

Careers for Women?

In a scholarly vein, a law student makes a thorough study of the issue. He reports what happened to an early career gal, Florence Nightingale; offers some suggestions for careers, and conducts a scientific survey.

By REFORD BOND III, '56



*"Career girls, when they're badly harried
Think perhaps they should have married;
Married girls, reduced to tears,
Regretfully regard careers."*

—ROD MacLEAN

CAREERS for women? An interesting question. Everyone has opinions about this topic, even men. Some say, "Good"; others say, "Bad." Still others say, "How's that?" I am one of those latter. On being pressed further, I usually inquire just what my opinion is require on.

Here are some of the interesting questions that I am asked. Are careers for women here to stay? Are they a bad influence on the young? Are career women better than career men? What do you mean, "better"? Why do you keep confusing the issue? What makes you so dense?

If we are to pursue this subject any deeper, we must look at some facts. First, just what types of careers are girls most interested in? A survey revealed these as the ten most popular careers.

TOP TEN CAREERS

2. Movie Star
3. Television Star
4. Stage Star
5. Plumber
6. Lady of Leisure
7. President of U.S.
8. Domestic Servant
9. Backstage Wife
10. Other types of Wife

Now, I won't say that the results of this survey are surprising. Far from it. We expected something of the sort. But we still have a tendency to wonder a little.

Another fact that we must consider is that women's prisons are filled with women. On the other hand, some of the finest, sweetest and most loving mothers have been women. Not to mention the heroines in western movies.

But when you stop and think, just what has happened to great career women? Take Florence Nightingale. What happened to her? She died. You just can't fight a fact like that.

Now, a lot of people will tell you that a woman's place is in the home. When some-

One Member of Senior Editorial Board of Sooner Magazine indicates possible stage career.

one tells me that, I always agree with him. I don't like to cause trouble. But it's asking a lot of a *chic* modern lady to stay home and get a headache because the dishwasher and the Bendix are vibrating out of phase. And how would any P-TA work get done?

Out at the Canadian Downs West Side Boys' Club the conversation often veers around to careers for women. The club sages pretty generally go for the whole idea, citing with great vehemence the cases of Lili Christine, G. Rose Lee and other famous career girls.

The crew at Canadian Downs are all agreed that the very best career for a woman is that of a dental hygienist. They are all extremely positive that this is so, no matter what viewpoint you look at it from. However, no one will say exactly why he holds that view. Maybe I missed an article in the *Reader's Digest*.

Personally, I think that necromancy might be a good career field for a bright, ambitious young lady. I heard the other day that a necromancer got five hundred dollars just for healing a wart on somebody's nose. There must be money in this field, so I would advise girls to seriously consider becoming a sorceress. For that matter, men might consider it too. A good, successful wizard is an asset to any community.

Apropos of nothing in particular, an anonymous wise guy in the Union suggests that the best career for a woman is Husbandry.

Over here at the Law School, the sentiment is vastly different. They accuse our lady law students of cramping professors' style—claim the pros have to edit the best jokes out of their lectures. And when a lady lawyer gets out in practice, well, how can you expect a jury to remain impartial after getting a whiff of counsel's perfume? The only solution is to get more women on juries—sort of a proposition of fighting fire with fire.

At a recent meeting of a law students' debating society, this question was the topic of discussion: "Resolved: When trying a case against a lady lawyer, it is better to be cowed than unhorsed." During the course of the heated debate, a solution was proposed. It was merely that the tried-and-true principles of attorneys' conduct should prevail. Although lawyers may fight it out tooth and toenail in the court, when the trial is over the lawyers forget their differences and harmony prevails within the profession. The lawyers are, so to speak, close to each other. Nothing like a lady lawyer for getting close to.

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CAMPUS SLANG

EVERY COLLEGE CAMPUS is a spawning ground for slang. College students seem to have an abhorrence of the trite and the complicated, so a new expression is born. It may remain from generation to generation, depending entirely on the aptness of the expression, regardless of how trite and complicated it may become, or it may die aborning. Here is a random collection of campus slang as practiced on the O.U. campus currently. Some of it has been practiced for many years. Some reflects the changing scene. If Webster wishes to reprint any or all, he may do so without permission.

Cribbies:	Memory aids used during an exam.
Snarf:	Professor who expects students to learn. Usually unpopular.
Snarfish, Snarfy:	Adjective derivatives of above.
Pop Quiz:	Unannounced examination. Given only by Snarfs.
K. O. M.:	Stands for Kiss on Mouth. May even sit.
Courting:	Extended session of K. O. M.
Sharp:	Smooth date.
Greasy:	Date who is too smooth. Uses "line."
Bird-dog:	Guy who gets "greasy" with another guy's date.
Clod:	Student without "polish." Usually freshman.
Coke date:	Afternoon tryout for possible blind date.
Animals:	Athletes.
Flick Out:	Go to the movies.
Square:	One who is an undesirable date.
Cube:	3-D "square."
Squirrel:	Synonym of "cube."
Pig:	Same as above, but applies specifically to girls.
Queen:	Opposite of above.
Clue Me In:	Explain the situation.
Scrounge:	As a noun—"He is a scrounge." (Looks mungey or has asked for loan.) As a verb—"Scrounge up a date." (Get one.) As an adjective—"You look scroungy." (Looks like the devil.)
The Campii:	Plural of "campus." The two words may be used interchangeably.
Bermuda Billy:	A knobby-kneed character who country clubs around the campii in bermuda shorts.
Loser:	Person with a shapeless personality.
Four-wheeled personality:	"Loser" with a car.
15 million people:	Any gathering of more than three.
Playing it Cool:	Being shrewd.
Having it Knocked:	Getting a good deal.
Pud course:	A course which you have "knocked." In other words, easy.
Nest, sack, bag, pad, rack:	Bed
Slob:	Girl-talk for an obnoxious date.
Goodies:	Food from home.
Shook:	Upset or confused.
Wheel:	Big Man on Campus. Usually senior.
Axle:	Younger "wheel." May be as low as a sophomore.
Shafter:	Given a dirty deal.
TV Timothy:	Person who gets his education from television exclusively. May spend up to 60 hours per week soaking up "education."
Odd-ball:	Unusual or unconventional.

The Parade of Opportunities . . .

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national defense, a great part of which is moving to the Southwest.

Just how much of this new industry will land within the confines of Oklahoma, will depend on men and women such as you and I, and just how well we can sell Oklahoma to Oklahomans—and especially to our own children.

I am particularly interested in Oklahoma. I was born, and have always lived at Duncan. I was the first Duncan boy to attend and graduate from Oklahoma Uni-

versity. I have seen Oklahoma develop from the wild Indian Territory days to its present high standard of culture. I have seen our University grow from about 500 to its present size. My daughter is a graduate of this University and my son is a senior here now. My business is in Oklahoma. My friends are here. My roots are deep in Oklahoma.

I wish all top students in the whole University could stay in Oklahoma. With our location, our resources, and opportunities, and our state manned with personnel such as you, we would be unbeatable. To have this come to pass would be the fulfillment of my fondest dream.

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The argument never was settled because some of the debaters had dates and left.

But most of the die-hard male law students are against ladies' donning the barrister's wig simply because they hate the thought of any kind of competition. They are against legal careers for women, men, boys, babes-in-arms and talking parrots. "The field is overcrowded! Tighten the standards!" they cry. "Don't let anybody in but *ME!*"

Outside the Law School, the general run of opinions roundabout seems to be against careers for women. Especially the opinions of career women. However, a lot of men say that a career woman is fine with them if 1) she makes a lot of money, and 2) she spends it on men.

I hope this article has cleared up all the questions in your mind about careers for women. But if it doesn't, I'd like to leave one thought with you. Let's face it. The ladies are here with us in careers. And they are here to stay. If you can't fight 'em, join 'em. Shall we join the ladies?

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