

# What's a Good Housewife Worth?

At the invitation of the Homemakers Committee of the Commission on the Observance of International Women's Year, Professor Margo Melli has produced a brief, but very useful monograph on the Legal Status of Homemakers in Wisconsin.

Professor Melli discusses the disadvantages which a homemaker, who does not work outside the home, has in a separate property state like Wisconsin. One section reviews the state of the law in an on-going marriage, pointing out that the woman who has assumed total responsibility for raising children so her husband is free to devote himself to succeeding in business may acquire no property herself, unless, of course, her husband makes her a gift.

Another section reviews the problems caused to a widow by the separate property law of Wisconsin. The economic problems for a wife in divorce are discussed. Problems such as child support, custody, and wife abuse, are also covered.

The Legal Status of Homemakers in Wisconsin begins with an introduction by former U.S. Representative Martha Griffin of Michigan.

It is for sale (\$2.00) by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

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Professor Melli

# What's New in the Law Review Vol. 1977, No. 2

Mark Sostarich,  
Editor-in-Chief

The upcoming issue of the Wisconsin Law Review, Volume 1977, No. 2, published in mid-September, offers interesting reading on a variety of topics. Number 2 features two lead articles. "Subsidizing Open Communities," by R. H. Silverman, deals comprehensively with the problems of establishing low-income housing in suburban communities. And Marlene A. Nicholson takes a critical look at the Supreme Court's analysis of the Federal Election Campaign Act in "*Buckley v. Valeo: The Constitutionality of the Federal Election Campaign Act Amendments of 1975.*"

Several student case notes treat topics holding significance for Wisconsin attorneys. In the criminal law area, *State ex rel Prellwitz v. Schmidt*, a decision dealing with the due process implications of probation and parole revocation in Wisconsin, is examined.

In the public employment area, U.S. Supreme Court decisions in *Bishop v. Wood* and *Hortonville Joint School District No. 1 v. Hortonville Educational Assoc.* are reviewed. The *Bishop* note explores the historical development and current status of the "property interest" in public employment. The *Hortonville* note examines, in a due process-administrative law context, the school board's authority to dismiss striking teachers.

The topic of primary jurisdiction as between courts and administrative agencies is addressed in a case-note on *Nader v. Allegheny Airlines*. Finally, the propriety of paying contingency fees to expert witnesses is considered in a student review of *Person v. Association of the Bar of the City of New York*.