

Wife-power moves into job market

by Lynn Young
Newsweek Feature Service

NEW YORK—One of the world's greatest untapped natural resources is skilled wife-power. But with rare exceptions both employers and employment agencies are failing to mine this mother-lode of talent and ability.

"They stay home whenever Junior gets the sniffles," says one employer.

"They're used to giving orders, not taking them," says another.

"They get pregnant and quit," says a third.

THAT'S NOT THE way things look around Newtime, Inc., a pioneering New York City employment agency which specializes in finding the right job (managerial or

technically skilled) with the right hours (usually 9:30 to 3:15) for the right woman (in most cases married with school-age children).

"These women really want to work," says Newtime co-founder Ina Torton. "They don't want to be strictly housewives and they're dying for the kind of a job that will make their lives more interesting."

A few employers are beginning to get the idea. David Hood, personnel director of the J. Walter Thompson Co. ad agency, regards this type of employe as "more mature and emotionally more stable" than most. "Their lives are more set and the chances are they will stay longer with the same firm."

NEWTIME MAKES a firm point that the women they

sent out for jobs are not "part-time" employes with all the built-in derogation that particular term implies. Nor is the agency interested in placing its clients in secretarial positions. The only difference between its people and regular employes is that they work a five-hour day (with only 45 minutes off for lunch) instead of a seven-hour day.

This arrangement, of course, represents a savings (usually about 30 per cent) in salaries, which management is bound to consider attractive. Indeed, the agency finds its clients generally more interested in fulfillment than in wages.

"The last thing these women ask us is how much they'll make," says Mrs. Torton. "This is a shame because they've come to believe their abilities aren't worth very much on the job market."

MOST OF THOSE who turn up at Newtime married long before they had a chance to make significant progress in careers of their own. But the agency believes that many—by virtue of the experience gained while they were out of the job market—have actually improved their qualifications.

"A woman may have run her local PTA, performed executive functions in a dozen different groups, organized an entire community," says Mrs. Torton. "And yet, when you ask her, she'll say she has no experience."

Both Mrs. Torton, 35, and Joan Baeder, 28, were veteran employment-agency placement officers—and mothers as well—when they founded Newtime last year. In fact, Mrs. Torton herself was a part-time worker with a husband and three children to take care of at home.

"There was tremendous pressure at the office," says

Mrs. Torton. "People used to look at me when I went home early as if I were getting away with something. But I was like most mothers. At 4 o'clock, my mind began to wander back home and I started to worry about whether the kids had gotten home from school safely."

SOME OF THE women who telephone Newtime wonder whether the service has some part in the women's liberation movement. Usually they ask the question in a way that shows they do not understand what either the movement or

the agency is all about.

"We are part of liberating women, but neither of us belongs to women's lib," says Mrs. Baeder. "But we do think it's terribly liberating to go to work—and that ultimately it will help out a marriage, not break it up."

The husbands of the two founders of Newtime do not share the qualms of some of the agency's callers. One of them thinks the idea of women working five hours a day is "beautiful." The other gleefully adds: "In a few years, they're going to support us all."

Bryn Mawr offers trips to Spain, France

Bryn Mawr College is sponsoring two summer programs abroad, one in Spain and the other in southern France.

The programs, offering intensive work in significant aspects of the culture of each country, begin in mid-June and will continue for six weeks.

The Institut d'Etudes Francaises in Avignon is now in its eleventh year. The program is designed primarily for those who expect to engage in professional careers requiring a knowledge of France and French living.

The Spanish program, the Centro de Estudios Hispánicos in Madrid, is now in its seventh year. It integrates academic study and immediate experience through a

combination of course work, study excursions, tutorials, independent work and family living.

Classroom work is supplemented with lectures given by scholars in art, literature, history and the social sciences. At the end of the six weeks there is a period of free travel when students may arrange practical projects in their own fields, particularly in art and archaeology.

A limited number of scholarships are available for both programs. For information regarding admission, write to the Director of the Centro or the Director of the Institut at Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, 19010.

NU offers social law course

An interim session course in law and social welfare will be offered on both the Lincoln and Omaha campuses of the University of Nebraska Jan. 3-14.

The purpose of the course is to help social workers relate more closely to the law.

Dr. Daniel Katkin, from New York's State University at Buffalo, will conduct the course. Katkin is trained in both law and criminology with

a B.A. with honors in psychology in 1965 from the City College of New York, a J. D. degree in 1968 from Columbia University and a Diploma in Criminology in 1969 from Cambridge University in England.

Registration for the course is due Dec. 15 through the University of Nebraska Extension Division, 511 Nebraska Hall.

Activities . . .

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follow a review and recommendations by CSL.

Although he agreed that part-time students should be allowed to participate in extra-curricular activities, Magrath said, "I do, however, have a reservation regarding the participation of part-time students in government functions."

The CSL motion allows each organization within the University to set its standards for participation except for limitations based on race, creed or national origin.

CSL . . .

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have a hearing before the Student Tribunal.

At a preliminary interview with Student Affairs, the student, if he admits to misconduct, has the choice of allowing Student Affairs to determine any sanction or asking the Student Tribunal to recommend a sanction.

Although it has been the practice to inform students of their right not to answer any questions at the interview, Gierham said the policy isn't written down. The report provides that the student must be informed of his rights.

Lincoln symphony 'thrives' in cultural capital

by Linda Larson

The word "thriving" best describes the Lincoln Symphony Orchestra, Louis Babst, business manager, said Thursday in an interview.

"The cultural climate in Lincoln is good," he said. "We have managed to keep our feet on the ground, our bills paid and we're now in our 46th consecutive season."

Babst said this was many more consecutive seasons than most orchestras could claim.

The typical audience for the Lincoln orchestra is conservative and goes for standard music, Babst said.

"We do play contemporary music, but so far we haven't gone into rock," he added.

This hasn't kept the young away from the orchestra's concerts, according to Babst. All tickets for the last University of Nebraska concert were sold out.

"You would be surprised at the number of young people who realize the value of good music," Babst said. "Young people are alert and well-trained. They really know the score."

The youth appeal of orchestras has been increasing in the last few years and one can see why if he looks at the schools, according to Babst.

The University of Nebraska has an excellent music school and good professors, he said. This greatly affects the desires and tastes of the students,

Babst said.

"When you think of Lincoln you have to think of the perimeter," he said. "Interest from many schools is growing."

Nebraska Wesleyan has a new music school and is upgrading its staff of musicians, according to Babst. He also mentioned Doane College in Crete and Concordia in Seward as having excellent music departments.

"There are 85 organ students at Concordia this year," he said. "That's really amazing."

"Music activities in the public schools have also had a great effect on young peoples' interest in good music."

Babst said the Lincoln Symphony Orchestra members were of high caliber and that many are from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

"We have 80 members compared to 90 members in the Omaha orchestra," he said. There isn't much difference, even though the Lincoln area has about 150,000 people while the Omaha area has 400,000, Babst added.

"Omaha uses 20 of our first-chair men (regular players) while we get only two from them," he said. "This is the first year we have been classed as an urban orchestra."

The Lincoln orchestra has many visiting artists, according to Babst.

"We try to get them on their way up," he said. "We

couldn't afford many of those who come here if we had waited a few years. The number of guest artists coming to Lincoln will compare with any city in the United States."

Babst said the orchestra was financed primarily through ticket sales and patron donations. A small amount of federal help with children's concerts is received through the Nebraska Arts Council, he said.

The orchestra gives five children's concerts a year, according to Babst. Two of these cost the children 50 cents while the other three are free to elementary school children. These concerts are funded through the Musicians Recording Trust Fund.

"Everytime you buy a record, two cents goes into this trust fund," he said. "The fund is federally supervised and the money is given back to locals

all over the United States based on their membership.

"We can only spend this money for salaries for our musicians," he added.

Babst said the musicians have their own personnel board which holds tryouts to decide who will play. The Symphony Association selects the artists and has control over who the conductor is but some agreement with the musicians must be reached, he said.

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