

MIDWINTER MEETING

The OLSD Subcommittee on Minority Concerns held two meetings during the ALA Washington, D.C. Midwinter Meeting. The first Subcommittee meeting was held on Tuesday, January 9, 1979 at 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. in the Washington Hilton Hotel, Military Room. The second meeting was held on Wednesday, January 10, 1979 at 4:30-5:30 p.m. in the Sheraton-Park Hotel, Assembly Room South.

ATTENDANCE

C. Michael Diodati, Chairperson, David Cohen, Jean E. Coleman, Lois Ann Gregory, Monteria Hightower, Ernestine Washington, Elizabeth Kline, Margaret J. Collins, Dorietha R. Madden, Judith Smolin.

The Chair explained the function of the Subcommittee.

Subcommittee decided to have a Mini-White House Preconference on Ethnic Concerns in Dallas, Texas, June 24, 2:00-5:00 p.m. Meeting will be divided into two parts: (1) discussion on positions papers presented from each of the minority caucuses. From those discussions resolutions will be drawn up which will be given to a members of NCLIS (who will be invited to this meeting. (2) The second part of the meeting will be a discussion of the resolution brought by David Cohen (Chair, SRRT Ethnic Materials Information Exchange Task Force) to formulate an Ethnicity Round Table. This resolution, which was presented at the Annual Conference, was denied by both COO and the ALA Council. However, David Cohen will resubmit the petition again.

It was agreed at the first meeting of the Subcommittee to prepare a summary sheet of the individual caucus meetings, bulletins, etc., which would keep everyone informed on caucus activities. It was also agreed to send to the representative of the White House Conference the individual positions papers addressing the needs of the individual ethnic groups. The only group that has sent this information is REFORMA.

A project based on a value study of ethnic literature is in early stages. Dr. Larry Sherill who instituted this project will do a breakdown of funding needs. It is hoped that at the end of the national survey he will be able to come out with some type of objective test by which people will be able to say this book or non-book material does or does not represent the ethnic group's values. To date he has not found any objective standards to determine what is representative of an ethnic group.

Mr. Diodati stated that there were two projects now underway which are sponsored by the Italian Americans Caucus. The first will be reproducing materials that view Italian Americans in a positive light throughout history. The second project is an exchange of librarianship between Italy and the U.S. Mr. Diodati gave background information on this project.

Meeting adjourned on schedule.