

k T X Social Responsibility St o) Round Tab Newsletter ALfl

September, 1981

Newsletter #61

SRRT NEWS

**Notes from the SRRT Coordinator
Barbara Pruett**

The San Francisco Conference was quite a success for SRRT and our Task Forces. During what was generally a quiet conference as measured with past years, SRRT members spoke out often and clearly to bring before ALA some of the issues we felt to be important. While some groups complained of low attendance, SRRT meetings and programs were generally well attended. Our KKK Awareness program had nearly 300 people in the audience and the Coretta Scott King TF had 500 people at the annual breakfast...these are only 2 examples.

SRRT gained a lot of attention when we introduced 2 Resolutions before the Membership Meeting of ALA and successfully argued/defended them until they passed. SRRT Action Council brought before Membership a Resolution asking that the draft of the Operating Agreement between ALA and its Divisions be published so that the Membership could be aware of this document and the potential changes it could create within ALA. This Resolution was argued for over an hour, at times with great spirit, before it was passed almost without dissention by the nearly 500 members at the meeting. The KKK Awareness Resolution was also treated with great interest by the Membership and created nearly an hour of discussion before being passed with only a few dissenting votes. In all, it was SRRT at our best!

The Operating Agreement document is beginning to be a matter of concern to a number of people now that a published draft is out. The Chairs of the Round Tables of ALA met in the SRRT suite to discuss the effect we felt this document would have on the Round Tables. While some of the Chairs expressed sympathy for the Divisions and their problems, we all agreed to keep a close eye on developments to be sure that Round Tables were not adversely affected by some of the proposals that have been made. The Chairs agreed to meet again at Midwinter in Denver and may work to develop more specific guidelines for action at that time.

2 task force news

GAY

ETHNIC

Two Gay Book Award winners were honored during the ALA annual conference this year; texts of the presentation and acceptance speeches for both awards are

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The new SRRT Constitution was passed at our Membership meeting in San Francisco. This should allow SRRT to act more efficiently and more clearly explains some

QUICK NOTES

GEORGE KENNAN WARNS OF THE DANGER OF OUR EAST/WEST POLICIES

On receiving the Einstein Peace Prize, Ambassador Kennan used strong words: "Adequate words are lacking to express the full seriousness of our present situation. It is not just that we are for the moment on a collision course politically with the Soviet Unions and that the process of rational communication between the two governments seems to have broken down completely; it is also - and even more importantly - the fact that the ultimate sanction behind the conflicting policies of these two governments is a type and volume of weaponry which could not possibly be used without utter disaster for us all".

The address was given May 19, 1981 and is reprinted in the Congressional Record, June 11, 1981, p. S6141.

PRESSURE LOBBYING ENDS HUMAN NUTRITION CENTER

Pressure from meat, poultry, egg and dairy interests has closed an educational unit of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. For three years the Human Nutrition Center provided information on the connection between malnutrition and disease, and attempted to link reasonable behavior and knowledge with government policy. This closing means the loss of one of the few groups in agricultural research which worked from the consumers', as opposed to the producers', point of view.

(Further information, see Science, July 31, 1981, p. 518-520^

FOR LIVELY INFORMATION

on the interaction of science and society we recommend that libraries subscribe to the Public Interest Report of the Federation of American Scientists (307 Massachusetts Ave, NE, Washington, DC 20002) headed by Jeremy Stone. Not only does the Federation tap the wisdom and wit of a large number of leading thinkers from the United States, it does not pull punches when reviewing governmental policies and regulations. The June 1981 issue offers the comments of five prestige economists on the Reagan economic plans. The executive director speaks his mind (as quoted in Science, July 31, 1981 p. 423) in saying of the new nonproliferation of atomic and nuclear technology program of the Reagan government: "a rhetorical cover for the desire to sell reactors abroad. It reads like a congressional resolution. The string of 'whereases' deal with nuclear nonproliferation^ but the only substantial thing, the resolving clause, is about selling reactors". \$25.00.

THE STORY OF WOUNDED KNEE

The self-sufficient community of the Mohawk Nation in New York state is plagued

ETHNIC MATERIALS TASK FORCE

Public Library Services to Multilingual/
Multicultural Communities

"Building Bridges: Strategies for Developing Multilingual Collections and Services" was

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