

# Around the Around

## Economics Pressure Stay Home Tradition

By Joan M. Smith

A statement by the President's mother, Mrs. Lillian Carter, recently reported in the local press, prompted this week's Equal Time question. In Paris, Miss Lillian told participants in an international conference on the employment of women that wives should not work. "Being a wife," she declared, "is a full-time job."

Today's economic situation alone destroys the theory that "a woman's place is in the home." As one Nazareth student stated, "Times have changed." Staying home after marriage, whether because of traditional views, or out of choice is a luxury American women (at least from the poor and middle classes) can no longer afford. As the economy deteriorates and financial forecasts become grimmer (economists predict a 15 per cent price increase in just food), it has become necessary to have more than one wage-earner in a household for the family to financially survive.

Although the students emphasized the economic factor, they also noted self-fulfillment and the importance of having the choice of staying at home or working as motivations for working wives. Economists and sociologists, however, maintain that added income is the primary reason for women working outside of the home. In a U.S. News and World Report (Nov. 1978), an article on why wives work, Professor

Colien Hefferan, assistant professor of Behavioral Economics at Penn State University, indicated that the major reason for wives working was to generate more income. In a March 1978 issue of "Women and Work," published by the League of Women Voters, it was noted that the reasons that American wives work are the same as the American male works — to support them-

selves and their family. Inflation climbed steadily in the last decade and so did the number of wives in the work force. Between 1970-78 their numbers increased by 24 per cent. According to the 1970 edition of "The Statistical Abstract of the U.S.," published by the Department of Commerce, there were 8 million married women working in 1950. By 1969 this number had increased to 17

million and is continuing to spiral upwards.

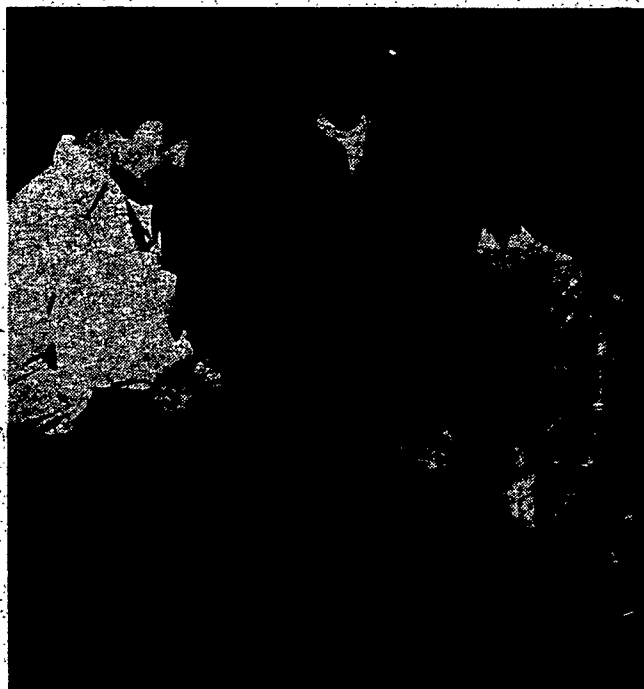
Economics is changing lifestyles and today's young women realize this fact and are adapting to the situation. They advise their female peers, that while in school they prepare academically and technologically for a much longer stint in the labor force than spent by their grandmothers and mothers.

### Drama Returns

The Aquinas Drama Club will present Edgar Lee Master's "Spoon River Anthology" this Friday and Saturday, April 25, 26, in the school auditorium. Tickets are \$2. This version of the production was adopted and arranged by Charles Aidman and the Aquinas presentation is being directed by Father Joseph Moffatt, principal. Front row performers include: Mary Beth Stone, Mark Kershner; back row, Mike Braggiotti and Vladimir Stefanovic.

### On The Go

- AQUINAS**  
Friday, April 25 — "Spoon River" presentation, 8 p.m.  
Saturday, April 26 — "Spoon River" presentation, 8 p.m.
- BISHOP KEARNEY**  
Thursday, April 24 — Sophomore PAX Day, period 1, B221; "Pippin," 8 p.m.  
April 25-26 — "Pippin," 8 p.m.  
April 27 — "Pippin," 2 and 8 p.m. performances.
- CARDINAL MOONEY**  
Friday, April 25 — Upperclassman party featuring Brainberry Jam and Monarc, admission \$1.50, 8-11 p.m.  
Saturday, April 26 — Women's Guild Spring Dance.
- McQUAID**  
Friday, April 25 — Report cards distributed; Mission Night.
- NAZARETH**  
Saturday, April 26 — Junior high forensic competition, auditorium.  
Tuesday, April 29 — Student Council rep meeting, rm. 317, 2:40-3:30 p.m.
- OUR LADY OF MERCY**  
Monday, April 28 — Reports mailed.
- ST. AGNES**  
Thursday, April 24 — Tour of Nazareth College.  
Friday, April 25 — Red Cross blood drive; WTNT talent show assembly, 1:30 p.m.  
Saturday, April 26 — "600" Club dance.  
Monday, April 28 — Spanish III class visit Mexican restaurant.  
Tuesday, April 29 — Parent-teacher conferences.



### "Pippin" on BK Stage

Robert Nicosia, Mike Amory and Paul Accorso rehearsing for "Pippin," the spring musical to be presented April 24, 25, 26 at 8 p.m., and Sunday, April 27 at 2 and 8 p.m. Brother Mark Cavanaugh is both director and moderator for the production. Jim Young is working with the lead singers. "Pippin," a comedy about the son of Charlemagne, features contemporary music and jazz. The leads are double-casted and will sing in alternate performances. A few of the student leads include: Chris Stulpin and Bob as Pippin; Kelly Burke and Celeste Borton as Catherine. Tickets may be obtained by calling the school, 342-4000.

### The Way It Was April '75

Bishop Kearney student Douglas Morrow placed third in the Monroe County Bicentennial Commission's Drum Competition at Xerox Square.

The Aquinas Boosters saluted more than 100 of the school's athletes. Among them were: Scott Gosert, most valuable player on the hockey team; Leo Finucane, most valuable team member in track; Matt Casale, most improved player on the basketball court. The coaches award for sportsmanship went to Dave Lally.

McQuaid's Dan Hassett jumped 18 ft. 1 inch to win the long jump in the track and field competition against Brockport High.

Joe Tobin, Cardinal Mooney, in the Speaking Out column, focused on a problem that the world still faces today — hunger. He stated, "Whether it is domestic or abroad, the problem of hunger faces all of us as Christians. We must do our share to help."

## Equal Time

Once women marry should they work outside the home?

### NAZARETH

**BETSIE VARGO**  
Senior  
yearbook photographer

"Times are changing — we shouldn't feel obligated to have to stay home. Economics is an important factor in holding a marriage together, but boredom also plays a part in whether it's a happy marriage or not. It's tough raising children, especially not seeing them as much and because of that they need special attention when the parents are home. Both my parents worked and I don't think we turned out so bad. My parents made sure we had that extra attention and they understood us."



**GERRY COLEMAN**  
Freshman

"Yes, because a woman should get into the routine of working because she doesn't know when something will happen to the breadwinner. Our economic situation has become so that there will have to be two paychecks in a family and I think a woman should help to fulfill the family's dreams. Raising children can be handled well — both my parents worked and my sister and I got along fine. We understood when they had a rough day on the job — kids tend to become more understanding when they see both parents are sharing the financial burden."



**MICHELE GIARDINA**  
Senior

"I think women should have the choice of working. I think women these days want to work for their own satisfaction, but I think if a woman wants to stay home that's her choice. I think if both parents work together to raise the children the fact they both work shouldn't have a bad effect on the children."



**ANN BERRY**  
Senior  
Perosian Choir

"Yes. With the cost of living today if a woman can help the family's finances by working she should. The financial burden shouldn't all be put on the male's shoulders."



**MARY HUDSON**  
Senior

"I think if women want to work they should. Also it depends on how much the husband is earning — if he makes enough to support the family it would be all right for the wife to stay home, but if not she should work. Women should plan on being in the work force for a longer period of time because the way inflation is, one paycheck per family isn't enough."



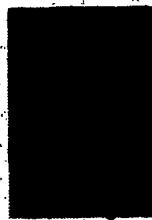
**SUE DeMATTEO**  
Senior

"Yes, I think it's only fair to the women to fulfill themselves. Being married shouldn't stop them from what they want. I think it's only fair that a woman can do what she wants — either stay home or go to work. If the family needs the money the woman should work but regardless she should have the choice."



**PAMELA NITZMAN**  
Freshman

"I think a woman should be able to work especially if she wants to help support the family. Women who work take the financial burden off the men and I think that's good. I think they can manage raising the children if they both work, especially if they share the duty of raising the kids. I would advise my classmates to train for the fact they are going to be in the work force longer than they were say 20 years ago."



**PATRICIA DIX**  
Senior

"I think a woman should work if she wants to. In a family it is important that the mother and father show the children that working for dreams and goals is shared by both — that the children know that either sex can work toward things. I think when both parents work it can have ill effects on raising children, but I hope a time will come that there will be a balance of sharing."

