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the Bradford Chambers Memorial Fund will help the Council through this interim period.

- ** Help spread the word. Let others know about the Council's work by giving a gift subscription (\$15/yr.) to the Bulletin to a friend or relative, to your local library or school system, or to your child's teacher.
 - ** Consider giving Council materials during the upcoming holiday gift-giving season.
 - ** Volunteer. The Council has a very small staff and now, with the loss of our director, we would especially welcome your help.
 - ** Help us find a new director. We would welcome your suggestions of candidates. Please write to the Search Committee, Council on Interracial Books for Children, 1841 Broadway, Room 500, New York, NY 10023.
 - ** Write letters of support. Tell us how the Council has been of assistance to you. In addition to providing moral support for the Council staff, such letters will be of invaluable assistance in our fund-raising efforts.
- The Council's work is too important to stop now. Please help us continue.

* * * * *

EDITOR'S NOTE

You may have noticed a new banner header on this issue of the newsletter. At first glance, this may seem like an entry in the "Snake in the Grass" category for the Worst Title Change of the Year Award. However, the change was prompted by the need felt by some members of SRRT (at least among the catalogers and serials librarians) for a less ambiguous title than the old banner presented. This publication has long been known as the SRRT Newsletter and it was felt that the title should make that clear. As might be expected, this attempt to be helpful forces the National Serials Data Program to assign us a new key title and a new ISSN. Our apologies to those who have to revise their

records.

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 | IL 60611. Manuscripts and letters |
 | pertaining to editorial content should |
 | be sent c/o Editor at the above |
 | address. |

| Editor.....John Hostage |
 | Editorial Board ...Elizabeth Morrissett |
 | Linda Pierce |
 | John Sheridan |

| Deadline for next issue is Feb. 15 |

"A direct descendant of Cotton Mather." That's what I heard Nat Hentoff call Brad Chambers. Which says a lot more about Hentoff than Chambers. Because the Brad Chambers I've known and worked with was a decent, gentle, people-loving warrior, a person intolerant of bigotry and prejudice, but not himself either a despot or censor. Due largely to his inspiration and energy, the Council on Interracial Books for Children has, over the past decade, notably sensitized both teachers and librarians to the racism, sexism, handicapism, and other child-warping biases in their tools and practices. Further, Chambers and the Council pioneered in promoting truly bias-free, multicultural publishing, teaching, and librarianship. Many of us have been affected by Brad's work. And we're all the better for it. So are the kids we serve. And the society we live in. For Brad Chambers

radiated a commitment to human rights,
to social justice, and to peace. There
are never many like him. And that

libraries and supplements the excellent work of CIBC in its Interracial Books for Children Bulletin.

Remembering how ALA's celebration of its centennial in 1976 was made substantial by Brad's tireless work, we must celebrate his life now with resolve for our energy to be directed for further policy of substance in ALA.

ALA HQ service 1060.00
\$4385.00

Task Forces
Alternatives in Print \$250.00
Civil Rights 400.00
Feminist 450.00
Gay 350.00
Inti. Human Rights 100.00
C.S. King Award 150.00
Library Union 500.00
Men's Issues 350.00
Peace Info. Exchange 200.00
2800.00

TOTAL \$7185.00

* * * * *

LIBRARY UNION TASK FORCE

The Library Union Task Force had a profitable session in Dallas with two good programs and membership meetings. Although these meetings were small, they brought forth some new faces and good ideas.

On Saturday evening, June 23, "Libraries, Unions, and Political Action" were discussed by Harriet Newton of the Los Angeles Librarians Guild, Patsy Hays of the Dallas-Fort Worth Chapter of the Coalition of Labor Women, and Jim McCasland of the Dallas County AFL-CIO, with Mary Rosenthal of St. Lawrence University as moderator. Political action included lobbying for expanded library service or against cuts, maintaining friendly relations with legislators, and assisting campaigns of friendly legislators (or against unfriendly ones). Action techniques included cash donations, providing volunteers for phone s and gY:pRAXkttit(AD)IRALHAY:ilRALH(L(L(:isRA)):c2H:sRA-E:IRA(2:dRA(Ys RAY-H-

Action Council meetings.

Friday, 4 January

4:30-5:30 pm Peace Information TF
8-10 pm C.S. King TF

Saturday, 5 January

8-9 am Peace Information TF
9:30-11:00 am Action Council
2-4 pm Library Union TF
4:30-5:30 pm Feminist TF
Int'l Human Rights
8-10 pm SRRT Pres. Forum
C.S. King TF

Sunday, 6 January

8-9 am Peace Information TF
9:30-11:00 am Int'l Human Rights
11:30-12:30 Alt. in Print TF
2-4 pm Action Council
8-10 pm C.S. King TF

Monday, 7 January

8-9 am Peace Information TF
Civil Rights TF
Library Union TF
9-11 am Feminist TF
9:30-11:00 am Civil Rights TF
11:30-12:30 Alt. in Print TF
4:30-5:30 pm Gay TF
8-9 pm Library Union TF

Tuesday, 8 January

9-11 am Feminist TF
9:30-11:00 am Alt. in Print TF
11:30-12:30 Action Council

THE PACIFIST CHRISTMAS CAROL

It is widely felt that the ideals and spirit of Christmas are in harmony with the concept and goals of pacifism. The angelic proclamation in the biblical story of Christmas, "On earth peace, good will toward men," is a creed which fully supports the pacifist philosophy. It is much less known, however, that there is a well-known Christmas carol which is as much a plea for world peace as it is a celebration of the holiday season.

On Christmas day 1863, the famous American poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807-1882) wrote a seven-stanza peace poem, Christmas Bells. Longfellow's lyrics were inspired by the horrors of the American Civil War in general and by the serious wounding of his son in particular. Not too long afterward, Longfellow's peace poetry was combined with a wistful and beautiful tune by the English composer John Babbiste Calkin (1827-1905) and the enduring Christmas song "I heard the bells on Christmas day" was created.

The reason that this popular carol is not usually regarded as a peace song is that the first three verses, which deal only with Christmas, are sung far more frequently than the last four, which focus on the issue of war and peace. This emphasis on the Christmas verses is partly due to their being the first section of the song and partly due to the understandable inclination by most people to prefer the joys of the holiday season to the serious realities of war.

The final two verses eloquently express Longfellow's strong concern with peace:

And in despair I bowed my head;
"There is no peace on earth," I said;
"For hate is strong,
And mocks the song
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!"

Then pealed the bells more loud and deep:

"God is not dead; nor doth he sleep:
The Wrong shall fail,
The Right prevail,
With peace on earth, good-will to men!"

In this holiday season clouded by war, world tensions, and proliferation of nuclear weapons, let us hope that the

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