

on WOMEN WORKERS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

James P. Mitchell, Secretary

WOMEN'S BUREAU

Alice K. Leopold, Director



May 1959

Status of Women Conference Sponsored



Conference on the Status of Women Around the World in the auditorium of the Museum of Natural History. Taking part in the Conference on the Status of Women Around the World included (left to right) Mrs. Esther Peterson, Mrs. Tamar Shoham-Sharon, Dr. Eleanor F. Dolan, Begum Shireen Aziz Ahmed, Judge Nadine Lane Gallagher, Dr. Uldarica Manas, Miss Margaret Mealey, Miss Minerva Bernardino, Mrs. John F. Latimer, Miss Jeantine Hefting, Mrs. Chloethiel Woodward Smith, and Mrs. Lorena B. Hahn.

An opportunity to hear firsthand reports of the recent meeting of the United Nations Status of Women Commission was given at a conference on the Status of Women Around the World, held March 30 in the Auditorium of the Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C.

Six members of the Commission and one member of the U.N. Secretariat talked on subjects discussed at the recent Commission meeting and were interviewed by women from the United States active in work and service concerned with women.

Mrs. Lorena B. Hahn, the Delegate of the United States to the Commission, spoke on the background and organization of the Commission.

Others who took part were Miss Jeantine Hefting of the Netherlands, who spoke on Political Rights of Women; Miss Minerva Bernardino of the Dominican Republic, who spoke on the Status of Women in Private Law; Dr. Uldarica Manas, Cuba, on the Nationality of Married Women; Begum Shireen Aziz Ahmed, Pakistan, on Access of Women to Education; and Mrs. Tamar Shoham-Sharon, Israel, on Economic Opportunities for Women.

The Commission members were interviewed by Mrs. Chloethiel Woodward Smith, American Institute of Architects; Mrs. John F. Latimer, League of Women Voters of the U.S.A.;

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Help for Girls

Job Information Is Available

Overwhelming response to the publication of Future Jobs for High School Girls by the Women's Bureau made it necessary for the Government Printing Office to place a new order for sales copies in less than 3 weeks after the initial release.

The booklet which gives a preview of job futures to teen-age girls is proving itself useful to high school girls, their parents, teachers, and counselors.

It clearly brings out that most girls work at paid jobs at some time during their lives, and good, basic information is provided in the job guide section. Qualifications needed are included, as well as nature of the work and opportunities for advancement in occupations which range from beauty operator to radio and television technician.

Jobs to which a high school diploma opens doors are described, as well as other occupations which need additional training and work experience for advancement.

Copies are available from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D.C., price 40 cents per copy.

Latest Figures on Women Workers

March winds blew a little better for women workers according to the statistics. In March, the number of women working was 21 million, over 400,000 more than in February. This figured about 440,000 above March 1958.

Accent on Youth

Young Americans--their education and opportunities--have been the prime concern of Mrs. Alice K. Leopold, Assistant to the Secretary of Labor, recently. Mrs. Leopold was the keynote speaker at the main banquet at the meeting of the Intercollegiate Association of Women Students at Arizona State University in April.

During a trip to Denver, she was interviewed by Aurora (suburb of Denver) high school students on a radio panel.

Mrs. Leopold was the speaker at the All Women's Day activities which took place at Purdue University in Lafayette, Indiana, in April. She spoke informally at the morning session, and was the after-dinner speaker in the evening.

Two Agencies Join to Survey Day Care

A questionnaire survey to measure the interest and activity of national voluntary and public organizations in stimulating community developments of day care services for children is now being conducted by the Women's Bureau and the Children's Bureau of Health, Education, and Welfare. Organizations which are participating include social, civic, religious, professional, business, and welfare groups.

Findings of the survey will be published later this year.

CUBAN WOMAN WRITES ABOUT THE AMERICAN WOMAN

Dr. Anita Arroyo, 1957 exchange grantee on the Women Community Leaders Program, has just had a book published about The North American Woman.

The activities of many famous women are described in Dr. Arroyo's well-illustrated book.

Aloha Hawaii!

The movies gave Americans a glamorized view of the balmy Hawaiian Islands with their surf riders, hula dancers, and easy living. But World War II and better transportation brought a more realistic and practical view--a view that recognizes the significance of an area that boasts a billion dollar a year economy.

This income is provided by Federal expenditures, by sugar and pineapple exportation, and by tourists, in that order.

An interesting fact about this group of Pacific Islands is that most of their growth in production, employment, and income has occurred within the last 90 years.

The population represents a blending of races and nationalities from many parts of the world.

ABOUT THE WOMEN

According to the census records of 1950, there were more than 50,000 women in Hawaii's labor force. This was somewhat more than a quarter of the entire labor force, as compared with continental United States where women comprise one-third of the labor force. Like us on the mainland, they are typists, salesladies, teachers, nurses, and waitresses. But Hawaii has women pineapple canners, dressmakers (almost a lost art in some localities), and sugar and pineapple farmers.

About 7 out of 10 of the semi-skilled workers in pineapple canneries are women, and more than 4 out of 10 of the skilled workers are women. Schools

SURVEY RESULTS TO BE RELEASED

The publication of First Jobs of College Women and its accompanying leaflet, From College to Work, will show the results of a new survey made by the Women's Bureau in cooperation with the National Vocational Guidance Association. It is expected to be released before the end of May.

This survey of June 1957 graduates reports activities, occupations, and starting salaries of college women.

When the bulletin and leaflet are released they will be available from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D.C. The bulletin will be priced at 35 cents per copy, and the leaflet will be 5 cents per copy.

HAWAII--Continued from Col. 1.

and other educational services employ most of the women, and many work in eating and drinking places, hospitals, and pineapple canning factories. Women are employed on sugar and coffee farms as well as pineapple farms.

The legal status of women in Hawaii compares favorably with that of women in some of the older states. More detailed information on this subject will be available in a bulletin on the Legal Status of Women in Hawaii in preparation by the Women's Bureau of the United States Department of Labor.

Of the small proportion of U. S. girls under 18 years of age who are not enrolled in school, more than one-third are engaged in clerical work.

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Dallas, Texas, has 14th Forum

The Business and Professional Women's Club of Dallas, Inc. sponsored an Earning Opportunities Forum for Mature Women, Saturday, May 2, in the Hotel Adolphus, Dallas, Texas. The Club was assisted by other civic organizations and the U.S. Department of Labor.

Mrs. Margaret W. Harlan, special consultant for Mrs. Alice K. Leopold, Assistant to the Secretary of Labor, spoke from the topic "The Nation's Interest in the Mature Worker." The all-day session included success stories and counseling. The speakers were employers interested in hiring mature workers, Employment Service representatives who gave the employment picture, and authorities who discussed attitudes and job applications.

STATUS OF WOMEN CONFERENCE

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Miss Margaret Mealey, National Council of Catholic Women; Judge Nadine Lane Gallagher, International Association of Women Lawyers; Dr. Eleanor F. Dolan, American Association of University Women; and Mrs. Esther Peterson, Industrial Union Department, AFL-CIO.

Mrs. S. Grinberg-Vinaver, Chief, Section of the Status of Women, United Nations Secretariat, summarized the meeting.

The conference was sponsored by the American Association for the United Nations in the Capital Area and the Women's Bureau of the United States Department of Labor. Mrs. Howard K. Hyde, President of the AAUN in the Capital Area, and Mrs. Alice K. Leopold, Assistant to the Secretary of Labor, presided.

MINIMUM-WAGE LAWS TRENDS ARE PUBLISHED

A total of 31 States, the District of Columbia, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico have minimum-wage laws now. Facts about these laws and a brief history of State minimum-wage legislation since 1912 are published in a report entitled State Minimum-Wage Laws and Orders, 1912-1958, released in April by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

State minimum-wage laws in effect supplement the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act, which applies to employees engaged in manufacturing and other types of interstate commerce. The importance of these laws lies in the fact that they can set a floor to wages in local establishments not covered by Federal legislation.

This recent publication is in three parts: Part I, Historical Development and Statutory Provisions (at 75 cents per copy) and Part II, Analysis of Rates and Coverage (at 60 cents per copy), Puerto Rico (20 cents). These may be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D.C.

TWO STATES PASS EQUAL-PAY LAWS

Ohio and Wyoming have joined the States with equal-pay laws. Ohio, with the most recent enactment, was the 19th State to pass equal-pay legislation.

Equal-pay bills have been introduced this year in Florida, Hawaii, Indiana, Maryland, Minnesota, and Wisconsin, and strengthening amendments in Illinois, Michigan, New York, and Pennsylvania.

Fifteen Federal equal-pay bills are pending in the 86th Congress, 14 in the House and 1 in the Senate. Hearings have not yet been scheduled.