

Women's Centre participates in Multifusion

What's good enough for master is good enough for feline. Junipergets his nose into the news while master, Marcia reads the front page and mans the Nelson Women's Centre Booth at Multifusion. After all, the back page isn't that bad! ... Staff photo by Peggy Pawelko

What's good enough for mistress is good enough for feline. Juniper gets her nose into the news while mistress Marcia reads the front page and staffs the Nelson Women's Centre Booth at Multifusion.

Editorial Page SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 1974

The Daily News

MEMBER OF THE CANADIAN PRESS AND THE AUDIT BUREAU OF CIRCULATIONS.

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Established April 22, 1902

Nelson, B.C.

Published by the NEWS PUBLISHING COMPANY LIMITED, 266 Baker Street. Nelson, British Columbia morning except Sundays and holidays in the centre of the Kootenays, with the largest daily circulation in the interior of B.C.

SECOND CLASS MAIL REGISTRATION NUMBER 0522

This was written appended without the letter shot prevoked it i

Miss, Mrs. or Ms?

People worry about the strangest things in a world in which there is an oversupply of legitimate worries.

One of these worries which a portion of our female population seem so preoccupied with is womens' liberation.

The News received a letter this week from a lady or person (you have to be careful what you call them now) who expressed strong resentment about a photo caption in The News which referred to a woman as the master of a cat. Adding further to her distress, was a statement that the lady was manning a booth at Multifusion for the Women's Centre.

The complaint was lodged by Marcia Ann Grossbard who claims she finds our blatant sexism offensive.

Our apologies to Ms. Grossbard. It's obvious now that we should have referred to the cat's owner as mistress and also that the lady was staffing the women's booth. Somehow womanning just doesn't sound right.

Anyway, the matter is just one of a bunch of new headaches for journalists.

Example: It is no longer safe to address letters to "Dear Sir" or "Gentlemen" when you are unaware of the sex of the person addressed. It seems that this is a distressing reflection of male chauvinism to which female secretaries have submitted too long.

Ms. Magazine whose sex is revealed in its title, has put out the word that a proper greeting is "To Whom It May Concern," or "Colleague" or "Friend."

There is a general movement among the authorities on the subject against the use of "Dear" as an adjective in the greeting — unless, of course you know to whom you're writing.

There's the rub. Chauvinist Max Beerbohm has been given credit for replying as follows to a letter addressed to him as "Dear Sir or Madame'': "If you don't know whether I'm Sir or Madame, don't write me."

To which may be appended: A proper greeting is not "Resident" or "Box Holder."