

March 18, 1971

Another fruitful meeting of the SRRT Task Force on Gay Liberation was held in New York City on Saturday, March 6, 1971. The general part of the meeting, at which the two chief topics were McConnell and Dallas, lasted from 1 PM to 6 PM. After a brief break for dinner several members returned for another creative six hour session working on the bibliography. Plans now call for rough drafts of the bibliography to be sent to interested members of the Task Force to correlate and comment upon and to have subject specialists work in areas for which they are qualified.

The Intellectual Freedom Committee has refused to consider Michael McConnell's case as not being within its jurisdiction. The Task Force has sent letters of protest to David Berninghausen, Chairman of IFC; Judith Krug, Director, Office of Intellectual Freedom; and Lillian Bradshaw, President of ALA. We would like to see letters going to these individuals from each of you. This is the time to help one of your brothers who needs your support. Come on out, it's just beautiful.

As for Dallas, it now appears that most of the Conference will be concerned with the ACONDA report. Each organization will be scheduled to have one two hour business meeting with program meetings being discouraged this year. The primary item of business at our meeting will be the future of the Task Force: should we continue, election of a coordinator, where, if anywhere, do we go from here.

In addition to the business meeting TFGL will have two hours each at the JMRT and SRRT booths in the exhibit area to distribute information, meet the public and gather new members.

On a non-official level, Israel and two other members of the Task Force are arranging for a gay hospitality suite in one of the Dallas hotels to be used as a welcoming center for our sisters and brothers, to distribute information, to hold discussions, and in general to provide a relaxed, informal atmosphere to get to know each other. Another hundred dollars is needed either in small contributions or from some individual who would like to stay with them in the suite during the conference. Contact Israel if you're interested.

There is a movement underway in SRRT to hold a counter conference in Dallas and, if so, TFGL will participate. Such items as alternative subject headings and classification schedules, job discrimination and a spokesman from a local gay organization are being considered. If you are going to be in Dallas and are interested in helping us set up a program, let us know.

Israel Fishman, Coordinator of TFGL, spoke recently at the Pratt Library School in Brooklyn and will be speaking on March 23 to the Essex County, N.J. Directors of Public Libraries on the topic of sexual factors in library personnel practices. Should be worth attending.

WBAI radio in NYC has approached us with the possibility of participating in a panel discussion. Details are being worked out.

Both the Mattachine Society of New York, 243 West End Avenue, NYC and the Institute of Homophile Studies, 2256 Venice Blvd., LA need volunteer librarians to assist in the cataloging and classification of their collections. Anyone interested should contact the groups at the above addresses.

The Alternative Press Index is now indexing several gay periodicals. Even without the inclusion of gay items the index fills a great need and should be in every library. We encourage all of you to have your library subscribe. It's available from the Radical Research Center, Carleton College, Northfield, Minn. 55057 for \$30 per year.

Steve Wolf who is working on alternative classification schedules for homosexuality requests that any parties interested in the project contact him. He will then send out successive drafts of his work for comments and suggestions. ~~Steve can be contacted at the Library, University of Massachusetts, Boston 02116.~~

The next meeting of TFGL will be held the weekend of May 1 -2 on a farm in the Pennsylvania countryside. For more details about the next meeting or about the Task Force in general please contact Israel Fishman, 268 Prospect St., East Orange, N.J. 07017.

Peace to you all.

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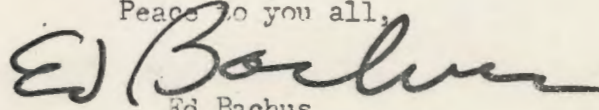
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Ed Bachus
Secretary, TFGL