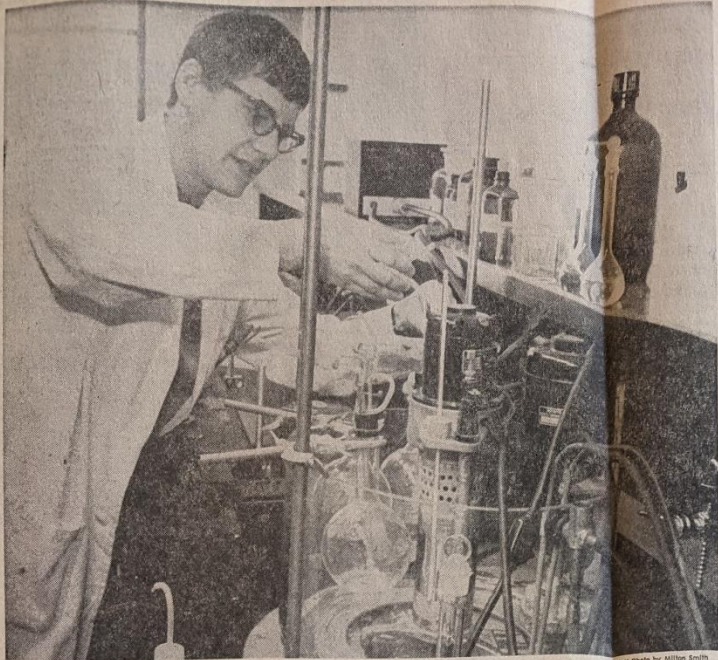
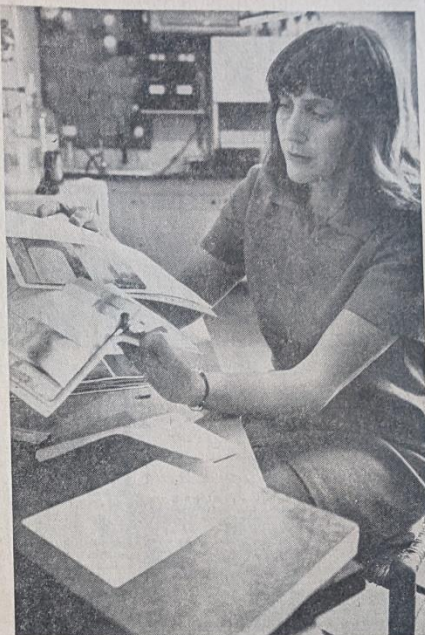




DR. ANNEKE ALLEN, ONLY WOMAN ON WSU'S CHEMISTRY FACULTY
... Husband-hunting coeds are her pet peeve ... they quit school to marry ...



MRS. JOHN BUTLER, METAL PLATING CONSULTANT
... She tests plates by the thousands for company ...

CAREERS IN CHEMISTRY

No Formula for Fulfillment in Lab

By HASSELL BRADLEY
Women's Staff Writer

There's no chemical formula for fulfillment. But at least two Wichita women have found careers and gratification in chemistry laboratories. Mrs. John Butler, 2527 N. Roosevelt Court, is a consultant for a metal plating company. In the past four years she has tested thousands of sample metal rectangles in a garage laboratory she has moved from city to city as she followed her English professor husband from one university campus to another.

Dr. Anneke Allen, whose husband Donald is a Boeing engineer, is the only woman chemistry faculty member at Wichita State University. Her pet peeve, she says, is college coeds whose main goal in life is finding a husband.

"WHAT GRIPES me," she emphasizes, "are the women who quit college to get married and then work to put their husbands through school. They'll work right up until their husbands get their Ph.D.s. Then the husbands may feel they've outgrown their wives and dump them. The divorce statistics in this type of situation are staggering. Florence Butler explains, 'the wives of university faculty members are stumbling around looking for something to do. Unless they are professionally trained, there isn't much chance for them to become anything more than a secretary or clerk.'"

"However," Doctor Allen says, "chemistry, medicine and the other sciences don't seem too glamorous. I think girls these days are terrible. They don't go after professions. They go after jobs."

ANNEKE ALLEN has gone after a profession ever since she moved to this country from the Netherlands in 1952 to complete her graduate work at Tulane University.

"Chemistry was the only science I could think of," she said, "in which I would not have to teach. I come from a long line of teachers and I intended to rebel. Now look at what I'm doing ... I teaching. But university teaching is ideal ... especially for a married woman."

Anneke and Donald have three daughters. Their twins, Bonnie and Missy, are nine, and Becky is six.

"Chemistry is still a man's field," Doctor Allen said. "While I can remember no overt discrimination

toward me because of my sex, I do recall prospective employers telling me they couldn't hire me because there were no facilities for women in their plants."

"Hopefully, men will eventually learn to accept women in chemistry. Once you have made it and they discover you're not stupid, you're okay."

If you're not married to a chemist, it's sometimes hard to get a job if you're not in an industrial town. We lived here four years before I found a job. And I have a Ph.D."

MRS. BUTLER solved the job problem in a different way. "I've managed to work professionally most of the 18 years we've been married," she says. "I've done research work a time or two. When we move on and I get out of touch with research I work as a library consultant. I get in touch with a company which needs library research done in chemistry."

"One of the men I first worked for suggested this as a possibility. A lot of women have done it. It's not easy to step into without a contact or two, however."

"One of my friends was a research chemist. She had to move with her husband to a city which would be away from laboratory research. She made herself a specialist in patent research and has a new and very good career."

Mrs. Butler works from 20 to 25 hours in her lab in the garage across a small courtyard from the family room.

The mother of three children, David, 15; Nancy, 7, and Robin, 9, Mrs. Butler received her bachelor of science from the University of Maine and her master of arts degree from Smith College.

Her husband is the director of freshmen and sophomore English at WSU. The Butlers moved to Wichita a year and a half ago.

"I'VE TRIED to turn my sex into an advantage in my career," Mrs. Butler explains. "I've always been in a situation where a woman has never been hired before. I think my little successes have made people look at me with interest and they have reacted in a nice way."

"On my first job I was working on optical bleaches ... you know, the colored bleach granules in washing powder ... to make white clothes whiter."

"I developed a chemical process for making one of these bleaches. I built it up to a pilot-plant

scale and developed it to a plant production basis. This was very unusual for a woman, but I found the workmen cooperative."

"I think that often it is a woman's fault if she encounters discrimination. I have approached situations of this sort with the assumption that I am no different."

However, there are concessions which a woman must make. For instance, I once worked with a gigantic, 2,000-gallon kettle which had catwalks above it. I had to dress in slacks in order to look proper in that situation."

"BUT I'M not feminine when I work and I'm a very good mechanic. You see, I grew up on a marginal farm in Maine. My father made and repaired everything himself. I grew up with the idea that if something needs doing, you do it yourself."

Maybe that explains why Mrs. Butler has designed and made her own clothing most of her life, why she makes most of her children's clothing and why she designs and makes most of the furniture in the family's home.

In spite of her part-time job and time-consuming hobbies, Mrs. Butler has somehow managed to obtain four patents for plating and stripping metals and write three articles for scientific journals.

"I like to spend my mornings in the laboratory," she says. "The afternoons I spend with the children and I relax in the evenings with my husband."

"THE nicest thing about my career is that I can fit it into my life at any time of the day."

"I've also become very involved in PTA and women's organizations."

Perhaps her favorite group is the one made up of four other women chemists and their husbands. The women have discovered each other through Welcome Wagon and through neighbors and friends.

Besides Mrs. Butler and Doctor Allen, they are Mrs. William Carper, 1834 N. Harvard; Mrs. Peter Mao, 8125 Morningridge Drive, and Mrs. Alan Meyer, 411 Rutland.

When the women and their husbands get together, do these ladies gather in a group and talk shop?

"Very seldom," Doctor Allen replies. "Remember, our husbands aren't chemists."

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Of Interest to WOMEN

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There May Be Strength in Grief

By GAY PAULEY

NEW YORK (UPI) — The statistic is grim. Some eight million women belong to its often lonely, often tragic, often pessimistic group. They're the ones who either give up to grief or struggle to rejoin the human race.

They're the widows of the U.S.A. Books on widowhood and adjustment to it and the one-parent role have been written before, some of them by persons with little or no acquaintance with loss in their own lives.

But now, a widow tells it like it is, in a forthright and haunting account, tells it in terms of her strong religious faith that helped her through the first difficult months, tells it with candor and often, amazingly, with humor.

THE BOOK is "When You're a Widow" (Concordia, St. Louis) and its author is Charissa Start, a columnist and feature writer for the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

"Nobody understands but another widow," says the author. But her writings should help others understand the widow's reactions from the initial shock and grief until the day she realizes that once more she has to become part of the world around her.

"If there were no other message for widows in the experience of one of our vast number, this would be the message: You can surmount your grief. You can rejoin the human race."

You may even be a better member of the human race because of your sorrow. You will — eventually — even sense a certain pity for those whose lives have not been touched by grief, for they have not lived life to the fullest."

MISS START, a writer for more than 20 years, was widowed after 29 years of marriage to E. Gary Davidson, a prominent political and civic figure in Missouri. He was the victim of a heart attack, leaving his widow to bring up their teen-aged son.

Numbing, tearless grief was hers for the first few days. But the future must be faced and she describes the cold details of papers, documents, applications, transfers, and the disposal of personal effects the widow must face.

Despite the advice of friends to "get away for a while," Miss Start said she found that a change of scene was that only — "don't go away to try to forget your grief. You'll only take your sorrow with you."

But the author emphasizes that as each person is an individual, so each widow's reactions are individual, her emotional outbursts may be created by any number of things — the supper hour, a trip alone to the supermarket, hearing an old tune ...

ONCE THE WIDOW turns around to participate again, she'll also find the fear of being a fifth wheel at any social gathering. Her solution in large groups was to keep circulating so no one couple would feel obliged to ask her to join them. Often she forced herself to attend a party that "hadn't been as much fun as all that ... All I'd gotten out of it were some unneeded calories ..."

But forcing herself to go it alone, she found, was a "moral victory. Next time it would be easier."

One of Miss Start's chapters is headed "Sex and the Single Widow." "At first the very idea that you might someday feel physical desire for another man is completely repugnant," she says. "You are on a spiritual plane, communing with the saints ..."

But as time passes, there is that need to love and be loved. "There are no rules for widows," she goes on. "She must make her own. (But) the wise widow would, I should think, confine her social life to men who are marriageable and whom she'd want to marry — even if she doesn't think (now) that she'll ever want to marry."

And there is sublimation of both grief and the longing in service to others — "there is much to be gained from thinking of others rather than yourself."



MRS. BUTLER LOVES TO DESIGN AND MAKE USEFUL ITEMS
... children; made most of family's furniture, too ...

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