News Release: American Library Association

Public Information Office American Library Association 50 East Huron Street Chicago, Illinois 60611 312 944-6780

From:

Peggy Barber, Director

Public Information Office

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10TH ANNIVERSARY OF LIBRARY REVOLUTION INSPIRES SPECIAL REPORT

In 1969, a few dozen activists met in a dreary Washington hotel to hold what they called a "Congress for Change." They developed a program of action for radical reform in the library profession and they took it to 10,000 librarians meeting the following week at the American Library Conference in Atlantic City.

The profession has never been the same.

Several forces for reform came together that year, and during the next 10 years vast social changes in libraries coincided with spectacular advancements in library technology. Moreover, these areas, together with changes in the national economy, combined to transform the profession so completely that the decade cannot be fully comprehended without a look at "CHANGE, 1969-1979," the special June 1979 preconference issue of American Libraries.

American Libraries Editor Art Plotnik promises a radical departure from traditional preconference journalism, just as the Congress for Change

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differed from library events of its day.

"With every editorial resource available, <u>American Libraries</u> will explore the decade of change, focusing on topics such as technology, women, access, reference, young people's media, the ALA, and librarians," explained Plotnik.

"In addition, we will profile some of those who attended the Congress for Change, showing them as they were in 1969 and where they are today."

This comprehensive and important issue of <u>American Libraries</u> is sure to be the talk of the 1979 ALA Conference in Dallas. Don't leave home without it!