

ture--images, thoughts, words are fragmented and isolated so that the effect of straining for release and expression is immanent. In another poem, "London II," the restrictive narrow-mindedness of London society which Emily found so stifling is portrayed in a rigid, chopped, linear verse form while the latter half of the poem depicts, with its sprawling, flowing stanza, the contrasting feeling of freedom and relief which she realizes in the Kew forests.

As the tone of the poems shifts from ironical to exultative, bitter, and finally mellifluous, the fluctuating highs and lows of Emily Carr's life are revealed. But this poetic voice is constantly one of a spirited woman committed to her art, whose determination is evoked in images as appropriately stark and direct as Carr's own:

and the dilettantes who anger all my
paintings
will see my own face
peering through the
leaves hostile wary
cunning as the raven
my beak ready to
tear out their
pastel coloured
minds.

The poetic qualities of Florence McNeil's verse--simplicity, directness, evocative imagery--and the authoritative voice in which the poems are written make this collection a most fitting tribute because these features are congruous with the life and work of Emily

Carr herself. Like Carr's landscapes, Emily is a distillation of the artist in another dimension. As the final poem in the book puts it:

You reflect me
there is some spirit here
and life

Melanie Murray
Fredericton, N.B.

Opportunity for Choice A GOAL FOR
WOMEN IN CANADA. Gail Cook (ed.).
Ottawa: Statistics Canada and the
C.D. Howe Institute, 1976. Pp. 217.

Although there is a great deal of published material available on various aspects of the women's movement and the status of women with respect to the economy, the polity, the society and culture we have need a book such as this one for a long time.

The editor has pulled together four excellent articles on the family, education, work and legal and policy matters around a theme presented initially in the first chapter and assessed in the final chapter. The model which Cook proposes she describes as a criterion by which we can evaluate the statistical data and also evaluate progress towards

equality. The criterion is "equal opportunity for choice for women and men in Canada, a condition that would be met if the whole range of advantages and disadvantages or costs and benefits of particular choices were unrelated to one's sex." (p. 2) The goal which she proposes is "to expand the range of effective choices available to Canadians so that the costs and benefits associated with particular choices are not dependent upon one's sex."

Such considerations are developed in each of the subsequent chapters in terms of the existing models and literature and new or re-analyzed data. One cannot describe either the model or the subsequent essays as radical ones. Those looking for a book in what has become the feminist tradition of advocacy will not find it in these essays. Those looking for a discussion of patriarchy or the murkier depths of historical, biological and anthropological writings on women will be disappointed. But all readers will find here fuel for the fires of liberation. The data, presented in the best professional academic tones of social scientists, show a damning picture of inequities between the sexes in our society in all the major routes toward achievement.

The essays in Opportunity for Choice are all developed from special materials prepared from the 1971 and previous Canadian censuses. This gives the vol-

ume a useful empirical grounding with charts and tables of use in elucidating the materials for the non-technical reader as well as for the student of women's studies.

The book is also useful reading for the skeptic or the person who is offended by the more parti pris material on the status of women. As such it makes an excellent text, providing sources for students carrying out statistical research and data to assist those developing more theoretical positions in stratification, labour force, occupational and education studies. For those interested in social policies, chapter five entitled "Policies Affecting Work" by Mary Eberts and Gail Cook details the issues of housework, property and support, child care, equal pay, opportunity and enforcement.

But Opportunity for Choice is more than a text. It is an important document in the women's movement, a benchmark against which we will be able to measure two sorts of change in the next few years. First, we will be able to see how the figures have changed in the 1970's when the 1981 data are compared to those found in this volume. Better than in the past, we will be able to decide the way in which those data should be organized and presented in order to adequately describe the situation of women. Second, a re-reading of this volume in the years to come will show us not only how we have changed in terms of the current direction of

labour force participation, education and family structure but how the directions of change are reflected in new normative and moral orders guiding work, family and leisure in life; how the Canadian economy and occupational structure have been altered through the progress of industrialization in an age of resource constraints; how the law and the regulations implementing the law change as more women are in the decision making positions and in political action in the community.

Opportunity for Choice should be read now for the knowledge and understanding it offers of our situation in this country but it should be re-read frequently for the reflections of social change it will offer.

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