

Issue 70

## Women as Scientists and Inventors

A National Inventors Hall of Fame near Washington in 1984 had 52 members. Not one was a woman. Not:

- **Marie Curie**, who discovered radium and won a Nobel Prize in physics in 1903.
- **Lise Meitner**, who discovered and named nuclear fission.
- **Gladys Hobby**, for the development of oxytetracycline (Terramycin™).
- **Carrie Everson** for her oil flotation system for separating gold and silver from rocky ore.
- **Eleanor Raymond** and **Maria Telkes**, for major contributions to modern domestic solar heating.
- **Jocelyn Bell**, who shared in the discovery of the first pulsar.
- **Maria Goeppert Mayer**, who won a Nobel Prize in physics in 1963 for her work on the shell model of the atomic nucleus.
- **Bette Graham**, who invented Liquid Paper.
- **Rosalind Franklin**, who shared in the discovery of the double-helix structure of DNA.
- **Barbara McClintock**, who won a Nobel Prize for her demonstration of the transfer of genetic information among a single individual's chromosomes.

This deplorable state of affairs might justify a project to identify more women scientists and inventors and to examine their achievements.