

ALA Social Responsibilities Round Table Newsletter

June 1, 1971 No. 14

SRRT ELECTION

The results of the election for Action Council are as follows:

1. Joe Lindenfeld	184
2. Jim Wright	182
3. Oliver Kirkpatrick	160
4. Tyrone D. Emerick	154
5. Ellis Hodgins	138
6. Gordon McSheehan	91
7. Steve Wolf	52

The results of the election for Clearinghouse were obvious from the ballot so votes were not tallied. The third member of Clearinghouse will be elected at the SRRT Business Meeting in Dallas. Volunteers for that position will be expected to make statements at that time.

The above results represent a total of 213 ballots returned (as of May 25, 1971) from a total of 1,113 ballots mailed out to personal SRRT members.

I will make a complete report on this year's election at the SRRT Business Meeting in Dallas, as well as present some suggestions for revisions in the Election Procedures that are new in the By-Laws.

In the event that anyone wishes to challenge the above figures, recount the votes, etc., I will have all of the correspondence related to this year's election with me in Dallas, as well as all the returned ballots (counted & uncounted), volunteer statements, the original procedures, and so forth. These will be available to anyone wishing to verify some question they may have about the election.

Dick Akeroyd
Recording Secretary/Action Council

AMENDMENT TO ORGANIZATION AND ACTION PROPOSED

The following section has been proposed as an addition by amendment to the ORGANIZATION AND ACTION, the rules of the game SRRT plays to effect action for change, and is offered by this notice for consideration and vote by the membership in Dallas.

It is being submitted by the Task Force on Women's Liberation.

- 4 a.9 Action Council and Clearinghouse must include an equal number of men and women, and must include other minorities represented in the membership of SRRT. Election procedures will insure that separate votes by sex of candidates be maintained, so that the balance on Action Council and Clearinghouse is maintained for all vacancies. Responsibility for recruitment of volunteers will be delegated to appropriate Task Forces with program in these areas (for instance, in 1971, the Task Force on Recruitment of Minorities to the Profession, The Task Force on Women's Liberation, the Task Force on Gay Liberation, and the Task Force on American Indians) until such time as the conditions of sexism and racism in our practice make this article unnecessary.

The rules in O&A covering amendment are:

7. This statement of Organization and Action may be amended by a majority vote of the members of the Round Table in attendance and voting at any annual meeting, provided notice of the proposed revision has been sent to members or printed in the ALA Bulletin at least 30 days prior to the meeting. It may also be amended by a majority vote in a mail referendum to personal members provided notice of the proposed revision has been sent to members or printed in the ALA Bulletin at least 30 days prior to the referendum.

AMERICAN INDIAN TASK FORCE

Iola Polocsucut Hayden, Executive Director of Americans for Indian Opportunity, will be the main speaker for the meeting of ALA's American Indian Task Force. The "American Indian Program for Library Service," a plan for action on library service to and about American Indians will be presented at this meeting. It is to be held at 4:30 p.m. on Sunday, June 20, at the Dallas Memorial Auditorium.

Mrs. Hayden, a Comanche, will speak on opportunities for American Indians and how libraries can be used to maximize it. Mrs. Hayden has broad experience with American Indians. Before coming to be Executive Director of Americans for Indian Opportunity, a group begun by Senator and La Donna Harris, she directed Oklahomans for Indian Opportunity, a self-help group. In addition, she has been appointed to an advisory board of the United States Commission on Civil Rights. Mrs. Hayden was also active starting the Oklahoma Indian Education Center and the Community Action Program in Lawton, Oklahoma.

A panel consisting of Virginia Mathews, Deputy Director of the National Book Committee; John Fletcher, Director of Cleveland Public Library's Project American Indian; Mary Miles Williams, Director of the American Indian Center in Dallas; Lotsee Smith, PhD candidate in Education Media at the University of Oklahoma; and Charles Townley, Coordinator of the American Indian Task Force and American Indian Bibliographer at the University of California at Santa Barbara, will discuss the "American Indian Program for Library Service" and how it relates to Indian needs. Dancers from the Dallas American Indian Center will close the meeting. Virginia Mathews, Deputy Director of the National Book Committee developed the program.

The action paper has been developed by a group of Indians and librarians in consultation with American Indian Organizations. It aims for the accomplishment of the following goals through cooperation between libraries, Indian organizations, and the American Library Association within five years:

- 1) quality library service for American Indian people.
- 2) active promotion of American Indian values to the non-Indian majority by providing quality library service to this group about American Indians.
- 3) recruitment of a representative body of American Indian Librarians.

The Task Force will present the program to the American Library Association in Dallas to provide a vehicle for attaining these goals which the American Library Association adopted at its Midwinter Meeting at Los Angeles.



Omitted from the Affiliates Special newsletter, by mistake:

MISSOURI "Missouri Library Association SRRT report:
UP THE MALE ESTABLISHMENT!"—Ann Webb

CALIFORNIA "The members of the statewide Committee on the Social Responsibilities of Libraries endorse the work of the Meiklejohn Civil Liberties Library of Berkeley, California. This library is a unique California resource relating to basic issues in public life in America today. Areas of information collected by the library include but are not limited to civil rights, constitutional law, poverty programs and other social issues. It seeks out many sources for materials related to these subjects not generally available or known to most libraries. Its collection includes legal briefs, petitions, memoirs, reports, and unreported opinions of courts, periodical articles, clippings, pamphlets and transcripts. Much of this material would be of great value to public, school and academic libraries if its existence and means of obtaining it were more widely known.

The Committee feels that the Meiklejohn Civil Liberties Library, its services and programs, should be known to every librarian in this State; that the work of this important institution should be publicized in our library professional periodicals; that libraries should be encouraged to subscribe and make available to their users the various reference resources and bibliographies published and distributed by the Meiklejohn Library; and that vigorous efforts should be made by the library profession, particularly in California, to support this unique Library in any way necessary to insure its continued operation." —

Stefan B. Moses

HELP WANTED!

STANISLAUS COUNTY FREE LIBRARY

The Stanislaus County Free Library is recruiting for a unique position, a community information agent. This person will work with community groups and individuals to meet their information needs. His or her primary responsibility will be to locate data needed by groups and to train community leaders to locate their own data. He or she will work in the field with poor white, black, and Chicano groups. His or her office will be a van which will be equipped with a radio-telephone.

Unfortunately, only one year employment can be guaranteed, since the library has only been guaranteed funding for a single year. The position is available July 1 and is funded through June 30, 1972 only.

Position specifications:

1. Must have a MLS degree from an accredited Library School.
2. Experience in working with community groups.
3. Knowledge of government publications and reference.
4. Able to work in a completely unstructured situation with a highly irregular schedule, as he or she will spend his or her 40 hours in the community. Salary: Up to \$10,000 plus fringe benefits.

If interested please call or write:

MARTIN J. ZONLIGT
HEAD OF PUBLIC SERVICES
STANISLAUS COUNTY FREE LIBRARY
1402 EYE ST.
MODESTO, CAL. 95354.
PHONE: 209-526-6821.

Librarian volunteers for the BLUE BUS needed! Librarians: Tompkins County, New York. Qualifications: interest in, and desire to serve people. Hours: days and evenings. Remuneration: generous personal benefits. Contact: Tom Bonn, SRRT of the Finger Lakes, Box 457, 527 Main Street, Etna, N.Y. 13062

Who would like to become involved in a possible Task Force on Alternative Information Sources? Some people began daydreaming about starting one at the S.R.R.T. Eastern Regional Charette in May. They would like to know if there is other interest in such a task force before plans are discussed further in Dallas.

Persons interested in exchanging information on different aspects of alternative sources — including anything from radical literature collections to alternative media to whatever alternatives you're working with contact: Richard Akroyd, University of Connecticut Library, Storrs, Conn.

Going to Dallas and interested in helping to organize a clearing-house for reference and acquisitions information on minorities? Suggested activities range from preparation of basic lists and indexing, through efforts to influence publishers of reprints and identification of minority publishers, to schemes for helping minority publishers get their books reviewed and into more libraries. Come prepared to help set priorities and get something done. First meeting: Sunday, June 20, at 10:30 p.m. (after the President's Program) in the Civic Room II, Adelphi Hotel. If you can't come but want to be involved, contact Joan Neumann, Brooklyn Public Library, Grand Army Plaza, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11238.

BAD NEWS—The Detroit regional Affiliates meeting was cancelled for lack of sufficient pre-registration.

GOOD NEWS—The ALA Executive Board reversed Clift's decision, and approved the SRRT donation of funds to free Angela Davis.

ALTERNATIVES IN PRINT is selling so well that we will be able to sell it to ALA-SRRT personal (not institutional) members for \$1.00 in Dallas. If you don't have a personal copy yet—wait. If you've paid \$3.50 already, use this opportunity to buy one for a non-ALA SRRT in your group. I don't know about mailing copies after Dallas for \$1.00; the Task Force coordinators probably will work out something on this and put it in the newsletter.



SRRT needs another volunteer for Clearinghouse! If you're interested now, please attend the Clearinghouse meeting. At the meeting Thursday night, the membership can decide who shall serve, with the recommendation of Clearinghouse.

We are coming together in Dallas—not for the sake of the organization ALA, but for the sake of the people who make up ALA. In people lies the real potential for change; we change, organizations do not, will not, dare not. Organizations that no longer meet needs can be discarded. New ways of relating to each other and new institutions can be created. Transformation and turn-around are what it's all about. Life!

Destructive games. The ALA establishment has offered a sop to wranglers at this last round-up. Can you look forward to more endless meetings—hassing—one-upmanship—fighting—parliamentary manipulation—that whole game? Membership wrangling at meetings has had no effect on the ALA establishment; it has only alienated some people from a SRRT alternative, because members see SRRTers involved in the same political game attempting to get establishment power. Many have, understandably, decided to stay with an oppressive power structure they understand rather than opt for one whose methods are the same, but whose goals are not clearly articulated as redistribution of power. We won't play that game! Meetings are for learning, they are seminars, they are sexy—or they aren't creative. So, we are going to have an affair in Dallas.

You and we all know most ALA members won't be in Dallas and the majority in Dallas will not be at any of the "membership" meetings. They're not willing to play "little boys' games." Members have little alternative to ALA meetings—they can wander in the Exhibit Area, being laid on by male salesmen about the latest gadgets—or they will be out touring whatever seems new and different in Dallas.

Dreary prospect? But there's another way to be socially responsible in Dallas—offering real alternatives to the in-fighting of the sexists. We are not interested in modifying ALA as in revolutionizing library service. We are not interested in communication only with the ALA establishment administrators at meetings, but with the librarians in front-line service. Communication, like love, is horizontal to equals, not "up" to administrators—even if all the ALA reformers were "in power." We want a society in which all communication is horizontal. Librarians must develop a sense of power, without the need for directives from an ALA for "standards." Rather, we must respond directly to the local communities instead. This is a long march from where we are now—and for it to happen we must remember that the politics of frustration lead to war and division among people, while the politics of creation lead to love and peace among people.

These activities are alternatives offered—not as a mandate. "You are what you eat" and some SRRTers and other members may want to go to membership meetings to describe some tasty tidbits.

Take the meeting to the members! We have a liberated area in the Exhibits—the SRRT booth! There will be a liberation library, a message central, and a free university. Look critically at exhibitors' wares for children—read one kid lit title this week!

Other liberated zones will be the Gay Lib Suite and the SRRT Suite, both in the Adolphus Hotel. These are the drop-in, drop-out centers for warmth and cool quiet conversation at the convention. There may be enough energy there for a ping-pong tournament.... Come! We love you!

TASK FORCE ON GAY LIBERATION

The Task Force on Gay Liberation is celebrating with pleasure and ecstasy Gay Pride Week during which ALA very thoughtfully scheduled their Annual Conference.

We've had a most fruitful first year and have arranged for a very carefully thought out program of activities in the spirit of revolutionary love, as its climax. Through these programs we hope, among other things, to: 1) familiarize other librarians with the work of the Task Force, including information on its bibliographic project, 2) get to know each other better, forming a more cohesive group and involving more people with each other, and 3) plan and implement meaningful activities in the future.

All Task Force on Gay Liberation meetings will take place in their suite at the Adolphus Hotel, unless otherwise noted.

Saturday—9:00-11:00 pm—Strategic Session open to all who wish to play an active part in the week's activities of the Task Force on Gay Liberation. As with all other meetings, one's particular sexual orientation is no hindrance in participating in any of the week's activities.

Sunday—2:00-5:00 pm -- Open House—an opportunity to get to know each other in a relaxed, informal atmosphere.
Ruth Shivers, speaker.
A very exciting and relevant program which will be of interest to all (place to be announced).

5:00-6:00—
6:30-8:30 pm--

Tuesday-- 2:00-4:00 pm—Free kisses at the JMRT Booth.
8:30-10:00 pm—Intellectual Freedom—Ordeal at the University of Minnesota.
J. Michael McConnell.
10:00-12:00 pm—Informal rap.

Wednesday—2:00-4:00 pm—Business Meeting (see your official program for meeting place).

In addition to a review of the year's activities, plans for "new directions," and election of a new coordinator, there will take place the First Annual Gay Book Award for the best book published in 1970 or 1971 that most furthers a positive view of the gay experience and life style.

8:00-10:00 pm—Sex and the Single Cataloger—New Thoughts on some Unthinkable Subjects.
1. Classification—Steve Wolf.
2. Subject Headings—Joan K. Marshall.
Informal rap.

Thursday—11:00 pm—? A very gay dance—open to all free spirits (place to be announced)
Friday—9:00-11:00 pm—Post mortem.

The Task Force will also be participating actively in the Free University, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9:00-12:00 am, as well as having rapping tables at the SRRT spectacular program and business meeting on Thursday evening, as well as being present at the SRRT Booth at various times.

If you have a particular program you want to carry through in Dallas, to further gay liberation, please contact the Coordinator, Israel Fishman, Upsala College Library, East Orange, N.J. 07019.
Be happy, be proud, be gay!

Many members of the New University Conference Caucus of ALA feel comradesly toward the SRRT Task Force on an Affair in Dallas, viewing it as a beginning of struggle toward a responsible alternative to offer people suffering unresponsive, hyper-reactive, capitalist-serving professionalism. Our activities will include cooperation with the library school students in exploring the perspective of OUTS (Open Up The Schools) and sponsoring the reading of a translation of the play "Der Weg nach San Rafael fur Angela Davis" by Maximilian Scheer, a popular radio play from the German Democratic Republic. In addition, to show the serious contradictions in an association that condemns destruction of libraries but not the destruction of the people of Indochina, actions of support and implementation of the People's Peace Treaty will be introduced. The caucus will meet to plan counter-conference activities. If you are interested in exploring the questions of socialist perspective in information communication contact Jackie Kubanks, Brooklyn College Library, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11210, or meet at the NUC annual convention.

Sunday—Strategy meeting for NUC Caucus.
Sunday evening—8:00pm—Outside the "President's Program" reading of "Der Weg nach San Rafael fur Angela Davis."

Monday-Friday—Participation in counter-conference activities, as necessary.

66... AND THAT WAS THE BIRTH OF THE LAND OF THE FREE... ANY QUESTIONS CLASS? 99



ACTIVITIES OF THE TASK FORCE ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN IN LIBRARIANSHIP

READ A BOOK IN DALLAS!

Sunday 2:00-4:00pm—SRRT Suite— Meeting of all women interested in reviewing children's books during the conference.

Read a book! Come to the SRRT Program: Our Ultimate Affair on Thursday, 8:00-10:00pm. Discuss your book with others, hear about the books other people read. Let's turn it around!

Monday—7:00-10:00pm— An alternate Newberry-Caldecott dinner. Meet outside of entrance to the "establishment" dinner. Black tie (and tee shirt). Carry a pink balloon or wear a plastic daisy. After dinner: First Annual Sexism Awards!!

Tuesday—2:00-4:00pm— Scheduled Task Force meeting. Slide show presented by Feminists on Children's Media (a collective formed last summer by women concerned about the stereotyped female image presented by children's books).

Wednesday—10:00-12:00 noon SRRT suite—another chance to see the slide show and rap.

Thursday—8:00-10:00am—SRRT suite—Women's Caucus on Salaries and Promotional Opportunities.
8:30-10:30pm—Women's Liberation Task Force meeting at the SRRT Program: Our Ultimate Affair.

TASK FORCE ON LIBRARY SCHOOL STUDENT AFFILIATES.

In an effort to provide Library School students with alternatives in library education, and a proper orientation within the library world, as well as to infuse new ideas of social concern into library education, the Task Force on Library School Student Affiliates has been actively promoting the greater involvement of students in SRRT activities. As a continuation of this, in conjunction with the NUC Caucus, we will be coordinating and conducting a series of free university sessions throughout the Conference week. These sessions will be primarily aimed at raising and confronting questions concerned with what our responsibilities are, *vis-a-vis* the fantastic information resources we have, in getting these resources to the people, and bringing them to bear on social issues and change.

The free university format is offered as a loving alternative to the way courses are usually conducted, to the breakdown of the master-slave relationship existing in most classrooms and to force students and teachers to face, ask, and seek answers to this question of responsibility.

The sessions will be on Tuesday through Friday mornings at the SRRT booth in the exhibit area. A mixed media environment created by Dick Akeroyd to question the relationship of libraries to today's issues of human and social concern will be presented at our meeting on Monday as a means of creating the atmosphere within which we hope these questions will be explored throughout the sessions.

For more information, to volunteer, etc., contact Nancy Hansen, Pratt Institute Library, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11205; Dick Akeroyd, University of Connecticut Library, Storrs, Conn. 06268.

LIBRARIANS' TRIBE

You are invited to join a Librarians' Tribe, a communications network, an underground railroad of information. All of us hear about women's liberation, ecology, the peace movement, abortion reform, gay liberation, the third world and the alternate culture, but it is hard to find information about these heavy topics. It is equally hard to get local news on these same subjects out of the local area. This extended family of Library People is going to attack this problem by circulating information among ourselves and then out into the world. The Social Responsibilities Round Table realizes that a librarian cannot be socially responsible if he doesn't know what he is talking about. This tribal system is to help us get connected with what is going on around us. You will be the contact point for your area. You will receive information to pass on to other librarians in your area, and you will send to the Librarian's Tribe information about what is going on in your area. Each of us in the network will be an active, participating member. There will be no leader and no followers. We will be in this thing together. Let's get into the know and let it all hang out! We need each other. Do It! Join the Librarians' Tribe!

Joan Goddard
1171 West Latimer
Campbell
California 95008

WORKSHOP ON INDEXING THE UNDERGROUND PRESS

The Task Force to Index the Underground Press Microfilm Collection needs indexers. Alternative Press Indexes needs indexers. Alternatives in Print needs indexers; we're librarians, we're indexers. We're needed! Perhaps, we are not as necessary to the people as garbage men, but perhaps, we can at least make ourselves useful! Hooray!!

We need people to index; we need people who have ideas on subject headings, we need people who have ideas on creating access to subject headings; we need people who have ideas about, knowledge of, computers. We need to talk to API and AIP indexers to find out about their problems. We need—in brief—people interested in providing access to alternative materials.

Bell & Howell has promised us space in the exhibit area, microfilm readers, and a set of their microfilm collection to use as a data base. Meet at their booth during the week. Sunday—10:00am-10:00 noon—1st meeting—get to know one another, plan strategy for week, generally get our heads together, define and discuss problems of alternative press indexing, set goals for week and following months. Tuesday-Thursday 9:00am-12:00noon—work at indexing, iron out our problems, and, by so doing, demonstrate "responsible" association and convention activities. Robert's Rules of Order will not be in order at any of our meetings.

If you can't come Sunday, come Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday (or, if you can't make any of those times—or can't come to Dallas—contact Joan Marshall at the SRRT suite in Dallas or at Brooklyn College Library, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11210).

ALTERNATIVES IN PRINT TASK FORCE

The Task Force on Alternative Books in Print appreciates the opportunity to share the SRRT Booth in order to sell AIP. We will be there to talk about creating reference books for use and not for profit—about libraries publishing reference books—about the problems and successes of working together—about your favorite project that could be of use to other librarians—about libraries, librarians, and publishing industry.

The SRRT Booth is the center of our activities during the week— we will be selling our lovingly produced API to librarians, trustees, and to interested salesmen for other publications. Also—Hooray— we will disrupt our selling and rapping by our first meeting—not a necessity, we found, but a convenience for us this year to determine if we want another edition and to welcome more help.

Sunday—9:00am—SRRT Booth
Monday—8:00-9:30am—"Meeting"—consult official program
Tuesday—10:00am—SRRT Booth
Wednesday—10:00am—SRRT Booth
Thursday—10:00am—SRRT Booth
Friday—10:00am-12:00noon—SRRT Booth



AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

REPORT TO THE SRRT MEMBERSHIP AND THE COMMITTEE ON ORGANIZATION

This report is being submitted as a progress report and an evaluation of SRRT structure and activities in relation to its statement of purpose.

Since SRRT is not structured like other ALA units (top-down) but rather on principles of participatory democracy (bottom-up), this report is an interpretation and analysis by this Action Council, being submitted to the membership of SRRT for discussion as well as to the ALA Committee on Organization, which requested it of SRRT.

In addition, since SRRT is structured differently, Action Council thinks that the clearest exposition of the actions of SRRT can be accomplished by the discussion of the actions of all SRRT membership activities in relation to the goals in the statement of responsibility. We will attempt to include the material asked for in the suggested procedure sent by COO, and will make recommendations related to the COO questions about continuation of the unit and its parts.

The material available to COO from ALA Headquarters as background for this analysis includes:

- 1) Organization and Action statement of SRRT (O&A)
- 2) Set of newsletters of SRRT.
- 3) Minutes of Action Council of SRRT.
- 4) Appended to this report are: list of Task Forces of SRRT with start and end dates.
- 5) List of Affiliate Group contacts and organizers, November, 1970. Newsletters and Action Council minutes include the statements of function of the various Task Forces, together with their actions and the actions of general SRRT membership, Affiliate Group members, and Action Council and Clearinghouse.

It will be noted that SRRT sub-units are all related to program. The only "operative" as opposed to program committees or units are the coordinating Action Council and Clearinghouse and a volunteer committee for O&A revision consisting of two members. SRRT operates on dues paid by its members, with staff liaison but no staff full-time in ALA. Therefore, it should be regarded as largely self-sustaining, and any question of cost-effectiveness should be a proper consideration only of its own membership. SRRT does not use all general services of ALA headquarters. SRRT prepares its own election materials and publications. SRRT makes use of ALA staff to help plan conference arrangements. Until 1970, when SRRT had its first official ALA check-off for membership, SRRT Action Council operated on donations, about \$400 per year. This is the first year that SRRT has been managing on \$5 from each member, and money has been spent primarily for publication of the newsletter and task force projects. In other words, the SRRT budget is allocated principally to program and communications.

For its own financial program purposes, the SRRT structure operates as follows: assignments of functions are not permitted by the O&A to task forces; rather, they rise from membership concern; functions and tasks chosen by task forces must be judged appropriate and realistic to receive funds in excess of \$50.00, by vote of Action Council.

ANALYSIS OF ACTION IN TERMS OF PURPOSE

The ORGANIZATION AND ACTION STATEMENT contains in section 2 the purposes of SRRT. We will follow the purposes outlined in analyzing SRRT action.

A.

In providing a forum for the discussion of responsibilities of libraries in relation to important problems of social change, SRRT members have planned and/or completed the following actions:

1. At large: Program meetings on the responsibilities of libraries in relation to important problems of social change have been sponsored by the SRRT unit at large. Among these programs have been: a) 1969 annual meeting; Speakers on college, public, school library service and on library education related to problems of social change, presented in multi-media format; b) 1970 annual meeting; Speakers on radical change movement in other professions in a multi-media setting; c) Speakers on "ALA as a professional association: Yes or No?"; with an ex-chairman of COO and the President of ALTA among the speakers.

2. Task forces. Program meetings and work meetings of task forces on the responsibilities of libraries in relation to important problems of social change have been set up at the will of the membership, following the SRRT O&A. In the past three years, nineteen (19) Task Forces have been established, only 11 of which are still in existence, and only two of which have existed for the entire time. At program and business meetings these task forces have initiated discussion as well as action on the problems. Among these actions have been the investigation of out-

reach programs in libraries (1969-70), the creation of Alternatives in Print (1970-71), co-sponsorship and planning of a preconference on minorities in the profession (1968-71), sponsorship and planning of a preconference "In Search of Soul" (1969-70), and co-sponsoring a program on intellectual freedom with the Intellectual Freedom Committee (1969-70). A list of the task forces is appended.

3. Affiliate Groups. Program meetings and work meetings of Affiliate Groups on the responsibilities of libraries in relation to important problems of social change. Among those: a) the organizing of local affiliate action groups which meet regularly and work on local library problems. b) regional affiliate meetings held in 1969, 1970 and 1971. c) meetings at annual and midwinter conferences to share experiences of local action and organizing.

4. Clearinghouse. SRRT has created a Clearinghouse charged with maintaining communications among the various groups noted above. The Clearinghouse publishes a newsletter (too infrequently because of lack of money, according to Clearinghouse members) and lists in it the items available from units for further dissemination (this year's Clearinghouse has initiated this service to members, and has further provided lists of names by region or interest area to people looking for workers on socially responsible projects). The newsletter comes out four or five times during the year (in Detroit, daily issues were added). Ideally, the newsletter would be issued weekly, and this is our hope when the initial organizing efforts of Affiliates and Task Forces are routinized enough to provide regular fast feedback. Presently, Affiliate Group members usually issue their own newsletters and Task Forces cooperate through mailings and telephone. Also, many SRRT groups use the national library press for issuing progress statements on their group action.

5. SRRT Membership resolutions. By means of general SRRT membership resolutions, SRRT has introduced to the general membership of ALA matters of vital professional and social concern to libraries, most particularly the resolution to end the war in Southeast Asia (1969). Beginning in Atlantic City with resolutions from the Congress for Change, SRRT has continued to bring to the ALA membership in their forum and ours discussion on the social problems that are affecting library service. SRRT resolutions have contributed to such ALA developments as The Freedom To Read Foundation (and in particular, the Le Roy Merritt Fund), the IFC program of action, and ACONDA, to which SRRT sent three representatives.

B.

In providing for exchange of information among all ALA units with the goal of increasing understanding of current social problems, SRRT members have planned or completed the following actions:

1. The most important way in which this exchange has been provided for is in the structure of task forces open to include all members of all units (both service and type of library) and in the development of Affiliate Group members. Affiliate Groups include, at the local, most communicative base, members, or potential members of all the myriad ALA units. Direct communication is provided.

2. Most task forces have also contributed to the work of established committees in ALA, when they exist, and then have dissolved themselves. The Task Force on Reprinting of Negro Literature operated in this way, for example. Upon contact with the newly formed ALA committee on the subject, those members who knew of the SRRT Task Force and worked on it were encouraged to put their efforts into pressure on the ALA committee and the Task Force went out of existence. This kind of action with the IF Committee, LFD, etc., is a continuing task force communication function.

C.

In acting as a stimulus to ALA and all its units in making libraries responsive to the important problems of social change, SRRT members have been active in the following ways:

1. By providing alternatives to involve membership, which is largely excluded from association action through ALA's cumbersome and parochial type-of-library or type-of-service exclusive divisions, SRRT has set an example of how issue-oriented association action should be accomplished on issues of social concern. For example, the members working on the project Alternatives in Print included technical service people, reference service people, public, college, and special library people—and a person not even yet enrolled in library school—an undergraduate interested in the project. Members of SRRT Task Forces operate as volunteers on the basis of their commitment, instead of as appointees on the basis of their organizational or personal ties, or

past actions. In connection with the AIP project, some members of it have been active also in trying to produce a turn-around in the attitude of the ALA Publishing Board and ALA Editorial Committee, by example. Most task forces operate in this combination of exemplary action and pressure on ALA.

2. SRRT Action Council this year passed a resolution on the growing crisis of political repression existing at this time in the U.S., as a matter of concern of intellectual freedom, and therefore of ALA. In order to make clear its commitment to this, Action Council selected the case of Angela Davis as an illustration, and money was donated to her defense as an example of educational support for intellectual freedom in the U.S. This action, combined with the resolution, is a direct stimulus to the ALA to consider it more seriously than as a petition of membership. In the past, petitions have been ignored or overturned by an unresponsive Council and Executive Board. Direct action seems to be an alternative to be explored.

3. In Detroit, it was last year's Action Council which brought home to the Budget Assembly the fact that ACONDA funds had been allocated to maintain existing programs instead of initiating new programs. This was "rethought" by Copes and was not perpetrated.

4. In Detroit also, a member of SRRT who had researched the matter, raised the consciousness of SRRT members and used the facility of the daily SRRT newsletter to inform Council and ALA membership of the undemocratic nature of the "5%" amendment proposed by the ALA Constitution and By-Laws Committee. After disclosure, this action was withdrawn by the Executive Board.

5. Initiation of new projects in SRRT or with SRRT support and/or publicity: the National Freedom Fund for Librarians was a direct stimulus to the formation of the FTRF and more importantly to the Merritt Fund; 321.8 worked with loan money from SRRT to develop an alternative slate to ALA Council nominations, and on other reform projects; SRRT assisted other groups such as Librarians for Peace, the Congress for Change, and the National Call for Library Reform. From direct service, such as publication of the ALTERNATIVES IN PRINT, to indirect service, such as its intellectual freedom efforts, SRRT has acted as a stimulus to libraries and the librarians who work in them to make their service responsive to the realities and problems of social change.

D.

In presenting programs, arranging exhibits, and other activities in relation to important problems of social change, SRRT membership has planned and/or completed the following actions:

1. Programs have been presented as described above under section A. In addition, speakers from SRRT membership have also spoken at many non-SRRT sponsored functions, including regional, state and local meetings of the profession, as well as to community groups and library school forums.

2. With the donation of space to SRRT this year in the Exhibit Area of the Dallas Conference, many activities have been planned for the area. In addition, the SRRT Suite initiated an activity that is being copied by several ALA groups; the Suite, which has served as exhibit area and meeting space, will continue. Several Task Forces of SRRT also plan to have suites for exhibit and discussion in Dallas. The suites, away from the profit-oriented exhibit area, provided a more human, intimate way of exhibiting accomplishments and ideas about change. In L.A., for example, the SRRT Suite included a small model "Liberation Library."

3. The "and other activities" right now in SRRT includes publishing the AIP being the first completed project. An index to the UPS microfilm collection of underground press publications will be published late this year. In the publishing effort, SRRT is encouraging the efforts of a library Publications Committee issuing reference works for the profession, not just simple guides to their own library collection: publications by librarians for librarians, not by "experts" for profit.

4. The "and other activities" right now in SRRT also includes direct service to groups outside of ALA who need help that socially responsible librarians can provide—for example, a task force is monitoring reports in the press and other mass media on the charges against the Washington's Birthday "conspiracy" group. Right now, over 20 librarians are clipping and xeroxing, and excerpting items that may be of use to the defense in this trial involving political repression.

The illustrations provided above for each of the stated purposes of SRRT are meant to be representative of the actions of all of the groups working in SRRT, and were chosen for the clarity of the example, not for their political import. Certainly the work of the Gay Liberation Task Force and the Women's Liberation Task Force would be included

in all of the sections noted above, but there are no comparable types of activity within ALA. This is a measure of their originality and responsiveness to social problems brought to the consciousness of librarians purporting to serve the public. This is true of many of the activities of Task Forces, responding in spite of the cumbersome, slow (some say impossible) initiation of change into ALA.

CONCLUSION

In its first year of official existence SRRT became the largest round-table in the Association, and has undertaken a wide variety of activities. The direction of the issues and actions it deals with are mainly the decision of the membership, with volunteerism as the key, both in formation of task forces and affiliate groups and in elections to Action Council and Clearinghouse. SRRT has attempted to provide an opportunity and a vehicle for its members to act. Admittedly, librarians are not used to participatory democracy, either in ALA or in their libraries, and action has not always been easy to come by. However, much has been accomplished in the short time of SRRT's existence, and we are steadily involving more and more librarians in the process. Though it has sometimes been difficult to keep our forum open without dependency upon leaders, we have, at the very least, provided the arena, the moral and financial aid, and the structure for discussion and change in the profession. As librarians begin to see that they can work—and that their ideas are important—and can be heard and implemented—and that there are others to aid in the process—without the necessity of an "established" reputation and/or position in the field, SRRT will succeed in becoming an entirely action-oriented, membership-directed round table, and its structure will be a model for the Association.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jackie Eubanks

Pat Schuman

David Weil

Members of Action Council, 1970-71

TASK FORCES OF SRRT

NAME	DATES	IMPORTANT SRRT PURPOSE A TO D IN ORDER
ALA Reorganization	7/69-7/70	a,c
Chicago meeting (Alternative hotel)	7/69-1/70	c,a,d
Outreach programs	7/69-7/70	b,c,a
Reprint of Negro Literature	7/69-7/70	b,a
Minorities in the profession	7/69-7/71	d,a,b,c
Intellectual freedom	7/69-	c,a,b,d
Women's liberation	1/70-	a,c,d
In Search of Soul	1/70-7/70	d,a,b,c
Peace bibliography	7/70 (died)	
Cataloging in Source	7/70-	b,a,c
Alternative Books in Print	7/70-	d,a,c,b
Gay Liberation	7/70-	a,c,d
Library School Student organizing	7/70-	b,c,d
Angela Davis mailing project	1/71-7/71	c,a,d,b
American Indian	1/71-	d,a,c,b
Migrant workers	1/71-	a,c
Index to UPS microfilm	1/71-	d,a,c
Washington's Birthday group support	1/71-	d,c
Service to political prisoners	1/71- (in process of formation)	

Minutes of the plenary session at the Stafford Hotel, Baltimore, May 9, 1971, 11:00 a.m.

Carla Alexander handed out "Parliamentary Law Charts" and pamphlets entitled Simplified Parliamentary Procedure that had been provided by Anne Sweat for those needing such tools in Dallas.

The meeting was chaired by Mary Dzurinco who opened the session with reports from the various groups that had met on Saturday. The six groups' reports were presented in this order: NWRO (Nat'l Welfare Rights Organization), Sexuality, Alternative Information Sources, Prisons, Other Professions, and OE (Office of Education).

Jean Anne South reported that in the NWRO group, SRRT people agreed to support and join with NWRO representatives to draft a proposal to ALA asking that ALA provide funding for NWRO to work with librarians to meet the needs of welfare people. The request would state that the project would work on a housing, regional basis to educate welfare people on their needs and on libraries, and to evaluate programs for welfare recipients.

The SRRT people in this group plan to contact Jerry Shields of American Libraries to inform him of this proposal. They want to get the proposal on the agenda for both Council and Membership Meetings in Dallas and plan to have a copy of the proposal in the Conference packet.

SRRT Action Council will be asked to provide money to send a NWRO representative to Dallas. This person, along with local NWRO people will be invited to meet with Council members at the SRRT suite during the conference. By the time of Dallas, Council members will have received the SRRT-NWRO proposal along with background information in the mail.

Also this SRRT-NWRO group plans to have stickers printed for pasting on the membership badges in Dallas. They will encourage participation in Nat'l Welfare Week and will contact the Nat'l Book Committee about publicizing it. They are asking individuals to check their local libraries for NWRO publications and to push for acquisition of them in cases where they have not been purchased by the library. NWRO invoices are a problem, but libraries are asked to buy the publications despite them. NWRO will have buttons to sell in the SRRT booth at Dallas. It was suggested that libraries contact their local NWRO groups and offer library services, materials, and meeting space. This SRRT group in Baltimore declared themselves a Nat'l SRRT Task Force (for at least 2 months) so that money can be obtained from Action Council.

Israel Fishman presented the report of the group on Sexuality. They will send a press release to the gay press regarding the conference in Dallas, which incidentally coincides with Gay Pride Week. The program planned by the SRRT Task Force on Gay Liberation was read and A. LaRose moved that those present support (not necessarily by motion) the activities of the gay lib in Dallas. The motion was seconded and agreed upon unanimously.

The following resolution was then moved by Jean Anne South, seconded, and passed unanimously.

Resolution in Support of J. Michael McConnell.

WHEREAS the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota has refused to approve the appointment of J. Michael McConnell to the position of Head of Cataloging Division, St. Paul Campus library as recommended by the University Librarian after Mr. McConnell applied for a license to marry his male lover thereby declaring himself publicly to be a homosexual; thereby manifesting his intellectual honesty as a free and proud human being despite prevailing social oppression, and

WHEREAS the actions of the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota show clearly that they consider Gay people ineligible for jobs at the University of Minnesota, a situation typical of discrimination against homosexuals, and

WHEREAS the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota in refusing Mr. McConnell's appointment has shown contempt for the concept of Intellectual Freedom, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED: That the Social Responsibilities Round Table of ALA Affiliate Groups, meeting in Baltimore on May 9, 1971, demands that the American Library Association censure the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for its refusal to approve the appointment of J. Michael McConnell and for its policy of discrimination on the basis of one's sexual preferences, and that he be reinstated in the position for which he was hired.

As a point of information, one librarian present then mentioned why it was moving to anger and indignation in this Homosexuality Conference. She reported the repression of sexual freedom in some of the northeast library schools, as students are checked for limp wrists upon application - interviews, and it is noted when a student visits a

gay bar. The sexuality group did not cover women's lib as there was no representative of the latter present.

Lynne Bradley and Dick Ackleroy reported on Alternative Information Sources. Anyone interested in forming a SRRT Task Force on this topic should send his name and address to Lynne or Dick. Some possibilities for such a task force would be to get video-oriented people to exchange cartridges, tapes, etc.; and to get feedback from libraries using alternative indexes. Dick announced that national library literature is asking libraries to feed back information regarding their radical literature for the liberation news services which would act as a clearinghouse. The question was raised as to whether the group is duplicating the University of Michigan. Also someone asked if the group was simply consciousness raising or acting as a work group.

Bill Hinchliff reported on Prisons. In his group he had distributed numerous articles with writings by inmates and some xeroxed material on prisons. His group emphasized the withholding of information from prisoners and saw this as a major problem. It was announced that the University of Pittsburgh library school student newsletter will publicize writings of prisoners in Western Pennsylvania. Bill pointed out the need for us to visit prisons to see the conditions or to view video-tapes of correctional institutions (Bill can provide addresses for obtaining the tapes). It was reported that prisons have relatively large budgets, but little or no money is available for books. Usually a prison will end up with old books donated by individuals or with a few new books given by publishing houses. Some publishers known to send good books are Beacon, Grove, and Little-Brown. College students are encouraged to give their text books directly to students in prisons instead of to prison libraries. We should encourage prisoners to write letters demanding a change in conditions. It was mentioned that the Fed State, 192 recommended actions regarding Books for Prisons, is working to get foundation money for books for Rikers Island and The Tombs.

Bill noted that prisoners can sue if they are abused, and said that publicity is necessary for effective reform. He recommended that an office of ombudsman (spokesman with legal background, leadership qualities, persuasive powers, etc.) be set up in prisons. He also mentioned inspired writers in prisons need publishing outlets.

Bill then entertained a motion that 29 recommended actions regarding prisons be published for the entire SRRT mailing list, and Jackie Eubanks added the amendment that the 29 actions be first sent to the SRRT Nat'l Task Force on Prisons. The amended motion passed unanimously. Number 29 of the recommended actions was emphasized by one person present who made a plea for technical processing that knowledge that will be shared with some ex-cons in Baltimore who are starting a book-binding business. Also libraries are urged to give some binding business to this firm and to pay the bills promptly. The person to contact with this firm is Mr. Jack McNulty, 3913 Canterbury Road, Baltimore, Maryland, phone 467-4139.

It was announced that the first organization meeting of the Nat'l Task Force on Prisons will be held in Dallas. A Philadelphia group also has a prison task force which is working toward getting recordings into prisons. It was noted that there are about 1,000 prisons and only a little over 2,000 colleges and universities in the U.S.A. Also announced was that Ed Koren, 18 Shirley, New York, N. Y., obtained grants from Playboy and the Ford Foundation for a newsletter to inmates.

Barbara Gloriod reported on the group which discussed Other Professions. That group suggested that lists of doctors be compiled, on the local level, on the charges, fees, prices and those who over-charge. The NWRO could help get this information distributed. Barbara's group also recommended publicizing a list of teachers' names and schools who give mass assignments regularly that cannot be handled by the library. There was a lot of reaction to this topic from the floor. One person said it would be better to discuss the problem with the appropriate teachers privately. Another felt the list would be good for college students to look over at registration time before choosing classes. One suggestion was to go through PTA groups to correct the teachers, and another said any publicity should be "general" and "positive." Barbara reported also that her group thought information on legal aid should be published, and that sympathetic lawyers should be found.

Jean Anne South reported on OE or Office of Education. Frank Stevens, who is the OE Chief of Training and Resources Branch, and who acted as the OE resource person made three proposals:

(1.) That special attention be given to the gay minority in the OE proposal to develop a special collection which shows the treatment of minorities in literature; (2.) That grants be provided to recruit former inmates to become librarians for prisons; and (3.) That funding be made available for a 1972 preconference on social issues of welfare, gay liberation, and institution and prison libraries.

Carla Alexander ended the meeting by writing down personal commitments to service of those present. Israel Fishman recommended that future SRRT regional meetings be video-taped.

ALA-SRRT OFFICIAL CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

The SRRT program at Dallas will be a carnival, featuring the task forces and affiliates of SRRT as the carnival booths! The purpose is missionary in nature, to inform, rap, and recruit members to social action projects that are being carried out by us, and could be carried out better by more of us. This program is an integral part of the alternatives offered in Dallas, since it is an official part of the conference program, it calls for our support to make it successful and exciting. It will be fun!

Each work group in SRRT will man actual ROUND TABLES with resource people at all the tables. This format is similar to the annual JMRT Orientation meeting. HOWEVER, the differences are: (1) we will be telling people what WE DO, not what ALA is; (2) the carnival theme will be carried out through the whole program, from decorating the tables and room to "barking" for the various groups and announcing at 20 minute intervals that people should truck on down to other booths if they wish.

Also, take note, this meeting is announced in the Official Conference Program as a "program" meeting, as opposed to ALA's other designations "business" and "membership". THIS MEETING IS SRRT'S BUSINESS AND MEMBERSHIP MEETING—OUR PROGRAM IS "BUSINESS" AND MEMBERSHIP! Items of deliberation, like changing our bylaws, and items of information, like important announcements from work groups to membership, will also be included.

Thursday—June 17 Minority Recruitment Preconference:
Sheraton Dallas Hotel

Friday—June 18 Minority Recruitment Preconference:
Sheraton Dallas Hotel

Saturday—June 19 Minority Recruitment Preconference:
Sheraton Dallas Hotel

SRRT CLEARINGHOUSE
George Hathaway, Secretary
Brooklyn College Library
Brooklyn, New York 11210

WILLIAM BREEDLOVE
246 W UPSAL ST E-201
PHILADELPHIA PA 19119

SUNDAY

10-12 Cataloging in Source: Hilton Parlor 406
4:30-6 American Indian Task Force: Aud. room 205
(Memorial Aud.)

MONDAY

8-9:30 Alternatives in Print: Adolphus Parlor 717
10-12 Minority Recruitment: Memorial Aud. room 200
2-4 Action Council/Clearinghouse: Adolphus French Room
4:30-6 Library School Students: Adolphus French Room
8:30-10:30 Documentation of Washington's Birthday Case:
Adolphus Florentine Room

TUESDAY

2-4 Clearinghouse: Adolphus Venetian Room
Women's Rights: Adolphus Renaissance Room
4:30-6 Affiliate Groups: Adolphus Director's Room

WEDNESDAY

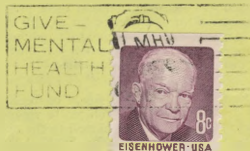
2-4 Intellectual Freedom: Adolphus Civic Room III
Gay Liberation: Adolphus Windsor Room
4:30-6 Action Council: Adolphus Civic Room III

THURSDAY

2-4 Migrant Workers: Adolphus Florentine Room
Prison Libraries: Adolphus Civic Room II
Microfilm
Underground Press: Statler Hilton Gold Room
8:30-10:30 SRRT Program: Adolphus Grand Ballroom
10:30—Black Caucus in cooperation with SRRT will show
a film on Angela Davis in the Adolphus Grand Ball room.

FRIDAY

2-4 Action Council: Adolphus Director's Room
Media Centers in Free Schools: Adolphus Venetian Room



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