

the connection



Mount Saint Vincent University, Halifax, Nova Scotia



Dr. Pierre Gerin, of the Mount's Modern Languages Department, rose to acknowledge the applause when the announcement was made, during the 1985 Convocation, of his receiving the honour Chevalier de l'Ordre des Palmes Academiques from the French Ambassador to Canada on May 1.

Thick and Fast They Came at Last . . .

The Mount's 58th annual convocation saw close to 500 students receive certificates, diplomas and degrees—including 72 from the Dartmouth area, 40 from Bedford/Sackville and 17 from eight countries outside Canada.

Honorary degrees of Doctor of Humane Letters were also presented to three outstanding Canadian women, two of whom come from the Halifax area.

Sister Rosalie Bertell, G.N.S.H., B.A., M.A., Ph.D., Director for the International Institute of Concern for Public Health in Toronto and a member of the Order of Grey Nuns of the Sacred Heart, received her honorary degree in the morning ceremony, together with Marie Hamilton, executive member of Canada's Anti-Poverty Organization, the Congress of Black Women of

Nova Scotia, the Beechville Baptist Church, and winner of the 1983 Persons Award from the Governor General of Canada.

Ruth Goldbloom, Dip.P.E., who has been actively involved in the life of Mount Saint Vincent University for more than a decade as member and chair of the Board of Governors and chair of the university's first major fund-raising campaign, Project One: Future for Women, received her honorary degree in the afternoon ceremony.

The morning address to the graduates was given by Sister Rosalie Bertell with the valedictory given by Teresa Jane Francis who graduated with a Bachelor of Home Economics degree with distinction.

Ruth Goldbloom addressed the afternoon Convocation. Valedictorian was Joseph Daniel McKinnon who

graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree.

The Governor-General's gold medal for the highest aggregate in the senior year was awarded to Beverly June Baird, Bachelor of Business Administration with distinction, who also received the Swiss Ambassador's Prize (German).

Kappa Gamma Pi awards went to Wanda Manette, Bachelor of Science in Home Economics with first-class honours and Frances Flinn, Bachelor Arts with distinction.

Teresa Francis, Bachelor of Home Economics with distinction; Patricia Goyeche, Certificate in Gerontology (who graduated from the Mount in 1984 with a BA) and Deborah Kathleen MacDonald, Bachelor of Arts, were each awarded a President's Prize for giving promise of continued loyalty to the university and service to the larger community.

"A Credit to Their Commitment"

In her remarks to both convocations, Mount Saint Vincent University president, Dr. E. Margaret Fulton, commented on the increasing enrollment of nontraditional students.

"Again 1985 sees a growing number of graduating students described as both traditional and nontraditional," she said. "For those who are unfamiliar with those terms, traditional students are those who enter university directly from high school while nontraditional are those who have returned to university after a period of work experience. Those earning their degrees through part-time study while engaged in work within the home and within the work force are gradually forming the majority. Those part-time students are found in all degree programs. The reality of our mobile society and of the stresses that mobility causes women in particular who are trying to complete degree programs are also well-represented among today's graduates.

"It is a credit to their commitment and determination, and to their spouses and families who lent support, that several women receiving their degrees here today have travelled far to do so. Kathy Pereira Rice has come from Boston to receive her Bachelor of Business Administration degree, earned partially through courses she completed at Boston College while her husband also studied in Boston. Gail Murray and Hetty Adams receive their Bachelor of Arts degrees after lengthy physical absences from the Mount campus. Gail has come from British Columbia and Hetty from Florida. Both determined to receive their degrees from Mount Saint Vincent regardless of their other life adventures. Nor are the effects of a mobile society felt only by women. Stanley Adesida's brother and sister have travelled from Lagos Nigeria to celebrate his graduation.

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"If You Must Lay Down Your Life Do It For Peace—Not For War"

The following is an edited version of the address given by honorary degree recipient, Sister Rosalie Bertell, G.N.S.H., B.A., M.A., Ph.D., D.Hum.L., to the morning convocation:

If one tries to put a frog in a pan of hot water it immediately jumps out with a great deal of indignation and a strong sense of self-preservation. However, if one places the frog in cool water and gradually increases the water temperature it will sit there placidly, accommodating itself until it dies.

As you leave the university today we hope that you will behave like the frog in hot water, that is we hope that you will sense the dangers to which many of us have become accustomed and sound a strong alarm. We ask you not to accept as normal the violent situations which are commonplace in our society. Recognize especially those abnormal situations which are threatening to wipe out life on this beautiful planet:

- living with the constant stockpiling of nuclear weapons,
- the slow poisoning of our drinking water, air and food with toxic waste,
- exploiting of women to serve the ambitions of men,
- denying dignity and freedom to native and indigenous people,
- using workers as expendables for hazardous occupations,
- creating unemployment as a means of maximizing profit and silencing labour dissent,
- systematically killing the children and the hopes of Third World nations.

I would suggest that wherever you are living after graduation, you find for yourselves a community of questioners who are willing to challenge and be challenged on these issues. You will need such a community if you are to consistently choose to move away from past societal behaviour which is now proving to be so destructive to society and life itself.

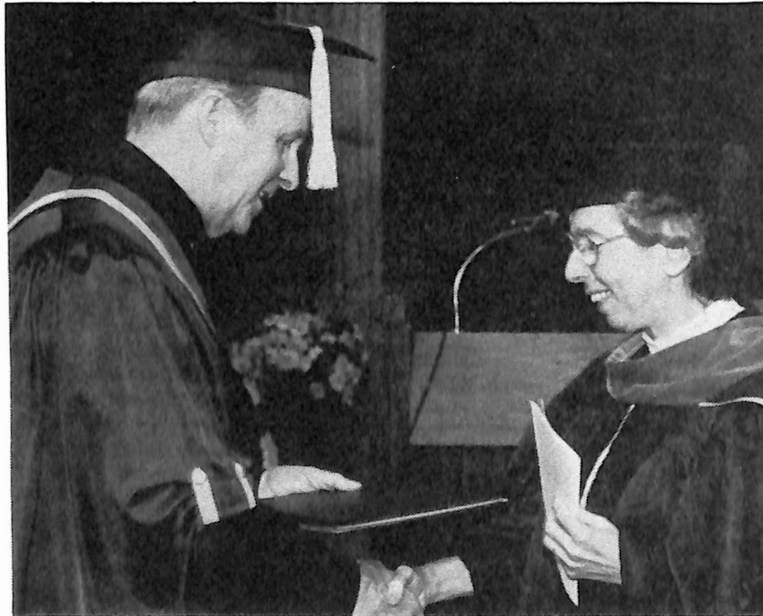
What are the important questions to ask about your work, about your life-style, about the relationships which you make? I would suggest beginning with the following questions:

- If I spend all of my days as I did today, will this world be a safer place in which to live?
- Have I used my own gifts today and respected the gifts of others?
- Has my mode of action been competitive or cooperative?
- Am I aware of the global and temporal implications of my choices, that is, the effect throughout the world, and

especially in the Third World, and on my great grandchildren's great grandchildren?

No one will ever live on this earth who is not present now in the sperm and ovum of the living people. All of the seed and genetic material from which the future will be formed is now present in the living things of the earth. If we damage it, it is damaged forever. If we respect it and nourish it there can be many years of fruitful life and work and play on this planet.

Our world is in the midst of a crisis, not unlike that of the frog as the water gets hotter. A crisis is not necessarily bad. It can, of course, lead to a breakdown of society and tremendous destruction.



Dr. Rosalie Bertell receives her honorary degree at the hands of Archbishop James Hayes, Chancellor of Mount Saint Vincent University.

That is what we all fear. However, a crisis can also lead to a breakthrough to new understanding, ultimately leading to new behaviour. It could lead to a period of new flowering of culture, music and art. It could lead to a new respect for those who excel in the gentler arts of peace-making and humanizing of the biosphere. Under the present competitive system, those who are physically weak or have less aggressive personalities are ignored or made subservient to those who wield power. Know that it is your inner strength which will lead to the breakthrough—not your monopoly on violence and your ability to coerce others. Life expands under the touch of love not force.

How exactly does the frog "jump out of the pot" when the pot is this fragile earth threatened as it is with global holocaust, with two superpowers vying for world

domination? How can a handful of young university graduates bring about change which is of global proportions?

First, let me say that you are not alone. All over the world people are working for a just and peaceful global society, one in which disputes are settled in courts, not by one's ability to destroy the earth. The United Nations tells us that more than 70 per cent of such globally-minded persons, those passionately seeking justice for all people, are women. Bond with these women and men, read their newsletters and books, seek out their wisdom born of suffering, and listen to their cries for justice.

Secondly, spend your energy in making good days—good days for yourself, your family and friends, your city, your country, your world. The nurturing of the global village should not be left in the hands of transnational corporations, military strategists and world leaders. It needs a woman's touch, a woman's wisdom

Alumnae Update

by Dilly MacFarlane

Over the years, Convocation has always held a special place in the heart of the alumnae association, and this year's celebration was certainly no exception.

As a part of Grad Week activities leading up to Convocation, the alumnae members kicked off their involvement very early in the program by decorating all day Saturday for the Rainbow Grad Ball that evening.

With the help of student liaison board members, Karen Stone, BPR '82 and Alice MacKichan, BHEC/BE '83, and a lively contingent of alumnae and students from Saint Stephen's-Highland Park Junior High School, Rosaria Centre's multi-purpose room was transformed. Rainbows and colorful canopies filled every available space.

Following the opening waltz to "Somewhere Over the Rainbow", alumnae association president, Debbie Pottie Matheson, BScHEC '74 proposed the traditional toast to the Class of '85, congratulating them on their achievements and officially welcoming them to the ranks of alumnae. A warm response was delivered by senior class co-presidents, Nancy Moar, BPR '85 and Valerie Eddy, BPR '85, who toasted the alumnae and Alma Mater.

Special mention was made of the superior job of decorating by the alumnae team who are becoming quite expert after taking on the job for two consecutive years . . . and rumour has it that the theme for Grad Ball '86 is already in the planning stages!

On Convocation Day, alumnae were represented at both ceremonies. This year, for the first time, the alumnae were invited by the Convocations Committee to walk in the academic procession, establishing another alumnae tradition. It was a proud moment for the alumnae when university president, Dr. E. Margaret Fulton, introduced the alumnae representatives to the assembly and in her President's Report, congratulated the alumnae association on its ever-increasing support for the university.

Among those representing the alumnae on this occasion were Rosemarie Abraham, Ac. '47, wife of Lieutenant Governor Alan Abraham; Connie Baird, BA '29 from St. John, N.B.; and Isabel Bonnyman, BA '35 of New Glasgow, N.S., who, with her classmates of '35, is celebrating her 50th anniversary as a Mount alumna at Jubilee Homecoming '85 on May 31, June 1 and 2. Perhaps Jean Pender, Ac. '33, BScSS '54 spoke for all Mount alumnae when she remarked, "It was a very proud day for us all. I was honoured to be a part of it".

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A Contemplative Activist Giving Warnings with Hope

Sister Elizabeth Bellefontaine, presenter for Sister Rosalie Bertell, reminded those attending the morning convocation of Sr. Bertell's visit to the Mount two years ago. "Some in the audience may recall her lectures on the effects of radiation on health and the environment," she said.

"Others may remember her stirring address at the Peace Rally on Disarmament Day that same week. Many who heard and saw Sr. Rosalie were surprised that this slight, apparently reserved and self-effacing woman could deliver her message of warning and of hope with such passion and conviction as to stir their consciences on the issues she addressed.

"But Sister Rosalie Bertell is just such a woman of surprises and of conviction.

"Indeed when she reflects upon the pattern of her life which led her from the solitude of a contemplative Carmelite monastery to membership in an active teaching order, to scientific research into the causes of cancer and to her present active involvement in the pursuit of peace, disarmament, denuclearization of industry and promotion of the health of our planet and its inhabitants, Sister Rosalie too must at times be surprised.

"A native of Buffalo, New York, Rosalie Bertell early in life came to appreciate the harmony and order of creation. She found joy in music and in musical expression through the piano, violin and organ. She had a talent for mathematics, majoring in it in her undergraduate and graduate degrees and ultimately earning a doctorate in biomedical mathematics. If one biblical text about the universe resonated within her in her early years, it must have been, 'And God saw that it was good.'

"Her love for the universe and its Creator, expressed itself both in compassion for others—as when she cared for her blind and paralyzed grandmother for seven years—and in a desire for a life of cloistered contemplation.

"However, hers was not the physical stamina either to sustain the manual labour involved in the contemplative life or later, to remain in full-time teaching of mathematics and administration at high school and college levels. So she found an outlet for her creative and compassionate tendencies in the field of cancer research.

"As Senior Cancer Research Scientist at Roswell Park Memorial

Institute in New York from 1970 to 1978, Sister Rosalie's research into the environmental causes of leukemia led her to conclude that radiation exposure is the greatest health and environmental hazard on the planet.

"Thus began her recognition of the on-going creative power within the created order itself and the responsibility of humans for their own survival and for the development of the earth. Recognizing also the destructive power of the nuclearization of society, she has published widely and lectured extensively on radiation danger often in opposition to nuclear industry proponents, and sometimes at personal risk.

"Because of her studies in low-level radiation, Sister Bertell was one of the scientific witnesses at Nuremberg

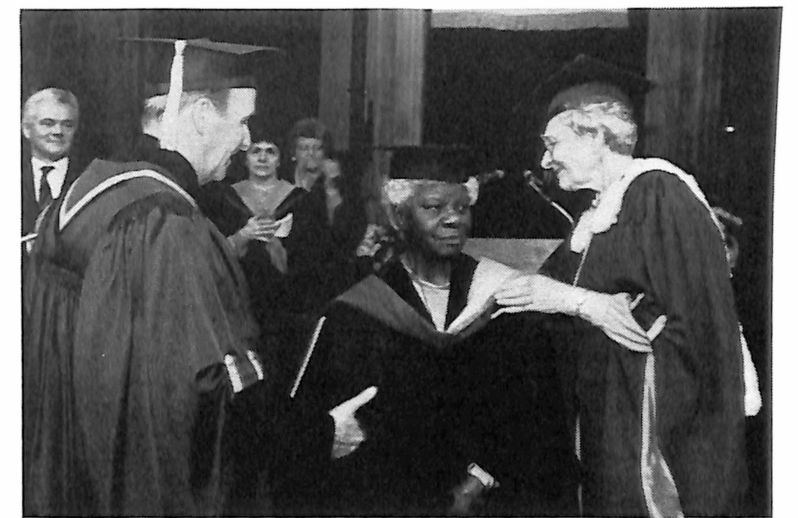


Sr. Elizabeth Bellefontaine

called in 1983 to judge whether nuclear arms are a crime against humanity. She has served on numerous commissions on health and the environment and has received many professional honors and awards.

"From her scientific research and her religious convictions, flow Sister Rosalie's dedication to the cause of peace. True peace, she perceives, embraces the reconciliation of nations and the restoration of harmony and balance in creation. Thus she calls for the disarmament of arsenals and disarmament of hearts.

"Sister Rosalie Bertell has become the contemplative activist still believing in the goodness of creation, injecting her warnings with hope, convinced that the future belongs to those who are contemplative enough to offer the world well-founded hope and active enough to provide a sensible human way of fulfilling that hope. The biblical message now resonating within her is: 'Choose life . . . so that you and your descendants may live.' "



Marie Hamilton, of Halifax, stands proudly to receive her honorary degree at the morning convocation.

An Encouragement to all—Young and Old, Black and White

In her citation, Dr. Joyce Kennedy described Marie Hamilton as "a woman who has most definitely earned her honorary doctorate.

"During the 1950s and 60s, while she was busy bringing up a family of six children, Marie Hamilton taught school for 15 years in the communities of North Preston, Hammonds Plains, Beechville, and Cherry Brook. From there, she became a house parent at the Halifax Orphanage, which later became Veith House. There she was instrumental in setting up an early childhood playschool, which she supervised. Today she coordinates an Early Childhood Education course, sponsored by the N.S. Teacher's College and the N.S. Department of Education, which trains women to run preschool programs in their local communities.

"Marie Hamilton's concern for children extends also to their parents and grandparents. Her work for the elderly includes doing volunteer work at Spencer House, being a founding member of the Halifax North End Volunteers for Seniors—a group of women concerned with the needs of the aging in low-income areas of the city, and being involved with Canadian Pensioners Concerned.

"As well, through a literacy program at the North Branch Library, two mornings a week she tutors adults who are learning to read and write. She continues as an active member of the North End library's women's group—a grass roots community group which serves as liaison to many other agencies in helping local residents. Some of her other volunteer work has included canvassing for the Salvation Army and the United Way, serving on the Ward Five Resources Council, serving as member and former executive of the African United Baptist Women's Institute, and for more than 30 years,

serving as clerk of the Beechville Baptist Church. At present she is on the Board of the National Anti-Poverty Organization (NAPO) and has helped to found a Halifax branch.

"Marie Hamilton has received many certificates and awards from grateful organizations over the years, among them a medal for her community work from Governor General Jules Léger on the 25th anniversary of the Queen's accession to the throne; and in 1983, at a ceremony in Ottawa, the Persons Award from Governor General Edward Schreyer. This award, instituted in 1979 as a tribute to the five Alberta women whose action successfully amended the BNA Act to grant women the legal status of persons, is given annually to outstanding Canadian women. Marie Hamilton is only the second Nova Scotian to be so honored.

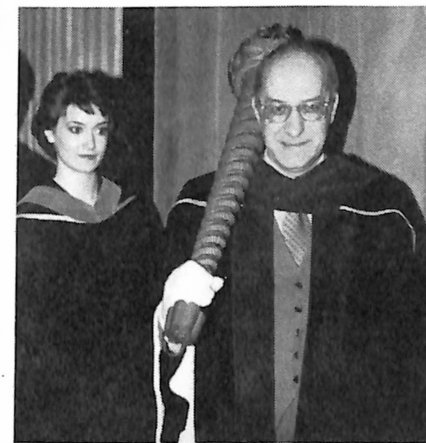
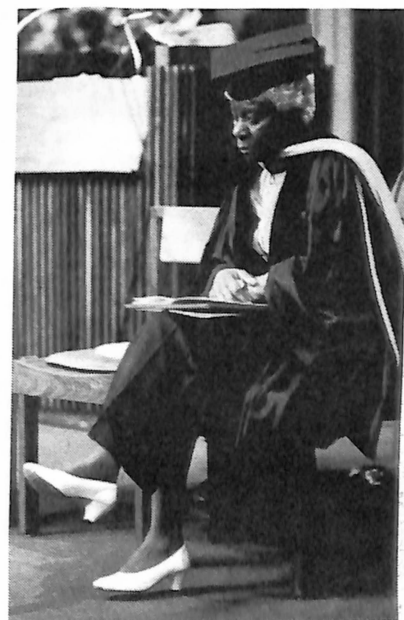
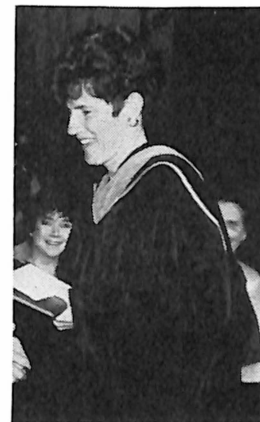
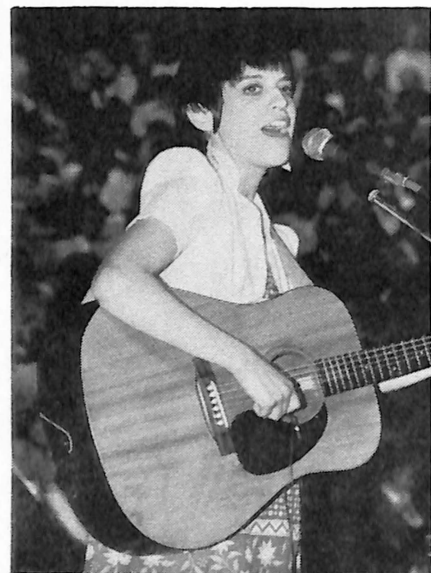
"When Marie Hamilton was a young girl she aspired to be a nurse. Unfortunately, in those days, an arbitrary color bar prevented her from pursuing that vocation. But her family supported her aspirations to pursue an alternative, so that as teacher, she could reach out in another way.

"Undoubtedly, this openness to new life is what makes Marie Hamilton such an attractive person to be around. Her warmth, sense of humour, and strong sense of personal worth have contributed strength to her children and to all those whose lives she touches.

"Her daughter Sylvia says her mother always taught her children 'Be proud to be who you are'. In situations where misunderstanding could have been an occasion for a sarcastic response, Marie took the occasion to educate the other person. For example, once at the orphanage a visitor, assuming Marie to be the

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CONVOCAATION 1985



PHOTOS BY
MICHAEL CREAGEN,
GRAHAM LAVERS
and CINDY READ.

"Whatever She Works With Flourishes and Blooms"

Mary Sparling, Director of the Mount's Art Gallery, gave the citation for Ruth Goldbloom. "Was anyone ever better named?" she asked. "The word 'ruth' is an archaism one now almost never used. The world knows the word better in its opposite form 'ruthless'. But 'ruth' means compassion and tenderness, qualities which underlie all of Ruth Goldbloom's activities."

"Ruth Schwartz grew up in New Waterford, Nova Scotia, attended Mount Allison University, graduated from McGill's School of Physical Education in 1944 where she received the highest marks in practice teaching; taught physical education in Montreal; then in 1946 married a young Montreal pediatrician, Dr. Richard Goldbloom, and so chose her



Mary Sparling

new name. It is for the golden radiance that Ruth Goldbloom casts upon the world that we honour her today. Whatever she works with flourishes and blooms. So do those who work with her. She has the highest expectations of herself and of anyone who falls within her orbit.

"Just over 40 years ago in 1944, Ruth Miriam Schwartz graduated from university, a Nova Scotian Jewish girl seeking her place in a world torn apart by war, which was soon to be stunned by the news of the horrors of Auschwitz and Buchenwald—the Holocaust in which six million Jews died, hunted down by the ruthless forces of Nazi Germany. It was a world which, with the end of the war in 1945, faced vast problems of adjustment.

"It was in this uncertain world that Ruth first was employed, then married and had 3 children, Alan, Barbara and David. It was not a time, either in economic opportunity or societal expectation, for a two-career family. Although unpaid she still worked. For the 20 years that they lived in Montreal Ruth worked tirelessly as a board member and volunteer for schools, hospitals and cultural organizations—institutions which express humanity's highest values—among others the Constance Lethbridge Rehabilitation Centre, St.

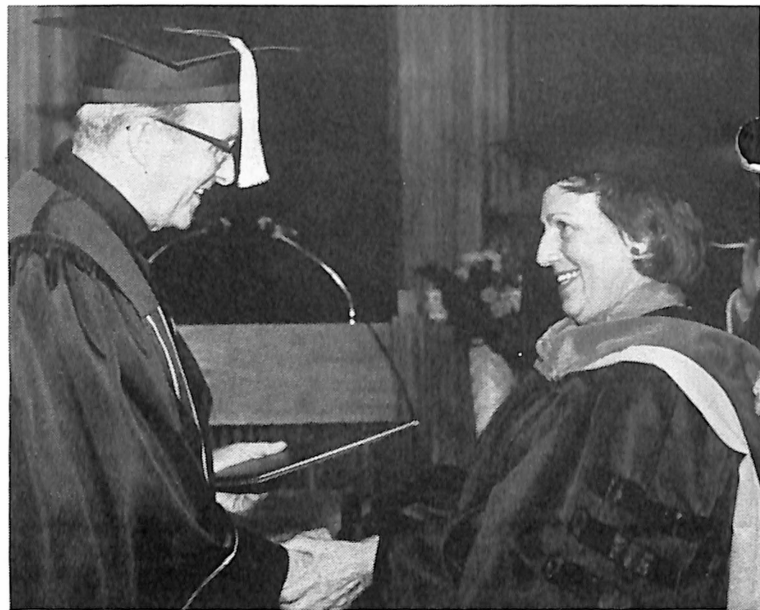
George's School, the Montreal Children's Hospital, the Montreal Symphony Orchestra, the Greater Montreal Welfare Agencies.

"When the Goldblooms moved to Halifax in 1967, Ruth continued her volunteer work. She founded and chaired from 1967-74 the gift shop for the Izaak Walton Killam Hospital for Children; convened its Kermesse in 1975; and between 1974 and 1980 was a board member of the Halifax Grammar School, of the Halifax School Commission, and of the Vocational School Board of Halifax. But most importantly for all of us at Mount Saint Vincent University, she became in 1974, at the invitation of Sister Katherine O'Toole, a member of our Board of Governors, a position she held until 1982. Between 1977-80 she chaired the board, and in 1979 chaired Project One, Futures for Women, the first major fund for this university which in addition to giving the Mount national visibility raised over three and one-half million dollars for scholarships and Rosaria Centre—the building which houses our gymnasium, student union and student services—the heart of the university's community life.

"It is in our hearts, because she led us with such energy, wit and warmth, that Ruth Goldbloom lives today. It is therefore wholly appropriate that in response to requests from family and friends the university has established the Ruth Goldbloom Scholarship Fund. This will be one of the jubilee scholarships which will celebrate the Mount's 60 years of being a degree-granting institution.

"But we cannot claim her exclusively. Her other projects and awards are legion. In 1978 she became a director of Nova Scotia's Voluntary Planning Association, in 1982 a director of Simpson's Ltd., from 1983 to 1985 she chaired the Halifax-Dartmouth United Israel Appeal. She was made a life member of Hadassah-Wizo in Halifax. In 1978 she received the Human Relations Award from the Canadian Council of Christians and Jews; in 1983 she was the only Canadian to receive the Citation Award for Volunteer of the Year from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education in Washington, D.C. She is currently, and predictably helping to raise funds for the new Art Gallery of Nova Scotia. She was the undisputed star of last December's The Man Who Came To Dinner which raised funds for Scotia Chamber Players.

"I have given only a partial outline of Ruth Goldbloom's work in the world since she graduated in 1944. It was a dark world then, it is a dark world today. But if you would fight the darkness you must light a candle. Ruth Goldbloom's is blazing."



A delighted Ruth Goldbloom is congratulated by Archbishop James Hayes after receiving her honorary degree at the afternoon convocation.

"Don't Sweep Aside the Tradition of Volunteerism and Giving"

The following is an edited version of the address given by honorary degree recipient Ruth Goldbloom, Dip.P.E., D.Hum.L., to the afternoon convocation:

My association with this university has been a great experience in functional ecumenism—not the once-in-a-while self-conscious, obligatory kind in which many of us have participated reluctantly. Not the annual brotherhood luncheon with a guest list that looks like the typical U.S. bomber crew of a Hollywood World War II movie—a crew that always included one of everything—one black, one Jew, one Italian, one Irish Catholic and so on—an unlikely mosaic, but guaranteed to soothe everyone's sensitive feelings.

Feeling Enriched

To me, functional ecumenism means people of different cultural, ethnic and religious backgrounds working together simply because they like each other and believe in a common cause. It is more than just shedding the inhibitions that result from mutual differences. It means feeling enriched by the special qualities each participant offers the other. That is the enrichment I've experienced while working on behalf of this university.

I've had the great good fortune to serve Mount Saint Vincent University under the scrutiny of a benevolent chancellor, who has consistently failed to conceal a great sense of humor behind a thin mask of appropriate ecclesiastical dignity. I have also been privileged to work closely with a president who has

propelled Mount Saint Vincent to new heights of distinction in this community and across Canada. She has hardly been the sort of president who glides unobtrusively through the life of the institution—and Mount Saint Vincent is much richer for her gifts as we all are.

Together Dr. Fulton and I have stormed the male-dominated bastions of corporate Canada to recruit support for a university strongly (though by no means exclusively) committed to the education of women. It wasn't always "an easy sell". One gruff captain of industry told us that he didn't see why he should contribute support to a Catholic university, since he came from a long line of Baptists. When we pointed out that before him, representing that very university, stood a prairie Protestant president and a Cape Breton Jewish chairman of the board, he realized he had been caught with his defenses down, and he rapidly capitulated and began to inscribe a cheque. We learned that it is possible for a university that sets high standards and emphasizes the education of women to gain the respect and support of the national community.

The thrust of the women's movement over the last 25 years has been to break down barriers of inequity or exclusion and to widen the range of opportunities for women. The job isn't finished, but the women of this graduating class have far greater skills and opportunities than their predecessors. I hope that Mount Saint Vincent has been a key player

in your preparation. As women scurry to put on well-tailored business suits, white coats, hard hats or overalls, I hope the push for career fulfillment doesn't sweep aside the tradition of volunteerism and the spirit of giving.

Robert Fulford, senior editor of Saturday Night magazine, complained recently that we have handed over to government our intuitive feeling that a strong member of the human species owes something to the weak. He says, "We have put our altruism in a blind trust, to be administered by civil servants". Mr. Fulford has a point. On the one hand, few of us want to abandon the government-sponsored social programs that protect us all from financial devastation through illness, old age or misfortune. But group efforts at social responsibility can easily suppress the incentive to make a personal contribution of time and resources.

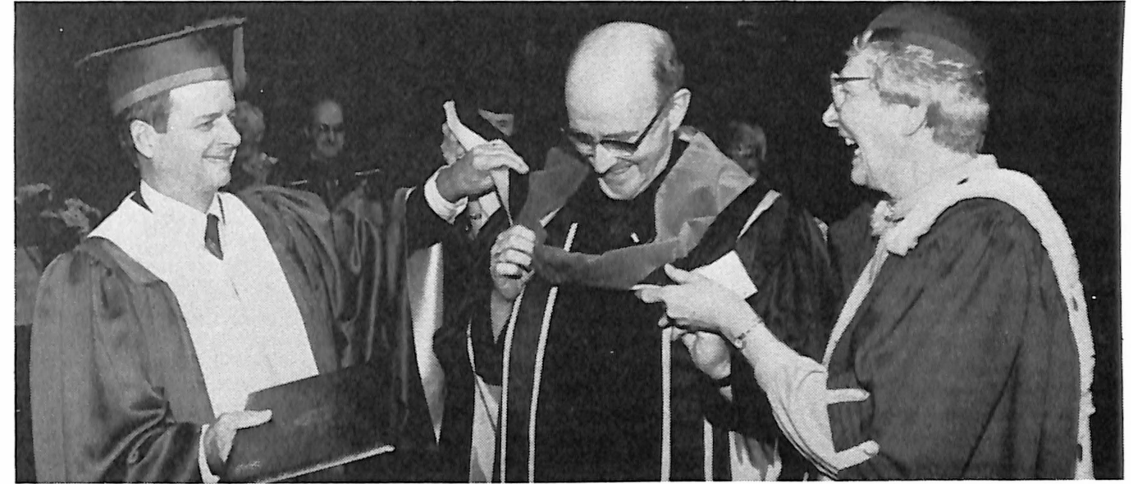
Despite Canada's prosperity on the world scale, our federal and provincial governments are running out of money. We have begun to realize that if we want a cultural life in Canada, then as individuals and as corporations we have to pay a significant portion of the bill out of our own pockets. If we want first-class symphony orchestras, theatres, artists, writers and universities then it is we, not the mysterious "they", who have to accept much of the responsibility for their support. The government that can do it all hasn't yet been elected or invented, and perhaps never will be nor should be.

Owe Them a Debt

As students at this university, you and your families have paid an average of \$1600 per year in tuition fees. The actual annual cost of your tuition is almost four times that amount, and you should know that your fellow citizens have put up the difference in order to make your education possible. I don't think it is unreasonable to suggest that you owe them a debt. One way to repay that debt is to use your education to leave your local, national and international communities a little better than you found them.

I also urge you to take a moment right now to think of a goal that is outside your personal career. That goal may involve your local community, your country or the international community—it doesn't matter. What matters is that the goal extends beyond your own needs and serves the needs of others. It's easy to find a dozen reasons for not making such a commitment—you are young, you are just getting started, you are in debt—and so on. But these are not reasons, they are excuses.

Once you have made such a commitment, I can promise you lifetime rewards beyond anything you can possibly derive from your principal career.



Chancellor Awarded Surprise Honorary Degree

The tables were neatly turned on Archbishop James M. Hayes, Chancellor of Mount Saint Vincent University, at the May 10 Convocation.

After conferring degrees, diplomas and certificates on nearly 500 Mount graduates; and honorary degrees on three distinguished Canadian women—Sr. Rosalie Bertell, Marie Hamilton and Ruth Goldbloom—Archbishop Hayes was himself recipient of an honorary degree of

Doctor of Humane Letters.

The event had been planned in complete secrecy—no easy task, as he is a member of the Mount's Board of Governors and would normally have been included in discussions of the choice of honorary degrees.

At the very end of the afternoon Convocation, Dr. Ken Ozmon, President of Saint Mary's University (where the Archbishop is also chancellor), rose to present him to president Dr. E. Margaret Fulton, Vice-Chancellor of the Mount.

He said, "In both his words and deeds, our Most Reverend Archbishop and Chancellor has more than adequately fulfilled his role as chief priest. He has not only tended to the needs of his own flock, but he has been in the forefront of those promoting ecumenism and harmony between his and others' . . . his concern for those materially and spiritually impoverished in other lands has led him, working with his priests and with the Sisters of Charity of the Mount Saint Vincent Motherhouse, to establish missions in South America; his great appreciation of the value of higher education has

made him a true friend and valuable guide as chancellor of both our universities. His personal life and dedication is a model for us all."

Archbishop Hayes became Chancellor of Mount Saint Vincent University in 1967 and has, in the past 20 years, conferred degrees, certificates and diplomas on more than 7,000 Mount graduates and all of its 33 honorary degree recipients.

"At this moment half a world away, over half a million people are starving to death in Ethiopia. This could be equated to the population of Nova Scotia. With little or no rain for the last three years they have neither the soil nor the energy to feed themselves or their children. At this moment, nearer our own door, Ronald Reagan and his country's military industrial complex have taken us from M.A.D. (mutually assured destruction) into the ludicrous assumption that it is possible to win a full-scale nuclear war because we will have sustained less damage than our counterparts in the East. At this moment, because of increased violence on television and in the theatres, we are becoming desensitized to the violence, as well as the sexism which is highly noticeable in TV commercials, newspaper and billboard ads, and the reading materials which can be found in any corner store.

"What can one Mount graduate do? Be responsible! We have a responsibility to educate and inform not only our peers but also our children. Children are our greatest natural resource. We have a responsibility to the aged in our society. We must use wisely their council of years and experience. However, more than anything else, we have a responsibility to ourselves. A mind may be a terrible thing to waste but to waste an education is an irretrievable loss. We are now part of that educated community. As graduates of 1985 we can maintain an awareness of the evils of society but at the same time celebrate the capacity of the human soul to survive."

Each Graduate Has a Different Story to Tell

Valedictorian Teresa Francis, Bachelor of Home Economics with distinction and winner of a President's Prize, told those attending the morning convocation how important it was to become involved in the life of the university. "In March, 1984, at the end of my third year, an event of great importance to me took place—I was elected President of the Student Union. Holding this position presented me with the opportunity to become familiar with every aspect of the university. I worked with students, with faculty, with administration, and with staff, and I developed a much clearer image of Mount Saint Vincent University. For the first time, I studied the Mount's history, I became aware of the amount of time and effort which have been dedicated to developing this university from the academy which was first established by the Sisters of Charity in 1873.

"Each member of the class of '85 has a different story to tell, because none of us has experienced the Mount in the same way. We all know that as we leave here, our work is far from over. Because we live in a world that is far from perfect. Setbacks and disappointments await us, but so, too, do more of the good times of our lives. Remember, it takes both rain and sunshine to make a rainbow!"

Be Responsible And Be Aware!

Valedictorian Joseph Daniel McKinnon, Bachelor of Arts, talked about the future responsibilities of graduates in an uncertain world. He is the first male valedictorian the Mount has ever had.

"Our past here at the Mount," he said, "has been a sustaining experience. But what about our future? Someone once stated, 'a pessimist is just a well-educated optimist'. It is true one does tend to become pessimistic through increased awareness of the world around us. We know that taxes will always rise, regardless of what the politicians say, that acid rain will continue to fall, and that in all probability, Albert Einstein was right when he said, 'World War Four will be fought with sticks and stones'."

Profile



Ruth Jeppesen

If one word can describe Ruth Jeppesen it's "eclectic". There's not much that she can't turn her hand to and this is invaluable in her position at the Mount, assisting Dulcie Conrad, Director of Public Relations. something she has done for nearly six years.

The job is demanding and requires a special kind of temperament—an ability to juggle several tasks at once,

to keep a myriad facts and figures in mind, to be able to deal with other people tactfully. "It's the most challenging job I've ever had," Jeppesen admits, "but I feel that some of the others I held before coming here have helped me with this one."

Jeppesen was raised in Cole Harbour, educated at Graham Creighton High School and graduated from Acadia University in 1973 with a Bachelor of Arts degree and a Diploma in Secretarial Sciences. Then she set off with a friend, "to travel across Canada by car," something that many students long to do. "Our car broke down in Winnipeg," she remembers, "and we stayed there for the next year and a half—we never did make it to the west coast!"

It was in Winnipeg that she worked as a waitress and a shift supervisor in a restaurant. "If you can apologise to someone who's just had a runny egg dumped in his lap, and he tells you that it's quite okay, then you know you've said something right!" Jeppesen says. That ability to keep things going smoothly in spite of glitches, hang-ups, misunderstandings or just bad luck, is one of her biggest assets and one that her co-workers truly appreciate; also her gift

for organizing often complicated schedules for events, deadlines or just everyday routines.

She has just come through her sixth Convocation, "My three busiest months of the year, from March to May," she says, when she looks after the complete printing schedule including programs, invitations, tickets and so on, and organizes graduation packs for several hundred students.

This year she was a grad herself, being awarded a Certificate in Business Administration after taking one course a year for four years during evening classes. "I cared a lot more about how I did for this certificate than 12 years ago at university," she says. "I'm a different kind of student now."

Jeppesen recently added creative writing to her other talents and takes on a proportion of the editorial material for the newly-expanded bi-weekly newsletter, *The Connection*.

For relaxation she likes to jog, "but only on a some-time basis," although both her mother and brother are serious runners. Her brother ran recently in the Boston Marathon and Jeppesen went along to cheer him on. She also enjoys canoeing and is a talented amateur photographer.

FULTON (from page 1)

"We are now accustomed to having members of the same family graduate together. Today two sisters, Deborah and Donna Day graduate: Deborah with a Master of Arts in Education and Donna with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree. We are delighted that their parents have come from Great Britain especially for the celebration.

"Every year sees another 'first' for the Mount and this year there are three significant 'firsts' to celebrate. 1) Wanda Mannette is our first student to graduate with the new Bachelor of Science in Home Economics (Honours) degree and I am pleased to congratulate her on receiving this degree with First Class Honours. That sets a fine tradition for those who will follow. 2) Among the Master of Education graduates today are the first students to have obtained their degrees in Reading through the External Program. Designed to serve the needs of students unable to commute to the campus on a regular basis, this program is yet another manifestation of distance education at Mount Saint Vincent University. 3) Although not a graduating student, congratulations are also in order for Diane Doré, a third-year BA (Honours) student in French who is the first Mount Saint Vincent student to be awarded one of the prestigious Queen Elizabeth Silver Jubilee Scholarships for study in a second official language anywhere in Canada. Only six scholarships are awarded across the country. Diane plans to use hers to

complete her honours French program at Laval University and will graduate in May of 1986.

"1985 is an exceptional year in the history of the university. It is exactly 60 years since the Province of Nova Scotia passed the legislation which gave the university degree-granting status. In the fall of this year, we will hold a special Convocation for our Diamond Jubilee. At that time we hope to announce six-named Jubilee Scholarships—one for each decade.

BERTELL (from page 2)

example, through our nuclear bomb testing there are more than 157 million tons of radioactive chemical debris in the stratosphere gradually falling down on the northern hemisphere. We cannot stop the effect it will eventually have, reducing both the health of children and the healthfulness of the earth on which these children must depend for life-support.

Should you come to the point of laying down your life, do it for peace—not for war. It is not possible to put an end to violence by using violence. You will need to learn nonviolent methods of bringing about change, and nonviolent defence. Because you stand as vulnerable and nonviolent, violence may be used against you by those who believe that it is the only way to survive. You could not lay down your life in a more fruitful way. Many, many women have preceded you on this difficult path of attempting social change. It will be your task to phase out war as an acceptable means of

resolving differences of opinion between nations. This is a global task, and one which must obviously be undertaken in solidarity with the women of the Soviet Union and all other countries.

I do not want to give you a false sense of hope. We are indeed in the throes of the crisis, and either breakdown or breakthrough are certainly possible global outcomes. It is my personal opinion that no other human work should be undertaken until the crisis is past and we know that the direction of history has changed. I find myself unable to pretend that life is normal while threatened with global nuclear or star wars, catastrophic ecological disaster or slow poisoning and genetic destruction. If I cannot bring about change, I will keep watch over the dying earth.

The frog jumps out of the pan when it realizes that it has this option and is not doomed to slow death. Go forth then and sound the alarm as you experience the pain. Do not allow yourself to be boxed in by what has always been done, but find new ways to live in harmony with yourself and your beautiful planet earth. Life is stronger than death. The future belongs to those who can hope and who have the courage to care for what life is left in this badly scarred earth. We do not intend to abandon you, but we do look to you to help us to see where we have gone wrong. Believe in yourselves, remain clear-sighted and lighthearted, seek solidarity, and refuse to be boxed into a death pattern.

Greetings

"It is a joy for me to bring greetings to the honorary degree recipients on behalf of the Corporation of the University and Congregation of the Sisters of Charity."

We recognize you as women who allowed your vision and gifts to move you beyond your personal lives into the communal dimension of life at all levels.

Rosalie—we recognize you as a woman of great scholarship and deep commitment to the issues that profoundly affect the human community on a global dimension.

Ruth—we recognize you as a woman of warmth and wit who has charmed our lives and has contributed through continued care to the future of the university and futures for women in many ways beyond these walls.

Marie—we recognise you as a woman of compassion and dedication. You saw the needs of the community, especially the poor, and spent yourself tirelessly on their behalf.

So, we thank you for sharing your lives with us, for using your gifts of mind and heart with such courage and dedication.

You have our admiration, congratulations and continued friendship. It is a joy, for us, to know that we journey with women like you as we all try to create that future where the dignity of the human person is at the heart of our society."

Sister Mary Ellen Loar
at Chancellor's Dinner
May 9, 1985

KENNEDY (from page 3)
housekeeper, commented to her on how clean the floors were. Marie called the housekeeper over and said: "This visitor has just been admiring how clean you keep the house". "Thus, in her own quiet way, Marie taught her children by example how to resist and deal with stereotyping; and with a strong sense of personal identity, has encouraged others—old and young, black and white—to do likewise."

the connection

The Connection is published bi-weekly through the university's office of Public Relations, Mount Saint Vincent University, 166 Bedford Highway, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3M 2J6.

Copy should be submitted to Evaristus Rm. 215, 12 days prior to publication.

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