The national scene

Action Council/Clearinghouse

1. Contact data additions and changes:

--Peter Doiron, AC Coordinator
77 Fulton St. (Apt. 13-C)
New York, N. Y. 10038
Home: (212) 938-1421
Work: (201) 382-5090

--Jim Quackenbusch, AC
Affiliates Liaison
Same address.
New phone (for messages):
(303) 255-9717

--Rita Kort, Clearinghouse
Affiliates Liaison
Delete Venice, CA address and phone.
Union City Library
33942 Alvarado-Niles Road
Union City, CA 94587
(415) 489-6889

--Ranaa Pierce, Clearinghouse
Secretary
Home: (801) 364-4075

--Sanford Berman, Clearinghouse Editor
Work: (612) 830-4980

--Pat Rom, Clearinghouse
TF Liaison
60 S. Second Street
Lewisburg, Pa. 17837
(717) 524-0579

--Sherrie Bergman Friedman,
Clearinghouse Mailing List
Work: (401) 255-2361-2
Home: (401) 272-9039

2. On November 8th, AC Coordinator Doiron issued a call to Councillors for a two-hour telephone conference. "Mandatory items" for discussion, he advised, "will be budget (if I can get a statement out of ALA), conference, Summer program, book burning in Chile, elections, sedentary ALA." (Another topic might be ISBD's possibly damaging impact on library-users—and what to do about it.—SB)


Send "feedback," short bibliogs, activity-reports, publication notes, and anything else worth sharing with SRRT colleagues to Sandy Berman, Editor, 2412 Girard Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55405. Special thanks go to Carole Hanson & Jerrie Anderson, who contributed much energy, time, and imagination to this issue.

SRRTer needed for my child-care project

There will be a meeting at ALA Midwinter to discuss child-care plans for New York (time & place to be announced later). We still need a SRRT co-chairperson for this project, which is
Jointly sponsored by JMRT. Anyone interested should contact Rita Kort, whose new address & phone appear above.

Task forces

**Contact data**

--Alternatives in Print
Jackie Eubanks, Coordinator
Brooklyn College Library
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11210
(212) 780-9552
60 Roesen St. (#10E)
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11201
(212) 624-2290

--Chicanos
Yolanda Cuesta, Joint Coordinator
El Paso Public Library
501 North Oregon
El Paso, Texas 79901

Patrick Sanchez, Joint Coordinator
California State University
Fullerton, CA 92643
(714) 870-2625

--Documentation of Government Intimidation of the Press
Carol J. Ward, Coordinator
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Philadelphia, Pa. 19103
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--Drug Abuse, Addiction, & Mental Health
Samuel Simon, Coordinator
111 West Park Avenue
Long Beach, New York 11561

--Ethnic Materials Information Exchange
David Cohen, Joint Coordinator
Plainview-Old Bethpage High School Library
Plainview, New York 11803

Joan Neuman, Joint Coordinator
Brooklyn Public Library
340 Bushwick Avenue
Brooklyn, New York 11206

--Gay Liberation
Barbara Gittings, Coordinator
P.O. Box 2383
Philadelphia, Pa. 19103

--Intercultural Relations
Evert Volkersz, Coordinator
S.U.N.Y. at Stony Brook Library
Stony Brook, Long Island, N.Y. 11790
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Stony Brook, N.Y. 11790

--Jobs
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McDermott, Ohio 4562

--Library Service to Farmworkers
Martin Zonlig, Coordinator
1130 Coffee Road
Modesto, CA 95353
(209) 526-4979

--Media Centers in Free Schools
Ray Baker, Coordinator
680 West Virginia (Apt. 26)
Tallahassee, Florida 32304

--Mobilizing Community Program Resources for Inter-Group Understanding
Laurel Fischer, Coordinator
Akron Public Library
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Home: (216) 864-1240

--Newcott-Caldebery Awards
Linda D. Crowe, Coordinator
Rosary College
Graduate School of Library Science
7900 West Division
River Forest, Illinois 60305

--People's Librarian
Ed Cavallini, Joint Coordinator
659 South 15th Street
San Jose, CA 95112
---People's Librarian (continued)
Pat Haggarty, Joint Coordinator
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---Prison Libraries
Joan Goddard, Coordinator
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(408) 374-4697

---Recruitment, Training, & Advancement of Minorities
Carol Garvin, Joint Coordinator
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Silver Spring, Maryland 20903
Samuel F. Morrison, Joint Coordinator
Frost Proof Learning Center
Frost Proof, Florida 33843

---Sex-Related Media
Gordon McShean, Coordinator
Stanislaus County Free Library
1500 I Street
Modesto, CA 95354

---Status of Women in Librarianship
Lynne Rhoads, Coordinator
4004 Whitman Avenue North
Seattle, Washington 98103
Work: (206) 543-5530
Home: (206) 632-2179

---UPS Index
Joan Marshall, Coordinator
Brooklyn College Library
Brooklyn, New York 11210
Work: (212) 780-5334
Home: (212) 645-6434

---Women's Job Roster
Liz Dickinson, Coordinator
Technical Services Division
Hennepin County Library
7001 York Avenue South
Edina, Minnesota 55435
Work: (612) 830-4977
Home: (612) 822-9254

★ Sex and Libraries

Gordon McShean, Coordinator of the TF on Sex-Related Media, has pointedly criticized LJ’s coverage of the TF’s Las Vegas program, which featured Dr. Virginia Prince. He particularly noted—in an Oct. 1st letter to the Xerox conglomerate’s bi-weekly—that “the subject of the talk should have been mentioned: the failure of libraries to carry sex-related information.” The Newsletter—and McShean—would warmly welcome facts & views on the “Sex-In-Libraries Question” (e.g., how to identify sexual minorities in the community, where to get relevant materials, & information on actual successes and failures in this sphere).

★ Jobs: “Not dead, just slow”

The TF on Jobs isn’t really dead, just slow to get reorganized under new leadership. There has been some excellent East-coast progress on job hotlines. New Jersey now has a year-round Library Job Hotline sponsored by the N.J. Library Association. Another is operating in the Washington D.C. area, housed at the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments. The only Midwestern state we can report on with certainty is Ohio. At the annual O.L.A. conference in October, the general membership voted down the establishment of a hotline at this time.

As for the TF, it’s planning to preview a set of videotapes done by Bay Area SRRT on role-playing for job interviews. We hope to have these, plus a descriptive brochure, available at Midwinter ALA. (Will be a slight charge for use of the tapes.) Anyone wishing to work with the TF or having information on job placement and/or hotlines is urged to contact the Coordinator.—Terry McLaughlin.

For more details on TF activities, “hotline” developments, and Margaret Myers’ just-begun Library school placement newsletter, as well as a tongue-in-cheek questionnaire for “retaliation” against employers who ask “unnecessary, irrelevant questions,” see the TF’s 3-page November 1973 Bulletin.
Documenting government intimidation of the press: Alive, well, scanning, dent-making.

The TF is pleased to report that it is alive & well in many parts of the country. Our representation is starting to be more genuinely nationwide as many new members from the West & mid-West have been added. Our program at Las Vegas featured the recently-jailed L.A. Times journalist, William Farr, who spoke honestly & feelingly of his difficulties as a court reporter during the Manson trial. Seven new members joined and there's hope that many more will be coming in.

TF accomplishments to date: a) establishment of a national network of librarians scanning newspapers & magazines for cases of reporter-harassment; b) finding several new and important cases which helped the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press; c) giving moral support to the Reporters Committee; and d) making a dent in the apathy that has surrounded treatment of the Press... TF accomplishments hoped for in the future: a) providing more comprehensive national coverage by including the South, Southwest, upper Northwest, & Alaska; b) giving the cause of the Press verbal, political, and professional support; c) increasing awareness of Press problems within the library profession; d) creating greater public awareness of the threat to their access to news that may be edited-out by the prevailing political forces; and e) encouraging TF members to branch out on their own with projects on behalf of the press...

Suggestions & joiners are invited.— Carol J. Ward.

Women: Pre-Conference hassles, but otherwise good vibes

The TF on Women is planning a preconference to be held prior to the ALA annual meeting, New York, 1974. Subject will be "The Woman Librarian: Her Job Situation." ALA approval was requested & obtained, with the provision that the Office of Library Personnel Resources be co-sponsor. OLPR appears to be having severe doubts as to this co-sponsorship, however, and so far has not voted to confirm it. Sample excerpts from their internal memos demonstrate a discouraging degree of sexism & intolerance [Which ALA Exec. Director Wedgeworth, according to the 10-29-73 Hotline, described as merely "unfortunate phrasing"—ed.]:

The Task Force is not composed of radical lesbian librarians.

Serious librarians are apt to look at the preconference as just another SRRT project. [Emphasis added]

It [SRRT] has the connotation of being entirely composed of radicals, be they homosexual or communist. Obviously this is not true. The connotation, though, will operate to the detriment of the preconference. It may attract the radical librarian...it may repel the conservative and middle-of-the-road librarian.

They have requested a preconference designed to discuss a topic with only a select group of women for self-education.

The topics to be considered by this "frivolous," "radical," "limited" preconference are: Women and their self-image; women and age; library and continuing education; child care; salaries, benefits, unionization; ethnic groups; women in administration; women and the law; how to get the facts; and how to file complaints; and how to raise consciousness. The following people are working on these topics:

--Filing complaints
Joan Marshall
Brooklyn College Library
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11210

--Salaries
Margaret Myers
Grad. School of L.S.
Rutgers University
189 College Avenue
Rutgers, N.J. 08903

--Library Education
Liz Futas
Queens College Library
65-30 Kissena Blvd.
Flushing, N.Y. 11367

--Administrations
Sherrie Bergman Friedman
(assisted by Betty Turock)
Roger Williams College Lib.
Bristol, Rhode Island 02809

--Age
Joyceanne Kent
Seattle Public Library
1000 Fourth Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98104

--Self-image
Pat Schuman
77 Fulton Street
New York, N.Y. 10038
The roster of women interested in library administrative, management, or specialist positions is now being coordinated by Liz Dickinson, Technical Services Division, Hennepin County Library, 7001 York Ave. S., Edina, MN 55435. Women wanting to be included in the roster should send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Ms. Dickinson, who will mail them the standardized form.

--Lynne Rhoads.

For additional data on programs, the Vegas’ business meeting, and related matters, see the TF’s October ’73 Newsletter (v. 3, no. 1).

★ "AIP": New edition out. ’74 Book Fair planned

The 1973-74 issue of Alternatives in print is available to SRRT members at a 10% discount! This year Glide Publications is printing & distributing AIP for us. This edition includes 800 groups and small presses, only 100 of which also appear in Books in print, and 50 in the Small press record of books. Use the coupon on page 19 to get yours! Only these forms are being honored for the 10% off!

The TF has begun working with AIP associates & members of COSMEN (Committee of Small Magazine Editors and Publishers) as "Friends of Books and Comics" to stage a gala Book Fair in New York at the time of the ALA annual meeting! The Fair—replete with raps, poetry readings, and 150 little-press exhibits—is being planned for July 7, 8, 9 at LINCOLN CENTER in the lobby of Philharmonic Hall (Avery Fisher Hall)! Interest & enthusiasm are high among Fair-planners. If you want to help this project—we're meeting about every two weeks now—contact Jackie Eubanks, Brooklyn College Library, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11210 (212) 780-5652. The more, the merrier!—JE.

★ Intercultural relations: ALA/FID involvement. Internationalism

This TF gestated during the Las Vegas Conference when the former TF on ALA-IFLA Relations dissolved. Our purpose is to define more exactly the relationships between national and foreign cultures as these affect collection development and library activities. Among the reasons for the change was the fact that the question of ALA-IFLA relations had been resolved when South African members withdrew from IFLA. A continuing question, though, is ALA involvement with the International Federation of Documentation (FID). It has been difficult to obtain straightforward information on this issue, but it’s being pursued. SLA suspended its membership until such time as South Africa no longer espouses Apartheid as a national policy. The original TF action grew out of a UNESCO General Council resolution which, in essence, called for withdrawing recognition to affiliated groups which practice Apartheid.

Another basis for the name-change was the search within ALA itself for a redefinition of its international responsibilities and needs. ALA has a long history of international initiative and participation. For many years the International Relations Office (IRO) was the focus for a wide variety of valuable international library activities. IRO closed in 1972 when outside grants and contracts ran out. As the International Relations Committee (IRC) was unable to shoulder IRO’s coordination & correspondence work, it successfully recommended during the Jan. 1973 Chicago Midwinter Conference that the ALA Council form an Ad Hoc Committee to Study International Relations Responsibilities.
The Ad Hoc Committee, chaired by Keith Doms, has as its charge "to review broadly this area of activity, and the funding thereof within the association..." Open hearing were held during the Vegas' Conference, where a lot of information and suggestions were collected. However, new initiative, direction, and program are required to make the enterprise meaningful to the membership. As an Ad Hoc Committee member, I urge you to send me comments, views, and concerns regarding international & intercultural librarianship AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. A draft for our final report is now being written, and the last open meetings will be held in Chicago during 1974 Midwinter.

It appears to me that SRRT can make a special contribution in refocusing ALA's international thrust. Within ALA there are numerous groups directly or indirectly working in international relations: the International Relations RT, IRC, ALA Eq, and many divisional committees & interest groups. No other unit, however, has SRRT's type of service orientation. Obvious & immediate examples of aspects of intercultural librarianship are the development of American & Afro-American collections. Throughout North, Middle, and South America there is a need to coordinate the preservation & documentation of Indian cultures, as there is a similar urgent need to collect & document the Afro-American heritage and Black cultures in the Americas and Africa. Task Forces on Farmworkers, Chicanos, Ethnic materials, and Women, for example, have international & intercultural ramifications. Many libraries collect Ibero-Americana not related to the needs & history of Spanish-speaking populations in the U.S. Many developing countries could benefit from the experience of TF members.

IFLA programs center on important international & bibliographic problems, such as universal bibliographic control. IFLA members from Third World countries are seeking common solutions to their problems. (See, e.g., American Libraries, Nov. 1973, p. 603-4, 627.) Interchange was stimulated through the activities of the 1972 International Book Year. A Summary report of U.S. activities, prepared by Esther J. Walls, is available from the National Book Committee, One Park Avenue, NYC 10016. It includes the Mohawk Statement, which begins:

The time has come—indeed is overdue—for a substantial increase in the proportion of national and international expenditures for the creation, production and distribution of books and other materials for learning. In the developing countries, hundreds of millions of literates have no meaningful access to books or libraries and 900,000,000 persons are illiterate altogether—a number that is growing, not diminishing.

An important warning comes later:

But the most critical needs must be met within the developing countries themselves. Only they can determine their own needs, produce materials for their own national cultures and use them effectively in their own schools.

SRRT has a significant contribution to make in redefining ALA's goals & purposes. I hope that during the Midwinter Conference TF coordinators and interested members can sit down together to develop coordinated programs.—Evert Volkersz.

★ Adopt your own librarian!

The People's Librarian TF urges all SRRT affiliates & TFs to seriously consider adopting their own librarians. These professionals would/could perform research for the group, develop bibliographies, work in libraries of friendly organizations, provide information to communities, ad infinitum. Their support could come from member pledges, treasuries (!), grants, or whatever. For more dope, contact PLTF, 659 S. 15th St., San Jose, CA 95112.—Ed Cavallini.

The TF received the following letter, dated 9-28-73, from Cesar Chavez, Director of the United Farm Workers, AFL-CIO:
Dear Friends:

We are very grateful for the $100 which you gave Barbara Pruett toward our library and information center. For the first time since our beginning we have an efficient way of storing and using the mounds of information we collect. As you know, a lot of expense is involved. Because of our strikes last summer and the all-consuming responsibility of the grape boycott now, we have counted on Barbara to collect the funds for her project. Fortunately, the response has made it possible for her to operate without subtracting any funds from those needed for the boycott. We are very grateful to you for your part in this project's support.

Please advise your friends and associates that the grape boycott can be successful very soon if we all work hard during the holiday season. The growers sell more grapes for wine and table use during these next three months than any other time of the year. Our sacrifice can bring contracts by the next harvest season.

Viva la Causa!

Write Ed for a copy of the flyer that includes not only the Chavez letter, but also firsthand, nitty-gritty reports by Barbara, Werner Hertz, & Ruth Blank, three honest-to-God "People's Librarians." Barb, by the way, especially needs catalog cards & other basic library supplies. So send what you can to her at P.O. Box 62, Keene, CA 93531. Or phone for specifics to (805) 822-5571.

Affiliates

★ Contact data

--Bay Area SRRT
   c/o Sue Critchfield
   72 Ord Street
   San Francisco, CA 94114
   (415) 861-8259

--Colorado Librarians in Transition (COLT)
   c/o Florence Jones
   1520 8th Street
   Boulder, Colorado 80302
   (303) 447-9649

--Committee for a Social Movements Collection (CSMC)
   Box 395
   Newcomb Hall Station
   Charlottesville, Virginia 22901

--Connecticut Women in Libraries (CWILS)
   Gretchen G. Hammerstein, Coordinator
   Middlefield, Connecticut 06455

--Douglas County SRRT
   Bonita D. Dillard, Coordinator
   Lawrence Public Library
   7th & Vermont
   Lawrence, Kansas 66044

--Giraffe
   955 Superba Avenue
   Venice, CA 90291

--Long Island SRRT
   Sue Ritter
   North Bellmore Public Library
   1551 Newbridge Road
   North Bellmore, New York 11710

--Minnesota SRRT
   Anne Lee
   Office of Public Libraries
   805 Capitol Sq Bldg, 550 Cedar St
   St Paul, MN 55101
   (612) 296-2821

--New Jersey Librarians for Social Responsibilities (NJLSR)
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   65 Witherspoon Street
   Princeton, New Jersey 08540

--New York State SRRT
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   Bob Poll, Chairperson
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   (206) 344-7465
NOTE: If your affiliate isn't listed correctly (or at all), send details to the editor. With everyone's help, the Newsletter will continuously update "contact data" for the whole SRRT network.

Bay Area SRRT opposes Starr appointment

Coordinator Jerry Zietz (1214 Cedar St., Berkeley, CA 94702) sent the following message to San Francisco Mayor Joseph Alioto on August 15th:

The Bay Area Social Responsibilities Roundtable of the American Library Association is a large group of actively concerned librarians. We believe that the Public Library should be an agent for social change, rather than fulfill only archival functions. For example, the Public Library can collect and publicize resources to transform the "arid" stereotypes dehumanizing our society.

Although we respect Kevin Starr as an academician, Bay Area SRRT vigorously opposes his appointment as Acting Director of San Francisco Public Library for these reasons:

1. The Director of a large urban information center should have basic experience in the field. Kevin Starr has none. His goals, plans, and ideological positions regarding library service are completely unformed and untried. To put a Trainee in a Director's job is unfair to the library staff and the community.

2. When any official is appointed through favoritism, without regard to stated qualifications and minimum standards, all civil service equal-opportunity guarantees are reduced to a mockery. We should all realize by now that political patronage does not lead to committed public service, but to the short-sighted cronyism of Watergates.

3. We object to the appointment of Kevin Starr, white male, on the grounds of affirmative action. It is time to open up positions of leadership in this city-of-diversity to ethnic minorities and to women.

We therefore urge the Mayor and the Library Commission to reconsider the appointment, and select an experienced person from a variety of applicants who are known to be sensitive to the problems and committed to the goals of Total community information access.

Thank you for your attention to our position.

Reinforcing Zietz's "affirmative action" theme, Elizabeth Dickinson on Sept. 4th wrote the mayor:

As roster coordinator for the American Library Association/Social Responsibilities Round Table/Task Force on Women I am writing in support of a letter addressed to you by Jerry Zietz...RE appointment of Kevin Starr as Acting Director, San Francisco Public Library.

Although I do not know the specifics of this case and therefore do not wish to criticize Mr. Starr's appointment per se, I do want to reemphasize Mr. Zietz's comments on the importance of considering all qualified candidates for public service, including women and persons from minority groups.

The ALA/SRRT/Task Force on Women maintains a roster of women who are qualified for administrative, management and specialist positions in libraries. I invite you and other San Francisco administrators responsible for choosing library personnel to use our affirmative action service in the future. We will be happy to screen prospective applications from our file free of charge and to send you the resumes of women librarians who meet your job specifications.

Feel free to contact me at any time concerning the ALA/SRRT/TFW roster.
SRRT newsletter #28
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★ WASH/SRRT starts newsletter, pushes for "participatory management"

At its Sept. 26th meeting, says Coordinator Bernard Poll, WASH/SRRT voted to begin its own information-organ and to re-submit to WLA at its next annual conference this lucid, pace-setting statement—which other affiliates may want to copy—on the "collegial" alternative to library "bossism":

SRRT considers participation in planning and decision making by all members of an institution as essential for effective organization and services.

Libraries are entitled to the benefit of the expert advice of all concerned in a decision. Decisions which make use of the abilities and knowledge of as many as possible are generally superior to those made by one individual.

Effective and efficient ways of operating a library can be discovered only by experiment and dialogue among peers and with patrons.

Structure should be imposed by the nature of the library's service goals and activities. A collegial structure is particularly appropriate to this professional and humanistic field.

Librarians should be involved in short-range and long-range planning and budgeting for the organization.

Librarians should assume the responsibility of resolving problems where they occur.

Hiring and firing should be done by a peer group according to due process.

Where his/her duties overlap with and relate to those of other professionals, the distribution of those duties shall be determined by the peer group.

Efficacy of functioning of participatory management will be determined by the entire staff.

★ CWILS: "We're late getting started but..."

So begins Gretchen G. Hammerstein's exuberant report from Middlefield (Zip: 06455). Which continues: Connecticut Women in Libraries (CWILS), a recent SRRT affiliate, is 65 persons strong. Major activities so far have been unthreateningly humanistic and well-received, but fear we'll have our "trial by fire" in February '74 when we guest-edit Search, the Connecticut Library Assn. Continuing Education Section's newsletter. Survey results should be in by then. A CWILS 2-page source-list published in the Sept. '73 issue stimulated typical, patriarchally-blinded responses from several directions. So, despite the artificial calm of polite New England demeanor, it's all there, under the surface, and things aren't so good on the library front as many of us had been lulled into believing.

Connecticut, home of Wilma Scott Heide & Sheila Tobias, supporter of ERA and a liberalized abortion law, despite unbelievable traditional opposition, wants to help, share & exchange in any way we can. And the librarians are heavy into the scene of "People-Lib." Please touch base. Write us.

Doings: 1) Resources: For junior novel booklist, "In the company of Nancy Drew," and two adult-level bibliogs on women (1 historical, the other activist), write Barbara Martin, Greenwich Library, Greenwich, CT 06830. First copy free, bulk prices available. Full media-6-person source-list being compiled. 2) CWILS members are involved with ALERT Speakers' Bureau. Most recent activity was New Haven Channel 8 TV, 30-minute live interview with CWILS Coordinator on subject of "Sexism in Children's Books." She was asked back for a 2d appearance, probably in November. Audiotape available. Simply send your cassette for
transcription-copy + $1 to cover postage. 3) Held two-day state-wide conference at State Library (Consulting & Loan) Service Center in Middletown on "The Humanism Explosion—Implications for Public Libraries." Script of audio-tape re "library-isms" available. Includes foot-in-mouth, sexist & other librarian & library board typicals. Send self-addressed envelope, or will copy tape on same terms as above. 4) Soliciting case study examples to contribute to a book, Women in Library Management, to be 1/3 cases, 1/3 articles, & 1/3 reaction & explanations. Initial videotapes of case studies were used for "Humanism" conference and proved extremely awareness-raising. Want to supplement with things that have happened to administrators as direct results of sexism. Write Asst. Prof. Leigh Estabrook, Simmons College of Library Science, 300, The Fenway, Boston, Massachusetts 02115. 5) Surveys done or underway: Self-image of Ct. librarians ( cursory but complete & predictable)... Employment practices (target date: Jan. 1974)... Sexist attitudes being perpetuated by Ct. library education institutions & library continuing education programs (targeted for June 1974)... POSITION OPENING, effective June 1974! Chairperson, School of Library Science, Southern Connecticut State College, New Haven. Send inquiries or vitae ATTN: Dr. Manson Van B. Jennings, President, Southern Connecticut State College, New Haven, Ct. 06511. (Better use word, "Chairman," when inquiring?!*#)

★ NJLSR forms two committees, publishes right-on newsletter

The New Jersey Librarians for Social Responsibilities at their Sept. 18th meeting talked "strategy," But didn't content themselves with only talk. They decided to "take a very active part in NJLA spring this year" and then created working committees on both "Racism & sexism in children's lit" and "Library as information center." The October number of NJLSR newsletter II. edited by Darby Fleming and Sarah Hatcher at 65 Witherspoon St., Princeton, N.J. 08540, carries a full report on the strategy-rap, together with Pat Berry's account of her first five months as a prison librarian and a regular feature, "etc.," which furnishes complete data on new, people-serving resources like the Free University directory. Worker*' opposition, and Women's survival manual. Incidentally, Newsletter II contents are regularly cited in Sam Goldstein's CALL (Current Awareness—Library Literature). Other SRRT groups desiring to plug into CALL should forward copies of whatever they publish directly to Editor Goldstein at 35 Whittemore Road, Framingham, Mass. 01701.

★ MSRRT: West talk wraps up "Community Information Workshop"

MSRRT, along with the Reference and Adult Services Section of the Minnesota Library Assn., put together a Community Information Workshop at the annual MLA conference. We invited about 25 people from various community information agencies around town: underground, aboveground, and some even layin' on the ground. Then we divided by topic—media, youth, legal, consumers, women, housing, etc., until we had 12 groups with 1, 2, or 3 resource people each—and let in the librarians, who picked groups they were interested in. After that it was rap time for everybody. The community people got a chance to tell what they did and the librarians a chance to talk about why and how. Then, even some talk about what librarians could do to connect and collect all this lovely info. Saw lots of names and addresses exchanged. Ideas, too.

Following the group raps, that "revoltin' librarian," ex-Synergy/new Booklegger editor, Celeste West, got up and did some good talk on communities and information. A couple of notable quotes: "I've always thought that the best definition of a library is a place that exists to put people in touch." And, "If we aren't going to, in effect, democratize library service and make libraries relevant to more than about 20% of the people in this country...I think public libraries are just going to die. They can't just be a place for the leisure reading of Mr. and Mrs. Mid-Cult. A library has to be a relevant, vital place or people are just not going to want to support it with their taxes—there are too many other things."

How do you decide something was successful? Participation? We had half the conference registrants at the program—which was pretty good, considering there were 4 programs going on at the same time. Most everyone rapped in the small groups, though they tended to clam
up when we reassembled to talk with Celeste. Feedback? What's there to say? Most everyone said they liked it. Lasting impact? How do you measure that 3 weeks later? Perhaps if some of those people madly scribbling down names and addresses and picking up literature ever write or call those names & addresses, there might be some lasting impact.

One of the best things we handed out was a reprint of Sue Critchfield's article, "Information Wanted: Dead or Alive?" from the Summer '73 Synergy. It's the report of a Bay Area SRRT survey on how adequately major Bay Area public libraries are fulfilling the community information role. Read it for the results and some concrete, how-to leads.—Carole Hanson.

**COLT: Accent on ethics**

In mid-August, a COLT Task Force, headed by Harry Bruton, drafted a "Code of Ethics for Librarians," which the Colorado affiliate's membership was to discuss and finalize at its October 21st business meeting. Next step: a COLT-sponsored, two-hour session on "Ethics for Librarians" at CLA's November confab, to consist of a brief presentation of the final "Code," followed by division of the audience into small groups to discuss solutions to various ethical situations that can easily confront the working librarian. A few passages from the draft Code:

---Librarians shall strive to provide access to all information, which implies that they themselves must have such access.

---Since the patron has a right to privacy in his search for information, the librarian shall hold in confidence all information the release of which violates this privacy.

---Librarians shall support the Library Bill of Rights, the School Library Bill of Rights, and the Freedom to Read Statement.

---Thou shalt not gossip about library users or other employees.

---Thou shalt not dispense special privileges to the influential.

---Thou shalt not attend professional meetings as a vacation, but use the time and the meetings as a chance for professional growth.

**Feedback**

Comments on Rob Gutzke's letter in last Newsletter (p. 2-3):

As a SRRT suite occupant at ALA-Las Vegas, I, too, am concerned about the problems which manifested themselves. The way to solve them is to prevent them.

1. Locked SRRT suite. No call was made prior to the convention for volunteers to staff the suite. One should have been made. Suite-sleepers weren't asked to keep times available for "suite sitting," so most of us didn't. Many had precious little spare time due to the over-load of meetings & programs, to which logjam SRRT Task Forces contributed more than our share. Fewer meetings, with all the small ones scheduled in the suite, would solve a couple of problems. It might also reduce the workload on ALA's meeting arrangements staff, who are threatening to charge a fee to the RTs for services performed. Can we blame them? Also, if we have too many meetings and/or our hospitality suite is closed, we have neither time nor place for caucusing & strategy-planning, do we? (Sleeping rooms can be used for gab sessions if meetings are going on in the main room).
2. Food and transport cooperation. These can't be done after we get there. Out-of-towners, which would include most of us, simply don't know a city well enough and are further hindered by diversified schedules. The "plan ahead" for bringing shareable edibles is a fine idea, as long as some plan is also made to keep the few irresponsible ones or hangers-on among us (and there are a few—or perhaps "raiding" outsiders) from ripping off the food. Thanks go to Jim Sanders and the Arbuses for volunteering for this work.

Sleepers should pay, even if at a reduced rate. (Few appreciate "something for nothing.") We shouldn't have to bribe or pay our own people to help keep the suite open, either. It was my understanding that SRRT couldn't afford to finance the suite and thus the reasonable rental fees served the dual purpose of providing a place to rap and cheap "digs."

If possible, no one should be assigned to sleep in the main room. Stifles meetings, rapping, and sleeping. If there are to be 2 sleeping rooms, they should be segregated by sex. I make no apologies for being "unliberated." "Community" can be carried too far.

Persons who reserve sleeping space and then don't show, with no notice, should be charged if someone doesn't take their places. SRRT could be left holding the empty money-bag. A deposit might solve the "no-show" problem.

As for "community," it is a fragile thing based on much more than similar goals for the library profession. Rob, we are all trying to make SRRT a going thing. However, we do have other problems and commitments. SRRT isn't our only or major interest in life. Don't give up on us, but do keep needling.

It was exciting for me to meet other SRRT people. Even if it had to be in Las Vegas. Hope to see you in New York City or...? God bless you all. Affectionately...—Bonita Dickinson Dillard, Stouffer Place, Building 9, Apt. 4, Lawrence, Kansas 66044.

Alternatives/action

★ Prison librarian job opening

The job is to set up and develop a prison library, under the supervision of Mr. Charles De Young, Director, Bur Oak Library Services, 150 North Ottawa Street, Joliet, Illinois 60431. The library is within the prison, the librarian to have full charge there. A black man is preferred; salary $9,000-$10,000, depending upon degree and experience. A professional librarian is required, or a person about to complete work for the degree. Arrangements can be made to defray expenses incurred in travelling, should an interview be requested. First step: to write a letter and include a resume...—Info, dated 9-25-73, from Rose S. Bender, Assistant to the Chairman, Library Science Dept., Queens College, Flushing, N.Y.

★ "Womanhood media" input wanted

Helen Wheeler is now compiling a supplement to her Womanhood media (Scarecrow, 1972). Any kind of relevant information will be most useful to her; e.g., updates of material now included in the book, new or omitted titles (AV especially), and data on non-media resources: organizations, media producers-distributors, placement rosters, women's centers and groups (and their publications), affirmative action personnel, projects, health services, caucuses and task forces, speakers, resource collections, etc., etc. Helen would also appreciate suggestions and critiques; e.g., how about inclusion of other sexist-but-standard reference tools in Part II? Deadline for submission of materials, leads, addresses, etc. is August 1, 1974. Please mail to Helen Wheeler, 7940 Jefferson Highway (Apt. 215), Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70809.—Lynne Rhoads/HRW.
BOOKLEGGER MAGAZINE—whose first bi-monthly issue is due out about now—announces that it's "built to begin where Synergy leaves off!" with the "same scrappy editor and free-wheeling staff: now tribalized rather than institutionalized, to gather rainbows instead of red tape."

Celeste West, et. al., promise to run "news and reviews of alternative publishing; resource bibliographies emphasizing social change & creative life styles; up front, unbuttoned discussions about Real Life information delivery; a clearinghouse for library adventures in confrontation, change, accountability; and expanded, regular columns on YA, Children's Services, Video Access, Video Access." Subscriptions: $7/year. Individual issues: $1.25. Order from: Booklegger Press, 72 Ord Street, San Francisco, CA 94114. Since Booklegger bids fair to become the major vehicle for "alternative librarianship," it deserves not only a bevy of personal & institutional subs, but also Library lit, indexing to make its contents more widely & readily accessible. Anyone who agrees that the young mag ought to be indexed from the start, rather than waiting the usual year or two (or three), can communicate that sentiment directly to Library literature's new (and responsive) editor, Paula de Vaux, at the H.W. Wilson Co., 950 University Ave., Bronx, N.Y. 10452... "If it only takes a single match to set off an explosion, Sherrill Cheda's speech at CLA had the power to rock the entire Canadian Library Profession. For those who attended CLA's Theme Day, June 20, 1973, in Sackville, N.B., this is not news. For those who did not attend, the tremors may be reaching you now and you may be asking just what happened and what is going to happen. Big things have happened and others are beginning. First, CLA passed a resolution to commission and fund studies on the status of women in our profession. Secondly, you are now holding in your hands the first issue of a Canadian Librarian's underground newsletter. We felt moved by the spirit of women and men at CLA to establish an alternative. We wish to deal with the women's issues raised at the Conference as well as offering booklists, information, and program suggestions to all those interested in liberating themselves and their libraries." That's how the lead-off editorial starts for a bi-monthly Canadian newcomer, the EMERGENCY LIBRARIAN! Edited by Barbara Clubb & Phyllis Yaffe, issue #1 relates what went down in Sackville following Sherrill Cheda's talk & features a 3-page bibliog. by Cheda herself on "Sex-role stereotyping in children's books." Earmarked for the next issue are items on "Women's studies courses in Canada, human liberation and its implications for male librarians...and discrimination in hiring policies." A year's sub costs $2. Send check to Barbara Clubb, 32-351 River Ave., Winnipeg, Manitoba R3L 0B5, Canada. This looks like a vital, permanent eruption & sure-as-hell deserves south-of-the-border SRRT support... Also from Canada: a 1973, 331-page paperback anthology, Women in Canada, edited by Marylee Stephenson. Available @ $4.95 from the Order Dept., New Press (553 Richmond St. West, Toronto, Ontario M5V 1Y6), it contains 16 essays and resource-lists on topics ranging from "Women as personal dependents," "Indian women," and "Women in prison" to "The French-Canadian family," "The Canadian labor farce: jobs for women," and "Housewives in Women's Liberation." Definitely for all libraries... There's no better source for getting a solid handle on the British alternative scene--its groups, publications, bookshops, and activities--than the monthly MOVEMENT. It's a 12-page, letterpress mag that continuously reports changes & developments among UK radical, community, ethnic, and counter-culture organizations, networks, etc. Annual tab is £1. Send subscription orders to 14 Hanley Road, London N4.... Dating from 1966, the Alternative Press Syndicate (formerly Underground Press Syndicate, or UPS), claims to be "the oldest alternative news organization in the world." Late this summer it released the 1973-74 edition of its UNDERGROUND PRESS DIRECTORY, priced @ £6, which "includes the name and address of over 125 APS member publications in the United States and Canada as well as who the editor and advertising manager are, year publication began, circulation, page size, format, frequency, cover price, subscription and advertising rates and mechanical specifications." Further, there's "a summary history of the underground press; market analysis for advertisers; information on distribution, microfilming and alternative news services." But that's not the limit of what APS offers. It also publishes the monthly ALTERNATIVE PRESS REVUE ($10 p.a. to libraries), an APS membership-list ($2 p.a.), a handbook on "How to publish your own underground newspaper" ($2), and even more. For a complete checklist & additional info,
El Taller Grafico (P.O. Box 62, Keene, CA 93531) is the United Farm Workers' publishing arm. Its wares include Villa & Zapata posters @ $2.50 each, original "Huelga" songs ($1 phonorecord), a 50¢ window decal, 25¢ bumper stickers (e.g., "Si se puede!", "I support Farmworkers!") 35¢ buttons (e.g., "Viva la causa!", "Chavez si, Teamsters no!"), and two books, HUELGA! ($1) and BASTA! ($2). When ordering, use your street address since the Taller can't deliver to P.O. boxes. If you've got an A/V collection, also ask about the UFW's latest films... Bob Ballinger (1595 West Willow St., Long Beach, CA 90810) over the past 2 years has coordinated an outreach program in Southern California which involved the development of a library collection for a large Filipino community. During this period he's enjoyed a good relationship, he writes, with these Filipiniana vendors & bookstores: BEE CROSS-MEDIA, INC., 36 Dogwood Glen, Rochester, N.Y. 14625, (716) 381-5554 (books, filmstrips, recordings, pamphlets, 2x2 transparencies, 16mm rental films); CELLAR BOOK SHOP, P.O. Box 6, College Park Station (18090 Wyoming), Detroit, MI 48221, (313) 861-1776 (books & pamphlets); ALGAR'S, 769 Rizal Avenue, Manila (Filipiniana, Tagalog, & other dialects); BOOKMARK, INC., P.O. Box 1171, Manila (Filipiniana + bi-monthly newsletter); EREWHON, 569 Padre Faura St., Ermita, Manila (Filipiniana, some Tagalog); JACOBO AND SONS, P.O. Box 1899, Manila (Filipiniana/Tagalog); and MCS ENTERPRISES, INC., P.O. Box 3667, Manila (extensive Filipiniana, also Tagalog and other dialects)....

If it's true that "engineers are indeed beginning to move in a direction that challenges established patterns and institutions," much of the credit surely goes to the Committee for Social Responsibility in Engineering. CSRE publishes a semi-annual mag, SPARK, reprints pertinent articles (e.g., "Workers' control: vision of a new social order," 10¢), and distributes useful items like SHIFTING GEARS, SANE's "arms conversion packet" ($1). Request a sample SPARK plus "Literature list & order form" from CSRE, 475 Riverside Drive, NYC 10027.... The thing that's different about the Women's Information Center at the University of Maryland is that it's a project conceived & carried through by librarians. It's now an on-going center housed in the Undergraduate Library. Full information on how the project started and developed can be found in Andrea M. Burgard's WOMEN'S INFORMATION CENTER PROJECT: FINAL REPORT, issued in August '73 by the School of Library and Information Services, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland 20742. Abstract: "A six-month grant was made with Title I H.E.A. funds from the Office of Human Relations Programs and matching funds from the College of Library and Information Services to assess the feasibility of and develop plans for a special information center to serve student, faculty and staff women on the College Park campus. An in-depth study of a random sample of campus women established the need for such a center, and yielded data about information needs and information-seeking behavior of the women. It also laid the groundwork for future study of their attitudes toward the feminist movement. The Cantrell self-anchoring scale was used. A center was designed, including the development of a thesaurus for information of interest and concern to women in the U.S. Recommendations are made for the technical and administrative organization of the center."

Haven't seen it yet, but SRRT's TF on Gay Liberation announced at Vegas a 3d revision of its GAY BIBLIOGRAPHY, which now includes A/V listings. Free copies available in any quantity from Coordinator Barbara Gittings, P.O. Box 2383, Philadelphia, Pa. 19103. Would help but, however, to enclose an 8¢ stamp.... It's named ALERT: WOMEN'S LEGISLATIVE REVIEW. It's a winner in the 1973 "Communicating for a Better Tomorrow" National Awards Program of Women in Communications (WIC). It comes out monthly. It's a short, yet loaded with women-related articles, ads, bibliographic tips, and news. The charge: $4 p.a. (individuals), $15 (corporate). To subscribe, write ALERT, Box 437, Middletown, CT 06457.... New from the American Civil Liberties Union Foundation (22 East 40th St., NYC 10016), in conjunction with John Wiley & Sons, is the quarterly CIVIL LIBERTIES REVIEW. A journal of "analysis, opinion, record, and debate," the REVIEW "was created to bring together in one place the best thinking and...most important information on the complex civil liberties issues of our times." Subs: $15 p.a. or special $10 "charter rate" for ALCU members....
Merritt Humanitarian Fund

The LeRoy C. Merritt Humanitarian Fund was established by the Freedom to Read Foundation's Board of Trustees in recognition of the need for subsistence and other support at the moment an individual finds her/his position in jeopardy or is dismissed because of her/his defence of intellectual freedom. This special fund allows for an immediate response prior to the development of all pertinent facts in a particular case. Although the fund is separate from other monies in the Foundation, its purpose is integrally related to the Foundation's larger program. Send donations to the LeRoy C. Merritt Humanitarian Fund, 50 East Huron St., Chicago, Illinois 60611. Donations aren't tax-deductible, the FTRF warns. But no self-respecting SRRTer ought to give a damn. In terms of tangibly defending intellectual freedom, this is where it's at.

OIF has new exhibit, will travel!

An all new, redesigned OIF portable exhibit is ready for display at library association meetings or intellectual freedom workshops. The new exhibit is a great improvement over the earlier model. Consisting of three 7-foot formica display racks, the entire exhibit fits into one wooden crate for shipping. As usual, a variety of periodicals and newspapers representing a wide spectrum of political and social thought will be shipped separately. We only ask that you pay for shipping charges from Chicago and return. To reserve the exhibit, contact: Ms. Margaret F. Blankley, Administrative Assistant, Office for Intellectual Freedom, American Library Association, 50 East Huron Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611. She'll be happy to give you further details.—OIF/ALA Memorandum, Aug. 1973.

U. of Chicago: Librarians still fired, ALA inquiry stymied

At the Vegas' conclave, SRRT voted to censure the University of Chicago Library, while ALA voted to reinstate our abruptly-dismissed, union-organizing colleagues & conduct a SCMAI investigation. On August 4th, the Legal Committee of Local 103A, Distributive Workers of America, reported, in part:

Regarding the A.L.A. resolution, we have learned of the following events: In a letter dated July 18, 1973 the Executive Director of A.L.A. requested a meeting be arranged with the library administration to discuss the resolution. On July 23, 1973 Stanley McElderry, Director of the University of Chicago Library, sent A.L.A. a letter in which he stated that the library administration would not cooperate with the A.L.A. investigation into the personnel policies and procedures of the University of Chicago Library. The Director cited legal reasons for this refusal which seem to us to have little or no justification. We assume that the A.L.A. Staff Committee on Mediation, Arbitration, and Inquiry will conduct the investigation which it was charged to do by the membership and Council of A.L.A. regardless of the recalcitrant attitude of the...

...We would of course appreciate any help...you could render us. We feel that the greater the number of persons in the profession who are aware of the situation..., the less likely it is that such dismissals will occur elsewhere, and the more likely that the dismissed librarians will be reinstated. We would also be very grateful for financial assistance. Contributions should be made out to Local 103A, D.W.A. and sent c/o Coatsworth, 5746 S. Maryland Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60637. If you are a member of organizations which might be willing to write letters of support, we would also appreciate such assistance. Letters...should be sent to Edward N. Levi, President, University of Chicago, 5801 Ellis Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60637, and to Gaylord Donnelley, Chairman, Board of Trustees, University of Chicago, 2223 King Drive, Chicago, Ill. 60616.
System-shaking, etc.

★ MARLF: a preview of ’76 or ’75?

SRRTers who traveled to Atlantic City for the Mid-Atlantic Region Library Federation meeting want to share some sad observations: 1) MARLF was the best argument ever against ALA having "no-conflict" meetings. The advance program turned off many who might have come if there were several small meetings on subjects of their concern; consequently, only about 1,500 (including 400 exhibitors) showed up. The exhibit area was deserted, and so was the large meeting room set for over 1,000, but with only 200 usually there (which had a debilitating effect on speakers and audience). Exhibitors were grim by Thursday eve, when the largest attendance (about 500) for any function at MARLF showed up—for the free booze party! The one evening when several meetings went on at once, in conflict, resulted in each of the meetings having a respectable attendance, totalling together more than any one large meeting. The big meetings, aimed at a large, unspecialized audience, were pegged to the consciousness of librarians who don't read any professional literature—each session being a re-hash of 1960-65 LJ, WLB, & AL articles. Even those meetings that started with sizeable audiences (400) because there was no choice dwindled to less than 200 when Atlantic City boardwalking became more inviting than MARLF bored-sitting.... 2) Atlantic City is a downer. Many sighs and frequent experience of deja-vu among SRRTers. "That's where we passed out NO-ON-90 stickers in '68—they're passing out salt water taffy at this meeting!" "Gee, the hotel we stayed at in '68 has been demolished—in '76 this whole place should be gone—it's seedy, moldy and expensive!" "I wonder if the ExBoard of ALA decided to hold the '76 meeting here because there are more gay bars than in any other East Coast city, including New York? It could be their 'positive' response to Mike McConnell's case—belated, and off-base, as usual!" "ALA in '76 will appropriately be in Atlantic City—a decaying organization in a decaying town—what a centennial!" Bike-riding at dawn (an AC passtime popular with SRRTers in '68 & '73) revealed that the AC boardwalk fronts were depressingly equivalent to the Las Vegas game rooms—all pervasive—but you could watch the waves break on the beach. By '76 will the beach be more polluted and un-swimmable, offering no alternative to "no-conflict" meetings?.... 3) The business meetings of all the state association groups were also "no-conflict." There were several state associations in attendance, yet none showed any strong attendance-getting conflict, or even discussion of controversial events. New Jersey came closest, with a strong resolution against Nixon, but done with no conflict either.... 4) One accomplishment: People from the SRRT TF on Women set up a conflict meeting to plan the 1974 preconference, in the room of one of the TF members. Notices of the meeting were posted at conference headquarters, and produced a strong attendance from workers from all over the Mid-Atlantic area. Similarly, a "conflict" meeting on sexism in children's literature gathered a large crown in another SRRTer's room. These meetings were lively and productive.—Jackie Eubanks.

★ Sex discrimination suit at LSU

A case of discrimination has been filed with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission regional office. The charge of discrimination based on sex has been made against Louisiana State University. Complainant is Dr. Helen Ripplar Wheeler, until May Associate Professor, Graduate School of Library Science. The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) administers Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, as amended 1972, which prohibits discrimination in employment because of race, color, sex, religion or national origin. EEOC's
research has shown that minority groups and women (an employment minority) are most concentrated in the lowest-paying employment classifications and severely underutilized as officials, managers, and professionals.

Dr. Wheeler received her doctorate from Columbia University in 1964. She also holds an MA from the University of Chicago, MS from Columbia University's School of Library Science, Certificate from the University of San Carlos, and BA from Bernard College. Prior to receiving the doctorate, she was employed as a professional library administrator for approximately ten years; since then, she has been teaching library science and serving as a consultant. Her latest book, Womanhood media, is now on the market. Her current professional activities at the national level include service on Council, ALA's legislative body; membership on the SRRT Task Force on the Status of Women in Librarianship steering committee; and elected membership on Action Council, SRRT's policy-making unit. She has served as a consultant to Educational Activities, Inc. for several years and is currently writing and designing a filmstrip series on media to be released next year. In 1972, she was elected to the Association of Feminist Consultants.

For an update on events since the above, early-Summer news-release, which no other library mag printed in full, contact Dr. Wheeler at Apt. 215, 7940 Jefferson Highway, Baton Rouge, LA 70809; (504) 921-2477.

★ Anne Draper Memorial Fund

We figure that Anne, who died on March 25, 1973, after a 9-month battle with cancer, wouldn't have minded the "system-shaker" label. Like her friends and husband at New politics—from which the following statement comes—we, too, mourn her loss.

A lifelong socialist, Anne was active in the trade union movement, among the agricultural workers of California. It was Anne who organized Citizens for Farm Labor, which aided the farm workers during the long years of the grape strike. A militant feminist, Anne was active in the women's movement as a founder of the Union Women's Alliance to Gain Equality.

The Anne Draper Memorial Fund has been formed to publish a volume of essays in Anne's memory on women's liberation and working class struggles. Contributions may be made through Anne Lipow at UNION W.A.G.E., 2137 Oregon Street, Berkeley, CA 94705.

On request, Ms. Lipow will gladly furnish a two-page "Biographical summary." When it appears, the Memorial Fund volume will be noted in this Newsletter. Incidentally, UNION W.A.G.E., "a politically non-partisan group of women trade unionists organized to fight discrimination on the job, in unions, and in society," itself issues a militant, newsworthy tabloid. Rates for the labor/feminist bi-monthly: $2 (individuals, $5 (organizations, institutions, as well as "sustaining" subs). Women may join & receive the paper for $5 p.a., while men can become associate members, including a sub, at the same price.

★ Canadian sisters on the move

The Canadian Library Association's recently-created Task Force on Women presented several proposals to Council on November 2d. These were funded: 1) Compiling a directory of all libraries in Canada; and 2) A pre-conference all-day workshop on women at the June 1974 Winnipeg CLA meeting. A large research project was referred to the Board for consideration next month. Generally speaking, the climate was favorable and they were impressed with our expertise.—Sherrill Cheda, Campus Librarian, Seneca College of Applied Arts & Technology, 1750 Finch Avenue East, Willowdale 428, Ontario (491-5050).
Black Caucus condemns ALA backtracking on LC investigation

The Black Caucus Steering Committee held its Annual Fall Meeting at the Martin Luther King Memorial Library, Washington, D.C., on Saturday, Nov. 17. After hearing a report from Joslyn Williams on the Procedures employed by the ALA Investigatory Team in its examination of progress made by the Library of Congress in implementing the Kaiser Report recommendations adopted by ALA Council, the Steering Committee deplored and condemned the ALA Executive Director's action for the following reasons:

—Four members of the Black Caucus, including a representative of the Black Employees of the Library of Congress (BELC), met with Mr. Robert Wedgeworth, ALA Executive Director, for approximately four hours on the evening of June 26, 1973, at his invitation, and at that time deplored the fact that the Investigatory Team had devoted most of its first investigation to talks with LC administrative & management staff, giving very little time to employees who brought grievances against the Library. Mr. Wedgeworth agreed to appoint a new Investigatory Team. The four Black Caucus members, including Mr. Williams, the BELC representative, suggested that instead of dismissing the Team, two additional persons who had credibility with the Caucus and the profession should be appointed. The meeting with Mr. Wedgeworth ended with his promise to name two additional persons to the LC Team prior to its September visit. Furthermore, Mr. Wedgeworth accepted the group's advice that one member from the Library Union and another from BELC would accompany the Team to areas of the library's operations where flagrant discriminatory abuses still exist, in order to give the Investigatory Team firsthand knowledge of the Library.

—Mr. Williams reported both that Mr. Wedgeworth subsequently failed to keep the aforementioned promises & that employee dissatisfaction at the Library of Congress continues.

Because of Mr. Robert Wedgeworth's failure to comply with the promises he made to members of the ALA Black Caucus, the Steering Committee unanimously adopted a resolution deploring and condemning the actions of the Executive Director of the American Library Association.

—Edited from a news-release issued 11-18-73 by James R. Wright, Chairperson, ALA Black Caucus.

It wouldn't hurt

to elect a few more SRRTers to ALA Council. If interested, air-mail to AC Coordinator Doi-ron a signed statement to the effect that you're willing to run for a 4-year seat. Include full name, address, and where you work.

Ontario college librarians fight discriminatory conditions

Librarians in Ontario's Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology whose contract is currently under re-negotiation have written to the Hon. Robert Welch, Provincial Secretary for Social Development, seeking investigation and rectification of their restricted salary and working conditions.

The Librarians are bargaining as part of the Academic Bargaining Unit of the Civil Service Association of Ontario, a unit comprised of college teachers, librarians, and counsellors. In their letter, they indicate that although the librarians' educational and professional qualifications are at least equivalent to those of the teachers, the classification and salary ranges granted to them in the existing contract are much lower and more restrictive—the maximum salary attainable is limited to $12,900, some $4,000 less than the comparable maximum for teachers. Further discrepancies arise since the Librarians must work a longer contract (11 months as opposed to 10 months for the Teachers) for these lower salaries and unless a Librarian supervises another professional librarian his/her maximum is frozen at $11,200, a level lower than all but one of the 5 Teacher/Counsellor classifications. To add insult to injury, a Teacher who supervises or coordinates other teachers may receive a supplement of up to $1,000 for these duties.
The Librarians' letter shows that the male/female complement of the Librarians is the reverse of that of the bargaining unit as a whole, the Librarians being the only group that is predominantly female (Librarians, 80-85% female; Academic unit, 80-85% male). The other minority, the Counsellors, not a predominantly female group, received a package similar to that of the Teachers.

The complete lack of response, or even acknowledgement, of this class-action complaint, submitted over six weeks ago (September 21, 1973) indicates a callous disregard by the provincial government of the only predominantly female group in the Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology. The Librarians are now exploring further courses of action.—Info, dated 11-12-73, from Ms. Margaret Trott, C.A.A.T. Librarian Action Committee, 25 Petman Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M4S 2S9, Canada.

ALA and Equal Employment

E. J. Josey informs us that the proposed ALA Equal Opportunity statement will be voted on at Midwinter, NOT in New York as the LJ/SLJ hotline lately stated. Josey asks that "all ALA members urge Council to adopt the statement." We heartily agree. And trust that SRRT's Action Council will take a strong, positive stand on this issue.—SB

AIP discount coupon

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Late stuff

★ Another affiliate

Missouri SRRT was accidentally omitted from the roster on page 7. Coordinator is Andy Anderson, Daniel Boone Regional Library, Garth & Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201.

★ Ethnic Materials TF to meet in Chi

We're pleased to report that our TF will be meeting at the Palmer House in Chicago during ALA Midwinter on Monday, Jan. 21, 3 a.m. to 12 noon (8:00-9:30, 10:00-12:00). No room assignments have yet been made. Agenda will include: 1) Organization of an Asian-American Section growing out of our Las Vegas program... 2) Plans for the ALA NY program on ethnicity and librarianship... 3) Report on minority publishers... 4) Division of responsibility for development of information on services and materials for each of the ethnic groups... 5) Focus for 1974/75... 6) Communication with each other.—David Cohen, Coordinator, 68-71 Bell Boulevard, Bayside, New York 11364; (212) 229-1510.

★ More things to get

For authentic, unperfumed accounts of what goes down inside the Library of Congress, especially with respect to minority-group employees, and as a necessary antidote or corrective to the Panglossian LC information bulletin, latch onto B.E.L.C.'s bi-monthly "tell-it-like-it-is" newsletter. Called F.R.E.E.D.; FIGHTING RACISM TO END EVIL DISCRIMINATION, it costs only $1 per issue. Order from Black Employees of The Library of Congress, c/o Christ Child Settlement House, 608 Massachusetts Avenue, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002. Among other features, the latest issue (July/Aug. '73, v. 1, #6) reproduces actual correspondence between BELC & the LC honchos, details recent instances of racist discrimination, uses LC's own statistics to prove that the concentration of Blacks "in the lower grades is worse in 1973 than 1972," & includes a "Black mandatory reading list."

SHERRIE BERGMAN FRIEDMAN
SRRT CLEARINGHOUSE
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