

# BPW rolls up sleeves in battle for ERA

By SHIRLEE IDEN

If another war ever breaks out, America will be defended by a push button system and it won't matter who pushes the buttons. American women will work for their country just as British women did. Anyway, the draft is over and nurses actually were drafted in World War II.

All this is part of Clara Daniels' argument for the Equal Rights Amendment and against its rescission in Michigan.

Mrs. Daniels was in Southfield recently for the Michigan Federation of Business and Professional Women's meeting in Southfield where more than 900 women gathered to discuss issues that face every woman.

"We will fight against the rescission of ERA," said Mrs. Daniels who was accompanied by Mrs. Charrie Peterson of Southfield, a past state president of BPW and a member of the Southfield group.

This is the number one item on the national organization's legislative platform and we have put a lot of money into this for some 30 years."

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and into factories in World War II and if my country needed defending, I'd be there to do it."

She pointed out that ERA means equal rights for men as well as women, in fact, calls for equality for all human beings.

"ERA will not mean a disruption of the family as it's detractors say," she emphasized. "The family is the backbone of this country. Women fighting ERA feel it threatens them in some way, but it doesn't. Divorce laws will not change. Judges have the final say on that and ERA would not take children away from mothers."

She pointed out that only four more states are needed for it to be ratified as a constitutional amendment.

"It's a law whose time has come," she affirmed. "I think we business and professional women have not done the educational job we should have about equality under the law."

MRS. DANIELS, born and raised in Chicago, has lived in Michigan for 30 years and considers herself a "Michigander."

Active in business, politics and organizations, she thinks the climate in Michigan is good for women and that they are making great strides.

Fighting for women's rights is no part-time occupation or mere whim to her. She is Chairwoman of the Michigan Women's Commission, the advocacy agency for all the state's women.

Appointed in January 1973 by Governor Milliken to be the commission's vice chairman, she became chairwoman in July of last year.

"We have three task forces," she said. "One on education, one on public information and one on employment. In addition, we have an ongoing task force on the health delivery system."

MRS. DANIELS said the commission job is very time consuming.

"There are 15 commissioners who repre-

sent all Michigan women," she explained. "Our concerns are with women who can't speak for themselves. They need training, education and all sorts of help."

Chairwoman of the Republican Party in her county, she says that politics is a hobby with her and she's been doing political chores since she was 14 years old.

"I think that everyone should be a part of their community," she said. "I'd like to help people achieve what they want to do."

"I'm going to get my hide nailed to the wall on some things, but I'm outspoken and don't like to say only what people want to hear."

MRS. DANIELS' most loyal fans are her husband, her two grown daughters and her six grandchildren.

Her affiliation with the Business and Professional Women goes back 30 years.

"I joined to give something, rather than get something," she said. "I'd like to help people achieve what they want to do."

Beginning in 1919, she said, the BPW, has attempted to do just that.

"In 1919, the Secretary of War went to Lina Madison Phillips, the national secretary of YWCA, and asked her to mobilize women," she recounted. "They wanted women needed to help the country in any emergency. They decided to have a national federation of business and professional women. Michigan sent delegates to the first meeting and joined the next year."

MICHIGAN WOMEN took the leadership right from the start and have produced three national presidents.

BPW covers the entire spectrum for women. Any woman who works full- or part-time has a right to join.

"We have opened many doors for women," Mrs. Daniels said. "We have people who clean motel rooms and the assistant deputy Secretary of State, Virginia Allen."

"You don't have to have arrived before you join the Business and Professional Women's Organization."



CLARA DANIELS

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## Israel Bond tribute goes to Joseph Jackier

Israel's Ambassador-at-Large Max Varon will be the guest speaker, and Farmington resident Joseph H. Jackier will be the honoree when Congregation Shalom Zedek holds its annual Israel Bond Tribute Dinner. The event will be held in the Southfield synagogue May 24.

Jackier will be presented with the Jerusalem City of Peace Award on behalf of the State of Israel Bond organization in recognition of "an auspicious record of service to his congregation and the community."

Varon, diplomat and adviser on Jewish communities for Israel's Foreign Ministry,

occupies a post that was created this year to cover relations with Jewish communities in both communist and non-communist countries.

Varon emigrated to Palestine in 1939 from Nazi Germany. In 1965 he joined Israel's diplomatic corps. After the Yom Kippur War, he served as the director of the Foreign Ministry's Political Department covering Asia, Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific area.

Reservations for the dinner may be made through the synagogue office, 357-5644.



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