Newspapers

Disagrees With Most-Admired List

To the Editor:

It is refreshing that somebody has observed the short-sightedness in the establishment of the 10 most-admired women list. I refer to Clayton Fritchey's Jan. 13 column. Three or four of them are worthy of recognition but, with due respect, the others, most of them having personal appeal, are not outstanding for individual accomplishments.

Certainly the worst oversight on the part of those Americans polled was the omission of Mrs. Martin Luther King, who not only is attractive and maintained poise in the face of great tragedy (which seemed to be a basis for choices) but, as Mr. Fritchey stated, plays a leading role in humanitarian causes.

I think the average American is not aware of many of the accomplishments of the women artists, scientists and philanthropists Mr. Fritchey suggested that could have been on the list. Also at fault is the lack of enthusiasm for women who function as individuals and contribute in big ways to society . . . — Virginia Watkins, 1821 Eighty-second., Des Moines,



If Women Walked off Their Jobs . . .

To the Editor:

On behalf of Des Moines chapter of National Organization for Women, I would like to thank The Tribune for its editorial July 24, "Equal Jobs for Women." The Tribune did a service not only for employed women, but for employers as indeed many of them have employment practices that could cost them thousands of dollars in a law suit.

Women subsidize business, industry and government by 42 per cent every pay period of what is rightfully theirs. According to the Women's Department of the Bureau of Labor, the median wage for women in the U.S. is 58 per cent that of men for full-time work. This unjust figure is the result of not only unequal wage practices but more subtle devices such as qualified women being passed by for promotions.

Women do quit jobs to have babies or follow their husbands around the country but these problems are highly overrated and certainly not so disruptive as to justify that great a wage differential . . ,

What everyone who does not believe

in equal employment practices should remember is that women are 39 per cent of the work force that everyone in this country depends upon. Contemplate the chaotic situation that would arise if one day even just those married women and mothers, who employers claim are menace enough to deserve discrimination and society imposes guilt feelings upon, walked off their jobs en masse . . .

Changing life styles, such as smaller familles and the father assuming more domestic responsibility, make employment even more compatible with marriage and motherhood. Women in consciousness - raising groups such as ours are developing more positive attitudes toward ourselves as persons, our skills and our jobs. Also important is the need for change in our society's values from monetary profits at any cost to the values of the individual's creativity and fulfillment. - Virginia Watkins, president, Des Moines chapter, National Organization for Women, 1821 Eighty-second St., Des Moines 50322.

14A-lowa City Press-Citizen-Monday, September 13, 1971

Rights Leader: State One of Worst Discriminators Against Women

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP)— sion to work more with sex discrimination.

The executive secretary of the Iowa Civil Rights Commission, Alvin Hayes Jr., promises an examination of discrimination in state agencies, saying he feels the state is one of the feels the feels the feels the state is one of the feels the feels the state is one of the feels the

feels the state is one of the "worst discriminators against women."

Hayes explained that available funds do not permit the commission to investigate all sex discrimination complaints with sex discrimination complaints

When the women suggested from the top three scorers on a

representatives of 10 women's it receives.

obtain a woman to work in that organizations who urged the state legislature to provide more money to Hayes' commission.

"Somehow," Hayes said, "we obtain a woman to work in that field, but has been stymied by haven't been able to get a appropriation priorities, Virginia Watkins, president of the Commission. "Somehow," Hayes said, "we

25 state papers charged with sex bias in job ads

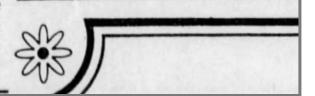
The St. Cloud Daily Times is among 25 Minnesota newspapers charged by the Twin Cities chapter of the National Organization for Women (NOW) with carrying discriminatory employment advertisements.

Complaints were filed Monday with the Minnesota Department of Human Rights.

Virginia Watkins, president of Twin Cities NOW, said the Supreme Court ruled on June 21 that is is unconstitutional to publish want ad columns and individual ads which distinguish between sexes.

Advertisers may do so, however, when the job is assigned to only one sex because of what is called a "bona fide occupational qualification."

Also included in the complaint was another paper operated by Times Publishing Co., the Little Falls Daily Transcript.





Star Photo by Steve Schluter WOMEN PROTEST BILL GOTHARD'S TEACHING ABOUT ROLE OF WOMEN Evon Bachaus, left, and Virginia Watkins chatted with seminar participants

Gothard's interpretation of Bible's passages on women brings out pickets

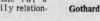
Five women who object to the way Bill Gothard interprets Bible references regarding women pick-eted the St. Paul Civic Center where he was repeating his seminar this week in "basic youth conflicts.

The women who included Evon Bachaus and Virginia Watkins, said they had polite talks with some they had polite talks with some of the seminar participants who

D M. Worship O rided W nmunion Z LET GOD" , speaking

disagreed with them. Ms. Bachaus, coordinator of the task force on women in religion of the Twin Cities

chapter of the Na-tional Organiza-tion for Women, and Ms. Washins, chapter president, said they find Gothard's empha-sis on a "chain of command" militaristic and inap-propriate for a family relation-



Also, they said, Gothard's emphasis on a woman's need to be under the "umbrella" of her father's or husband's authority to

qualify for God's protection is un-acceptable and contrary to the New Testament teachings on the grace and love of God.

Gothard, contacted later, said the seminar takes 32 hours and unless a person hears it all he or she "comes out with a distorted view of what we are really say-ing."

About 18,000 persons are attending the seminar in the center and in the Metropolitan Sports Arena, Bloomington, through closed-circuit television. And 5,000 more are seeing it in Tampa, where it is also being shown.

The seminar is the fifth Gothard has conducted in the Twin Cities since April 1973.

ERA backers plan Illinois trip

Between 200 and 300 Minnesotans are expected to travel to Springfield, Ill., this weekend to attend a national rally at the Illinois capitol to urge the state senate there to ratify the proposed equal rights amendment (ERA).

Police to burn 15 tons of marijuana

BAY ST. LOUIS, Miss. (A)—Law enforcement officers say they planned to burn 15 tons of marijuana, which was allegedly smuggled ashore from a Gulf of Mexico trawler.

Federal, state and local officers

Virginia Watkins, state coordinator of the Minnesota National Organiztion for Women, said yesterday that Illinois has become a national "focal point" because the state senate is expected to vote on ERA soon.

The Illinois House of Representatives already has passed ERA. "The rally is intended to demonstrate that there is a broad base of support for the ERA and that it is a national issue," Ms. Watkins said.

IN MINNESOTA, the rally has been endorsed by the Minnesota ERA Coalition, which represents 27 women's groups.

Groups organizing the trip to

Springfield are the Twin Cities and St. Paul National Organization for Women and the Twin Cities Coalition of Labor Union Women.

Persons who want to obtain a seat on a bus should call the League of Women Voters of Minnesota immediately, a NOW official said

Buses will leave from Coffman Union at the University of Minnesota at 8 p.m. Saturday and will return to Minnesota Sunday night.

NOW says that 34 states have ratified the ERA but four more must pass it for it to become part of the Constitution.

Newspapers™

Insights into male-female sex stereotyping

To the Editor: I read with interest in the You section the review of "Men — A Book for Women." If the book is everything the reviewer describes it as, it should be a wonderful revelation to women and men alike of the sex stereotyping men suffer.

alike of the sex stereotyping men suffer.
What pained me about the article is that the reviewer seemed to blame the feminist movement for perpetuating sex stereotyping of men. He referred to "alternating images of sex fiends and enslavers that have filled feminist tracts."

I think that feminists are less likely than non-feminists to have those attitudes. The National Organization for Women (which has men in its membership) had a Masculine Mystique Committee which was involved in much the same type of consciousness-raising which this book contains. We know that sexism is not something that women only are the victims of. It is a system of behaviors that persons of either sex might engage in which can be corrected with awareness of the consequences.

quences.

The feminist movement is concerned about the brutality a few men commit against women, such as rape, incest or sexual harassment. This should not be construed to mean that we generalize all men to be sex fiends. We are concerned that in many situations, jobs for example, men

tend to have power over women, rather than an even distribution of power. This is not to be construed that we view men as

I hope your readers will understand that the feminist movement opened not only the issue of female sex stereotyping, but the issue of male sex stereotyping as well. We want good relationships with men. We are all in this effort together.

—Virginia Watkins, Midwest Regional Director, National Organization for Women. Minnetonka.

NOW women's group boosts membership

SIOUX CITY (AP)

— The "threat" to women's issues embodied in the Moral Majority and the election of conservatives last fall has boosted membership in the National Organization for Women, a NOW regional director said Sunday.

NOW regional director is way. I think a lot of people feel the Moral

political package of what the Moral Major-ity is after is of con-cern to people," said what the Moral Major-ity is after is of con-cern to people," said Virginia Watkins, of Watkins told more Minneapolis, Minn. than 100 women from a

NOW Midwest regional director.

"I think they see their particular free-their particular free-them and opportunities being restrained, and certain things being imposed on people if the Moral Majority has its way. I think a lot of people feel the Moral Majority has the very sold proposed from the moral Majority is a threat to wo men's issues—to wo men's

ment.
"I think there's just

a feeling that we're living in a very diverse society." Walkins said if following the conference. "and that the s Moral Majority interest of how they would yilke to limit the way ax people live is just too knarrow to fit into the ng kind of world we live in the stressed in the stressed in the stressed in the society."

"I think there have the stressed in the stres

kind of world we live in today.

"I think there have been a lot of people who have joined NOW who in the past have kind of sat on the side-lines." she said. "They

as raising a lot of money."

In other action, the conference selected Barbara Hall of Bettendorf to serve as minority representative of the Midwest region to the NOW national board. Her appointment was in line with a recent change in the national by-laws to promote affirmative action and increased participation of minorities in NOW.

The conference also passed resolutions strengthening handicapped access to meetings and calling on Congress to eliminate inheritance taxes on inter-spousal transfers, the so-called "widow's tax."

the so-called "widow's tax."
The resolution specifically pointed out, however, that passage of such legislation should not be considered a substitute for the Equal Rights Amendment.

