

20

4504 West Second Avenue Vancouver 8 British Columbia

October 20, 1970

Dear Carolyn:

The flower exrays arrived yesterday, and I think they are magnificent. Helen is as enthusiastic as I. I have them all on the mantle in the living room at the moment, and every moment we've had a chance we've looked at them and will for weeks if you can spare them that long. To be able to keep one or two is simply marvelous. I feel sure that there can be an exhibit in Vancouver. The curator of the UBC gallery, a good friend of ours, is on leave this year, but we can talk with his second in command. Also we'll check in ~~x~~ with the art gallery. Someone should know the best place to exhibit them. I need to know how many there are, and it would be dandy to have his article as well. Is he interested in selling copies? There are a number of selling galleries in town I could check with if so. Also I'll check at Simon Fraser. I have a friend there in audio-viz who will be very enthusiastic. Later this afternoon Helen and I will probably go down to see a show that opened last night of John Korner's ~~work~~ paintings. We weren't able to get to the opening because we couldn't get out of a meeting; so we want to get down as soon as we can. I think I'll just take the exray-flowers along for fun. I'll hold off on any official move until I have some notion of the ~~xx~~ size of the exhibit and his article.

I'm badly pressed for time; so this will have to be a fairly scatty note. I didn't want to wait to tell you how beautiful I think these are. Helen's enthusiasm is a greater tribute simply because she is both more knowledgeable and more involved in the visual arts than I am, getting to more shows than I manage.

We've had ten days of house guests, which has put me behind my own private schedule, and yesterday the galleys for AGAINST THE SEASON came in. I ~~xxx~~ need to get through those in ~~x~~ a week, and it's slow work. Also had a call from a friend in Montreal, saying that book stores aren't stocking THIS IS NOT FOR YOU and are changing \$10.80 a copy for special orders. A librarian there who ordered ten copies ~~x~~ still hasn't received them. Fortunately, the editor of Doubleday, handling the book in Canada, will be out here next week and is giving 'a little party' for several west coast writers. I hope to button hole him then and see if something can't be done. Did I ~~x~~ tell you that the Vancouver Sun finally got round to reviewing the book? It's a bloody battle. Glad you're enjoying Kate's book. We can't get either of our copies back from the people who borrowed them. I suppose we'll end by buying a third. Ah well. It's as good a way to lose books as I know.

Yes, there are radicals and kooks in Women's Lib, but here, so far, the group at UBC is dominated by people who are interested in consciousness raising (as the jargon goes) and in specific actions within the system to improve the lot of women. It's amazing and marvelous to me to listen to both the candor and intelligence of the discussion. Several of the graduate students who are working on topics to do with women in literature are forming a study group to pool their research, and I've agreed to join them for a while at

least.

I think a good many women are afraid to acknowledge the extent of their anger, not knowing what they would do with it if they did. Your own sense of being trapped in the authority pattern is precisely wh at Women's Lib is about, and I agree that changes take place in individual people always, but they are supported when individual people realize that they aren't alone in their feelings and views, and that's accomplished by people talk~~ing~~ ~~xxxx~~ together, by books, by films, by a number of public statements of one sort or another. Men have as much to gain as women in the changing of attitudes, and more and more are realized~~g~~ it and saying so. Well, Kate says it all brilliantly.

Arrogance in the young and competant is an important protection. I imagine I'll like Catherine, and her views suggest that she'll be very ~~xxxx~~ suspicious of me. I do hope this spring we all will finally meet.

Affectionately,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to be the name "Jane".