

WOMEN IN LIBRARIES

NEWSLETTER OF THE
ALA/SRRT TASK
FORCE ON WOMEN

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Ed. Kay Cassell

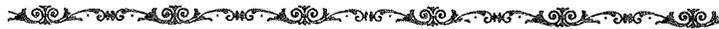
FLORIDA WOMEN IN LIBRARIES CAUCUS ENCOURAGES CHICAGO BOYCOTT

The Women in Libraries Caucus of the Florida Library Assn. distributed a leaflet at the FLA convention encouraging their members to boycott the ALA Midwinter meeting in Chicago. They stated that "if women of ALA don't support our own best interests, how can we expect that anyone else will???" The statement also included the following suggestions for those who must attend Midwinter: "If you cannot boycott Miwinter '80, please consider the potential impact of spending as little money as possible while in Chicago: bring your own food and necessities; share rooms; arrive and leave in the shortest time period possible; do not take vacations in connection with the conference. Every little bit helps. EXPRESS YOUR CONCERN: Write to the Chicago Chamber of Commerce, 3152 N. Central Ave., Chicago, IL 60634, and tell them why your money is not going to a state which will not extend equal rights to all of its citizens."



PRECONFERENCE PLANS PROGRESS

The SRRT Task Force on Women and the Committee on the Status of Women in Librarianship preconference will be held June 25, 26 and 27 at Cook College, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, N.J. More information and registration forms will be sent to WOMEN IN LIBRARIES subscribers as soon as they are ready.



BERMAN REPORTS ON SEXISM IN SUBJECT HEADINGS

Sandy Berman reports that LC subject terminology is showing some changes but is still sexist. He states that sexism remains in two important respects:

- 1) macho vocabulary (e.g. MISTRESSES, MILLIONAIRESSES, MAN instead of HUMANS; CITY COUNCILMEN instead of CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS; etc.)
- 2) access to women-related materials, issues and topics by failing to establish and assign relevant headings (e.g. WOMEN'S CREDIT UNIONS, LOANS FOR WOMEN, FEMINIST ART, FEMINIST ESSAYS, FEMINIST FICTION, FEMINIST FILMS, PREGNANT WORKERS, TEEN-AGE PREGNANCY, CONSCIOUSNESS-RAISING, DECRIMINALIZATION OF PROSTITUTION, SEXUAL FANTASIES, TWO-CAREER COUPLES, WOMEN WORKERS, WOMEN'S CENTERS, MINORITY WOMEN, MEDICAID AND ABORTION, SORORITIES, etc.)

WOMEN AT THE MFLA CONFERENCE

The Midwest Federation of Library Associations conference held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, October 31 - November 3 featured a series of programs, feasts and celebrations of women coordinated by Wisconsin Women Library Workers. The six state conference (Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio and Wisconsin) included a "Celebrate Motherhood" lunch held as an alternative to a presentation by Nancy Friday, author of MY MOTHER MYSELF; a people/media presentation on library service to women - "Who Is This Woman?"; a busy booth with WLW T-shirts and notepads, bibliographies, resource lists on women prepared in each of the participating states, "Fight Back" buttons and a host of other goodies and informational items useful to women library workers and those interested in library service to women. The WLW groups also sponsored a "Celebrate Ourselves" dinner and "Where Do We Go From Here?" breakfast.

"Who Is That Woman?", the program on library service to women, was an absolutely incredible event on youth, isolation, working, violence, old age and how these aspects of life affect women who use (or might use) your libraries. The program included dance, pantomime, skits, singing, slide-tape presentations, masked women, music and group discussion. The program was conceived by a Wisconsin Women Library Worker committee, and the script was written by Donna Barkman. The players included men and women from four of the states participating in the conference. Over 150 librarians and trustees attended. For more information on how it was done and how you could do it (because you can do it!), contact Wisconsin Women Library Workers, P.O. Box 1004, Oshkosh, Wisconsin 54902.

Illinois was well represented at the Midwest Federation of Library Associations conference (see above) but of particular interest to readers of WOMEN IN LIBRARIES was the delegation from the University of Illinois Graduate School of Library Science. Seven masters and doctoral students from the library school's Women Library Worker chapter joined forces and finances to come to MFLA to participate in the WLW activities and check out a library conference. The Illinois delegation prepared a resource notebook on library programs for women in the state and distributed a core list: "Library Resources for Women in Illinois". This list and the resource book were prepared by University of Illinois students as part of their requirements for various library school courses. The core list has already been requested by Illinois library systems for bulk distribution and is slated for inclusion in the MFLA Conference edition of ILLINOIS LIBRARIES. Why not explore how the work of library school students interested in women-related issues can be put to practical use in your state? Contact Kathleen Heim at the University of Illinois Graduate Library School for further information.

--Kathleen Weibel

MORE PUBLICATIONS

"Where the Jobs Are: An Annotated Bibliography" recently published by the Business and Professional Women's Foundation contains resources that examine occupations with regard to their employment prospects for women both for today and tomorrow. This publication presents accurate and current information on the job market to assist women in career planning. Copies are available for \$1.00 from the Sales/Order Department of the Business and Professional Women's Foundation, 2012 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20036. All orders must be prepaid.

"Female Spirituality" is a select bibliography compiled by Betty Roszak. This is a revision of her 1977 bibliography "The Return of the Goddess". For copies of this bibliography write Betty Roszak, The Library, Program for the Study of New Religious Movements, Graduate Theological Union, 2541 Ridge Road, Berkeley, CA 94709.

REPORT OF THE ALA ERA TASK FORCE

The ALA ERA Task Force met in Pittsburgh on August 10 and 11 to formulate the Task Force's plan of action. Suone Cotner, Executive Director of ERAmerica, met with the Task Force to brief them on the status of the ERA and to discuss ways the Task Force could work with existing ERA efforts. She noted that there are four needs on which ERAmerica is focusing its attention: 1) coalition building, 2) grass roots support groups, 3) lobbying pressure targeting specific legislators, and 4) election of supporters of the ERA. She also outlined plans for a coordinated speakers effort.

The Task Force outlined a number of preliminary activities necessary to fulfill its assignment.

- 1) A questionnaire would be sent to all Chapters which would ask for a status report on the Chapter's ERA activities and ask unratified states to identify how the ERA Task Force could assist them. Suggestions as to possible areas of assistance included: provide literature, provide technical expertise, provide financial assistance, assist with training/planning workshops, provide speakers and assist with coalition contacts.
- 2) A general brochure on ALA and the ERA was drafted which explains why ALA is for the ERA as well as explaining what ALA is. This brochure will be available free to unratified states.
- 3) The Task Force has planned a meeting at ALA Midwinter for Chapters in states where the ERA has not been ratified or where there have been recession efforts. This meeting will cover state problems and plans and have someone familiar with ERA lobbying on hand to offer ideas and solutions.
- 4) A program is planned for New York City. This program will serve as a kickoff for efforts in the states in 1980 and 1981.

RESULTS OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE

The Task Force received a variety of positive responses to its questionnaire. A majority of the unratified states were interested in some aspect of the Task Force's activities. The need for a brochure was the top priority item. Several states have put the ERA on their association's agenda for discussion for the first time as a result of this activity in ALA.

Three chapters emerged as ones needing the Task Force's immediate assistance. They are Illinois, Florida, and Missouri. The Task Force will meet with them at Midwinter to discuss more detailed plans. There will undoubtedly be a second group of Chapters with which the Task Force will be working as they have a chance to talk at their state conferences and with the Task Force at Midwinter.

This is in part the report submitted by cochairs Alice B. Ihrig and Kay Cassell to ALA Executive Board on November 1, 1979. The Task Force's basic plan was approved and the brochure is now being printed.



AWARDS, SCHOLARSHIPS, ETC.

The Business and Professional Women's Foundation has announced their Women's Information Service Award of \$1000 which will be presented at the 1980 ALA Conference, for the best plan or design to improve information services for women through libraries, library schools or other non-profit information agencies. The plan may apply to any aspect of information services, including but not limited to the development of materials or a materials collection, or the dissemination of information. Any individual, group of individuals or non-profit agency is eligible to apply. For further information, write BPW Foundation Library, 2012 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20036. Application deadline is February 1, 1980.

Women Educators has announced the third annual "Research on Women in Education" Award. Published or unpublished research reports in journal article format on any aspect of women in education are eligible if conducted or written up during 1978-79. The deadline for entries is January 10, 1980. For more information, write: Dr. Candace Schau, Coordinator-Elect, Women Educators, Educational Foundations Dept., College of Education, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM 87131.

Women Educators has announced the first annual "Curriculum Materials" Award. Please send one copy of materials relating to women that have been developed for use in educational settings to: Dr. Arlene Schrade, School of Education, University of Mississippi, University, MS 38677. Include a one-page description of how the materials relate to sexism, sex-role stereotyping and the image of women and girls. The deadline for entries is January 10, 1980.

The Business and Professional Women's Foundation announces the Lena Lake Forrest Fellowship and BPW Foundation Research Grant programs, which support research pertaining to working women with special emphasis on economic issues. Awards range from \$500 to \$3000. Applicants must be doctoral candidates or post-doctoral scholars whose proposal for research has been approved by academic authorities in an accredited graduate institution or persons able to demonstrate that the proposed research will be conducted under standards of scholarship recognized at the doctoral level. For further information, write Terry Odendahl, Business and Professional Women's Foundation, 2012 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20036. Applications must be postmarked before January 1, 1980.

MYERS HONORED

Margaret Myers was the recipient of the Rutgers Graduate School of Library and Information Studies Alumni Association's first Distinguished Service Award. Margaret is presently director of ALA's Office for Library Personnel Resources. She has worked closely with many of the women librarians' groups and is the staff liaison for the Committee on the Status of Women in Librarianship.



WOMEN ADMINISTRATORS' GROUP TO DISCUSS CHANGING CAREER DIRECTIONS

An ever-tightening job market, budget cuts and low salaries are some of the things forcing librarians to rethink their careers. Librarians are looking to alternative fields where their library science skills can be applied. To address this issue of alternative career opportunities, the Women Administrators' Discussion Group of LAMA has planned a program on "Changing Career Directions" for Tuesday, January 22, from 2:00 - 4:00 PM at the ALA Midwinter meeting. Three women who have made that career move from libraries to business will discuss the types of opportunities available in their new fields and how to market one's skills to make that transition. The speakers will include Dimity Berkner, Vice-President for Taylor-Carlisle; Janet Burke, Midwest Regional Manager for CLSI and Patricia Schuman of Neal-Schuman Publishers. Ms. Berkner was formerly a librarian at the University of Southern California. Ms. Burke has a background in public library service in Illinois. In late 1979 or early 1980, Ms. Schuman's publishing house will be releasing WHAT ELSE YOU CAN DO WITH A LIBRARY DEGREE, which is edited by Betty-Carol Sellen. Ms. Schuman herself is a former librarian with experience in school, public and academic libraries.

REPORT ON "HOW DOES A WOMAN PROFESSIONAL FUNCTION DIFFERENTLY" CONFERENCE

Some 60 women turned out at the elegant Wentworth-by-the-Sea Hotel the weekend of October 12 - 14, 1979, to hear such renown peers as Jean Baker Miller, psychoanalyst; Carol Gilligan, psychologist; Beatrice Whiting, anthropologist; Sonya Hamlin, TV talk-show producer; Irene Tinker of the Equity Action Center in Washington; and Florence Ladd of Wellesley College speak about "how a woman professional functions differently." There was an unusual feeling of trust and openness that is not always present at professional meetings within the disciplines; perhaps it was due to the fact that most of us were from completely different professions, or perhaps it was because the organizers of the Dodson Gray Roundtable Conferences, Elizabeth and David, set the tone of the conference by their concerns in bringing their sense of ministry into the professional world of women.

This was the second of the roundtable conferences; the first was held last year, also at Wentworth, and had as its theme "managing life-space for personal fulfillment" with such eminent speakers as May Sarton, poet and novelist; Jacquelyn Mattfeld, President of Barnard College, and Jean Baker Miller. The Dodson Grays became concerned with professional women as they saw many of their female friends suffering from the pressures, tensions, and malaise that so often accompanies professional "success". They decided to do something about it, bringing their religious training into play (both have divinity degrees from Yale Divinity School). As the only librarian, I did not feel at all isolated, but rather a sense of community with other women who share my same concerns. I came away from the weekend with a sense of community with other women who share my same concerns. I came away with a sense of renewal and reassurance after hearing the typical female traits of nurturance, vulnerability and caring stressed as strengths rather than weaknesses. Many of the women plan to continue meeting in their geographical regions to continue the supporting network they experienced



go keenly during the weekend. One of the aims of the conference was to get women to think about how the workplace could be humanized with the "feminine" qualities we all possess.

The surroundings of the hotel were lovely; fall was just coming to New Hampshire and Portsmouth is an enchanting port. The meals and accommodations at the hotel were elegant, although costly (\$50 a day, room and board for a single) and the conference fee was higher than most library conferences (\$200). The experience was well worth the expense and effort, and more librarians should try and go and meet women in other professions who share the same concerns and problems.

For further information, write: Elizabeth and David Dodson Gray, Dodson Gray Roundtable Conferences, 4 Linden Square, Wellesley, Massachusetts 02181. Cassette tapes are available at \$9 each for individual talks by the speakers for both years. Write to the above address for exact titles and speakers. Possible topics for smaller conferences or support groups are suggested as a use for the tapes.

Anne Roberts (Albany, N.Y.)



RESULTS OF FORD FOUNDATION STUDY ON FUNDING FOR WOMEN

The Ford Foundation has just released the first comprehensive study of private foundation and government funding of women's programs. "Financial Support of Women's Programs in the 1970s" reveals in part:

- 1) Less than 1% (0.6%) of private foundation grants went to support activities designed to eliminate sex discrimination or to further opportunities for women in non-traditional fields (a total of \$12 million in 1976).
- 2) More than half of the money that did go to women's projects supported education-related activities or research while another third went for direct services. Only 13% supported "public activist programs" intended to change institutions rather than individuals.
- 3) The reason so little goes to women's projects is that the men who run foundations still have "traditional perceptions of women's economic and political roles."

The National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy has prepared a summary of the Ford study which includes recommendations for change to increase funding for women's issues. The summary is available for \$.88 from NCRP, 810-18th St., NW #408, Washington, DC 20006. The Ford study is available from the Ford Foundation, P.O. Box 559, Naugatuck, Conn. 06770. The price per copy is \$3.95 and payment must accompany orders for \$10 or less.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

The Association for Women in Psychology's National Conference on Feminist Psychology will meet March 6 - 9, 1980, in Los Angeles. For further information, write to: Hannah Lerman, 1980 AWP Conference Coordinator, 1543 South Oakhurst Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90035.



PUBLICATIONS TO NOTE

A recent report on New York's ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment prepared by the Special Committee on Sex and Law of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York addresses New York's ratification, however, its analysis is applicable to all other states which have ratified the Amendment. Copies of the report are available without charge from the Executive Secretary of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York, 42 W. 44th St., New York, NY 10036.

PURCHASING GUIDE TO PRODUCTS OF COMPANIES EMPLOYING WOMEN IN NON-TRADITIONAL POSITIONS by Kathleen P. O'Donnell has been compiled to promote equal employment opportunities for women through the economic support of those companies placing women in non-traditional positions. The Guide contains 439 product headings with 784 products of 325 companies recommended. Copies are available from Ms. O'Donnell, 103 Bryn Mawr Ave., Lansdowne, PA 19050.

The Displaced Homemakers League in North Dakota has prepared an excellent information packet, "A Pre-Crisis Guide for Displaced Homemakers", which contains leaflets on such topics as financial, legal and health concerns, social security, training and employment. Send a suggested donation of \$1.00 to Bonnie Palecek, Bismarck-Mandon Displaced Homemakers League, 704 Mandon St., Bismarck, ND 20009.

For a single free reproducible copy of a resource paper, "Financial Aid: A Partial List of Resources for Women", send a stamped, self-addresses envelope to: Project on Status and Education of Women, Association of American Colleges, 1818 R St., NW, Washington, DC 20009.

"Teenage Motherhood: Social and Economic Consequences" by Kristin A. Moore and others links teenage motherhood to poverty. The study found a strong link between receipt of welfare and the mother's age at the time of her first birth. Copies of the study are available from the Urban Publications Dept., 2100 M St., NW, Washington, DC 20037.

Leland Publications, Inc. has a new pamphlet "The Pregnant Worker" designed to inform women of the new law banning discrimination on the basis of pregnancy. Copies are \$2.75 per dozen or \$20 per hundred from Leland Publications, Inc., Box 8125, Rochester, NY 14617. Payment must accompany all orders of \$50 or less.

Write the Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training, U.S. Dept. of Labor, Washington, DC 20210 for a list of their publications and audio-visuals related to women and apprenticeships.

"Women in the Department of State and Their Role in American Foreign Policy" is a new State Department publication full of information of interest to those concerned with the role of women in international affairs. Copies may be ordered from Director, International Women's Programs, Department of State, Washington, DC 20520.

The U.S. Commission of Civil Rights recently updated its landmark study of the role of women and minorities in television, "Window Dressing on the Set". Copies of both the study and the update are available from Publications Management Division, U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, 1121 Vermont Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20425.



MORE PUBLICATIONS

MANAGING LIFE-SPACE, based on last year's Dodson Gray Roundtable Conference, is available for \$4.95 (plus 80¢ postage and handling) from Roundtable Press, 4 Linden Square, Wellesley, Mass. 02181.

a book about sexual assault is a 48-page pamphlet sold at cost for mass distribution. It covers sexual assault as a "public" problem and as a "private" one, with forthright analyses of sex role socialization, myths about victims and rapists and information about preventing rape and handling the aftermath of an assault. Montreal Health Press, Inc., P.O. Box 1000, Station G, Montreal, Quebec H2W 2N1, Canada. \$.50 each to cover postage, 10 copy maximum. (from Wisconsin Women Library Workers Newsletter, September 1979)

WOMEN AND HEALTH CAREERS: A GUIDE FOR CAREER EXPLORATION, edited by Sheryl Burt Ruzek, is based on a two year analysis of women's career development needs conducted by Program for Women in Health Sciences, University of California, San Francisco. The guide provides step-by-step instructions for career planning and exploration and offers an overview of women's career patterns at different stages of the life cycle. Over one hundred careers in the health sciences are described. \$7.50 per copy from The Program on Women, Northwestern University, 619 Emerson Street, Evanston, Ill. 60201.

The National Committee for Women in Public Administration of the American Society for Public Administration has published guidelines for avoiding sex-biased language. THE RIGHT WORD is a short monograph that will aid administrators in eliminating sexist assumption and sexist language from the workplace. It suggests a positive approach that will make possible a fairer and more balanced treatment of both sexes. Copies are \$1.25 from the American Society for Public Administration, National Committee on Women, 1225 Connecticut Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20036.

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - January 2, 1980

WOMEN IN LIBRARIES is published 5 times a year from September to June. Subscriptions are \$4 for individuals and \$6 for institutions. Make checks payable to ALA/SRRT Task Force on Women and send to Kay Cassell, 44 Nathaniel Blvd., Delmar, NY 12054.

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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