

June 5 7:30 P.M. BANOW program meeting, short business meeting including elections
Evie Whittsett-488-1757 to get on the agenda

18 7:30 P.M. BANOW Business Meeting 1529 Bonanza

21 Leigh McCormick Concert-featuring a BANOW flutist

28 State Council Meeting Longview, Texas

28 A Fund Run sponsored by Houston Area Federal Feminists Credit Union-Memorial Park

Sundays-2 P.M. 1110 Buoy Rd. Feminist Rap/videotape viewing, see listing elsewhere of TV
programs now available-more info-488-1757 Evie.

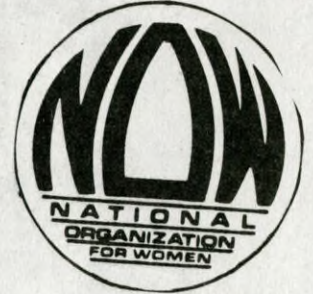
National NOW Times, May, 1980

● **The British Council of Churches is urging young people to address their prayers to "Parent God" instead of to "Father God" and to confess to the sin of sexism.** In a book, *Pocket Praise*, published by the Council and intended for use by young people throughout Britain and Ireland, prayers include:

● "Give us a vision of equality, which transcends that of the human lawmakers."

● "Free us from the prejudice about the roles of the sexes. Make us aware of what we have done when we deny another's potential by categorizing that person in terms of sex."

● "Teach parents, Parent God, the art of allowing their grown-up children to live their own lives."
Next, the Council is planning to release a controversial document on human sexuality.



BUS TRIP TO CHICAGO

Gail Anderson

35 survivors on a lifeboat, sharing food, passing from hand to hand the bread and the wine, mile after mile after mile, feeling closer to the passenger beside you behind you, hour after hour. Texas feminists making the trek, 22 hours long on a bus to Chicago for the National March for ERA RATIFICATION in Illinois, May 10, 1980.

The trip started with a flight from Houston to Dallas where our local group of 10 met delegations from Austin, Fort Worth, San Antonio, Richardson (where's that? !). The Houston/Bay Area group who met at Houston Intercontinental Airport facing a 1500-mile journey were Barbara Baruch, daughter Rebecca Coleman and Judy Emerson from the First Unitarian Church Women's Group, Dana Kelly, Bob Doughty, Lou McFadden, Gail Anderson, Sue Ann Cox Terri Brown and Jan Lustiz.

We arrived in Dallas to be met by Dallas County NOW members who took us to their homes for late night snacks and sleep. Up at dawn and driving to the bus terminal to meet other sleepy-eyed feminists waiting for the Greyhound life boat. The first woman we met at departure from Austin was Bay Area's Freddie Chiddix' daughter, Susan Chiddix.

With a huff and a roar and a last minute head-count the bus left Dallas. A high point of the trip was when a bus rider put an ERA YES bumper sticker on a Coors delivery truck. Sleeping, singing, snacking, sharing, hours and smiles and miles later, we arrived in Dallas at 3:00 A.M. With women sleeping on the floor, hanging from the overhead luggage racks and whispering wearily, the hearty survivors slept four hours in the Chicago Greyhound bus terminal. Morning light-one day and two nights from our Houston departure found us joining 50,000 other feminists from all over the country for the most moving, the largest and most enthusiastic ERA Rally since Washington's extension March.

Tired? Yes. Muscles sore from sitting? Yes. Laughing, hugging, singing, chanting, we made it! The Houston delegation had the youngest marcher (age 10) from Texas and only two male bus riders. Out of 50,000 marchers the Texas delegation set records for singing("The Eyes of Texas Are Upon You" to ratify ERA, chanting and ya-hooing.

Eight hours later the small group of hearty souls re-boarded the bus bound home for Texas. We are changed, we are closer, we are re-newed. The Chicago trip bus riders plan a reunion this summer-----we will meet again.....

BANOW Business Meeting

Present were Evie Whitsett, Peggy Cook, Gail Anderson, Dana Kelly, Marj Randall, Phyllis Tucker, Susan Lab, Pat Patterson from San Antonio and Ruth Townsend from Texas City. Announcements:

Appeal from Florida for help with ERA ratification

Congratulations to Phyllis Tucker as new State Coordinator, Bonnie Huval as new Communications Coordinator.

A Tuesday noon feminist book review in process of organization contact Marj Randall at 488-9216

Eight board positions are open at The Women's Center contact Phyllis Tucker-944-0033
A note of thanks from Beverly Board for being asked to be on the panel of non-traditional woman's workers.

Chapter received a letter from Arizona criticizing Texas methods-all members present at State Council are asked to take part in meeting concerning letter at a later date.

Two fund raisers were suggested for National Conference:

1. Sales of Texas hat's
2. Jewelry sales

Dorothy Howard is now membership coordinator for region of AFGE.

Ideas are needed for business phone number and listing for new Houstonians in the area to reach NOW thru the phonebook.

VIDEOTAPES OF TV PROGRAMS AVAILABLE now (but not forever) for viewing any Sunday afternoon or by arrangement with Evie Whitsett 488-1757.

The \$5.20/hr. Dream-2 hr. movie , Nancy Carney talk show on "Dream" 30 minutes
Homosexuals-1 hr. special, Sonia Johnson interview with Nancy Carney and later NBC interview
ERA-Wanda Schultz-anti-Ellen Mendosa-pro, Margaret Sanger-2hr. movie, The Trouble With Women-1 hr. Bay Area NOW and others ERA demo. 4/24/80 in Houston ERA March-Chicago

Telegram received May 10, 1980 by:
James Thompson, Gov. of Ill. William
Redmond, Speaker of Ill. House, Phillip Rock, Democratic
Leader of Ill. Senate

THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT IS MUST-DO LEGISLATION AND WE THANK YOU FOR PAST EFFORTS AND URGE YOU TO EXERT ALL POSSIBLE INFLUENCE TO ACHIEVE RATIFICATION IN ILLINOIS NOW. TEXAS HAS PASSED A STATE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT IN ADDITION TO RATIFYING THE NATIONAL AMENDMENT. EVEN SO WE AS TEXANS RECOGNIZE THE URGENT NEED TO WRITE EQUALITY UNDER THE LAW INTO THE NATIONAL CONSTITUTION.

BAY AREA CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN IS LOCATED HALF-WAY BETWEEN HOUSTON AND GALVESTON AND HAS ABOUT 70 MEMBERS. 11 OF US ARE IN CHICAGO FOR THE NATIONAL MARCH. 8 OF OUR FRIENDS, FAMILIES AND OTHER ERA ACTIVISTS ARE ALSO HERE. SOME OF US COULD AFFORD TO FLY ALL THE WAY. SOME RODE OVER 24 HOURS ON A BUS. OTHERS HAVE CONTRIBUTED MONEY, TIME AND EFFORT TO HELP US GET HERE. WE ARE AWARE THAT MANY OTHER TEXANS HAVE COME FROM HOUSTON, GALVESTON, DALLAS, SAN ANTONIO, AUSTIN ETC. PLEASE WATCH THE NEWS COVERAGE FOR THE WHITE WESTERN HATS OF THE TEXAS DELEGATION AND DO REMEMBER THE EYES OF TEXAS.

JEANNE SALETAN
LYNN MCGREGOR
KAREN ERICKSON
BOB DOUGHTY
BONNIE HUVAL
JUDY BLANCHARD

JUDY ROYSTER
LIZ ROYSTER
GAIL ANDERSON
TWISS BUTLER
CAROLINE MAGGIO
JUDY MAGGIO

BARBARA HOUSE
SONIA DOTY
MELISSA WEIKSNAR
BETTY KOWALSKI
DANA KELLY
REMA LOU BROWN
LOUIS MCFADIN

EVIE WHITSETT, COORDINATOR, BAY AREA NOW, 1110 BUOY RD, HOUSTON, TX 77062

ERA Demonstration April 1980

In the spirit of 'Shadowing the Candidates', on April 23 thirty ERA supporters with signs in hand demonstrated in front of the Albert Thomas Convention Center in Houston. The occasion was the League of Women Voter's debate between George Bush and Ronald Reagan. Members of Houston Area NOW, Bay Area NOW, WEAL, NETWORK, Federally Employed Women and other friends passed out fliers and talked to people as they arrived. The demonstrators - wearing their green and white clothing and carrying signs - made ERA a visible issue on the outside of the center. This did not continue, however, on the inside. Not a single ERA question was addressed to the candidates by moderator Howard K. Smith. Press coverage of the demonstration included spots on the ABC and CBS late news reports, coverage on KULF, KTRH and KLOL radio stations and articles in the Houston Post and other local papers.

We need to continue to 'Shadow the Candidates' until November. We also need to affect future forums to make sure they include questions on women's issues and perhaps a woman as moderator. a special thanks to Phyllis Tucker for the idea of the demonstration and to Jean Saleton, Jan Stevens, Leona Herschkowitz and Eileen McMurr for their coordinating work.

Lynn McGregor

In connection with The Dinner Party art exhibit, triangular quilt sections were solicited commemorating persons or organizations. Mary McFadin did one for Bay Area NOW. Thanks, Mary.

A picture will be available at the 6/5/80 meeting.

The quilt triangle commemorating Bay Area N.O.W. was made simply and neatly as possible. It's border is blue with a background of white because Bay Area NOW colors are blue and white. There is a big green arrow pointing up that says "Women are on the way up. There is a green and white replica of the ERA YES pin applied and also the torch carried to commemorate IWY. That torch is to remind us all to keep our spirit burning because the race is long and hard.

"White House News on Women" lets you know about federal government and Presidential programs that affect you. The newsletter will keep you up-to-date on women newly appointed to high government office and what female government employees think about their job opportunities in the federal government. You'll also get progress reports on the status of the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment, plus updates on key political and economic issues. To receive "White House News on Women," write: Gwen Powers, Office of Sarah Weddington, The White House, Washington DC 20500.

Army rule on gays struck down

Post News Services

MILWAUKEE — The Army may not discharge a soldier solely because he or she is homosexual, U.S. District Judge Terence Evans ruled Tuesday. In a case brought by a Milwaukee woman who claimed she was discharged because she was a lesbian, Evans said an Army regulation requiring the discharge of soldiers who exhibit "homosexual tendencies, desire or interest," even if they do not take part in homosexual behavior, was unconstitutional. The rule violated the First, Fifth and Ninth Amendments to the U.S. Constitution, Evans said. An Army spokesman had no comment on the decision.

ARCHAEOLOGIST SAYS EARLY CHURCH HAD FEMALE BISHOPS

Evidence has been uncovered which indicates the early Christian church had female priests and bishops, according to archaeologist Dorothy Irvin.

Dr. Irvin, who teaches at the College of St. Catherine in St. Paul, MN, claims to have photographs of mosaics, frescoes and inscriptions that prove women in the first century and possibly as late as the ninth century had full clerical status. Her research is being reviewed seriously by other Catholic Scholars.

One of the Catholic Church's primary arguments against women's ordination is that it would go against ancient tradition.

Support the efforts in your city or community to assist the victims of sexual assault, to reduce the likelihood of sexual assaults, and to create an enhanced awareness of this complex and serious problem among the general public and its officials.

BALLAD OF THE ERA

WAITING FOR LE VOTE IN SPRINGFIELD

words and music by Kristin Lems
and sung by her at ERA rally
in rotunda at Illinois state
capitol in Springfield, May 14
(record available)

It was 50 years ago
An amendment was proposed
To make the law state men and women
equal
But little did we know just how long
the fight would go
And even now we're working on its
sequel

CHORUS

So no more debate
Because we won't wait
We demand equality today
So fight we must
To make the law just
ERA ERA ERA
ERA ERA ERA !!

"Well I'm only Adam's rib
Keep me safe within my crib"
It's shifty cries while working
women labor
"Any girl who needs to work
Should find a man or she's a jerk
If she don't know her place, who cares
what they pay her?" (WE DO!)

CHORUS

So no more debate.....

Said the man who's been laid off
"I cannot support this stuff
The boss tells me you make more
competition "
She said "Find work if you can,
but not just 'cause you're a man,
Let's work side by side in factory
and kitchen"

CHORUS So no more debate.....

Said the sargent with a sneer
"Well, then, tell me something, dear
Are you willing to be drafted with the others?"
She answered "Yes, and more, I will not
support your war
I will resist and fight beside my brothers."

CHORUS So no more debate

But now the day is close at hand
Right across this lovely land
Those who try to keep us down will be defeated
So help us see the day, shout the word,
It's ERA....'till the era of equality is greeted!

CHORUS

Out of about 100 Texans who came to march
in Chicago, four of us were able to stay on
and go to Springfield on Tuesday. United
Steel Workers sent 6 busloads of ERA supporters
who sang their own songs for ERA and labor.
Speeches and chants, songs and banners filled
the rotunda at noon. Then we went off to
visit the legislators to whom we were assigned.
We four, Jan Stevens, Bonnie Huval, Evie
Whitsett and Jeanne Saletan called on
Governor Thompson who was not seeable so we
promptly took ourselves to his Women's
Advocate, Sharon Sharp, who says she broke her
leg by falling down a flight of stairs in
the excitement of lobbying for ERA in Peoria,
the state convention of Republican party
at which a resolution was passed to WITHDRAW
a pro-ERA plank from the National Republican
Party! Illinois Republicans are really
reactionary. As out-of-staters, we let it be
known that the governor who has national
ambitions, could build his reputation country-
wide by delivering support for ERA in his own
state. ("Seeing is believing in the things you
see" according to Margie Adam's song.) We
visited other legislators that afternoon and
left notes because they were on the floor
of the House. It was disturbing to learn
(we could hear the House debate over loud-
speaker system) that the issue that afternoon
was abortion. Don't tell me that was unplanned
by the anti-ERA people who have tried to
link ERA to abortion! You can always whip
up some degree of confusion and hysteria
by mixing the two issues.

Just as we were ready to depart for Chicago,
Alice Cohan persuaded Jan and Jeanne to stay
over one more day for the vote which was ex-
pected on Wednesday. We ducked the invitation
to share an all night vigil by convincing
Alice that we were real poop-outs who changed
into pumpkins at midnight and we got some
sleep at a hotel, arriving back at the rotunda
early next day to see the pro-ERA and antis
arriving for the final moment. I got a glimpse
of Ellie Smeal being quietly escorted upstairs
where she spent the whole day and more visiting
legislators. Likewise all the top NOW
people. Ellie even visited Governor
Thompson at his home when he pled absence
because of a back injury. Some NOW people
were assigned to tag certain legislators
so they would not conveniently disappear when
the vote was called. I circulated among the
antis and found myself shoulder to shoulder
with Phyllis Plastic Schlafly when she
was interviewed on TV and spreading her
undocumented charges about job threats
against Chicago Legislators.

(cont)

LE VOTE IN SPRINGFIELD (con't)

While Phyllis was talking I was standing as close as a shadow with my white western hat on that we had all worn in the march and it had ERA buttons and labels all over it. Antis kept trying to block me out of the picture by shoving their placards in front of my face but I just kept bending them back and smiling and finally Phyllis herself pushed her own placard away when it threatened to obscure HER so they let me be. Next she was given a beautiful fat Hispanic baby to hold (to show that Chicanas don't want ERA) and once again I was on the other side of the baby beaming at it (ERA women love babies, too). It sure was fun.

The antis were dressed like "ladies" but behaved like boors when we held our Wednesday rally. They tried to shout us down and only our foresight in having a good sound system allowed Kristin Lems to be heard up to the fourth floor of the rotunda. We, on the other hand, had been instructed by our leaders to make no disruption when they held the anti rally and we were quiet.

We were told that it was ILLEGAL for us to come to Illinois to lobby because we are Texans and we answered that this is a national issue and we were openly identified as Texans and proud of it, not trying to pass for in-staters. We got several TV interviews just because we are Texans.

So when you read in the papers about the vote being postponed in Illinois because of bribery charges.....just think.....what would YOU do if you were P.P.S. and her ilk and you saw a real danger that Labor and Blacks and Religious groups had swollen the ranks of ERA support this year to a dangerous (for you) degree? SOMETHING DESPERATE! Like bribery charges. Anything to halt the tide. Buy time to do your bribing behind the scenes as usual as was done in Florida. I am convinced that they always accuse us of the very tactics they themselves are using. A rumor was spread that we were paying people \$10 each to appear for ERA. Knowing how much our people spent to come and at what sacrifice....I promptly turned this back with "Of course not, but I heard that YOU were paid to be here." What can we do to fight against these tactics without sinking to the same low? I am thinking that we must really turn to the economic boycott in full force. I am waiting to hear what others think about next steps for ERA.

Jeanne Saletan

LETTERS TO THE NEWSPAPERS

Can you write a letter on ERA to the Houston Post or Chronicle? Deal with the bribery charge and stress how this should not deflect responsible legislators from ratification. If you wish, you can check your letter with me before mailing it. J.S.

ERA ACTION TEAM

Ann Pine took over the action team while we were in Chicago and did an excellent job. Her workers were Lee Matous, Jean Stein, Linda Holleman, Lynn McGregor, Roberta Blackburn, Judy Blanchard and Nora Mertz. Other members supported the Chicago effort with money for those who could go. Contributions were received from Nora Mertz, Betty Yancey, Ann Pine, Linda Holleman, Wendy Rudnicki, Carolyn Conley, *Marie Stinson*. We meet every Wednesday at the law office of Rachel Suarez at 1199 NASA Rd. 1, Suite 200. Since February 1st, Rachel has let us use her office for this purpose. Rachel has a general civil law practice. Please call 471-2862 to find out how you can participate.

Thanks to all who took letter writing kits at the last meeting. More kits can be dispatched to those who prefer to work at home. J. Saletan

CHAMBER MUSIC BY WOMEN

Lorraine Merrill, piano, and Jill Brindel, cello, and Beatrice Stanley, violin played the lyrical Archduke Trio at UH/CLC on Sunday May 25. Works by Bloch and Dvorak were also included. Watch for this outstanding group next fall, the Clear Lake Chamber Music Society. This little known group brought us professional performance and needs our community support.


~

** Thanks to Dana Kelly for her labor of love, hand-stitching the letters on our green banner for Chicago. Bobbie Faulkner did the same for our Texas for ERA banner. James and Bobbie Faulkner got special marshall assignments at the march. They were in charge of security at the grandstand. Bobbie was complimented by a secret service agent whom she WOULD NOT admit to the restricted area....just doing her job! Ask Bobbie about her history of organizing women in the meat cutters union and her convictions about ERA.

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS. Saturday Morning, May 10, 1980 by Lynn McGregor

Thousands of people have gathered in Chicago to walk in the National ERA March for Ratification sponsored by NOW. In the downtown area people in white clothing can be seen everywhere. Button sellers and leafleters dot the street corners. In spite of a light drizzle, the marchers started to assemble in Grant Park well before the 10 AM start time. People from all over the country sat around banners and signs indicating their organization. These included NOW chapters from every state and local chapters from Illinois and surrounding states, labor unions, religious organizations and political parties. There was even a dog with an ERA sign on its back. For anyone arriving after 9:30 AM, finding your delegation was a real problem in the crowds. The purple, gold and white banners were held high but a strong wind off Lake Michigan made them hard to read. A party atmosphere prevailed. Above us we saw TV helicopters and a light plane pulling a "Mormons for ERA" banner. At 10:15 AM the announcement came over the loudspeaker that the march would begin. Motorcycle police led the way followed by a line of eleven women and men carrying the banner NATIONAL MARCH FOR ERA RATIFICATION IN ILLINOIS. Behind them came the workers from National NOW and the guest celebrities and speakers, the the Womens Marching Band from California, and then the individual delegations. When we turned from Michigan Avenue to the Ralley site, we passed a huge communications truck packed with TV cameras and reporters. It took 1½ hours (!!) for all delegations to leave Grant Park. The crowd was estimated at 50,000. Texas was near the last but spirits were high as we started off singing "The Eyes of Texas Are Upon You" to special ERA lyrics. Among our band of 100 Texans were the following people from Bay Area: Gail Anderson, James and Bobbie Faulkner, Judy Blanchard, Judy Royster, Caroline Maggio and daughters, Rema Lou Brown, Twiss Butler, Sonia Doty, Bob Doughty, Lou McFaddin, Lynn McGregor and her daughter Karen Erickson, Jeanne Saletan, Evie Whitsett, Dana Kelly and Bonnie Huval, *Melissa Weiksnar*.

At the rally site, the speakers looked out over a sea of white. Gloria Steinem, Sonia Johnson, Phil Donahue, Marlo Thomas, Betty Friedan, Mayor Byrne, Jesse Jackson, Ellie Smeal and Bella Abzug were among the speakers. Finally at 4PM a tired crowd dispersed to return home to work even harded for ERA. (Lynn took pictures which we will show.)

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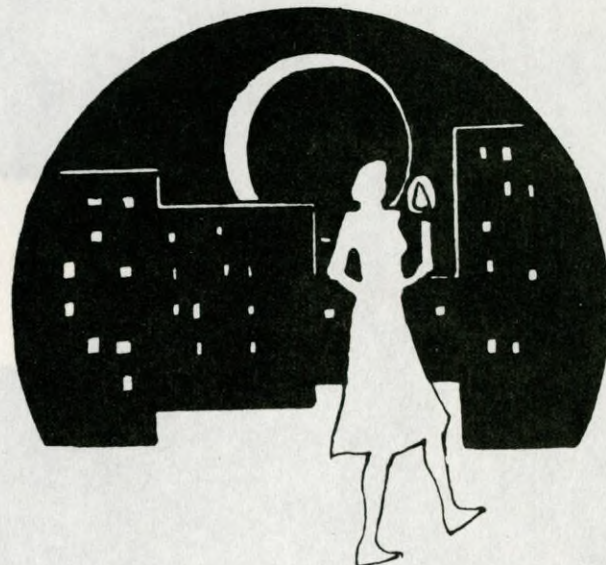
COORS CONTRIBUTES TO ERA!!! Betty Yancey is the jefe of this operation.

Though not the largest contribution Coors has made to the ERA by way of buying Bay Area NOW aluminum for recycling, it is the first one made by check, giving Adolph accountable proof of his support despite his anti-ERA efforts. Aluminum cans are all they accept now, so forget frozen food containers. Even so, at 25 cents a pound, the 35 pounds turned in this time add up to \$8.75 for very little effort on our parts. Other places may offer more money for the aluminum, but none offer such satisfaction for ERA supporters.

**PARTIAL LIST OF CHAPTER POSITIONS
AND RESOURCE PERSONS**

Coordinator	Evie Whitsett	488-1777
	if urgent	226-5444
Treasurer	Marj Randal	488-4396
Newsletter	Susan Lab	538-1290
	Pat Kuhlmann	488-3278
Newsletter Ads	Peggy Cook	471-6353
Visitors and new members	Gail Anderson	523-3957
	Bonnie Huval	331-0444
Assistance to handicapped	Cynthia Sutton	488-7936
Fundraising	Jean Bettencourt	538-1271
Medical Information	Jo Shannahan	488-0190
BANOW Library	Dorothy Howard	486-0752
Texas NOW	Phyllis Tucker	944-0033
National NOW	Evie Whitsett	above
Rape Abuse	Nora Mertz	554-6738
Reproductive Rights	Lynn McGregor	488-1901
Title IX	Twiss Butler	333-4764
Textbook reviews	Karen Clark	488-6493
ERA	Jeanne Saletan	471-2862
Aluminum/ERA	Betty Yancey	337-1383
Lesbian concerns	Phyllis Tucker	above
Consciousness raising	Jane Markley	334-5057
Phone Tree	Wendy Rudnicki	488-7803

**Women from all walks
of life...**



**...should be able to enjoy
all the walks of life.**

BANOW welcomes physically different persons. Our meeting facilities are not always barrier free but we are accessible and will be pleased to provide mobility assistance. Given notice, we will try to provide and interpreter for deaf persons and any required assistance for the blind. Call Cynthia Sutton 488-7936.

JOIN N.O.W. Clip and mail with your check to Marjorie Randal, 1922 Redway, Houston 77062

_____ I would like to become a member of Bay Area NOW and National NOW (\$22)

_____ I am already a member of National NOW and wish to pay local dues (\$7)

_____ I want to join NOW but can only afford \$_____.

_____ I am not a member but would like to receive the newsletter for one year (\$4)

_____ I would like to make a contribution of \$_____ to NOW.

_____ As a NOW member, I authorize my name and address to be published on the chapter roster.

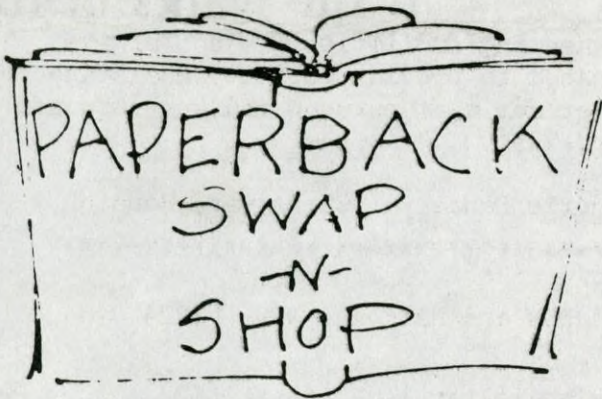
NAME.....HOME PHONE..... WORK PHONE.....

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OCCUPATION.....

1-81

Susan Lab
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