

ALA Social Responsibilities Round Table Newsletter

February 15, 1970 No. 4

In search of soul...

In Search of Soul is the title of a two day institute (Friday and Saturday, June 26-27) being planned by an SRRT Task Force to precede the Detroit Conference.

Fay Blake (University of the State of New York, State Education Dept., Albany, N. Y. 12224), coordinator of the TF, has tentatively outlined the program as follows:

Friday, June 26--An array of speakers who will give the participants an idea of the diversity in the Black community--diversity in ideas, in program, in philosophy, in appearance, in objectives, in everything. The speakers are not to be library-oriented (that comes on Saturday), but are to tell us how they want racist America to change.--A sensitivity training session.--Dinner.--A multi media program in the evening.

Saturday, June 27--Library applications of the Search for Soul: speak-

ers plus group discussions.

Exhibits (perhaps one by the SRRT TF on the Reprinting of Minority Group Literature) are being considered.

Registrants will probably be limited to one hundred. The TF wants primarily to aim this institute at white librarians from urban and suburban public, academic, special libraries, at library association and library agency staffs who are not engaged in "service to the disadvantaged" but are uneasy about racial tensions, are willing to do something about it in their own libraries, but don't know what to do, where to start, how to translate "them over there" to "us over here."

Fay and the TF need help. For instance, money needs to be raised (the planning for the institute began too late for it to be an ALA sponsored pre-conference). Anyone willing to work, or with ideas, please contact her.

SRRT Action

Forty seven Council nominees replied to SRRT's request for a statement of professional concern (note Midwinter Council action on this issue). Copies of the replies have been given to LJ, WLB, AL, however, since many replies were quite lengthy it is unlikely that they will all be printed. Copies of any of the replies are available on request from Charles Weisenberg, Betty-Carol Selten, and Bill DeJohn. The SRRT requested the statements for the information of the membership; they are

not endorsing any candidates.

The SRRT had been petitioned to request that volunteers for office in the RT also reply to the 321.8 statement. This was considered, however, Action Council decided that an appropriate reply from RT volunteers would be a statement on the social responsibilities section of the Dix Committee Report. The ballot, including this statement, will be mailed sometime after the official membership list is completed (March 31).

Freedom to Read!

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The Freedom to Read Foundation was the burning issue at ALA Midwinter. At meetings of the Board of the Foundation, at the President's Program meeting, and at the two meetings of the SRRT Intellectual Freedom Task Force, a number of grave questions were raised.

The first was why membership had not been consulted before the Foundation incorporated. Judy Krug, Executive Director of the Office of Intellectual Freedom and a member of the Foundation's Board, said at one of the IFTF's meetings that the decision to organize the Foundation has been hers (with the approval of Clift), and that Bill North, ALA attorney, and she had worked together on the Constitution and Bylaws. They had worked quickly because ALA had been severely criticized in the past for its sluggish response to the wishes of membership, and since it had been clearly indicated at Atlantic City that at the top of our list of fervent wishes was the creation of an efficient, effective intellectual freedom defense and support fund--poof, shazam: the Freedom to Read Foundation.

A second question was why a separate organization, requiring separate dues, had to be created to defend intellectual freedom. The reply was the cry that resounded through the halls of the Sherman Hotel: tax-exempt status. I am not knocking tax exempt status, but how was it threatened? It is fully expected that the Foundation will be granted tax exempt status by the IRS; if, in fact, the Foundation does not achieve this desired end, it will be the end of it since neither ALA nor any other tax exempt organization will be able to donate tax exempt monies to it. If it is possible for the Foundation to be tax exempt, could not they have formed within ALA? This question was asked repeatedly of the Board and of Mr. North. The reply: tax exempt status, begged the question. Again, why would the defense of intellectual freedom within ALA threaten the Association's tax exempt status, if an organization formed specifically for

that purpose can gain tax exempt status. However, accepting the Foundation as a fait accompli, if there were not serious questions as to the its ability, as it is presently constituted, to meet the wishes of its membership, the former questions could properly be classed as nit-picking, argumentative, or any other pejorative adjective any wishes to apply.

The first, and most serious, question is who is the Foundation going to be able to defend as they are now incorporated? Article I, Section 2 of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Foundation reads: Purposes. The purposes of the Foundation are as follows; (a) To promote and protect freedom of speech and freedom of press as such freedoms are guaranteed by the Constitution and laws of the United States and as such freedoms necessarily involve the public right to hear what is spoken and to read what is written; (b) To promote the recognition and acceptance of libraries and repositories of the world's accumulated wisdom and knowledge and to protect the right of access to such wisdom and knowledge; (c) To support the right of libraries to include in their collections and to make available to the public any creative work which they may legally acquire; (d) To supply legal counsel, which counsel may or may not be directly employed by the Foundation, and otherwise to provide support to such libraries and librarians as are suffering legal injustices by reason of their defense of freedom of speech and freedom of press as guaranteed by law against efforts to subvert such freedoms through suppression or censorship to the extent such libraries and librarians may request such aid and require it on account of poverty or inability to obtain legal counsel without assistance.

Would these stated purposes permit the Foundation to give support and defense to a librarian in a position such as Ellis Hodgkin. Ellis asked specifically if the Foundation could support a librarian's right as a citizen to influence his community in non-library activities when the exercise of those rights resulted in library action against him. No satis-

factory answer was given.

In defense of the purposes, however, it was stated that they had been made as broad as possible so that various interpretations could be put upon them, and so that (the cry again) the Foundation could gain tax exempt status from the IRS. It should also be kept in mind that at the suggestion of Jackie Eubanks, an interim member and Vice President of the Board, the Board did agree at their Tuesday evening meeting that the priority ranking of these stated purposes would be D, C, A, B. The procedures (not yet formulated) adopted by the Board to implement these purposes should serve as an indication to us of the Board's interpretation.

The general feeling of so many of us at Midwinter was that we has been sold down the river of good intentions gone awry through timidity again. My interpretation of the kind of thinking that went into the writing of this Constitution and By-Laws is that the first thought was that tax exempt status must be protected, therefore a constitution and by-laws must be written which will not threaten that status, and, now that the legal machinations are done, let us see who can be supported and defended.

It was suggested that librarians involved in intellectual freedom battles, who could not be supported or defended by the Foundation, could be supported by special non-Foundation, non-ALA affiliated committees founded specifically for the purpose of defending and supporting that librarian. Is this another legal gimmick? Could the Foundation actually give the necessary funds to the special committee? Or are librarians who wish to defend intellectual freedom being asked to join ALA, the Freedom to Read Foundation, and to make voluntary contributions in support of the intellectual freedom cases that cannot be defended by either of those organizations? Considering the costs of administration, and even special committees would need administering, are not we spreading our resources a little too thin?

Must we admit that as librarians our defense of our intellectual freedom--much less anyone else's--is so

problematical that we are willing to entrust it to the whim of voluntary contributions.

A second serious question concerns the composition of the Board. The Foundation has no legal connection with ALA and yet, of seventeen Trustees, "Eight (8) Trustees shall serve on the Board by virtue of their offices in the American Library Association and its Associated Divisions, Committees, and Round Tables (Article III, Section 2, b)." These members shall be the President, President Elect and Executive Director of ALA, the Chairman, or (applies also to each of the following) his representative, of the Intellectual Freedom Committee, the President of LAD, the Chairman of the Intellectual Freedom Committee of ALTA, Chairman of JMRP, and the Coordinator of SRRT. These ex-officio trustees may serve an unspecified number of successive terms.

Nine Trustees shall be elected by the membership of the Foundation. Elected Trustees may not serve more than two successive terms. Limiting the length of time a Trustee may serve is a sensible provision--should it not apply to ex-officio Trustees also.

A quorum consists of nine Trustees in any combination of Elected or Appointed. At any legally constituted meeting, the affirmative vote of a majority in attendance is required for action by the Board. However, to amend the Articles of Incorporation or the By-Laws or to voluntarily dissolve the Foundation requires not simply the majority vote of all of the Trustees, but the majority vote of the Elected and of the Appointed Trustees.

A resolution was passed at an SRRT IFTF meeting that the TF vote disapproval of the Board as it is presently constituted and recommend that there be only one ex-officio member of the Board, the Chairman of the Intellectual Freedom Committee, and that all other members of the Board be elected.

A final question. What will ALA's contribution to the Foundation be? My ALA dues is quite high, and intellectual freedom is high on my list of priorities. Is the Association going to reflect my priority in its support of the Foundation? What guarantees do we have that the Association will

continue, and increase, its support of the activities of the Intellectual Freedom Committee and the Office of Intellectual Freedom now that the Foundation as been organized?

The Freedom Fund for Librarians, after meeting with the Foundation's Board, has decided to postpone making a decision on turning the funds they have collected over to the Foundation until the Foundation has established its procedures for the implementation of its purposes. In the meantime, the Fund is conducting a poll of their members.

Many of us at Midwinter were, as you may have gathered by now, dissatisfied (!) with the Foundation as it is now incorporated. However, WE CAN INFLUENCE IT IF WE JOIN. The first election of Trustees (by mail ballot) we be held in May 1970. Dues for regular membership are \$10.00. Checks should be made payable to the Freedom to Read Foundation, and sent to Judy Krug, Executive Director, Intellectual Freedom Office, 50 East Huron Street, Chicago, Ill. 60611.

Midwinter 1970

COUNCIL MEETINGS

There were three Council Sessions at Midwinter. Some of the highlights: Katherine Laich, Chairman of the ALA Nominating Committee recommended that the Association's Constitution be amended to no longer require pairing of candidates for Councilor at large, but that one list of twice the number of names as the number of positions to be filled by prepared in future. A motion to refer this recommendation to the Constitution and By-Laws Committee carried.

The Intellectual Freedom Committee moved to amend a 1950 ALA Council Resolution on Loyalty Programs. This resolution, though it strongly condemns loyalty programs, approves "the affirmation of allegiance to our government." The IF Committee's motion was to substitute the word Constitution for government. Mr. Gaines moved that the entire resolution be thrown out, and the Association go on record as opposed to all loyalty oaths as conditions of employment. After

much debate, which ranged from stressing that the resolution's stand against loyalty programs is as necessary today as it was twenty years ago, to, if not defense, at least, acceptance of loyalty oaths as a valid condition of employment, to the often heard plea of non-at large Councilors that they would have to consult their constituencies before making a decision, Gaines' motion lost. It was then moved, and it carried, that the resolution be recommitted to the IF Committee for further consideration. The matter will be discussed further at Detroit.

The following resolutions, presented by John Foresman June 27, 1969, were approved by membership in Atlantic City. Since they were approved after Council had adjourned, they were referred to Council's 1970 Midwinter Meeting. The resolutions passed as amended (indicated by an underline). BE IT RESOLVED That the ALA ballots for the position of Councilor and President provide a short statement of the candidates professional concerns, and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That a complete report of votes cast for the candidates for these positions be listed in the ALA Bulletin, and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That the actions of Council be taken by role call vote on policy matters and the results (distributed to the members) published.

Joan Newman's resolution on library school curriculum, also presented and approved by membership after Council's adjournment at Atlantic City, was referred (at the recommendation of the Executive Board) by Council to the Office of Library Education where a study of library education is already underway. The resolution had been amended in Atlantic City to delete reference to a change in accreditation responsibility from ALA to any other group.

The motion, made by Diana Vesce-lius and passed by the membership at Atlantic City, charging that ALA re-examine and revitalize its recruitment policies did not, in the general confusion of the 1969 Membership meetings, receive a second. The Executive Board recommended that the re-

solution be referred to the New Directions Committee. Eric Moon moved, and it carried, that it be so referred with the support of Council.

A Black Caucus formed during Midwinter week. At their meeting on Wednesday evening, they prepared the following resolution for presentation to an adoption by the third session of Council, January 23, 1970. WHEREAS the United States Supreme Court of this land has called for the desegregation of public schools by February 1, 1970, and WHEREAS public, academic, and school libraries in areas where desegregation has been ordered are in some cases lending and in other cases planning to lend materials to racist institutions conceived for the purpose of circumventing the law of the land, and WHEREAS such school administrators and many civil leaders in such areas have in fact asked for active support from

libraries because funding for their schools and institutions is inadequate to provide for libraries and textbooks, and

WHEREAS the American Library Association is cognizant of the social responsibilities of libraries serving the people of the United States and is on record as being opposed to racism in any and all of its forms, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the libraries and/or librarians who do in fact through either services or materials support any such racist institutions be censured by the American Library Association.

There was impassioned debate on a motion to refer (again) this resolution to the Intellectual Freedom Committee for its consideration of methods of censure. The motion was defeated, and the resolution was passed by a large majority--a role call vote was taken.

National Task Forces

Miss Jean-Anne South, Coordinator, and the Task Force on Intellectual Freedom were very active at Midwinter. At the Task Force's meetings, attended by members of ALA's IF Committee and members of the Board of the Freedom to Read Foundation, a number of the questions raised about the Foundation were discussed. The Task Force's first priority for action is still the formation of an Intellectual Freedom Information Network (see Newsletter, 12/1/69). They need volunteers!

The Task Force on the Recruitment of Minorities to the Library Profession is planning with the Recruitment Advisory Committee a pre-conference in 1971 on the Recruitment of Minorities. The tentative planning is for a conference aimed at librarians of minority groups for the purpose of preparing them for recruiting on the local level. These librarians might best come from areas with a large concentration of minorities and from various sections of the country.

The Task Force on Minority Group Literature feels strongly that the question of reprints must be tackled--and soon--by the library profession.

Too many librarians are under pressure to provide collections for minority groups and have succumbed to the "reprint series syndrome."

In an attempt to study some of these problems, the TF has begun the following projects:

Survey of published practices and criteria: a. Compilation of a list of publishing houses, private presses, and concerned associations producing new and reprinted black studies material. b. Formulation of a questionnaire to be sent to these publishers, inquiring about their criteria for selection of materials to be reprinted in all forms: print, film, micro. Study of reviewing media: a. Listing of services which currently review black studies materials. b. Formulation of a questionnaire surveying these media.

Compilation of a bibliography of bibliographies of black studies materials.

The TF would appreciate receiving information pertaining to any of the above projects, as well as suggestions for new projects. Although present TF projects are concerned with black studies materials, members would welcome suggestions for projects dealing with the literature of other minority groups.

Persons having information about projects similar to those of the TF, or who are interested in joining present TF projects or wish to form new projects are urged to contact Raymond Barzay, Coordinator, 529 West 145 St., New York, N. Y. 10031, WA6-6107.

The TASK FORCE ON EVALUATION OF LIBRARY OUTREACH PROGRAMS, formerly the Task Force on Community Participation (see Newsletter, 12/1/69, p.6), met at Midwinter. They plan to do the research study which is so sorely needed by all librarians interested in ammunition for selling their own or formulating an outreach program.

To do so, they need your help. An outreach program is defined as a library program which makes an attempt over and above the library's traditional program to reach unserved portions of the community. Such a library may or may not be tax supported.

Anyone working in such a program or with knowledge of such efforts is urged to send details to Miss Michela Vaccaro, TF Coordinator, Boston Public Library, Brighton Regional Branch, 40 Academy Hill Rd., Brighton, Mass. 02135. The information needed on these programs includes name, address, objectives, funding, and method of operation. It is not necessary to supply all of the data requested, only what is conveniently available.

This information is needed by May 1, 1970 since the compilation of a list of outreach programs is essential to the TF's preparation at ALA Detroit of a draft of their proposal for the study. Libraries to be contacted for the study will be drawn from this list.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR ENVIRONMENTAL TASK FORCE

President Dix and past President McDonough introduced a statement on the environmental crisis to the Executive Board and to Council, both of which endorsed it. McDonough has asked SRRT to bring the environmental crisis to the attention of ALA membership and to the public. A Task Force has formed.

The purpose of Task Force: Environmental Crisis Clearinghouse (ECC) is to mobilize library and other resources to provide information services in

support of environmental awareness programs. The functions of the Task Force are to 1. identify information sources, 2. gather useful information, 3. organize this information for use, 4. prepare the information for dissemination, and 5. communicate this information to the public and to those actively working on the problems, e.g. Clean Air, Inc., Student Environmental Confederation, C.R.A.P., etc.

Senator Gaylord Nelson and his Administrative Assistant, John Heritage (Senate Office Bldg., Rm. 404, Washington, D.C. 20008) have urged a nationwide Environmental Teach-in on April 22. The Teach-in is the first major activity in a continuing program of informing the public and taking concerted action on the environmental crisis.

Barbara Wagner is the coordinator of the new Task Force. She will act as a clearinghouse for exchange of information on project activities, will initiate specific projects and actions, will tie ECC activities together, and will coordinate cooperative action taken with other interested organizations. She will not be a Chairman or spokesman! The organization of the TF will depend upon the number and the geographic distribution of volunteers as well as upon their areas of interest. Anyone, SRRT affiliates, individual librarians, persons not connected with SRRT may join this TF, if they are willing to WORK. Members of the TF can suggest specific projects and develop techniques for implementing them; they should volunteer to assume specific responsibilities for carrying out projects, and are to keep the coordinator informed of their activities.

Suggested outline of activities (feedback and additional suggestions are needed). 1. Identification of information sources and the appropriate search techniques, e.g.: print resources--the appropriate indexes, directories, etc. to use in traditional library literature searches; non-print resources--newspaper techniques, i.e. talk or write to researchers, reporters, editors (especially those covering this subject specifically), publishers, legislators and their office staffs, government documents and

subject librarians, organizations now working in this area independently. 2. Gathering information: the above activities can be divided by geographic area; each local group should work on a concrete project (including the collection of material, its bibliographic description and sources). 3. The organization of the information should be done by the group collecting it. 4. The synthesis of this information should be done by groups, national, regional, and local, to which all the organized information is fed; these groups would prepare it for dissemination, e.g. rewriting, summarizing, bibliographies, etc. 5. Dissemination can involve press releases, talks before groups, correspondence, writing review or state of the art articles, or turning the material over to an agency or organization which is set up to disseminate it, e.g. Senator Nelson's office.

Immediate action is needed on the April 22 Teach-in; we can test ECC techniques by what we are able to contribute toward making the Teach-in nationally significant.

Contact: Miss Barbara L. Wagner, Circulation Librarian, Colorado State University Libraries, Fort Collins, Colo. 80521, phone: 303-491-6626, x34 (office), 303-482-8014 (home).

TASK FORCE ON REORGANIZATION OF ALA

The First Report of the Activities Committee on New Directions for ALA and the Subcommittee Reports were distributed at Midwinter registration. The Committee held hours of open hearings during the week; as a result of these hearings they decided to revise the Subcommittee reports by the first week in February, and to develop ideas for reorganization by March 1. The Executive Board has decided not to mail the Committee's report to the entire membership because of the expense (\$11,000) and the plans for revision. Sections of it will be reprinted in American Libraries, LJ and WLB, but these will probably not be the revised subcommittee reports. There is very little, then, that SRRT can do at this point to influence further the Committee's writing of priorities

and programs to carry them out. SRRT members still have time to contribute ideas on goals and restructuring to the Task Force for submission to the Dix Mix however.

There is some feeling inside and outside SRRT that the Committee on New Directions will have accomplished a great deal in one year if it only presents new goals and new priorities which are acceptable to membership. However, since it was charged at Atlantic City with reexamining the organizational structure of ALA, it will have to come up with recommendations on restructuring too. SRRT members should be aware that the Committee on Organization (COO) has been engaged in a two year project to get all units in ALA to carry out self-evaluation studies for the purpose of eliminating unnecessary activities. COO's report will be presented at Detroit along with the Committee on New Directions' report. The two reports will probably not result in on-the-spot reorganization. If and when the two reports are approved, the President and the Executive Board will have to determine how to implement the recommendations on restructuring.

However, some of the New Directions Committee's recommendations may be put into effect in the 1970-71 budget. Council was persuaded, in part by SRRT, to direct the Committee on Program Evaluation and Support (COPES) to set aside a contingency fund in its budget recommendations for 1970-71 to implement programs, approved by membership and Council, recommended in the Committee on New Directions report. \$50,000 was the figure to be set aside, however there is some doubt about the viability of the whole Association program in 1970-71 because membership renewals seem to be dropping off sharply.

The Task Force wants SRRT members to respond before March 1 to two questions: 1. How should the goals of the Association, as expressed in the 1967 Goals for Action statement, be rewritten or amended (see November 1969 ALA Bulletin, p.1347)? 2. How should the Association be restructured?

Please send your responses to the Task Force before March 1 (c/o David Weill, Coordinator, Merrick Library,

Merrick, N. Y. 11566), or to the Committee on New Directions after March 1--by which time it may be too late for their consideration--(c/o Frederick H. Wagman, Chairman, University of Michigan Libraries, Ann Arbor, Mich. 48104). If you send your ideas to the Task Force, we can draft a composite statement which reflects SRRT thinking and eliminates duplication.

As an example of rewriting goals, consider this statement to replace #6 in the 1967 Goals--Intellectual Freedom: Association support of librarians practicing the principles of intellectual freedom, as defined in the Library Bill of Rights, Freedom to Read statement, and appropriate amendments to the U. S. Constitution, by any and all means necessary. Professional support for free access by all to information in any form; active opposition to labelling and other forms of voluntary censorship.

What is happening regionally

SRRT AFFILIATE GROUPS' MIDWINTER MEETING

Betty-Carol Sellen, SRRT Action Council contact with affiliates, met with representatives of a number of affiliate groups on January 22. A number of questions concerning their relationship to ALA SRRT and the organization of affiliates were raised. The replies:

Any group organized locally or regionally can affiliate with SRRT. The group may include librarians, students, and any other interested persons; members do not have to be ALA members.

A group becomes an affiliate by sending \$1.00 to the Clearinghouse Secretary, Joan Marshall, Brooklyn College Library, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11210. Miss Marshall will send the affiliate group chairman or coordinator a short form to be filled out and returned.

All reports about activities should be sent to the Clearinghouse. Requests for answers to specific questions or problems should be sent to the Action Council contact person: Betty-Carol Sellen, Brooklyn College Library, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11210.

A copy of the ALA SRRT newsletter will be sent to the chairman or co-

As examples of restructuring plans and concerns, the following may be helpful: 1. Reduction of the number of divisions by broadening scopes of interest, e.g. public services, technical services, professional services--a three division association. 2. Create strong executive office with membership advisory committees to carry out membership approved programs. 3. Regionalize all Association activities for greater membership participation with parallel activities in each region, and national meetings to coordinate and retify regional programs. 4. Eliminate Council; reduce Council; enlarge Council; eliminate at-large representation, chapter representation, eliminate past presidents (on Council, that is), eliminate Executive Board; enlarge Executive Board; dissolve the Association??

If you don't tell the Committee what you want, you will have no right to criticize their final report.

ordinator of each affiliate group (all ALA SRRT members receive this newsletter). The affiliate group may reproduce its copy for members, or the members may "subscribe" individually through a donation to the Clearinghouse--the amount will be announced in the next newsletter.

The SRRT Action Council will offer help and suggestions for organizing or projects if requested to do so. The Clearinghouse serves as a means of inter-group communication. There are no controls or restrictions imposed upon affiliate groups by ALA SRRT.

Affiliate groups needing money can request contributions through the newsletter; the amount needed and the purpose should be sent to the Clearinghouse Secretary.

Affiliate groups can make suggestions for activities to Action Council. Betty-Carol Sellen and Ruthann Boyer plan to draw up guidelines for the formation of affiliate groups before the Detroit Conference.

It was suggested that the Affiliate Groups' meeting be held early during the week of the Detroit Conference so that groups having similar problems, or hopefully, successes, having met can get together during the week.

A list of those who attended the meetings, or are associated with or are interested in forming an affiliate group, follows:

Thomas Bonn
Box 457, 527 Main Street
Etna, N. Y. 13062
(SRRT of the Finger Lakes)

Mrs. Ruthanne Boyer
1640 Hertel Lane
Deerfield, Ill. 60015
(Illinois SRRT)

Kay Cassell
1 Highgate Drive, #406
Trenton, N. J. 08618
(New Jersey SRRT)

Peter Geiger
Syracuse University
School of Library Science
CLOUT (Student Organization)
Syracuse, N. Y.

Agnes Griffen
King County Library System
1100 E. Union
Seattle, Wash. 98122

George Hathaway
Brooklyn College Library
Brooklyn, N. Y. 11210
(New York City SRRT)

Mrs. Bernadine Hoduski
515B N. Florence
Lee's Summit, Mo. 64063
(Missouri Library Assoc. SRRT)

Fran Jones
Science and Industry Room
St. Paul Public Library
90 West Fourth Street
St. Paul, Minn. 55104

The Indiana SRRT is investigating the possibility of a rap or brainstorming session on creative librarianship to urban areas, particularly the relationship of "model" libraries to "model" cities. What is possible? Can we reach people, or are the limits of our reach set in our own minds? Can we, at least, make people and librarians in one large city, or one large area, aware of what could be done? A meeting is being planned for Spring. Anyone interested--suggestions and ideas are very welcome--please contact Kathy Weibel, c/o Metro Corp., 1100 Massachusetts St., Gary, Ind. 46407.

The New Jersey Librarians for Peace will hold a meeting on Saturday, March

Mrs. Janet S. Kinney
College of Liberal Arts
Library School
University of Minnesota
Minneapolis, Minn. 55455

Nina Ladof
St. Charles County Library
St. Charles, Mo. 63301
(St. Louis Area SRRT)

Joseph F. Lindenfeld
927 Pine Street
Philadelphia, Pa. 19107
(Philadelphia SRRT)

Gordon McShean
Dundee Township Library
Dundee, Ill. 60118
(Illinois SRRT)

Judy Mowery
1808 Carter Avenue
Akron, Ohio 44301

Skip Rosenthal
Henry Ford Community College
Dearborn, Mich. 48128

Robert S. Smith
5816 Walnut Street
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15232

Diana Vescelius
Akron Public Library
55 S. Main Street
Akron, Ohio 44308

Barbara L. Wagner
Colorado State University Library
Fort Collins, Colo. 80531
(COLT, Colorado Librarians in Transition)

Kathy Weibel
c/o Metro Corp.
1100 Massachusetts Ave.
Gary, Ind. 46407

14 in Room 212 of the Rutgers Library School, New Brunswick. The program is "Peace Materials Not In Libraries, or Does the Library Bill of Rights Mean What It Says" and will include an anti-war materials display and anti-war films. The main speaker will be Sylvia Price, librarian, New School of Social Research.

A communal meal is being planned for April 12 in New Brunswick with contributions to be given to the peace movement.

Friday, May 8, a meeting at the New Jersey Library Association will be held to plan further projects.

For further information on the New Jersey Librarians for Peace, contact Mrs. Martha Williams, Princeton Public Library, Princeton, N. J.

ALA: ASSOCIATION OF
LIBRARIES OR LIBRARIANS?

At a meeting in New York City last May, Roger McDonough answered a critic of ALA by stating that the questioner must remember that ALA is an association of libraries, not of librarians. Robert Sheridan elaborates on this in his article in the January issue of American Libraries. He says that a clear statement of purpose of the Association is lacking and that we must "concentrate on determining whether the Association's primary purpose is library service or service to librarians... and not allow the matter of organizational structure to distract us from this fundamental question."

Mr. Sheridan goes on to say that the "Dix-Mix" must base any suggested organizational revision on the answer to this "fundamental question," and that it can be answered only by the

members of the Association. This fundamental question was raised at various SRRT functions at both Atlantic City and Chicago Midwinter. It was raised frequently at the open hearings of the Dix Committee last month in Chicago. It is suggested that everyone interested in this question should send his comments to Katherine Laich, Chairman of the Sub-committee on Organization of ALA of the New Directions Committee. It would also be helpful to write to the editor of American Libraries in response to Mr. Sheridan's article.

HEY!

Anyone interested in the possibility of forming a Task Force on Women's Liberation in the Library Profession please contact Pat Schuman, 10 West 16 St., New York, N. Y. 10011, or Judy Lerner, 708 St. Paul St., Baltimore, Md. 21202.

An incident at the Chicago Public Library - AN EDITORIAL

Thursday of Midwinter week, the Illinois SRRT had a meeting in the CPL at which they showed the ACLU film on the Chicago Democratic Convention riots. The meeting was attended by approximately thirty five librarians and three (for want of a more informed word) yippies, a girl and two young men. As the film ended, the yippies began an unscheduled guerrilla theatre play about censorship. They were noisy. Within minutes, a guard came into the room and removed the two young men.

If the two young men had simply been put out of the library, I at least, after having calmed down, would say no more, but they were taken to Mr. Ladenson's (acting Chief Librarian) office where they were held until his arrival. The Chicago police were called--I saw (and I stress this only because there has been some dispute as to whether city policemen were involved or not) two city policeman enter Mr. Ladenson's office. The girl who was with the young men was denied admittance to the office. Those of us in the hall when Mr. Ladenson arrived were asked, or told, to clear the hall by Mr. Ladenson. It was a public corridor,

and while we might have attracted some notice since we were all visibly upset, we were not obstructing passage. Gordon McShean (ISRRT), who had been conducting the meeting, was admitted to the office after the police arrived.

The men were not arrested. After their release, they returned with us to the CPL meeting room where they told us that the library guards had questioned their presence in the library and searched a large sack of props that they had with them prior to the meeting.

I am not going to dispute anyone's rights! The ISRRT, and the CPL, had not been asked if they wanted guerrilla theatre; they had a right to be asked. The librarians at the meeting, which had been billed as unstructured, had a right to determine the content of the meeting; we did not ask the CH to stop the play. The yippies had a right to be in the library, a right not to be searched, and, I believe, a right to try to communicate their ideas to us. Mr. Ladenson has the right, or, more precisely, the responsibility, to determine the use of the CPL's meeting rooms and the rules of conduct in the library.

Rights and responsibilities, as so

LIBRARY SCHOOL STUDENTS'
MIDWINTER MEETING

A number of library school students met at Chicago. Their primary concern is education for librarianship; their primary problem is the organization of an influential body which has a membership that is constantly changing, usually apathetic (library school has that effect), geographically separate, and, often, financially unable to correct any of the former that could be financially corrected.

The students have decided to call an independent meeting on June 28-29 at Detroit. Prior to this meeting, however, they hope to hold regional conferences somewhat on the order of

the conference of upstate New York library schools. At that conference (February 6-7), the Geneseo, Albany, Syracuse, and Buffalo Library Schools each presented three position papers on library education.

The students need--far more than any advice--money. The student representatives from Albany had had their expenses to Chicago paid by their school. I believe that that was the only school represented in Chicago that had financed their future professional graduates' first conference. If the schools don't, or can't, assist the students in this, shouldn't we? Contact Pete Geiger, CLOUT (Library School Student Organization), Syracuse University, School of Library Science, Syracuse, N.Y.

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JOIN or START an **SRRT** and get involved.