

- In a series of three interviews, Judge Rosalie Silberman Abella describes the changes brought about by the new Family Law Reform Act.
- Allan Hanson, a nurse in Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children talks about being a male in an all-female profession.

These are but a few examples of the twenty-five interviews that comprise *Role Call*. In opting to focus on personal life stories the series hopes to feature some of the gains made by the Women's Movement. Gains that have come as a result of personal private efforts.

With more than half of the recommendations of the 1970 Royal Commission on the Status of Women still to be implemented, women may be little better off collectively than they were a decade ago. Political and social reform has moved at a snail's pace on most feminist platforms. In fact institutional reform is sadly lagging behind the reform that is taking place in our personal lives. And this is what *Role Call* hopes to demonstrate.

In a review of the series in the *Globe and Mail* Joanne Kates wrote: 'Television programming that puts the kiss of death on tradition is as scarce as hen's teeth. *Role Call* does it'.

These programs are available on videotape. For ordering and pricing information contact:

The Central Order Desk
OECA
P.O. Box 200
Station Q
Toronto, Ontario
M4T 2T1

Also available from the above address, a new Catalogue on Women's Studies. (This for Ontario only).

Role Call will be seen again on TVO in September. Please consult your listings.

Eight Women Photographers of British Columbia 1860-1978, Myrna Cobb and Sher Morgan; paper 97 pp. Available from: Barbara Latham, 1950 Lansdowne Rd., Victoria, B.C. V8P 5J2

Laura Jones

Myrna Cobb and Sher Morgan researched, wrote, and actually printed their book *Eight Women Photographers of British*

Columbia 1860-1978. The book is limited to 200 copies.

Cobb and Morgan began their research as a student project for media studies. They first created a slide tape presentation, then decided to publish a book. Funding was received from a youth employment grant from the Ministry of Labour in conjunction with Camosun College.

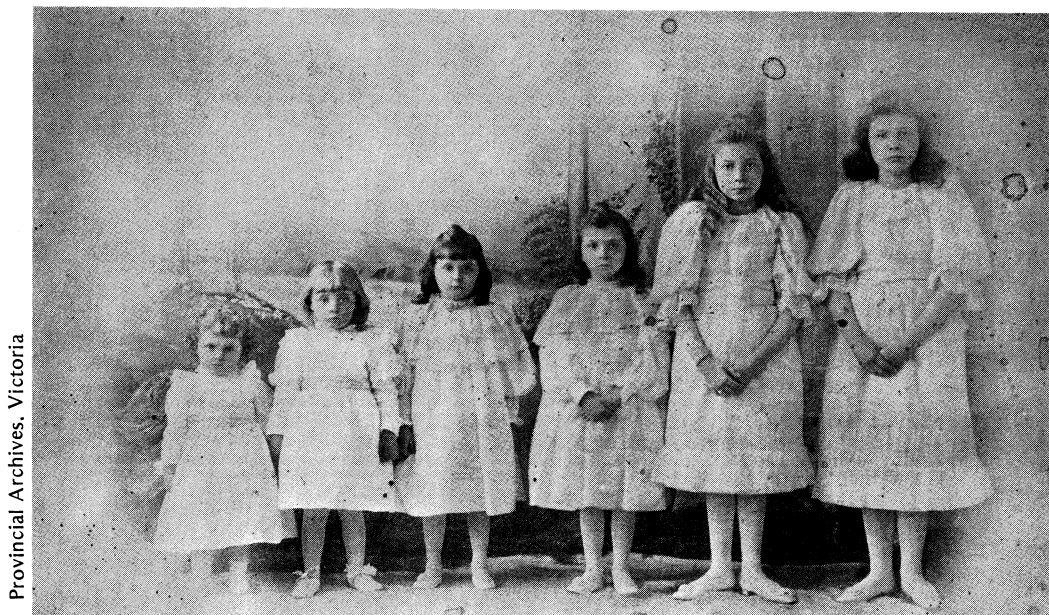
The most outstanding photographers included in the book are Hannah Maynard, Mattie Gunterman, Estelle Dickey, and Marian Penner Bancroft. Hannah Maynard was a studio photographer who began her career less than 20 years after photography was invented (a fact which should have been included in the book). Mattie Gunterman's photographs are significant in that they were candid shots of pioneer life taken at a time when other photographers were taking formal studio portraits. Both Maynard and Gunterman show a sense of humour, rarely expressed by photographers before 1900.

Estelle Dickey began taking photographs for postcards in 1941. Australian soldiers billeted in British Columbia wanted pictures of the Canadian winter to send home. She continued to produce photographs for thirty years and today at the age of eighty she occasionally develops prints.

Marian Penner Bancroft is a very sensitive contemporary photographer whose work explores her feelings towards such events as the last year in the life of her brother-in-law. He was dying from leukemia and Bancroft entitles this series 'For Dennis and Susan: running arms to a civil war.'

It must be mentioned that the book is poorly reproduced and the printing does not do justice to the photographs it contains. It is a pity that the photographers are not discussed in relation to the history of photography and more specifically to the history of women photographers in Canada. The book scratches the surface of a fascinating topic but in Cobb and Morgan's own words 'This is only a beginning.' It is a very important beginning.

We should remember that for women who are engaged in putting together a publication for the first time the *process* is as important as the finished product. This is the way we learn to put our history together and make it available for us all. This book marks another first step and with it a process has begun; if Myrna Cobb and Sher Morgan continue we can expect better products from these students.



Provincial Archives, Victoria

Daughters of Hon. James & Mrs. Dunsmuir

photo by Hannah Maynard