

WOMEN

IN

LIBRARIES

HELEN JOSEPHINE
ALA/SRRT TASK FORCE
ON WOMEN

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Ed. Kay Cassell

WOMEN'S FAIR IN SAN FRANCISCO

Women librarians met and exchanged information and ideas at an all day women's fair sponsored by the SRRT Task Force on Women on Sunday, June 29, at the San Francisco YWCA. The morning speaker was Knuti Von Hoven from Women's Action Training in Oakland. She spoke about the specific things groups must do to organize locally and bring about change around a specific issue. First, she stated, we must decide upon our goals. We must decide what we hope to achieve. After setting our goals, we must build a strong organization to go to work in achieving our goals by starting a campaign. She emphasized that we must not stereotype groups of people and decide they wouldn't be interested in our campaign. Once we have built our organization, we must see that our campaign pays for itself, respects the time and money of those working on it and strengthens the organization. The group then broke into small discussion groups by geographical area and tried to use the methodology learned in real situations.

During and after lunch many women toured the exhibits of women's presses and women's groups from the Bay Area. The afternoon program featured librarians talking about their experiences combining feminism in their work as well as their personal lives. Panelists included Sherrill Cheda and Phyllis Yaffe of Emergency Librarian, Ginnie Cooper Bruxvoort and Janet Freedwoman. The fair ended with a dance featuring a women's rock group.

ALA MEETINGS

Dora Bilbartz (Univ. of California at Davis) chaired a program on the acquisition of feminist materials for libraries. Ms. Bilbartz reported on a separate collection on women at the University of California at Davis Library. Among the topics discussed were the collection of library school bibliographies on women and how to buy pamphlet material.

On Tuesday evening of ALA feminist librarians met to discuss forming a group outside ALA. Helen Josephine reported on the Women's Fair, Carole Leita reported on having groups both within and outside of ALA and Pat Schuman discussed the caucus idea and supported the development of a network of women. The group after considerable

discussion voted to form a group known as Women Library Workers which would work on issues outside ALA while the SRRT Task Force on Women would continue to address itself to ALA related issues. A second meeting was held on Thursday noon. Carole Leita agreed to send out a questionnaire to all interested members to get opinions on organizational matters. Regional groups were also begun. The group plans a national organization and the formation of local groups. For further information, contact Carole Leita, 555 Duboce, #9, San Francisco, CA 94117.

A business meeting of the Task Force on Women was held on Thursday, July 3. The meeting was chaired by Liz Futas, TF coordinator.

- 1) Liz Dickinson reported that 110-125 people regularly use the Task Force job roster newsletter. She noted a lack of public and special library listings and said that most of the listings currently come from academic libraries. Three women from Philadelphia will do the job roster newsletter next year. They are Jeannette Neal (2224 Green St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19130), Holly Lewis and Meg Randall.
- 2) Helen Josephine reported that the Women's Fair had broken even. They received \$250 from SRRT and \$300 from last year's Preconference. 116 people registered for the morning workshop and 250-300 people attended the afternoon session. 45 groups exhibited.
- 3) Carole Leita reported on the formation of Women Library Workers. They have a membership list of 125 people and a budget of \$700. They will send out questionnaires to members in six weeks to two months.
- 4) Liz Futas reported on correspondance with ACRL and the Council of Library Resources asking for a similar program for women to their internship for black librarians.
- 5) Linda Crowe was elected the new Task Force coordinator. Her address is 1356 Scott Ave., Winetka, Ill. 60093.
- 6) There will be a women's program on the Sunday of ALA (1976) in Chicago. Send suggestions for this program to Linda Crowe.
- 7) A strategy session for ALA Councilors at Midwinter will be sponsored by the Task Force.
- 8) Tee shirts and buttons for the Chicago conference will be produced.

RESOLUTION ON SEXIST TERMINOLOGY

The Task Force on Women submitted a resolution to ALA membership requiring guidelines for ALA staff for future ALA publications and for review of all advertising copy to eliminate sexist terminology. This resolution which was approved was submitted as a result of sexist terminology used in the ALA conference program and in an ALA National Library Week ad.

NEW YORK-NEW JERSEY LIBRARIANS/LIBRARY WORKERS FEMINIST CAUCUS

A New York-New Jersey Librarians/Library Workers Feminist Caucus was formed on April 7, 1975 in New York City. The purpose of this organization will be "to further the feminist cause within and without the library profession". The organizing members present voted to be a sponsoring organization of the Greater New York Feminist Credit Union now being formed. The steering committee for the organization are Pat Schuman, Susan Fineman and Melanie Hewitt. Women wishing to join should send their names and the \$1.00 annual dues to Betty-Carol Sellen, Brooklyn College Library, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11210.

NEW "GUIDELINES FOR ELIMINATING SEXISM IN THE MEDIA" PROPOSED

The June 1, 1975 issue of Media Report to Women (3306 Ross Place, NW, Washington, D.C. 20008) carried the text of the "Guidelines for Eliminating Sexism in the Media" offered by the National Conference on Women in the Media held in New York City, March 9, 1975. They were compiled by Marsha Dubrow, 400 E. 55th St., New York, N.Y. 10022.

REPORT ON WOMEN ARCHIVISTS

The Ad Hoc Committee on the Status of Women in the Archival Profession of the Society of American Archivists has submitted a "Report on the Status of Women in the Archival Profession". The report concludes that "discrimination against women does exist within the profession". Copies of the report are available for \$2.00 from Ann Morgan Campbell, Executive Director, The Society of American Archivists, The Library, P.O. Box 8189, University of Illinois at Chicago Circle, Chicago, Ill. 60680.

FEMALE ARTISTS DIRECTORY

The Women's History Research Center plans to issue an International Women's Year 1975 Supplement to Female Artists Past and Present '74. It will have three parts: brief, but definitive biographical sketches of pre-Revolutionary Russian and Soviet female artists, by William Mandel, author of the Doubleday book, Soviet Women; a year's worth of new material indexed by topic and name; and a single name index to the 1974 edition by Maggie Rolfe, ed.

The price of the 1975 supplement is \$2.00 (Discount to individual women), \$3.00 to groups, men and institutions. 1974 edition is available at \$5.00 and \$6.00. Send orders to Women's History Research Center, 2325 Oak St., Berkeley, CA 94708.

1974 PRECONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS AVAILABLE

"Women in a Woman's Profession: Strategies; Proceedings of the 1974 ALA-SRIT Women's Conference" are now available from Betty-Carol Sellen, Brooklyn College Library, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11210 for \$3.50. The proceedings are 96 pages long and include a bibliography and photographs.

CONFERENCE ON WOMEN PLANNED IN CINCINNATI

The Office of Women's Studies of the University of Cincinnati has announced plans for a national, multidisciplinary conference for research on women and gender issues honoring the Bicentennial and a new beginning in the Third Century. The theme of the conference will be power among women and men as it relates to interpersonal relationships, organizations and institutions and societies and the world. The conference will be held April 22-25, 1976 at the Netherland Hilton Hotel in Cincinnati, Ohio. The organizing group, Pioneers for Century III, is soliciting papers for the conference. For further information, write Pioneers for Century III, Office of Women's Studies, University of Cincinnati, 1116 Crosley Tower (#164), Cincinnati, Ohio 45221.

FOR THE RECORD

In an interview for the San Francisco Chronicle (7/2/75) Robert Wedgeworth, Executive Director of ALA, stated "I don't disavow our little old lady image, you know, but there's a lot more to it these days, I think."

UPDATED BIBLIOGRAPHY ON WOMEN IN LIBRARIANSHIP

"Women in Librarianship; a Bibliography" updated to June 1975 is available for 50¢ from Margaret Myers, American Library Association, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, Ill. 60611.

MLA PUBLICATIONS

The Commission on the Status of Women in the Profession of the Modern Language Association has published two pamphlets, "Academic Women, Sex Discrimination, and the Law: an Action Handbook" by Adrian Tisley, Elaine Reuben and Diane Crothers which includes information on Title IX and a new section on how to monitor Affirmative Action at your own institution (\$1.00) and "Unladylike and Unprofessional: Academic Women and Academic Unions" edited by Elaine Reuben and Leonore Hoffmann which describes the experiences of women with collective bargaining as it relates to feminist issues and to other concerns of women and men on campus (\$2.00). Write to the MLA Publications Center, 62 Fifth Ave., New York, N.Y. 10011 for copies.

WLW PROTESTS DOWNGRADING OF CETA EMPLOYEES

The Bay Area Chapter of Women Library workers has protested the decision of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors to downgrade all CETA positions paying more than \$10,000 annually. The San Francisco Public Library is currently receiving from the CETA program \$450,000 per year of professional library services at a cost to the city of only \$39,649 per year. The Board's attempt to save this comparatively small amount of money jeopardizes the professional status of these CETA employees and threatens to curtail many valuable services to the community...(from a 8/22/75 news release)

DISCRIMINATION AT PRIVATE CLUBS IN NEW YORK

The New York Times (6/3/75) reported that Mrs. Eleanor Holmes Norton, New York City's Human Rights Commissioner, has called for an end to discrimination by private clubs in a 72 page report on sex, race and religious bias by clubs. The article stated: "...a librarian, acknowledged as an expert in the field of rare books, testified that she could not join the Grolier Club, the prestige association in the profession. Membership not only indicates expertise, the report noted, but also provides access to major world libraries and to professional information not otherwise available. In addition, recruitment for the 'cream' of librarian opportunities is from the club membership, it said." The report stated "that employers often rely on club membership..." and that "ineligibility for club membership sometimes is cited as a reason women cannot assume executive positions."

NIH WOMEN SUE

In 1971 Rosalind B. Marimont filed a suit against National Institutes of Health after working for them for 11 years without a promotion. Mrs. Marimont's case has formed the basis for a suit asking the court to enjoin NIH from discriminating against women and to require the agency to establish a plan for ending alleged sex discrimination. The suit also requests back pay for all NIH women employees who allegedly have been discriminated against in pay and promotions. Libraries at NIH include the National Library of Medicine and the NIH Library. A favorable decision on this case could benefit all federal women employees including other federal librarians.

MATERIAL ON JEWISH WOMEN

The following items were submitted by Renee Feinberg of the ALA Jewish Caucus for librarians adding materials on Jewish women to their collections:

- Siegal, Richard et al. The Jewish Catalogue. Jewish Pub. Society, 1528 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19102.
Response; a Contemporary Jewish Review. "The Jewish Woman; an Anthology". No. 18, Summer, 1975. (Response, P.O. Box 1496, 415 South St., Waltham, Mass. 02154) \$2.00.
Habonim. Sisters of Exile: Sources on the Jewish Woman. 576 Sixth Ave., New York, N.Y. 10011. \$2.00.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

A group of librarians in the New York area recently compiled a bibliography on women for grades K - 12. The bibliography was developed at the request of Baker & Taylor for the first issue of their publication, Mediacenter. For a copy of the issue, write Robert McCord, Baker & Taylor, 1515 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10036.

"A Survey of Research Concerns of Women's Issues" by Arlene Daniels has been released by the Project on the Status and Education of Women of the Association of American Colleges as a guide and

stimulus for those who want to undertake or fund research on women. It discusses both research done and directions to be taken by subject including "The Consequences of the Women's Movement", "Socialization and the Educational System", "The World of Work", "Marital Status and Family", "Health and Life Cycle Issues" and "Other Issues of Practical Concern to Women". There is also a very valuable appendix on resources for research of women's issues and a bibliography. For a copy, contact the Project, Association of American Colleges, 1717 R St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20036.

Frontiers; a Journal of Women Studies will publish "scholarly articles from any discipline dealing with women and essays concerning the problems of women in the 'real world', along with analyses by people working with similar problems in their teaching and academic research". The first issue is planned for Summer 1975. Subscriptions should be mailed to Frontiers, %Women Studies Program, Hillside Court #104, University of Colorado, Boulder, Colo. 80302. The cost is \$15 for institutions and \$9 for individuals.

"Looking for a Grant: a Kit for Groups Seeking Financial Assistance" is a publication of the Women's Bureau (Dept. of Labor, Washington, D.C. 20210). It includes sources of information on proposal writing and possible funding, guidelines for grant making and grant getting, program planning and proposal writing, foundation grants for programs involving women, suggestions for letter of transmittal and tips that make cents in proposal writing.

"Job Title Revisions to Eliminate Sex-and Age-Referent Language from the Dictionary of Occupational Titles" (3rd ed.) has been published by the U.S. Department of Labor. It is available for \$4.50 from the Supt. of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

RENEWALS DUE

Don't forget to send a check to renew your subscription to Women in Libraries. The cost is \$2 per year for individuals and \$5 per year for institutions. Make checks payable to the AIA/SRRT Task Force on Women.

DEADLINE for news for the next issue is October 25.

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