

Women left high, dry from their year—Greer

By Ann Owens

Women are left high and dry as a result of International Women's Year, according to Germaine Greer, feminist author of the *Female Eunuch*.

Greer spoke to a crowd of about 500 Tuesday night in the Nebraska Union Centennial Room on the United Nations sponsored International Women's Year.

According to Greer, International Women's Year had problems from the beginning. She said that ideas were ratified slowly, the United Nations 1975 budget neglected to include International Women's Year and that even though they didn't plan it, women would be blamed for any failures that might take place.

Mexico conference

Greer said that a 10-day conference in Mexico City beginning on Women's Day March 8 proved to be disastrous. "Each speaker had the same aim," Greer said. "They claimed that women in their country had all the opportunities in the world and all that was needed for universal justice was the elimination of poverty."

The conference's purpose was to allow women from all over the world to speak with one another in first person and to share and discuss cultural differences, Greer said.

"But the entire 10 days were spent discussing new world economic order," Greer said. "We were discussing the possibilities of forcing the 'have' nations to share their Cross National Products with the 'have nots' when we could have been promoting universal understanding between women."

The International Women's Day conference was an opportunity for women of more than one culture to get together and swap notes, Greer said.

Delegates chosen

However, she said, delegates to the conference were chosen in due regard to color, age, style and politics.

"The only point we didn't disagree on was the fact that we were women," Greer said. "But if we would have been there much longer I'm sure we would have been debating that as well."

Greer added that the delegates from East Africa sat with their hands folded and meekly discussed the dilemma of marriage versus career.

"The problem is that most of the women in the world haven't got a kitchen to get out of," Greer said. "They have to learn from us that the kitchen can become a prison."



Photo by Kevin Higley

Germaine Greer

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Consumer advocate to visit

The state's Sunshine Initiative officially started Monday, and will attract national Common Cause founder John Gardner to Lincoln to speak on its behalf Thursday.

Gov. J. James Exon started the drive when he signed petition 00001 of the Nebraska Political Reform Act of 1976.

If at least 31,590 signatures are obtained, the reform act will be put on the 1976 Nebraska ballot.

The act, supported by the Coalition for Open Government, would require lobbyists to more fully disclose their legislative interests and candidates to disclose campaign financing contributions and expenditures.

It also limits contributions to campaigns for specific public offices and would make certain public officials and candidates report income and debts greater than \$1,000, and would establish a Fair Political Practices Commission.

Gardner will speak at a press conference at 11 a.m. at the Hilton Hotel, with a public luncheon at noon. He will speak at the Joslyn Art Museum in Omaha Thursday evening.

Reservations for the luncheon may be made through 11 a.m. today, by calling the Rev. Larry Doerr at 432-6561.

Old Federal Bldg.

City Council OKs lease

By Betsy Ammons

Rent will be \$1 a year for some Lincoln city offices, as a result of the City Council's unanimous decision Monday to lease the old Federal Bldg. at 10th and P streets.

The city will occupy the first two floors in cooperation with the Civic Center Corporation, a nonprofit organization created to purchase the building. The Mutual Development Company, Inc., the building's current owner, has set the cost at \$695,000.

Building plans include development of a Fine Arts Center, according to Jack Thompson, chairman of the Civic Center Corporation, who appeared at the Council's hearing.

The center would include a 2,400-seat theater and other performing arts facilities for use by Lincoln and UNL, Thompson said. He said Lincoln architect Larry Enersen has drawn up tentative sketches of the center.

UNL would make substantial use of the building, including use of the stage for rehearsals and performances, and housing for Theater Arts Dept. offices, according to Thompson.

The Woods Charitable Fund, Inc. of Chicago has offered \$595,000 toward the purchase of the building. The University

of Nebraska Foundation will provide the remaining money with a contribution from the Cooper Foundation, designated for use in the purchase of real estate.

Thompson said if the Center was not under construction at the end of the three-year lease period, the city would have the option of buying the building at the original cost. If the city declines, the Civic Center Corporation has the right to sell the property to the highest bidder.

Councilman Bob Sikyta questioned whether the city would have to pay for conversion from steam heating to another heating method in the building, stating that the Lincoln Electric System plans to discontinue steam heat service in 1977.

Thompson said the city would have to pay for the change, but it would "be in lieu of higher rent." City Property Manager Dennis Fettinger said conversion would cost \$37,000.

Fettinger also said maintenance costs for the building would be \$67,651 a year, including utilities and janitorial salaries.

Thompson said the next step after the city's approval will be "more extensive planning" by Lincoln and UNL. He said NU President D.B. Varner is "very interested" in the project and is a member of the Civic Center Corporation.

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Weather

Wednesday: Sunny and warm. High temperatures in the low to mid-70s. West to southwest winds ranging from 10-15 m.p.h.

Wednesday night: Fair and cooler. Lows in the mid-40s.

Thursday: Mostly sunny and a little warmer. Temperatures in the mid- to upper 70s.

Legislature considers limiting budget cuts

By Theresa Forsman and Dick Pierson

After the Legislature voted Monday to reject the Appropriations Committee recommendation to scrap Gov. J. James Exon's 3 per cent budget cut for state agencies (LB6), Tuesday amendments designed to exempt certain agencies, including NU, from the budget cut were introduced.

Exon called the Legislature into special session last month to deal with a cash flow problem expected in January. This means the state would not have enough money in its treasury to pay state bills as they come due.

Bellwood Sen. Loran Schmit introduced an amendment that would exempt 18 agencies from the cut, including the Departments of Agriculture, Revenue, Administrative Services and Economic Development; Offices of the Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Auditor and Treasurer; the State Claims Board and Board of Agriculture; the State Library and ETV Commissions; Workmen's Compensation Court, State Patrol, University of Nebraska central administration and the three

university campuses.

Schmit said these agencies should be excluded from the proposed cut because, according to their testimony before the appropriations committee last week, they indicated they could not live with the cut or that the cut would impair services.

The senators then voted to include other agencies in Schmit's amendment.

Freeing these agencies from the budget cuts would reduce the amount Exon expected the save from across-the-board cuts from \$10.6 million to \$6.8 million.

However, an additional \$5.7 million will be added to the general fund under Utica Sen. Douglas Bereuter's amendment to LB6, which the Unicameral adopted Monday.

The Bereuter amendment would take \$5.7 million in idle funds from the capitol construction budget.

Legislators are expected to introduce amendments today exempting several more agencies from budget cuts.

The Appropriations committee Monday approved amendments sponsored by Sen.

Robert Clark to Exon's LB3. It now stipulates that the total \$105 million dispersed during the rest of fiscal year 1975-76 be divided into 7 equal payments with exceptions for Omaha and Douglas County, since these two political subdivisions were said to have cash-flow problems of their own under the revised bill.

Exon's version of the bill left payouts to political subdivisions on the bottom of a priority list. The \$47 million due to political subdivisions in January would have created an \$11 million shortage in the state's general fund.

Tuesday, the Legislature voted to amend LB4, which was advanced to the floor in its original form.

As amended, LB4 provides that a 3 per cent overlevy cushion, instead of Exon's proposed 5 per cent, must be included in the state's expenses and the Board of Equalization must include express obligations when determining tax rates. Express obligations are state financial commitments that continue beyond a given fiscal year.



Photo by Ted Kirk

State Sen. Richard Marvel