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—Press Photo by Kent Bauger

Mayor Peter F. Flaherty addresses women at day-long liberation movement conference here.

Women's Goal On Up And Up, Pete Says

By CAROLYN HAY

Mayor Peter F. Flaherty today hailed the women's liberation movement as a "legitimate goal."

Flaherty, in an unscheduled appearance before the day-long women's rights conference at Lawrence Hall, Point Park College, proclaimed today as "Women's Rights Day" in Pittsburgh.

He urged all citizens "to work vigorously to end bias and discrimination on the basis of sex wherever it may exist."

"I know you are treated somewhat as clerks when you seek employment," Flaherty told the crowd of about 300, including mostly women and a scattering of men.

The participants included housewives, students, female workers and others who took time off to strike in recognition of the 50th anniversary of women's suffrage.

Flaherty said, "Many people who are afraid of the movement don't realize the legitimacy of it."

He referred to his appointment of Rosalyn Litman as City Parking Authority chairman as a step in the equal rights direction.

Catherine East, executive secretary of the Citizens Advisory Council on the Status of Women, predicted a "sharp increase of women in political office."

Attired in a yellow pantsuit, Mrs. East said the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment by the Senate last month makes it

The employment problem was expected to be further scrutinized later today by Arthur Fletcher, assistant U. S. labor secretary.

"Employment is the major problem here," said Nancy Van Vuuren, organizer of the conference and assistant professor at the University of Pittsburgh.

"There are no women in the top echelons of city government, of the corporations, of banks and of the universities."

Also speaking and conducting morning workshops were Dorothy Haener, a United Auto Workers representative, who discussed "Women in Labor Unions," and Althea Simmons, NAACP national training director, who talked on "Woman, the Individual."

Besides Fletcher, the afternoon speakers included Elizabeth Scott, president of the Pittsburgh Council on Women's Rights, who discussed

"Women and the Family," and Cathleen Schurr Skelly, writer and member of Pittsburgh's National Organization for Women (NOW) who spoke about the Equal Rights Amendment.

A town meeting, beginning at 8 p. m., will feature an open-end discussion led by State Rep. Gerald Kaufman, D-Squirrel Hill, William Moore, Pittsburgh police inspector, and Florynce Kennedy, New York City lawyer.

The theme of the conference is "Women Today: From Here to Equality."

Participation in the workshops ranged from 30 to 100 women.

At one workshop, the discussion touched on the need for day care centers, the need for husbands to help raise children especially in the case of working wives, the "brainwashing" of girls to prepare them for traditional women's roles and the "tokenism" of the news media and law and medical schools.

One participant raised the idea of communal living to replace today's nuclear family.



CATHERINE EAST
Discusses working women.

SPEECH MATERIAL