

Sponsored by Association of Collegiate Women

October 20, 1970

ANNIVERSARY YEAR FOR ADMISSION OF WOMEN AT MSU

1970 represents the centennial of women at MSU. Quoting from Michigan State--The First 100 Years by Madison Kuhn, ". . . Ten coeds were admitted in March 1870 placing the college among the American pioneers in coeducation In that first year the coeds enrolled in regular freshman courses--algebra, geometry, trigonometry, surveying, history, geology and bookkeeping--and omitted only the lectures in practical agriculture." Home Economics gradually became a larger part of the women's curriculum. By the end of the next twenty years, Home Economics occupied one fourth of the women's studies. Teaching was included when "Dean Gilchrist introduced the history of education as a senior elective in 1902 and history professor E.H. Ryder offered in 1906 a three-term sequence in pedagogy which entitled the graduate to a state certificate."

Jonathan L. Snyder, an early President of MSU, said, "Nothing in connection with the College brings up more perplexing problems, and those continually, than the presence of women at this College."

Be on the lookout for the ACM (formerly AMS) Women's Week, to be held January 18-23. The week's activities represent the end of the centennial celebration. More information will be published, as plans are finalized concerning the agenda for the week.

PROGRESS FOR WOMEN?

We hope. The so-called "Women's Equal Rights Amendment" made progress during the summer, when our Michigan Democratic Woman Representative got the bill reported out of the House and passed by a nearly unanimous vote. This occurred on August 10 --in time to give something current to celebrate on August 26, the golden anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment, which allowed women to vote.

ROLE OF WOMEN FEATURED IN MSU COURSE

The University College course, "Great Issues" (UC 499), is presenting "The Role of Women in Society" as its topic matter this term. The course coordinator is Dr. Lawrence Krupka. As with the other "Great Issues" courses, the lectures are handled primarily by guest lecturers. Some of the lecture topics, as listed in the course syllabus, are: "Psychosexual Role of Women" (Dr. Andrew H. Barclay); "Stereotypic Roles of Women as Portrayed in the Mass Media (or How True Confessions Looks at Ladies)" (Judy Krupka); "Family and Marriage: End of the Myth" (Carol Rich Andreas); "The Women's Liberation Movement: What It's Really About" (Elizabeth Bowen Santos). There are twenty-two different lecturers involved with the course in all.

Watch TV-6 this Sunday, October 25, 5:30 pm. Dr. Laurine Fitzgerald will be one of a panel on "Formula," discussing Women's Liberation, its offshoots and their significance.

A NOTE ON TIME

The August 31, 1970, issue of Time magazine featured women, and the issue was primarily produced by the women staff members. On the front cover is a portrait of Kate Millett, author of Sexual Politics, which is available in the book stores here. From that same issue of Time, Gloria Steinem noted in her "Essay," "Women's Lib is not trying to destroy the American family. A look at the statistics on divorce--plus the way in which old people are farmed out with strangers and young people flee the home--shows the destruction that has already been done. Liberated women are just trying to point out the disaster, and build compassionate and practical alternatives from the ruins."

RECOMMENDED READING

Born Female, by Caroline Bird
Everyone was Brave, by William O'Neill
Woman's Place, by Cynthia Epstein

In future issues we plan to publish opinion papers dealing with the role of women in educational and social settings. If you are interested in contributing a paper, or would just like to make comments on the "MSU Woman," contact Liz Monroe at 155 Student Services Building, or call 355-8324. We also welcome any and all information concerning the activities of different women's groups on campus.