

TASK FORCE MEETING AT MIDWINTER

There will be three meetings of the ALA/SRRT Task Force on Women at Midwinter: Monday, January 20, 4:30 p.m. - 6 p.m.; Tuesday, January 21, 2 p.m. - 4 p.m., Thursday, January 23, 10 a.m. - 12 noon.

The agenda will include the following ideas:

1. Should the Task Force become a caucus?
2. Plans for ALA-San Francisco.
3. Follow-up on pre-conference resolution.
4. Liaison with professional women's caucus.
5. Reports on newsletter and SHARE directory.
6. Report on TWF Bulletine.
7. Action on ERA and abortion issues.

NOTE CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Liz Futas, Task Force chairperson, can be reached by writing her at 51 Huntington St., New Brunswick, N.J. 08901 or Rutgers University, Graduate School of Library Service, 189 College Ave., New Brunswick, N.J. 08903.

TWF BULLETIN - SUBSCRIBE NOW!

TWF BULLETIN BOARD, the job listing service of the American Library Association/Social Responsibilities Round Table Task Force on Women is going into its second 6 months of operation. The BULLETIN BOARD, which covers library administrative, management and specialist positions, is available to individual women and affirmative action-oriented organizations for an at cost donation of \$5.00 for six months (12 issues through the Task Force Roster Coordinator). Checks may be made payable to the Task Force on Women Job Roster.

Employers are encouraged to submit position openings for listing at no charge. As an affirmative action listing, it should include the following information: institution name and address; job title/classification; opening date of vacancy; qualifications and responsibilities of the position; salary range (notices submitted without at least general range will not be listed); filing deadline; name, address and phone number of contact person.

For further information, subscriptions and listings, contact the Roster Coordinator: Liz Dickinson, Technical Services Division, Hennepin County Library, 7001 York Avenue South, Edina, Minnesota 55435 (phone: 612-830-4977).

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A LETTER FROM HELEN WHEELER

This letter was written in response to a letter from the editor to Helen Wheeler asking her to explain her disagreements with John Berry..

"The 'controversy' cannot be capsuled, try as one may and as much as one might like to. The facts, minimally, are that in 1972 I filed the first (precedent worse than race) female-sex discrimination charge against Louisiana State University, where I was an Associate Professor on the faculty of the ALA-accredited library school. (Library science is taught in numerous outlets in the system). I was, like all women in academia who file without tenure (and some who file with!), unemployed at the end of the academic year.

However, I filed class action, knowing Southern women and female librarians! The EEOC had me file an added single charge of "blacklisting" (reprisal). I have been unemployed since May 1973. I knew all of this was possible when I filed, and I would do it again. I have also worked with regional HEW in their subsequently-recorded female sex discrimination in employment class action (of which I am a part). Berry just left its existence out completely. This you women could not have known, but surely, as graduate degree holders having taken research courses, you must have noted LJ's exclusive quoting of the LSU male administration in its August "coverage"!

I asked several women involved with the women's pre-conference to consider resolutions endorsing this case... not a "charge"--- I'd done all of the shit work and gotten a Determination of non-compliance. At least two women attempted, in the absence of resolutions at pre-conference, to begin funds in behalf of this feminist-librarians' effort. I, of course, was unable to be at pre-conference, but felt obligated to get to Conference itself because of my election to Council. I was elected to council less than two years ago on a nationally-circulated declared platform statement of concern for sexism, quality education, and social responsibility. I believe that sexism in library education is the crux of the of the matter; librarians receive their professional indoctrination and observe role models there. Women students even receive their first 'control' at this point, viz., the gullibility of some of the women at the pre-conference.

--- Helen Ripplier Wheeler

AGING BLACK WOMEN - A CONFERENCE THEME

The National Caucus on the Black Aged, Inc., and the National Center on Black Aged will sponsor a conference on "Aging Black Women and Federal Policies: 1960-2000 A.D." on April 13-15, 1975 at the L'Enfant Plaza Hotel in Washington, D.C. Areas to be discussed are employment, income, education, housing and health. For further information, contact: Dr. Jacquelyne J. Jackson, Box 3003, Duke University Medical Center, Durham, N.C. 27710.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

The Hudson-Mohawk Association of Colleges & Universities recently published "Women's Periodicals", a bibliography of the resources available at academic and public libraries in New York State's Capital District (the Albany area). The publication is significant for both the locational information it provides and as a representative sample of the variety of publications which have been published for and about women.

Copies of the bibliography are available for \$1.00 per copy by contacting: Hudson-Mohawk Association of Colleges & Universities 849 New Loudon Road, Latham, New York 12110.

The Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor has published a three page pamphlet entitled "The Myth and the Reality". It cites such statistics as the number of women who must work because of economic necessity and the comparative illness statistics for men and women and goes on to dispel myths about women supervisors and juvenile delinquency among the children of working mothers. The pamphlet is available free from the Women's Bureau, Washington, D.C. 20210.

In March 1974 the first French publishing house for women, Editions des Femmes, began publication. You may have seen their booth at the New York Book Fair. To date the women have published more than seven books including a translation of Juliet Mitchell's Women's Estate, a couple of translations from Italian, a book on abortion and a couple of novels by French women. The women also run a book store in Paris.

The Village Voice recently reviewed the women's work and cited the novel, Hosta Blues by Victoria Therrame as the most impressive. The publishing company's address is 63 Avenue des Gobelins, Paris, France 75013.

"A Working Woman's Guide to Her Job Rights" is a publication of the Women's Bureau, U.S. Dept. of Labor. It is for sale for \$.60 from the U.S. G.P.O. (leaflet 55, June 1974).

You might want to read Lipman Feld's article "15 Questions You Dare Not Ask Job Applicants" in the June 1974 ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGEMENT (pp. 20-21+).

"Women in Administrative Positions in Public Education; a position paper prepared by the Recruitment Leadership and Training Institute, July, 1974" has documented the almost total exclusion of women from administrative positions in public education, explored reasons for the declining percentages of women in our public schools and reviewed and recommended ways to begin to reverse this trend. For further information write the Recruitment Leadership Training Institution, Administration Services Building, Temple University, Philadelphia, Pa. 19122.

NEWS FROM THE LADDER

The complete "index" to "The Ladder", 1956 through 1972 is now in print. This contains literally thousands of articles, short stories, poems, news items about lesbians and lesbian/feminism. There are hundreds of biographies of famous lesbians and many lesser known, should-be-famous lesbian women. It is a 265 page book, measuring 8 1/2 x 11 inches and it costs \$10.00

A new lesbian novel, The Latecomer, by Sarah Aldridge, has been published by Naiad Press and is being distributed by "The Ladder". It is a quality paperback and costs \$3.25 including postage.

Work is being completed on a new edition of "The Lesbian in Literature", a bibliography of all literature on lesbians available in the English language. It is to be issued in 1975. Cost on it is \$7.50 for advance publication orders only. If you are interested. Please Order Now!!!! Send your name, address, state and zip code along with your check or money order made payable to "The Ladder", P.O. Box 5025, Washington Station, Reno, Nevada, 89503. If we are successful in this, we may be able to begin publishing The Ladder again.

CONGRATS TO CLA

The California Library Association at its November conference passed, by an overwhelming voice vote, a resolution against sexist terminology in CLA publication and official documents. The text of the resolution was printed in the November newsletter. Here's hoping that more state library associations and ALA can follow their example.

FREE FROM YOUR FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

"Legislation Affecting the Rights of Women Enacted by, or Pending in, the 93rd Congress", a comprehensive guide to women's legislation done by the Congressional Research Service of the Library of Congress is available through your Members of Congress.

"Women", the annual report of the Citizen's Advisory Council on the Status of Women is available from the Publications Room Women's Bureau, U.S. Department of Labor, 14th and Constitution Avenues, Washington, D.C. It covers the ERA, employment, childbearing leave, education, women in the Executive Branch, women in the military, homemakers, credit, rape, Supreme Court Decisions and International Women's Year.

"Sexism and Racism: Feminist Perspectives" is available in bulk or singly from the U.S. Commission of Civil Rights, 1121 Vermont Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20425. It addresses the inter-relationships of sexism and racism from the perspectives of Chicana, Puerto Rican, Native American Black, Asian and white feminists.

ROLE MODELS

Zanballer by R.R. Knudson (Delacorte, 1972) is a teen novel with a unique female protagonist - a teenager who gets so incensed when the principal closes the gym for repairs during girls' volleyball playoffs, and so disgusted with the "girls' work" substitutes like modern dance, that she leads the female team onto the playing field to learn football, coached by her male intellectual friend, Rinehart. They're so good that they lure the football coach's attention who makes them his third string to salvage their freedom to practice, and inevitably the boys' team challenges them and they win with Suzanne Hagen as quarterback. How they do and all the hassles in between make this a delightful, funny, timely book for junior high girls. It even includes a football glossary for beginning players, and would be great for a teen discussion group to air Title IX implications.

--- review by Mary K. Chelton

TO PONDER

During the coming decade, metropolitan libraries will hopefully be in the forefront in the advancement of more women to higher level positions. Paul Wasserman has pointed out that librarianship "can only be characterized as a male-dominated female profession." Wasserman and Bundy, in a 1969 study of library executives, found "among the public library administrators, 55 percent of those fifty-five years and over are male, 77 percent in the forty-five to fifty-four bracket, and 88 percent of those forty-four years or younger . . . The same characteristic is discernible among special library administrators where 44 percent of the older, 60 percent of the middle group, and 74 percent of those in the youngest category are male." They also observed that the "incidence of male ascendancy is growing sharply."

--- From the October 1974,
Library Trends (p.262)

ACADEMIC LIBRARY MANAGEMENT INTERN PROGRAM

The Council on Library Resources Management Intern Program will enable five outstanding U.S. and Canadian midcareer librarians with demonstrated leadership potential to develop their competence in the administrative aspects of librarianship. Applicants must be librarians with at least five years' experience in a professional library position. Five university libraries have agreed to serve as the training institutions for these interns. Write for an application form at the Council on Library Resources, 1 Dupont Circle, Washington, D.C. 20036.

NEW YORK AREA NEWS

A New York State women librarians' caucus was formed at the annual New York Library Association conference held November 6-9 at the Concord Hotel. C. Montilla (130 1st St., Troy, NY 12180) is the caucus' chairperson. The caucus plans an exchange of information among women librarians as its first project.

In New York City teams of librarians are being organized to contact specific library schools on a regular basis to keep women students informed of the Task Force's activities. Contact Renee Feinberg for further information at the Brooklyn College Library, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11210.

Plans are also being made in New York City for a series of mini workshops to provide women librarians with additional information in new areas of librarianship contact Susan Vaughan at the Brooklyn College Library or Elizabeth Miller, 1165 5th Ave., New York, N.Y. 10029.

WHO'S WHO NEEDS INFORMATION

World Who's Who of Women has written requesting names of women for their publication. If you would like to be included in their directory or have suggestions of women to be included, write them at Melrose Press Ltd., International Biographical Centre, Cambridge CB2 3QP England.

LIBRARY SURVEY COMPLETED IN THE SOUTHEAST

The Southeastern States Cooperative Library Survey has issued a booklet, Librarians in the Southeast: Preliminary Findings of the Southeastern States Cooperative Library Survey by Mary Edna Anders. (Georgia Institute of Technology, Engineering Experiment Station). The booklet contains some interesting statistics on women, e.g. fewer than 3% of the (professional) women earned over \$16,000 and 86% received less than \$12,000. In contrast, salaries of 20% of the men exceeded \$16,000 and only 54% were paid less than \$12,000. The number of female head librarians with four or more staff was 7% while for men the number was 26%.

NOTES FORM THE EDITOR

Two women's issues need your support: the ERA and the abortion laws. If you are in a state that has not passed the Equal Rights Amendment, be sure that accurate information is available on it. Many groups are trying to distort the meaning of the amendment. For information on the effects of this amendemnt if passed, read the Yale Law Journal's 1971 article (80:871) "The Equal Rights Amendment: A Constitutional Basis for Equal Rights for Women". NOW, the Citizens' Advisory Council on the Status of Women, and the Women's Bureau all have information available.

In many states there are attempts to change the liberal abortion laws. A recent letter from Bella S. Abzug, Congresswoman from New York, urged that women write their Senators and insist that they support the Supreme Court decision without change. Also write your U.S. Representatives asking them not to support any anti-abortion legislation. Financial assistance can be sent to the National Abortion Rights Action League (Room 401, 250 W. 57th St. New York, NY 10019). A letter in the January 1975 (p.6) Ms. also calls attention to the threats to pro-abortion legislation.

Please continue to send me information on publications, conference, etc. for the newsletter.

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