ala SRRT SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES ROUND TABLE

NEWSLETTER # 35 ISSN 0065-9096 MAY 1975

The national scene

Newsletter

Copy deadline-date for #36: August 1st. Send "feedback," short bibliogs, directories, Task Force & affiliate news, data on "things to get," reviews, muckraking morsels, hot contacts, & anything else worth sharing with SRRT colleagues to Sandy Berman at 2412 Girard Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55405. All material will be promptly forwarded to whoever SRRT's new Clearinghouse selects as the next editor.

Jerrie Anderson draws the mastheads. ⊙Dick Gauthier (Town House Road, Wyoming, RI 02893) prints. Bonnie Wilson & Lorae Sathers type. ⊙Steve Wolf writes the best damn columns in lib. lit. ⊙Sherrie Bergman does the money-and-mailing shtick. That's the team. And it's frankly impossible to thank them enough.

Key-title (courtesy of National Serials Data Program): Newsletter - Social Responsibilities Round Table.

Recommended main-entry, title, & tracings: ◆American Library Association. Social Responsibilities Round Table. ◆Newsletter. ◆1. Libraries and society--Periodicals. 2. Librarians, Radical--Periodicals. 3. Libraries and the counter-culture--Periodicals. 4. Alternative press--Periodicals. 5. Radical publishers and publishing--Periodicals. 6. Little presses--Periodicals. 7. Women's publishers and publishing--Periodicals.

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With this number, we proudly announce our membership in COSMEP, the Committee of Small Magazine Editors & Publishers (P.O. Box 703, San Francisco, CA 94101; NYC office: 5 Beekman St., 10038). "At present COSMEP issues a monthly newsletter ($5 p.a. to non-members), pooled bookstore and library lists, and occasional grab bags of small press items (for the price of postage). It is developing contracts with independent distributors for the marketing of small press products. And has a program for the free distribution of such materials to prisoners. Its Women's Committee studies sexism in the small presses and many other related matters. COSMEP also holds an annual conference." Actually, the outfit's much more than those few sentences indicate. And can hardly be better appreciated than through its recent magnum opus, THE WHOLE COSMEP CATALOG, a jumbo, 300-page rundown on the ever-vibrant small-press/little-mag scene. It's a genuine bargain, friends, @ only $4.95 from Dustbooks, 5218 Scottwood Road, Paradise, CA 95969.

Corrections & apologies re #34➧ It was dated "March 1975" but only reached most of you in early May. Which was too late to meet the May 1st copy-deadline. Too late to achieve much impact on the ALA Presidential race. And also overshot the April 29th Round Table meeting in Chicago for which Nancy Kellum-Rose naturally wanted advance-input. There are reasons for the fuck-up. But at this point they seem unimportant. So we simply offer our apologies. For whatever they're worth now. The same goes for our page-one kudo to "Faculty Press." In fact, Dick Gauthier's Ink Printing Co. did the job. And further neglected was Donna Meade, who importantly helped Bonnie Wilson on the typing-end. We're sorry-as-hell for both the time-lag & mistakes. Okay?

To join, subscribe, or renew, send this coupon--plus payment--to Sherrie S. Bergman, SRRT Clearinghouse, P.O. Box 330, Bristol, RI 02809➧

SRRT MEMBERSHIP/NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION: 1975-76

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SRRT's super-program: "Women in unions"--a panel discussion

It's scheduled for Tuesday, July 1st, from 2-4 p.m. in San Francisco. The focus: women's role in the labor movement, especially library locals and the newly-organized publishing industry.

The panelists: ● Jane Ellison, President, Librarians Guild, Los Angeles Public Library. ● Anne Uthman, President, United Professors of California, Local 1352, San Francisco State University. ● Bernice Krawczyk, former President, Association of Harper & Row Employees, now organizer for the Publishing Division of District 65, Distributive Workers of America. ● Maxine Jenkins, San Francisco labor organizer and Union W.A.G.E. collaborator, who was recently fired from her position at SEIU Local 400 by the male director, then overwhelmingly reinstated by the SEIU membership, the controversy centering around women's issues.

Something rotten in the state of IFRT?

Zoia Horn, ALA Councillor, IFRT member, & SRRT Action Councillor (1721 Lucerne, Stockton, CA 95203), on April 12th sent the following letter to Jean Anne South, Chairperson, Intellectual Freedom Round Table, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611, with "cc's" to SRRT's Coordinator & Newsletter:

> Dear Ms. South,
>
> I question the nominations presented by the nominating committee for vice chairperson/elect of I.F.R.T. Both people are on the nominating committee.
>
> I am no legal-beaver, as you know, but it seems to me that if this isn't illegal, it's unethical, and if not unethical, it sure as heck is rotten taste.
>
> Even if they are the best to be chosen from among all the members of this large Round Table, nominating themselves is self-serving, it seems to me. It also creates a self-perpetuating pattern. Whatever person or body appointed them essentially determined who would be the next chairperson, without the opportunity of a wider spectrum of alternatives provided to the electorate.
>
> Nominating someone by petition is a fine idea when members are gathered at Conferences, not dispersed as we are. Besides, receiving the report and nominating petition form in mid-March, with a deadline on April 1 and a requirement of a statement of concern to boot, is unrealistic, wouldn't you agree?
>
> I have great respect for your knowledge of organizational procedures. Could you, as chairperson, untangle this, so that we may have alternatives in the election?
>
> Sincerely yours.
>
> P.S. Many apologies for the lateness of this letter. It was written soon after receiving the ballot in March, but got snowed under.

As of May 18th, Ms. South had apparently not replied. Nor undone the incest.

Alternatives \ action

Things to get

The Tri-County Library Council (c/o UW-Parkside Library, D-115D, Kenosha, Wisconsin 53140) has just announced publication of LIBRARIES AND INFORMATION CENTERS IN SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN. "This new reference work," says Coordinator Mary Alice Seemeyer, "represents a first step toward an overall inventory of knowledge resources in the seven county southeastern Wisconsin region." Compiled jointly by the Metropolitan Milwaukee and Tri-County Library Councils, the 332-page paperback directory includes detailed descriptions of 188 library & information centers, together with 54 school districts, furnishing data on collections, staff, hours, services, and borrowing privileges. Bonus features: a geographical index, area map, guide to subject strengths & special collections, & sketches of professional library & Info. Science associations. Price to non-members: $10.00. *

Two 1975 items from Urban Information Interpreters, "a nonprofit organization serving the information needs of the urban poor" (P.O.B. AH, College Park, Maryland 20740): ▶ MEDICAL EXPERIMENTATION ON PRISONERS MUST STOP!, a 138-p. collection of materials "generated around the issue of medical experimentation at the Maryland House of Correction, Jessup, being conducted by the University of Maryland's School of Medicine." Edited by Irvin Gilchrist & intended as an aid to other groups concerned with the same issue, the volume should also serve as a reference tool for students, citizens, lawyers, government officials & legislators. Partial contents: an "EXPOSE, written by two Jessup prisoners;" a case study of the Maryland program, documenting the typical secrecy surrounding such activities; a nationwide survey of state policies & practices regarding the use of prisoners in medical research; and the text of a complaint filed on behalf of prisoners by the ACLU National Prison Project, Baltimore Legal Aid Bureau, & National Conference of Black Lawyers. Price: $7.50 plus postage & handling charges. ▶ THE NATIONAL PRISON DIRECTORY, edited by Mary Lee Bundy and Kenneth Harmon, is "the base volume for what is to be a continuing service with supplements."

Designed to link people & groups working on prison issues, it contains organizational profiles of 490 citizen & professional groups involved in reforming, improving, or abolishing prisons at both local & national levels, as well as "special reference lists": e.g., a detailed roster of over 120 prison periodicals & 125-item bibliography of "Prison and criminal justice literature." Price: $25.00 plus postage & handling. *

The health industry is alive and well--and thriving at the expense of the health consumer caught in a vise between soaring prices on the one hand and the growing inaccessibility of health care on the other. ◉ Source Catalog #3: Organizing for Health Care analyzes this phenomenon and suggests tactics for change by focusing on the struggle for decent health care as part of the larger movement for community control of the institutions that directly affect people's lives. It's the third in a series of catalogs designed to be directories of the movement for radical social and political change. → The delivery of health care in this country is big business. Tens of billions of dollars are spent each year purchasing, investing in, and subsidizing health care, while thousands depend on the health care system for employment. Yet, the domination of the industry by powerful corporate interests means lower quality and less accessible care for millions--especially low-income people. Many books have documented the economic and political forces behind the present breakdown of health care delivery. Source is unique in focusing on the community- and workplace-based forces actively working to build a new health system responsive to the communities it serves and the workers it employs. The catalog describes model groups organizing around specific issues, such as patients' rights, community-controlled clinics, hospital working conditions, women's health, nutrition, psychiatric abuse, training and distribution, and occupational safety and health. It covers the special health problems of Third World peoples, the deaf, blind, retarded, elderly, and prisoners, as well as legal and technical resource groups supporting local challenges to the health power structure. A brief analysis of financing, planning, and proposals for national health insurance are presented, along with a suggested alternate, public ly-owned National Health Service. Source begins each chapter with a summary of the area covered, proposals for change, and tactics to secure that change. Annotated reviews of books, periodicals, pamphlets, tapes, and films useful to organizers appear throughout. ◉ At no time in our recent history has the breakdown in the system of health care delivery been so evident. We rank 14th in infant mortality, yet medical costs have nearly tripled in the last decade to the point where an average day in the hospital costs the consumer $105. As in any other highly developed industry, the consumer's interest is being lost in the scramble for higher profits. Preventive health care takes a back seat to more profitable acute care. And the government, while pouring huge amounts of money into the private health sector, has abandoned its responsibility to plan and provide for good, low-cost care to the people of this country. Government programs, such as medicaid/care, ostensibly designed to aid the poor, do little more than guarantee huge profits to hospitals, support industries, and banks. ◉ Source catalogs are based on the belief that the strength to build radical social and political change originates from projects that involve people directly in changing their lives. Outmoded and unresponsive systems must be replaced by alternate ones emerging out of local community organizing and based on control by the community and the workers involved in them. For such projects to get started, and survive, there is a great need for communication. People need to share their resources and experience, to know what has been tried by others, what has worked well, where to turn for technical and legal assistance. Beyond that, people need to know that they are not by themselves, that others around the country share their anger and labor and hope. Out of this shared struggle will come the strength and coalitions needed to change this country. ◉ Source is put out by a living-working collective of four women and two men in Washington, D.C. They're looking for more people with some experience in local projects to do research, writing, reviews, distribution, graphics, design, and layout. ◉ Source III is available from SOURCE, P.O. Box 21066, Washington, DC 20009, Or check your local bookstore: 264 pages. Beacon Press. $5.95. Also available: ● Source II: Communities/Housing, covering tenants' unions, model legal aid programs, defend-yourself resources, non-profit housing, public housing organizing, housing resources for rural, Third World, women, and gay people. Concludes with a thorough indictment of HUD. 264 pages. Swallow Press, 1972. $2.95. ● Source I: Communications, covering guerrilla theatre, alternative press services, cable TV, radical librarians, people's computer technology, radical presses, and more. 116 pages. Swallow Press, revised 1972. $1.75. ● Demand for Daycare, surveying various aspects of day care programs -- parent involvement, cooperatives, day care's relationship to the women's movement, bi-lingual centers, funding and legal problems, etc., plus resources and resource groups. 48 pages. Resources for Community Change, 1974. $1.50. *

TENANTS FIRST! A RESEARCH & ORGANIZING GUIDE TO FHA HOUSING. Including sections on "How the FHA rental programs work," "How the FHA rental programs don't work," and "The future of FHA housing," this 120-pager is available from Urban Planning Aid, Inc., 639 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA 02139. Rates: 75¢ or "what you can afford" (community groups & newspapers), $2 (non-profit organizations, individuals), $4 (other orgs., govt. agencies, libraries). *

NONVIOLENCE WORKS. This "special display for public, high school, and university libraries"--created by the peace staff of the American Friends Service Committee's New England Regional Office--is intended "to introduce new readers to the literature of nonviolence, stimulate interest in nonviolent social change, and affirm the significant nonviolent tradition in the U.S." Nineteen handsomely-printed 5 x 8 cards contain reviews of 13 paperbacks related to nonviolence & nonviolent social change. A full card-set can be purchased from AFSC for $2. The books may be ordered from local bookstores, or bought at list price from the AFSC/NERO literature service. Price for all 13 titles: $35. ◎ Another option: to rent both cards & books from AFSC @ $10 per week. The exhibit requires either one large display case or 2-3 small ones, the cards being placed next to or under the books. For sets of books, cards, and/or more info, contact: Peace Section, AFSC, 48 Inman St., Cambridge, MA 02139; (617) 864-3150.

Job sharing: arguments & background re the PLTF resolution

Elizabeth M. Katz (255A - 28th St., San Francisco, CA 94131) reports that SRRT's People's Librarian TF will present a job-sharing resolution to the general ALA membership in SF. "Due to the pressure of conditions which would have been alleviated by job sharing," wrote Elizabeth on May 12th, "this resolution has not yet been written! However, we'd like all SRRTers to be aware that it's in the offing and thus do some reading, thinking and talking with others before the convention, be on the lookout for publicity there, help disseminate it, and finally vote for the declaration itself."

"To start the ball rolling," she continues: We at PLTF were keenly aware of the ironic juxtaposition of widespread unemployment among librarians and of widespread needs for information skills among groups involved in social change. Full-time librarians have lots of money (relatively, anyway) and little extra time or energy. Unemployed librarians have no money (hardly any), but lots of time and energy. Movement groups have little money. It occurred to us that job sharing was one way to create more jobs for more people, yet leave them all with enough money, time and energy to work without--or with minimal--renumeration on social change projects. That is our particular interest; but of course not all job sharers will want to devote their free time to being people's librarians. And there are other good reasons for sharing jobs that we of PLTF can also support. We will be discussing all of them in the forthcoming PLOP (People's Librarian Occasional Papers) #2, as well as at our ALA program. Please see Francie Gilman's report in this SRRT Newsletter for details. For the present, a suggested reading list: ◉Bergmann, Martha. "Job sharing," Booklegger Magazine, 3-4 (March/April, May/June, 1974), 44-46. Good starting place. In addition to her bibliography, add the following: ◉"Back to Work? Go on your own terms," McCalls, 98 (July, 1971), 46. About the Newtime Agency and Catalyst, which pioneered the job sharing concept. ◉Barkas, Janet. "A new trend: job sharing," McCalls, 102 (Nov. 1974), 56. How to go about sharing a job. Probably culled from the next entry, which the author urges readers to acquire. ◉Catalyst. The Job Campaign. $1.25, from Catalyst, 6 E 82d St, NYC, 10028. Employment on the "buddy system." ◉Gittelson, Natalie. "The go-go mother," Harpers Bazaar, 103 (April, 1970), 25+. The tone is rather difficult to take, but the information about Catalyst and the analysis of the put-down of housewives who want to work part-time are good. ◉Jackson, Jane C. "Permanent part time," letter to the editor in Physics Today, 25 (June, 1972), 15+. Impassioned and excellently argued plea which can easily be transposed to our profession. ◉"Part time jobs are easier to find," Changing Times, 28 (Jan. 1974), 27-9. Gives a good idea of the pitfalls in part time work, though that is not the intention. Women Architects, Landscape Architects and Planners. ◉"The case for flexible work schedules," Architectural Forum, 137 (Sept. 1972), 53+. A good argument. ■This should give you some good ideas about the issue. ►N.B. It is no accident that women writers and women's magazines figure heavily, but job sharing is more than a woman's issue. Hope to see all you unemployed, underemployed and overemployed people rallying around job sharing in SF!

Primacy of print...revisited...or, no "feedback" for mediacy

An essay and list of media producers ran in SRRT newsletter #33 ["Radical mediacy," p. 19-21]. In it, I asked people to send me additional names of radical media producers (essentially those who produce political and sensual non-print materials) to add to the directory for an article in preparation for Booklegger. Guess what? Out of the 1,200-plus people who receive the newsletter (it must be routed and read by at least twice that many), I received not one additional producer's name for the list, nor did any letters of comment arrive. Incredible, but true... NOT ONE. Does that tell you anything, folks?

Sandy Berman got one letter from a producer mentioning that they'd been left off the list [#34, p.14]. The producer, Multi Media Resource Center, will be added, as will some thirty or forty more companies and cooperatives I've discovered in the last six months.

Next Fall I'll work on a CLR-sponsored study of censorship of non-print materials in public libraries. Since the "literature" and documented cases are practically non-existent, I'd appreciate any information you may have. I am not anxious, needless to say, to base the study primarily on the problems of "prior censorship".

And now for a brief mention of Roberts' Law. This states that non-print media will fall to the lowest possible state at any given moment in libraries due to the incestuous relationship between the librarian and the dominant paper/print container. Aiding and abetting this entropic aberation is media masochism, or the programmed failures of librarian vs. machine. Actually, Gutenberg started a lot of this. If we could just go back to script, or at least hand-presses, things would be so much simpler...

Highly recommended is the January issue of Library/Quarterly, easily the best collection of papers to appear on media in a long time. Try the ones by Doak and Henne, or Asheim's introductory piece.

Access. How accessible is your non-print collection? Do you have full mediagraphic data on your non-book stuff in the card or book catalog? One problem faced by media librarians is that there isn't a parallel tradition of fighting for "intellectual freedom" by technologists who work in "media centers." Many of the hard-hat attitudes dominating the media industry are assumed by those who accept the "what's best for G.M...." hardware attitudes. The national media organization, AECT, has hardly any awareness of what's involved (with the exception of a flirtation with the copyright issue). We have much work to do to achieve equal access.

One way in which media masochism is deepened and extended is via professional organizations. Look at, for example, the national organizations, ALA and AECT. How do they cooperate, how are they breaking down the barriers between themselves? As for state organizations, check out New York: NYLA and NYSECA meet at the same time every year, usually in very different parts of the state. Why? How do exhibitors make their choices? How long can information professions tolerate this kind of divisiveness?

In response to Nancy Meiselas' request for information on the "aspects of human sexuality (which) haven't been adequately (if at all) represented in Young Adult lit.: novels and non-fiction alike" ["Flashpoints," #34, p. 27]: Well, we're back to the need for sensuous materials. "Non-fiction" material is well done by the Multi-Media Resource Center, for example. And in the "fiction" area, there's a wide array of stuff available; Canyon Cinema and the Filmmakers' Coop are two prime sources.

The Kama Sutra is a great classic and certainly necessary to every collection concerned with human sensuality. To message the eyes and ears of teenagers it might be better to reach them via media first and then parallel the results with print. Peace.--Don Roberts, A/V Librarian, Hennepin County Library, 7001 York Ave. S., Edina, MN 55435.

Conference on Women in the Era of the American Revolution: George Washington University, Washington, D.C., July 24-26, 1975

Sponsored by the Institute for Early American History and Culture and the Women's Coalition for the Third Century, 9 sessions are planned, including one on Afro-American women and another on Native American women in the 18th Century. Additional session-topics: the education of "ladies"; urban women; literary women; attitudes toward women expressed in colonial newspapers; the semi-mythical heroines of the Revolution; marriage and divorce in Massachusetts; and the rediscovery of colonial women during the Centennial era.

To secure programs & registration forms, send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Ms. Linda Grant De Pauw, Dept. of History, George Washington University, Washington, DC 20052.

Multicultural Resources: Black/Spanish-speaking/Asian-American/Native American

Visitors to the ALA Conference and Third San Francisco International Book Fair are cordially invited to visit Multicultural Resources' collection of over 5,000 books, pamphlets, periodicals, and visuals dealing with human relations and Black, Spanish-Speaking, Asian American, and Native American cultures. The center will be open from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday, June 30, through Thursday, July 3. Special arrangements to visit at other times may be made by calling (415) 441-7065 or (415) 493-6729.

The multicultural exhibit is located within Fort Mason in Building 111, on MacArthur Avenue. It's approximately three miles from the Civic Center, easily accessible by taxi, private car (ample parking), or municipal bus #47 northbound.

Assembled over the past six years by Margaret Nichols and Peggy O'Neill, the collection aims to encourage greater use of multicultural materials, to provide materials relevant to the lives of minority people of all ages, and to develop intergroup understanding of the many cultures in our society. Formerly based at Stanford University, Menlo Park Public Library, and San Jose Unified School District, the collection is now housed in San Francisco under the sponsorship of the Bank of America Foundation in cooperation with San Francisco State University and the San Francisco Unified School District. Traveling exhibits have been sent to conferences and workshops of professional groups and community and ethnic associations throughout the country.

Materials are included not only from large and small publishers, institutions, and organizations in the United States, but also from international sources. Broad and varied, the exhibit library includes materials for all ages and reading levels, ranging from colorful folk tales and picture books to wide offerings in history, literature, music, art, and social issues. Also included are sections dealing with intergroup relations and the use and evaluation of ethnic materials by teachers, librarians, and other professionals. For maximum visibility and availability, materials are displayed on browsing tables. MR's mailing address: Box 2945, Stanford, CA 94305.

flashpoints....

Easy winner of the 1974/75 MEMORY HOLE AWARD (three papier-maché monkeys with impaired sight, hearing, & speech) is ALA's own Newsletter on intellectual freedom. Which relentlessly pounds Kanawha County bigots and book-banners but so far hasn't published one goddam word on last year's Masley-firing & mass-resignation at American libraries. Events that transpired at 50 E. Huron St., Chicago. It's a sorry reflection on NIF integrity (not to mention credibility) that two of the finest, most comprehensive AL reports appeared not in the Association's righteous, Yahoo-pummeling organ, but rather in the Press censorship newsletter and Chicago journalism review. Judy & Roger: Kanawha County is everywhere. Even on the banks of the Wabash. "Outsiders" seem to recognize it. Why can't you?

Sure, it was probably intended as a lighthearted, tongue-in-cheek gambit. Something to demonstrate how unlike the dowdy stereotype we really are. A grabby, colorful pitch for "Information Power." An eye-catcher. A mind-teaser. And all in the service of a Good Cause. But it stunk. Not only that. It was tasteless. Insulting. And dumb. In case the subject's eluded anyone, it's the 1975

NLW promo: poster & bookmarks bearing the venerable ALA-imprimatur. A crazy-quilt of questions-and-answers, some utterly innocuous (like "How to wash your house"), two blatantly cheap & sexist ("How to land a woman," "How to land a man"), one a marvelously repulsive example of theist (notably Christian) bullshit ("How to find God"--Read Thomas Merton and "the Bible, especially the Psalms and the Gospels"), another wantonly disrespectful toward Native Americans ("How to build a tepee," illustrated with a photo of "Geronimo's Castle," a concrete "cafe"), and several manifesting the profession's classist, anti-labor bias (e.g., "How to buy stocks" and "Where to get a business loan," but emphatically no "How to conduct a strike" or "Where to research your employer's profits").

Listen, ALA honchos. That might be the image of librarianship YOU antediluvians want to peddle. But it's not OURS. Why? Because it's a hype. A cutesy package of superficial, irrelevant crap. "Information Power" doesn't have a helluva lot to do with "Where to dig for worms" or "Who Carl Reiner's first boss was." It does, however, have much to do with vital, gutsy, people-responsive questions like "What should I do if I'm raped?," "How can I avoid getting ripped-off by auto & insurance hucksters?," "Do patients, kids, ex-convicts, people on welfare, and gays have any rights?" "Where's the nearest food co-op?," "Is there a crisis center or switchboard in my neighborhood?," and--instead of the bourgeois, ho-hum "Who signed the Mayflower Compact?"--"Who founded the IWW?" Understand, ALA? We don't care "who Lincoln's first date was." "Who invented schnapps" doesn't excite us. And "Why John Wayne is called 'The Duke'" frankly nauseates us. (As it happens, there's another, more appropriate name for him.) In short, if that's the best you can do on behalf of "Information Power" & libraries--particularly at a time of nearly 10% unemployment & shameless exploitation by hyper-greedy conglomerates--we suggest you get-the-hell out of the business. We can do without your "help." In fact, it's downright embarrassing. ●

For a succinct, powerful statement on the futility & injustice of our current penal system, see "Do we need Prisons?," an "exchange" between Peter Koenig (Scotland), Raymond E. James (a McNeil Island inmate), and Time to die-reviewer Garry Wills. Including sensible, humane ideas for prison & criminal "justice" reform, it appears in the May 29th NEW YORK REVIEW OF BOOKS, p. 13. ●

WHAT IF the President had just appointed Henriette Avram Attorney-General? Or Doralyn Hickey Surgeon-General? Loud would be the outcry: "Ridiculous! The Attorney-General must be a lawyer, not a librarian!" And "Incredible! The Surgeon-General's job demands a medical, not book-pushing, background." The critics would be right, of course. A lawyer should run the Justice Department, just as a doctor belongs in the Surgeon-General's slot. Who wants amateurs in those important, expert posts? Nobody. Well, then, WHAT IF an historian--even one congenial in political outlook to the incumbent Prexy--were appointed Librarian of Congress? "Impossible! Scandalous! A librarian ought to run a library, especially LC, which impacts on the whole Library universe." At the moment of this jotting--Sunday, May 18th--no such outcry has yet materialized. Nonetheless, it should, if our profession has finally developed some self-respect and dignity. For Daniel J. Boorstin, Mr. Ford's appointee, may be a scholar & historian, but is not a librarian. And that is scandalous. In fact, it's also shameful and insulting. So let's forcefully oppose the confirmation, insisting that libraries require professional, experienced direction no less than legal & medical institutions. Would DJB meet the ordinary requirements for the directorship of even a medium-sized public, school, or academic library? Hell, no! Then how, Mr. President, does he miraculously qualify for the top LC position? ●

For nearly 2 years, we've been trumpeting in these pages about how labor-oriented materials have been sadly neglected in both libraries & library lit. (apart from alternative mags like Booklegger & us). Well, the May 1975 Wilson library bulletin represents a joyous, most welcome "breakthrough": a new "Alternative periodicals" column--by Susan M. Bryl & James P. Dankey--the first installment being devoted wholly to "Radical labor." This is how Bryl & Dankey preface their 11 annotated entries: "The following reviews concentrate on the current radical and often little-noticed struggles of labor as mirrored in working class publications covering a wide range and detailing a great variety of leftist positions, from liberal to communist. These are the voices of labor that should be heard and collected by libraries interested in broadening the points of view represented in their collections." In other words, all libraries, n'est-ce pas? ●

On the strength of its first issue, we tabbed the EMERGENCY LIBRARIAN--in NEWSLETTER #28, p. 13--"a vital, permanent eruption" that "sure-as-hell deserves south-of-the-border SRRT support." Well, at the risk of immodesty, that late-1973 characterization (or prediction) has proved completely correct. EL has not only survived, but steadily grown in size, scope, outspokenness, & (if possible) vitality. To put it compactly: it's a pleasure to read, a source of much practical info, a spirited, agressive vehicle for alternative librarianship, and unquestionably worth getting in preference to any of the standard, orthodox rags. Judge for yourself: Is the latest LJ, WLB, RQ, or LRTS even half as exciting, provocative, or bibliographically valuable as the latest--Feb. 1975--EL, which includes a roster of Australian women's & radical mags, Dorothy Broderick's candid assessment of sex education books for children, & myth-busting statements on Juvenile & YA librarianship, plus the usual, uncompromising A/V & print reviews? For the benefit of the unitiated, EL costs $7 p.a. (individual Yanks), $8 (institutions), & $9 (international). Send orders and checks to Barbara Clubb, 697 Wellington Crescent, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3M 0A7, Canada. You won't be disappointed. ●

FRIENDS OF BOOKS & ➔ COMICS WEST is staging the 3d International San Francisco Book Fair from Wednesday through Friday, July 2d-4th, at the Veterans Building in the Civic Center, near Brooks Hall. Besides the more than 200 small-press exhibits, the 3-day gala will be enlivened by poetry readings, a mime troupe, a wandering band, a lecture-discussion on how to publish your own mss., and possibly a "human juke-box." Other features: A catalog. A multi-colored T-shirt (for sale) with a design, says Francie Gilman, that "you've got to see to believe." Refreshments, too! Come on, They're expecting you!!

CHAUVINISM AND JINGOISM - UNITED STATES - SONGS AND MUSIC
Wayne, John, 1907- America, why I love her

wolf's bane

The last hurrah

Of the 108 statements of "professional concerns" submitted by this spring's candidates for ALA office, exactly two, Sherrie Bergman's and Mary Biblo's, dealt with the contracting job market for librarians. The other 106 displayed an obsessive worry over THE PROFESSION. But a profession composed of libraries, not individual librarians.

Yet consider the attention paid by the constituent bodies in real professions (AMA, ABA, UFT) to the employment opportunities and job markets for doctors, lawyers, and teachers. Then think of the "Find 'em, Fleece 'em, Fuck 'em, and Forget 'em" attitude espoused by Ms. Doralyn Hickey.

Like Dickens' Mrs. Jellyby, even SRRT's heavy radicals manage to raise their consciousness about everyone far and abroad while their own family lives neglected, undernourished, and demoralized.

The Vidkun Quisling Award in the War on Poverty, however, goes to SRRT's Jobs Task Farce for willingly co-operating with the charade that ALA cares about the jobless librarian.

Despite EEOC regulations, from 55% (Harvard Soc, Dept.) to 80% (Bernard Haldane Assoc.) of all "white collar professional and managerial" job vacancies are filled, unadvertised, exclusively through personal contacts and old-boy-nets. So JTF's farting around with its kindergarten "resource bibliographies" of joblines, registries, and bulletin boards is about as productive as masturbation.

Yet the true collaborator, and fink, prefers the illusion that an indifferent profession is "doing something" rather than admit that ALA Placement isn't working--and was never intended to--and that only radical change can remedy the situation.

Citations for gratuitous cruelty also go to all library spokespersons who recoil in horror from the suggestion that unemployed librarians be utilized in sub-professional positions.

"But think how it would downgrade THE PROFESSION!"

Ignoring the problem of how one can totally divorce the state of THE PROFESSION from the welfare of those who profess it, a question still remains.

What, aside from janitorial work, could possibly demand less creative imagination and intellectual discipline than the jobs most PROFESSIONAL librarians are doing today?

Librarians do not formulate book selection policies.

Our patrons tell us what they want us to buy.

Librarians do not catalog originally.

Mr. MARC II OCLC does that for us.

DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT. see also **AFFIRMATIVE ACTION; SEXISM IN EMPLOYMENT.**
51% (Video cassette) Robert Drucker; distributed by Time-Life Video,c1971. 1 cassette. 23 min. sd. col. SUMMARY: Discusses discrimination towards today's working women.
[VC 331.4F]

Norgren, Paul Herbert. Toward fair employment. Columbia Univ. Press,c1964.
[331.113N]

Ross, Arthur M. (ed.) Employment, race, and poverty. Harcourt,c1967. **[331.113R]**

Some librarians may still give reference service--but only if they have the proper subject degrees to work in academic libraries or the proper racial/ethnic background to work in neighborhood reference centers.

That the prime criteria for employment in today's university libraries are the second masters/doctorate and multiple foreign language proficiency shows how worthless the MLS is as a gauge of scholastic accomplishment or performance potential.

And why not.

Nobody with any smarts chooses a library school for the quality of education it imparts.

The prudent careerist selects a lib. sci. dept. for the connections of its faculty and their ability to quickly place alumni via old school ties. Like the unreformed British civil service, in library land coming from the "right" school, being part of the proper old-boy-net, and having a good personality-fit count more than ability, intelligence, or creativity.

This is why THE PROFESSION is so damned indifferent to the plight of the jobless librarian.

We simply aren't "the right sort of people."

So library educators, administrators, and ALA jefes gaily deny the existence of any job crisis, adopting the strategy of "blaming the victim" by dismissing unemployment as the personal failure of the jobless rather than the disfunction of the job market.

Yet who ignored a once-in-a-lifetime chance to upgrade both the caliber of library education and the quality of library work during the expanding job market of the '60s?

And who opted instead to grind out 9,000 MLSers a year like so many pounds of sausage and define as "professional" any shitwork an MLSer could be bullied into doing?

And who is suffering for it now?--Steve Wolf, 57-21 Marathon Parkway, Little Neck, NY 11362.

Reviews

Bibliography on the Jewish woman. By Aviva Cantor Zuckoff. Jewish Feminist Organization, 36 West 37th St., NYC 10018. 5th ed. 1975. 15 p. $1.00

This annotated list of strictly English-language items is inexpensive, useful, and needed. Arranged by format (books, periodicals, etc.) and then subdivided by subject (e.g., Israel, History and Sociology), it includes both fiction and non-fiction titles, together with data on forthcoming publications.

The "Notes on sources" should be expanded. And a statement on selection-criteria is needed. So, SHVESTERHOOD IS POWERFUL. Buy.--Renee Feinberg, Coordinator, Jewish Caucus of the A.L.A., c/o Brooklyn College Library, Bedford Ave. and Ave. H, Brooklyn, NY 11210.

■

100 flowers re-view. 100 Flowers Bookstore, 186 Hampshire St., Cambridge, Mass. 02139. bi-monthly. v. 1, no. 1 (Nov./Dec. 1974). Regular sub: $3.00 p.a.; sustaining: $10.00 (including 10% discount on all books purchased at the Bookstore or postage charges on materials ordered by mail). "If you can't afford" either tab, "please send what you can."

The organizers plan to stress "informational and critical/analytical articles concerning printed media." The first two issues clearly reflect that intent. Each contains an informational column, "Book notes," which reports on new paperbacks and forthcoming special-interest titles. The welcome emphasis is on small press output. The initial number--for instance--recommends a privately-published and distributed volume, Inversions, by Burt Alpert. The second underpins that recommendation with a thoughtful, well-written review by Alec Johnson.

The critical/analytical sections include articles on bookstore-developments, as well as general trade activity in the Boston area (e.g., "The Boston Globe Book Fair"). The Jan./Feb. '75 issue features both an interview with Tillie Olsen and a review of her "long-lost" novel, Yonnondio. Also: an omnibus review, "Sharing lives: how do books on 'Open marriage' look?," which covers five works on the topic. The writing throughout is lucid, even, and intelligent.

A collective produces the Re-view, "with each issue having a coordinator." The group should be congratulated on its logical approach & realistic goals. They're interested in variety & dialogue. A slightly limiting aspect is the mag's local--i.e., Massachusetts--focus, but it will doubtless develop other directions as the collective itself grows & changes. In any event, the Re-view & Bookstore alike are examples of what people can do to reach out, share, and delight.--Barbara Carlson, Penn Lake Community Library, 8800 Penn Ave. S., Bloomington, Minnesota 55431.

Editor's note: Slated for future issues are essays on "the politics of hope in recent fantasy literature, the annual Science Fiction Convention, humor of black comedians, presenting literature in the classroom, and anarchism."

■

RECON. Recon Publications, P.O. Box 14602, Philadelphia, PA 19134. Monthly. "Movement organizers and GIs": $3 p.a.; institutions & sustaining subs: $10. (Also available from Xerox University Microfilms).

Taking its title from the clipped military version of "reconnaissance," it's aptly named. The term is defined as "an exploratory survey or examination, as in seeking out information about enemy positions, installations, etc." And RECON does examine the military/industrial/government complex (M/I/G) for its readers in detail which, at times, goes well beyond the exploratory.

This informative newsletter is obviously aimed at veterans and GIs, change agents (violent and non-violent), and others looking for alternatives. It is also an excellent resource for libraries interested in presenting the "other" side of the M/I/G picture.

Articles in two recent issues covered the controversial B-1 bomber; the Environmental Research Institute of Michigan (ERIM), which changed its name from the infamous war-researching Willow Run Lab; how the US undermined the Geneva Protocol prohibiting chemical and biological warfare; Southern (US) militarism; the women's detachment of the Zimbabwe African National Liberation Army; and how to research your local war industry.

RECON also contains news items on how vets and GIs are faring in military and civil hassles, the international M/I/G scene, relevant legislation, and reviews of movement literature.

Apparently a collective venture, RECON's a COSMEP member & cooperating group of the Philadelphia People's Fund. The reviewed issues ran to 12 pages, printed in reduced type on white, 8½ x 11", easy-to-read paper, and illustrated with line drawings & photos.

Final judgment: RECON is interesting, informative, and recommended.

SPINOFF: The article, "How to research your local war industry," is available as a 10¢-reprint from NARMIC (National Action/Research on the Military Industrial Complex), a project of the American

Friends Service Committee. A list of the top 100 defense contractors is also obtainable @ 10¢. Order these pamfile bargains from NARMIC, 112 South 16th St., Philadelphia, PA 19102.--Ed Cavallini, People's Librarian Task Force, 659 S. 15th St., San Jose, CA 95112.

■

Senior Power; growing old rebelliously. By Paul Kleyman. 1974. Glide Publications, 330 Ellis St., San Francisco, CA 94102. 177 p. paperbound. $3.95. LC 74-7486. ISBN 0-912078-38-3.

The part devoted to "Perserverance, media, and other tactics" really describes the power of Senior Citizens. Even here, in Los Angeles, Senior Citizens packed City Council chambers in connection with a bill to repeal municipal taxes on utility bills--and with almost no debate it was passed. Unanimously. The yearly savings to Senior Citizens with incomes under $7,500 will amount to about $18.

In short, concerted effort, pressure on all officials in every way possible, unity, and organization--these are essential.--Samuel Berman, Vice-President, Retirees Club, Local #770, Retail Clerks International Union, 3607 Somerset Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90016.

■

Visions elsewhere. By Michael Curley and Gary Kolar. Pourhouse Press, P.O. Box 3912, Center Line, Michigan 48015. 1974. 48p. $1.25. paperbound.

The poems of Michael Curley and Gary Kolar collected in Visions elsewhere depict the mislaid generation of 1975: post-Woodstock, post-flower, post-sexual revolution. In brutal, undeniable images, the poets sing of a world that's ending in a mumble, of youth grown old in sagging bodies, of sex gone bad and love gone stale, of pleasure gone sour and hope and expectation just plain gone.

For Curley and Kolar, the 1960s held all the promises of California dreaming: golden surfer lads and girls, the peace-and-love Aquarius generation. But the poets know where all the flower children have gone, and write of our played-out Pepsi generation fast approaching menopause.

Gary Kolar shows us

◯A child abandoned
In a
Public Library
Wanders up and down
Hoping to be found
Hoping to be taken home
By someone human
By a librarian
By a mother
By a little brother
But grows instead
Amidst the shelves
Into a kind of man
And scribbles
Desperate
Cries for help
On the walls
Of the lavatories
In the
Public library.

Michael Curley limns the perfect portrait of a library school class:

◯Aging housewives pour over a textbook for one course ruining averages, boring people with their banter, and pictures of their grown children who are always doing well.

Regrettably, this book provides neither biographical data on the authors nor citations to their other writings. Curley and Kolar have fashioned a poetics for our age of Lead and Plastic forged from the discards of our former hopes.

Thankfully these poets keep on writing, refusing to abandon us to the ultimate 70s degradation: the "post-literate" world of tv shows and glossy advertising.--Steve Wolf.

■

A study guide on the Jewish woman. Ezrat Nashim, c/o Apt. 2A, 306 West 73d St., NYC 10025. 1974. 10 p. 50¢.

The Ezrat Nashim collective has assembled the appropriate questions for women's groups that wish to critically examine Jewish literature, history, and the laws regulating marriage, divorce, synagogue ritual (e.g., the segregation of female & male congregants, the women occupying a special section called the Ezrat Nashim), and other aspects of communal life.--Renee Feinberg.

■

The Lizard of Oz; an adult fable. By Richard Seltzer. B & R Samizdat Express, West Roxbury, Mass. 1974. 126 p. $2.95. paperbound.

Copy due: in the midst of a beautiful and important book, Gail Godwin's The Odd Woman, I realize I must put it aside to read and review a little story called The Lizard of Oz. I will try to be impartial; they are different kinds of books.

I tried, but the Lizard of enchantment is disenchanting. Labeled an "adult fable", I ask, "Adult? Does that mean pornographic?" No! So why "adult", especially when the main characters, the questors, are mostly children? Maybe I expect too much. I want my fables to be ageless/timeless.

The plot: a quest to the Lizard to steal Promethean fire and bring enchantment back to a disenchanted Winthrop, Massachusetts. The author adorns his fable with plays on words, pun-fun. Unfortunately, I am not amused with stale terms like flower power or potheads or Paul New Man. Too late.

Another thing. Although the leader of the troop to Oz is a woman, at the moment she realizes her strength and truly takes intelligent command, the author adds: "Then she realized there was someone bigger. She couldn't say who; but she felt there was someone and felt he was with her." Why? Even if the "he" were capitalized, I would say nay.--Pam Myhre, Wayzata Community Library, 620 Rice Street, Wayzata, Minnesota 55391.

P.S. Seltzer's two page post-script is a bit much.

Editor's note▶ For a contrary opinion, see the Nov./Dec. '74 100 flowers re-view, p. 4 ("The cover is hand silk-screened, the illustrations...superb, and the story, a fantasy adventure full of whimsical humor, delightful puns and paradoxes, great fun to read").

■

The living Z: a guide to the literature of the counterculture, the alternative press, and little magazines. By Noel Peattie. Margins, 2912 N. Hackett, Milwaukee, WI 53211. 1975. $2.00 paperbound.

A brief but handy guide to alternative publications, which usually fall into LC's Z classification. Consists of a lively running commentary evaluating selected items, followed by checklists. Divided into six sections: directories, bibliographies, periodicals about the publishing scene, specialty lists, histories and bibliographic essays, and how-to-do-it books on publishing. An earlier version appeared in Margins: 10, Feb.-March 1974. Recommended as a good introduction to basic sources.--Norman Stock, Reference Dept., Brooklyn College Library, Brooklyn, NY 11210.

Editor's note▶ Author Peattie, of course, is uniquely qualified to comment on "the living Z," being himself a special collections librarian, little-mag editor (Sipapu), and independent publisher (Konocti Books). And even beyond that--as everyone who knows him can attest--he's a wonderfully literate, lively, & soulful guy. A mensch, dig?

■

Breaking contract; the story of Vinnia Ndadi. Recorded and edited by Dennis Mercer. LSM Press/LSM Information Center, P.O. Box 94338, Richmond, B.C., Canada V6Y 2A8. 1975. $1.75. paperbound. (Life histories from the revolution. Namibia: SWAPO, 1)

The presentation of biographical experience to move others toward understanding and emotional involvement is not unique. For centuries readers have enjoyed diaries, memoirs and biographies because it enables them to share lifestyles unknown to them.

What is unique about this series is that those telling their stories are illiterate, and these life histories "have been recorded and prepared as historical documents from the revolutionary struggles of our time."

One selection is the story of Vinnia Ndadi, a former contract laborer living in unendurable circumstances in Namibia under white Boer domination and now a leader of the South West African People's Organization. It is a totally engrossing biography which calls forth complete empathy from one who certainly qualifies as part of "imperialism's privileged and literate metropolitan minority." It is just this minority that the Liberation Support Movement hopes to reach.

If the entire series is edited as well, it cannot miss. This may be the first material to successfully reach those uninterested in the struggle taking place in so much of the world. Essential for libraries, which certainly contain so many words from the literate dominators.--Suzanne LeBarron, Sociology Dept., Minneapolis Public Library, 300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, MN 55401.

■

Marriage, divorce and the family newsletter. Marriage and Divorce Press, Inc., P.O. Box 42, Madison Square Station, NYC 10010. 8 nos. yearly. Individuals: $7.00 p.a.; organizations: $12.00.

Reviewing just one specific issue of a newsletter (in this case, v. 1, no. 4) is somewhat difficult because one can't accurately assess the cumulative effect of several issues. There seems to be some editorial indecision as to whether this newsletter is directed toward professionals in the field and such information-sources as organizations and libraries, or toward individuals. The value of it, as judged from one issue, is definitely weighted on the side of action organizations and libraries. The sections titled "Marriage legislation", "What the divorce laws say coast to coast," and "Directory of counseling groups" could be very useful on a continuing basis (particularly if the Directory expands beyond East Coast interest). However--for groups--such a column as "Creative Living," which describes one equal marriage, seems a bit maudlin. Another potentially good article, "Why a Marriage

Contract?," is simply a condensation from Family law quarterly and one would rather read the entire piece.

The focus of the newsletter is very definite. A large library should probably subscribe for a year to honestly determine its worth. Any group concerned with these issues would probably find that they already have access to the information provided, but the newsletter could prove to be a quick source for current data and a "digest" complete with bibliography.--Suzanne LeBarron.

■

Musica; a newsletter about the women in music and the music in women. P.O. Box 55, Troutdale, Oregon 97060. Editor: Indy Allen. Subscription/donation: $3.00 p.a. (Make checks payable to the editor)

The 4th issue of this news-worthy newsletter describes women's bands & performing groups (including their recordings), reports on a just-formed communications network to put women musicians in touch with one another, and lists available women's songbooks, as well as contacts for musicians, teachers, producers, and agents. Although Oregon-based, Musica's content is not necessarily local & so should be of interest to women and libraries wherever there's music. (The editor, incidentally, responds to subscriptions with a warm, hand-written note.)--Linda Running, A/V Cataloger (and distinguished pianist), Hennepin County Library, 7001 York Ave. S., Edina, MN 55435.

■

Sex news: a monthly digest of news, views, events, publications, and resources. 7140 Oak, Kansas City, Missouri 64114. $3 p.a. ($3.50 if invoice required).

Analysis of five sample copies indicates that Sex News is an invaluable source of information for all librarians, teachers involved in sex education, marriage counsellors, ministers, priests, et. al. A subscribing Library would want to establish its own version of SDI so that members of the community who need the information received it. The subtitle is correct: we find hard news, announcements of workshops, courses and conventions on sex and sexuality, reviews of important publications, and assorted other goodies. All aspects of human sexuality in the news receive attention and the editor appears to have few unidentifiable biases, but rather to be a person open to new ideas and attitudes. There is a strong humanistic tone to his personal comments, a "plus" as far as I am concerned, and coverage extends far beyond the "plumbing" approach to sex. I showed the samples to a Dalhousie Health Sciences Faculty member whose response was: "Can we get all the back issues? I could do great things with this information." Our subscription is in. Yours should be too.--Dorothy M. Broderick, School of Library Service, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3H 4H8, Canada.

■

Integrity: Gay Episcopal forum. Louis Crew, 701 Orange St. (No. 6), Fort Valley, Georgia 31030. $5 p.a.

Not being a religious person, I find it hard to get excited about discussions as to whether god loves gay people as much as he loves straights--or whether he loves anyone, for that matter. However, recognizing that there are gays whose religious beliefs are at least as important to them as their sexual preferences may help some people understand that this is just one more area in which being gay is secondary.

The sample issues seen included "A Gay Confession"; reactions from readers of earlier issues; news; and the Integrity "Constitution." All people identified with Integrity are males and the "Constitution" refers to the officers as "he." As with the issue of College English (October 1974) edited by Crew, there is a strong male bias, despite occasional lip service to women.

Libraries looking to serve the gay community will do better to be on the National Gay Task Force's mailing list; but in areas with a strong Episcopal following, Integrity might be worth the money.--Dorothy M. Broderick.

Feedback

1●

I read with some amusement (and of course, disappointment) Jack Baker's sizzling "review" of the Journal of Homosexuality in your last issue [#34, p. 33-4].

As Publishers of the Journal of homosexuality, I hope you will have room to print the following message to your readers:

a) Mr. Baker is an attorney, and has not the technical background to assess the Journal of homosexuality (a basically psychological journal) in a technical way. Mr. Baker's "review" in essence represented an emotional outburst, portraying a narrow ideology within the radical gay movement. It had little relevance to the goals, purpose, or actual content of the Journal.

b) the Journal is a new quarterly periodical, approximately 150 pages per issue (and quite beautiful in appearance!), devoted solely to behavioral science research on complex issues in homosexual behavior and related areas of gender roles.

c) JH is intended to serve the needs of counselors, psychotherapists, social workers, and other helping professionals by providing information that steers away from the traditional

"medical model" or illness-approach in old psychiatry toward homosexuality. It is also intended to provide good reading for the educated public, where scientific research on gay sexuality is hard to come by. Contrary to Mr. Wolf's remarks [p. 34], most laymen will find JH easy to read (at least, in the non-statistical sections), and at times, quite captivating and enjoyable.

d) the Journal of Homosexuality provides 2 bibliographic tools, especially included for library use:

* an ABSTRACTS section, in which abstracts of journal articles published elsewhere are provided. Each issue of JH has about 75 abstracts, generated by on-line computer search of the major data bases in psychology, medicine, education, law, sociology, anthropology, and other areas. Approximately 15,000 technical journals are covered in all. The section is near-exhaustive, and a subject/author key-word index is provided at the end of the year, with cumulations planned every 3 years.

* an INDEX TO COURT CASES, covering the major federal courts, circuit courts, state courts and courts of appeals. Typical cases involve job & housing discrimination against gays; child custody cases & lesbian mothers; and related cases. Full annotations, including key number, citation number, and case outcome, are included. This section is planned to aid poorer gay people and gay legal organizations who cannot afford the vast expenses involved in legal research, and whose legal tactics are limited thereby. A full key-word index is provided at the end of the year, with cumulations planned every 3 years.

Any reader of the SRRT newsletter is invited to write in, on library letterhead, and we will forward a complimentary specimen copy for evaluation. Requests should be sent to: Bill Cohen, Haworth Press, 130 West 72nd Street, NYC 10023. Cordially.--Bill Cohen (5-4-75).

2●

In regard to your review of The ("New") Advocate [#34, p. 31-2], you may be interested in our assessment of the paper, among other things enclosed.

We also notice Jack Baker's continued distress over terminology -- this time directed to the title of the Journal of Homosexuality. Would he have it called Journal of Gayality or Journal of Gayness? Jack will be further disheartened to learn that the former Gay Crusader of San Francisco is now simply The Crusader. The editors felt the word "gay" was a "put-down." In Touch no longer "celebrates" "gay awareness," starting with Vol. 2, No. 2. An editorial in the Feb. 14, 1975, issue of the LA Free Press explains: "To be able to love is to be able to love. Gayness or the gay life is an artificial subculture of people who have banded together for comfort around one common interest. As they withdraw more and more into themselves, they become more insular and eccentric. The word 'gay' is a product of society's uptightness. It is an inherently repressive concept."

We, of course, agree. "Gay" is not descriptive of anybody. It used to describe a delightful feeling or attitude. But it is a bad word when used as a noun to describe a group of people or sexual response. In a way, so is "homosexuality." Jack Baker complains that it is an "insult" to discuss "Gays in the context of their crotches." Nonsense. What's wrong with crotches? On the contrary, the worst thing about the word "gay" is that it has no guts. We at HIC want to put the sex back in homosexuality, and we choose that usage -- at least until all sexual acts have parity. Cordially.--Don Slater, Homosexual Information Center, 3473½ Cahuenga, Hollywood, CA 90028 (5-14).

Editor's note▶ This is Don's "assessment," appearing in HIC's Newsletter #29 (May 1975)

○The Los Angeles Advocate grew out of the old PRIDE newsletter in 1967, after Steve Ginsberg sold the remains of the PRIDE organization to Dick Michaels for about $300 -- or enough to get to San Francisco. It has always been a comic-supplement sort of paper. The emphasis has been on the ridiculous and bizarre.

○Dick Michaels bought the paper to make money. He ran it like a banker. To insure a profit, the Advocate carried pictures of nude boys, and devoted a large section to tasteless but lucrative personal ads. It frequently featured pieces about Troy Perry, that fat and flippant pentecostal preacher who takes nickels from gay sinners -- written as though the rev. gentleman is a four-square-honest evangelist. The paper published uniformed and wishy-washy commentaries on the need for sexual law reform. It ran hysterical diatribes on the Houston murders, and on the tragic bar fire that killed over 20 persons in New Orleans (which, in addition, it ruthlessly exploited through a memorial fund-raising scheme that grossed over $17,000 but disbursed as grants to individuals less than $6,000, as of May 31, 1974). In order to appease its more radical critics, and lend an aggressive tone to the usual pap, the Advocate paid editorial patronage to the politically motivated and manipulated gay parades and other public rituals of the left-leaning groups.

○All the while Mr. Michaels carefully excluded those items he thought would not sell papers. He uniformly omitted mention of the names of persons and organizations that were critical of his editorial policies. Reference to the Homosexual Information Center and its leadership was not permitted. Other groups were ignored. There is nothing really wrong with this. The Advocate is not a homosexual movement publication. It is a commercial enterprise.

○The spirit of the Advocate has not changed much under the new ownership of Bay Area capitalist David Goodstein, who paid Michaels considerably more than $300 for the paper late last year.

- There has been a slight shift in animosities. New names have been added to the company of those formerly blacklisted -- which is why so many persons who were once pleased to see their names in print now complain bitterly, although they showed no similar concern over the earlier manipulation and censorship of others. In other respects there has been a welcome political de-emphasis, and those endless articles that nobody could get excited about in which the LAPD was bogeyman are under control. Generally speaking, the Advocate has taken on an older character -- somewhat like that of a cheap gay Esquire.

- Dick Michaels ran the paper for profit. Goodstein already has money. He would like to have power and influence as well. The Advocate has begun to reflect his personal philosophy. Unfortunately, nobody seems to take his ideas seriously. If he sees himself in the role of a Wm. Randolph Hearst of the gay press, he and his paper have a long way to go.

3●

I see by your #34 that the poisonous pragmatism bug has struck again.

"Wolf's Bane" is on target with the demand that Congress appropriate funds for jobs for trained librarians.

He is wasting his time with calls for planning on the part of the library schools. Like everything else under declining capitalism, they are surrounded by and permeated with anarchy; "planning" is the sport of monopolists like ATT and GM. Planning for library service and education will require at least a people's government, and may require full socialism.

The library history and philosophy purveyed in some places may be "cotton candy," most likely in fact where taught by pragmatists who have met payrolls. Actually, genuine analysis of ideas and social change is as demanding as anything on a campus. If our neophytes sally forth knowing just library materials and the minority who use them; if they do not know how they came to be and where they are going, SRRT and others can count on more floundering. The future demands action with perspective, and there is no perspective without theory.

Thanks for all your noble work, and good luck. Confidently.--Sidney L. Jackson, School of Library Science, Kent State University, Kent, Ohio 44242 (5-15).

Affiliates

SF get-together planned

A rap session for affiliate reps is tentatively pegged for Tuesday, July 1st, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. (Check the final schedule to confirm time & location.)

This year has seen the demise of several local groups. Liz Dickinson, Affiliates Liaison, hopes that a get-together for active & former affiliates will provide a means to discuss the "folding" problem. (Or possibly some SRRTers don't see it as a problem.) Other possible rap topics: Is SRRT relevant? Have we exhausted all of our social issues? Is there a better way for us to get it all together? Are we bogged down in bureaucracy, bickering, in-fighting? If you have questions/answers/comments, please make them known at the Affiliates Meeting in SF.

Bay Area/South Bay: all systems GO!

The convivial atmosphere of the joint April 16th meeting produced much enthusiasm for a workshop on grant-writing-and-getting as a means for breathing life and job opportunities into alternative library projects. South Bay SRRTers are already at work on a summer week-end-long workshop on the topic, then both groups hope to distill the wisdom and expertise for a smashing CLA program, titled "INDECENT PROPOSALS."

Bay Area SRRT approved writing a protest letter to the L.A. Public Library on the firing of Toni Mitchell, a Boyle Heights, Chicano-serving librarian who got riffed by a very uptight boss, Wyman Jones.

South Bay reports that "Basement Roots Library has found a home!" New address: 314-C Laurel St., Santa Cruz, CA 95060. Hours: 3-9 p.m., Monday thru Friday, as well as Sundays from 12 noon to 5 p.m. "They're seeking gifts of books and periodicals dealing with nonviolence and change," according to SB's April '75 Newsletter, "but check with them first to avoid duplication. Also pledges and money-donations are welcome. Several South Bay SRRTers are pledging monthly support. And a hat-passing at our last meeting netted $42!"

The 1st meeting of South Bay's Unions Task Force emphasized two points: The need for--and how to get benefits for--part-time employees. The probable advantages for all library workers in the same jurisdiction being in the same bargaining unit.

Bay Area Co-Coordinators: Margaret R. Dollbaum, 1927 Russell St., Berkeley, CA 94703; Francisco Pinnell, 216 - 2d Ave., San Francisco, CA 94118. (Frank works at SFPL on the jails project and also in a branch in a Spanish-speaking area. Margaret is the librarian at the California Attorney-General's SF office.) South Bay officers: Ruth Reynolds, Chairperson, 360 Swett Road, Woodside, CA 94062; Lois Smith, Secretary-Treasurer, 2300 St. Francis Drive, Palo Alto, CA 94303.

Task forces

Prisoners: Alcatraz-tours, Attica-film on tap for SF

SRRT's TF on Library Service to Prisoners will sponsor two tours of Alcatraz Island, site of the one-time infamous federal prison, on Wednesday, July 2d, from 9:30-11:30 a.m. & 10 a.m.-12 noon. Tickets for the 2-hour trips--including boat-rides, a magnificent view of San Francisco & the bay, and guided walk-around--are $3, obtainable in advance from Joan Stout, 1884 San Lorenzo Ave., Berkeley, CA 94707, or--during ALA exhibit hours--from the Tricontinental Film booth (no. 75) on the 2d floor of Civic Auditorium. Since each tour is limited to 60 persons, it's wise to make reservations FAST.

Also slated: free previews of Cinda Firestone's award-winning, 90-minute documentary, Attica. Show-times: Tuesday, July 1, at 1:30 and 4:30 p.m., as well as Thursday, July 3, at 4:30 p.m. Place: Commission Room of the San Francisco Public Library (Civic Center).

People's Librarian: an explosive grab-bag

PLTF's program-meeting, set for Tuesday, July 1st, from 4:30 to 6 p.m., will feature a role-playing, image-exploding examination of permanent part-time employment and job sharing, with definitions, pros and cons, and ways and means. Expert speakers/resource people are to lead discussion groups and--at the end--report on any consensus reached, new ideas, and new questions. It's hoped that these reactions will be written-up, then presented to ALA Council as reinforcement for the job-sharing resolution discussed earlier in this issue by Elizabeth Katz. The TF also plans to use PLOP II as a resource-kit for attendees.

PLOP II (PEOPLE'S LIBRARIAN OCCASIONAL PAPERS #II), edited by Pat Haggarty, should be out in time for ALA. And it's gonna be a torrid number. The highlights: articles on job restructuring, job splitting, and the TF's ALA resolution (with BIBLIOGRAPHY!), as well as progress reports from Basement Roots Library (the Hinchliffs in Santa Cruz), Barbara Pruett (UFW), and Werner Hertz (ELIC). If you somehow missed PLOP #I--Out-of-Print already!--be sure to get PLOP #II. For copies, write Pat Haggarty, 494-A 41st St., Oakland, CA 94609. Price: donation (but we suggest a minimum half-buck to cover postage & printing).

Alternative award winners will be announced at the NEWCOTT-CALDEBERRY LUNCH, co-sponsored by PLTF, at Glide Church, 330 Ellis St., just across from the Hilton. Date & time: Wednesday, July 2d, from noon to 2 p.m. Per-person tab: $6 (to benefit the UFW, People's Librarian Barbara Pruett being on hand for the occasion). Where to buy tickets: in the ALA registration area.

Anyone coming to SF: Be sure to visit ELIC (Eastbay Liberation Information Center) across the bay in Oakland. This is an extensive, unique collection of alternative material, so valuable that the Oakland Library Commission may house it in one of its own branches. For now, it's at 5951 Canning St., Oakland; (415) 653-6535.--Francie Gilman, PLTF Coordinator, 410 Fairmount (#301), Oakland, CA 94611.

Ethnic Materials: library/publishing treatment of minorities to be discussion topic

Coordinator David Cohen (Library Science Dept., Queens College, Flushing, NY 11367) announces that the TF's program--co-sponsored by the Council on Interracial Books for Children--will take place in the Sheraton Palace Hotel on Monday, June 30th, from 2-4 p.m., followed by an hour-and-a-half business meeting. ○The topic: "Treatment of minorities in libraries and publishing ten years after... Nancy Larrick and Adam Clayton Powell." ○Key speaker: Nancy Larrick, author, editor, and critic from Quakertown, Pennsylvania, whose name figures in the program-title due to her famous article in a 1965 Saturday review on "The all white world of children's books." (Adam Clayton Powell shares the billing for having conducted 1965 Congressional hearings on the textbook-treatment of minorities, etc.) ○Panelists: Joan K. Marshall on subject headings; Carmine Diodati on Italian Americans; Joan Neumann on Minority Publishers; Elizabeth Martinez Smith on Chicanos; Janet Suzuki on Asian Americans; and Binnie Tate on Services. Audience-reactors will speak from floor mikes.

Dave adds that the TF will also arrange a 50-person visit to the Multicultural Resources' exhibit on Tuesday, July 1st, at noontime. Transportation: bus. Food: yeah.

Late stuff

This is the letter lately directed by Stephanie Kennedy on behalf of the Bay Area Social Responsibilities Round Table to Wyman Jones, Director, Los Angeles Public Library (630 W. 5th St., Los Angeles, CA 90017):

- We protest the summary dismissal of librarian Toni Mitchell from the Los Angeles Public Library System. We find that the reasons alleged for this act and the manner in which it was done are alike unprofessional.

- "Insubordination" is a puzzling reason for the dismissal of someone who was hired to do a job. If, on the other hand, Ms. Mitchell and other employees of the Los Angeles Public Library System are hired to do what they're told, it seems a scandalous waste of taxpayers' money to hire anyone

SPECIAL MEMO

Date: 5-25-75

To: SRRT members

From: Nancy Kellum-Rose, AC Coordinator (247 - 25th Ave., San Francisco, CA 94121)

The Chicago meeting was less traumatic than anticipated. Executive Board, COPES, etc. seemed to really want to work out the problems with the Round Tables, not just try to kill us with assessments and excessive restrictions. All the RT heads, except me, agreed that they should make some contribution to ALA staff costs and overhead, but that the amount should be calculated according to the staff time & services they actually use. I stuck to our original contention that Social Responsibilities was an ALA priority and should continue to be funded from general dues. Wedgeworth argued that many groups claim to represent priorities and that everyone is being assessed. It was decided to form a Task Force of 3 RT people and one ALA staff person to try to work out a reasonable formula for RT contributions. There was no way to get the entire issue dumped, especially since everyone else is willing to pay and ALA insists on treating all RTs the same. Needless to say, I'm going to be on the Task Force, so at least we'll have direct input. We've lost on the principle, but I think we may come out having to pay very little. Also, the whole assessment issue still must go to Council. And maybe we can table it there.

Most of the time was spent discussing the role of RTs within the association. Holley, Martin, & others stressed the RTs' valuable role: they provide flexibility, a chance for new people to get involved, and even prod the larger group toward change. The problems arise when the RTs--or individuals within them--make statements or take actions that can be interpreted as policy statements for the entire Association. RTs cannot, constitutionally, make ALA policy. Only Council can. And everyone was very adamant about this. It appears, however, to be impossible to set down really specific rules for RTs without imposing unwanted restrictions on them. The group agreed that we all had to act in good faith, etc.

Some of our hassles involve procedural matters and the lack of communication with ALA. There are no guidelines of any kind for RT coordinators to find their way around the complex ALA bureaucracy. Consequently, every new SRRT Coordinator expends a lot of energy just locating basic information, time schedules, etc. The new TF will also try to assemble a basic orientation manual for RT coordinators. It will include: 1) functions of staff liaison (an area of much confusion & diversity), 2) a general description of ALA policies and procedures, 3) a rundown of services available from the publishing unit, and 4) a classification of RT relations to other ALA units. The other TF members are Tony Miele (GODORT) & Jim Harvey (JMRT). Hopefully, we'll come up with a useful document. All final TF products will be presented to RT memberships first, and eventually to Council. I felt that the meeting was basically productive and helped relieve some paranoias on all sides.

And now for some conference news. Our major program--on "Women and Unions"--is sure to be very exciting. As panelists we've got 3 firebrands from California, plus an organizer for the District 65 Publishing Union. I'd strongly encourage all of you who can to attend the Thursday morning (10-12 noon) Action Council session. At that time, Carlos Cuadra & Marcia Bates from NCLIS will discuss the Commission's position on user needs. NCLIS has recently published The proceedings of a Conference on the Needs of Occupational, Ethnic, and Other Groups, edited by Cuadra & Bates. I urge you to get a copy from NCLIS (Suite 601, 1717 K St., N.W., Washington, DC), read it, and come with lots of questions. Although NCLIS claims to be user-oriented, their priorities still seem to be machines. And this is a good time to express our concerns.

See you in San Francisco.

with a professional education. If the library is to invest in any trained personnel at all, perhaps they should be drawn from West Point or any other good reform school.

● As to the manner of this dismissal: the philosophy of government which holds that a public trust should be treated as the personal fief of its administrator is rapidly losing favor in the eyes of the general public. By many, it is no longer considered even an endearing anachronism.

● Finally, in reference to the incident which appears to have precipitated this dismissal: we suggest that "image" and "public relations" are concepts which a public servant should view from a very different perspective than that of an employee of private industry; it should be borne in mind always that the public to whom you are ultimately responsible is there to be served, not manipulated. ○

"Wow!," writes Sue Christenson (5-20), "I'm really pleased with all of the attention/space you gave to STASH in SRRT no. 34 /p. 15/. Much appreciated! Since we receive no funding and support ourselves entirely through the sales of our publications, we are thankful for good publicity... One more favor: When I wrote to you we had moved from Beloit to Madison, but had not yet redesigned our stationery. Thus our old address was on the letter I sent AND (you guessed it) our old address got printed. The Beloit P.O. refuses to forward our mail anymore, so could you possibly print an address correction? Thanks so much. Keep up the good work. You really do an excellent job. Susan Christenson, Student Association for the Study of Hallucinogens, Inc. (STASH), 118 South Bedford, Madison, WI 53703." ○

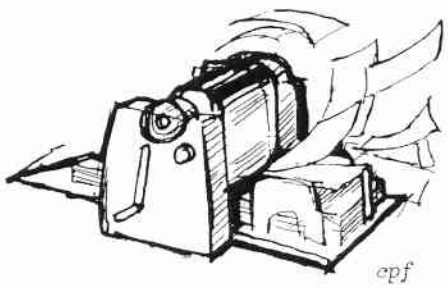
In a May 15th circular, Barbara Gittings--Coordinator of SRRT's TF on Gay Liberation--reports that the TFGL's SF program is scheduled for Tuesday, July 1st, from 4:30-6 p.m., with a business-session planned the next day, July 2d, from 10 a.m. thru noon. Program agenda: ■ Fourth Annual Gay Book Award ■ "The Children's Hour: must Gay be grim for Jane and Jim?" The "grim"-gig is intended to explore ▶ why there are so few young people's novels with gay themes or characters (we know of only five: John Donovan's I'LL GET THERE--IT BETTER BE WORTH THE TRIP, Lynn Hall's STICKS AND STONES, Isabelle Holland's MAN WITHOUT A FACE, Sandra Scoppettone's TRYING HARD TO HEAR YOU, and Barbara Wersba's RUN SOFTLY, GO FAST), and ▶ why, in these few novels (all involving male gayness), Gayness Has No Lasting Significance and/or Costs Someone A Terrible Price. ○

THE GAY BIBLIOGRAPHY is being revised, the new edition to be distributed first at the ALA conference. Since the 3d revision was issued a year & a half ago, over 30,000 copies have been distributed: to libraries of all kinds, gay individuals, teachers, students, counselors, therapists, gay groups & centers, church people, relatives of gays, public officials, schools, lawyers, etc. The upcoming ed., incidentially, will include community/regional papers & magazines, and newsletters of national church-related gay caucuses, as well as brief fiction & biography sections. Maybe. Which raises the problem of money. This is how Barbara put it: "Our allocation from SRRT for 1974-75 is just $100. (Some TFs got even less.) The bibliography alone will cost many hundreds of dollars (take the current list to a printer & ask for a price if you're skeptical) & only part of that can be recovered by charging for copies. So any donation you can make, or can get a friend to make, will be most welcome. Checks should be drawn to 'Barbara Gittings-TFGL' and sent to me at P.O. Box 2383, Philadelphia, PA 19103." ○

The Task Force on Women announces that it will have a women's suite at the El Cortez Hotel in SF, beginning Sunday, June 29th. Listed in the names of Coordinator Liz Futas & Women in libraries editor May Cassell, the room will be available for small meetings & get-together. ○

Celebrate the Bicentennial with an attractive poster on WOMEN IN HISTORY. Size: 17 x 22. Price: $2 each, 25 @ $1, 100 for $85 (all postpaid). Order from: Seattle-King County NOW, 2252 N.E. 65th St., Seattle, WA 98115. ○

WOMEN: A GUIDE TO REFERENCE AND SOURCES: Compiled by Anne Woodsworth, it's an ideal tool for Women Studies research. Annotated, it cites bibliogs, biographies, course syllabi, directories, encyclopedias, indexes, abstracts, & mags. Send $1 to the University of Toronto Library, Toronto, Ontario M5S 1A5, Canada.



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The *D.C. Gazette* is selling its *Guide to Alternative Organizations and Media* for $1. The guide, plus a year's trial subscription to their newsletter for activists, are $3. The newsletter is a mimeoed listing of short news items and resources. Send a check to *D.C. Gazette*, 109

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CENSORSHIP - UNITED STATES - CASE STUDIES.
Marchetti, Victor. The CIA and the cult of intelligence. Knopf,1974. 398p. "The first book the U. S. Government ever went to court to censor before publication.In this edition, passages the CIA originally ordered excised--and then reluctantly permitted to be reinstated--are printed in boldface type. Firm deletions, including the 140-plus passages cleared but still tied up in litigation, are indicated by blank spaces preceded and followed by parentheses: (DELETED) The spaces correspond to the actual length of the cuts." "Appendix: The Bissell philosophy; minutes of the 1968 'Bissell Meeting' at the Council of Foreign Relations as reprinted by the Africa Research Group."

[327.12M]

First-class mail!