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ALA SoCial Responsibilities Round Table

UNIVERSITY OF
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editor: t. phelps assistant: v. elwood

JUNE, 1972

NEWSLETTER

NUMBER 20

ETC.

Two new projects are planned by the Task Force on Women. The first is intended as a survey of literature on the subject of sexism in children's books. The second project focuses on nepotism. A questionnaire on the subject will be sent to members. It will explore the individual's awareness of nepotism rules in her library situation and ask for concrete information about the subject.

The Junior Members Round Table and Public Libraries section of the Mountain Plains Library Association are planning a joint workshop on Libraries and the handicapped, to be presented at the annual eight state regional MPLA conference November 8-11, 1972 at the Omaha Hilton. Problems to be covered include: library accessibility, alternative outreach programs, federal and state aid, attitude barriers, and media for the handicapped. Date and time to be announced later.



A group of women librarians in Massachusetts have formed an SRRT task force on women's issues in libraries. Its members plan to expose discriminatory practices against women, exchange information on available jobs, hold programs concerned with women's issues at meetings of librarians, formulate surveys, conduct a forum in the library press and receive and disseminate information on related.

LETTERS

Editor:

Something should be done to make the SRRT Newsletter readable to people bigger than Lilliputians. Some might have access to microfiche machines, but I don't. Is this an unreasonable request?

Jack Furman

Dear SRRT Action Council:

It is a shame you feel you must "disclaim" Jackie Eubanks. Her letter makes it clear that she acted on a personal decision and takes personal responsibility. She hardly had time to call a meeting nor could she have reasonably anticipated the situation. Her actions do nothing but reflect well upon her. SRRT is complimented by her association.

Sandy Kosokoff

Dear Jackie (Eubanks):

...Your action in disbursing hotel payment money directly to hotel employees cannot be interpreted as anything except, at best, autocratic. If, for example, the president of ALA decided arbitrarily to send some of our dues money to the owners of the Palmer House because they hadn't made enough profit on the ALA Convention, I am damn sure I would object, and I think you would, to such an arbitrary and autocratic decision...your action was equally unjustified...

W. David Laird

ZOIA HORN

.In case you are unfamiliar with her case, Zoia Horn was cited for contempt for refusing to testify in the Harrisburg trial and is now out on bail. In spite of the Dallas resolutions on governmental intimidation, and the fact that both the SRRT Action Council and the LeRoy C. Merritt Humanitarian Fund had given Ms. Horn financial support, the ALA Executive Board came to the conclusion that Ms. Horn's case was not worthy of full ALA support or financial aid. Said they:

"The Executive Board recognizes that Ms. Horn is acting as a private citizen...(and) does not find a valid basis for support of her action in challenging a duly constituted court of law..."

Ms. Horn, duly distressed by this chicken-hearted statement, had this to say to the Board:

"(The Dallas Resolutions)...were strong verbal challenges to our government which is encroaching on the liberties...of freedom of thought, speech, press and association. If these are limited through fear of intimidation, the well of dissent from which the possibility of change and improvement comes will dry up. It seems to me that the Harrisburg 7 case exemplifies just such an attack on these liberties.

...my refusal to testify was as a private citizen and librarian, whose conscience did not permit me to lend myself to a legal process that was destructive of our freedoms. I did this with full knowledge of the possible consequences and despite the fact that the defendants tried to persuade me to testify, and that the government prosecutor had at one time called me a peripheral witness. I had nothing to hide, no one to protect, and was safe from prosecution by a grant of immunity if there were some legal dangers.

That being so, my act was a simple case of civil disobedience...civil disobedience is not unprecedented in this country, nor is going to jail for your principles...the support that was requested of you came from people who understood my stand and wanted it supported and publicized. It was combined with a request for action in the form of financial support...I felt that the library profession was strong in action as well as words. Your public statement contradicts that."

Contributions to the Zoia Horn fund can be sent to: Betty Carol Sellen, Brooklyn College Library, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11210.



Washington
Spark
Smith
LMS

ARCHIVES

Several months ago SRRT Action Council authorized Miriam Crawford, Clearinghouse secretary, to make public the fact that SRRT was seeking a permanent home for its archives. Ms. Crawford made it clear that full access would need to be assured to SRRT members who might need to research old records.

SRRT has gathered about four file drawers of material (including correspondence and documents) since its organization in 1969. The material reflects SRRT's efforts to democratize the parent organization and develop action programs on the major social issues of concern to librarians. Action Council was interested in having a library school that was favorably disposed to social change take on the role of depository for the SRRT archives.

There were three responses as a result of the explanatory news release which Ms. Crawford placed in library literature last February. These were from Drexel University Libraries, the Journal of Library History offices at Florida State University Library School, and the College of Librarianship at the University of South Carolina. All seemed worthy of becoming the SRRT depository.

Meanwhile, Jerry Shields began to question ALA's reaction to the SRRT request. When asked about the procedures for such a request, David Clift said that ALA considered all of its records as one package, and that other means of handling or storing records would require action by the Executive Board. Shields then suggested that Action Council request a ruling by the Executive Board, or that SRRT store its records with the rest of ALA's records. As a result of this questioning, ALA headquarters decided to negotiate with the University of Illinois about the possibility of its becoming a depository for all ALA records.

Is it necessary to keep SRRT materials with all other ALA records? Is this a policy? Can it be changed? If there are libraries willing to be a depository for SRRT's materials, then one should be selected. Unless there are reasons for keeping all ALA records together, depositing SRRT records in a library or library school favorably disposed to social change would seem a better alternative. Action Council should proceed with its request that the Executive Board make a ruling. If there is no good reason why SRRT's records must be kept with those of ALA, Action Council should be able to select an alternative depository.



ERROR



On page 4 of the last SRRT Newsletter an error was unintentionally printed. The statement was made that those who volunteered for SRRT Action Council or Clearinghouse would be automatically elected. While it is true that only three volunteered, it is also true that their names must be "submitted to the Personal Members for election", according to the By Laws as amended. We were not amused when we learned that only three people volunteered to run for Action Council or Clearinghouse. Because of the lack of amusement, we would like the error to be true. Unfortunately the By Laws must be lived with if any order is to be maintained. At least it is evident that those who volunteered have guts enough to want to work for SRRT, and not just to ride their own hobbyhorses with SRRT as a saddle. SRRT cannot run without support. Why not volunteer to support it?

VOLUNTEERS



.In spite of the Maids' Tragedy, SRRT is going to have another suite at a hotel for the conference in Chicago. Again, as always, the suite will be a meeting place during the daytime - everyone welcome - where much goes on and little is accomplished. The last report we heard was that volunteers were needed to sleep upon the beds in the suite, and pay their money to the Night Clerk when they leave. The night clerk will, we are sure, be found downstairs behind the desk and not in the broom closet. Surely staying at the SRRT Suite would be better than staying at the "Y"; probably private showers will be available. If you wish to stay in the SRRT Sweet during the conference, contact Miriam Crawford, 4240 Parkside Ave., Philadelphia, Pa., 19104. She will forward your name to those making up the roster of stayees.

MEMBERSHIP? ?



.The Meadows case happened in Missouri. Meadows wished to institute a formal complaint against the administration of Park College at Parkville, Missouri. Whatever was Meadows' grievance does not matter; the point is only that MLA would not do anything for him because he was not a member of the association. In fact, the Executive Board of the Missouri Library Association made the membership requirement the first item in Guidelines for the Grievance Committee. Furthermore, Meadows was not even given moral support. The action in Missouri leads me to believe that membership should not be a requirement for help from fellow librarians. Perhaps as a result of this case other state committees, and even ALA, will recognize that help should come when help is needed, membership be damned!

HINCHCLIFF

Bill Hinchcliff was removed from the Lorton (Prison) Project at Federal City College, and upon protesting this move, was removed from Federal City College. Bill has appealed to Federal City College to reconsider and seems to have run into a typical bureaucratic runaround. The Lorton inmates' petition for re-instatement of the class Bill taught was likewise ignored. Bill is making an appeal for help, and sends the following:



"I need your interest, your comments, and hopefully, a couple of your hard-earned, heavily-taxed dollars toward legal expense only...after my legal costs have been met all money remaining...will be contributed to the LeRoy Merritt Humanitarian Fund...(which) should be multiplied so it may help materially in cases such as mine...in the future. Should this not be a priority concern of the new ALA Council?"

To those unfamiliar with the details of the case, Bill offers to send a copy of an essay explaining his case. His address is: William E. Hinchcliff, Capitol Park Plaza V-128, 201 Eye Street S.W., Washington, D.C., 20024.

DURING ELECTION. Why doesn't the Task Force on Prisons send the appeal which was sent to presidential candidates and political party platform committees to all candidates running for office at all levels - federal, state, city or county? The appeal asks for an "affirmative written commitment" on the matter of self-education of prisoners through use of libraries. It would seem likely that anxious-to-please political candidates would respond favorably to the appeal.



LAW BOOKS



• A bibliography of "Basic Law Books for a New York State Jail" has been published by the SRRT of the Finger Lakes. The listing was compiled by Robert L. Oakley of Cornell University's Law Library. The annotations highlight "essential" titles and give priority ranking to publications within particular categories. The bibliography could be a useful reference tool in starting or supplementing a prison library collection. Single copies may be obtained by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: SRRT of the Finger Lakes, c/o T. L. Bonn, Box 457, Etna, New York 13062

AN URGENT APPEAL JUST RECEIVED

The Women's History Research Center urgently needs your support to continue its work. Here are three ways you can help.

First, we would appreciate letters sent immediately to us in support of the Library and the unique service it is performing for the academic and library communities. They will be attached to grant applications as major funding is absolutely essential to the continuation of the Library.

The preservation, organization and continued acquisitions of this independent Library are dependent upon work/study students who are paid 20% of their salary through the Women's History Research Center, while the remaining 80% is provided by federal funds through the college they attend. If our portion of the funds can be raised by sponsors by July 1, 1972, then we will have the opportunity to employ 50 fulltime work/study students who would be able to catalog our entire holdings and keep our collection up to date on the expanding activities of women everywhere. This is crucial in order to meet the increasing demand for our resources. The total matching funds are \$15,000, or \$300 per student as our part of their \$1,500 summer salary.

Finally, we need sponsors who will contribute dollars and/or their expert time toward the indexing of a specific topic or area such as Women and Health, Women and Law, Sexist Language, High School Women's Liberation, Black Women, Women in History, Sexism in Children's Books, Female Artists, and 2,000 others. Our classification system has been especially valuable to the Northwestern University Library and the University of California at Berkeley Library.

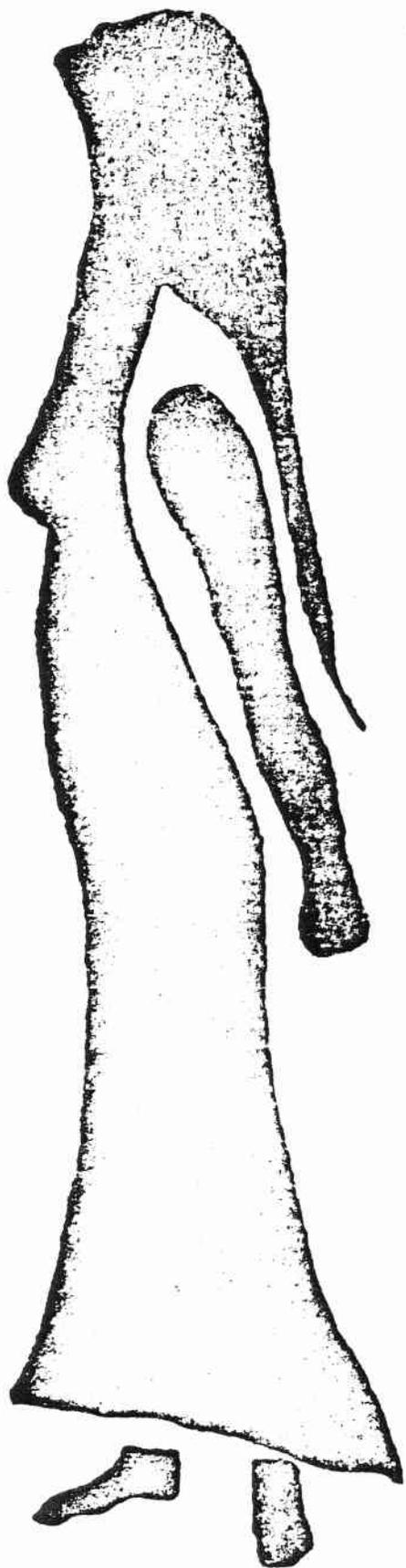
The Women's History Research Center is the only international archive of the present women's movement, containing the most complete collection of publications by and about women, including newsletters, journals, tapes, books, and other media. The directories which have been made from our resources have given librarians direct access to ephemeral source material. We need your help if the Library is to reopen.

Whenever you write us, please include a donation and a stamped, self-addressed envelope for our publication list and micro-filming news.

WOMEN'S HISTORY RESEARCH CENTER, INC.

2325 Oak Street, Berkeley, California 94708

(415) 524-7772



SUNDAY - June 25th

4:30 - 6:00 PM
SRRT Clearinghouse I
SRRT IFLA Relations Task Force

8:30 - 10:30 PM
SRRT Affiliates Programs Comm.

MONDAY - June 26th

8:00 - 9:30 AM
SRRT Service to Poor People Task Force
SRRT Action Council I
SRRT Clearinghouse for Reference & Acquisition Information on Minorities Task Force

10:00 - 11:30 AM
SRRT Government Publications Task Force
SRRT Minority Recruitment Task Force

2:30 - 4:00 PM
SRRT Chicanos Task Force

4:30 - 6:00 PM
SRRT Migrant Workers Task Force
SRRT Gay Lib Task Force

6:00 - 8:00 PM (no meal)
SRRT Women's Lib Task Force

8:30 - 10:30 PM
SRRT Women's Lib Task Force

TUESDAY - June 27th

12:00 noon (no meal)
SRRT Clearinghouse II

WEDNESDAY - June 28th

8:00 - 9:30 AM
SRRT Alternatives in Print Task Force
SRRT Mobilizing Community Task Force

WEDNESDAY - June 28th (cont.)

2:30 - 4:00 PM
SRRT Service to Prisoners Task Force
SRRT Clearinghouse for Reference & Acquisition Information on Minorities Task Force

4:30 - 6:00 PM
SRRT Action Council II

8:30 - 10:30 PM
SRRT Membership

THURSDAY - June 29th

8:00 - 9:30 AM
SRRT Free Schools Task Force

10:00 - 12:00 AM
SRRT Affiliates Organizing Meeting
SRRT Indexing Microfilm Task Force

2:00 - 4:00 PM
SRRT Drug Abuse & Mental Health Task Force
SRRT Library School Students Affiliates Task Force

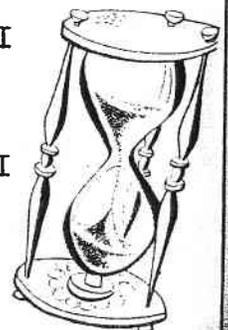
4:30 - 6:00 PM
SRRT East Coast Conspiracy Task Force
SRRT Sex Related Media Task Force

8:30 - 10:30 PM
SRRT Program - Rev. Jesse Jackson

FRIDAY - June 30th

12:00 noon (no meal)
SRRT Clearinghouse III
SRRT Action Council III

4:30 - 6:00 PM
SRRT Clearinghouse III
SRRT Action Council III



SATURDAY - June 24th

8:00 - 12:00 AM
Program Evaluation and Support
Committee/Budget Assembly

2:00 - 6:00 PM
Program Evaluation and Support
Committee
Planning Committee
Staff Committee on Mediation,
Arbitration, and Inquiry

8:30 - 10:30 PM
Las Vegas Conference Program
Committee

SUNDAY - June 25th

8:00 - 11:30 AM
Intellectual Freedom Committee

2:30 - 4:00 PM
JMRT Students to ALA-Chicago
Committee
Ethics Committee
Intellectual Freedom Committee

4:30 PM -
Intellectual Freedom Committee
AASL Treatment of Minority Groups
in Library Books and Other In-
structional Materials Comm.

8:30 - 10:30 PM
Staff Committee on Mediation,
Arbitration, and Inquiry,
General Meeting
ACRL Choice Editorial Board

MONDAY - June 26th

8:30 AM -
Intellectual Freedom Comm.
Program

10:00 - 11:30 AM
JMRT Students to ALA-Chicago
Committee

2:30 - 4:00 PM
LSD Comm.: Library Service for
American Indian People sub-
committee

MONDAY - June 26th (cont.)

2:30 - 6:00 PM
AASL Treatment of Minority Groups
in Library Books and Other In-
structional Materials Comm.
Planning Committee

4:30 - 6:00 PM
Recruitment Office Advisory Comm.

TUESDAY - June 27th

8:30 - 10:30 PM
First Session of Theme Programs

WEDNESDAY - June 28th

8:00 - 11:30 AM
Intellectual Freedom Committee
Program Evaluation and Support
Committee
Planning Committee

10:00 - 11:30 AM
JMRT Students to ALA-Chicago
Committee

2:30 PM-
Library Services to the Disadvan-
taged Coordinating Committee
Intellectual Freedom Committee

4:30 - 6:00 PM
Library Services to the Disadvan-
taged

8:30 - 10:30 PM
Recruitment Office Advisory Comm.
Program Eval. and Support Comm.

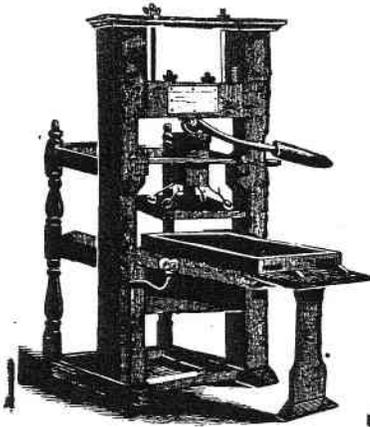
THURSDAY - June 29th

8:00 - 12:00 AM
Intellectual Freedom Committee

10:00 - 12:00 AM
LSD Comm.: Library Service for
American Indian People Sub-
committee

2:00 - 4:00 PM
Recruitment Office Advisory Comm.

ALTERNATIVES IN PRINT



British Columbia Access Catalog. 1729 McSpadden Ave., Vancouver, B.C. \$2.00/issue, \$4.00/year. Very much like Whole Earth Catalog. Interesting to anyone into an alternative life style.

SRRT CLEARINGHOUSE
Miriam Crawford
4240 Parkside Avenue
Philadelphia, Pa 19104

 Times Change Press, Penwell Rd., Washington, N.J. 07882. Offers paperbacks, pamphlets, and posters on feminism, alternate culture, third world, gay liberation, men's consciousness raising, kids' liberation, and ecology. Free catalog available.



 Vocations for Social Change. VFC, Inc., Box 13, Canyon, Ca. 94516. To help people become involved in radically different work and life styles.

 To End War. World Without War Council, 1730 Grove St., Berkeley, CA. 94709. \$1.95 or \$1.17 in quantities of 10 or more. Annotated bibliography - guide to the "ideas essential to a world without war."

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

