

NEW BOY AT ALA MIDWINTER 1971

8 January-Friday. I have been informed of my selection to represent the University of Washington Library School at ALA midwinter, expenses to be paid by the Alumni Association. I'm to stay in a suite with members of the 3RRT Clearinghouse.

17 January-Sunday. Leave Seattle in the 40\*s, arrive in fœA in the 80's. With smog. No one at the airport bus terminal has heard of the San Carlos Hotel, so I take the Biltmore bus and trust to luck, which pays off, since the S. C. is across the street. Go upstairs to find five people in the suite, two being guests in search of a crash... Off to the Biltmore to ALA registration. Then to car of crashers for dinner of oranges, cookies, shared sandwich. Then to meeting. This is Action Souncil. Possibly it is reflective of it being the first day, but there is no action, but

After general membership meeting breaks up many SRRT members drift off to a publisher's cocktail party and then to the SHUT suite for more strategy sessions.

20 January-Wednesday. Somehow I make it to the cataloging in source task force at 8. It appears that trade publication CIS is immanent; LC needs guaranteed funds in greater amount than they have, since the program must be successful this time around. The task force is therefore concentrating on government documents and is making progress, though the thrust is at the moment is to try and get all documents reported to GPO and LC. In the afternoon is the library school student's task force.





The Intellectual Freedom Committee also discussed, quite seriously (although understand that the matter was brought up to illustrate the hypocritical attitude of librarians towards their Bill of Rights), the matter of dropping the restrictions

FREE ANGELA!

The following request for action was approved by the Action Council in L. A.;

POLITICAL REPRESSION IS AN INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM ISSUE. BECAUSE THE ARREST OF ANGELA DAVIS IS AN EXAMPLE OF THIS REPRESSION, THE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES ROUND TABLE IS DONATING \$200.00 TO THE ANGELA DAVIS DEFENSE FUND TO HELP PROTECT HER RIGHTS IN COURT. SRRT IS DOING THIS AS AN EXAMPLE OF EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT FOR INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM BY LIBRARIANS.

MOREOVER, SRRT ACTION COUNCIL INSISTS THAT POLITICAL PRISONERS AND OTHER PRISONERS HAVE THE RIGHT TO ACCESS TO INFORMATION, AND AUTHORIZE AND WILL EXECUTE A MAILING OF THE APPROPRIATE SECTION ON CENSORSHIP IN THE MANUAL OF CORRECTIONAL STANDARDS TO PRISON SYSTEMS IN THE U. S. THIS MAILING WILL INCLUDE A LETTER TO THE NEW YORK CITY PENAL SYSTEM, WHERE, MISS DAVIS REPORTED, ALL ACCESS TO INFORMATION WAS WITHHELD. SRRT IS DOING THIS AS AN EXAMPLE OF EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT FOR INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM BY LIBRARIANS.

In Joe Walker's interview with Angela Davis that appeared in Muhammed Speake. Miss Davis made specific mention of the difficulty of access to information available to women prisoners in New York City. In order to facilitate the action, Action Council designated one of its members to send a check in SRRT's name; a request for repayment from SRRT funds being held by ALA is being made. Individual SRRT'ers who wish to give further support can send donations to: National United Committee to Free Angela Davis, 3450 West 43rd Street, Suite 104, Los Angeles, California, 90008.

WRITE! NOW!!

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BEHIND CLOSED DOORS IN L. A.

Have you ever wondered exactly what went on in all those closed committee meetings during ALA? Supposedly the past tense is appropriate as a resolution opening all meetings was finally approved at midwinter. The grape vine, however, reports that at least one of the biggies (Newbery-Caldecott) does not intend to comply.

Regardless what the future holds - take a look at the past!!!

DDES ANYONE FIT THE BILL?

The following is excerpted from the official minutes of the January 1971 meeting of the 1971-72 ALA Nominating Committee held in Los Angeles. The Committee is responsible for nominations for Vice President - Elect, Treasurer and Councillors-at-Large.

"It was suggested that the committee establish some criteria in writing... Some criteria agreed upon were:

1. Significant experience in ALA structure, such as Executive Board and Council. Not just alliance but role in association,
2. Knowledge of organization; understanding organizational relationships.
3. Visionary - leadership qualities; initiative; innovative; some evidence of having accomplished some good for the association.
- k. Diplomatic - evidence of cultural refinement; must be able to represent profession and American libraries; must have presence.
5. Knowledge of librarianship and information science and broad directions in librarianship; use of new technology, new multi-media approach; international dimension.
8. Physical stamina - age bracket between 45 and 55 desirable.
7. Articulate."

AND FROM ACRL

WOULD YOU BELIEVE that in a dispute between librarians and an establishment, ALA establishment's trust is in the other establishment. The ACRL Committee on Academic Status received documentation last Fall, from librarians, of a work schedule dispute between a Library and a College administration. The Committee wrote to the President of the College deploring (rather mildly, I'm told) his arbitrary action. They received an answer from the President's office stating (in summary- they couldn't find the letter itself) that they had been misinformed, that the matter had been settled, and that they (the President and cohorts) neither required nor appreciated outside interference in internal matters.

The assumption of the Committee (as I observed it) was that they had been misinformed and had had their wrists properly slapped. (They neither asked the librarians if the case had been settled or sent them a copy of the President's letter.) The assumption they should have had of themselves from the outset was that, misinformed or not (and they were not) they were not "outside" agitators, but representatives of the professional association to which the librarians involved belonged and had, therefore, the right and obligation to speak in the librarians behalf. Fortunately, the librarians involved are unionized!

TASK^FORGE^

New Task Forces set up at midwinter:

Task Force on the American Indian - Plans are under way for a major meeting for Dallas on the interpretation of Indian values and culture. Contacts Charles Townley at University of Calif, at Santa Barbara Library Santa Barbara, Ca. 93106

Task Force on Library Service and Access to Information in Correctional Institutions. Contact: John Berry at LIBRARY JOURNAL

Task Force on Migrant Workers - No information is available as to what the goals of this group are. Contact: Martin Zonlight 1402 Bye St. Modesto, California 95354.

Task Force to Support the "Washington's Birthday Defense Committee" Contacts: Ann Sweat or Betty-Carol Sellen.

The lawyers for the Berrigans, Eqbal Ahmad, et al need documentation of what the press is reporting about the "conspiracy case." Your assignment: select a newspaper from the required list; read all reports, articles, editorials, letters from the editor, anything that mentions the case. Clip, Xerox, or summarize the reports. Prepare weekly summaries of all reports found.

Procedure: write to Betty-Carol Sellen, 252 E. 7th St., New York, N. Y. 10009. Tell her which of the newspapers you will promise to cover. Start with the February 14, 1971 issue. Cover every day published. Send articles and weekly summaries to: Stewart Schaar, P. O. Box 188, Madison Square Station, New York, N. Y. 10010. We need coverage of such things as Chicago Sun-Times, St. Louis Post Dispatch,

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Task Force Report from Midwinter

Status of Women - The program for Dallas is to revolve around a discussion of sexism in children's literature. Contact: Kay Cassell 1060 Stuyvesant Ave. Apt. A7 Trenton, N. J. 08618.

Gay Liberation - Rev. Troy Perry addressed the group in L. A. Plans are under way for a program in Dallas. Contact: Israel Fishman 268 Prospect St. E Orange,

