine line and it gets fuzzy if you look at it closely. But just as a rule of thumb, rare books are usually books that because of their age or because of their author or illustrator, or something very special about them, have significant individual worth in the marketplace. Special collections tend to be things that may not have a lot of value in the marketplace, but as a group they have significant research value. But in a place like this, that definition falls apart because all of our books are purchased for their research value. As a state institution, we don't go out buying Gutenberg Bibles or things like that. Still, we have collections carved out. For the Cairns collection of American Women Writers, 1620-1900, we're buying a lot of popular novels, precursors to Gothic novels, written by women in the 19th century, which have very little market value -- you can pick them up at garage sales -- plus the very significant writings of people like Emily Dickinson and Kate Chopin. By putting them together conceptually, you provide research opportunities that might not arise if they were scattered in collections.
- CL: Well, actually, you're starting to answer my next question, which is, what would bring a feminist researcher to the Rare Book room? It seems that the Cairns Collection clearly would. Are there other collections of particular interest from a feminist viewpoint?
- DR: An extension of the Cairns Collection into the 20th century is the Twentieth-Century Collection, which is both men and women writers, including significant British and American women writers -- such as Gertrude Stein, H.D., Virginia Woolf, Margaret Atwood, Margaret Drabble, Sylvia Plath, Djuna Barnes, Katherine Mansfield, Gwendolyn Brooks, Anais Nin -- in first and other significant editions. These are writers whose works we feel have a good chance of remaining important.
- CL: Obviously the Cairns Collection was specifically designed to collect women's writings. With the Twentieth-Century Collection, is there an explicit commitment to collect women's writing, or is women's writing collected just in order to be representative?
- DR: The philosophy behind the Twentieth-Century Collection was to get significant writers writing in the English language -- no matter who they were.
- CL: Could you describe some research questions relating to women that have recently come your way?
- DR: People look at the "A" list in the Cairns Collection<sup>1</sup> -- women writers for whom we buy all editions that we can find, all the variants of all the editions, plus reference materials -- for more bibliographic reasons. For example, an eminent bibliographer who's doing a definitive bibliography of Emily Dickinson, recently came from North Carolina to see what we had that nobody else had. The rest of the Cairns Collection has many other kinds of research possibilities -- topics such as the sociology of the time, women's roles as depicted in literature, family roles. You can trace women's ideas about slavery through the literature, for example, or women's ideas about religion. There are lots of different

- ways that that collection can be mined. We haven't yet had a lot of people up here using it because we just started cataloging it this year. And so we hope that the more we get cataloged, the more we can talk about the collection, have workshops, and introduce people to it, and they can tell us ways to use the collection that we haven't thought of.
- CL: So you do intend to have further orientation sessions like your recent very successful one?
- DR: Yes, I'd like to do a lot more workshops with all of our collections. I'd like to make the Rare Book Department more visible, because since it's harder to get at our materials, people have to work harder to know what we've got. I think we can help them in that way.
- CL: Well, why don't we turn now to the Little Magazine Collection, another resource that draws feminists to your department. Maybe you could start by saying what a "little magazine" is?
- DR: A little magazine is another one of those definitions that is clear-cut until you start looking at it! Our working definition is a small-circulation, literary periodical -- we collect those written in English anywhere around the world -- and they primarily have an experimental or avant-garde focus. But we also collect little magazines that come out of poetry workshops, writers' groups in a certain locale, which tend not to be quite as polished perhaps as those that are very self-conscious about being a little magazine and being the first place that significant writers and poets publish. We collect a wide variety, and they come with -- oh, lots of different goals for themselves. For example, there's Fluxus, which came out of the late 50s, early 60s, and their idea of a little magazine was "happenings." A plastic box with a kleenex and fingernail clippings in it -- that's an "issue" of Fluxus. Then there's another with a dead fly.
- CL: I bet there aren't many people who would think you'd have that in Rare Books!
- DR: Some undergraduate in the Art Department came up the other day and he'd just discovered Fluxus and just went crazy: "Oh man! really neat!" Then there are the more conventional formats such as a publication that started in 1981 called Grand Street -- very serious, very high literary. And then there are the little magazines that have a feminist viewpoint, little magazines with a Black viewpoint, little magazines with a gay viewpoint...
- CL: But little magazines encompass only literary publications, right? So that a comparable publication dealing with political theory would definitely not fall under that rubric?
- DR: Those go over to the State Historical Society in a complementary collection of alternative press publications.<sup>2</sup>
- CL: How did the Department begin collecting little magazines?
- DR: Our collection started with a purchase from and subsequent gifts by Dr. Marvin Sukov, a Minneapolis psychiatrist who started collecting these things when he was in the war. He got the collector's bug.
- CL: Do you have any idea how many feminist little magazines you have?
- DR: We have about 4000 titles total in the collection; 1100 of those are current titles. (And by current, that means we've gotten an issue within the last five years!) We've got at least 28 current expressly feminist little magazines.<sup>3</sup> And then we have lots of the old ones, all of the

- classic little magazines in which women were involved. A lot of people who deal with feminist little magazines think that women just started doing this in the early 70s, but it's actually an old idea in little magazines. Because of the more liberated attitude towards publishing which goes with the little magazine philosophy, women got involved very early on with them.
- CL: In talking about those earlier ones, are you mainly talking about publications in which women were involved, rather than strictly women's publications?
- DR: Women-edited magazines.
- CL: Could you describe one or two titles?
- DR: The New Free Woman, for example, called itself an individualist review and was published for half a year in 1913, and was then superseded by The Egoist. The editor was Dora Marsden, and it was dedicated to the cause of feminism, although it also published a lot of men, such as Ezra Pound and William Carlos Williams. The Little Review went from March 1914 to May 1929, and it was published in Chicago. The editors of The Little Review were Margaret Anderson and Jane Heath. They were the first to publish Ulysses; they were the ones who were censored. The two women went to trial and the judge refused to let the offending passages be read into the record because, after all, there were ladies present in the courtroom! . . . They lost the case. That was a magazine that was, besides feminism, interested in Nietzsche, anarchism, psychoanalysis -- all the new ideas of the period. And then there's Poetry, the longest running little magazine in existence, still going today. Another Chicago magazine, it started in 1912. The first editor was Harriet Monroe, and it had three women assistant editors in addition.
- CL: To come back to an earlier question, is there an explicit commitment to collecting feminist little magazines, or, again, is it just as they are represented among the others?
- DR: It's part of our larger responsibility of collecting all kinds of little magazines. And we do collect comprehensively.
- CL: Are people surprised to find current, popular feminist publications in your department? I have heard some people say, "Sinister Wisdom in Rare Books?!? How bizarre! Don't they want it to be used?"
- DR: Yes. We often explain to patrons why something is locked up. The Little Magazine Collection is considered a special collection, so it fits the part of the definition where the things are not so much individually valuable, yet they're all together here as a research resource.
- CL: Actually, they will be valuable, I'm sure, because they will become rare with time.
- DR: Right; some of them have already become rare. They're so hard to get in the first place. The general library staff doesn't have the resources to take care of all the contingencies that arise with little magazines. The Serials Department does claim missing issues for us, but if they get frustrated, we will try to make personal contact.
- CL: I was wondering if you write personal letters on occasion. I know in our office we have found that to be crucial, because with some of these publications, it's part of their philosophy to oppose bureaucratic ways of doing things.
- DR: And to oppose libraries! There are some publications that we've really

wanted to get and we end up buying them on the O.P. [out of print] market because they won't sell directly to us. They don't realize we're going to make them immortal! One reason we keep the things locked up is that if an issue disappears, there's normally no way to replace it. It's not just market value that makes some things need special protection. We have to take a more long-range view. We limit access in some ways now in order to keep resources accessible for people into the future.

[Deborah Reilly is Assistant Curator of Rare Books at Memorial Library, UW-Madison. One of her dreams is to create a national database/index for the contents of little magazines. Deborah was interviewed by Cathy Loeb on May 20, 1983.]

#### NOTES

1. Writers on the "A" list in the Cairns Collection are Louisa May Alcott, Anne Bradstreet, Kate Chopin, Emily Dickinson, Mary Wilkins Freeman, Margaret Fuller, Charlotte Perkins Gilman, Sarah Orne Jewett, and Harriet Beecher Stowe.
2. Women's Periodicals and Newspapers from the 18th Century to 1981: A Union List of the Holdings of Madison, Wisconsin, Libraries (G.K. Hall, 1982) is a comprehensive guide to women's periodicals and newspapers held by the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, as well as other Madison libraries. See Feminist Collections v.4, no.2, Winter 1983 for a review of this landmark bibliography and an interview with editor James Danky and compiler Maureen Hady (pp.4-9).
3. Among the current feminist titles in the Little Magazine Collection are: Calyx, Conditions, Helicon Nine, Maenad, Moving Out, The Second Wave, Sinister Wisdom, and Black Maria.

## WOMEN IN PRINT: UPDATE

Apparently only five feminist publishers exhibited at this year's American Booksellers' Association convention (June 4-7, Dallas),<sup>1</sup> but this should in no way be taken as an indicator of the vitality of feminist publishing. The women-in-print movement continues to gain momentum as feminist publishers, printers, editors and booksellers build regional networks to nurture their mutual growth and promote their survival.

The first Northwest Women in Print Conference took place January 29-30 in Seattle, organized by the women of The Seal Press and Workshop Printers. Over 200 women attended, representing a range of feminist periodicals, bookstores, publishers and printers from the Northwest U.S. and Canada. (A partial listing of conference participants follows this article.) Among the more than 30 workshops offered were The Politics of Editing, Photography and Graphics in Publishing, Creative Replacement of Oppressive Language, Feminist Printing in Canada and the U.S., Troubleshooting in the Pressroom, and Breaking into Union and Male-Dominated Printing Sites. As has been the case at other

women-in-print gatherings, the informal exchanges made possible by the conference were, according to all reports, at least as productive as the formal workshops. The possibility of a second Northwest conference -- to be held in the summer of 1984 in San Francisco -- is under discussion.<sup>2</sup>

A second Midwest Women-in-Print Conference<sup>3</sup> is currently being planned for the Spring of 1984 to take place in Madison, Wisconsin. Look to upcoming issues of FC for details about the conference program and conference registration. Or, write to A Room of One's Own Feminist Bookstore, 317 West Johnson Street, Madison, WI 53703.

-- C.L.

#### NOTES

1. Publishers Weekly v.223, no.20, May 20, 1983, pp.158-211 (listing of exhibitors). The five feminist exhibitors were: The Crossing Press, The Feminist Press, Naiad Press, Persephone Press, and the Women's Resources Distribution Company. Also listed were Alyson Publishers, a gay/lesbian press, and the radical publisher, South End Press.

2. I have based this report on the Northwest conference on articles in Women's Press: News, Poetry, Stories, Reviews v.12, no.6, February/March 1983, p.11 (Address: P.O. Box 562, Eugene, OR 97401) and in the Women Printers Newsletter v.II, issue 1, May 1983, pp.4-5 (c/o Iowa City Women's Press, 529 S. Gilbert, Iowa City, IA 52240), and on information from the Seal Press.

3. For a report on the first Midwest Women-in-Print Conference, see FC v.4, no.1, Fall 1982, pp.6-7.

#### NORTHWEST WOMEN-IN-PRINT CONFERENCE: A PARTIAL LISTING OF PARTICIPANTS (Information from The Seal Press)

##### Feminist Publishers

Motherwit  
c/o Kathleen Flynn, P.O. Box 20205, Seattle, WA 98102

Northwest Matrix  
c/o Charlotte Mills, 385 E. 11th, #3, Eugene, OR 97401

Press Gang Publishers  
603 Powell St., Vancouver, B.C., Canada V6A 1H2

The Seal Press  
312 S. Washington, Seattle, WA 98104

Feminist Print Shops

Hard Rain Printing Collective  
119 N. Washington, Olympia, WA 98502

Press Gang Printers (see address under Feminist Publishers)

Storefront Press  
514 E. Pine, Seattle, WA 98102

Victoria's Ink  
1800 132nd Place S.E., Bellevue, WA 98005

Workshop Printers  
312 S. Washington, Seattle, WA 98104

Feminist Periodicals

Calyx  
P.O. Box B, Corvallis, OR 97339

Lesbian Contradiction  
1007 N. 47th St., Seattle, WA 98103

Out & About  
c/o Lesbian Resource Center, 4253 Roosevelt N.E., Seattle, WA 98105

Radical Reviewer  
P.O. Box 24953, Station C, Vancouver, B.C., Canada V5T 4G3

Room of One's Own  
P.O. Box 46160, Station G, Vancouver, B.C., Canada V6R 4G5

Feminist Bookstores

The Bookstore  
108 E. 4th Ave., Olympia, WA 98501

It's About Time Bookstore  
5241 University Way N.E., Seattle, WA 98105

Mother Kali's Books  
541 Blair, Eugene, OR 97402

Small Press (publishes men and women poets)

Copper Canyon Press  
P.O. Box 271, Port Townsend, WA 98368

## Alternative Bookstores

Left Bank Books  
92 Pike St., Seattle, WA 98101

Red and Black Books  
524 15th Ave. E., Seattle, WA 98112

## NEWS FROM UW-PLATTEVILLE ---

Since its inception in 1976, the Women's Studies Program at UW-Platteville has continued to grow. We offer a 15-credit special certificate program as well as an individually contracted major in Women's Studies. We are also currently exploring the possibility of a minor in Women's Studies. By the end of next year, the curriculum will consist of 14 courses, including four new ones: Women and Management, History of the American Woman, Women and Work, and Women and the Arts.

Despite the fact that UW-Platteville has a relatively small number of women in its student body, the enrollment in Women's Studies courses has been growing markedly. For example, twice as many students enrolled in the Introduction to Women's Studies course this year than ever before, and it was offered both semesters for the first time. All Women's Studies courses count toward University General Requirements, and the introductory course fills the College of Education's Human Relations Requirement. It should also be pointed out that the UW-Platteville administration has been quite supportive of the Women's Studies program.

A special feature of the WSP has been our internship program. Women's Studies students have interned in such places as Family Planning, the Southwest Girls Group Home, and the UW-Platteville Affirmative Action office. Participants in the internship program have found the experience valuable and a worthwhile addition to their traditional university education.

The WSP has also been involved in other cooperative activities related to Women's Studies. During this spring semester, an extensive series of programs on the understanding and prevention of sexual assault has been taking place under the auspices of the WSP and other organizations. Programs have ranged from brown bag discussions to more formal presentations on such topics as acquaintance rape, pornography in the media, the politics of rape, and the prevention of sexual assault and methods of self defense.

UW-Platteville has officially declared Semester II, 1984, as a Women and the Arts semester. Accordingly, the Women's Studies Program is planning a festival which will include concerts, films, plays, art exhibits, lectures, and other cultural events centering on women. Visiting artists will also be featured. The new course on Women and the Arts will be offered concurrently with the festival.

Services provided by the WSP include a newsletter published each semester

which is distributed to students, faculty, staff, and members of the community. In addition, WSP Council members offer presentations throughout the year on subjects of interest to the community as well as to other university classes. For students, faculty, and others involved in Women's Studies research, a Women's Studies bibliographer is available to assist them in their work.

For further information about the program, please contact Jacqueline Ross, Director, Women's Studies Program, 445 Gardner Hall, University of Wisconsin-Platteville, Platteville 53818.

-- Jacqueline Ross

## PERIODICAL NOTES

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### NEW PERIODICALS

For Us Women Newsletter. May 1983-. Subscriptions: \$15.00. Single copy: \$2.50. Subscription address: For Us Publications, P.O. Box 33147, Farragut Station, Washington, D.C. 20033. (Issues examined: v.1, nos.1-2, May-June 1983)

The second issue of this newsletter carries the subtitle "The Newsletter of Funding Resources for Women's Self-Development." Edited and published by Shakurra Amatulla, this publication aims to assist women in tracking down grants, as well as offer advice on proposal writing. For each grant listed, information is given on purpose, eligibility, and deadlines, along with addresses and names of contact persons. The first two issues were eight and twelve pages typewritten.

Ikon: Creativity and Change. Second series. Fall/Winter 1982/83-. Ed. and pub. by Susan Sherman. Semiannual. Subscriptions: \$9.50 (indiv.); \$15 (inst.). Subscription address: Ikon Press, P.O. Box 1355, Stuyvesant Station, New York, NY 10009. (Issues examined: Nos.1-2, Fall/Winter 1982/83-Summer/Fall 1983)

Published and edited by Susan Sherman, the original Ikon first appeared in February 1967 and became, at its height, a significant journal of art and politics with a national circulation of 10,000. Sherman has now initiated a second series of the journal, focusing on work by women. The first two issues are an impressive blend of poetry, prose and graphics by writers such as Michelle Cliff, Davine (associate editor), Audre Lorde, Irena Klepfisz, Cherríe Moraga, Margaret Randall (a contributing editor), Jan Clausen, Paula Gunn Allen, Judith McDaniel, June Jordan, Beth Brant (another contributing editor), Melanie Kaye, and Cheryl Clark. The second issue features, in addition, a special section on women and the computer, with articles on artificial intelligence, personal computers, the new technology and work, and information theory and computer technology (plus some computer graphics). Rave review for the first issue in off our backs (December 1982) and a strong letter of support from feminist historian Blanche Weisen Cook confirm that this will be an important journal for the feminist community.

Out!: Wisconsin's Lesbian/Gay Newspaper. 1982- . Monthly. Subscriptions: \$10, \$12, \$15 (more if you can, less if you can't). Subscription address: P.O. Box 148, Madison, WI 53701. (Issues examined: v.1, nos.1-8, November 1982-June 1983)

As Wisconsin's only lesbian/gay newspaper, Out! is committed to providing a forum for the diversity and experiences of all parts of Wisconsin's lesbian and gay communities. With an emphasis on statewide and local issues and news of interest to lesbians and gay men, the paper also includes interviews, feature stories, a regular health column, book, film, and music reviews, and a state-wide calendar. Continues Gay Madison.

Women's Diaries: A Quarterly Newsletter. Spring 1983- . Ed. by Jane DuPree Begos. Subscriptions: \$3.00. Single copy: \$1.00. Subscription address: P.O. Box 18, Pound Ridge, NY 10576. (Issue examined: v.1, no.1, Spring 1983)

Designed "to meet the needs of scholarship in the field of women's diaries, as well as to satisfy the interests of diary buffs," the newsletter will include feature articles, book reviews, bibliographic notes, comments from readers, scholars' queries, and notices of exhibits, workshops, etc. The editor is compiler of Annotated Bibliography of Published Women's Diaries (self-published, 1977), which she is currently preparing for publication in a revised and expanded edition.

The Women's Review of Books: An Independent Journal. Summer 1983- . Ed. by Linda Gardiner. Subscriptions: pre-publication price, until September 1, 1983: \$9; thereafter: \$12 (indiv.); \$25 (inst.). Subscription address: Linda Gardiner, Dept. FP, The Women's Review of Books, 18 Norfolk Terrace, Wellesley, MA 02181. (press release)

This new feminist review hopes to publish a small pilot issue this summer, then become a monthly beginning in October 1983. Each 20-page (newspaper format) issue will offer eight to ten substantial in-depth reviews of recently published books by and/or about women, both academic and general-interest in nature. Among the women who have agreed to review for the journal are Rosalyn Baxandall, Margaret Cruikshank, Barbara Ehrenreich, Linda Gordon, Sandra Harding, Ruth Hubbard, and Vivan Gornick. (For listings of other feminist review media, see FC v.2, no.4, Summer 1981 and v.3, no.3, Spring 1982.)

Women's Studies Research in Wisconsin: A Report. December 1981- . Irregular. Available from: Women's Studies Program or administrator on each University of Wisconsin campus. (Issues examined: v.I, no.1, December 1981; v.II, no.1, April 1983)

This publication is intended to disseminate information on women-related research in the UW System, to facilitate networking among faculty of like interests, and to identify faculty with specific and unique fields of expertise. Abstracts submitted by UW faculty describe a variety of scholarly

endeavors, from published books and articles to conference papers and on-going research topics. Access to the abstracts is through three indexes: a table of contents of abstract titles listed sequentially by abstract number; an author index; and a keyword or topical index. Editors Estella Lauter and Pat Maguire hope that the publication will in the future appear once each semester. For more information, write to the editors at UW-Green Bay, Green Bay, WI 54301-7001.

#### CEASED PUBLICATION

Sojourner: A Third World Women's Research Newsletter. 1977?-November 1982. Ed. by Harriet G. McCombs and Erlene Stetson. Quarterly. Dept. of Psychology, Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan. (information from Harriet G. McCombs, editor)

#### SPECIAL ISSUES OF PERIODICALS

Callaloo: A Black South Journal of Arts and Letters v.5, no.3 (no.16), October 1982: "Gayl Jones: Poet and Fictionist; A Special Section." Available from: Charles H. Rowell, Dept. of English, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40506-0027. Subscriptions: \$10. Single copy: \$5. (Issue examined)

Gayl Jones is author of two novels, Corregidora and Eva's Man; a collection of short stories, White Rat; two plays, Beyond Yourself and Chile Woman; and a book-length poem, Song for Anninho. This special issue includes several pieces of short fiction and two poems by Jones, an interview with Jones, and two critical articles on her work.

EOC Research Bulletin (UK) no.6, August 1982: "Gender and the Secondary School Curriculum." Available from: EOC Publications Section, Overseas House, Quay St., Manchester M3 3HN, England. (Reviewed in Resources for Feminist Research/Documentation sur la recherche feministe v.XI, no.3, Nov. 1982, p.350)

Includes: "Sex Differences in Classroom Interaction" (Sara Delamont); "Research on the Curriculum, the 'Hidden Curriculum' and Classroom Interaction in the UK" (Alison Kelly); "Equal Opportunities at Haverstock School" (Kate Myers); "Curricular Differences in Secondary Schools" (Clive Seale, et al.); "Girls into Science and Technology: The First Two Years" (Barbara Smail, et al.).

event: journal of the contemporary arts v.12, no.1, 1983: "Special Issue: Feminism." Available from: Kwantlen College, P.O. Box 9030, Surrey, B.C., Canada V3T 5H8. Subscriptions: \$6. Single copy: \$3. (Issue examined)

A special issue of poetry, fiction, graphics, reviews, a memoir and an essay, mostly by women. Contributors include Sharon Batt, Sharon Berg, Cathy Ford, Susan Glickman, Bernice Lever, Lyn Lifshin, Anne Marriott, Mary Melfi, Ruthann Robson, Helene Rosenthal, Jane Rule, and Laurel Speer.

Journal of Negro Education v.51, no.3, Summer 1982: "The Impact of Black Women

in Education." Available from: Circulation Dept., The Journal of Negro Education, P.O. Box 311, Howard University, Washington, DC 20059. Subscriptions: \$12.50. Single copy: \$3 (regular issue); \$3.75 (special issue). (Abstract in Women Studies Abstracts v.11, no.4, Winter 1982/83, pp.14-15)

Fourteen articles, including profiles of Black women educators (Fanny Jackson Coppin, Charlotte Hawkins Brown, Mary L. Europe, Estelle Pinckney Webster, Jane Ellen McAllister); historical surveys (Black women's self-help programs in the South; the role of Black nurse leaders in nursing education; organizational lives of Black women educators in Washington, DC); and pieces on contemporary topics (Black nuns as educators; 20th-century Black women in education; Black women and national educational policy; Black female superintendents of public school systems; Black female achievers in academe).

Journal of Social Issues v.38, no.2, 1982: "Women's Use of Drugs and Alcohol: New Perspectives." Issue editors: Jeanne C. Marsh, Mary Ellen Colten and M. Belinda Tucker. Available from: Plenum Publishing Corp., 233 Spring St., New York, NY 10013. Subscriptions: \$22.50 (indiv.); \$45 (inst.). Single copy: \$12. (Issue examined)

Topics include the history of women and drug abuse; sex differences in substance abuse (and in the antecedents of substance abuse); relation of social support to drug abuse; and the treatment-delivery system and women's alcohol abuse.

Montana: The Magazine of Western History v.32, no.3, Summer 1982: "19th-Century Women and the Frontier." Available from: Jane Smilie, Circulation Manager, Montana, Montana Historical Society, 225 N. Roberts St., Helena, MT 59620. Single copy: \$4. (Abstract in Women Studies Abstracts v.11, no.4, Winter 1982/83, p.15)

Consists primarily of profiles of Montana women, including Mary Richardson Walker, Etta Anderson, Elizabeth Fisk, Ella L. Knowles, and Frieda and Belle Fligelman. Also includes articles on Plains Indian women in the Equestrian era, the Fisk family of Helena, MT, and Montana's women photographers in the late 19th century.

Radical Teacher: A Socialist and Feminist Journal on the Theory and Practice of Teaching no.22, 1982: "Women & Education." Available from: P.O. Box 102, Kendall Square Post Office, Cambridge, MA 02142. Subscriptions: \$8 (employed); \$4 (part-time, unemployed, retired); \$11 (inst.). Single copy: \$3. (Issue examined)

Articles on teaching about abortion; images of women in film (an introductory women's studies course); teaching at the primary level; sex roles in alternative schools; Black women in the Ante-Bellum South; and men in women's studies. Also includes a review and commentaries by two students and a teacher. This journal appears to have a consistent commitment to publishing feminist analysis; feminist articles appear in each issue, and two other recent special issues focused on feminist topics (no.17: "Women's Studies"; no.18: "Feminist Pedagogy").

Voices From Nicaragua: A U.S.-Based Journal of Culture in Reconstruction v.1, no.2-3, 1983: "Nicaraguan Women Fighting for Peace." Eds.: Carole Isaacs and Julia Lesage. Available from: 3411 W. Diversey Ave., Chicago, IL 60647. Subscriptions: \$4. Single copy: \$2. (Issue examined)

Julia Lesage conducted interviews with women in Nicaragua in November, 1981; co-editor Carole Isaacs spoke with Nicaraguan women during her trip in February 1982. Presented here are stories of a war heroine, three health care workers, secretaries, domestic workers, a teacher, an artist, a director of a rehabilitation center working with prostitutes, as well as scattered quotes on particular topics (e.g., religion, war, health, education and media, work, family life, children, marriage, rural life, men, sexuality, revolutionary attitudes, women in arms), and poetry. The editors have also put together a slide show on women and daily life in Nicaragua, to be available in video by winter 1983/84 (write: Julia Lesage, 2620 N. Richmond, Chicago, IL 60647).

## ITEMS OF NOTE

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Publications available from the ALA COMMITTEE ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN IN LIBRARIANSHIP are: "Equality in Librarianship: A Guide to Sex Discrimination Laws" by Jane Williamson (1981; 24p.; \$1); "Directory of Library and Information Profession Women's Groups: Second Edition" compiled by Mary Mallory (1982; 24p.; \$1); and a poster/brochure entitled "The Library: A Room of One's Own/Women's Resources and Services" by Kathleen Weibel (1982; \$1). Write: COSWL/ALA, 50 E. Huron, Chicago, IL 60611.

Just out is the 1983 LADYSLIPPER RESOURCE GUIDE & CATALOG OF RECORDS & TAPES BY WOMEN. Twenty-nine pages in length, this annotated catalog lists a wide variety of music by women, including: classical; reggae and calypso; soul and disco; punk and new wave; rock; folk, country, and traditional; jazz; blues; children's records; and spoken recordings -- in addition to extensive listings of women's music and feminist music. For a free copy of the 1983 catalog, write: Ladyslipper, Inc., P.O. Box 3124, Durham, NC 27705 (stamps appreciated). And don't miss the recipe for "Politically Correct Muffins" on the last page.

Available from the Wisconsin Humanities Committee (WHC) is a new film (1982) entitled THE WISCONSIN FARM WOMAN. Produced by Phyllis Berg Pigorsch for the Wisconsin Educational Communications Board with funding from the WHC, the film recently won a certificate of commendation from American Women in Radio and Television. For more information, write the WHC office: 716 Langdon Street, Madison, WI 53706; phone: (608) 262-0706.

FIGHTING FOR THE OBVIOUS (1982) is a 30-minute documentary depicting the experiences of women who worked to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment in Illinois. Produced from 30 hours of videotape, the film combines interviews with footage of rallies, marches, legislative activities, and behind-the-scenes meetings, featuring music by Holly Near. "Fighting for the Obvious" is available for rental or purchase in either 16mm film or ½-inch VHS or Betamax video cassette format. Write: Virago Video, 805 N. Cuyler, Oak Park, IL 60302; phone: (312) 386-3169.

The HELAINÉ VICTORIA PRESS is now ten years old and still at work producing fine quality postcards, prints and book plates celebrating the history and achievements of women. Founders Jocelyn Cohen and Nancy Poore work at printing, publication, distribution and archiving of the Press's educational cards and related materials. Cards feature heroines from the present and the past; women from other countries; women's quilts; art reproductions; scenes from the Suffrage Movement and the contemporary women's movement; and much more, with a particular commitment to featuring minority women and neglected groups and issues. For a complete, illustrated 1983 catalog, write: 4080 Dynasty Lane, Martinsville, IN 46151; phone: (317) 537-2868.

The WOMEN'S EDUCATIONAL EQUITY ACT PUBLISHING CENTER distributes a variety of materials to aid educators in encouraging girls' achievements in math and science. Combining tape, film, and print, the materials range from programs and exercises to be used in the classroom, to inservice training programs for teachers, to a handbook for planning a conference on the topic. Price of most items is from \$10-\$20. For more information, write: EDC/WEEA Publishing Center, 55 Chapel Street, Suite 204, Newton, MA 02160; phone (toll-free): (800) 225-3088.

## WISCONSIN BIBLIOGRAPHIES IN WOMEN'S STUDIES

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The latest title in the series, "Wisconsin Bibliographies in Women's Studies," is "Women's Studies in the Traditional Curriculum: Selected Readings on 'Mainstreaming,'" compiled by Susan Searing (6/83). This two-page listing is available free of charge from the Office of the Women's Studies Librarian-at-Large. A complete listing of other bibliographies in the series, as well as all other office publications, is also available on request. Write: 112A Memorial Library, 728 State St., Madison, WI 53706; or call (608) 263-5754.

## NEW REFERENCE WORKS IN WOMEN'S STUDIES

In this issue we highlight recent reference sources on women and literature, women's employment and affirmative action, and guides to funding.

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American Women Writers: Bibliographical Essays reviews writings by and about 24 major authors, ranging from Anne Bradstreet to Sylvia Plath. Each essay in this anthology surveys the editions of the author's works, assesses critical response, notes the existence of bibliographies and biographies, describes collections of manuscripts and letters, and points to avenues for further research. As a straightforward guide to resources on our best-known authors, this volume provides a welcome shortcut for students of literature.

American Women Writers: Bibliographical Essays is a new work, not to be confused with American Women Writers: A Critical Reference Guide from Colonial Times to the Present. The latter highly acclaimed work is now complete in its four-volume library edition, offering concise scholarly overviews by

specialists of the lives and works of over 1,000 authors. A new two-volume, abridged version is now available in paperback. This reviewer has not compared the two editions, and so cannot say whether the abridgments were made by leaving out some writers entirely or by shortening each entry. However, the high quality of the original set is sufficient cause for recommending the abridged edition to anyone needing a ready desk reference.

A different approach to the field of women and literature is seen in the hefty volume, Toward a Feminist Tradition: An Annotated Bibliography of Novels in English by Women, 1891-1920. This bibliography includes 3,407 books by 1,723 authors, published during a 30-year span. The compilers selected works that illustrate a "feminist tradition" in writing by women, particularly as evidenced by unconventional female characters. The annotations are based on reviews at the time of publication, and therefore they vary greatly in length, style, and relevance to literary research. The arrangement of the entries is alphabetic by author, with a title index. While this list is a remarkable achievement and makes for hours of interesting browsing, it is difficult to envision how the average student or researcher might use it efficiently.

Similar in concept, but topically organized and indexed, is Girls Are People Too! A Bibliography of Nontraditional Female Roles in Children's Books. It is an annotated guide to 540 books for children that "exhibit active, adventurous, persistent, self-confident, independent, creative, proud, courageous, and individualistic females." Both fiction and non-fiction are included; books on Blacks, Native Americans, the handicapped, and other minorities are highlighted.

Bibliographies devoted to single authors are important tools for literary researchers; two recent offerings are especially notable. Joan Crane's Willa Cather: A Bibliography is a model of detailed descriptive bibliography, cutting through a tangled web of editions, pseudonymous publications, textual variations and other minutiae of concern to advanced scholars. Elizabeth Cogell's Ursula K. LeGuin: A Primary and Secondary Bibliography documents the novels, short stories, poetry, non-fiction and other works of LeGuin, adding a comprehensive annotated listing of critical and biographical studies and an introduction tracing influences on LeGuin's thinking and themes that resound in her work.

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A second group of reference tools under consideration here loosely revolves around issues of working women. The most general of these is Women, Education, and Employment: A Bibliography of Periodical Citations, Pamphlets, Newspapers, and Government Documents, 1970-1980. The weak aspects of this bibliography are its complete exclusion of books and dissertations and its lack of annotations; its strengths are a well thought-out subject arrangement geared to the research needs of undergraduates and an unorthodox but eminently useable index by Sanford Berman.

Two new titles focus on affirmative action. Resources for Affirmative Action, by Ed Smith (of the UW System) and Joan Bartczak Cannon, lists 1,445 items,

including not only the usual books, pamphlets, and articles, but also consultants, films, cassettes, and training kits. There are author and title indexes, but unfortunately there is no subject access. Appendices include sample policies and procedures and some directory-type data. Affirmative Action in Higher Education: A Sourcebook is a how-to manual for implementing affirmative action policies at universities and colleges. The text is supplemented by numerous appendices that reproduce key regulation, sample forms, flow charts, policy statements, and the like. Also included are a glossary, a topically-indexed list of key cases, and a short annotated bibliography.

Two other pocket-sized books specifically concern women in higher education. Academic Women and Employment Discrimination: A Critical Annotated Bibliography describes in depth 179 books, articles and essays published since 1970. In addition, there is a chronology of court cases dealing with sex discrimination in academe, each with a précis. Published by the Modern Language Association, Sexual and Gender Harassment in the Academy: A Guide for Faculty, Students, and Administrators discusses the nature and prevalence of sexual harassment on campus and offers advice for countering it at the institutional and individual levels.

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In the ever popular category of self-help books, the most welcome new title is How to Get Money for Research. Aimed at the individual, this affordable little book is full of good advice about identifying funding agencies and submitting proposals. Eighty-one sources on grants are described, covering research by and about women, general fellowships, and nontraditional pursuits by women. A section titled "Resources" lists publications and organizations that can provide further guidance. Anyone in women's studies preparing a grant proposal for the first time will find this work a valuable aid.

In the second edition of the Directory of Financial Aids for Women, Gail Schlachter expands and updates her listings of scholarship fellowship sources and adds some funding sources for independent research. The number of entries is nearly double that of the first edition (1978) and includes international programs for the first time. By contrast, the Directory of Federal Aid for Women and Minorities borders on consumer fraud and cannot be recommended. It merely reprints verbatim selected program descriptions and appendices from the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance. The full original document is available for less money from the Government Printing Office. In updateable looseleaf format, it presents information on all federally-administered assistance programs, not only those deemed of interest to women and minorities.

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Attempting to categorize and describe new publications, this reviewer was particularly struck by three works, not because they are the best among a number of works on a given topic, but rather because they stand alone. These unique new titles deserve to be mentioned because of the critical gaps they fill.

Women Speaking: An Annotated Bibliography of Verbal and Nonverbal Communication 1970-1980 is a significant contribution to the reference literature on women's language. The compilers include over 1,300 studies, primarily reported in journal articles, from a multitude of disciplines. Women's literary expression and studies of the mass media are not covered, since these have been treated elsewhere. (We have already demonstrated the wealth of reference sources on women and literature; a good guide to popular media is Leslie Friedman's Sex Role Stereotyping in the Mass Media: An Annotated Bibliography, New York: Garland, 1977.)

A new bibliography on women in management is the first such to be issued in book format, superseding several reading lists from organizations and institutes upon which researchers have had to rely until now. Women and Management: An Annotated Bibliography and Sourcelist provides references to over 800 books, papers, newspaper and journal articles, and dissertations, all published between 1970 and 1981. The citations are arranged in 20 subject categories and represent the scholarly, professional, and popular literature. This volume is a must for libraries supporting a business curriculum.

Finally, American Women Artists: From Early Indian Times to the Present deserves special praise both for its content and its polished appearance. Taking a chronological approach that begins with Native American and folk artists and concludes with the current feminist art movement, Charlotte Rubinstein blends historical survey with biography. The sections devoted to individual artists, which vary in length from a paragraph to several pages, are set apart by bold type headings; an index increases the ease with which this volume can be consulted as a reference tool. The book is replete with illustrations of the artists' works, including a section of well-chosen color plates. There are also a selected bibliography and several lists of honors earned by women artists. American Women Artists will stand beside American Women Writers: A Critical Reference Guide as a standard handbook for years to come.

-- Susan Searing

Academic Women and Employment Discrimination: A Critical Annotated Bibliography. By Jennie Farley. Ithaca: New York State School of Industrial Relations, Cornell University, 1983. (Address: ILR Publications, NY State School of Industrial Relations, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853) 112p. index. pap., \$8.95.

Affirmative Action in Higher Education: A Sourcebook. By Lois VanderWaerdt. New York: Garland, 1982. 259p. index. \$30.00, ISBN 0-8240-9313-5. LC 80-9041.

American Women Artists: From Early Indian Times to the Present. By Charlotte Streifer Rubinstein. New York: Avon; Boston: G.K. Hall, 1982. 560p. index. ill. \$39.95, ISBN 0816185352; pap., \$12.95, ISBN 0-380-61101-5. LC 81-20135.

American Women Writers: A Critical Reference Guide from Colonial Times to the Present. 4 vols. Ed. by Lina Mainiero and Langdon Lynne Faust. New York:

Ungar, 1979-1982. index. \$55.00 each, ISBN 0-8044-3151-5 (v.1); 0-8044-3152-3 (v.2); 0-8044-3153-1 (v.3); 0-8044-3155-8 (v.4). LC 78-20945.

American Women Writers: A Critical Reference Guide from Colonial Times to the Present. Abridged Edition. Ed. by Langdon Lynne Faust. 2 vols. New York: Ungar, 1983. \$14.95 per volume, ISBN 0-8044-6164-3 (vol.1); 0-8044-6165-1 (vol.2). LC 82-40286.

American Women Writers: Bibliographical Essays. Ed. by Maurice Duke, Jackson R. Bryer, and M. Thomas Inge. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1983. 434p. index. \$39.95, ISBN 0-313-22116-2. LC 82-6156.

Directory of Federal Aid for Women and Minorities. Santa Monica: Ready Reference Press, 1982. 250p. \$37.50, ISBN 0-916270-32-7. LC 81-23531.

Directory of Financial Aids for Women. By Gail A. Schlachter. 2nd ed. Santa Barbara: Reference Service Press, ABC-Clío, 1982. 344p. bibl. index. \$26.00, ISBN 0-87436-340-3. LC 82-6778.

Girls Are People Too! A Bibliography of Nontraditional Female Roles in Children's Books. By Joan E. Newman. Metuchen, NJ: Scarecrow Press, 1982. 195p. index. \$12.50, ISBN 0-8108-1500-1. LC 81-18548.

How to Get Money for Research. By Mary Rubin. Old Westbury, NY: Feminist Press, 1983. 78p. index. pap., \$5.95, ISBN 0-935312-18-8. LC 83-1444.

Resources for Affirmative Action: An Annotated Directory of Books, Periodicals, Films, Training Aids, and Consultants on Equal Opportunity. By Joan Bartczak Cannon and Ed Smith. Garrett Park, MD: Garrett Park Press, 1982. 190p. pap., \$11.95, ISBN 0-912049-32-8. LC 82-083304.

Sexual and Gender Harassment in the Academy: A Guide for Faculty, Students, and Administrators. By Phyllis Franklin, et al. New York: Commission on the Status of Women in the Profession, The Modern Language Association of America, 1981. 74p. pap., \$4.50, ISBN 0-87352-333-4. LC 81-14059.

Toward a Feminist Tradition: an Annotated Bibliography of Novels in English by Women, 1891-1920. By Diva Daims and Janet Grimes, comps. New York: Garland, 1982. 885p. index. \$75.00, ISBN 0-8240-9523-5. LC 79-7912.

Ursula K. LeGuin: A Primary and Secondary Bibliography. By Elizabeth Cummins Cogell. Boston: G.K. Hall, 1983. 244p. index. \$39.95, ISBN 0-8161-8155-1. LC 82-12071.

Willa Cather: A Bibliography. By Joan Crane. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1982. 412p. index. \$35.00, ISBN 0-8032-1415-4. LC 81-23134.

Women, Education, and Employment: A Bibliography of Periodical Citations, Pamphlets, Newspapers, and Government Documents, 1970-1980. By Renee Feinberg. Hamden, CT: Library Professional Publications, 1982. 274p. index. \$25.00, ISBN 0-87229-023-9. LC 82-7816.

Women in Management: An Annotated Bibliography and Sourcelist. By Judith A. Leavitt. Phoenix: Oryx Press, 1982. 197p. index. \$25.00, ISBN 0-89774-026-2. LC 82-2190.

Women Speaking: An Annotated Bibliography of Verbal and Nonverbal Communication, 1970-1980. By Mary E.W. Jarrard and Phyllis R. Randall. New York: Garland, 1982. 478p. index. \$60.00, ISBN 0-8240-9281-3. LC 82-15737.

## BOOK REVIEWS

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### A DISABLED WOMAN'S CRITIQUE OF LITERATURE DEALING WITH DISABLED WOMEN. INTRODUCTION

When I began this review, it was my intention to focus only on books and articles written by and about disabled women. While there is more literature available that fits this description now than there was even three or four years ago, it was still necessary for me to include some general literature on disability to give readers an adequate background.

I have categorized the material under four subject headings: Curriculum Guides and Disability Awareness Brochures; Autobiographical and Experience-Oriented Literature; Books Written by Parents of the Disabled; and Literature from Psychology, Sociology and Philosophy. Most of the literature under review here I can recommend, with few reservations, as being positive in its portrayal of disability and its problems.

This stands in stark contrast to the bulk of the literature in the fields of special education, rehabilitation, and psychology. Written for professionals who work with the disabled, this literature abounds with negative portrayals of the disabled, and, more specifically, of disabled women. Similarly, positive portrayals of the disabled are hard to find in fiction or biography, and, of those available, most focus on disabled men. While there has recently been more interest in disabled women evidenced in feminist literature, here too one is apt to encounter subtly patronizing images, as in Sally Gearhart's The Wanderground (Persephone Press, 1978), which casts disabled women as the sisters whose single contribution to society is to teach the value of slowing down. Gearhart's mistake -- a common one -- was to view disabled women only through their disabilities, rather than as whole persons with much to offer the community. By contrast, in Marge Piercy's book, Woman on the Edge of Time (Knopf, 1976), the main character, Connie, is involved for some time with a blind man who is also Black. It is obvious that Connie relies upon him for support at this time in her life, and no undue attention is paid to his blindness.

The literature reviewed below goes some way towards revising our views of disabled women.

## CURRICULUM GUIDES AND DISABILITY AWARENESS BROCHURES

Patricia Hague. Responding To Disability: A Question of Attitude. Minnesota State Council for the Handicapped, 1982. (Address: 208 Metro Square Building, St. Paul, MN 55101) 38p. LC 83-0422. OCLC 9264069.

This booklet presents fourteen questions and answers, many of them about situations where a non-disabled person meets a disabled person. The booklet is directed specifically to a non-disabled audience of employers and educators of the disabled; its aim is to demystify disability and perhaps to open the door to more opportunities for the disabled. It takes a very non-threatening approach, and I think that it has a great deal of value.

Exploring Attitudes Toward Women With Disabilities. Curriculum Guide for Employers and Educators. New York City Commission of the Status of Women. (Address: 250 Broadway, Rm. 1412, New York, NY 10007) \$2.00.

This booklet is a curriculum guide for planning a workshop on disability awareness. Some of the exercises are very good, and the booklet in general is very well-organized. There is an extensive bibliography at the back which is generally good. I do take a critical view of those exercises which hope to promote awareness by attempting to simulate the experience of disability for participants. While the use of a wheelchair, for example, may help alert people to the problems of inaccessibility, it is simplistic to assume that one can understand deafness simply by using nonverbal communication, paralysis by not moving, or blindness by wearing a blindfold. Exercises such as these may only raise fears about the limitations of disability, without educating participants about how the disabled meet these challenges. If facilitators feel it is necessary to carry out this type of disability-awareness exercise, they should at least provide the actual equipment used by the disabled to compensate for the disability (e.g., a cane in the case of the exercise on blindness).

## AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL AND EXPERIENCE-ORIENTED LITERATURE

Jo Campling, ed. Images of Ourselves: Disabled Women Talking. London: Rutledge & Kegan Paul, 1981. 160p. pap., \$9.75, ISBN 0-7100-0822-8.

Jo Campling wisely allows her contributors to tell their own stories in their own ways. Twelve women from Britain with varying disabilities write about their childhoods, the advice given to them with regard to career goals, information they received about their sexuality, threats to their rights to keep their own children, and advice given them to abort rather than to bear a disabled child. The women have very different personalities and their experiences are diverse.

Deborah Kent. Belonging. New York: Dial Press, 1978. \$7.95, ISBN 0-8037-0530-1. LC 77-14734.

This book is a semi-autobiographical novel about a blind girl who has chosen to attend public high school. The book shows Meg as a very independent,

intelligent and resourceful girl who deals squarely with public attitudes about blindness. The portrayal of high school life is realistic and the ending is very positive. I can recommend this book as one of the best portrayals I have read of a character coping with, and not being limited by, her blindness.

Betty Bird. "Texas Sketches: A Narrative." Sinister Wisdom no.17, Summer 1981, pp.20-26. (Address: Sinister Wisdom, Box 660, Amherst, MA 01004.

This is an example of a story where disability is only on aspect of character. In the author's autobiographical sketch of growing up in Texas, blindness is just one of her attributes; we see that while it shaped some of her experiences, blindness did not hamper her growth and development. She romps, plays, gets into mischief, learns to deal with not being "teacher's favorite," and copes with the death of another child. These are experiences much like those faced by non-disabled children.

Rose Resnick. Sun and Shadow. New York: Atheneum, 1975. 274p. \$10.00, ISBN 0689106661. LC 74-32614.

This is an autobiography of a blind woman who was born and raised in New York City in the 1920s and 1930s in a working-class immigrant family of eight children. Resnick had the good fortune to study drama, dance, and music while growing up. An accomplished musician, she was awarded a scholarship to study with Nadia Boulanger at the Fontainebleau Conservatoire in France. In spite of this unusually auspicious beginning, Rose Resnick's story is one of uphill battles--first to win recognition for herself as a musician, and then to fight for equal opportunities for blind and otherwise disabled persons. Her story shows with depressing clarity that things have not changed for disabled persons very much since the 1920s--specifically that some of the main obstacles put in the way of the disabled, and some of the worst exploitation of the disabled, come at the hands of the agencies and professionals who are supposed to be helping them to lead productive and normal lives.

off our backs v.XI, no.5, May 1981: special issue on "Women with Disabilities." (Address: 1841 Columbia Road N.W., room 212, Washington, D.C. 20009) \$1.00 per copy.

This entire issue focused on the writings of women with disabilities. It is one of the best anthologies to date of experiences faced by disabled women. It also includes some writing by able-bodied women about interactions with disabled women. This is the only anthology on disability I have seen which contains a contribution by a woman who is considered mentally retarded. Persons with this disability have been viewed by society as generally incapable of making their own decisions or of having opinions. I am very pleased to see this anthology break new ground in this direction.

Judith Schwarz. "On Being Physically Different." Sinister Wisdom no.7, Fall 1978, pp.41-50.

Written by a very articulate woman, this article describes Schwarz's experiences and society's expectations of her as a disabled woman.

Chris Cuppett. "A Spirit Crushed: A Spirit Healed." Sinister Wisdom no.15, Fall 1980, pp.23-27.

This article is the moving account of the experience of a blind woman who was raped -- the negative reactions of the police, the doctor, and some of the people she thought were friends, and her road to recovery from this incident.

Barbara McDonald. "Look Me In the Eye." Sinister Wisdom no.16, Spring 1981, pp.11-19.

This article deals with ageism rather than disability. McDonald writes about the experience of attending a Take Back the Night March. She begins the march by feeling excited, ready for action, competent, and ready to protect her lover from violence. Then, one of the organizers of the march approaches her and says that older women should be marching in the front so as not to slow down the line. Barbara McDonald very articulately expresses the shock such an experience entails -- the realization that while you see yourself as competent, others do not, and for no reason other than an external character attribute such as age or disability. This experience is a common everyday occurrence in the lives of disabled persons.

Miriam Ottenberg. Pursuit of Hope. New York: Rawson, Wade Publishers, 1978. \$8.95, ISBN 0-89256-069-X. LC 78-54041.

Ottenberg is a journalist who developed multiple sclerosis, and used her investigative skills to interview others who have the disease. She shows how many of these people have gone on with their lives after diagnosis, and in some cases changed their lives for the better after having developed the disease. This book is very upbeat, but exhibits a bias toward very traditional lifestyles for women. While Ottenberg commends any man who chooses to stay with his wife when she becomes disabled, she takes it for granted that non-disabled wives will stay with disabled husbands. This book does do much to demystify the condition of MS both for victims of this disease and for a non-disabled audience.

Yvonne Duffy. All Things Are Possible. A.J. Garvin and Assoc., 1981. (Address: Box 7525, Ann Arbor, MI 48107) pap., \$8.95, ISBN 0-9607252-0-2.

Ms. Duffy sent a questionnaire to physically disabled women across the country and compiled the results from the 70 women who chose to respond. While the author does let the women speak in their own words, she splits up their responses in order to group them under various chapter headings. The book seeks to ascertain how women with physical disabilities, most of them in wheelchairs and needing various degrees of attendant care, deal with aspects of their sexuality. Frank and articulate, the book should be thought-provoking to the non-disabled; however it is more particularly aimed at making available to disabled women information about sexuality in a no-nonsense positive manner not usually adopted by the parents and professionals who should be providing this information.

The chapter on lesbians has one major shortcoming to which Ms. Duffy readily

admits -- only two disabled lesbians answered the questionnaire and could be interviewed. These two women are portrayed positively. Ms. Duffy found that many disabled women fear being labeled as lesbians because they have been unable to find a man. Other disabled women in her sample thought about the fact that they might be lesbians but feared adding another element to the already existing differentness from the rest of society that their disability constituted for them.

I have a personal philosophic difference of opinion with Ms. Duffy on one point. She likes the label "differently-abled" which has been coined to describe disabled women. She feels that this word says that women with disabilities do the same thing but in different ways than the non-disabled. While I have never liked the word "disabled," I feel that "differently-abled" is not a good replacement. The implicit message of the term is, "You are different than me; you can't do the things I do; you have different abilities."

### Upcoming Anthologies

There are three forthcoming anthologies which should appear by the winter of 1984. First is a collection of the writings and experiences of disabled women of varying lifestyles, to be published by Cleis Press. It is being edited by three disabled women. My expectation is that this book will have the historic value to the disabled women's community that This Bridge Called My Back: Writings by Radical Women of Color (Persephone Press, 1981) had to the community of women of color. (Contact: Cleis Press, P.O. Box 8281, Minneapolis, MN 55408; 612-871-4567.)

The second anthology will contain the stories and experiences of women who this society has deemed fat, detailing the kind of oppression these women suffer. This book will be published by the Iowa City Women's Press. (Address: 529 S. Gilbert St., Iowa City, IA 52240)

The third anthology, to be published by Womyn's Braille Press, will contain writings of blind women on their employment experiences. The purpose of the book is to show the non-disabled world that blind women are an untapped resource in terms of their potential. Secondly, the book is intended to share information with blind women about how certain jobs can be done by a blind person, and to give an encouraging shot in the arm that, yes, it is possible to find jobs as blind women. (Womyn's Braille Press, Box 8475, Minneapolis, MN 55408)

### BOOKS WRITTEN BY PARENTS OF THE DISABLED

Helen Featherstone. A Difference In the Family: Life With a Disabled Child. New York: Basic Books, 1980. 262p. \$14.95, ISBN 0-465-01654-5. LC 79-56668.

This book is written by the mother of a disabled child who realized that parents and family members had nowhere to go and no one to help them with their feelings about having a disabled child in the family. She began discussion groups for parents of disabled children, to share their feelings of frustration, guilt, impatience, and even hope for their children. The book

should be valuable for those persons who have disabled family members and who have never allowed themselves to work through the negative feelings because of their sense of guilt for having such emotions. It is Featherstone's belief that only by working through these feelings does one come to full acceptance of that particular family member.

Marie Lyons Killilea. Karen. New York: Prentice Hall, 1962. \$8.95, ISBN 0-13-514638-0.

This book was written by a mother who through love, devotion and constant hard work brought her bright and intelligent daughter, who happened to be born with cerebral palsy, further along the road to "normalcy" than most of the doctors of that time thought possible. If it is hard for parents of disabled children to get rights for their children today, if it is hard for parents to receive support for their own isolation in coping with a disabled child, there is no doubt that it was much harder prior to 1953, when this book was published. That fact alone makes Karen's and her mother's success awe-inspiring.

#### LITERATURE FROM PSYCHOLOGY, SOCIOLOGY, AND PHILOSOPHY

The first two books in this section are good enough in the portrayal of disability to serve as primary textbooks. I recommend them for any basic course on disability or for anyone who wants a basic understanding of the problems faced by disabled persons.

John Gliedman and William Roth. The Unexpected Minority: Handicapped Children in America. New York: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1979. \$17.95, ISBN 0-15-192845-2. LC 79-1823.

In the U.S. alone, there are 10 million children and 30 million adults who are disabled. In the authors' opinion, it is mainly social and attitudinal barriers rather than physical disabilities which handicap these people in society. The authors call for extensive research into the social and emotional needs of disabled children, pointing out that, to date, most research has been based primarily on interviews with disabled adults. In addition, they argue for the expansion of job opportunities for the disabled, demonstrating the inadequacy of existing equal employment legislation.

According to Gliedman and Roth, the disabled are one of the largest, least visible and least organized minority groups primarily for two reasons -- first of all, because of the isolation society imposes upon them, and secondly, because society's negative images of disability make it difficult for disabled persons to identify as disabled. This book contains excellent examples of interactions between disabled and non-disabled persons, and analyses of these interactions from both perspectives. It is the most concise, well-written and unemotional explanation of the problems of disability that I have read.

Beatrice A. Wright. Physical Disability: A Psychological Approach. New York: Harper & Row, 1960. 408p. \$20.95, ISBN 0-06-047240-5. LC 60-5732.

While some of the material in this book is dated, it is still extremely valu-

able in analyzing the psychological problems of disability from the standpoints of both the disabled and the non-disabled person. This book was a pioneer effort in the field 23 years ago, and there are still very few books to equal it today. While the book is geared primarily to the professional in rehabilitation psychology, it is written in everyday language and is very understandable to any layperson.

Willard Gaylin, Ira Glasser, Steven Marcus, and David Rothman. Doing Good: The Limits of Benevolence. Pantheon, 1978. pap., \$4.95, ISBN 0-394-73372-X. LC 77-8876.

Each of the co-authors presents a slightly different philosophy about disability. The final chapter, "Prisoners of Benevolence: Power vs. Liberty in the Welfare State," by Ira Glasser, is particularly interesting. Glasser views the whole social benevolence system as based on assumptions of the clients' needs rather than upon their rights as established in the 1700s under the Bill of Rights. Such assumptions have led to intrusion in the name of giving help in ways that would not normally be tolerated by citizens of this country. According to Glasser, whenever groups of clients attempt to assert their rights, the persons who as helping professionals are supposed to be serving their needs prove to be their worst and most entrenched foes against instituting change. This chapter is a superb critical analysis of the benevolence and charity offered those considered to be dependents of this society.

Michelle Fine and Adrian Asch. "Disabled Women: Sexism Without the Pedestal." Journal of Sociology and Social Welfare v.8, no.2, July 1981, pp.233-248.

This article is one of the few I have found in this genre that specifically deal with disabled women and how the problems they face differ from those confronted by disabled men. The authors point out that disabled women are members of two minorities and that they are discriminated against on both counts. This article also gives many references to further material in this area.

#### CONCLUSION

I hope that this paper will be useful for women's studies faculty who wish to include material about disabled women in their courses, for those planning disability workshops, for those who teach courses on the problems of disability, for family members of persons with disabilities, and for anyone who wants to learn more about the problems and discrimination facing persons with disabilities. In conclusion, let me stress that this paper is meant to present guidelines for the identification of positive and instructive literature regarding disability in general, and disabled women in particular. It is not meant to represent the definitive list of good literature in the field.

-- Kathleen Hagen

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activists fighting for equal opportunities for the disabled, particularly for disabled women. An avid reader, she is a founding member of Womyn's Braille Press and is interested in seeing that print-disabled women like herself have access to feminist and lesbian literature.]

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"THE PHYSICIAN'S HAND": WORK CULTURE AND CONFLICT IN AMERICAN NURSING.

By Barbara Melosh. Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 1982. \$25.00, ISBN 0-87722-278-9; pap., \$9.95, ISBN 0-87722-290-8. LC 82-10537.

Barbara Melosh has written a provocative and brave book, and it is one that anyone interested in women's work should read carefully. By putting American nursing history into the framework of labor and women's history, Melosh overturns traditional views of nurses and steps courageously into what will be an important contemporary controversy. Using her encompassing lens, Melosh baldly states that "nursing is not and cannot be a profession" (p.15). These are fighting words. And they are substantiated well and forcefully in this excellently written and valuable book.

Melosh's analysis works because it looks at nursing not from the traditional historical perspective of the nursing leaders' point of view but from the perspective of the rank and file nurses. She explores the different agendas of nursing leaders and nurses to help the readers understand the tensions of the workplace. For example, in the early 20th century, the elite nurses criticized hospital apprentice training, which was most typical, and worked toward increasing theoretical education in colleges or universities. However, many nurses supported the hospital schools and felt they benefitted under the paternalistic regimens found there. Hospital school graduates increased from over 11,000 in 1900 to over 149,000 20 years later. Melosh describes vividly the world of the hospital trained nurse, using oral histories and novels to uncover the daily rewards and problems within this female-based occupation.

Concentrating on the central issue of autonomy, Melosh examines 20th-century experiences in private duty, public health, and hospital nursing. At the beginning of the century most nurses were employed in homes caring for individual sick people. Private duty free-lance nurses were autonomous in that they could pick and choose which doctors to work for and which patients to serve. But they were isolated from other nurses, caught in the middle of a domestic hierarchy in which they had ambiguous status, and dependent on the physicians for receiving work orders. While some nurses found satisfaction in this work, many others floundered in the insecurity of the marketplace and the isolation on the job. The option of public health work, which was available to a minority of graduate nurses, was more satisfying. Within a public agency, nurses could work together independently of physicians. By 1926 approximately one-fifth of all graduate nurses worked in private and public agencies, where they achieved an independence not available elsewhere in the occupational offerings. This avenue eroded for nurses after the second world war, however, and with decreasing opportunity, these nurses, like private-duty nurses, looked to the hospital for employment. Melosh analyzes the switch from home to hospital-based nursing during the first half of the 20th century, exploring

sensitively the benefits of hospital duty.

Graduate nurses did not want to give up the independence of private duty work and accepted hospital employment reluctantly. During the 1930s, staff nurses felt themselves buffeted between the traditional paternalism of the old apprentice system and the developing bureaucracy of the new. Despite the problems that hospital-based nursing held for the nurses, Melosh believes that the move constituted an improvement in working conditions. The hospital added security to a job that had been uncertain; it enabled rationalization of work; and it enhanced nursing skills. Nurses gained some social control in the hospital environment, but they also worked hard to retain some of the freedom they had enjoyed earlier. They were acutely aware of their place in the hospital hierarchy, especially vis a vis male-dominated medicine. In the hospitals, however, nurses achieved middle-management and relatively autonomous positions.

Today nurses may find it hard to think of hospital nursing as full of improved opportunities. But judging the nurses' position through an historical lens, as Melosh does, it is possible to see that in the hospital setting nurses can exercise considerably more control over their work lives than they did previously. On the wards, they control scheduling and routines, and together they create a congenial atmosphere. As Melosh writes, "Relocated from the fringes to the center of medical care, nurses gained new responsibilities and began to demand a concomitant authority" (p.194). The potential for developing within the hospital setting a future that nurses control, Melosh believes, is strong.

Melosh concludes with a clarion call to nurses to use historical understanding to better their current working conditions. By analyzing the historical apprenticeship culture that still pervades the work place and by understanding the gender-based functions traditional to nurses' caring role, modern nurses can command their own destiny. Optimistically viewing current trends, Melosh writes:

Nurses today are reclaiming and defining the strengths of their history as 'the physician's hand.' As feminists they are refuting the portrayal of nurses as incomplete doctors or downtrodden adjuncts to insist on their extensive and indispensable contributions to the work of health care. At the same time, they continue to resist the traditional connotations of 'the physician's hand,' with all it has implied of passivity, self-abnegation, and subordination. (p.217)

Melosh's analyses of the importance of autonomy to understanding professionalism and the relationship of gender to questions of autonomy in the workplace, which form the central core of the book, are extremely important to women workers whatever their occupation. She concludes that the historical subordination of women nurses to male doctors and the lack of autonomy that accompanied the gender subordination meant that nursing, despite the leaders' contention to the contrary, did not meet the requirements of professionalization. Melosh carries the analysis into the future, realizing that as long as gender inequalities define work life, a woman's occupation cannot be auton-

omous enough to be defined as a profession.

Melosh's book accomplishes for nursing the arduous task of disentangling gender from other variables that influence work situations. Next, we need to look at doctors and other health workers and examine, for example, how women at different positions in the hospital hierarchy relate to each other. Then, of course, historians need to do for other occupations what Melosh has done for health-related work. We have here an exciting and innovative approach to history and to contemporary studies, one that I hope will become a model for future scholarship.

"The Physician's Hand" should be a model not just because of its perspective, but also for its use of diverse source material. Relying most heavily, as expected, on nurses' own material from journals, letters to the editor, and personal and public papers, Melosh goes well beyond expected or traditional sources. Most significantly and effectively, she uses oral histories and fiction to bolster her argument and to establish a vivid portrait of nurses' work culture. This is a book well worth reading for its message; it also provides an easy and pleasurable reading experience.

-- Judith Walzer Leavitt

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#### FEMINIST ART HISTORY: A NEW DIRECTION FOR THE EIGHTIES

Norma Broude and Mary D. Garrard, eds., Feminism and Art History: Questioning the Litany. New York: Harper & Row, 1982. 358p. black & white illustrations and index. \$28.80, ISBN 0-06-430525; pap., \$15.95, ISBN 0-06-430117-6. LC 81-48062.

Rozsika Parker and Griselda Pollock, Old Mistresses: Women, Art and Ideology. New York: Pantheon Books, 1981. 184p. 97 black and white illustrations, bibliography and index. \$19.50, ISBN 0-394-52430-6; pap., \$10.95, ISBN 0-394-70814-8. LC 81-48253.

With the publication of these two books, feminist art history has turned a corner. Through successful completion of various search and recovery expeditions,<sup>1</sup> it has earned the right to turn attention to the conceptual framework of art history itself. These two books represent different approaches to the fundamental task of reconstructing the assumptions that have governed art historical research. Both approaches are valid and fruitful; both deserve to have a formative influence on scholarship. My intent here is to clarify their differences and indicate how I think they might be used in the under-

graduate curriculum.

Feminism and Art History is the more conservative of the two books because the editors suggest that the discipline can be reformed from within. Broude and Garrard perform the useful function of drawing together conceptual essays from disparate sources.<sup>2</sup> Three of the five previously unpublished papers were delivered as part of the Women's Caucus for Art session called "Questioning the Litany" held at the College Art Association meeting in 1978, co-chaired by Mary Garrard and H. Diane Russell. Of the seventeen chapters, only five concern women artists. The rest deal with art by "the masters" (all men), using feminist thinking to expose a variety of art historical "misconceptions."

Several of the authors look at images of art against a backdrop of the society that spawned them, using art to illuminate history or vice versa. This approach is particularly evident in the early chapters on Egyptian, Roman, Greek and medieval art, which support the editors' view that art has often functioned as an instrument of sex-role socialization. Other approaches include the biographical and psychological, as in Linda Nochlin's interpretation of a painting by Dante Gabriel Rossetti concerning a "fallen woman." Still other essays might be called psychohistory. For example, Carol Duncan suggests that the 20th-century avant-garde preoccupation with virility and sexual domination represents the fantasies and fears of middle-class men in a rapidly changing world.

Additional chapters challenge the choices and exclusions made by art history. In the most penetrating of these, Svetlana Alpers shows the relationship between the art historical bias against Dutch art and cultural definitions of "femininity." She argues that Vermeer represents the quintessential "female" way of experiencing the world, offering the insight that "modes of making" rather than gender make the difference in evaluations of art. Alessandra Comini questions why Expressionist women artists such as Kollwitz, Modersohn-Becker and Muntz have been neglected. Finally, Patricia Mainardi claims that quilts made by American women contain a tradition sufficiently rich in color, design and cultural significance to be called "The Great American Art."

To reexperience art from a feminist perspective, the editors say, is to divorce it from the "context of pure, aesthetic and 'universal' values, and to see it not as a passive reflector of social history, but as . . . a powerful social force" (p.14). They contend that the basic premises of art history must be questioned--among these, the assumed importance of individual artistic innovation and stylistic progression, and the "psychosexual model of heroic patricide, the competitive revolt of the sons against the fathers" (p.15). Many of the contributors, however, do not raise such fundamental questions; instead they employ traditional art historical approaches (such as "codicology," the study of the materials, writing, decoration, patronage and audience of medieval books, p.102) to answer feminist questions. Garrard calls her own method "feminist iconographical analysis" (p.7)--that is, the feminist consideration of the conventions defining a set of symbolic forms and governing their interrelationships. The strength of the book lies in its demonstration that such analyses of images can be performed productively in so many different arenas of art history.

In contrast to the collected essays of Feminism and Art History, Parker and Pollock provide one sustained theoretical essay on the place of women's art in art history. Although not entirely new, theirs is the most complex analysis of women's relationship to art history available to date. Old Mistresses deals with the fact that "women's art has occupied a strategic though contradictory position in the history of art, always present, always diverse but represented in art history as always absent or forever the same" (p.169). The reasons for this inconsistency, according to the authors, lie in the long-standing tendency to stereotype women; in the fact that sex was an important factor in developing artistic hierarchies; in the Romantic equation of "artist" with male sexuality; in the male monopoly on definitions of greatness and meaning in art; and the continuation of "disguised but profound levels of constraint, containment and oppression" (p.134).

Far from getting steadily better since the medieval period, the authors contend, women's position in the art world has sometimes worsened, especially since the ideological antithesis between "artist" and "woman" became entrenched in the 19th century. Nor are the writers sanguine about the effects of the new feminist art history. On the one hand, they fear that art by women will merely be submerged in traditional arthistory.<sup>3</sup> On the other hand, they worry that feminists may merely substitute one set of damaging stereotypes for another.

In chapter 4, Parker and Pollock offer a theoretical justification for the reconstruction of art history recommended by both books, writing, "Art is one of the cultural, ideological practices which constitute the discourse of a social system and its mechanisms of power" (p.115). Whoever controls that discourse controls other aspects of the world as well. For example, when women were prevented from studying the nude model, they were deprived not only of the means by which to establish their greatness, but also of the "power to give meanings of their own to themselves and their culture" (p.115). After that time, Woman was ever present in art as body, while the absent Man (as John Berger has argued in Ways of Seeing) controlled the language of interpretation. Parker and Pollock think that recent feminist artists such as Suzanne Santoro or Judy Chicago who explore female sexuality as a means of reasserting feminine meanings for the female body are "dangerously open to misunderstanding" in that they do not challenge the equation of women with nature or with biology. A more promising approach, they believe, is evident in psycho-analytic critiques that show the fears behind the male's attachment to the female body.

The final chapter examines works by successful women in several avant-garde traditions to clarify the authors' point that opportunities for women in the 20th century are still limited by ever more subtle forms of oppression, particularly in the "conditions of reception" (p.134). In response to questions about whether women should seek to gain access to the establishment or focus their energies on creating alternative spaces to exhibit, they reply that both strategies are necessary but insufficient. Only when women's art ceases to function as a reinforcement to masculine supremacy, they imply, will it occupy the place it deserves in art history.

Parker and Pollock are less inclined than Broude and Garrard to believe that art history can be revised from within using traditional practices to expose mistaken value judgements and to uncover hidden actors among those who have been excluded. Their vision of the problem requires a more radical solution than "feminist iconographical analysis," although they do their share of this. Seeing no possibility within the present organization of sexual difference for asserting positive alternative meanings for women (p.133), they embark on a program of deconstructing the systems whereby women have been assigned, and have often accepted, meaning as the "other."

The arguments of these British art historians are forcefully and convincingly made, but not everyone will share their pessimism about the ability of women artists to affect our symbolic code. They do not consider, for example, the impact of feminist artists like Miriam Schapiro and feminist concepts such as "femmage" in their assessment of the conditions of production and reception in the contemporary art world.<sup>4</sup> Their fear of trapping women in stereotypes sometimes prevents them from seeing what is there, as when they deny Helen Frankenthaler's attraction to nature, claiming that her process of painting is purely intellectual--as if nature and mind were indeed irreconcilable opposites. The fundamental question that remains unconvincingly resolved here, as elsewhere, is whether or not social conditioning has indeed affected even the structures of the unconscious in women so that women have no hope of providing alternative cultural meanings (pp.132-3).

These are impressive and ambitious books that establish a high standard for new scholarship. Feminism and Art History should find its way easily into traditional art history classes as a supplemental text; its effect should be to enliven the interpretation of images in art and to enrich students' sense of the connections between art and life. My only reservation about its use in such contexts is that it does not contain enough essays on art by women. Old Mistresses seems most likely to be effective in Women's Studies programs, or in courses on the sociology of art or the problems of aesthetic evaluation where its Marxist underpinnings will be familiar. In the best of all possible worlds, however, I would recommend that Old Mistresses also be used in traditional courses to provide a more strenuous critique of the discipline.

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#### NOTES

1. The publication of Charlotte S. Rubinstein's American Women Artists: From Early Indian Times to the Present (Boston: G.K. Hall, 1982) and Claire Richter Sherman's Women as Interpreters of the Visual Arts (Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1981) would seem to complete, at least in outline form, the basic informational impulse of the 1970s.

# FEMINIST COLLECTIONS INDEX: v. 4, 1982-1983

- Alvarez, Sonia E., Mirtha N. Quintanales, and Barbara Smith, "Third World Women's Archives: Archives," vol.4, no.1, pp.7-9.
- "Audio Resources for Women's Studies," by Judy Gardner, vol.4, no.3, pp.18-21.
- "Bread and Roses: Feminist Publishing," by Linda Shult, vol.4, no.3, pp.14-16.
- "Canadian Feminist Periodicals: A Partial Listing," vol.4, no.3, pp.12-14.
- Cecchini, Linda, "News from UW-Eau Claire," vol.4, no.1, pp.13-14.
- "Contributions Invited," vol.4, no.4, p.5.
- "A Conversation with Jim Danky and Maureen Hady: Women's Periodicals and Newspapers," by Cathy Loeb, vol.4, no.2, pp.6-9.
- Cooper, Sarah, "Women's History Resources at the State Historical Society of Wisconsin: The Anne Braden Papers: Archives," vol.4, no.1, pp.9-11.
- Correll, Barbara, "Women's Studies and Strategies Against Violence: Recent Works on Women's Self-Defense: Book Review," vol.4, no.3, pp.30-34.
- Costello, Cindy, "New Feminist Approaches to Sexuality: Book Review," vol.4, no.1, pp.23-25.
- Dahik, Elizabeth, "Feminists Write on Peace and Patriarchy: Book Review," vol.4, no.2, pp.31-35.
- Deller, Howard, "Writings by Women in the American Geographical Society Collection: Archives," vol.4, no.1, pp.11-13.
- "A Disabled Woman's Critique of Literature Dealing With Disabled Women: Book Review," by Kathleen Hagen, vol.4, no.4, pp.26-33.
- Engle, Jean, "Why Feminist Printers?" vol.4, no.3, pp.5-9.
- "Feminist Art History: A New Direction for the Eighties: Book Review," by Estella Lauter, vol.4, no.4, pp.35-39.
- "Feminists Write on Peace and Patriarchy: Book Review," by Elizabeth Dahik, vol.4, no.2, pp.31-35.
- "First Midwest Regional Women in Print Conference, Woodstock, Illinois, September 10-12, 1982: Women in Print," by Cathy Loeb and Linda Shult, vol.4, no.1, pp.6-7.
- "From the Editors [Introducing Susan Searing, new Women's Studies Librarian-at-Large]," by Susan Searing, vol.4, no.1, pp.3-4.
- "From the Editors [Report on a study of women's studies acquisitions at UW-Whitewater]," by Susan Searing, vol.4, no.3, pp.3-5.
- "From the Editors [Report on progress towards the creation of a data base in women's studies]," by Susan Searing, vol.4, no.4, pp.3-5.
- "From the Editors [What's new with New Books on Women & Feminism]," by Susan Searing and Cathy Loeb, vol.4, no.2, pp.3-4.
- Gardner, Judy, "Audio Resources for Women's Studies," vol.4, no.3, pp.18-21.
- Gould, Marian A., "Socialist and Radical Literature: The Leon Kramer Collection: Special Collections," vol.4, no.3, pp.16-18.
- Hagen, Kathleen, "A Disabled Woman's Critique of Literature Dealing With Disabled Women: Book Review," vol.4, no.4, pp.26-33.
- "'I Am Woman': Recent Reference Resources About Women in Music: Book Review," by Nancy Vedder-Shults, vol.4, no.2, pp.29-31.
- "Items of Note," by Cathy Loeb, vol.4, no.1, pp.18-20; vol.4, no.2, pp.18-20; vol.4, no.3, pp.25-26; vol.4, no.4, pp.20-21.
- "Jewish Feminist Publishing: Book Review," by Rose Katz, vol.4, no.2, pp.24-28.
- Katz, Rose, "Jewish Feminist Publishing: Book Review," vol.4, no.2, pp.24-28.
- "Kitchen Table: Women of Color Press: Feminist Publishing," vol.4, no.1, pp.4-5.
- Lauter, Estella, "Feminist Art History: A New Direction for the Eighties: Book Review," vol.4, no.4, pp.35-39.
- Leavitt, Judith Walzer, "'The Physician's Hand': Work Culture and Conflict in American Nursing," by Barbara Melosh: Book Review," vol.4, no.4, pp.33-35.
- Leuchter, Sara, "Oral History: Women in the Holocaust: Wisconsin Survivors of the Holocaust Documentation Project," vol.4, no.4, pp.6-8.
- Loeb, Cathy, "A Conversation with Jim Danky and Maureen Hady: Women's Periodicals and Newspapers," vol.4, no.2, pp.6-9.
- Loeb, Cathy, "Items of Note," vol.4, no.1, pp.18-20; vol.4, no.2, pp.18-20; vol.4, no.3, pp.25-26; vol.4, no.4, pp.20-21.
- Loeb, Cathy, "Periodical Notes," vol.4, no.1, pp.15-18; vol.4, no.2, pp.15-18; vol.4, no.3, pp.21-25; vol.4, no.4, pp.16-20.
- Loeb, Cathy, "Rare Book Department, Memorial Library, UW-Madison: A Conversation with Assistant Curator Deborah Reilly: Special Collections," vol.4, no.4, pp.8-12.
- Loeb, Cathy, "Update: Women in Print," vol.4, no.4, pp.12-15.
- Loeb, Cathy, and Linda Shult, "First Midwest Regional Women in Print Conference, Woodstock, Illinois, September 10-12, 1982: Women in Print," vol.4, no.1, pp.6-7.

- Melosh, Barbara, "Women as Reformers and Radicals in United States: Book Review," vol.4, no.3, pp.34-37.
- "The Mystery Women: Classic Murder Mysteries by Women Writers: Book Review," by Joan Ray Yeatman, vol.4, no.3, pp.38-40.
- "New England Free Press: Feminist Publishing," vol.4, no.1, p.5.
- "New Feminist Approaches to Sexuality: Book Review," by Cindy Costello, vol.4, no.1, pp.23-25.
- "New Reference Works in Women's Studies," by Susan Searing, vol.4, no.1, pp.20-23; vol.4, no.2, pp.20-23; vol.4, no.3, pp.26-29; vol.4, no.4, pp.21-26.
- "News from UW-Eau Claire," by Linda Cecchini, vol.4, no.1, pp.13-14.
- "News from UW-Platteville," by Jacqueline Ross, vol.4, no.4, pp.15-16.
- "News from UW-Whitewater," by Ruth Schauer, vol.4, no.2, pp.13-14.
- "Oral History: Women in the Holocaust: Wisconsin Survivors of the Holocaust Documentation Project," by Sara Leuchter, vol.4, no.4, pp.6-8.
- "Periodical Notes," by Cathy Loeb, vol.4, no.1, pp.15-18; vol.4, no.2, pp.15-18; vol.4, no.3, pp.21-25; vol.4, no.4, pp.16-20.
- "The Physician's Hand: Work Culture and Conflict in American Nursing, by Barbara Melosh: Book Review," by Judith Walzer Leavitt, vol.4, no.4, pp.33-35.
- "Rare Book Department, Memorial Library, UW-Madison: A Conversation with Assistant Curator Deborah Reilly: Special Collections," by Cathy Loeb, vol.4, no.4, pp.8-12.
- Ross, Jacqueline, "News from UW-Platteville," vol.4, no.4, pp.15-16.
- Schauer, Ruth, "News from UW-Whitewater," vol.4, no.2, pp.13-14.
- Searing, Susan, "From the Editors: [Introducing Susan Searing, new Women's Studies Librarian-at-Large]," vol.4, no.1, pp.3-4.
- Searing, Susan, "From the Editors [Report on a study of women's studies acquisitions at UW-Whitewater]," vol.4, no.3, pp.3-5.
- Searing, Susan, "From the Editors [Report on progress towards the creation of a data base in women's studies]," vol.4, no.4, pp.3-5.
- Searing, Susan, "New Reference Works in Women's Studies," vol.4, no.1, pp.20-23; vol.4, no.2, pp.20-23; vol.4, no.3, pp.26-29; vol.4, no.4, pp.21-26.
- Searing, Susan, "Women's Periodicals and Newspapers from the 18th Century to 1981: A Union List of the Holdings of Madison, Wisconsin, Libraries, ed. by James P. Danky: Book Review," vol.4, no.2, pp.4-6.
- Searing, Susan, and Cathy Loeb, "From the Editors [What's new with New Books on Women & Feminism]," vol.4, no.2, pp.3-4.
- Shult, Linda, "Bread and Roses: Feminist Publishing," vol.4, no.3, pp.14-16.
- "Socialist and Radical Literature: The Leon Kramer Collection: Special Collections," by Marian A. Gould, vol.4, no.3, pp.16-18.
- "Third World Women's Archives: Archives," by Sonia E. Alvarez, Mirtha N. Quintanales, and Barbara Smith, vol.4, no.1, pp.7-9.
- "Update: Women in Print," by Cathy Loeb, vol.4, no.4, pp.12-15.
- Vedder-Shults, Nancy, "'I Am Woman': Recent Reference Resources About Women in Music: Book Review," vol.4, no.2, pp.29-31.
- Wachtel, Eleanor, "Women in Print: Canada: Part I," vol.4, no.2, pp.9-13.
- Wachtel, Eleanor, "Women in Print: Canada: Part II," vol.4, no.3, pp.10-12.
- "Why Feminist Printers?" by Jean Engle, vol.4, no.3, pp.5-9.
- Wieser, Barb, "Women's Printshops and Typesetting [List]," vol.4, no.3, p.9.
- "Wisconsin Bibliographies in Women's Studies," vol.4, no.2, p.20; vol.4, no.4, p.21.
- "Women as Reformers and Radicals in the United States: Book Review," by Barbara Melosh, vol.4, no.3, pp.34-37.
- "Women in Print: Canada: Part I," by Eleanor Wachtel, vol.4, no.2, pp.9-13.
- "Women in Print: Canada: Part II," by Eleanor Wachtel, vol.4, no.3, pp.10-12.
- "Women's History Resources at the State Historical Society of Wisconsin: The Anne Braden Papers: Archives," by Sarah Cooper, vol.4, no.1, pp.9-11.
- "Women's Periodicals and Newspapers from the 18th Century to 1981: A Union List of the Holdings of Madison, Wisconsin, Libraries, ed. by James P. Danky: Book Review," by Susan Searing, vol.4, no.2, pp.4-6.
- "Women's Printshops and Typesetting [List]," by Barb Wieser, vol.4, no.3, p.9.
- "Women's Studies and Strategies Against Violence: Recent Works on Women's Self-Defense: Book Review," by Barbara Correll, vol.4, no.3, pp.30-34.
- "Women's Studies in Wisconsin: Second Edition," vol.4, no.1, p.14.
- "Women's Studies Union List," vol.4, no.2, pp.14-15.
- "Writings by Women in the American Geographical Society Collection, UW-Milwaukee: Archives," by Howard Deller, vol.4, no.1, pp.11-13.
- Yeatman, Joan Ray, "The Mystery Women: Classic Murder Mysteries by Women Writers: Book Review," vol.4, no.3, pp.38-40.