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Governor's group studies

Women's rights in Nebraska

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Nebraska women are not marching to the capitol wearing aprons and chains and hoisting signs demanding better jobs for women, but there are some concerned females in this state.

The Governor's Commission on the Status of Women prefers a "more feminine" approach. The 36-member group is attempting to upgrade the status of women by studying the legal problems that confront women and by providing statistical data to legislators and voters.

Miss Helen Snyder, associate dean of student affairs and a commission member, explained that the commission is not a "suffragette movement. We're merely trying to correct some of the gross inequalities that exist," she said.

Janet Maxwell, a University junior and an appointee to the commission, said, "When I was first appointed, I was a little leary. I thought this might be just another women's club," she said.

However, her opinion has changed and she described the commission members as "very special people." Most are highly educated and have achieved a high status," she said.

Miss Maxwell said that

University women "are not particularly discriminated against, especially now that the big suppression — hours — no longer exists."

"However, I can't speak for prejudices against women in

the areas of University scholarships or job opportunities," she added.

Miss Snyder pointed out that the Unicameral "finally passed an equal pay law for women during its last session." Pro-

ective laws for women were also repealed, she said, so that women now may work overtime for time-and-a-half wages.

Commission members frequently lobby in the Legislature, Miss Snyder noted. The organization is now campaigning to change a state inheritance law which forbids a wife to inherit over 50 per cent of her husband's estate if there is no will.

Employers are often prejudiced against hiring women "because they feel the women will only be there a short time, and they don't want to invest time and money in training them," she said.

"The facts don't bear that out," Miss Snyder contended, "because they may leave for a while for child rearing, but most women return to the labor force."

"Men also leave their jobs and move to higher positions," she said. "Yet this does not prevent them from being hired."

Ninety per cent of the women will work some time in their adult lives, Miss Snyder said.

Most men favor extending

equal rights and opportunities to women, Miss Snyder said. Even though their hiring procedures don't always attest to this fact.

Men realize that President John F. Kennedy was right when he started the national commission in 1960, she said, because he realized that "the expanding manpower needs of our society can't be met without utilizing trained women power."

Miss Snyder agreed that many men, however, complain that women want the rights of men, but not the responsibilities.

"This is confusing," she said, "but we're not necessarily trying to reverse the sex roles. Just because a man is going to help a woman with her coat is no reason she shouldn't get the same pay that he gets for the same work."

Miss Snyder, however, said she is not completely adverse to having women assume some of the "usually masculine" responsibilities, such as serving in the military.

"Perhaps we should have a year of military service for men and women," she said.



Intramural contest postponed

An intramural basketball game between Theta Xi and Ag Men fraternity teams was postponed indefinitely Wednesday evening when about 35 black young people refused to leave the court where the contest was to be held.

The game has not been rescheduled, according to intramural officials. It was to have been played at 6:30 p.m. on the Coliseum varsity court.

Originally the team from Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity was to have opposed the Theta Xi team, since the Kappa Alpha Psi team defeated the Ag Men Tuesday evening.

However the Ag Men were declared the winner of that game by forfeit, according to intramural officials. The game was forfeited because the Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity, an all-black organization, allegedly used an ineligible player, intramural officials said.

A hearing on the matter is scheduled for Thursday afternoon.

Child needs surveyed

A survey to determine the need for a University child day care center will be conducted in the Nebraska Union Friday and Monday through Wednesday of next week.

"We need as many married students as possible to drop by the booth and fill out the survey form," Kari Ronning, the survey's organizer said.

She explained that there are currently no facts concerning how many of the University's married students have children and might benefit by a day care center.

Interested students should go to the survey booth in the Union one of the days listed.

New 'moratorium' is organizing

Students who want "a fairly radical change" in the University of Nebraska moratorium efforts will hold an organizational meeting Thursday evening at 7:30 at United Missionaries in Higher Education.

"The anti-war and anti-draft movements must change," said Rich Ronning, an NU student and one of the organizers of the new group. "We will discuss civil disobedience and other forms of protest that have not been used at the University."

Ronning emphasized that he does not oppose the efforts of the present moratorium committee, he just wants tactics to change.

"The efforts up to now have been ineffective," he said. "We have a feeling of frustration."

HE SAID that individual students ought to have more of a voice in the decisions protest. The Moratorium should be less structured.

"There are some students who feel that a sit-in at a draft board, for instance, might be a more effective form of protest," Ronning said.

Ronning said he had no idea of how many other students share his feelings. He expressed hope that the new group will be able to work in conjunction with the present Moratorium committee.

"The Moratorium effort has been valuable," he said. "Before, protest movements had been isolated and fragmented." But now, I think we're ready for something else."

New efforts are needed to keep the Vietnam War from sinking into the background, Ronning said. The anti-war feeling has seemed to shift to the war against pollution.