The national scene

Copy deadline-date for #35: May 1st. (Got that, CIA, IRS, FBI, and ALA?) Send "feedback," short bibliographies, directories, Task Force & affiliate news, draft resolutions, data on "things to get," reviews, columns, muckraking musings, hot contacts, & anything else worth sharing with SRRT colleagues to Sandy Berman, Editor, 2412 Girard Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55469. Especially sought for the next issue (which concludes "Scoop" Berman's 2-year editorial stint): more "hard," practical info on library unions; kids' unlacquered opinions on recent "juvenalia," both print & A/V; and complete winner-lists, including author-title-imprint details, for little-publicized but socially-relevant literary & media prizes (e.g., Newport-Caldebera, Council on Interracial Books for Children, Charles & Berrie G. Schwartz, Edward Lewis Wallant, W.E.B. DuBois, Anisfield-Wolf, & Melcher Awards).

Jerrie Anderson draws the mastheads. Faculty Press (1449 - 37th St., Brooklyn, NY 11218) prints. Dorothy Broderick & Steve Wolf write exclusive columns. Sherrie Bergman handles subscriptions. Bonnie Wilson types. To all these stalwarts, plus Helen Wheeler (for her fine Affirmative Action rundown), Zach Baker (LS student & part-time library clerk, who makes a double-barreled contribution to this number), our "tell-it-like-it-is" reviewers, & that host of correspondents whose spirit, commitment, & independence simply can't be matched anywhere else in library lit.: One helluva lotta thanks!

Key-title (courtesy of National Serials Data Program): Newsletter - Social Responsibilities Round Table.


Newsletter contents are regularly cited in CALL (Current awareness--library literature), published bi-monthly (with both care & zest) by Goldstein Associates, 35 Whittemore Road, Framingham, Mass. 01701.

Brothers & Sisters: Without more subs--particularly from institutions (like libraries)--this volatile, eye-screwing, news-stuffed, intemperate, stimulating, priceless rag (described in the March 15th LJ as "the most varied and complete of the alternative library publications") may not make it through the year. Hence, the clip-out coupon below. To join, subscribe, or renew, send it--with remittance--to Sherrie Bergman, SRRT Clearinghouse, F.O. Box 330, Bristol, RI 02809. No one needs to be an ALA member to subscribe, but those who are not only get SRRT voting privileges for the extra two bills, but also the dreamy chance to work their asses off on Action Council or Clearinghouse. Further, no matter how erratic our publishing schedule, we solemnly guarantee six newsletters to all subscribers, irrespective of membership status, sex, race, religion, affectional preference, occupation, politics, age, hairstyle, or weirdness.

SRRT MEMBERSHIP/NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION: 1975-76

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New Renewal

Total amount enclosed: $________


Action Council, on Jan. 23d, approved the following budget:

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<th>Item</th>
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<td>Jobs T.F.</td>
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Total proposed Budget (excluding Newsletter) $1500.00

For further details, current statements, etc., contact Sam Morrison, Treasurer, Broward County Library, 609 S. Andrews, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33313.

SRRT on NCLIS: too much for too few

In November '74, Bay Area SRRT issued a 5-point critique of the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS) draft report, *A national program for libraries and information services*, particularly attacking its hierarchical and elitist implications. "It appears doubtful," said the affiliate, "that the average citizen will gain much from the proposed plan... The super-fast, super-accurate, specialized information systems [it proposes] will benefit only a miniscule percentage of the citizenry."

At its first midwinter session--on Tuesday, Jan. 21st--SRRT's Action Council discussed the Bay Area document, together with another paper written by AC-member Liz Dickinson. Liking both approaches, AC asked Liz to combine the two into an official SRRT statement. This is the result, despatched on Feb. 6th to NCLIS at 1717 K St., N.W. (Suite 601), Washington, DC 20006:

Commendably, the second draft of the NCLIS report notes that access to information is unevenly distributed in the United States. Americans living in rural, isolated areas or city ghettos do not receive information services equal to better-educated, well-to-do urban-dwellers. Libraries of different sizes and types also vary in the amount and quality of library service that they offer.

SRRT Action Council members agree with NCLIS staff that--in order to even the flow of information--additional funding, research, development, and coordination are needed in the areas of inter-library cooperation and new technologies.

We would like to make some comments on areas where we feel the second draft is weak, and some recommendations which we hope NCLIS will take into consideration for the final draft.

The plan seems to lean heavily toward larger, research-oriented libraries. Current networking efforts are more readily available to larger, well-to-do libraries. These libraries tend to control the policies of the networks. NCLIS offers few safeguards to prevent the proposed "National Plan" policies and implementation from being dominated by the larger and more influential libraries.

The central role which NCLIS would place on the Library of Congress in the national networking effort is one indication of the research-oriented direction of the NCLIS plan. LC is de facto our national library, as the draft report states, and yet the Library of Congress does not in fact claim to be a national library, nor does it act equally to serve all segments of the library world. LC's first priority is to serve Congress. It focuses its secondary attention upon international commitments and its ties with other research libraries. Concern for the bibliographic needs of the general public, as represented by local public and school libraries, falls way down the list of LC priorities. LC's institution of ISBD, which will have negligible or negative effects on public and school library service, and LC's slow acceptance of current, popular or non-research-oriented subject headings are just two examples of LC's unresponsiveness to the general public. Under the circumstances, we do not accept the NCLIS claim that LC's bibliographic leadership "obviates the need for local duplication" (p. 100).

The current draft, while acknowledging the need for access to information for all people, has little to offer in concrete terms for urban or community libraries and the public that they serve.
Local library users generally want immediate, local access to information. They are frequently more interested in current, popular, recreational materials than in the research fare that the national networking service would emphasize. Urban and poverty-area libraries, according to Clara S. Jones, urgently need to supply "life-needs" information services. (See her OLSI pamphlet, "Reflections on Library Service to the Disadvantaged.") The NCLIS report does not address these vital, grass-roots-level problems.

Additionally, only 10-20% of this country's population uses library services. The draft does not attack the problem of serving the unserved.

Implicit, if not explicit, in the Plan is the possibility that individuals may have to pay for information derived from the network. NCLIS Commissioner Louis A. Lerner, according to a report in the August 1974 Library Journal (p. 1890), likened the potential issuance of "information stamps" to the "food stamp" program. When the user runs out of stamps, he or she must pay for the information gained. Any abridgment of the principle of free access to information for the general public is unacceptable. Under the Plan, the public will pay a high enough price in taxes for a service which may, in fact, aid mainly research-oriented users.

The second NCLIS draft does not define the structure of the proposed policy-making and coordinating body for the national networking effort. The creation of a super-structure poses the problem that merely another layer of hierarchy will be added to the existing ones. The added bureaucracy may waste funds that can otherwise flow directly to public services. Existing regional and statewide groups have already expressed concern over networking policy and organization. Can any one "National Plan" hope to overcome the resistance of existing networking systems? Can one Plan meet the needs of all consumer groups—all types and sizes of libraries and all users of these information centers?

Currently the Commission membership is overly weighted toward the information industry. More librarians from a variety of backgrounds and some representatives from the general public should be appointed. The "National Plan" should build into its procedures ample opportunity for all sectors of the public and the library profession to offer input and constructive criticism of the national networking system.

NCLIS should consider rethinking its priorities. Will a national networking system based on computer technology really lead to the Commission's stated goal of providing equal access of information to all individuals? To achieve that objective, the Commission should focus more on the needs of the general public. Less emphasis should be placed on cooperation with the private sector. Public funds tend to be diluted when tax dollars are shared with private industry.

We recommend the following changes before the NCLIS plan is finalized:

1. A stronger emphasis on the importance of local autonomy and on the function of the federal agency that administers the "National Plan" as neither "all-encompassing nor authoritarian, nor prescriptive, nor regulatory, but rather... supportive and coordinating" (p. 67). The current plan gives only token recognition to these vital points. It should contain more detailed suggestions for the structure of this federal agency. The framework should include some checks and balances to assure local autonomy.

2. The Plan should provide for more flexibility, since not all aspects of the "National Plan" will be desirable in all sizes and types of libraries. Alternatives to the Plan should be encouraged and funded when local or regional groups find the alternatives more workable than the "National Plan." The statement that each recipient of a "National Program" grant must "request support only for programs that are consistent with National Program aims and objectives" (p. 112) indicates a lack of flexibility in the present plan which could severely limit local autonomy. At a time when funds are difficult to come by, it is unrealistic to expect the states to foot the bill for all non-"National Plan" projects.

3. Active participation in the planning and administration of regional and national networks must be sought from all segments of the library field and from the public at large so as to safeguard the interests of all users and of all types and sizes of libraries. No national plan should be finalized without ample opportunity for critiques.

4. NCLIS should investigate local library system needs that could be provided through the expansion of community resources. Federal funds and cooperation should be provided for these local efforts.

5. The Commission should study other areas of library needs beyond those of networking and the impact of technology on libraries. Appropriate topics might include library service expansion to the under- or un-served, or the development of local community information and referral services. It could undertake the production of people-oriented, non-commercial reference and bibliographic tools and services (e.g. alternative subject heading lists, "survival indexes," job hotlines, crisis center directories, etc.)

6. Possibly the emphasis should be placed on the creation of and cooperation between regional networks, which are potentially closer to local input and administration. The national networking service might grow out of the regional efforts as a later step.

7. The National Plan should provide for adequate training of staff at the local levels.
to access information from the network. Any networking effort loses effectiveness when staff at local levels are unfamiliar with the potentials of the service.

SRRT Action Council hopes that, despite the lateness of this response, the suggestions we offer will be considered favorably in the next draft of "A National Program for Libraries and Information Services."

NOTE: Photocopies of the Bay Area document are available on request from the Newsletter editor.

Midwinter mish-mash

1
This "Resolution on sexist terminology," sponsored by Councillor Patricia Schuman, went into the hopper early in the week:

WHEREAS, Many American Library Association publications and official documents use nouns and pronouns denoting masculine gender to describe the membership at large and specific positions and titles; and

WHEREAS, The consistent or exclusive use of the masculine gender perpetuates the traditional language of society which discriminates against women; and

WHEREAS, Numerous other professional organizations such as the California Library Association, Washington Library Association, Minnesota Library Association, American Association of University Professors, the Modern Language Association, and the National Council of Teachers of English have resolved to avoid sexist terminology in their official publications; and

WHEREAS, The ALA RTSD Catalog Code Revision Committee at its meetings this Mid-Winter resolved to avoid sexist terminology in its proposed revision of the Anglo American Cataloging Code; and

WHEREAS, Major publishing companies such as McGraw-Hill, Stein and Day and Holt, Rinehart and Winston are eliminating sexist terminology in their publications; and

WHEREAS, The United States government has revised sex-stereotyping in the Census occupational classifications, changing clergyman to clergy and mailman to letter carrier for example; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That future publications and official documents of the American Library Association be revised to avoid sexist terminology.

By Friday, Jan. 24th, the statement had gained the added (and perhaps crucial) sponsorship of Richard L. Darling. In the process, though, it metamorphosed into a much shorter "Substitute" text, which the ALA Council readily adopted on Friday, Jan. 24th:

WHEREAS, Many American Library Association publications and official documents use nouns and pronouns with strictly male connotations in referring to members of the Association, and to specific positions and titles; and

WHEREAS, The consistent or exclusive use of the masculine gender perpetuates the traditional language of society which discriminates against women; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That future publications and official documents of the American Library Association avoid terminology which perpetuates sex stereotypes and existing publications and official documents, as they are revised, be changed to avoid such terminology.

No matter. The effect was the same. A half-year of careful spadework paid off. Last summer's bitterness faded. And everyone had seen the fuller, more polemical version anyway. So we made our points.

2
SRRT's representative to the RTSD Catalog Code Revision Committee reported to Action Council at its first meeting that the CCRC had voted, largely on the basis of Joan Marshall's excellent brief, to eliminate exclusively masculine-referents in the next edition of the Anglo-American cataloging rules, and to work toward genuine equity among male-female author-examples in the new text. He also proposed to the Committee that the revision--scheduled for 1977 publication--be issued simultaneously in clothbound & paperback editions for the benefit of library school students & low-budget institutions. Further recommended: deletion of the rule requiring that strictly British & essentially aristocratic titles-of-honor be recorded in name-entries (e.g., Chaplin, Sir Charles!) & a stylistic switch to the active--rather than more tedious, less readable--passive voice. (NOTE: For Joan's entire brief & additional CCRC-news, cf. "AACR: overhauling a pompous, macho code," HCL cataloging bulletin #11-13.)

3
On October 2, 1974, District 65 of the Distributive Workers of America established a Publishing Division. A month later--as reported in SRRT NEWSLETTER #33, p. 11-12--the 315-member Association of Harper & Row Employees voted to affiliate with the new group. Well, the momentum continues. And SRRT contributed to it on Tuesday, January 21st, when AC unanimously adopted this resolution:
The Action Council of the American Library Association's Social Responsibilities Round Table fully endorses the following statement published in the NEW YORK TIMES, VILLAGE VOICE, and PUBLISHERS WEEKLY:

The establishment of the Publishing Division of District 65 heralds a new era for the book industry in general and in particular for the women who form a large majority of its work force. For too long, the industry has been able to turn the plight of women to its advantage by institutionalizing, for all employees, the low wages and limited opportunities offered to women.

In effect, publishing employees are told that psychological rewards are adequate substitutes for fair wages and decent benefits; that it is a privilege to work in a business with intellectual aspirations; that they will move in the rarefied air of glamour, prestige and power. In truth, editorial work is generally routine. Most editorial employees have little prestige, less recognition and no power. The psychic benefits promised to all are in fact enjoyed by a select few.

In diverting the attention of editorial employees from their poor working conditions, management has victimized the many non-editorial employees--mailroom people, accounting staffs, telephone operators. These workers are vital to every industry, yet one industry--publishing--pays them less than almost any other.

The formation of the union makes clear that publishing workers are strong in numbers and unified in purpose and that they understand their right to have a voice in determining their working conditions. Collective bargaining insures that employees sit down as equals with employers to negotiate salaries and benefits and to establish principles of job security. In forming the Publishing Division of District 65, publishing employees state unequivocally that those who work in an honored industry need not and will not be penalized for taking pride in their work.

We gladly join with the many original signers--including Bella Abzug, Kay Boyle, Ruby Dee, Martin Duberman, Nat Hentoff, Flo Kennedy, Lucy Komisar, Dwight MacDonald, David McReynolds, Kate Millett, Alix Kates Shulman, Benjamin Spock, Gloria Steinem, Murray Kempton, Studs Terkel, Vivian Gornick, and Maurice Sendak--in urging all publishing employees to become union members and take part in the organizing process.

SRRT's Task Force on Alternatives in Print had approved the same declaration at its Monday conclave. Next step: to seek support for the Publishing Division's organizing drive from ALA's whole membership when it meets this June in San Francisco. (District 65's Publishing Division, incidentally, operates out of Suite 501 at 156 East 52nd Street, NYC 10022.)

SRRT Action Council on Jan. 23d endorsed Clara S. Jones for the ALA Presidency. Nominated earlier in the week by petition, Ms. Jones, Director of the Detroit Public Library, will face-off against two "Establishment" nominees, Dorayln J. Hickey and Ellisworth Mason, as well as another petition-candidate, Bill De John. Last year, Ms. Jones opposed Allie Beth Martin, Director of the Tulsa City-County Library, for the same post, losing that contest--in which SRRT made no endorsement--by 1310 votes.

Ms. Jones studied at Spellman College and the University of Michigan. Elected to the ALA Council in 1972, she has since served on both the Legislation Committee and COO. A member of ALA's Black Caucus, she received that group's 1970 Award for Distinguished Service to Librarianship. Recently, ALA's Office of Library Service To The Disadvantaged published her REFLECTIONS ON LIBRARY SERVICE TO THE DISADVANTAGED, the text of an address on how public libraries can and should provide "life-needs type service" through information and referral centers. Her own library has pioneered in that area.

In behalf of her 1974-campaign, Ms. Jones declared, in a March message to SRRTers:

"If librarians ever accepted the image of librarianship as benign and unrelated to reality, that illusion has vanished under the impact of the profession's present involvements. Strong links to vital issues of our times have been forged by our vigorous fostering of library legislation, defense of intellectual freedom, community outreach, interlibrary cooperation for improved service, special library service, information and referral service, etc. It is necessary for librarians to fully appreciate their importance and to act upon the potential effectiveness of their position at the heart of civilization. There is danger that we will retreat into the safety of mere custodianship of physical materials. Such a danger is ever-present with librarians, just as much as the recurring threat of violation of intellectual freedom. This means that pernicious problems tormenting society should be considered and discussed in our professional meetings and writings. Certainly, all issues do not require an official or public stand, and there is no room for political partisanship, but there is need for librarians to examine pertinent current events to determine whether or not the weight of the profession should be brought to bear.

Reflecting the RT's continuing concern over intellectual freedom, political liberty, and individual privacy, Action Council on Jan. 23d adopted this CIA-resolution, subsequently transmitted to both the House & Senate leadership:
WHEREAS the American Library Association has expressed its "opposition to any use of governmental prerogative which leads to the intimidation of the individual or the citizenry from the exercise of the constitutionally protected right of free expression" and has encouraged "its members to resist...improper uses of government power" and

WHEREAS William E. Colby, who heads the CIA, has said that the CIA—which is forbidden by law from engaging in purely domestic activities—had compiled its own dossiers on 10,000 American citizens and had engaged in a variety of "black" or secret actions against some of them, and that the CIA had infiltrated undercover agents into dissident and antiwar groups in the United States, conducted three domestic break-ins, as well as attempting a fourth, performed surveillance, and operated several programs for surreptitious opening of private mail, now therefore be it

● RESOLVED that the Action Council of the American Library Association's Social Responsibilities Round Table urges Congress to hold open Committee hearings on the domestic activities of the Central Intelligence Agency in order to alert and enlighten the people of the United States.

This is how the Reporters Committee summarized the events that began more than six months ago when American Libraries' Washington stringer directed a relatively simple and altogether legal query to a U.S. Senator:

In May, Peter Masley, then a part-time Washington correspondent for the American Libraries magazine (published by the American Library Association) wrote Sen. Lee Metcalf (D-Mont.) asking whether the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS) was subject to the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972.

Metcalf, author of the Act which opens federal advisory committee files and meetings to the public, forwarded Masley's letter to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for a determination of its applicability to the NCLIS.

In an attempt to "correct a possible misapprehension" contained in Masley's letter, American Libraries Association (ALA) Washington office director Eileen Cooke wrote Metcalf June 20 to "stress" that the ALA "has enjoyed a close and cooperative relationship with the Commission." Cooke also "apologized for any inconvenience" Masley's letter may have caused.

Four days later on June 24, ALA Executive Director Robert Wedgeworth wrote American Libraries editor John Gordon Burke directing him to fire reporter Masley since "you appear not to be able to successfully coordinate the services of a free lance Washington correspondent with the Washington office."

"The recent effort of American Libraries," Wedgeworth wrote, "to obtain directly an interpretation of the status of the National Commission by going to Sen. Metcalf without seeking the advice of either the ALA Washington Office or the Executive Office in Chicago is but another indication of your lack of sensitivity to the delicate problem of coordinating ALA business with the federal government."

Editor Burke quit June 28 protesting Wedgeworth's order to dismiss Masley. In his letter of resignation, Burke wrote that he "recognized American Libraries as an integral part of the ALA" but felt the library community deserved "independent news coverage of major library issues and news events."

In the wake of Burke's resignation, two of his assistant editors, Jill S. Reddig and Mary C. Lux, also resigned protesting Wedgeworth's firing of Masley.

In November, Arthur Plotnik, currently an associate editor of the Wilson Library Bulletin, was named to replace Burke as editor of American Libraries.

An opinion from OMB on the applicability of the Federal Advisory Committee Act to the NCLIS is still pending.

At Midwinter, two resolutions concerned with the AL firing and subsequent resignations by three editorial staff members in protest were debated and approved. One, which censured both the ALA Executive Director and the Association's Washington Office Director, was passed by the SRRT Action Council on January 23d:

Whereas one of the highest stated priorities of the American Library Association is intellectual freedom, and

● Whereas the Association has explicitly recognized that a free press and free flow of information are essential to both an informed profession and citizenry, and
Therefore be it resolved that the Action Council of the American Library Association's Social Responsibilities Round Table censures the Director of ALA's Washington Office and the ALA Executive Director for first discrediting and then summarily terminating American Libraries' Washington correspondent, acts which undermined the pursuit of relevant and potentially vital information, constituted prior censorship of the magazine itself, denied the Association membership access to data necessary for making informed judgments on professional policies and events, violated the Association's declared policy regarding intellectual freedom, and represented a dangerous, "chilling" precedent with respect to full and honest reportage in the very organ of an Association committed to candor and diversity.

Another, jointly sponsored by the SRRT Action Council and Intellectual Freedom Round Table Executive Committee, recommended the "formulation of a clear and unequivocal editorial policy which guarantees to the editor of American Libraries independence in gathering and reporting news and opinions." Although intended for Council consideration, it did not get on the agenda because of the "24-hour rule" which requires submission of resolutions for duplication one full day prior to Council meetings. It was, however, transmitted to the ALA Publishing Board and President. This is the complete text:

WHEREAS, The American Library Association prides itself on its support of intellectual freedom and the principles expounded by the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution; and

WHEREAS, American Libraries is the official journal of the ALA; and

WHEREAS, Recent questions have arisen regarding the freedom of the editorial staff of American Libraries to gather and report news of major library issues; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Intellectual Freedom Round Table Executive Committee and Social Responsibilities Round Table Action Council urge the formulation of a clear and unequivocal editorial policy which guarantees to the editor of American Libraries independence in gathering and reporting news and opinions.

This is the COA-connected statement that Liz Futas would have made before Council (if she'd thought of it in time): "The SRRT Task Force on Women will consider affirmative action policy implemented when the percentage of women on the faculty of library schools matches that within the profession at large."

When Bob Wedgeworth reported to Council about the Univ. of Chicago case that membership had referred and Council concurred in referring back to SCAMI, what he said was much less cold than SCAMI's written report. He said that the principals in these cases were constrained from helping SCAMI fulfill Council's directive for different reasons. The U. of Chicago firmly refused to cooperate. The persons who had filed applications for SCAMI help were unable to participate because they were individually involved in law suits. Bob said, in part, that the resolution of ALA's--and SCAMI's--problem in the U. of C. case is that the Council resolution does not affect individual cases. In SCAMI's opinion, "we do not perceive any outcome which will apply to the general outcome from individual cases." He hinted, but did not say, that SCAMI could be helped in this and similar cases if SCAMI were to move towards accepting 'class action' as a base, instead of individual cases. Terrific! There's a membership COMMITTEE ON SCAMI that will meet this Spring, later reporting to Council in S.F. You, too, can write your thoughts on this to Robert P. Haro, who's on the COS. If the committee doesn't redefine SCAMI's purpose and the kinds of cases it can investigate, we'll need a membership resolution for ALA-SF. Anybody interested in working on that? Send comments to Robert P. Haro, member-at-large, Policy Implementation Committee/ALA, U. of Southern California Library, Los Angeles, CA 90024, and Edward G. Holley, chairperson, Policy Implementation Committee/ALA, School of Library Science, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27514.--Jackie Eubanks.

Submitted on behalf of HRLSD by Councillor Harris C. McClaskey & adopted by standing vote:

WHEREAS, on July 24, 1974, three inmates took four librarians: Aline House, Julia Standley, Linda Woodman and Ann Fleming, six teachers, one correctional officer, and four inmates hostage in the Library of the Huntsville Unit of the Texas Department of Corrections; and

WHEREAS, for eleven days the hostages were handcuffed and threatened by three gunmen; and

WHEREAS, the inmate leader specified that three women and one man were to accompany the three captors inside the shield during the break-out attempt. Julia Standley insisted that she take one of these positions; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Standley voluntarily gave her life for her coworkers,
THE RESOLUTION that the American Library Association recognizes that Julia Crockett Standley embodied the highest ideals of librarianship. In a profession dedicated to service, she chose to serve among the most needful of library services - correctional institution inmates.

As a result of Midwinter experiences, the Newsletter Editor on Feb. 3d directed this missive to Peggy Barber, Director of ALA's Public Information Office (50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611):

While I very much appreciate your kindness in providing press passes to our four SRRT NEWSLETTER staffers during the '75 Midwinter Meeting, I am frankly disturbed by the major policy-change you personally mentioned to me--and had made explicit in the "air-mail/special" letter that only arrived here after I'd already left for Chicago. If I understand it correctly, solely the editors of periodicals issued by ALA itself or component bodies will henceforth be entitled to "courtesy" press passes. The rationale, I gather, is that it's uneconomical--if not also unfair--to supply passes to persons who would attend ALA conferences in any event. I urge immediate reconsideration of this new policy for several reasons: a) It is altogether intractable--even laughable--when compared to the "come-one-come-all" treatment of staff from commercial magazines (e.g., MLA, LILA, and SLJ). MLA was represented by at least three individuals at Midwinter, LL by 2, and SLJ by 2. Many of these people are themselves ALA members who would probably go to the conference anyway. And all are funded by large--if not giant--outfits (e.g., the H. W. Wilson Co. and Xerox Corporation). By contrast, all 4 SRRT reporters operated without expense accounts or conglomerate-subsidies. My own library underwrote only about half the cost of my attendance. One colleague was on sabbatical at $-pay, another barely able to meet total outlays with her institution's $160-support, and the fourth has been unemployed for over 6 months, coming to Chicago wholly at his own expense. If "need" is a valid criterion for furnishing press passes, I think our contingent easily qualified. And would again. b) As a corollary, by supplying passes to MLA and Bowker personnel, ALA is, in effect, subsidizing those profit-making corporations. This practice doesn't appear to harmonize well with the Association's priority commitment to social responsibilities. c) The "new policy" seems to have been somewhat erratically applied, for I noted no less than four (4) pass-bearing American Libraries staffers, or three (3) more than the announced quota for ALA-connected mags.

Rather than nit-pick or attempt wonderfully fine distinctions, I strongly urge that press passes in future be accorded to all persons designated as bona fide representatives by the editors of library and other interested periodicals. This approach should ensure mutual trust. And equity.

AC and other miscellaneous: Newsletter rates for institutions were hiked from $10 to #20 p.a.

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AC decided not to rent a suite in SF, preferring to seed $.1 per person on meals and lodging costs, which were met by a group of SRRT editors. As a result, the editors were able to attend AC sessions, as well as other meetings and activities, without incurring any financial burden on their institutions.

At his fall meeting, the ALA Council on the 24th elected Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas to honorary ALA membership. The vote was unanimous. And greeted with an ovation. Which was only right.

Midwinter madness is over and I've finally thawed after freezing in Chicago. It was a high-pressure conference. And I spent the entire time up to my ears in ALA hassles.

At their fall meeting, the ALA Executive Board, on the recommendation of COPES, decided to assess roundtables 10% of their expenditures to pay for ALA staff support. By the time I arrived on Sunday, the fight against this tax had begun and I spent the rest of the week in meetings and strategy sessions. SRRT's position is that this assessment involves both a matter of policy that must be decided by Council (social responsibilities are a stated priority of the association and are funded from "general dues") and a matter of organization that should be referred to the whole committee on Organization (COO). We wanted the whole question sent to COO and felt we had a good chance of getting the tax thrown out because COO had once before ruled that Executive Board could not appropriate roundtable money. By midweek we had convinced the head of COPES to bring the matter before Council and recommend that it be directed to COO. At this point, the Executive Director stepped in with a compromise. At a luncheon with roundtable leaders and ALA staff-officers, Wedgeworth proposed that the levy be delayed until the roundtables can get together with COPES, Executive board and ALA staff to discuss the entire issue of roundtable relationships to ALA. He suggested that this discussion take
place at the Spring meeting in Chicago, and that we be flown in at ALA expense. I held out against this proposal until it was agreed that no final decisions could be made at the meeting and that all proposals would have to be ratified by roundtable membership. There was some feeling that I should not have agreed to go (SRRT's position is still that the issue should be dealt with by ratification of proposals would have to be ratified by roundtable membership. There was some feeling that I should not have agreed to go). SRRT's position is in the minority, even among the roundtables, and I'll need all the help I can get. If anyone can meet with me on the 28th, please write soon and I'll set up a meeting.

A few other things did happen at Midwinter that I'll just mention briefly. Action Council censured the Executive Director and the head of ALA's Washington office for their part in the American Libraries Firing and subsequent resignations, demanded editorial freedom for the current AL staff, and voted support for the efforts of District 65 to unionize the publishing industry. We also agreed to reply to the second draft of the MCLIS report. And Liz Dickinson has done this.

Many SRRT members spent excessive amounts of Midwinter time dealing with the 10% problem. It seems that at every Midwinter ALA comes up with some way to hassle roundtables and keep us from working on more important social issues. Those of us at Chicago discussed where SRRT is going within ALA and how we can get around these constant structural stumbling blocks. Two suggestions have been to become a division and thus have a more established relationship with the association or to leave ALA and convert into a professional society. Jacky Zubanks, who also worked hard on the assessment fight, has compiled a questionnaire that will be sent out before the San Francisco meeting. We hope everyone will think seriously about this, return the survey, and be prepared to discuss our options at the SRRT membership meeting this summer. This is a sticky issue, but we've got to find a way to put our energies into social responsibilities instead of hassles with ALA.

A final note of thanks to the people who volunteered to run for Action Council. We have more than one will think seriously about this, return the survey, and be prepared to discuss our options at the SRRT membership meeting this summer. This is a sticky issue, but we've got to find a way to put our energies into social responsibilities instead of hassles with ALA.

P.S. At S.F., we'll have a table in the exhibit area where Task Forces & affiliates can distribute their materials.

**Task Forces**

PLTF: goin' strong like always

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These are straight-out excerpts from the Dec. '74 & Jan. '75 PEOPLES LIBRARIAN TASK FORCE NEWSLETTERS: Ms. Dani Broadstreet is a regional contact for the task force. Dani is working with the Index to Women's Periodicals, and with the library of the Eccentric Magazine Collective. She's also interested in joining or starting a SRRT group in the Eugene/Portland area. Write to her at 1521 West 8th Street, Eugene, Oregon, 97402. Barbara Pruett's report from La Paz: Barbara's just become temporary head of the United Farm Workers Information Center. The Union transferred her co-worker, Cress Fraley, to the Purchasing Department. This means Barbara is doing Cress' extensive research as well as the on-going library jobs. She's scrambling to keep up with mountains of files, re-organizing, re-classifying, searching, etc. NOW, MORE THAN EVER, Barbara needs people power! If you are in the Bay Area and can go down to La Paz, call Pat Haggarty at 652-1370 or 532-6800. In Oakland, call Frances Gilman at 444-5307 or write her at 10 Fairmount (#310), Oakland, 94611. For those outside the Bay Area, write to Barbara directly at P.O. Box 62, Keene, CA 93531 or call at (805) 822-5571. Werner Hertz and the East-Bay Liberation Information Center: Werner's prepared a 22-page bibliography on alternative materials which lists sources including publishers, bookstores, jobbers and libraries. It's arranged under 16 topic-headings, including women, labor, gay liberation, racism and ecology. The emphasis is on periodicals in limited quantities, for 1.25 from Werner at 951 Canning St., Oakland, CA 94609. He also has an attractive new poster. Get it by sending a business-sized ssm. Visit the ELIC any day, Monday through Friday from 10 to 4......Telephone 653-6535...Help always needed. (And don't miss Werner's review later in this issue!)

SF Business Meeting is planned for Tuesday, July 1, from 4:30 to 6 p.m. There also expect to work on the Newtrow-Caldeberry (alternative children's book) awards. If you want to help on, or have suggestions for, either program contact the TF's National Coordinator, Frances Gilman. ELVA KOCALIS, a student at Mills College in Oakland, is working on a subject heading list relating to Chicano interests and culture. She works with Jossy Arce, librarian at the Chicano Studies Library, UCSB. As we reported earlier, Ms. Kocalis is being partially funded by the PLTF through a work-study grant. For more information on her work, write to her c/o Chicano Studies Library, 110 Wheeler, Univ. of California, Berkeley, CA 94720. The TF's Midwest Regional Contact is Kathy Weibel (Library School, Univ. of Wisconsin, Madison, WI 53706), the Treasurer, Ed Cavallini (659 S. 15th St., San Jose, CA 95112), and the Newsletter Editor: Pat Haggarty (494-A 41st St., Oakland, CA 94609).
Vice Pres./Pres. Elect. Statements will be published in the spring TFW Newsletter. A ballot will solicit statements from Doralyn Hickey and Clara Jones on their candidacies for ALA President/Secretary. The ballot will allow enough time to make a job vacancy widely known, and will ensure a wider variety of applicants. And 4) The Executive Secretary might be given more than one name to choose from when more than one candidate appears qualified for the job.

TFW will solicit statements from Doralyn Hickey and Clara Jones on their candidacies for ALA Vice Pres./Pres. Elect. Statements will be published in the spring TFW Newsletter. A ballot will be enclosed so that TF members may vote on which candidate the Task Force should endorse.

At the TFW's request, Donald E. Stewart, Associate Executive Director of ALA for Publishing Services, gave a report at the TF's Thursday Midwinter session on the procedures used to select a new American Libraries editor. The chronology that Stewart reported shows that TFW nominations for the post arrived after the final decision was made at ALA headquarters. Although a few women were considered for the job, none received the full screening treatment with an interview at ALA headquarters. Art Plotnik was the only candidate afforded the full treatment. Nominations were sought mostly through the "old boy" network rather than through a broad range of sources or affirmative action-oriented job listing services. Stewart alone made the final decision to recommend Plotnik, and offered only that one name to the Executive Secretary for approval. Task Force members made several suggestions for the improvement of future ALA personnel searches: 1) ALA should use a broader base of input and allow enough time to make a job vacancy widely known. 2) The Association should use a screening committee so that more than one person makes the final decision on candidates. 3) More than one candidate should go the whole screening route so that the staff can get a look at a wider variety of applicants. And 4) The Executive Secretary might be given more than one name to choose from when more than one candidate appears qualified for the job.

At our Midwinter meeting, the TF on AIP got through its agenda okay and since that time has been working on accomplishing the concerns of its members. Five new volunteers were added, while the ALA/OLSD Secretary and three student-observers from U. Michigan attended the meeting.

We discussed the possibility of Harvester Press in England reprinting AIP for sale in Europe and the Commonwealth Countries. John Spiers, who's in Europe now (February 5), will be flying to New York on Feb. 17th to discuss this further with Mimi and Jackie. At Midwinter, no objections were raised to discussing this further development of AIP. And ALA's Publishing Board confirmed that it's kosher. [Harvester Press publishes The Underground and Alternative Press in Britain; bibliographical guide with historical notes.]

Education for Change, a now-defunct movement group, donated $100 to our TF to help aid our work. It was agreed that Glide will provide 100 copies of AIP for dissemination to the "100 neediest libraries or groups" who could make use of AIP but can't afford it. Three or four community information specialists (new TF members) from the University of Toledo agreed to undertake this project, contacting community groups and perhaps even OLSD for info.

We talked some about a new TF coordinator(s), but more work must be done on this before June, when we must report changes to the Action Council.

Sandy Berman introduced the resolution he had also sent to SRRT's Action Council concerning support of publishing workers who are in the process of unionizing. This was passed and sent to AC with the TF's endorsement.

We discussed briefly the state of Book Fairs, and the relation of BFIs to the offer from ALA for exhibit space for small publishers. A report was received from Friends of Books and Comics/East that some movement groups that had participated in the NY Book Fair did not receive bids to be included in the ALA exhibits. Watch for Noel Peattie's "Letter to the Editor" on this issue. The small presses are vitally concerned that in future they be involved more in the process. This year there will be Book Fairs in Boston in April, in New York over Memorial Day weekend, and of course in San Francisco: for ALA and for the public.

On publicity and reviews for AIP, we passed out leaflets concerning the new issue (due in April) before a Council meeting, and leafleted the press tables with offers of pre-pub copies available for review. Liz's John Berry promised to finally review it. Below is a coupon for SRRTers to get their own copies at a reduced rate! Since Midwinter, we have received a protest of the words "Women's Lib" in our promo-leaflet, and in future it's to be changed.

We briefly considered giving (with Glide) a small press/librarians "press party" to celebrate them
and us. We tentatively decided on Tuesday evening of the conference, but we're still working on that. The program of the TF for Women is that eve, so perhaps we'll have the party after the program. Perhaps not, because traveling to Glide from the meeting may be difficult.

Finally——business ——since Midwinter—On February 3, the following telegram was sent to General Thieu (with a copy to the President of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam): "We have only now (7:33 AM EST) heard of your arrests of "underground" newspapers and their heads. As supporters of freedom of expression, we vigorously protest this barbarity, and call it and all political prisoners to your attention. We are vitally concerned." Valmail Penaster, the head of the International Relations Round Table, was consulted, and has initiated action on it with AIA. She said that this initiative may be a useful concrete example to use at the meeting in Spring of round table heads.—Jackie Eubanks, Joint Coordinator, 60 Remsen St., Brooklyn, NY 11201; (212) 624-2290.

If you're a bona fide SRRTer, use this coupon to order a brand-new 1975-76 APIF at 40% off the $7.95 list-price.

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SRRT SPECIAL FOR 1975-76 ALTERNATIVES IN PRINT

Name __________________________
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Make checks payable to GLIDE PUBLICATIONS,
And mail to 330 Ellis St., San Francisco, CA 94102.

Ethnic Materials: cassettes out, SF program readied, bibliog underway, etc.

The four provocative & often moving talks that constituted the TF's '74 NYC program are now available on 2 cassettes @ $10.95 from Development Digest, P.O. Box 4938, Los Angeles, CA 90049. Titled "Ethnicity and Librarianship: multi-ethnic media and programs," the two-part set includes presentations by Irving M. Levine, Director of the New York Institute on Pluralism & Group Identity; Michael Novak, who authored Rise of the unmeltable ethics & outspokenly claims that only 15% of the American population has an Anglo-Saxon background; Milton Melzer, author-editor, recounting how—after 50 years of writing ethnic history—he finally discovered his own Jewish heritage; and Preston David, Executive Director of NYC's Commission on Human Rights, who forcefully recommends bridging issues to bring ethnic groups back together. Order no.: LW26/1-2.

Prepared for publication under the TF's own auspices are bibliographies on both Italian-Americans & Jewish-Americans. Also, the Task Force contracted a flyer on recommended basic ethnic materials for library materials. Submitted to OLSD Director Jean Coleman in March, it's to be distributed during the San Francisco conference.

At its Midwinter conclave, the TF decided to publish its own newsletter as a means for exchanging information, bibliographies, etc., and approved a San Francisco program-theme: "Progress on treatment of minorities in libraries and publishing ten years after Adam Clayton Powell and Nancy Larrick (1965-1975)." The SF event is scheduled for June 30th: 2-4 p.m. Further, the membership voted one resolution urging the management of New York's Channel 9 to avoid stereotyping of Italian-Americans through programming such films as "The untouchables," and another asking Congress to maintain current appropriations for Title IIa and IIb of the Higher Education Act.

For more data on TF activities, contact Joint Coordinator David Cohen at 68-71 Bell Blvd., Bayside, NY 11364; (212) 229-1510.

Editor's note On Jan. 31st Dave Cohen retired from the Plainview-Old Bethpage High School Library. He's now engaged as an Adjunct Associate Professor at the Queens College Library Science Dept. in preparation for the Summer Institute on Ethnicity & Librarianship (July 7-25). Also, he conducts a seminar at Queens on Library Materials & Services For Minority Groups & in his "spare time" works as a staff associate to the ACLU's National Academic Freedom Committee.

Feedback

In the August 1974 Newsletter [p. 24-5], there was an article by Steve Wolf on the AIA summer conference placement center. There were indeed problems connected with it, such as no space for interviewing, persons in lines waiting for a look at the job binders, etc. There was also the added frustration that, somehow, job openings and job applicants did not match very well. The ratio of job openings listed to job applicants was 1 to 2.5. In addition, the majority of job vacancy listings called for a number of years of library experience while many of the applicants
were library school students or recent graduates with little or no experience. This situation, of
course, reflects the current job market for librarians which is similar the rest of the year also.
In addition, the New York conference had the largest attendance of any ALA meeting (over 14,000).
There are also a sizeable number of library schools in the NYC area whose students were using the
placement center.

The National Registry for Librarians, a professional placement service operating from the Illinois
State Employment Office, has been conducting the placement service at ALA conference time since the
late 1960's, usually in conjunction with the state employment office in whichever locale the con-
ference is located. In New York City, the New York State Employment Office was not willing to work
because of the shortage of space and lack of staff available.

Since the National Registry is unable to operate the Midwinter placement center this year, the ALA
Office for Library Personnel Resources is handling arrangements for this. The Palmer House has more
adequate facilities for the center during Midwinter than did the New York hotels, so there will be
interviewing facilities available. There will be a chance to list two choices of types of jobs
desired by applicants instead of one; there will also be more directional signs which will, hope-
fully, guide persons better; and there will be a general job information table available with
resource materials for job seekers. The Office is also negotiating for larger and more flexible
room arrangements at the San Francisco conference, stressing the importance of this to the con-
ference arrangements office.

Undoubtedly, if this letter gets into print, it will be after the Midwinter conference; perhaps,
people will still have found difficulties in using the center at that time. We recognize there are
real difficulties but are trying to do things to make the service a little more humane and workable,
although we cannot control the numbers and types of jobs and applicants. We would appreciate your
feedback and suggestions for future ALA placement services, as well as your thoughts on the library
job market. Thank you. --Regaret Myers, Director, ALA Office for Library Personnel Resources,
50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611; (312) 944-6780 (1-275).

Editor's note For more on the Midwinter placement center, see Terry McLaughlin's letter below.

And on the generally critical employment-situation: Steve Wolf's "Modest proposals" & "Song for
San Francisco," both in this issue, as well as John Berry's "Accredit placement services, too!"
Gerry Shields "A shortage of wha-a-at?" & the 1st segment of a new "Job market" series, all in
the March 15th LJ.

2

Thank you very much for the copy of Newsletter #33 (Dec. 1974). A nice compilation of information...
and so much of it...feminist/Lesbian/gay... I am also grateful for the mention of the coming new
edition of THE LESBIAN IN LITERATURE and the other LADDER publication, THE INDEX (p. 25). We are
hoping to begin publishing THE LADDER again in the fall. We (meaning THE LADDER's staff) have
always been library-directed, and book and periodical reviews have always been a very major part of
our work.

I was amused (and a little appalled) by part of the review of WOMEN LOVING WOMEN by Marie J. Kuda
(Chicago: Lavender Press, 1974), the reviewer--D. P. Tater, p. 23--expressing unhappiness at the
inclusion of books written by men. While I would tend to agree that it would be nice if only women
happened to have written lesbian material, it is simply not so. And it is also not true that all
Lesbian literature by males is pornography or subjectively wrong (though most of it is). Books by
Ernest Borcawean and Robert Weis and all the subjects black. Mary a white woman bare-breasted. Busts can be beautiful in any lan-
guage or any race at any time. The publisher has a high profile, making it difficult to duck a
charge of bias.

I don't have NL before me, but the howls of Wolf remain in my mind [i.e., Steve Wolf's "In praise
of little old ladies,"#33, p. 18-19]. Don't readers of J. Suzanne have just as much right to
expect the PLs to supply what they want within a reasonable time as everyone else?

I work on the theory that people know their needs better than we--professionals--do. We denied
then Walt Disney and Charlie Chaplin and Flash Gordon--all of whom have arrived in spite of our
calling them trash. Who knows, even J. Suzanne may one day arrive!
The little old lady librarians that Wolf cries about had no money for books or salaries. They were small monuments to culture.

Wolf's call seems elitist: MORE Reader's digests, National enquirers, True story, Irving Wallace, etc. I'll bet the libraries that suffer the least in the world of our Ford are those that meet the people's demands in a reasonable way. God help our culture if we are the carriers.—Marvin Scilken, Director, Orange (N.J.) Public Library, and Editor, Unabashed librarian, G.F.O. Box 2831, NYC 10001.

5 ● I find Steve Wolf's screed in the last issue [#33] of the SRRT Newsletter somewhat disturbing. In order to take to task the nouvelle vague in book selection it's not necessary to elevate the librarian of the past to a pedestal he/she doesn't deserve. The fact of the matter is that the little old librarians didn't have all that much intellectual integrity, standards, grit, backbone and guts. If they weren't buying Susann and Robbins, they were buying Gone with the Wind and they were subscribing to Reader's Digest, and they weren't buying materials for their minority group constituents (weren't even aware that they had responsibilities to black, brown or Asian communities). It's within your memory and mine that the same gutsy librarians who had all those standards lived and worked in consciously segregated communities and libraries. When I protested the removal by police of black students from Memphi Public Library, one of those old-time librarians with "standards" scolded me for being a Yankee carpetbagger.

Let's not romanticize the past in our effort to develop active, serviceable libraries in the present.—Fay M. Blake, School of Librarianship, Univ. of California, Berkeley, CA 94720 (1-13-75).

6 ● I don't know who writes your "Flashpoints" column, but in issue 33 [p. 16] there is the remark that "No other 'library mags' have been quite able to say it, but we don't suffer from the same constraints: . . . AMERICAN LIBRARIES was censored."

I shew my usual modesty, I am of the opinion that WLB's account of the Burke/Wedgeworth/Cooke/Schubert flap left the clear inference that AL had suffered censoring.

Unlike LF and the others, WLB pointed out: 1) existing ALA policy; 2) the past practice; 3) Wedgeworth's action; 4) the Publishing Board's inaction; 5) the total ignoring of the issue by all Councillors (both public airings were at membership meetings); and 6) we quoted Peter Maslev, who was contacted by WLB while the Council was in session, and Maslev stated he thought Wedgeworth's action was "a form of censorship."

If SRRT members need more than that, I'm even more worried about ALA than I have been over the past twenty years.—William R. Eshelman, Editor, Wilson Library Bulletin, 592 Gail Court, Teaneck, NJ 07666 (1-17-75).

Editor's note: No, Esh, SRRTers don't "need more than that" (for Action Council, as reported above, censored Wedgeworth & Cooke, as well as urging ALA to declare a policy of complete editorial freedom for AL), but maybe the rest of the membership does. IT STILL seems that forethought editorial statements by the library press, explicitly charging prior censorship & demanding redress, might—just might—have helped. Unfortunately, beyond WLB's admittedly full and sympathetic reportage, that didn't happen. On balance, it was a lousy demonstration of press solidarity. And didn't do a damn for free speech.

7 ● Thank you for the interest and donations you have made to the Standing Rock Sioux Tribal Library [#33, p. 11]. They are greatly appreciated since our book selections are still quite limited. We are wanting in most subject areas, especially Indian books. Needed also are reference materials and fiction. Any audio-visual material, such as records, slides, film and tape for Indian studies or general college reference, could be of great use.

The Standing Rock Sioux Tribal Library is part of a national project designed to identify and meet the informational needs of Indian people. We serve the Community, Schools and Community College on the Standing Rock Indian Reservation. The project is operated by the National Indian Education Association.

Besides use of the Tribal Library, another means of relaying information to the people is through the Tribal Library News Cast emanating from KOLO Radio, Mobridge, South Dakota. We also publish the Standing Rock Tribal Library Newsletter. The Newsletter is designed primarily for relating educational information.

We have enjoyed hearing from you, Thank you once again.—Monica Comeau, Director, Standing Rock Sioux Tribal Library, P.O. Box 348, Fort Yates, ND 58538; (701) 854-2901.

P.S. If your donations consist mainly of elementary and supplemental texts, please forward them to any one of the following districts: ◊ Cannon Ball School, Community Library, Cannon Ball, North Dakota 58528 ◊ Bull Head School, Community Library, Bull Head, South Dakota 57621 ◊ Little Eagle Day School, Community Library, Little Eagle, South Dakota 57639.

Editor's note: Latest issue of the 2-page newsletter, jointly edited by Ms. Comeau, Margaret Teachout, Library Projects Coordinator, & Margaret Brave Bull, Librarian at the Cannon Ball (N.D.) Elementary school: v. 28, no. 2 (Jan. 29, 1975).
As you know, the Kerr Company has been actively encouraging labor organizations to take an interest in promoting labor history and related studies from the labor point of view. While a few major labor organizations have taken it upon themselves, thus far, to support library acquisition in the field of American labor history, such as the UAW Labor Bookshelves Program and the Amalgamated Clothing Workers Program of providing the nucleus of labor libraries to trade unions, there is a great deal that might be done in addition in this area. Perhaps the most hopeful development has been the formation of labor history societies.

The Illinois Labor History Society, for example, has cooperated with the Kerr Company in bringing out up-dated reprints of classic works such as The Pullman Strike and The Autobiography of Mother Jones. In addition, the ILHS has been helping to encourage the formation of labor history societies in other regions.

The Kerr Company acts as the book distribution agency for the ILHS and stands ready to perform similar services for any other labor organization that wishes to engage in the promotion and distribution of works in our field.

Kerr, together with the ILHS and with the support of various trade unions, has managed to place pro-labor literature in numerous libraries across the country and we feel that our efforts in this area are exactly in line with the proposals we find you have been making in your newsletter. We commend you on your efforts, greatly appreciate the steps you have taken on our behalf [see p.9-10], and look forward to cooperating with you in every way.

Charles H. Kerr Publishing Co., 441 S. Dearborn (Suite 829), Chicago, IL 60605; (312) 322-5120 (1-75-75).

If you can find space for another call for help in your next newsletter, here's another group of people in need of good advice:

The OLR Advisory Committee's Equal Employment Opportunity in Libraries Subcommittee is seeking ways of encouraging staff input into and/or participation in affirmative action plans. We are considering the possibilities of staff meetings in small, unstructured groups (with nonadministrative staff meeting separately from administrators) to explore individual perceptions of a library's climate as it affects the individual's mobility within the organization. We seek suggestions for media (or other) presentations which focus on affirmative action problems and would spark such discussions.

Can you suggest anything that you'd like to see a library staff dealing with affirmative action discuss? Also, has anyone out there participated in comparable groups discussing comparable problems in a library or library-like situation? What happened? How useful do you feel this approach would be in your type of library / part of the country / state of mind? Do you have a better idea, perhaps? Please send all the help you can to me at Emory--Sydney Pierce, Division of Librarianship, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia 30322 (1-25-75).

Thank you for your concern and your help [#33, p. 3]. We received shipments of books in January and we thank you for your donation. We have had a tremendous response from people all over the country. With the help of the Friends of the Library, we are working in updating our library.

Whatever duplicates we've had, we have given to a new Youth Library located on the reservation. The police sub-station is sponsoring a youth recreation this summer and decided to put in a small library. The books we receive are put to use one way or another.

Charity Y. Terry, Window Rock Public Library, Window Rock, Arizona 86515.

Thank you for the copy of SRRT NEWSLETTER #33, with the mention of Facts o'Life Funnies [p. 24]. I enjoyed it.

I did notice, however, that we were not listed in the media section of catalogs your library should have [i.e., Don Roberts' "Radical mediacy," p. 19-21]. Perhaps because our materials are too explicit? Perhaps just an oversight. For whatever reason, I thought I would call this to your attention, further pointing out that we have 3 gay films with no sex in them (SANDY AND MADELINE'S FAMILY, DICHOTOMY, and HOME MOVIE) that may be of general interest. Some of our newest films are notable, particularly A TIPPING POINT (sexuality and the aging process) and SELF-HEALTH (women's self exams). Also, this spring we will be releasing a video cassette training package. I'll send further information as it is available.--Teresa Welborn, Multi Media Resource Center, Inc., 540 Powell St., San Francisco, CA 94108; (415) 421-5035 (1-27-75).

Editor's note: It was, indeed, an oversight.

I promised a letter about the placement service as soon as possible, well here it is.

As you know, I worked at the midwinter placement service all four days that it was open. It was a different experience than that at any other conference I have ever been to.

There were problems. The center ran out of cards the first or second day (for about two hours), the hotel security police (?) wouldn't allow them to open up on time on Tuesday, and some arrangements were to say the least, crowded. However, overall, this was the best placement service at the national convention that I have ever seen.
The ALA staff seemed to care more about the librarians than the National Registry people ever did. They took time to make the service more "human" and to really try to help the prospective employers and employees. They explained forms, helped check cards, retrieved lost job lists and, in general, acted more like people and less like "civil servants" to everyone.

I worked about as hard as I ever have at the convention. Someone even suggested to me that I was being "ripped-off" by volunteering to do so much work for the OLPR. If helping people find jobs or find people they need as workers is being ripped-off, then I'll do it everytime gladly.

I hope that with some modifications that ALA will try to again run its own placement service in San Francisco. It is the most "caring" thing ALA can do for new librarians.

Job Task Force has seen the growth of job hotlines over the last few years. If the placement service becomes a full time ALA service then I feel that this task force in SRRT has justified its existence.--(Mr.) Terry L. McLaughlin, Portsmouth Public Library, Portsmouth, Ohio 45662 (1-29-75).

13

Enclosed you will find our new STASH Catalogue of Publications and Services (with a picture of all of us on the cover ... hold the picture at a distance: the dots disappear and faces take their place) and WOMEN AND DRUG USE: AN ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY. The bibliography was originally finished in the spring of 1974, then updated in October just before printing. We're particularly proud of this publication as it is the most comprehensive annotated bibliography available on women and their drug use at this time. (The references span the years from 1937 to Fall 1974.) I'm sure it could be a reference tool reference tool in many libraries and will appeal to more than just those in the "drug field". I am also anxious to receive feedback on this publication and encourage individuals to inform me of any noteworthy articles we may have overlooked.

If I may answer any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.--Susan Christenson, Librarian, Student Association for the Study of Hallucinogens (STASH), Inc., 638 Pleasant St., Beloit, WI 53511; (608) 362-8948 (2-17-75).

Editor's note: Susan had also written last summer, enclosing much data on both the STASH Press & Library, as well as remarking that she found "the SRRT newsletter to be valuable, stimulating, and a nice respite from the 'drug world.'"

This may be the right spot to let STASH say what it is: "[We are] an organization" founded and solely controlled by students, the majority of whom have had extensive involvement in, or contact with, drug use. The Association's primary purpose is the dissemination of unbiased & valid information about psychoactive drugs and their use. Since many of the clinical, psychological, & sociological issues surrounding unsupervised drug use have not been resolved (and may never be), an important part of STASH'S program is the fostering of a critical attitude towards 'scientific' pronouncements in this area. Eventually, we hope that all consumers of drug information will develop the ability to evaluate, on their own, the validity and relevance of the information... communicated to them."

Fantastically energetic & prolific, STASH--organized in 1968--promotes "drug education" in many ways. Its staff conduct seminars & workshops. Its Library, which has collected & catalogued more than 95% of the English-language literature on marijuana & hallucinogens, runs bibliographic searches & operates a copy-service. And from its Press come a bi-monthly newsletter, STASH CAPSULES; the semianual JOURNAL OF PSYCHEDELIC DRUGS, issued in cooperation with the Haight-Ashbury Free Medical Clinic ($20 p.a./individuals, $30/institutions); GRASSROOTS, a binder service with monthly supplements, produced in conjunction with the National Coordinating Council on Drug Education; SPEED, a bimonthly "current index to drug abuse literature" each issue supplying "complete bibliographical data on about 500 new drug & drug abuse documents"; a binder-type DIRECTORY OF DRUG INFORMATION AND TREATMENT ORGANIZATIONS, supplemented monthly, which profiles up to 2,000 North American groups; and a stream of monographs, fact-sheets, and offprints: e.g., the 33-page, 15th-entry WOMEN AND DRUG USE: AN ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY, comp. by Librarian Christenson & written by Alice Q. Swanson, STASH Director (1974, $1); the Garage/Zerkin COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE TO THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE LITERATURE ON CANNABIS ($5.95), Samuel Irwin's DRUGS OF ABUSE: AN INTRODUCTION TO THEIR ACTIONS AND POTENTIAL HAZARDS ($4.00 booklet in 5-p. booklets ($25 each), and the 206-p. FREE CLINIC: A COMMUNITY APPROACH TO HEALTH CARE AND DRUG ABUSE ($5). Subscribers to the GRASSROOTS service--$95 p.a.--receive THE NATIONAL DRUG REPORTER, STASH CAPSULES, and SPEED.

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Sherrie Bergman and Jackie Eubanks both suggested I write. I am the editor of a new monthly paper called The elements, which is published as part of our transnational program. Basically, the idea is to publish in a routine manner information on ownership and control of natural resources (including both energy and agriculture) in different parts of the world, and to make this available at a low cost ($5 for individuals, $10 for institutions). I am very anxious to make contact with librarians who would be interested. The point is we are trying to make available to the general public information that now generally is only available in high-priced industry publications, and at the same time, make an argument, especially within the US, for new forms of public ownership. I have sent copies of the paper to library journals, but I wonder if it would be possible to get you to review the paper in your newsletter, or at least to mention it. I even discussed with Jackie the possibility of sending a free copy of the paper to all your members, if you think this would be worthwhile. Indeed, I am so interested in making contact with interested librarians that I would even put them on the list free for a time. But I really don't know how to proceed, what makes most sense, who would be most receptive, and so forth. I am enclosing copies of the paper, and would...
appreciate any advice you might give me.--James Ridgeway, Editor, The elements, Institute for Policy Studies, 1520 New Hampshire Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20036; (202) 234-9382 (2-25-75).

Editor's note: Jim's new mag—which we'll try to get reviewed anon—is a letter-press job, running 12 to 16 pages. Write him for samples. (The latest, March '75 issue, #6, includes material on "Resistance in the Baltimore Canyon," CIA operations in the Middle East, utility rate increases, and the "gas game.")

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The enclosed poem was written by one of the first recipients of the Ann W. Littlejohn Memorial Scholarship Fund. Irene Monroe has just given her permission to have her poem published. If you wish to publish it in the SRRT Newsletter as a follow-up on your article of August 1974 (p.3), please do so!

I should like to clarify one statement made in the article about Ann W. Littlejohn. She was a librarian who, after leaving Brooklyn Public Library, worked in Brownsville (a section of Brooklyn, N.Y.) as a community organizer and youth worker. The scholarship, given in her memory, is to assist Brownsville high school graduates on their way to college. Ann believed in the great, untapped talents of Brownsville youngsters.

The A.W.L. Board of Trustees are very proud of Irene Monroe and of the other two recipients of the scholarships. We are very appreciative of the assistance given by the SRRT Newscott-Caldebery Committee in 1974.--Jean E. Coleman, Chairperson, Board of Trustees, Ann W. Littlejohn Memorial Scholarship Fund, Brownsville Community Council, Inc., P.O. Box 218 - Brownsville Station, Brooklyn, New York 11212 (2-27-75).

This is the cover-note sent to Ms. Coleman in early January:

My name is Irene Monroe, and I am one of the first awardees of the Ann Littlejohn Scholarship. I am now a sophomore at Wellesley College. For over a year, you have been asking me for my poem. At that time I was very hesitant because my poem was just an introductory opening to my composition about myself, and the poem had a beginning but no middle and end. Over the past year and six months I have been tearing the poem up and putting it back together. Finally, by the end of my first semester sophomore year, I have finished it to my satisfaction. I'm sending you a copy. A lot has changed in the poem, because I have given it more meaning to my appeal. I hope you accept my apology for sending the poem at this late date, and I hope you understand why I could not have given it to you then.

And this is the poem, titled "Experiences of a 20th Century Nigger":

I am a wild plant.
I have bloomed from congested poverty-stricken blocks.
I've learned about life from fat black mammas,
And foul-mouth philosophical loquacious drunks,
I've learned about rhythm and soul from bopping brothers
gaiting down the streets,
I've sorted my path through the street riots and the welfare picket lines.
I've slept with the roaches and the bed bugs.
I've been bussed from 125th Street and Lenox Avenue to White Suburbia U.S.A.
I've rolled the smoke, played the numbers, and have cussed the world.
I've been jacked, whipped, and at times I've gotten my ass kicked.
I have become a product of the bureau of child welfare.
I've lived in rat-trapped condemned buildings,
And have breathed in the reek odors flowing from the white bigot's mouth like pesticide.
I have bleached my skin, straightened my hair, greased my lips,
And have even tried to talk his talk.
I have reneged and have perplexed the white bigot's analyses on the idiosyncrasy of black poverty,
Because I have allowed myself to live on, in spite of his redefined stereotypes,
to obliterate the soul essence of my beautiful being.
I've gone to college and have seen some Blacks transmute to A Cinderella white.
I've listened to white pseudo-intellectuals on campus use esoteric terms
to talk shit.
I have fallen and have stumbled a many of times,
But I have denied the whites' game to make the grade.
I've been unemployed with a Ph.D. for months,
And have found that after a B.A. it all becomes B.S.
I have voted against corruption and obstruction of justice,
And have seen the number one ring leader in the driver's seat.
As he recklessly chauffeured some of his cabinet members
to a leisurely resort in Virginia.
I'll die with never a root embedded in the ground,
Because everything I begin to grow and do,
Like writing this poem.
The oppressor constantly reminds me that I am the oppressee.
So I live on as a wild plant,
That has never had a drop of rain or an hour of sunshine,
Because I am a victim of being a nigger in the 20th Century.
Many people have been bewildered by reports of the "demise" of the Women's History Library, but, "don't mourn, organize!" as the songwriter said. The WHL's main collections can be used again, via microfilm. Womans and Mens Health/mental Health Microfilm covers over 150 subjects, with an appendix of 100 special issues of magazines. The subjects: 1. Physical and Mental Health, Reel 1. II. Physical and Mental Illnesses (includes material on sex roles), Reels 3-5. III. Biology, Women, and the Life Cycle, Reels 5-6. IV. Birth Control/Population Control, Reels 6-9. V. Sex and Sexuality, Reels 9-19. VI. Black and Third World Women, Reel 17. VII. Appendix: Special Issues of magazines, Reels 12-13. Contact Sheryn Sofia at Women's History Research Center, 2325 Oak Street, Berkeley, CA 94708. All sections of Women and Health are now complete; they may be ordered separately. Price: $30/reel or portion of reel; Reel guide: $20 for complete film guide; $10 per section. Womans and Mens Health Microfilm covers over 500 subject files pertinent to women and law.

1. Law General: ERA; Credit; Divorce, etc. 10 Reels (completed). Still in progress: II. Politics: Peacemakers; Politicians; Suffragists, etc. Approx. 14 Reels. III. Employment: Women in Business, Housework; paid; Labor History, Equal pay, etc. Approx. 8 Reels. IV. Education: Sex Bias In Public Schools; AFT; AAUW; Sesame Street Protest, etc. Approx. 2 Reels. V. Rape/Prison/Prostitution. Approx. 3 Reels. VI. Black & Third World Women. Approx. 3 Reels. Contact Joanne Schuman at the Center. Section I may be ordered now; standing orders are needed to complete the sections still in process. Price: $30/reel; reel guide $10/section.

To finish the microfilming of the law material, the revenue sharing grantors, Alameda County's Board of Supervisors, have challenged us to raise $30,000 in 10's and 20's that they will match 1 to 1.

AS I UNDERSTAND IT FROM SRRT LIBRARIANS, THEY ARE ENCOURAGING THEIR COMMUNITIES AND STAFF MEMBERS TO PETITION THE ACQUISITION PEOPLE TO BUY THE MATERIAL BECAUSE OF COMMENTS LIKE I GOT AT AAA MIDSUMMER: "We are having to cut back on material for men, how can you expect us to take on something new and extra at this time? After all, you wouldn't want us to cut out our subscription to Playboy, ha, ha!"

Next month I will write you about all the places that the original collections have gone to and where they can be used, as well as about the ones that are still in storage, but, so far, over one hundred colleges, universities, high schools, etc. have purchased the women's serials HERSTORY microfilm from Bell & Howell, to October, 1971, (e.g.: Hennepin County Library, Princeton University, The Royal Library of Copenhagen, Windsor Public Library, Ontario, National Library of Australia at Canberra, etc.) Over twenty have ordered our first supplement to June 1973, distributed by the Center.

So far our "Women and Health/Mental Health" microfilm has been ordered by California State University at Hayward, Vassar College, Northwestern University, Sacramento State University, and Chilone College, while the available reels on "Women and Law" have been ordered by the Boston Area Rape Crisis Center, Chilone College, Sacramento State University, Northwestern, and the University of Wyoming.

We really believe that microfilm is the greatest good for the greatest number.--Laura X, President, Women's History Research Center, Inc., 2325 Oak St., Berkeley, CA 94708; (415) 836-4531 (2-10-75).

Editor's note: Three HERSTORY updates, covering 1971-74 material, are now available from the Center. The 70 reels sell for $2/4 each when bought as sets or $30 individually. $3, incidentally, includes over 120 new titles. A "Reel Guide" to all 3 sets will be priced at $5 (with microfilm) or $10 (if ordered separately).

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Enclosing some info you might want to mention... Although the Defense Committee operates in a fairly local area, Operation Springboard is a very national involvement.

Also, there's a fine book called TURNING THE REGS AROUND (single copies: $1.25, 2-10 copies: $1, 11+: 75¢; from P.O. Box 8413, San Diego, CA 92102). It's an informative work on Service Regulations, a kind of "know-before-you-go" for enlisted people who plan political or "subversive" activities. Gives the rules & the loopholes. Peace.--Gail Whitney, Manor Branch, Portsmouth Public Library, 1401 Elmhurst Lane, Portsmouth, Virginia 23701 (3-8-75).

Editor's note: What Gill enclosed was a pamphlet that is bilingual pamphlet concerning the campaign--jointly sponsored by the Tidewater, Camp Lejeune, and Charleston Defense Committees, Ft. Bragg GI Union, and Black Military Resistance League--to stop this year's OPERATION SPERINGBOARD, an annual US "military training exercise" that "takes place in and around the islands of Puerto," reinforcing the puertorriqueño colonial status; and 2) a copy of the Feb. 1st GRAPEST OF WRATH, a monthly newspaper published by the Charleston & Tidewater DCs.

Defense committees are "organizations of enlisted men and women, military families, and friends working for the rights and betterment of enlisted people." The sample GRAPEST issue contains items on "Springboard," the escalating "their war," an EM who refused to make coffee for his superior officer, labor militancy, and military racism. The 8-p. tabloid circulates roughly 8,000 copies. To get one, write the Tidewater Committee (Box 9870, Norfolk, Virginia 23505) or Charleston group (Box 463, Charleston Heights, South Carolina 29405). Both outfits also distribute TURNING THE REGS AROUND, as well as the anti-Springboard pam: SPRINGBOARD TO WHAT? (TABLA DE BRINCAR ADONDE?).
Alternatives/action

Things to get

AFRICANA: * The Upjohn Library will lend—at no charge—a series of 60 tapes on African literature, nationalism, resistance movements, theater, education, foreign policy, religion, and art. For further details, contact Prof. William Pruitt, Dept. of Anthropology, Kalamazoo College, Kalamazoo, MI 49008. * Aving on drum, a new monthly published by Liberian students in the U.S., contains material about Liberia itself (including the rarely-mentioned interior), as well as African and International news. Yearly tab: $6 from P.O. Box 21074, Washington, DC 20009.

SISTERS HAVE RESOURCES EVERYWHERE: A DIRECTORY OF FEMINIST LIBRARIANS is a valuable product of the SRRT Task Force on Women's July 1974 Pre-conference in New York. "The women at the Preconference felt that the warm experience and flushing ideas shared there should be expanded and shared with other women in the profession. Using communication between feminists as the touchstone, this directory has been developed to provide a way for librarians who consider themselves feminists to learn from and about each other." Compiled by Carole Leita and Senee Feinberg, the 36-p., spiral-bound tool performs two important functions: First, it's a cumulative index to the contents of v. 1 & 2 (1972-74) of the monthly Media report to women, devoted to what women are doing and how women are talking about communications media." And second, It lists scores of "individual media women," noting both their specialties and how to reach them, as well as citing/describing an impressive number of "Women's media groups" under such rubrics as Periodicals, Presses/publishers, News services, Columns, Radio-TV, Cable, Video, Film, Multi-media, Art/graphics/theater, Music, Speakers Bureaus, Courses, Distributors, Booksellers and Mail order, Library collections, and Media organizations/media change/guidelines. Specifically, the W register—pursued at $5—can answer questions like "How can I locate an index to alternative periodicals by and about women?" "Are there feminist theatres in California, Minnesota, or Washington, DC?" "Who runs the Shameless Hussy Press?" and "How can women's records belong in the library's audio-collection?" Order from MRT, 3306 Ross Place N.W., Washington, DC 20008. Rates for the Report: $15 p.a. (institutions & men), $10 (individual women, when paid by personal check or money order).

Chicanos ought to be able to tap a large, authentic selection of materials on La Raza at—or through—their local library, right? And "Anglos" should have the chance to learn something about their Mexican-American counterparts from the best and most accurate sources. correct? Well, the Council for Interracial Books for Children has made both of these goals much easier to attain. How? By publishing a "special issue" of its Bulletin "on Chicano materials." As the Council itself puts it, "This...double issue...focuses on a...survey of 200 children's books on Chicano themes. As with a previous examination of 100 books on Puerto Rican themes, it reveals an overall pattern of cultural misrepresentation. The survey, which is being published simultaneously in Spanish in the Feb. 1975 La Raza magazine (300 S. Monroe St., Denver, Colorado 80209), appears as an 8-page pullout section...The balance of this issue consists of articles relevant to Chicano studies. The 20-page roster of "special"-v. 5, nos. 7/8 (1975)—is absolutely essential for evaluating & selecting Chicano-related books, maps, texts, and A/V items. Or just for getting your head straight on what Chicano means. And it's not limited in scope to just the young. In addition to the pullout-survey— which not only criticizes, but also recommends—there's an overview/article on contemporary periodicals that features a 21-title register; a consciousness-raising essay by Porfirio Sanches on "Anglo biases in school textbooks; two challenging statements on Chicano library service; a full-some report/replete with addresses not included in the AIA organization handbook—on the National Organization of Spanish Speaking Librarians (REFORMA); a five-column spread on Chicano Feminism; a gripping account of the Farmworkers' "Teatro Campesino"; detailed "Notes on Chicano book publishers" (whose catalogs & announcements demand regular attention); data concerning movie-sources & media centers; samples of art-work by Chicano illustrators; and a list of 28 groups "concerned with Chicano affairs." To obtain this genuinely indispensable guide, send $1.95 to the Council at 1841 Broadway, NYC 10023. The center-piece survey, titled "Chicano culture in children's literature: stereotypes, distortions, and omissions," may be ordered alone @ 95c. Also available from the Council: an ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY OF WEST GERMAN CHILDREN'S LITERATURE ABOUT AFRICAN-AMERICAN LIFE. Prepared by Joerg Becker, the 10-page, 500 list includes Austrian & Swiss citations.

It's dated "Spring 1975." And chastely titled INDEX TO BIBLIOGRAPHIES AND RESOURCE MATERIALS. The 176-p., spiral-bound work "is a representation," says the introduction, "of some of the resource materials and actual units of information to be included in the functioning, computer-housed database now being constructed by Project MEDIA, a division of the National Indian Education Association." In effect, it's a preface to the comprehensive catalog of Project holdings, both print & A/V, planned for next year. However, "preface" or not, it's hard to imagine a better guide to
contemporary Native Americana: what there is, who makes it, and how to get, hear, or see it. In fact, it's an ideal handbook/directory, providing full bibliographic, contact, and ordering data—plus extensive, often evaluative notes—for basic reference sources, commercial film catalogs, periodicals, Native American radio programming and tape services, and a variety of other media (e.g. filmstrips, records, & cassette). The 88-title roster of "Periodic Publications in Print," for instance, not only cites more current Amerindian mags than Katz, Ulrich, etc., but also indicates the address, telephone, format, frequency, price, circulation, content, and staff for each. In sum, this should prove a terrific, nothing-else-like-it instrument for reference, selection, & plug-ins. It clearly belongs in most public, school, and academic libraries. And every Indian, Minority, and Ethnic Studies Collection. The cost? Actually, that's about the only scrap of information Project MEDIA neglected to include. So direct inquiries to them at 3036 University Ave., S.E. (Suite 3), Minneapolis, MN 55414. And at the same time ask for the free brochure that explains their whole operation.

A tale of two caucuses

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An Asian American Librarians Caucus (AALC) emerged during ALA's Midwinter Meeting. Convened by Dr. Henry Chang, the group met twice, generated much enthusiasm, and formed these working committees: Constitution (Tamiye Trejo, Chair), Publicity (Ken Yamashita), Program (Henry Chang), Membership (Janet Suzuki), Liaison To Other Groups (Y. T. Peng), and Bibliography (Julie Ho, Susan Tu, Toyo Kawakami, Monoko Murakami).

The AALC's major purposes: to provide a forum for discussion of problems and concerns, to exchange ideas among Asian American colleagues, and to recruit qualified Asian American candidates for the library/information science profession. Any librarian of Asian ancestry presently employed in the United States, citizen or not, may elect to become a personal member of the Caucus. The term "Asian American" will be broadly applied to include all persons who consider themselves as such.

Here's for the group's SF program: "Contributions of Asian Americans to the United States." The meeting, set for June 30th at 9 a.m., will be moderated by Dr. Chang, Director of the College of the Virgin Islands Library, with Dr. Harry H. N. Kitano, Prof. of Social Welfare & Sociology at UCLA, slated as keynote speaker. Other panelists: Prof. Sucheng Chan, Asian American Studies Program, UC Head, Berkeley; Ms. Julia Li Wu, NCLIS member; Arthur Ignacio, UC Dept. of Ethnic Studies Library; and Ms. Sunok Chung, Orange County P.L., California.

Anyone who wants more information or would like to run for AALC office is invited to contact Dr. Chang at Kingshill P.O. Box 84, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands 00850 (803-378-1620), or Ms. Janet Suzuki, 5630 N. Sheridan (Apt. 13E), Chicago, IL 60660 (312-339-6162).

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A Jewish Caucus also organized itself during Midwinter. This is its "statement of purpose":

A Jewish tradition is founded upon the philosophy of equality and social justice for all people. This heritage implies a Jewish point of view toward the social issues of the world community; and as Jews we have a special responsibility to identify those issues effecting the Jewish people.

We recognize a growth in anti-Semitism. We also recognize a general insensitivity of governments and institutions with respect to these issues. Therefore we are forming a Jewish Caucus of the American Library Association in order to illuminate and take action on these problems.

Topping the JC's action-agenda was UNESCO's exclusion of Israel from regional affiliation, which the Caucus held to be an act of "vicious anti-Semitism, applying indefensible sanctions to a member nation." In a position paper, the Caucus argued that the exclusion "represents a callous disregard of the commitment under UNESCO's constitution to the unrestricted pursuit of objective truth and to the goal of 'mutual understanding between the people of the world.'" The group further endorsed the statement by Jean-Paul Sartre & the French intellectual community (WFT, 11-24-74) which viewed UNESCO's move as the "spiritual abolition of Israel [which] justified in advance her physical annihilation. It is the extermination process perfected by the totalitarian systems of the 20th century. We know," the statement concluded, "how it cost the lives of tens of millions of men and women." The American Library Association, being a member of the International Federation of Library Associations (a UNESCO affiliate), was asked to take a stand. And in large part due to the JC's efforts, this strongly-worded resolution was first reported out of the joint meetings of the Intellectual Freedom & International Relations Committees and then approved by the ALA Council on Jan. 24th with only one opposing vote:

WHEREAS, The recent resolutions taken at the 18th session of the UNESCO General Conference deny the State of Israel regional affiliation in UNESCO and thereby deny aid in the pursuit of Israel's educational, scientific and cultural activities; and,

WHEREAS, These resolutions have occasioned the reaction of the international scholarly community in withholding its support to UNESCO in protest to this action; and,

WHEREAS, These resolutions have also influenced the action of the U.S. Congress in withholding funding for UNESCO until such time as UNESCO corrects "its recent action of a primarily political character"; and
WHEREAS, These circumstances contribute not only to the isolation of a UNESCO member state from participation in educational, scientific and cultural activities but also directly influence the efficacy of UNESCO in furthering universal fundamental freedoms, the explicit purpose of its own Constitutional mandate; and

WHEREAS, The American Library Association on July 12, 1974 specifically referred to Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which assures the right to "impart information and ideas...regardless of frontiers" as its own policy of governance in dealing with the rights of foreign nationals; and

WHEREAS, The Association believes that the UNESCO Resolutions of November, 1974 single out Israel for exclusion from the express purpose of UNESCO in scientific, cultural and educational exchange, and may lead to the impairment of all UNESCO programs dependent on U.S. support;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the American Library Association, as a member of the U.S. National Commission for UNESCO, record to the Commission its protest concerning UNESCO's action in denying Israel regional affiliation; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the American Library Association urge UNESCO to admit Israel immediately as a member of the European Regional Group with full powers of participation in regional activities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the American Library Association urge the United States Congress to restore U.S. funding for the activities of UNESCO itself as soon as full recognition of the regional affiliation of Israel is achieved; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the American Library Association circularize this Resolution adopted by the Council to the appropriate bodies dealing with international affairs listed below:
- U.S. Department of State
- International Federation of Library Associations
- United Nations

According to Coordinator Renee Feinberg, the Caucus will continue to hold formal meetings during ALA conventions. Both independently and in concert with other Jewish groups, the group's activities will center around monitoring anti-Semitism and illuminating its relevance to the library profession. It will lobby for reform of the discriminatory and offensive treatment of Judaism & Jews in the Library of Congress subject-heading & classification schemes, Sears list of subject headings, Dewey Decimal Classification, Wilson indexes, & Bowker products. Additionally, the Caucus intends to compile & distribute resource guides & directories concerning Jewish Feminism, Judaica, Jewish Studies collections, the Jewish Liberation Movement, & the Jewish-American press.

Since Midwinter, the Caucus has already submitted extensive recommendations to editor Barbara Westby (at her request) for improving the descriptors relating to Jews & Judaism in Sears, and on March 3d despatched the following letter to President Ford:

The moral stature that the nation recently gained from its support of the Watergate investigations and the criminal prosecutions of those who abused power is being thwarted again. The nation is faced with people abusing the public trust and suborning the laws of the land. Traditionally, the people hold its Chief Executive accountable.

Acting to advance their private interest, the officers of the Army Corps of Engineers and the Overseas Private Investment Corps (OPIC) have consented to support the Arab blacklist against all those whose religious and moral strength draws from the Jewish tradition.

Your statement (New York Times February 27, 1975) re the Arab blacklist finding it "repugnant to American principles" is certainly laudatory. I hope you lend the force of your office to concrete actions: 1) holding accountable and demanding the resignations of the chiefs of the Army Corps of Engineers and OPIC; 2) supporting the Attorney General's inquiry whether such collusion by agencies of the United States government as well as private companies is in violation of anti-trust legislation.

It is important for the American public and for the American-Jewish community to be assured that it is not lacking executive leadership in the face of those who once again seek to use public positions to undermine public confidence.

For further information on the Caucus, contact Prof. Renee Feinberg, Coordinator, c/o Brooklyn College Library, Brooklyn, NY 11210; (212) 780-5341.

ALA finks out again? A question...

Why, after two years of planning with the Peoples' Bicentennial Commission, did ALA's Executive Board drop its connections with the PBC? The subject was carefully not answered at the Midwinter meeting of the Chicago '76 Planning Committee when Nancy Kellum-Rose, SRRT Coordinator, asked Alle Beth Martin, who will be ALA President then.

Perhaps the reason's to be found in a bit of red-baiting we came across, from "Media Research"
promoting a book Francis M. Watson, Jr. wrote (but who underwrote?): "...It has been in only a few magazine and newspaper articles—and within the pages of the U.S. Congressional Record—that the 'PBC' has been accurately described as a 'band of would-be revolutionaries' who plan to try to disrupt local bicentennial celebrations and cause dissent in as much of the population as they can. The U.S. Chamber of Commerce has called the 'PBC' effort 'a worm in the bicentennial apple' and 'a destructive spirit toward '76.' Our report [his report?] confirms this and illustrates in detail how the 'PBC' scheme can take in unsuspecting people in your area. Our report sells for $7.50 and many, many hours of work less than you would have to spend to purchase the hefty 'PBC' packet..."

This contrasts mightily with the correspondence that Mimi Penchansky, Joint Coordinator of the Task Force on Alternatives In Print, exchanged with Warren Liebold in September. A copy of Mimi's letter from Warren is available (as is the ad above) for 35¢ (to cover xerography and mailing) from: Jackie Eubanks, 60 Remsen St., Brooklyn, NY 11201. These significant parts of Warren's letter show much more of the PBC program and approach towards the revolution and towards people: "Enclosed are copies of 'An introduction to the People's Bicentennial Commission' and the brochure on our library display. Although these two pamphlets describe most of the materials from PBC, a few additional notes may be in order. Membership in the Committee of Correspondence is now $10. Membership gets an individual or institution copies of everything PBC has or will put out in the way of publications and posters and a year's sub to Common Sense, our bimonthly newspaper. Secondly, a new book by PBC has just been published by Simon and Schuster and is not mentioned in any of the materials I've sent. [Simons and Schuster now operate as part of the Gulf & Western conglomerate—how about that, ecology freaks!..."

Perhaps this should be further discussed at the SRRT annual meeting. There's no reason why SRRT shouldn't coordinate its program with that of the PBC next year! Contacts: Sheila & Jeremy Rifkin, Peoples Bicentennial Commission, 1396 Connecticut Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036; (202) 833-9121. Warren Liebold, Long Island PBC, F.O. Box 271, Westbury, N.Y. 11590; (516) 333-5040. Peoples Bicentennial Commission, Ann Arbor Committee of Correspondence, c/o Phil Cushway, 819 S. State, Ann Arbor, Mich. 48104. (Phil, in his input to AIP, noted that there's a PBC National Newsletter which his group distributes about every three weeks, available for $13 per year. The newsletter includes supplements on various subjects; e.g.: a) old-timey, northern folk music, b) origin and significance of "nonpartisan" slogan, c) oral history: its use with actual transcripts done of lumber jacks, old time musicians, etc.)—Jackie Eubanks.

Alice in Wonderland, or, Through the looking glass: women's resources for implementing Affirmative Action

It seemed feasible to list resources related to "affirmative action" in behalf of employment of all classes protected by the Civil Rights Act, but the continued near-equation of such terms as "civil rights" (e.g., Booker's Civil Rights' or Women's Educational Act) and "affirmative action" (e.g., E. J. Josey's "Can library affirmative action succeed?" "Library Journal" Jan. 1, 1975: 28-21) with race have led me once again to affirmative action to eliminate female sex-discrimination in employment! (in educational institutions, "affirmative action" relates to equality of opportunity for all, i.e. equal educational opportunity as well as employment. I can't get into this duality now in terms of women, except to recommend, for neophytes, "An affirmative action plan for equal educational opportunity for women," [Ms. Oct. 1972:123-51] to emphasize Title IX and the women's Educational Act; and to remind feminists that class-action charges filed with NIH will in theory benefit women students as well as other employees.) The affirmative action envisioned by the Office for Civil Rights does not require employment of unqualified personnel nor quotas; it does usually involve goals and timetables, and, conscientiously implemented, results in the person most qualified to do the job being selected. "Equal employment opportunity" is at best a passive condition. An organization claiming to be (only) an "equal opportunity employer" or having an affirmative action plan without goals and timetables (and in academia, Women Studies) is suspect.

An affirmative action program is a set of specific, result-oriented action-commitments and procedures designed to systematically achieve an equitable redistribution of both sexes (and other protected classes) within the workforce. A program contains goals and timetables so that the workforce-distribution takes place as soon as possible within a prescribed time period. The goal is a balanced workforce reflecting the external labormarket and/or population. There is to be no discrimination in employment, upgrading, demotion or transfer, recruitment or recruitment advertising, layoffs and termination, rates of pay or other forms of compensation, and/or selection for training, including apprenticeship. An affirmative action plan is a valuable policy and administrative tool even when not required by law, for it protects both employer & employees from unconscious (malebonding, inherited, habitual, oldboy) discriminatory practices.

Many people who suffer the effects of past and present discrimination are already qualified for better jobs, but continuing "barriers" throughout employment systems deny them equal opportunity. The major part of an affirmative action program must be recognition and removal of such barriers, identification of persons usually excluded or held back, and action enabling these persons to compete for jobs on an equal basis. The need to help disadvantaged people become qualified need not obscure the primary legal obligation to change widespread employment practices which routinely discriminate against qualified women. Some examples of specific charges that typically need to be filed by female librarians (and library educators) in institutions with either "token" affirmative action
plans or none at all are: disparate treatment of sexes, wage differentials, and harrassment. Individual women having documentation, guts, and ability can and should file class-actions. (Sisterhood and money are also highly desirable.) Obviously, full affirmative action programming in behalf of employment of qualified women involves a number of closely related topics, e.g. sisterhood, consciousness-raising, childcare, sexist nomenclature, volunteerism, ERA, and Women Studies, which is fundamental to the implementation of an affirmative action plan in academia since intellectual analysis of male and female roles is basic to any change in the status of women that would later affect hiring and promotion goals.

The employer who defends a recruitment-promotion process resulting in the employment and advancement of male after male should be challenged to document open advertising, which includes listing all jobs in media genuinely accessible to qualified women. In order to communicate news of specialized employment opportunities to qualified women, a nondiscriminatory affirmative action employer will advertise all positions—without exception—indicating starting salary (-range), application (and nomination) deadline, and minimum qualifications for each. Such notifications should be sent to every women's task force-type group (caucuses, commissions, etc.) in the field. These groups usually maintain placement-related rosters, directories, talent banks, bulletins, services, registries, etc. Because the groups are of necessity often staffed by volunteers, their womanpower and locations—even existence—fluctuate. The employer needs an up-to-the-minute list of such resources in each field and specialization in which s/he has or anticipates staff openings. The Project on the Status & Education of Women periodically publishes "Recruiting aids," including "Rosters, registries, and directories of women in the professions." There are also placement lists and services encompassing groups of women in terms of race, location, and other characteristics. To identify these, see my Womanhood media (Scarecrow Pr., 1972; Supplement, 1975); the 1st Media report to women index/directory (1975), which includes an A-Z roster of "individual media women"; and—-for data on the TTV bulletin board, a major job-listing service for women librarians—this issue of the SRRT newsletter. Experience has shown that name-rosters placed in the hands of personnel workers are sometimes misused. Thus, as women become more autonomous persons, task force rosters are restricted, the job information being circulated among members only and the choice removed from the employer power-structure. Some specialized associations and regional and professional accreditation bodies have made efforts in behalf of other minorities (considering women as an employment minority,) but as yet they have done little for women. While qualified women certainly are not as numerous as men, it is no longer possible to claim they do not exist, although affirmative action may well be required to reach, attract and retain them.

These are the resources:

Affirmative Action Register (Periodical)
Warren H. Green, Editor, 10 S. Brentwood Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63105; (314) 863-1711. Not an employment agency, the "only charges related to our services are those charged to those utilizing open positions for postage and distribution." Read policy carefully. $1.50/copy to individuals; $15 p.a. (12 issues).

Affirmative Action Resource Identification Program (Organization)
20 Drawer B, WICHE, Boulder, CO 80302. (303) 444-4444. This regional program has a directory available. Formed recently called Minority Resource Identification Program, it is fairly typical in its emphasis.

American Association for Affirmative Action (Organization)
Betty Newcomb, Executive Director, Ball State University, Muncie, IN 47306. Founded in 1974, this assn. of affirmative action personnel employed in all types of institutions (i.e. not just academia) has a great future. These personnel are variously termed Affirmative Action Officer, Equal Employment Coordinator, etc. Groups at system state, and other levels also exist, e.g. Ohio Affirmative Action Officers Association (contact Beverly Price, 103 McGuffey Hall, Ohio State University, Athens 45701).

American Association of Women in Community & Junior Colleges (Organization)
Eileen J. Rossi, City College of San Francisco, 50 Phelan Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94122. The American Assn. of Community & Junior Colleges has no headquarters liaison, although it claims this as "an affiliated council."

Association of Feminist Consultants (Organization)
Jennifer S. Macleod, Coordinator, 4 Canoe Brook Dr., Princeton Junction, NJ 08550: (809) 799-0378.
"Directory of members, 2d ed." (May 1973); directory coordinator: Sharon Bermon. Membership includes media persons; librarianship represented. Approximately half of the consultant-members are specialists in affirmative action implementation. Wilma Scott Heide is one of the members, all of whom are elected to membership.

Assertive training for women (Motion picture/ pamphlet)
Part I (17 min.): vignettes especially for high school and college women. Part II (18 min.): for college age and older. Patricia Jakubowski-Spector's pamphlet, "Introduction to assertive training procedures for women," also available (1973, $2.25).
Barrer, Myra E., ed.: Women's Organizations and leaders: 1973 (Book)

Today Publications. 452p. index. 73-86473.

$25.00/pap.
Feminist directory of individuals and organizations furthering equal opportunity for women. Ms. B. publishes the national newsletter, Women Today. Alphabetical, geographical, and subject-area indexing to U.S.A. women. Entries are complete even to telephone numbers. Information based on questionnaires returned by persons widely selected by publisher-editor, including many media female feminists, librarians. Has potential in implementation of non-discriminatory affirmative action education and employment programs in several ways.

Black Women's Employment Project (Organization)

NAACP-LEF, 10 Columbus Circle, NYC 10019.
LEF = Legal Defense & Educational Fund, Inc. This is a research-education program, headed by Jean Fairfax, whose object is to pinpoint areas of Equal opportunity suitable for class-action suits. A related group: National Black Feminist Org., 370 Lexington Ave., Rm 601, NY 10017.

Center for Women Policy Studies (Organization/pamphlet)

Pamphlet, "Equal employment opportunity and affirmative action for women; a selected bibliography": 50c.

Cheda, Sherrill, Seneca College Library, 1750 Finch Avenue East, Willowdale 428, Ontario Canada; (613) 491-5050.
Our Canadian sisters live under different laws, but inspiration and resources come our way from them. Examples: Ms. Cheda's "That special little mechanism", paper presented at the Canadian Library Annual conference theme day, June 20, 1973, and "What the library profession; a bibliography", also the new magazine, Emergency Librarian! (32-35 River Ave., Winnipeg, Manitoba) Abroad, Librarians for Social Change (35 Hardyc Rd., London SW19 1JA UK) is spearheaded by Feminist Anne Colwell.

Chronicle of Higher Education (Periodical)

$21.00 p.a. (42 issues). Although all policy-making staff members are men, this continues to provide maximum information re administrative and policy-making jobs via the 'Bulletin board'. They, of course, accept and publish employers' blind-ads and copy which refers to "negotiable" salaries, etc.

Congress votes/How your Congressman voted this week (Periodical)

PO Box 9695, Washington, DC 20016.
Weekly when Congress is in session. $4.50 p.a.

DeCrow, Karen: Sexist justice; how legal sexism affects you (Book)

Random. 1974. 329p. 73-15835. $7.95.
for what Random is getting out of this, busy attorney-national-NOW-president-journalist-DeCrow should have stipulated indexing. She has put whole legal system on the spot. See esp. chapters 4, 5, 6 re employment.

Foley, K. Sue & Leeda Marting, comps.: Directory of women in media education (Pamphlet)

1974. gratis from Broadcast Education Association, 1717 N St. NW, Washington, DC 20036.

Federal regulations and the employment practices of colleges and universities: a guide to the interpretation of federal regulations affecting personnel administration on campus (Periodical)

Includes: equal employment opportunity, affirmative action, Wage & Hour provisions, age discrimination, occupational safety and health, National Labor Relations (collective-bargaining, federal contract requirements, etc.)
Sponsors include American Assn. of Community & Junior Colleges.

Feldman, Saul D. Escape from The Doll's House; women in graduate and professional school education (Book)

Carnegie Commission on Higher Education

Contends that the mere presence of women in graduate school is no testimony that they have escaped The Doll's House; to prove this, considers status, prestige, attitudes, research, financial rewards, power, beliefs, behavior.

51% (Motion picture)

Drucker. 1972. 28 min. C. Univ. of Calif. Extension. #9452. RS14. $2.00 from Drucker.
Considers 2 "upper-level" businesswomen and the characteristic difficulties they must overcome to advance in management positions. 3 dramatized episodes designed to convince male management that females should be afforded equal opportunity to get in there.

Ford Associates (Butler, IN 46721): Directory of women attorneys in the United States. (Book)

1973. $10.
Any profits to be used "in the promotion of women's legal rights," Reference tool and list of 6,000 names and addresses of professionally qualified women attorneys in the U.S.A.

Women's legal handbook series on job and sex-discrimination (Books)

$10 each.

Furniss, W. Todd and Patricia Albjerg Graham, eds. Women in higher education (Book)

The "women" are faculty, students, and administrators. Affirmative action, E.E.O.C., child care, "quotas", maternity leave, credentialism, etc.
Gager, Nancy, ed.: Women's rights almanac, 1974

- Elizabeth Cady Stanton Publishing Co. 624p. bib. index. 74-77527. $49.95/pap.

Introduction to this annual states "our goal was to give at least a timely summary of every subject and places to go for further information and aid with every problem." Appendix of bibliographies, glossary, and 'legal assistance.' Good paper and legible print. See esp. p. 415-460-- "Affirmative Action"-within the larger section on "Employment."

Harrogan, Betty & Associates (Organization) 2341 East 20th, NYC 10010 (212) 777-0031. Consultant on planning and implementing AA goals and timetables, esp. re career development of long-term women employees.


Interstate Association of Commissions on the Status of Women (Organization) 24 and E Sts., N.W., Washington, DC 20004: (202) 363-7280. Endorses ERA. Commissions in Puerto Rico, DC, and in all states, except Texas. Also in some cities and counties.

Jongeward, Dorothy and Dru Scott: Affirmative action for women; a practical guide. (Book) Addison. 1973. 33ap. 73-10592. $9.95. Anthology organized by "key questions" A how-to business, industry, religion, etc., with a TA (transactional analysis) orientation.

Kenowzitz, Lea: Sex roles in law and society: cases and materials (Books) Univ. of New Mexico Pr. 1973. 706p. 72-94656. $22.00. Mainly, but not exclusively, for a 2-3 hour course. Supplement with Marjorie Fine Knowles' Cases and materials on women and the law (Feminist Press, $2.50).

Kaydon, Kandra: Handbook for women entering politics (Pamphlet) 51. From Ms. K. at 1572 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, MA 02138. For other "handbooks," see Morgan, Paizis, Women's Organizations for Employment, etc.

Lipow, Anne, et. al.: Report on the status of women employed in the Library of the University of California, Berkeley, with recommendations for Affirmative Action (Pamphlets)


Loring, Rosalind & Theodora Wells: Breakthrough: women into management (Book) Van Nostrand. 1972. $7.95. "A comprehensive and readable book written for the executive, usually male, who must respond to pressures requiring equal treatment of women and men in executive circles, it should be read and understood by all women determined to enter organizational power centers. After reviewing the legal, social and economic factors resulting in demands for the end of sex discrimination, the authors explore managerial climate, work-role and culture-role stereotypes and male managers' expectations of working women for their effect on corporate policy and practice. Innovations and guidelines for immediate and future changes in attitudes, practices and beliefs are detailed. A supplement describes Revised Order 4, affirmative action programs, sources of management and professional women, and media sources for awareness training materials."--Michelle Rudy. The whole area of women in library management should receive consideration. A few other titles: Douglas C. Basili's Women in management; performance, prejudice, promotion (Dunellen 1971 $8.95); Gretchen Hammerstein's Bibliography on women in library management (contact her %CWILS); and Hilda Kahne's Women in management; strategy for increase (Business & Professional Women's Foundation, 1974, 50c).


McCormick, Pat: Volunteerism: what it's all about (Pamphlet) 1974. 50c. From NOW Task Force on Women & Volunteerism. "Volunteer beware" guidelines for discussion prepared by the TF, also available by writing Box 7024, Berkeley, CA 94707. $1. donation requested.


Wharton School's Madden shows in this important work that traditional economic theory should not be applied to the problem of sex-discrimination. A section on federal law since 1960.

Media Report To Women (Periodical)


Morgan, Ellen: Comfort me with apples; a hard-core action handbook on achieving equity for women in academe (Pamphlet)

- National NOW office. 1975. 52. /non-members.

Municipal Women's Project (Organization) YWCA Building, 140 Clarendon, Boston, MA 02116.

Founders are Rosalind Pollan, Ann Wolpert, and attorney Betty Gittes. Included here as one example of affirmative action in action.

$1. + SASE to Ms. Myers at OLPR, ALA Headquarters, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611. "St. al." = Jennifer Blythman, Bonita Dawson.

National Commission on Accrediting (Organization)

1 Dupont Circle, NW, Washington, DC 20036;
(202) 296-4196.
Until regional and professional accrediting bodies concede that sex-discrimination exists, there won't be much change.

National Council of Administrative Women in Education (Organization/pamphlet)

IBIS Pl. Myer Dr. N., Arlington, VA 22209;
(703) 528-6111. 1973 pamphlet, "Wanted--more women": $2.50 (also available from ERIC)

National Education Assn.: What is affirmative action? combating discrimination in employment (Pamphlet)

Typical organizational pamphlet.

National Organization for Women (Organization)

Relevant task forces, each with newsletter, include: Volunteerism, Compliance, Higher education, Women's Studies, Media. Contact via national NOW office.

Examples of pamphlets: Eastern Massachusetts Chapter's "Sex discrimination in employment; what to know about it, what to do about it." (2d ed., 1973, $3; Central New Jersey Chapter Employment Task Force's "La discriminacion sexual en el trabajo" (50c from Box 2153, Princeton Junction, NJ 08540).

New York City University ("CUNY") Chancellor's Advisory Committee On The Status of Women at the City of New York: Status of women at the City of New York; a report (Pamphlet)

$2.50. 595 E. 80th, NYC 10075.
A fairly typical example of such documents. Katherine M. Klotzburger, special assistant to the chancellor (now disenchanted) is associated with this one!

New York State Talent Bank (Organization)

270 Broadway, 3d Fl., NYC 10007, Att. Norma Kraus.
New Lieutenant Governor's talent bank search for women qualified for high-level employment.

Paizis, Suzanne; The political woman's handbook (Pamphlet)

$2.50; PO Box 943, Aptos, CA 94003

Pacificas Program Service (Organization/tape)

Pacificas Tape Library, 5316 Venice Blvd.,
Los Angeles, CA 90019. Lucy Robins:
(213) 931-1625.
This media source for "movement" groups recognizes that sex-discrimination exists. Nonprofit educational foundation incorporated in California. Has catalog of feminist tapes and brochure, "Women." "The plight of women in broadcasting" just one example of their tapes.

Project on Status and Education of Women (Organization/periodical)

Dr. Bernice Sandler, Exec. Director.
1818 R St. NW, Washington, DC 20009.
A project of the Assn of American Colleges. On campus with women, an important source of current information and supportive of affirmative action in academia. Series of training programs on affirmative action itself was co-sponsored by the Project and may be continued.

Resource Center for Women in Higher Education (Organization)

Brown University, Providence, RI 02912. "HERS" is a placement and referral service working with women faculty and university administrators to implement affirmative action for women.

Richardson, Betty; Sexism in higher education (Book)

Continuum/Seabury. 1974. $7.95.
Goes into the gamesmanship practiced by the male establishment to keep women in their place in academia, which makes affirmative action essential. All the devices used to delay, divide and discredit women are examined: dossiers, promotion, tenure, etc.

Ross, Susan C.; Rights of women: the basic ACLU guide to a woman's rights (Book)

Special editor: Ruth Hader Ginsburg, Coordinator, ACLU Women's Project.
Should be included in the literature kit distributed by a Congressional committee. Her Women and Education, Women's Rights on campus (Pamphlet) almost every feminist women's organization provides workshop participants. Copy included with ACLU membership. If not available locally--which would be fraught with implications--contact ACLU Lit. Dept., 22 E. 40, NYC 10016. Also in this series is David Rubin's Rights of teachers (Baron, 1973, $1.95).

Shulman, Carol; Affirmative action; women's rights on campus (Pamphlet)

1973. $2. From ERIC.

Somers, Tish & Genny Guracar (Bulbul); The not-so-helpless female (Book)

Useful guide to activism, strategy and tactics, for individual or group action.

Spanish-American Feminists (Organizations)

Box 773, NYC 10203.
Also: Spanish-speaking Women's National Caucus Birma Santana, State Human Rights Appeal Board, 250 Broadway, NYC 10007 (212-488-2377) National Conference of Puerto Rican Women, PO Box 4804, Cleveland Park Station, Washington, DC 20008.
National Chicana Institute, PO Box 7306, San Antonio, TX 78207.

Stimpson, Catharine R., ed.; Discrimination against women; Congressional hearings on equal rights in education and employment (Books)

Bowler. 1973. 558p. Index. 72-13703. $13.50 These, in 1970, were the first hearings on the subject of sex-discrimination ever held by a Congressional committee. Her Women and the Equal Rights' Amendment; Senate Subcommittee hearings...(Bowler. 1972. $17.95) also available.
Swain, Elizabeth A.: Untitled testimony re
The Croller Club of New York City before
City Commission on Human Rights' public
hearing on discrimination by exclusionory-
membership, No. 13, 1973 (Pamphlet)
*Wesleyan University Library, Middletown,
CT 06457.
Right on, lady librarian!

Theodore, Athena Rentoumi, ed.: The profes-
sional woman (Book/pamphlet)
Schenkman. 1971. 769p. $12.50/cloth
$5.95/pap.
"An excellent collection of articles ranging
from the sexual structure of professions to
female professionalism and social change and
including socialization, career patterns and
cultural definitions of the female profes-
sional. It leaves little doubt that there
is still men's work and women's work both in
people's minds and in reality."--Sherrill ChedA.
Dr. Theodore has yet to receive one cent from
publisher Schenkman!

U.S. Commission on Civil Rights. Office of
Federal Civil Rights Evaluation (Organization/
pamphlets)
*4606-1121 Vermont Ave., NW, Washington DC
20425; (202) 254-6654.
Individuals trying to work within the system
may send experiences and suggestions to:
David Fales re Wage & Hour, Victor Sterling
re EEOC, Jeanette Sincock re HEW. They are
seeking testimony re hardship caused charging
parties by policies and procedures of these
agencies. Office of Information & Publica-
tions, same address: "Statement on affirma-
tive action for equal employment opportuni-
ties" (gratis)

U.S. Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare.
Office for Civil Rights: Higher Education
guidelines: Executive Order 11246 (Pamphlet)
Why is it not possible to obtain this U.S.
Government publication from the Supr. of
Documents? Get it from your regional civil
rights office or the Public Information
Office, Office for Civil Rights, Dept. of
HEW, Washington, DC 20201. I. Legal provi-
sions; II: Personnel policies & practices;
III: Development of affirmative action pro-
grams. This is a basic document every employee
in an Institution of higher education should
have in her/his possession, and yet it is
suppressed on some campuses! "Sex discrimi-
nation" (HEW 391, Publ. No. OCR 74-6) is a
brochure available from the Office, useful
for its complete list of regional offices.

U.S. Dept. of Labor. Women's Bureau: Guide
to sources of data on women and women workers
for the United States and for regions, states,
and local areas (Pamphlet) 1972.

U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission
(Organization/pamphlets)
*1800 G St., NW, #1134, Washington, DC 20506
(202) 343-5621/8095.
EEOC was set up under the Civil Rights Act
of 1964 provisions and charged with investi-
gating complaints of discrimination in employ-
ment and seeking to conciliate them; it has
been under attack from women's organizations
for its lack of effectiveness (always attrib-
uted to overload and backlog) and sexism!
Every feminist involved in affirmative action
employment needs a list of the regional and
district outlets, and should carry with her
a copy of the charge form, although a charge
may be made without using the form!
"Affirmative action and equal employment; a
guidebook for employers": ?v. (1973-79)
517/1068 and 1069, I-3). Request from the
EEOC Office of Voluntary Programs in Wash-
ington or from your regional office; it is very
useful and mistitled re the employers. While
you're at it, get a copy of the EEOC's 7th
annual report (0-568-531, 704 from GPO Book-
store) for laughs.

Wheeler, Helen Ripper: Placement services
in accredited library schools, report of the
ALA-SRRT Task Force on the Status of Women
in Librarianship (Pamphlet)
*ERIC May 1973. #P 65c/$3.29 HC. Doc.
*ED 079-947, 17p.
Ms. was rejected by Li and WLB. Descriptors
assigned by ERIC include: Job placement,
Librarians; Library schools, questionnaires;
Sex discrimination, working women. Other
action research areas undertaken by the Task
Force during Michelle Rudy's tenure as
coordinator, 1972-3, included nepotism.

Woman in that job? (Slides)
30 min. C. Slides with script.
Directed toward employers & their affirmative
action plans, showing how to reengineer
positions to encourage women to apply.

Women and law (Microfilm)
*Contact Joanne Schulman at Women's History
Research Center; the completed section
may be ordered now; standing orders are
needed to finish the balance. $5.30/reel;
real guide $10/section.
I. Law-General (ERA; credit; divorce, etc.)
10 reels: completed. II. Politics. 14 reels.
III. Employment (Women in business; housework;
paid; labor history; equal pay, etc.) 8 reels.
IV. Education. 2 reels. V. Rape/Prison/
Prostitution. 3 reels. VI. Black & Third
World Women. 3 reels. Note: Numerous public
and academic libraries have already ordered
these microfilm series.

Women in Library management (Videotapes)
Ms. Leigh Estabrook is soliciting case-study
elements to contribute to a book, Women in
Library Management, to be equally cases,
articles, and reaction-explanations. Initial
videotapes of case studies were used for a
"Humanism" conference.
*Contact her at Simmons College School of
Library Science, 300 The Fenway, Boston,
MA 02115.
Women Studies


Women Studies Abstracts (Periodical)

- Sara Stauffer Whaley, Founder-Editor.
  Box 1, Rush, NY 14543. Quarterly.
  An absolutely basic social sciences tool, not just related to Women Studies programs. Numerous libraries of all types have and need this. Almost a misnomer, it is an abstracting service "plus": reviews, bibliographic essays, etc., etc. A quick check of all issues shows that, with one exception, affirmative action has enjoyed several entries in each.

Women's Action Alliance (Organization/pamphlet)

- 370 Lexington Ave., NYC 10017; (212) 685-0800.
  "Tools for the diminution of sex discrimination in state and local governments": $1/individuals; $3/institutions.

Addendum: Bird, Caroline: Everything a woman needs to know to get paid what she's worth (Book)

- McKay 1973. 30p. 73-79496. $8.95
  Bird defines a woman's job as anything that pays less than a man will do it for. Question-and-answer format. There is a surprising similarity of obstacles met by women workers of all types (business, professional, blue-collar, clerical, etc.) in seeking equal pay. Important in these times when efforts are being made to divide women along all possible lines. See especially the forty-page Resource Section on jobs, publications, nonprofit commercial services, government agencies, organizations and caucuses. Although Bird advises women on how to handle themselves in a male-dominated job world, this isn't another book advocating adjustment to the status quo--nor is it for the woman who is trying to decide whether to go (back) to employed work. She recognizes that many women have no choice and tries to help us cope.

--Helen R. Wheeler, 7940 Jefferson Highway (Apt. 215), Baton Rouge, LA 70809; (504) 921-2477.

Flashpoints....

More on WSN: The Fall '74 Spark on p. 26-7 reprinted "A new form of Workers' Control" from the May/June '74 Science for people. Spark, organ of the Committee for Social Responsibility in Engineering (675 Riverside Drive, NYC 10027), costs $10 p.a. for employed persons 6 institutions, $2 for the jobless, $5 for students, & $1 if "broke." SP is published at 9 Poland St., London W1V 3Dg, UK...

Another item on the Attica Flash: Rockefeller holdings in Rhodesia," MACSA news, #2/4 (Sept./Nov. '74), p. 10. (It's an Africa News despatch, which first ran in the Oct. 16, 1974 Guardian.) Incidentally, Joel Andreas—who's "interested in doing more revolutionary drawing"--created the "Incredible Rocky" comic mentioned on p. 17 of the last issue. That total, graphic dissection of the Rockefeller Empire is available not only from NACLA's New York address, but also from Box 226, Berkeley, CA 94701. Mail-rates: 1 copy @ 75c + 25c postage, 10-49 copies @ 60c + 10% postage, 50 or more @ 45c + 10%. Although copyrighted in 1973, Andreas' stick is hardly dated. Indeed, the names & faces that fill those "comic book" pages reappear almost daily in the news. Mostly engaged in very unfunny pursuits.

If you'd like to be listed—at no charge—in the upcoming WORLD WHO'S WHO OF WOMEN or know somebody who should be, contact Melrose Press, Ltd., International Biographical Centre, Cambridge CB2 3OP, UK... Nancy Meiselas—at Farrar, Straus & Giroux—wants YA librarians to tell her what important aspects of human sexuality haven't been adequately represented (if at all) in Young Adult lit: novels & non-fiction alike. Write her at 19 Union Square West, NYC 10003. Or phone (212) 741-6942.

The Dec. '74 Forum bridge (v. 3, no. 1) announced that Forum Educational Project had contracted with a recording company to produce a two-disc album on prison creativity, including contributions from adults and youth, men and women, inmates, ex-inmates, and administrators. "The original deadline for submission of material," according to FEP, "was Oct. 30th, 1974, and though we wrote throughout the nation, returns were slow and smaller than expected." So they secured an extension from the record outfit--into 1975--and are now trying again to get the necessary input from both institutions & individuals. "If you know anyone anywhere who meets the requirements," says FEP, and might be willing to submit original poetry, short stories, or essays, "please communicate with us..."
or have the individual write directly to: FORUM EDUCATIONAL PROJECT, 6 W. Hanover St., Trenton, NJ 08608. We will be able then to furnish the required authorization and release forms for signature. There will be a sum of $15 paid to each person whose material is accepted for use by the company. This is a chance to be heard," the Project emphasizes. "Let's hear from you.

TFW BULLETIN BOARD, the Task Force on Women's job-listing service, has begun its second 6 months of operation. Covering library administrative, management & specialist positions, the BB is available to individual women & affirmative action-oriented organizations for an at-cost donation of $5 for 6 months (12 issues). Make checks payable to the Task Force on Women Job Roster. Employers are encouraged to submit position-openings for listing at no charge. However, as an affirmative action vehicle, each should include the following information: institution name & address, job title/classification; opening date of vacancy; qualifications & responsibilities of the post; salary range (notice falling to cite at least the general range will not be published); filing deadline; name, address & phone number of contact person. Df further information, subs, & listings, contact the Roster Coordinator: Liz Dickinson, TSD, Hennepin County Library, 7001 York Ave. S., Edina, MN 55435; (612) 830-4977.

ANNOUNCEMENTSRRT affiliate news will be fully reported in the next, preconference issue.

THE NETWORK PROJECT: "A handful of people who had stopped watching television and wondered why" organized the Project in 1971. Their object: to improve American broadcasting. Their means: collecting "a good deal of information," much of it now publicly available in either a pamphlet-type NOTEBOOK series or taped radio documentaries; writing magazine articles; testifying before Congressional committees and the FCC; giving talks & seminars to high-school & college students; meeting with community groups; and going to court (e.g., to challenge centralized control over non-commercial TV by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, PBS, and the White House, undue government influence on the network, and outright censorship of controversial programming, or--in another suit--to contest the FCC's surrender of regulatory responsibility over domestic communications satellites to private industry, demanding instead that the Commission guarantee public access to this powerful new medium). In its latest catalog-brochure, the Project declares that it "has no master plan; investigations and actions are selected by the membership, which is open to anyone willing to spend a few months (or years) working on an aspect of media of personal interest." If interested, write the Project at 101 Earl Hall, Columbia University, NYC 10027, or phone (212) 854-5113. Getting down to dollars-and-cents: "Affiliated with the Protestant Foundation at Columbia..., through which it can receive tax-deductible contributions, the Project is primarily supported by speaking fees, NOTEBOOK subscriptions ($10-individual/$25-institutional; single issues, $2 +), and the sale of its radio documentaries ($25/series, $12/program)." Before ordering, ask for a complete materials-list, which fully describes the 11 NOTEBOOKS and 10 radio-tapes produced to date on such grabby topics as Cable TV, satellites, the Sesame Street Syndrome, governmental manipulation, the Ford Foundation's impact on public television, network foreign operations, and military/corporate media-control. Also available: The fourth network ($2), a "history of public television, its network development, and centralization of control in Washington," and Feedback (50c), an illustrated, 16-p. "survival primer for citizen action to improve local station services."

Wolf's bane

Modest proposals

Thinking ahead and never looking back, Wolf's Bane proposes that:

1 "Our" Association go on record in San Francisco as stating that, yes, there is a severe unemployment crisis in librarianship and therefore a major ALA priority for 1975-76 should be the alleviation of that job-squeeze. To implement this resolution, the San Francisco Conference should also adopt as top ALA priorities: ◆ lobbying intensively for the largest possible slice of federal funds available for the creation of public service jobs under the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) of 1973, the Emergency Jobs and Unemployment Assistance Act of 1974, and whatever additional legislation current and future sessions of Congress pass; ◆ creating a libraries-KPA to devise innovative job-corps programs so that these funds may be maximally utilized to provide employment for librarians too long on the job market; and ◆ guaranteeing that whatever government job-funding is secured, first priority should be for the employment on any level of trained librarians, rather than the miscellaneous welfare clients who presently have more effective lobbies for getting library jobs than "our" Association offers us librarians.

2 The Association move that, prior to its next elections, all candidates for Council and ALA offices be requested to submit proposals for attaining maximum government jobs-corps funding by creating innovative programs for the increased employment of trained librarians in as many facets and capacities of library service as possible.

3 ALA Headquarters staff and its quiveringly-aware house organ, American Glitter, review their own personnel policies regarding employment of non-librarians in any capacity while so many trained librarians are unemployed or taking jobs as unskilled workers.

4 Since Barry Simon of the Office for Library Personnel Resources has seen the wisdom of switching to a profession which offers infinitely more employment possibilities than library service, OLPR ought to replace him with some one having not only more compassion for the jobless but also a long-term professional commitment to librarianship. (And if, as the departing Mr. Simon insists,
Conference Placement is so chaotic because the market is glutted with inexperienced recent graduates for whom no jobs are listed, let OPLR have this information widely disseminated in the professional media to counteract the rosey-tinted visions of Dora-Lyn Hickey and Carlyle Frarey.)

5 If ALA will not insist that Library Schools practice some form of birth control during the job-crunch, it might nevertheless concoct new Accreditation Standards which are student-as-future-job-hunter oriented. (In today’s tight market, library school alumni need "sellable" skills and internship experience instead of intellectual cotton candy like "library history, philosophy, and theory from Ashurbanipal to Lester Asheim."

6 The Association also consider temporarily dis-accrediting any Library School if 10% of its 1974 alumni are not currently employed, for whatever reasons, in full-time professional library positions.

7 If not actively discouraging new Library students, the Association should at least call in its 1964 recruitment literature and start publicizing the grim reality. (There are already scores of MLS librarians with experience earning $114 a week as Office Temp or getting $87.42 from welfare who would gratefully accept a 28-hour/week "para-professional" opening just to get back into library work.)

Librarianship is no longer the last safe harbor for the vocationally wishy-washy.

None but the most dedicated and determined future librarians should let themselves be recruited into the profession, and it is ALA’s responsibility to see that innocents are not misled by callous library schools only concerned with quick killings in the tuition market.—Steve Woff.

A song for San Francisco

Once I studied Lib Sci,
Got straight A’s,
I got my MLS fine.
Once I studied Lib Sci,
Now I'm done.
Brother, can you spare a dime?

Once I cataloged books,
Serials,
And micro-forms all the time.
Once I cataloged books,
Now they're done.
Brother, can you spare a dime?
(Chorus.)
Once in cap and gown,
Gee, we looked swell,
Full of that LBJ cash.
Nine thousand grads a year went looking for work.
Now MLS ain’t worth trash.

Say, don’t you remember
Recruiting me?
"Join up and hob with the nob.
Say, don’t you remember?
I’m still me.
Brother, can you spare a job?

--adapted by Steve Wolf.

Editor’s note—For more by Steve on the same theme and in the same incomparable style, cf. "Common Atrocities," LJ, Mar. 15, 1975, p. 555-57. Mr. W.—currently jobless despite two Master’s degrees, much experience, & boundless motivation—contributes regularly to both the SRRT Newsletter & HCL cataloging bulletin.

baker’s duo

Social hierarchies and the subprofessional

Interactions within library staffs are characterized by an inherent hierarchy. In the typical library, superiors, peers and inferiors all coexist in a caricatured microcosm of the American class system. To a great extent librarians (and the rest of us) have accepted, even embraced, the assumptions of Western capitalism and have endeavored to place the library into its "rightful" context as just another of many bureaucratic structures within our society.

The concept of hierarchy is often symbolized by an inverted pyramid of responsibility, with the greatest responsibility (and hence power) residing at the top, concentrated in the hands of a relatively small number of "managers." As one descends the pyramid, the actual number of employees grows, but their individual and collective responsibilities decline until, at the bottom, one encounters a myriad of employees bearing no responsibility and no power whatever. The devisers of this cleverly paradoxical scheme insist that they attach no "value" to the respective gradations appearing within the overall personnel structure. One is simply supposed to take as a Given the "fact" that those occupying the highest positions are there by dint of hard work, sheer quantity of credentials (degrees, memberships, honors, etc.), experience, and professional qualifications, and that as one retreats to the lower reaches, the requisite qualifications, requirements and responsibilities decline, reaching nil at the level of library page.

But willy-nilly, value manages to creep into the scheme. According to the assumptions under which bureaucratic hierarchies operate, responsibility equals quality; the higher the responsibility, the higher the quality—and higher quality equals higher pay and oftentimes better hours and fringe benefits. The amount of work individuals perform and the effort they expend in performing it are not important; what matters most under the prevailing system is their rank. It is thus no coincidence that we apply the term "value" both to philosophical constructs and to financial calculations.
Models like the inverted-pyramid hierarchy are meant to reflect reality, but it is an idealized reality that they portray. In the tight job market currently plaguing much of the American economy (and likely to continue for years), bureaucracies are, due to their inflexibility, singularly incapable of resolving the dilemmas they face. For example: How truly "meritorious" is a literal and rigid insistence upon an applicant's possession of certain credentials? Whose is the library to hire at the lowest rung of the ladder—someone "qualified" or someone "overqualified"? Just how responsible are those of us at the bottom?

It is hard for a library page or low-level clerk to take his/her job seriously when the job itself is not taken seriously at the "responsible" managerial levels. Checking in, carding and shelving books (or typing catalog cards, or any number of related tasks) is "dirty work," jobs which "have to be done" and nothing else. That's the commonly-accepted attitude toward subprofessional positions. Subprofessionals are taken for granted. They're privates in an army. No one stops to ask in what manner answering a reference question, cataloging a book or (for that matter) supervising subordinates is of more intrinsic importance than getting the book labeled and onto the shelf. Subprofessionals are in the curious position of providing service to professional librarians, who are themselves engaged in providing service to their patrons. In this sense the jobs of professionals and subprofessionals are complementary: they obviously reinforce each other.

For libraries, the ultimate personnel question may be: Are clerks professionals? In some libraries where clerks and professionals have attempted to unionize in an all-inclusive, vertical fashion, administrators have objected that clerks belong (if at all) in other clerical unions and not in a library union. The implication of this attitude is that all clerical work is alike. The effect of enforcing this kind of logic is a demoralizing one for both clerks and librarians. Even in libraries not experiencing any unionization effort, the enforced (from above) clerical consciousness of "having-to-stay-in-one's-place" undermines the loyalty of subprofessionals to the libraries they work for.

Despite the truly Byzantine qualities of their personnel organization and administration, libraries remain an enormously attractive work environment, no matter at what level one is employed. Most of us at the bottom—regardless of our differing educational backgrounds and prior job experience—become deeply attached to "our" libraries, even if we are sometimes alienated from the petty tasks which we're called upon to perform. Most of us share a special feeling for the library, a feeling which eases the dissatisfaction engendered by our meager paychecks. It is a feeling which transcends what administrators stupidly and insensitively regard as a universal clerical mentality. Professionals must come to respect the indispensable contribution subprofessionals make to the operation of libraries and informed decision-making processes. Also, if these non-professional librarians are to be truly democratized, there must be an active role for subprofessionals to play in it. To bring about this democratization, we must all strive to rid ourselves of the basically authoritarian notions implanted in our souls during many years of working within the Beast.

The Yiddish anarchist press: two samples

Fifty or sixty years ago, the Yiddish press in both America and Europe was a battleground for competing left-wing ideologies and political movements. In recent decades, the American Yiddish press has declined drastically as its readership grew older and was not augmented by younger "cadres." Papers and magazines merged and eventually folded. Today the Yiddish press is a pale shadow of its former self, with its vitality sapped—youth by now being a virtually nonexistent factor on the staffs and subscription lists of the remaining publications. With age has come a decline in combative tension. Anarchists and socialists have long since become reconciled to each other, and to the realities of North American capitalism, as well. An even smaller, pro-Soviet circle continues to issue its own publications, isolated from the already circumscribed arena of the Yiddish press.

Two of the most spirited, lively, and open-minded Yiddish monthly newspapers are published by the remnants of the once-strong anarchist movement. These are the 8-page Frei Arbeiter Stimme—the "Free voice of Labor" (33 Union Square, Room 808, NYC 10003; $7 p.a.), and Dos Freie Vort—"The free word" (Pje. Craeli-Neuville 2116, Buenos Aires, Argentina). These two publications stand as a reminder that not so long ago anarchism was a mass movement not only among Russian, Italian and Spanish workers and peasants, but also among Eastern European Jews. These papers provide an international perspective and informed commentary on current developments, modern history, and the development of anarchism. They further shed light on the differing concerns and points of reference of North American and Argentine Jews, Yiddishists and anarchists.

Frei Arbeiter Stimme has been published continuously since 1900. Originally it carried short stories and serialized novels, in addition to the current staple of serious "problem articles" and occasional poems. The Dec. 1974 issue, for example, contains these items: P. Konstan's "Are we America?" and A. Berman's "Israel-Egyptian cooperation," both about contemporary events. P. Kropotkin," a politico-biographical sketch by Chaim Arlozorov. Two poems: A. Luria's "Duration" and Moshe Etinger's "Exalted days.

"Looking back on Russia," A. Zukhli's observations on the early post-revolutionary situation.

Most of the material is thoughtful, intelligent, and balanced. Freie Arbeiter Stimme is particularly consistent in its opposition to Soviet foreign and domestic policy. (Concerning most other current issues, it might best be described as "mainstream liberal.")

Dos Fraie Vort shares many of its New York counterpart's contributors and articles; certain details, however, illustrate the vicissitudes of Argentine anarchism, of which the most obvious is the fact that the paper is now in its third series, having been suppressed on two previous occasions (once during the Peron dictatorship of the early 1950s). The facts-of-life of the Argentine Jewish community, organized in a hierarchical, basically authoritarian manner, also differentiate Dos Fraie Vort from Freie Arbeiter Stimme. Where the NY publication is pro-Israel, the other is philosophically and practically anti-Zionist—in part because of the crucial role Israeli emissaries lately played in eliminating Yiddish from the curriculum of Jewish communal schools in Argentina. Generally, Dos Fraie Vort maintains a more purely ideological emphasis.


It is impossible fully to convey the flavor of these publications in a short essay, but I hope I've demonstrated some of the remarkable qualities of today's Yiddish press. Yiddish and anarchism are two almost forgotten culs-de-sac of Western culture and society. Still, when the two are combined, they have much to share with us. And we have much to learn from them.—Zachary M. Baker, Southdale-Hennepin Area Library, 7001 York Ave. S., Edina, MN 55435.

Editor's note: "Zach," who fluently speaks, writes, and reads Yiddish, is now studying Library Science at the University of Minnesota. He already holds an M.A. in History from Brandeis University & has worked in libraries as both a page & clerk.

Reviews


The Advocate, "new" and old, is the propaganda machine of the homosexual civil rights consortium, dedicated to the party line that

- homosexuals are just another ethnic or racial minority whose oppression will vanish overnight with the passage of 1956-style equal-access legislation;
- gay "community leaders" need not have either followers or any coherent platform or program, only an excess of what the immortal Myra Breckinridge so nicely terms our national passion for "strenuous and even pathological publicizing of oneself."

Things one will never read in the Advocate include
- the fact that after 5½ years of relentless self-promotion, the gay civil rights consortium is still rejected as irrelevant by over 98% of all gays;
- any form of in-depth social analysis, always the first step toward understanding who-we-are and where-we're-going in other movements, but rejected by the gay civil rights establishment as not only unnecessary but dangerously harmful;
- the substantial insights of the Women's Movement, Men's Movement, Bisexual Movement, Effeminst Men, and Human Potential Movement that illuminate sexual objectification, compartmentalization, and role playing vs. the interaction of wholly functioning, unlabeled individuals;
- the androgynous vision of Bloomsbury, where homosexuality was identified with the Cult of Friendship and personal relationships were glorified as the greatest good in life;
- the testimony of European and English gays affirming that more tolerant legislation has not brought them greater social acceptance as homosexuals;
- the fact that today's self-annointed "gay spokespersons" are to the gay community what Burt Reynolds is to movie acting: flashy tv talk show tumblers, and nothing more.
SRRT newsletter no. 34/page 32

To confirm that its "devotion to the cause of gay civil rights" is not necessarily a devotion to either the gay community or gay liberation, the "new" Advocate's publisher, David B. Goodstein, congratulates his readers for having "chosen a truly healthy and meaningful lifestyle."

O really?

Exploring this lifestyle, pro-gay sociologists William Simon and John Gagnon found that "about one half" of the gays they interviewed reported "50% or more of their sexual partners were...one-night stands, and for about one quarter this was true for 80% or more of their contacts."

"Truly healthy and meaningful," huh?

Gays are a sexual minority uniquely discriminated against in specifically sexual ways. We are the only group compelled to totally divorce our needs for physical intimacy and affection from every other interpersonal relationship; ghettoized into bars and baths and midnight cruises; and required to judge one another solely in one-dimensional terms of physical attractiveness. That is the reality of gay oppression.

But the homophile civil rights consortium persists in peddling its watered-down definition of gay-liberation-through-civil-rights-legislation. This definition has no meaning for the gay community, but it can be lived with by radio-lib chic politicians, the editors of the New York Times and Village Voice, and 37-year-old plastic swingers who want to be "cool" about gay lib but are uptight as hell about their sphincters being threatened.

It caters to the straights who dispense government and foundation grants, commission appointments, political patronage, and media validation of the "authoritative voices of the gay community." But it keeps gays in their place, locked inside the ghetto world of one-night stands with passing strangers.

The Advocate, "new" and old, unquestioningly endorses and promotes the line that politics can free us all: We have no need for social change or even social questioning.

But the fact remains that gays will stay oppressed unless society is totally androgynized and our restricting dichotomies of straight/gay, sex/friendship, masculine/feminine, spouse/buddy, and strong/supportive disappear. And all people can interact as fully-developed human beings.

If this vision is too frightening for you, buy the Advocate. You'll never read about it there.--Steve Wolf, member, SRRT Task Force on Gay Liberation.


Here's a commune-people's roadmap to the legal pitfalls & mires (sloughs of despond?) they are likely to confront when they try to fit alternative communities into THE COMMUNITY. The major obstacle is that the law is designed to perpetuate a society with a narrow range of lifestyles. Communes shows you how to get around this obstacle by "applying traditional legal principles to non-traditional social forms." One such principle is the law's propensity to protect individuals' rights (sometimes?).

But first this book does the demystifying trick of translating actual problem situations into grist for the legal process, and for this reason is highly recommended to librarians who are going to be asked for help in this translating process.

Applause to the author for selecting several relevant topics from a field of possibilities (a later work is promised covering foodstamps, compulsory school laws, adoption, etc.), and for organizing law topics into digestible chunks: civil rights (constitution law), sex (criminal and family law), search-seizure or "what to do when the Man comes knocking," zoning and building regulations, and getting organized (corporate/real estate/tax law).

A trouble-shooting approach is the manual's strength: groups can anticipate or recognize specific situations, understand them from a legal point of view, and find out how to deal with them. Groups can learn to distinguish problems with do-it-yourself solutions from problems which probably are going to require a lawyer's help. Readers are directed to public and law libraries to research statutory and case law, and they get tips on locating a sympathetic lawyer. Because applicable law varies from place to place, general principles are emphasized, but morality laws and forms of corporate organization are summarized by state in the appendix, as are local zoning statutes for several representative cities.

Best of all, and just as the title sez, is this book's commonsense attitude. Solutions and problems are discussed against the background of practicality and reality (the sort one finds fighting a "single-family-dwelling" neighborhood, a town council, and in court--hmmm.) Given this climate, strategies that are likely to work and "model tactics for successfully representing the interests of alternative culture" are stressed. Survival in the "real world" and thereby the chance to nurture an environment where a group can live its own reality become possible.--Margaret Dillibour, 1977 Russell St., Berkeley, CA 94703.

It is plain that economic demystification and clarification are primary needs for today's hard times. It's also a fact that the overwhelming majority of business and economic periodicals and newsletters available through library are written from a business and investment perspective. They do not represent the viewpoint of persons bearing the brunt of employment, welfare, veteran and medical service cutbacks. These publications imply that we must accept what is happening and tighten our belts.

Dollars & Sense's objective, in contrast, is to demystify the current economic situation and analyse it from a perspective that does not accept the profit system as eternal. This 16-page newsletter is written for a non-technical general audience as well as for persons who want to effectively fight back for progressive social change and greater control over their own lives. It is published by a group of economists who have come together through the Boston and Amherst chapters of the Union for Radical Political Economics. URPE is the SRRT of the economists.

The articles are relatively short (1500 words), accompanied by clear charts plus good cartoons and other relevant graphics. They deal with such topics as, "What good is a recession?" "Health Insurance," "What's the real unemployment rate?" "Who pays the taxes?" and "Revenue Sharing: Who gets what?" The references within a given article to other material in the same or previous issues are very helpful. There's also a regular feature, "The Economy in Numbers," which deals with employment, wages, prices and interest rates, and an interesting quiz called "Funny you should ask".

Dollars & Sense does an understandable 6 necessary job of explaining whom our economy benefits and who suffers--without going into precise strategies about how to deal with these gross inequities. I feel it's important and essential for all public and school libraries.--Werner Hertz, Eastbay Liberation Information Center (ELIC), 5951 Canning St., Oakland, CA 94609.

Editor's note: "A related publication," Werner adds, and "also good" is Just Economics, issued by the Movement for Economic Justice, 1609 Connecticut Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20009.


The first mistake of the Journal of Homosexuality was its title. Privately, the editor confided that many Gays objected to the name. They believe the word "sex" should not be in it, he said, because we do much more with each other than just have sex. Less than 1% of Gay groups around the country identify themselves with the term "homosexual"--down from 2.5% two years ago. That compares to 67% of U.S. Gaylib entities whose title carries the "Gay" banner. So, why a Journal of Homosexuality?

The second blunder was to ignore the first principle of science: Define your terms. No one seems to know what "homosexuality" is, although everyone talks about it. The Journal's editorial Board, we're told, does "not perceive homosexuality per se as a pathology," but as "a valid life style." And the Journal confuses the issue by being potentially publication on "lesbians, male homosexuality, gender identity and alternative sexual lifestyles." It's fairly obvious that neither the editor nor the contributors have any clear idea what "homosexuality" is supposed to mean.

Webster says "homosexuality" is a sexual desire for members of one's own sex, while Kinsey Institute research shows that 37% of the male population enjoys intercourse with other males at some time. So, is 37% of the male population actually "homosexual"? Strictly speaking, yes. Which is why Gays prefer to talk in terms of Gayness, or same-gender affection. Gayness is an attribute like beauty: We all have some of it, only Gays have more of it.

Next is the usual insult of discussing Gays in the context of their crotches. Breeder researchers generally assume Gay minds are a mere appendage of the plumbing. Hence, there is little, if anything, written about affections or the quality of Gay relationships. And the Journal is no exception: It's "sexual preference," "sexual orientation," and all things sexual. One article even discusses discrimination against "homosexually and bisexually oriented individuals" as though they're really two different species.

The ultimate scandal is shoddy sampling techniques. The lead article in the 1st issue shockingly admits that "data were gathered from 107 undergraduate Sociology 1 students at West Virginia University." The two Ph.D.'s then used 16 pages to display the "data" every which way! Useless, at best.

Last I appear totally negative, I should mention an interesting contribution regarding the origins of medical nonsense in sexual matters. Starting with the fact that when a male was castrated, he tended not to grow a beard and his muscle tone degenerated, medical theologians assumed all seminal emissions in males were particularly dangerous. Hence, they concluded, sex per se was harmful, and non-procreative orgasm was evidence of a sick mind. The quality of research hasn't improved much in two and a quarter centuries, however; they're still counting orgasms.

The Journal of Homosexuality seems to be the repository of a non-science that finds Gayness qualitatively less human than Straightness, albeit not pathological. Thus far, the contributors refuse to understand that Gayness is an emotional thing first, and that physical expression is a valuable part of some Gay relationships.
There is a need for something like the Journal of Homosexuality, a publication that is not obsessed with only the sexual aspect of Gay relationships, that sees Gayness as a human attribute like beauty. No doubt the Journal will "sell." How else can self-appointed experts who made their reputations confounding the public continue to convince themselves that they really do know something about Gayness?

Hopefully, like a huge mutual masturbation that will disappear.

It's time to stop playing academic games and get on with responsible research. Ten years ago, the Journal of Homosexuality would have been a good first step.--Jack Baker, attorney, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

In early January, Haworth Press invited Steve Wolf to comment on the new periodical "as a professional librarian." So here, as a complementary gloss to Jack's review, is Steve's reply:

Thoroughly unreadable. Impenetrably dull essays written in ponderously leaden prose.

Once again the homophile establishment succeeds in making gay life in general and gay sex in particular uninteresting in extremis.

Why is this Journal necessary? A random selection of abstracts in the Bibliography shows that this subject is treated thoroughly, competently, and much more intriguingly elsewhere.

Not recommended for any type of library.

Extras: () This passage should have concluded the Theodore entry on p. 26 of Helen Wheeler's piece: See also her outstanding action research report on "Academic women in protest" ($3, which goes to a defense fund for women who have protested: 27 Turning Mill Rd., Lexington, MA 02173; also available from ERIC: ED091989). () On Feb. 19th, Bay Area SRRT endorsed Clara S. Jones for the ALA Presidency. Says Joint Coordinator Francisco Pinelli: "Her dedicated work in expanding & updating library services to respond to the needs of our society has been met with well-deserved praise & with implementation. She is exactly the person ALA needs, and as we struggle for similar goals, our choice is obvious. We support Ms. Jones, and call on others to do likewise." For more on the Bay Area action, contact Pinelli at 216 - 2d ave., San Francisco, CA 94118. () Library trade unions: If you'd like to meet in SF to discuss professional problems & develop a communication network, contact Herbert Biblio, John Crerar Library, 15 W. 34th St., Chicago, IL 60616. () Also wanted for NEWSLETTER #35: Candid opinions re ALA's lately-adopted "Statement on Professional Ethics." (For the full text, cf. American Librarian, April '79, p. 23.) () For the benefit of retired union members, ask your Representatives to support H.R. 3117, a "bill to amend the National Labor Relations Act to provide that the duty to bargain collectively includes bargaining with respect to retirement benefits for retired employees." Now, without such a proviso, senior unionists can't be included in bargaining-packages, and now, more than ever, they need to get greater survival-type benefits from the fat-cat bosses.

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