The Committee of Small Magazine Editors and Publishers held their eastern book fair at Temple Univ., Philadelphia, on February 15th. It was a fun affair, although such issues as better distribution of small press materials was given serious thought.

The best story we SRRT'ers heard at the Fair was about the recent community occupation of NYPL's Columbia Branch. We got the following from a participant (or occupant), Mishka Chernofsky (his Yiddish pen-name), itinerant scholar and bee-keeper who was just passing through the neighborhood at the time in search of a particular delicatessen. What he found instead has the Columbia Branch, a one-room library that has existed in the basement of the Butler Library since Columbia University donated the space in 1934.

For the past five years, the library had been cutting their services, but as Mishka noted, "not until library service descended from 'limited' to zero could a constituency organize to fight back."

The Board of Trustees of NYPL announced their decision to close eight branch libraries, including Columbia, with only five days notice. The evening before the closing, protestors occupied the library and began a twenty-four hour sit-in/read-in/sleep-in on tables, book stacks, and the floor.

Mishka says that the high point of the event was the breaking down of barriers between library patrons.

People who had been coming to the library since 1934 were finally introduced to each other by name. The library became an all-night cafe with poetry readings, political discussions, and food bought with money collected from passers-by outside. There were even party hats, notably a drum-major's hat designed by Mishka for the library-appointed security guard, who plays the bagpipe as a hobby.

Lest you think it was Columbia youth in a burst of nostalgia who created the protest, we want to note that it was mostly organized and conducted by "senior" citizens. Ida and Jesse Frankel, who are working on a book about the devastating health effects of retirement in this country, and long-time community residents, started the protest alert.

The end result was the hiring of CETA people to keep the library open three days a week, with one librarian instead of two. There is an ad hoc committee of citizens to plan regular social and cultural events, and a resolution to avoid becoming and all-volunteer library, as has been suggested by city officials.

Mishka concluded that politics (with a small "p") can be fun, but he is still pretty much disenchanted with political institutions. He sees subscription libraries as an answer for people like himself who use libraries "both traditionally and as an office, meeting house, and refuge when traveling."

...
ALA midwinter

ETHNIC MATERIALS TASK FORCE ..... The meeting in Chicago for Midwinter attracted 58 participants. They came to share with some of the USOE Training Institute Directors their findings and projections with respect to ethnic librarianship. (see article on ethnic materials programs).

Beth Shapiro (Michigan State Univ.) has almost completed the directory of ethnic studies librarians as well as a directory of ethnic resource organizations.

Joan Neuman (Brooklyn P.L.), Lubomyr Wynar (Kent State) and David Cohen (Queens) will work on guidelines and resources for foreign language collections as a support for services to ethnic groups in local communities.

The Ethnic Materials Task Force invites resource persons with experience in building ethnic collections and programming for minority groups to participate in a program at the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago on Thursday, July 22, 1976, 8 am - 12 noon. Please contact David Cohen, Coordinator, 68-71 Bell Blvd, Bayside, N.Y. 11364, telephone 212-229-1510.

GAY LIBERATION TASK FORCE ..... The March issue of the WILSON LIBRARY BULLETIN will publish "A grim view of gay life: homosexuality in young adult literature." It's an article by SRRT's own Frances Hanckel and John Cunningham.

There will be a program on reference services a ALA in July on "Serving the Fearful Reader." The idea is to help librarians know resources and how to help patrons find material and information on homosexuality with the least amount of embarrassment and tension for librarian and patron. Various activities such as a board game, role-playing skits, handouts, etc. will be used. Write to Barbara Gittings, Box 2383, Phila, PA 19103 for more information.

TASK FORCE ON WOMEN..... The main discussion was on the Ad Hoc Committee on the Status of Women in Librarianship. At the January meeting of ALA Council, this committee was charge with drafting general guidelines toward the establishment of a Standing Committee of Council on the Status of Women in Librarianship.

The Standing Committee will probably be responsible for collecting research and investigating issues of concern to women; disseminating the information to the appropriate ALA unit; serving as a clearinghouse for women's concerns which are the responsibility of various units of ALA; and making specific recommendations for action to the Council.

The Ad Hoc Committee would appreciate suggestions on specific areas of involvement appropriate to such a Standing Committee. Please send comments before the end of March to: Elizabeth Dickinson, Chairperson, Ad Hoc Committee on the Status of Women in Librarianship, Technical Services Division, Hennepin County Library, 7001 York Ave., So., Edina, MN 55435.

ALTERNATIVES IN PRINT, ETC. TASK FORCE ..... The deadline date for submission of materials and catalogs is April 1st. Publication is scheduled for Fall '76. Many new volunteers showed up at Midwinter! Workers will all be mentioned in the book and may cover publications in their location that come within the scope of AIPE. Write to Mimi Penchansky, TF Coordinator., for
why does ALA not have a collective book exhibit as the Book Fairs have done, for those small presses who can't afford to be present at ALA? The Combined Book Exhibit looks like an official one, yet it's a private business offering space to some for $15 per convention. For Detroit in '77, the TF can volunteer to staff (if that's the problem) solicit small presses, and set up that kind of collective exhibit for feminist publications, minority publications, movement publications, science fiction small press, alternative media, etc. Join in!

TASK FORCE ON SERVICE TO PRISONERS..... The main discussion at Midwinter was the resolution, passed by ALA Council, of the Task Force to "transfer its efforts to the proposed HRLSD section on library services to prisoners." They are referring to the newly formed section of the ALA's Health and Rehabilitative Library Services Division (HRLSD) that is to address itself specifically to library services to prisoners. (See editorial)

Rhea Rubin, 311 The Spiral, Berkeley, CA 94708, is seeking input from SRRT members as to whether they favor this move, oppose it, or want to stay in existence temporarily until the HRLSD section "proves itself."

The advantages of the move are seen as providing more money, more members, a division executive secretary, and easier coordination with other relevant divisions (e.g. YASD committee on juvenile prisoners). Disadvantages are the lack of SRRT's philosophy, and the potential loss of SRRT members who may not be institutional librarians but are willing to devote time to the cause.

Junior Members Round Table has asked SRRT cooperation in protesting the reduction of voting members of the Freedom to Read Foundation Board, since it is necessary that the Board become more, not less, responsive to membership. It was agreed at Midwinter that SRRT would support such a resolution, requesting reconsideration of the reduction. Members of the FRFB are urged to write to request a membership meeting.

GAY LIBERATION: Barbara Gittings, PO Box 2383, Philadelphia, PA 19103.
PEOPLES LIBRARIANS: Francie Gilman, 410 Fairmont #301, Oakland, CA 94611
PRISON LIBRARIES: Rhea Rubin, 311 The Spiral, Berkeley, CA 94708; Co-coordinator: Don Willis, King Cnty Library, King Cnty Jail Courthouse, Seattle, WA 98104.
TASK FORCE ON WOMEN: Linda Crowe, 1356 Scott Avenue, Winnetka, IL 60093.

ALTENATIVES IN PRINT, ETC.: Mimi Penchansky, Queens College Library, Flushing, NY 11367; Co-coordinator: Rhoda Epstein.
CHICANOS TASK FORCE: Patricia Tarin, 4602 Los Feliz Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90027.
ETHNIC MATERIALS INFORMATION EXCHANGE: David Cohen, 68-71 Bell Blvd., Bayside, NY 11364.
FARMWORKERS TASK FORCE: Martin Zolig, Stanislaus Cnty Free Library, 1402 Eye St., Modesto, CA 95354

BARBARA J. FORD, 436 Surf, Apt. 1G, Chicago, IL 60657 (TASK FORCES' COORDINATOR)
K-R sez:

Midwinter was a fairly quiet, basically organizational meeting. Action Council felt that we needed to put some effort into getting our own act together before we could be really effective in ALA. Much of our time was spent discussing what part we want to play in ALA's summer celebration. After looking at the frothy proposed schedule, we decided to devote our program and membership meetings to nitty-gritty issues. We have invited Daniel Boorstin, the new Librarian of Congress, to our Tuesday program to discuss with him issues of social concern to the library community.

Our membership meeting will focus on current ALA legislation and proposed legislation that would push ALA toward more socially responsible positions. If you have issues or resolutions you would like to see included, send them to Joselyn Williams, 1311 Delaware Ave., S.W., Washington, D.C. 20024.

One of the issues SRRT was involved with at Midwinter was the Statement on the Role and Function of Roundtables prepared by the Round Tables Task Force. As a member of the Task Force, I felt that it was a fair restatement of the status quo and would help protect Round Tables against unwarranted ALA interference. Council approved most of the document, but balked at the financial section, which allowed each Round Table to decide what, if any, contribution it would make to the ALA general fund. (ed. note: the assessment is now about 10%, whereas SRRT utilizes ALA staff services between 1 - 3% of the time allotted to Round Tables).

ALA Council referred the matter back to COPES and will take it up again at the Annual Conference.

Another SRRT sponsored issue at Midwinter was the Permanent Part-Time resolution introduced by the Peoples Librarian Task Force. As a member of the Task Force, I felt that it was a fair restatement of the status quo and would help protect Round Tables against unwarranted ALA interference. Council approved most of the document, but balked at the financial section, which allowed each Round Table to decide what, if any, contribution it would make to the ALA general fund. (ed. note: the assessment is now about 10%, whereas SRRT utilizes ALA staff services between 1 - 3% of the time allotted to Round Tables).

ALA Council referred the matter back to COPES and will take it up again at the Annual Conference.

For a while I didn't think it would happen. After years of needling, cajoling, tactile flattery, and boozy bombast Eric Moon resisted steadfastly please that he run for the ALA Presidency. He agreed suddenly at the Midwinter Conference just past, and the petition was filed. In some circles, the news is probably being greeted with all the gastrointestinal flux usually reserved for ulcers. But for me, it offers a hope that the busy fingers currently unraveling the changes made in ALA during the late 60's and early 70's can be stilled, for a while at least, by the rising of the Moon to the Presidency.

I intend to campaign by writing some letters to ALA members offering arguments why this antiracist, antisexist, antihitler man who has bot worked a library for years, but has had more influence than most who do on opening up the profession, should be given the chance to head ALA. I hope YOU can join me.

There are great possibilities for campaign sloganeering: "MOON over SCAM!"; "Join the Lunatic Fringe--Vote for MOON"; "Dance by the Light of the MOON"; "For a MOON-phased ALA"; et al. The most important thing is to convince ALA members that a vote for Moon is a vote for firming the advances made in the association during the past few years. The issue is as basic as that.

--Gerald Shields, Action Council
decision to retire as a National Task Force but remain a part of Bay Area SRRT. Despite all of their good work, including the resolution, two issues of PLOP (Peoples Librarian Occasional Papers) and five People's Librarians supported within the last three years, the task force came to the realization that it was in fact a local group and didn't have the energy to work on a national level.

They haven't lost faith in the concept of People's Librarians who devote their energy to non-profit, socially useful projects while receiving support from employed librarians. The projects in the Bay Area have been very successful, and I would encourage all of you to consider such a project for your community. SRRT will provide information to you on how to set up such a project.

With SRRT's new push to move ALA in positive directions, it is especially important that we vote for our own members running for ALA offices. We also need more people to volunteer to run for Action Council.

The deadline has been extended to April 10; send your name and a short (150 words) statement of concern to Lillian Shapiro, 70 E. 10th St., Apt. 4R, New York City 10003, if you are interested.

AND CLEARINGHOUSE!

In April you'll be receiving election ballots from ALA if you're an ALA member. It's vital that you vote only for people you know have your concerns and viewpoint. Last year SRRT was successful in electing some Councilors and had some influence in Clara Jones' election because SRRT people bullet-voted. ALA elections are set up so that those with the most votes win. This means that even though you may vote for a certain number of candidates, if a candidate is not someone you really want, in effect you are casting a vote against a SRRT-supported candidate.

VOTE AMONG THE FOLLOWING CANDIDATES AND CAST YOUR VOTE FOR A SRRT PROGRAM!

Vice-Pres/President-Elect: ERIC MOON

Council: JOHN L. AYALA, KAY CASSELL, MIRIAM CRAWFORD, YOLANDA J. GUESTA, SHIRLEY EDSALL, JUDITH FARLEY, HARDY FRANKLIN, PATRICIA GAVEN, LILLIAN GERHARDT, JOAN GODDARD, SUSANA HINOJOSA, NORMAN HORROCKS, SIDNEY L. JACKSON, NANCY KELLUM-ROSE, COSSETTE N. KIES, SUZANNE LEBARRON, PATRICIA ROM, SAM G WHITTEN
BANNED BOOKS

The following list of banned books in the Union of South Africa comes from the United Nations NOTES AND DOCUMENTS, no. 2/75, Feb. 1975.

It's easy to believe that James Baldwin, Nikki Giovanni, Che Guevara, Karl Marx, and George Jackson are banned, but how about the following:

OUR BODIES, OURSELVES.

THE MEGUS by John Fowles

GOODBYE COLUMBUS by Philip Roth

A CERTAIN SMILE by Francoise Sagan

and the record album, HAIR.

DROITE DE LA PRESSE? PARESSE?

NIXON'S LIBRARY -- THE CONTINUING SAGA

COAST Magazine recently conducted a "What to do with The Rock (Alcatraz) Contest" and the winners were Marc Appleton and Brad Neal of Los Angeles, who suggested Richard Nixon's library be put there. A perfect site, they think, for the library of the man who had such problems with internal security while in office.

An interesting book which has been strangely ignored by the media (LIBRARY JOURNAL, CHOICE, etc.) is THE AMENDMENT THAT REFUSED TO DIE by Howard N. Meyer (Chilton Pub., Radnor PA $7.95).

The book is especially timely in that it gives the history of the 14th Amendment to the Constitution. Justice Blackmun noted that the historic seven-to-two majority decision allowing abortion was based on "the 14th Amendment's concept of personal liberty and restrictions upon state action."

Adopted in 1868, it is the amendment that guarantees all citizens due process and equal protection under the law. Although opponents of the ERA (Equal Rights Amendment) argue probably correctly that the 14th Amendment could adequately protect women, Mr. Meyer points out abuses by the courts as late as 1966 in enforcing the amendment properly prove that another amendment is needed.

Besides interesting history, the book is a catalog of the injustices and failures of enforcement by the courts, including the Supreme Court of the United States. One example is the Supreme Court's denial of due process to labor organizer Joe Hill, in upholding the verdict of his grossly unfair trial.

This is the kind of history that is so important for Americans to know, and yet it is consistently left out of history textbooks. Mr. Meyer's book fills in many gaps and represents important research material presented in readable fashion.
ZEPHROS is a journal published by a small, non-profit group of San Francisco teachers, artist, and friends. They collect and print practical lesson plans, activities, and games developed by other classroom teachers. Each issue is called a "Do-School Primer." For example, Primer #12, "Zealous Zelda" is "a collection of games on government inflation, talking pictures, love bubbles and the seven deadly whims.

An annotated bibliography entitled SOCIALIST ALTERNATIVES FOR AMERICA is available from the Union for Radical Political Economics (URPE). It is very comprehensive, and lists materials about America and other countries and socialist alternatives.

Send $3 (20 personally) plus 25c postage to URPE, Office of Organizational Services, Michigan Union, Ann Arbor, MI 48104.

Travelers Directory is the international registry of travelers listing names, addresses, telephones, ages, interests, and offers of hospitality to other travelers passing through. Founded in 1960 by author and publisher, John Wilcock, Travelers' Directory is published annually. However, it is not for sale. Only those persons who are willing to list themselves receive a copy of T.D.

Write to Tom Linn, 6224 Baynton St., Phila., Pa. 19144; minimum donation is $8.
1974 Women's Preconference

Videotape copies of the ALA SRRT preconference on women, "Women in a Woman's Profession: Strategies", Douglas College, Rutgers Univ., 1974 have been supplied to the following libraries:

Emory University
Div. of Librarianship
Atlanta, Georgia 30322

Montclair Library
Montclair, NJ 07042

Univ. of Wisconsin Library
Madison, WI

Texas Women's Univ.
Denton, TX

University of Rhode Island
Kingston, RI 02881

Drexel Library School
Phila., Pa. 19104

Graduate School of Librarianship
Univ. of Denver
Denver, CO 80210

Graduate Library School
Indiana Univ.
Bloomington, Indiana 47401

Xerox Company
Rochester, NY 14644

Pawtucket Public Library
13 Summer St.
Pawtucket, RI 02860

UCLA Library
Los Angeles, CA

SUNY at Albany, New York

Univ. Of South Carolina
Columbia, SC 29208

Pratt Institute
Brooklyn, NY 11205

Odegaard Undergraduate Library
Media Center
Univ. of Washington Libraries
Seattle, WA 98195

Penfield Library
State University College
Oswego, NY 13126

School of Library Service
Univ. of Iowa
Iowa City, Iowa 52242

ERA REPORT

The Equal Rights Amendment to the U.S. Constitution has passed 34 states; four more states must ratify it by March 1979.

Holdouts: Nevada, Utah, Arizona, Oklahoma, Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Illinois, Indiana, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, North and South Carolina, and Virginia.

Two states that have meanwhile voted to rescind ratification are Nebraska and Tennessee.

ETHNIC MATERIALS PROJECTS

The following projects have been identified by SRRT Task Force/ Ethnic Materials co-ordinator David Cohen as a result of Midwinter's meeting:

Rick La Pointe (Sch. of Educ., Univ. of So. Dakota) - training native Americans as librarians for Indian reservations.

Robert Booth (Wayne State) - Library training program with the focus on multi-ethnicity in an urban setting with some innovative TV programming.

Lu Wynar (Kent State) - Special Center for Ethnic Publications which has already produced a directory of ethnic newspapers and periodicals as well as a directory of ethnic organizations.

Harvard University is planning to publish and "Ethnic Encyclopedia."

Arnulfo Trejo (Univ. of Arizona, Tucson) - USOE institute for the training of Spanish speaking librarians.

W.B. Lukenbill (Univ. of Texas, Austin) - program to train librarians.
ARE THEY TRYING TO TELL US SOMETHING?

The government agency charge with collecting statistics on abortion is the U.S. Center for Disease Control (Atlanta, Georgia). They call their annual report the "Abortion Surveillance Report."

BICENTENNIAL STATIST

According the the latest Statistical Abstract, $281 million is spent in a year on clock and table radios and $154 million for crippled children.

FROM FEEDBACK

From Hennepin County Library, Edina, Minnesota, Dec. 1, 1975 issue.

LC has finally decided (although still not official) to change NEGROES to AFRO-AMERICANS while the rest of the world's "Negro" race will be dumped into BLACKS.

PEOPLE VS. BLUME

Some scholars, information specialists, and Africanists have written to the chief of LC's Cataloging Division to protest prejudicial subject headings used by LC.

In a letter to Edward J. Blume, cataloging Chief, they cited the use of UNDERDEVELOPED AREAS instead of THIRD WORLD, APARTHEID not being a used heading, "Primitive" forms being changed to non-pejorative constructions, eg. Government, Traditional (Instead of Primitive).
The Los Angeles Public Library has a union for the staff professionals called The Librarian's Guild (AFSCME local 2626). They publish a monthly newsletter called THE COMMUNICATOR (Suite 319, 1636 W. 8th St., Los Angeles CA 90017).

One interesting issue raised in Bul. 8, No. 11, Nov. 1975, was an effort by the Guild to revamp what they consider to be an "inadequate, outdated, irrelevant" examination given to professionals by the Civil Service Commission. Civil service exams, of course, determine hiring and promotion decisions. The members of the Guild lodged 223 separate complaints concerning two-thirds of the test questions, and filed statements about the rigid, antiquated view of librarianship that the test represents.

In a heartbreaking reversal, the Civil Service Commissioners first voted to "re-give" the exam and then, fourteen days later, changed their minds and decided to use the original exam as is.

Any LA SRRT'ers who can give us up-to-date news is invited to write to the editor of this newsletter.

There is renewed interest in this country about the use of ECT, or electric shock therapy. Its use as punishment for mental institution inmates has been raised as an issue in the film ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST, and in the new journal, MADNESS NETWORK NEWS READER.

Its effects on memory was discussed in Pirsig's best-seller, ZEN AND THE ART OF MOTORCYCLE MAINTENANCE, and now in SHOCK TREATMENT IS NOT GOOD FOR YOUR BRAIN, by neurologist and patient's rights advocate, Dr. John Friedberg (Glide Publications, 330 Ellis St., San Francisco, CA 94102; $6.95 & $.50 postage and handling).

As Dr. A.H. Chapman, psychiatrist, explains in his book, IT'S ALL ARRANGED: 15 HOURS IN A PSYCHIATRIST'S LIFE, shock treatment is a lucrative business, with a doctor getting as much as $50 for a "treatment" that takes him about five minutes. Friedberg's book contains much valuable information for the layman.

More COSMEEP/East

Another interesting person at the book fair was Barry Sefferon, a part-time physics...
Harry says that science and theater use the same creative intellectual processes and he and his friends have put together a traveling play that uses technological effects.

They use puppets (puppeteers are all dressed in black with hoods) to stage W. B. Yeats' A FULL MOON IN MARCH. They charge $75 (plus travel costs) for the production because they use "a truckload of equipment, including a TV screen."

Harry warns that his material may be R-rated because the puppets are nude.

You can contact him at 340 E. Mechanic St., Philadelphia, PA 19144.

Readers in the South can contact COSMEP people by writing COSMEP/South Distribution, PO Box 209, Carrboro, NC 27510, for a free catalog.

The COSMEP/EAST Book Fair was small--just about 40 presses--but many librarians and bookstore people from Philly attended. Little book fairs are where the action is at now. People who are planning other book fairs announced them in Philly--one in Amherst, one in the Berkshires, one in Brooklyn, another one in Philly, and of course the 2d Boston Book Fair (May 7-9) and the 3d New York Book Fair (April 30-May 2).

The meetings and panels were videotaped in Philly by Doug and Juanita Turner, who are also heading the C/E LIBRARY PROJECT with help from Syracuse U library school students. Contact them for more information: 206 Clarke St., Syracuse, NY 13210.

COSMEP/EAST will be meeting again April 28 in NYC, in the corners and eyes of the New York Book Fair. Watch for it!
Affiliates are usually, tho not necessarily, local groups. Sometimes they are part of a state or a regional library association. Sometimes they exist independently of any other group. These groups become Affiliates because they share SRRT goals concerning library workers' social role. As Affiliates, these groups may share communications and receive organizational and sometimes even monetary support from SRRT. Members of an Affiliate do not need to be members of ALA or even SRRT.

Bay Area SRRT
Co-Chairperson: Margaret Dollbaum
1927 Russell St.
Berkeley, CA 94703

South Bay SRRT
Chairperson: Ruth Reynolds
360 Swett Rd.
Woodside, CA 94062

Colorado Librarians in Transition
c/o Florence Jones
1520 Eighth St.
Boulder, CO 80302

Committee for a Social Movements
Collection (CSMC)
Contact person: Steve Squire
Box 395 X
Newcomb Hall Station
Charlottesville, VA 22903

Connecticut Women in Libraries
(cwils)
Arlene Eielefield
Russell Library
Middletown, CT 06457

Long Island SRRT
Sue Ritter
North Bellmore Public Library
1551 Newbridge Rd.
North Bellmore, L.I., NY 11710

Minnesota SRRT (inactive)
Suzanne LeBaron
441 Ridgewood Ave., #18
Minneapolis, MN 55403

Michigan SRRT
Andrew Alexander, Chairman
Missouri Library Assoc.
403 S. Sixth St.
Columbia, MO 65201

Connecticut Library for Social Responsibilities (NJLSR)
c/o Darby Fletcher/Sarah Hatcher
65 Witherspoon St.
Princeton, NJ 08540

Southwestern Connecticut (cwils)
c/o Barbara Martin
Greenwich Library
101 West Putnam Ave.
Greenwich, CT 06830

Washington SRRT
Jim Boyce
Spokane City Library
Comstock Bldg.
W. 906 Main Ave.
Spokane, WA 99201

Arlene Kairoff - Wash. SRRT
The Library - PMZC
University of Washington
Seattle, WA 98105

Washington State SRRT
Co-ordinator: Tom Wert
Slavic Section
Univ. of Washington Libraries
Seattle, WA 98105

Philadelphia, Pa. SRRT (inactive)
Anyone interested in re-activating, drop a note to L. Katz, 241 S.
23rd St., Philadelphia, PA 19103. The Prison Task Force has donated $100
raised by a raffle to a prison group to purchase law books for
local prisons.

LIZ DICKINSON
Hennepin County Library
7001 York Avenue
Medina, MN 55347
(affiliates' liaison)