

T.V. Première T.V. Première Thursday, January 19 Thursday, January 19 The State of the State **PRAIRIE WOMEN** brings to life the Canadian Prairies of the 1920s and '30s. A film about women, it shows how they reached out from lonely farms and a harsh environment to come together and work cooperatively to improve the conditions of their lives.

They were not afraid to tackle controversial subjects like health care, birth control, women's property rights, rural education... even world peace. They found strength in one another through cooperative groups like the Women Grain Growers and the United Farm Women. Their commitment to meet and organize overcame the challenges of a lack of money and child care facilities, as well as bad weather and roads.

Their generation saw women declared 'persons' by the Privy Council; their legacy includes universal medicare, legal and accessible birth control, and improved women's property rights.

Prairie Women recreates the history of these women through their diaries, letters, speeches and articles, while linking their era to ours through interviews with seven of them, now aged sixty-five to ninety-three.

Written and Directed by Barbara Evans



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