

Feminist Bookstores Newsletter

VOLUME 4 #1
JUNE '80

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CHANGES, CHANGES

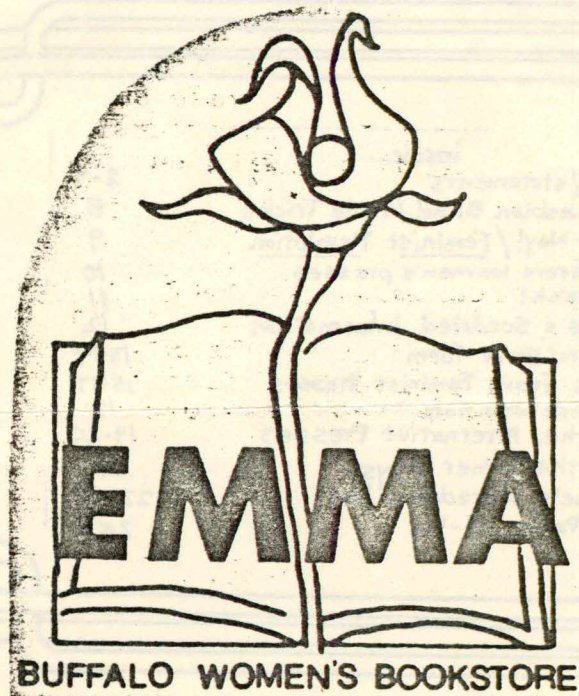
This is the first issue of Volume IV, and if you haven't yet subscribed, do it now! (\$20 per year--more if you can, less if you can't.) We are now three--Carol Seajay, André, and Jesse Meredith--and in this issue the pronoun "I" may become somewhat nebulous. In the future, we'll try to tag our remarks with, respectively, C., a., and jlm. André and Jesse both once worked at Rising Woman Books when it was a collectively run feminist bookstore in Santa Rosa, California. Jesse now works at I.C.I.--A Woman's Place in Oakland. André returns to the F.B.N. after a two year absence. And Carol is still at Old Wives Tales, but Old Wives Tales is no longer where it was--more to follow.

NEW ADDRESS FOR F.B.N.--

Feminist Bookstores' Newsletter
1009 Valencia St.
San Francisco, CA 94110

letters...

Emma, in Buffalo N.Y., puts out her own newsletter! In Issue # 5, she writes, "Emma is rapidly approaching her 4th birthday as a storefront, and she continues growing stronger with time. This past winter has been our most successful in terms of maintaining a flow of business, partially due to the mild winter, and partially due (we hope) to our expanded stock and increased range of customers. Our collective has grown as well, with over half of the women having joined us over the past few months. This has been both positive and negative. New women in the collective require training before they can work alone, which means that upon occasion, the store has been closed when we should have been open due to the lack of a woman being able to fill in the shift. We deeply apologize for any inconvenience we may have caused any of you, but problems do occur within an unpaid, overworked collective." Emma also reports that they've received their second grant for \$1,000 from the Arts Development Re-Grant Program with public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts. Emma's address is 2474 Main St., Buffalo NY 14214.



And, from Starr Publications, a flyer--

"Thanks to those bookstores who have ordered in spite of the prepay requirement and can now take advantage of the new credit terms [see FEMINIST PRESSES listings for terms now offered to those who have prepaid two orders]. We also hope that smaller stores on budgets as tight as that of Starr Publications will now be encouraged to order from us."

from Bloodroot, a feminist restaurant and bookstore in Bridgeport, Connecticut:

"Our bookstore is quite small (about 9' by 12') and the restaurant takes the lion's share of our time. So we are very dependent on FBN--especially the book reviews (we don't get Publishers' Weekly or any trade publications except Bookpeople's endpapers). We are also hungry for business information, so your brief comments about income of Full Circle in the Feb. issue was most welcome. We would love more info on what other bookstores gross, how much inventory is held, what kind of turnover rate there is, etc. We average \$1400 per week gross sales and carry \$6,000--\$7,000 inventory. We tend to order everything that is women's press promoted (except poetry) and believe we wouldn't be on those mailing lists but for you.

Bloodroot con't

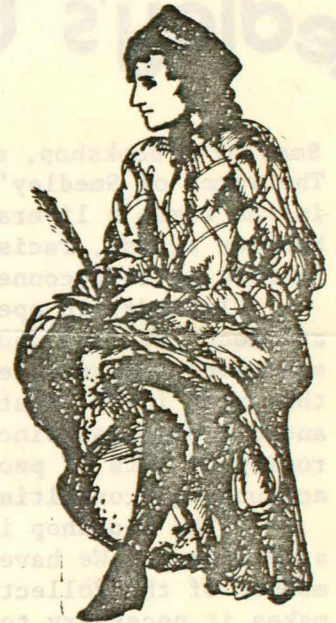
"In your Feb. issue you said something about Ikesdatter free list--we don't know what it is that they are doing. They wrote last Sept. about being part of a joint mailing or listing or something very unclear and we decided to trust it without completely understanding what it was about, sent the requested \$16.20 and have heard nothing since (except for getting a promotional copy of Windhaven). Two letters requesting information have been ignored. Were we suckers? We can't tell what's been shared, frankly.

"...We are doing a political cookbook--are still undecided about self publishing and have many questions not covered by Passionate Perils--though that book is great fun and most interesting reading..."

(Bloodroot also enclosed several nice strokes about the FBN which I won't reprint out of modesty and space requirements--but I do want to say that it's really wonderful and motivating for us when we get your appreciation back in the mail! Now that André and I are doing most of the mail-opening and processing, Carol has made us swear that we will keep all the pats-on-the-back in a little pile for her to read and beam over--jlm)

SisterWrite

a co-operative women's bookshop
190, Upper Street, London N1.
tel: 226 9782



FEMINIST BOOKSHOPS IN ENGLAND: A letter from SisterWrite

Dear Carol--Forgive the time it's taken to reply. We read with interest the copy of FBN which you sent us. We've been extremely busy, this being the first year of our shop, and quite frankly we've been a bit overwhelmed at how fast it's all growing. We have now opened a small café (for women only) upstairs--called Sisterbite (joke) and share the premises with the Women's Research and Resource Centre. A periodicals and pamphlets reading room has been opened (jointly with the WRRRC), and we're also just about to expand the shop area itself. Our collective is now four and we are seeking a fifth worker and are pretty happy and confident now that we will survive. (Though we're also very tired.) This is just to fill you in a bit on Sisterwrite, as you probably don't know much about it.

We were very sad that WIND closed down, apart from making life much more difficult for us (we do import a large part of our stock from the US.) It also meant that we simply won't be able to stock some of the small press titles, as we have to pay so much for bank drafts, etc, as to price them out of the market.

Anyway, we'd like to receive FBN and would be glad to act as British correspondent for you. We can send lists of new British books, at several month intervals (there aren't so many published here as in the States, of course)--and a copy of our catalogue which is due out next month. There will be lots of familiar titles to you, but there may also be material you don't know about. I don't know much about how and where you can import from us to you, since we do it all the other way, but I think you'd find it useful.

Anyway--will send a draft for 1/2 the subscription, as you suggested, (for the second half of the year) and hope to start getting the newsletter.

In sisterhood, Lynn Alderson for the collective.

more letters...

Jan 10, 1980

Dear FBN,

Sojourner has just come out of the other side of a long, dragged out crisis in funds & membership. Sojourner, as your probably know, is a not-for-profit corporation and stays open through generous donations of time and energy from Sojourner memver/volunteers. The crisis in now in back of us and we are picking up the pieces that were dropped several months ago.

Due to the newness of most of the working membership at this time, we had, apparently, no knowledge of the exixtance of FBN--although I am sure that Sojourner was in touch with you in the past. Today I rather uncerimoniously found Vol 3 #4 of FBN under a stack of unanswered mail! I gather that you have not heard from us in some time by the asterisk beside the listing of the store in the bookstore list. I assure you, and reiterate, that we are definately alive and well....

I am assuming that FBN is not free, however, I could not find any information on subscription costs, Could you send me this info....

Hope to hear from you soon.

In Sisterhood,
Kathryn A. Jones.
Sojourner/ DeKalb, Ill.

Smedley's book shop

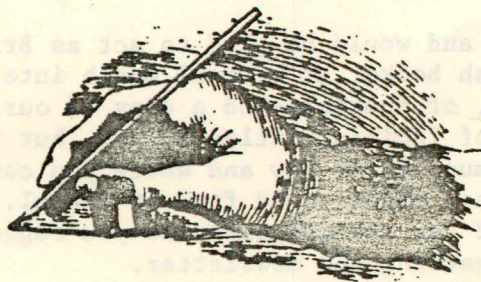
Smedley's Bookshop, named after Agnes Smedley, will be 4 years old in August 1980. The women of Smedley's see their bookstore as "one way to work toward social change... in the women's liberation movement we have begun to understand the relationships between sexism, racism, classism and imperialism. The fact that we see all these factors as interconnected is evident in the kinds of books displayed in Smedley's.

"In order to open Smedley's we borrowed \$9000 from our friends, both women and men. We used \$5000 for initial expenses such as bookshelves, fixtures, office equipment and supplies. The other \$4000 purchased our original stock. It is only this year [1979] that we are beginning to repay these loans. Our opening expenses and our expenses since then would have been much higher had it not been for the generosity of lots of people who have given us for free or for a discount their skills in accounting, consulting, carpentry, sign painting, etc.

"The bookshop is owned equally by the three of us and each of us receives the same salary. We have a commitment to deal with the personal circumstances of each member of the collective in order to make allowances for individual needs. This makes it necessary to share our personal lives so that we can make joint decisions that coordinate the needs of the workers with the needs of the store, i.e., one of us might need time off for personal study, other work, child care or just a rest and, if economic circumstances demand it, this time may be taken without a cut in salary."

In addition to bookselling, Smedley's facilitates or sponsors workshops and study groups, functions as a resource center, and provides a gallery coordinated by a ten-member committee.

Smedley's adds, "We so much wish...that we were the kind of bookstore that was always [writing to the F.B.N.] about the new helpful things we've discovered... but mostly we are overwhelmed by the day to day business of it."



more and more letters...

Dear women,

A couple of questions--what are your experiences on carrying menstrual sponges? At I.C.I.--A Woman's Place, we have large "harvelhead" (?) type sponges which we get from Wimmin Take Control (box 30063, New Orleans, LA -- 100 sponges for \$90 wholesale). These sponges are supposedly harvested ecologically and are unbleached. However, they don't seem very absorbent to me.

Also, I noticed an item in May Off Our Backs on a Women Against Violence Against Women protest over the sale of books on sado-masochism such as Story of O at Giovanni's Room, a Philadelphia bookstore. I'd really like to hear from other bookstores on your policy on pro-sado-masochistic materials, particularly the pamphlet by Samois, a "lesbian-feminist sado-masochists group," entitled What Color is Your Handkerchief, and whether you've experienced controversy among those who work in or matronize your store over this issue. I'm considering writing an article on this topic, and would really appreciate your input. I see a lot of issues to be explored--how do we define what is feminist material? How do we handle dissent among our co-workers and the people who come to our stores? How do we deal with the question of "censorship"?

At I.C.I., we've experienced a lot of hassle over the Samois pamphlet. Our current policy is that we carry it with signs by it, written by members of the bookstore collective, stating some of their disagreements with it. This policy evolved as a compromise between those who feel that sado-masochism is violence against women and has no place in a feminist bookstore, those that feel that the pamphlet should be available so that those who are interested in this question can read it, and those who support the politics of the pamphlet. We have received a lot of pressure from Samois members to remove these cards. It's been a draining and emotional issue for us, and it would be helpful to hear from others.

Jesse Meredith

sisterhood
Bookstore 

1351 WESTWOOD BOULEVARD • LOS ANGELES • CA. 90024 • (213) 477-7300

from Sisterhood Bookstore in Los Angeles, we got a copy of a letter sent to Starr Publications, publishers of Graphic Details, in response to Mooneyan's letter in the April 1980 FBN:

"I was quite amazed to see myself quoted in your letter to FBN regarding my response to a flier advertising Graphic Details. How could you have had the response you had? Here I sit, day after day, year after year getting mail every day announcing something new to order for our store. I would never write out a check to purchase pro forma--in advance--merchandise I have never seen. I think doing so would be irresponsible business practices. I very carefully choose what I sell here and need to see it before I buy; at least before I pay.

"How does this apply to the big boy publishing houses? They do not ask for prepayment. I wouldn't think of sending them a check with an order. If I order something that is horrible, I simply return it before the bill is due. I violently resent the implication that I won't take a chance on "small press" publications. Before writing such a scathing attack again, filled with implications, I suggest you carefully think through what and who you are accusing.

Sincerely,
Simone Wallace"

Dear Carol

5-1-80

A few weeks ago Mary Farmer (Lammas) and Labrys and the Ladyslipper ♀ got together and had a mental health meeting re expansion, computers (we are thinking about one) and other survival tactics--full report to follow---

Thanks, thanks, thanks for FBN. I really need, appreciate and can't live without the support info and chuckles...Joan Mayfield/Labrys.

(ed note: UMMM. Love those short & sweet letters. Anybody else doing mental health meetings? think I could use one. A Woman's Place in Oakland is thinking about a computer, too. Anyone else? Anyone got any experience? info to share?)



Helaine Victoria Press

Old Wives' Tales has a big new store up the street from their former location. Their address, and thus the F.B.N.'s new address--1009 Valencia St., San Francisco CA 94110. In their fourth annual state of the world statement, they write, "this is the first year of being a collective of three rather than a collective of two. It is different and it is working well...The bookstore is basically healthy and growing. We will probably gross nearly \$150,000 this year, which is a lot and is a very high growth rate. (Last year we did \$98,500.) Inventory is up another \$8000 since January [this was written Oct. 1979] and is now at \$36,000 retail. Ironically we are in a slightly less healthy financial position this year than last year even with this growth rate. This is due to inflation, rising postage costs and paying three and a half salaries instead of two and a quarter salaries and because we are paying higher wages. We finally reached the point where minimum wage is not enough over a long period of time due to exorbitant rents in this city and inflation...By the time you read this we will have finished a special inventory to cull the books that have literally been sitting on the shelves for two years. These books are briefly on sale before we return them to the publishers...These are hard times. And times of question, new direction, new direction, and growth. Small and independent bookstores nationwide are caught in a huge crunch between inflation and skyrocketing postage costs. The president of the American Booksellers Association says that he expects small bookstores to be eliminated in twenty years due to the government's postage policies (that have tripled the cost of shipping books in the last 10 years), inflation and the (straight) publishing industry's discount policy which favors chain stores."

You might want to tell your local feminist publishers about Independent Publishers Services, which among other services offer publishers the chance to be exhibited at book fairs across the world. Inquiries: 431 Belvedere St., San Francisco CA 94117.

AMAZON BOOKSTORE CELEBRATES HER TENTH YEAR

A note from Amazon saying "Thought you might like to see what we're up to these days. We're celebrating our tenth year and we're going strong." in a packet of fliers & statements. In celebration of their 10th year, Amazon offered a 10% discount off of everything in stock for their May Anniversary Days (12th-24th.) Had a story telling by Miriam Woolf (THE TALE OF WONDERFUL WITCHERY--is this a book? Cd someone send FBN a blurb & ordering info?) and a reading & book signing party with Sally Gearhart/WANDERGROUND, and a something with Kate Millet.

Their statement reads:

"Amazon started with a small loan and lots of energy in June 1970. The bookstore was initially located in a house, and its stock consisted largely of pamphlets. In 1972, Amazon moved to the basement of the old lesbian resource center on 22nd St. where visibility to the general public was limited and the bookstore's presence was designated by a few piles of books in a corner.

"We moved to our first storefront at 808 W. Lake St. in the fall of 1973. Here the collective structure was very loose and the number of workers varied from 5-25. In the spring of 1974 we moved to the corner of Franklin and Lyndale Ave S. (now Mortimer's Bar & Restaurant) where our sales improved because we were more accessible to the public. While here, we received an anonymous gift that allowed us to hire a coordinator who worked shift hours other workers couldn't fill, handled advertising and public relations, worked on incorporation, established a credit rating and helped find a new store front. We moved to our present location in the fall of 1974. Here our store hours stabilized and we expanded our physical space in the spring of 1977.

"Amazon is currently managed by a closed collective of 10 women. Each woman is required to work a minimum shift of 2-4 hours per week, in addition to other responsibilities, including ordering stock, bookkeeping, advertising and maintenance. In January of this year we began paying each worker \$64/month and two of our members part-time wages at a rate of \$4/hour.

"Amazon currently provides the following services: 1. Books authored by women only. 2. Lending library. 3. Special orders for books we do not carry. 4. Mail orders anywhere in the US. 5. Community bulletin board. 6. Ticket sales for women's events. 7. Discount policies for women's organizations. 8. Fundraisers for women. 9. Sponsorship of several athletic teams. 10. Book signing parties and readings. 11. Attendance at conferences around the city and state. 12. Referrals. 13. Amazon newsletter. 14. Affiliate program for women interested in volunteering.

"It is important to note that a considerable amount of our financial needs were met by various women in the community through gifts and loans. Additional help was provided by women who volunteered both time and energy. Without this support, our struggle would have been more difficult.

AMAZON COLLECTIVE PHILOSOPHY AND GOALS: It is the philosophy of the Amazon Collective to assert the integrity of all women through providing a wide range of published material, authored by women, which reflects the conditions, issues and herstory relevant to women in the various sectors of our society.

GOALS: The Amazon Collective is committed to: 1. respond to the particular need of all women to have access to literature by and about Lesbians. 2. Offering literature by and about women of color so that the racial identity of any woman using the Amazon bookstore is acknowledged and affirmed. 3. Mend the divisions which have historically split and alienated us from each other by acknowledging the various, valid relational preferences which are each woman's option, and providing information to help women make enlightened choices from among those options. 4. continue struggling with each other to evolve a collective trust which supports our personal/political growth as individuals. 5. offer a nurturant and lively store environment to the women's community. 6 respond to the expressed needs of women in diverse communities through outreach efforts which enable the store's "goods and services" to become more accessible. 7. offer educational programs which are a stimulating and supportive forum for sharing information, views and ideas which concern or interest the women's community. 8. provide a display and sales outlet for women artists and craftswomen and an opportunity for people to view and support the work of local women artisans through their purchase of photography, paintings, graphics, jewelry and other woman-creations.

GAY AND LESBIAN BLIND STATEMENT

asks help from publishers.

"Members of Gay and Lesbian Blind are issuing the following statement on behalf of all blind people for whom books are essential.

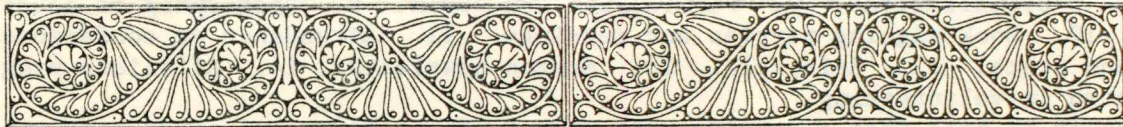
The publishing industry needs to be made aware that the reading requirements of blind students, writers and other professionals, and special interest groups are not being adequately met. Despite production methods implemented by the Library of Congress and the work of non-profit braille and recording services designed for students, braille readers cannot keep abreast of the publishing industry's massive yearly output--the time gap between the first printing of a book and its eventual availability in braille or on recording puts it out-of-date by popular reading standards and denies blind people cultural and political access.

Finally, the problem that plagues special interest groups, such as Gay and Lesbian Blind, is one of censorship: braille and recording services fail to make gay literature accessible because of the sensitive and controversial nature of such literature in relation to the status quo. The obvious issue of supply and demand of books available for and sought by blind readers in any field of interest has never been addressed.

Publishers can vastly improve this situation by making review copies available to groups for immediate braille or recording, or by recording books on their own at first printing, which could be a profitable commercial enterprise, as well as increase the circulation of writers' works.

Anyone interested in our concern for accessibility of books and the right of blind people to read them can contact Gay and Lesbian Blind at 110 East 23 St, NY, NY 10010. Thank you."

(Note from Grace Shinnell who sent FBN this statement: People/publishers who are interested in making recordings and/or donations of taped lesbian and gay reading materials should first contact GALB to find out the recording speed and introductory instructions to be placed on the tapes.)



TRADE TRICKS & POSTAGE

Or the FIGHT BACK! Dept.: Re Harper & Row who will ship any given single order from three different warehouses to suit their warehousing convenience, and then on the same day will ship one or two back orders from the same warehouse from which they shipped another package(s) and put them ALL in separate cardboard cartons & ship them, incurring (in the name of my bookstore) postage costs (59¢ for that first pound--everyone after that one is cheaper!) that add up significantly. Our all time high at this point is five (count 'em 59¢ +59¢ + 59¢ +59¢ +:59¢) first pound rates, plus as many 2nd pound rates for the cardboard (that's and extra 5 x 22¢). My current strategy is to pay all these bills together in one check & deduct all the postage that seems unreasonable (in this case I paid the first pound rate once, the second pound rate once & guessed at what the total weight of the books + packing would have been in one box & paid that. Saved the bookstore round about \$4.00 that way. I enclose a note explaining what I've done & (more or less gently, depending on mood) suggest that their clever computer that can ship one order from three warehouses could just as well be programmed to consolidate backorders and REDUCE postage costs. Another favorite LICE trick is to ship two back orders for the same book on the same day in separate packages. I've stopped paying the double shipping that that one incurs, too....Amazing how it all adds up. Amazing, too, what this kind of irresponsible shipping can do to a small bookstore's survival....and I don't think my deducting postage from the H&R bill is going to drive them under.

THEY WENT THAT-A-WAY!

Things you find out when doing re-subscriptions: THE COMMON WOMAN in Austin, Texas has become BOOKWOMEN and has a new address: 324 E. 6th St., Austin, 78701. Phone 512-472-2785. Berne Hodgkinson writes that CHANGING WOMAN in Providence, RI is no longer in operation. "We just did not get enough support from the feminist community or the community at large." She writes. Meanwhile three new bookstores are opening up: SPINSTERS BOOKS, PO Box 1306, Lawrence, Ks. 66044. WOMEN WORKING, 802 E. Mistletoe, San Antonio, Tx 78212, and a third by Mary Rodriguer, Academy Road in Thetford, Vt. 05074.

Womonfyre sent a note saying they were going to ABA. Maybe they or someone will do a report to FBN. At the very least, maybe they'll write & say if it was worth their while to go & what they got out of it. I never think it will be worth it, (she wrote cynically) so I'd like some fresher perspective than my own to think about.

Thanks to Mother Kali's and everyone else who wrote that Indian Herbology by Alma Hutchens is pub. by Merco in Ontario. Please send their terms & address when you get them? Thanks... The best laid plans of mice & feminists....Ariel Books sent a letter from ABA saying that they checked their records, and since Ariel was not a member of ABA, they wouldn't send them an ABA Handbook, check enclosed & returned. They (of course) sent their letter to MR. Mitchell, etc etc. Has any one had any success with that blank form in FBN? Sigh.

More Closings. (Somehow these always settle to the bottom of the 2-B-Typed pile...) Sojourner in southern California (not to be confused w/ Sojourner in DeKalb, ILL who is alive and well) closed March 15th according to THE LESBIAN TIDE: "Financial reasons, specifically "the recession and changes in the women's movement " mean that the women (Maria Dominguez and Carol Irene, owners) can no longer meet expenses. The owners "thank all of the women who have consistently supported us...." Sojourner was 5 1/2 years old. Also in the same issue was the announcement that SISTER, the Los Angeles women's newspaper folded for "financial and lack of energy reasons." And this isn't news, exactly having happened almost 2 years ago, but the women's bookstore that was affiliated with the women's center in Tampa, FL. closed. The letter which came in response to a "Do you wanna subscribe" letter says, "Originally we were a collective with sponsorship from the womens center. We tried to keep the bookstore a place where women could obtain Feminist books, records, etc. Competitive Bookstores--Waldens, Daltons, etc, sell most books we could obtain. Feminist publishers made us wait 8-10 weeks for delivery. We ran in the RED 8 out of 10 months. Women still need to have their consciousness raised regarding supporting with our monies other women's groups and stores. Our well wishes and prayers for continued support for our sister bookstores. In Sisterhood, Karen Eggeling."

YOUTH LIBERATION PRESS (publishers of HIGH SCHOOL WOMEN'S LIBERATION and GROWING UP GAY) moved to New York from Michigan....new address: Youth Liberation Press, PO Box 524, Brooklyn, NY 11215

WHO CAN YOU TRUST? CRITS ON THE BOYS & THE FEMINISTS.....

You may have noticed....that the two articles reviewing Gloria Steinem's CIA associations were omitted from the Random House edition of Feminist Revolution edited by Redstockings. Random House had the book reviewed by its law firm to see if they would be subject to "libel" charges before they signed the contract w/ Redstockings to publish it. Basically the book passed, but shortly before publication, RH rec'd a series of letters threatening libel suits from Steinem, Women's Action Alliance, Warner, Katharine Graham & others named in the chapter. RH "abridged" the book (read that deleted the chapters in question) and cut the print-run to 12,500 despite 13,000 advance orders.... Copies of the two articles that were omitted are avail for \$1 @ (and I presume standard bookstore discount applies as Redstockings has experience selling books) from Redstockings PO Box 1284, NY, NY 10009; Redstockings information packed on the censorship of the book's Random edition is \$1. Copies of the Sept 6, 1975 Majority Report containing Steinem's statement and annotations to it are 75¢ @ from MR, 49 Perry St., NY, NY 10014. Copies of the Village Voice article and letters of response are 50¢ @ from the Statement Group, c/o Nancy S. Erickson, 619 Carroll St, Brooklyn, NY 11215 (Info from Redstockings. This is a very abbreviated version of their info. Would that I had time to do a whole article & analysis of this thing...seems badly needed. But anyway, here's the info to get more info. Stores might want to make the Redstockings chapter & info avail. along with the book....Carol.)

Press Pacifica (Loom & Spindle)

NEWS

Press Pacifica has a new address: PO Box 1227, Kailua, Hawaii, 96734. Best known for Loom & Spindle, an autobiography of a 19th century mill girl (paper 4.50, cloth 7.95), they also published a congressional committee speech by Elizabeth Cady Stanton re the solitude of choices no one can make for another called The Solitude of Self (24 pgs. 1.50@ 50% for 10+) and Butterflies...If You Throw It, a book by a feminist writing about & exposing what she knew. (She lost her job for it, but the book had had an impact.) (9.95).

PP publisher Jane Wilkins Pultz writes: "Although I am a feminist and would like to publish feminist books exclusively, I haven't the capital, so I have turned also to helping beginning writers who in Hawaii are alienated from the publishing scene and need a foot up. We find it very difficult to reach mainland outlets, except for feminist stores and the college stores that use Loom and Spindle (which will be going into a third printing this winter.)

We did try Ingrams catalog for our poetry book and it will be a year soon and we still haven't been fully paid, however, we haven't lost a cent with the feminist bookstores although we did with WIND, but since my husband is the major trade book wholesaler here in Hawaii I can appreciate the problems they had." Aloha, Jane.

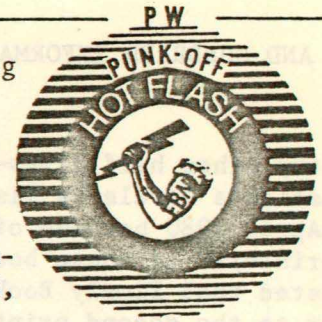
Naiad press people may be doing a tour in the fall....if you want them to come & speak in your bookstore, drop them a line and tell them. Naiad will be bringing at least three new books out in 1980: A collection of translations from the German of early lesbian feminist writings including non-fiction, fiction, and a bit of poetry, most of which has never been available in English before. Also "the first really complete book on lesbian sexuality" to be called Sapphistry, The Book of Lesbian Sexuality by Pat Califia....'twill be lavishly illustrated. And also a new edition of The Lesbian in Literature. And Naiad has also signed a contract with Ann Allen Schockley to publish her black lesbian feminist short stories: THE BLACK AND WHITE OF IT.

New address for 13th Moon mag.: Drawer F, Inwood Sta., NYC 10034. Note from her editor Ellen Marie Bissert on WIND's closing: "As a small press publisher/editor/author, I can see the strong shift toward commercially produced publications. The old-style women's presses are getting crowded out. What are your thoughts?" Reply to FBN (Is this true in YOUR store?!) or to 13th Moon.

New address for Northwest Matrix: PO Box 984, Waldport, Oregon 97394. They are now distributing Naomi Weisstein's first book: The Godfathers: Freudians, Marxists and the Scientific and Political Protection Societies. They also negotiated the Italian rights to MF Beal's Safe House with La Pietra Press in Milan where the book was translated & published Summer 1979. This foreign rights exchange was the result of our sending two books to the London, Frankfurt and Jerusalem Book Fairs with Small Press Publishers Agent Ruth Gottstein. (PO Box 558, Corte Madera, Ca 94925)

Herland is in it's 4th printing w/ 17,500 copies in print. I do love the way Harper & Row did a pseudo-feminist press (looking) cover & point out that the book is "by the author of The Yellow Wallpaper" without crediting The Feminist Press for publishing that book. Tells a body something about how the straight press is using the feminist press to "test market" feminist press books.

Z Budapest's Holy Book of Women's Mysteries sold out it's first printing of 1000 copies in two and a half weeks (more have long since been printed.)



Well, luvves, your fearless correspondent is probably sloshing through ABA-Chicago as you read this...Of course, more books are given away at ABA (actually tossed out onto the floor for the ruttish) than my little house will ever market in its whole lifetime, but that's show biz...I was disappointed at ABA last year; cutesy foodstuffs were being given away instead of books. More like the PILLSBURY BAKE-OFF, except with AUTHORS giving press conferences every 20 minutes...This year, feminist presses DAUGHTERS, PERSEPHONE, CROSSING, and SHAMELESS HUSSY will be exhibiting too. Guess who's bringing the microwave?...Free honorary keys to the Chicago Playboy Club will be awarded to attendees for crossing ERA BOYCOTT LINES...We can also view "several wild animals" strutting their stuff to promote books...But will they autograph?...To hell with the average hardcover price being \$18.95. What a good time all us convention creatures are having on the reading public!!!

A SWIPE OF IRONY: They are printing bestsellers on TOILET PAPER. *The People's Almanac*, *The Book of Lists*, a crossword puzzle and diet book are \$4 a roll. How does an author feel signing that contract with a subsidiary rights clause for THE TOILET PAPER EDITION? Well, Irving Wallace & Co. have to pay those Beverly Hills bills somehow...

WHEN GOD WAS A LESBIAN DEPT: Merlin Stone's *Ancient Mirrors of Womanhood* and Peg Cruikshank's *Lesbian Path* have already gone into second printings a few months after publication...But with the imperial publishers, success is a DIVERSIFIED PORTFOLIO. DOUBLEDAY just bought the NEW YORK METS. So remember, you're not only pushing that \$10 book to encourage a new novelist, you're supporting a losing pitcher too...

One thing book stores have been spared stocking is the real canned goods of the book line: READER'S DIGEST CONDENSED BOOKS. But wait. Reader's Digest is issuing a new series of MASS MARKET PAPERBACKS...Here is editor John Beaudouin on *Condensed Books'* present 65% female readership: *Around the shop, we sometimes say that our typical reader is a middle to upper-middle class woman from Montclair, NJ, who has been recruited by the C.I.A....*Reader's Digest, we recall, lost a \$1.5 million sex discrimination battle awhile back...Last month, Addison-Wesley made a \$360,000 out of court settlement over a sex discrimination suit...

PROPOSITION 9 (Jaws II), the measure to cut the taxes of the rich in California (the 4% richest receive half of the tax "savings"), will break the back of library and other social services in California. So San Francisco, always plucky in the face of disaster and quake, is considering proposals to convert its branch libraries into restaurants. The historic Carnegie buildings would make elegant bars and dining establishments, not to mention nostalgic hits with tourist librarians coming to the AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSN. CONVENTION in SF next year...FRIENDS OF BOOKS & COMICS is planning a rollicking independent press bookfair in connection with ALA...Feminist presses on its board, NEW GLIDE and BOOKLEGGERS are hoping for a large women's contingent...

Start assessing how those books move you get from the entertainment cartels like CBS (Fawcett, Popular Library, Holt, etc.), MCA (Berkeley, Jove, Putnam, etc.) and Warner. Record companies are instituting policies of accepting record returns only within 60 days, and only up to 10% of original purchase...The 55% book rate return may get axed next...

My grandmother always said you never get rich on a salary, but I just clocked publishers KATHARINE GRAHAM of *The Washington Post* at \$375,000 per year and JOAN MANLEY of *Time-Life Books* at \$203,000...*Time-Life Books* has the highest profit margin of any publisher.

To life in the fast-lane, darlings, PW P-O

VARIOUS AND SUNDRIED INFORMATION...

How the other half lives--the previously announced republication date of Paula Christian's novels by Timely Books (see FEMINIST PRESSES listing) was delayed until mid-April 1980 because of "yet another infuriating bout with the righteous (?) ex-printers" of these books, LithoCrafters, of Chelsea, Michigan. LithoCrafters insisted that Timely Books pay a "handling charge" for the release of dies for the cover to the second printer. There was no "handling" involved since the second printer picked up the dies themselves. Timely paid for the dies in spring 1978 and owned them outright--the high cost of making new dies would have to have been passed on to the women who buy the books and would have further delayed the reprinting. To avoid this, Timely Books, under protest, paid the charge. "Our thanks to all sisters for bearing with us..."

WANTED: a new (or relatively new) A.B.A. Handbook--they're now using one from 1973--
Plains Woman Bookstore, 100 S. Linn St., Iowas City IA 52240.

also wanted, as suggested by Womankind Bookstore in Isla Vista, Ca.: a booklist on Chicanas--send to F.B.N. and we'll print it.

FREEBIES AVAILABLE: Books in Print 1977-8 and 2 copies Publishers Trade List Annual for 1977--Small Changes Bookstore, 409A N. Main, Bloomington IL 61701

Calyx

Calyx (A journal of Art and Literature by Women, PO Box B, Corvallis, Or 97330) received a three year National Endowment for the Arts grant. It is a special grant to develop promotional, distribution & sales.

The American Bookseller is a sometimes interesting magazine. ("Booksellers talk to booksellers about bookselling.") ABA members get it free.... \$6./yr to nonmembers. Checks to Booksellers Publishing, Inc., 122 East 42nd St, NY NY 10017

And on the otherhand.....there's much passion & angry criticism of The Feminist Press's book on women & sports. Criticism is that the book is homophobic and racist. (Would someone PLEASE send the info, criticism to FBN so I don't have to write all this from conversations that are several months old & lie molding in the back of my mind!!!!?) What I'm told is that the book (while claiming to be a definitive work on women's sports) totally omits lesbians and any mention of lesbians connected with women's sports (Was YOUR favorite gym teacher heterosexual?) and presumes most (all?) women athletes are white. One of the few comments re black women are that black athletes should cut dialect from their vocabulary.

GIRLSPORTS by Karen Folger Jacobs was nominated for the Americal Library Assn.'s best young adult book award. Bant. \$1.50

Take a minute & write Norton & tell them you/ your customers/ women's studies teachers your grandmother want them to put May Sarton's AS WE ARE NOW in paperback. Rumor has it that they may be receptive to the idea just now....

New Directions books are now avail. from Norton instead of Lippencott.

*Science Fiction Freaks: (And non-freaks trying to get/keep together a good SciFi section) Lin Carter, Evelyn Smith and Evelyn Waugh are all men and not recommended for feminist SciFi sections.

TRIVIA

(as in the crossing of the ways) A new pamphlet "Women and the US Small Business Administration" describes the kinds of help SBA gives to women who want to start a new business or expand an existing one. Get it at SBA offices or call 800-433-7212.

copies _____ title _____
 author _____ est. price _____
 publisher _____ paper / cloth _____

NAME: _____

Address: _____

Request Date _____

Non-Refundable Deposit \$ _____

A ROOM OF ONE'S OWN SPECIAL ORDER RECEIPT

U.S. Census Reports a 14% Increase In Bookstore Sales for 1979

The U.S. Commerce Department's Census of Retailing reports that bookstore dollar sales increased by 14% in 1979 over 1978. Sales for the month of December were also ahead by 14% over the same period the year before. Bookstores, therefore, finished the year above the average for all retailing, which showed only an 11% gain.

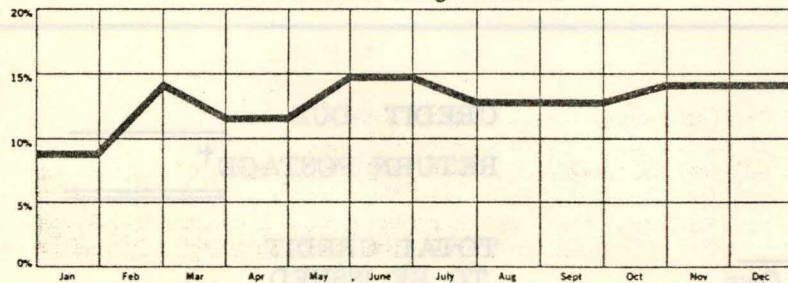
While not a record increase—based on its sample, the Census had reported a 27% increase in bookstore sales for 1978—the above performance surprised many forecasters who had not expected such a solid gain during a year of economic difficulty.

Listed below are the percentage rates of change reported each month by the Census for 1979 vs. 1978 dollar sales:

	% Change from 1979	1978 Month	\$ Change Year to Date
January	+ 9%		+ 9%
February	+11%		+14%
March	+11%		+12%
April	+16%		+12%
May	+25%		+15%
June	+16%		+15%
July	+ 7%		+13%
August	+ 8%		+13%
September	+16%		+13%
October	+16%		+14%
November	+17%		+14%
December	+14%		+14%

The U.S. Census of Retailing samples some 600 independent and chain bookstores on a monthly basis to arrive at its evaluation of industry performance. For additional detail, see the periodical *Monthly Retail Trade* published by the Department of Commerce. JOHN P. DESSAUER

Bookstore Sales—January-December 1979
Year-to-Date % Change from 1978



SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of the Census

LETTERS (To PW)

Editors Are Shes Too

Although there are many things in Jonathan Galassi's essay ("Double Agent: The Literary Editor in the Commercial House," *PW*, March 7) that may provoke greater or lesser ripples of industry discussion, one aspect of the article presented itself so insistently to my attention that it requires special comment. It seems that Mr. Galassi needs to be gently but firmly reminded that many of the "literary" editors in commercial trade houses (including those who established themselves decades ago, those who are relative newcomers, those who have been valued and wisely used, and those who have found themselves embattled and have lost jobs or have quit) have been, and are, *shes*: that is to say, women. A single, token "he or she" in the fourth paragraph of a two-and-a-half-page essay just can't be expected to do the trick Mr. Galassi (or his copyeditor) was perhaps counting on it to do, since the problem is not merely a formal one, a simple question of the author's having failed to heed "new" rules of usage. Mr. Galassi's verbal stance seems quite clearly to reflect a peculiar, personal vision of our industry: what is problematic and objectionable here is his subtle but thoroughgoing evocation of that familiar, clubby, *fictive* (and so very literary) world of gentlemen editors and their diplomatic relations with both gentlemanly authors and with Mr. Publisher.

SUSAN MOSCOWITZ, Editor
Lippincott & Crowell
New York City

CHARTING NEW WATERS by Chocolate Waters--poems, stories, satire, and rubber-stamp cartoons. From Eggplant Press, Box 18641, Denver CO 80218. 5+ copies, 40% prepaid orders. 30% for consignment orders plus 75¢ postage.

PRISONERS by Dorothy Bryant, a novel which "begins with letters between a 50 year old Berkeley activist and a 25 year old convict, and shows the building of their relationship through their successful struggle to win his parole. Bryant avoids cliché confrontations--no sexual involvement or racial confrontations (both are white) and instead digs deeper into some of the disturbing complexities of our attempts to change the world outside and inside ourselves." Paper \$5.00, cloth \$9.00, 40% bookstore discount on any size order from Ata Books, 1920 Stuart St., Berkeley CA 94703. Also distributed by Bookpeople, L-S, Publishers Group West, The Distributors, and Book Dynamics.

WOMAN, CHURCH AND STATE: THE ORIGINAL EXPOSE OF MALE COLLABORATION AGAINST THE FEMALE SEX, by Matilda Joslynn Gage; introduction by Sally Roesch Wagner; forward by Mary Daly. A long buried feminist work documenting and analyzing some of the most commonplace but vicious manstrocities suffered by women: the traffic in women, the persecution of witches, the literal enslavement of women sold as property sold as property to husbands without their consent, and the double exploitation of working and poor women. \$7.95 from Persephone Press, box 7222, Watertown MA 02172. Also from Persephone: The Coming Out Stories, The Wanderground, and A Feminist Tarot.

THE HOSKEN REPORT: GENITAL/SEXUAL MUTILATION OF FEMALES, and FEMALE SEXUAL MUTILATION: THE FACTS AND PROPOSALS FOR ACTION. The REPORT is a second edition, revised and enlarged, includes a report on the World Health Organization Seminar in Khartoum of February 1979, and political, historical, and economic analysis, \$17.00. FSS is an action guide for international political action and is based on the REPORT, price \$8.00. From WIN News, Fran P. Hosken, 187 Grant St., Lexington MA 02173. 1-4 copies, 30%, 5+ 40%.

REMEMBERING WHO WE ARE by Barbara Deming is scheduled for publication August 1, 1980, by Frog in the Well, 430 Oakdale Rd., E. Palo Alto CA 94303, no price given. Frog's first book, The New Woman's Broken Heart by Andrea Dworkin, is also available from Bookpeople and Book Dynamics. Discount schedule from Frog; 20% for 1-4 (assorted titles), 40% for 5-24, 41% and up for larger orders. Returns accepted within one year from invoice for material in good condition, customer pays postage. Claims for shipments damaged, etc. must be initiated within 60 days of receipt. (\$3.00)

DREAMING IN COLOR by Ruth Lepson and ANIMALS by Alice Mattison are new books of poetry from Alice James Books. A Publisher's Weekly blurb describes Lepson as "more of an action poet than a realist...Her freewheeling technique...transports us to a unique state of mind somewhere between the desire to write poetry and the end product itself." ANIMALS "is a frequently funny book about having a body and about trying to make connections between the inner self and other people." Alice James Books, 138 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge MA 02138

EDGE OF TWILIGHT and its sequel THIS SIDE OF LOVE by Paula Christian are now in their second printing, \$5.95 from Timely Books, Box 267, New Milford Conn. 06776, Love is Where You Find It by Christian is also available at the same price. Now in the planning stages is Another Kind of Love, 4th in a series of 6 Christian novels, to be available later this year. (See letter from Timely Books)

BY SANCTION OF THE VICTIM by Patte Wheat is also from Timely Books, based on a documented case of child abuse, \$4.50.

more feminist press...

GAIA'S GUIDE--1981 is being distributed by Bookpeople and also The Distributors, but "both have creepy reputations for not paying small, independent publishers" says Sandy Horn, GG's publisher. For various reasons Sandy suggests that bookstores order from the London Address: Gaia's Guide, One, North End Road, London, W. 14, England. Air mail postage to send your order to England is 31¢. Shipping instructions are telexed to the warehouse in San Francisco and you will receive your books within 12 days of your order. \$7.50 retail. 50% discount for pre-paid orders, plus 3 free copies for orders under 50, more freebies for higher orders, no shipping charges. 50% discount for C.O.D. orders, no shipping charges, 5 free copies and up for orders of 50 books or more. 40% for 30-day net billing (and no freebies).

Now available from Motherroot Publications: MOTHER MAY I, by Alma Villanueva, \$3.50, is a graphic poem on the struggles of the author, an Hispanic-American born in a San Francisco barrio. Also: Notes of a Daughter from the Old Country, Melanie Perish, \$1.75; Women and Honor: Some Notes on Lying, by Adrienne Rich \$2.00 (although this essay is contained in On Lies, Secrets, and Silence, I.C.I. still gets requests for it); The Uprising of the 20,000, Donna Ippolito \$3.00; The Odyssey of Katinou Kalokovich, by Natalie Petesch, a reissue of this widely acclaimed novel, \$5.00. Bulk orders from Motherroot Publications, 214 Dewey St., Pittsburg PA 15218, or from Bookslinger, Box 4544 Industrial Station, St. Paul MN 55104.

Lesbian Mothers' National Defense Fund has a materials list available, mostly comprised of publications of trial briefs and short articles. They say that not many of these are in a form suitable for bookstore display (mostly xeroxed sheets), but they're glad to send them anyway. Publications and articles are priced from free to \$6.90--it's too long to reprint here so send for one: LMNDF, box 21567, Seattle WA 98111

Scarecrow press, 52 Liberty St., Box 656, Metuchen NJ 08840, publishes books for women's studies and has a catalog of these materials. They only give a 10% discount (prepayment only unless you have established an account--they don't say how.) The reasons they give for this policy are to avoid the problems of small stores not paying and to cut overhead costs. In response to questions about their policies they also say something about 15% cash and they pay postage but it's not clear what they mean.

Zu-En (Wisdom) Graphics is a feminist studio offering quality feminist stationery, graphic prints, and various commercial art services. 40% discount to dealers and fund-raising groups, prepayment required, specify handling method, orders outside U.S. please pay in U.S. dollars or international money order. You can send them an order without payment and they will send back an itemized bill so you know how much to pay, but when I did that for I.C.I. the postage figure was outrageous and I paid about a third of what they asked and the order still came. Catalog from Zu-En Graphics, Dept. FBS, 8742 Luella Ave. Chicago IL 60617

New Sibylline Books is offering a special deal to feminist bookstores on ANCIENT MIRRORS OF WOMANHOOD Vol. 1, whereby customers get a dollar discount off the \$6.95 price and bookstores get a 50% discount. For a prepaid order of 10 books (\$35.00), you get 11 books and free shipping. Cost per book \$3.18, discount on \$6.95 retail price is 54%. New Sibylline suggests you pass on some of this savings by reducing the retail price to \$5.95. For prepaid orders of 5 (\$17.50), you still get free shipping and credit on 1/2 bonus book, which you'll receive on your next prepaid order of 5. Window display signs and flyers available, as are regular 40% discount for 30 day net terms. New Sibylline also wants to know if people plan to keep flyers, do window display, what you do plan to retail the book for, and whether your store would be interest in selling folded note cards with photograph of Amzon bas-relief from 4th century B.C.

more and more feminist press...

From Naiad Press: THE BLACK AND WHITE OF IT, by Ann Schockley, author of Loving Her. Short Stories \$5.95, due 7/15/80. LESBIAN-FEMINISM IN TURN OF THE CENTURY GERMANY, edited and translated by Lillian Faderman and Brigitte Eriksson, \$5.95. Stories, autobiographies and essays, published in English for the first time. Available 9/1/80, SAPPHISTRY, THE BOOK OF LESBIAN SEXUALITY, by Pat Califia, lovingly illustrated by Tee Corinne, \$6.95. \$12.00 (no discount) gets you one of the special limited edition of 100 numbered copies, signed by Pat Califia and Tee Corinne. "The first comprehensive textbook on lesbian sexuality produced within the lesbian community." Naiad Press, 7800 Westside Dr., Weatherly Lake, MO 64152

Starr Publications now offers 30-day net terms on GRAPHIC DETAILS, a book of lesbian erotica, to customers who have prepaid two orders. For new customers, credit is now available with a 50% deposit, the balance due in 30 days. 40% discount for 5 books, plus 5% for postage and handling.

HOW TO BE A HUMAN BEAN is a children's book in pamphlet form by Bobbie Markels, \$2.00 retail. It's funny, non-sexist, and has sold well in Mendocino, the author's home. Just published: MENDOCINO MALADY, a humorous poem and prose piece on a woman's turning 50, \$4.00. Both available from Bobby Markels, box 711, Mendocino CA 95460, discount 40%, don't know if there's a minimum.

SLIDE SHOW, Margaret Cesa. The fourth book of poetry by a Berkeley poet, SLIDE SHOW is an 80 page of collection of nine-line poems whose format evokes a photographic slide presentation. The slides/pages of this small, square book are preceded and followed by pale blue and silver flyleaves which resemble projections on a movie screen. In fresh clear images, Cesa engages the spectator conversationally and often humorously in poems about loving, sexuality, cancer, loneliness, spicers, freeways and poison oak. Big Dot Press (named after the 80 year old matriarch of the publisher's husband's family), 404 W. Richmond, Point Richmond, Ca. 94801. 10% for 10+ ; 4.95. Also avail thru Bookpeople.

SAPPHIC JOURNEYS--cassette tape recording, Lesbian poetry with music. Writers, musicians unknown. Bulk/bookstore rates unknown, too, but "dealer inquiries invited. Womonsounds, PO Box 65891, Los Angeles, Ca. 90065. Has anyone heard/seen it?

Helaine Victoria Press, feminist printers of handcrafted letterpress specialties, has introduced several new designs this year. New postcards include Jane Addams, Margaret Sanger, and matched sets of cards featuring women in labor and ecology. Also new bookplate of Phyllis Wheatly, Black American poet, and a fine letterpress broadside of letters from Violet Trefusis to Vita Sackville-West. Complete catalogue & samples on request. First order requires \$50 minimum, no min. thereafter, and standard discount is a full 50%. Additional 2% off for opening order, plus 2% for all orders prepaid or paid within 10 days. Otherwise billing is due net 30 days.

THE BLACK AND WHITE OF IT--Ann Allen Shockley's collection of short stories from Naiad Press. I literally didn't put my hands on it until 11:00 last night so I can't review it.... but it is one of the few (3?) books in print by or about black lesbians which makes it essential..

THE PRISONERS a new novel by Dorothy Bryant. I haven't read it, but a friend stayed up all night the night it came out. Form it an exchange of letters between a middle-aged 'liberal' woman and a young man in prison. It turns to narrative when he gets out of prison & they meet in person. Avail. from ATA press and Bookpeople.



LESBIAN HERSTORY ARCHIVES continues to collect mags, books, clippings, tapes, buttons love letters & what all, Lesbian memorabilia...maybe a good place to send the stacks of magazines, clippings etc. that accumulate around the bookstore...write them at PO Box 1258 NY, NY 10001 to see.



FEMINIST PUBLICATIONS

WOMAN'S ART JOURNAL, edited by Elsa Fine (author of Women and Art, now in paper from Allenheld & Schram), now has its first issue ready for distribution. WAJ is a "semi-annual scholarly/communicative journal devoted to women in the visual arts. Bookstores with a minimum order of 5 receive a 25% discount & you pay postage. This discount is apparently off the subscription rate for individuals, \$4.00/issue, however the editor says bookstores may charge \$4.50/issue, so the effective discount would be 33%. Address: 7008 Sherwood Dr., Knoxville TN 37919

FIREWORKS: THE FEMINIST JOURNAL OF JOHN DEWEY HIGH SCHOOL is printed 5 times yearly on newsprint and looks pretty good. It's funded by a grant from Ms. and "administered with the cooperation of the Brooklyn College Women's Center." 50¢, 40% discount. Address: John Dewey High School, 50 Avenue X, Brooklyn NY 11223.

PANDORA: AN ORIGINAL ANTHOLOGY OF ROLE-EXPANDING SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY is now available from Carrier Pigeon distributors.

The June issue of THE DRAMA REVIEW is devoted to "Women and Performance," with articles on women in feminist theater, La Mama Experimental Theatre Club, San Francisco Mime Troupe, plus women directors, filmmakers, designers and performers. Bookstores get 40% discount, full return privileges for copies in saleable condition. Address: 51 W. 4th St., room 300, New York NY 10012. Also available from a distributor, B. DeBoer, 188 High St., Nutley NJ 07110, which is where I.C.I. gets Helicon Nine, but I think they offer only 30% discount.

Sinister Wisdom, a Journal of Words and Pictures for the Lesbian Imagination in all Women, is a quarterly devoted to the telling and reshaping of our lives from a Lesbian Feminist perspective. We offer a 40% discount on orders of 5 or more issues (issues are regularly \$2.50 each). We do not deal on consignment, however, we accept returns for credit if they are in saleable condition. Our terms are 30 days net. We also offer a SW fund-raising poster for \$3.00 each or at 33 1/3% discount on orders of 5 or more. No returns on posters. LIBRARIES: Library subscriptions are \$12 a year for 4 issues. (also available at a discount through FAXON and EBSCO.)

NEW FROM ALTERNATIVE PRESSES...

GROWING UP, FEELING GOOD: A CHILD'S INTRODUCTION TO SEXUALITY, by Stephanie Waxman, "helps children (and their parents) sort through the emotional and physical changes they are experiencing. Stephanie Waxman, author of What Is a Girl? What Is a Boy?, follows these changes as they develop from infancy to old age." Panjandrum Books, 11321 Iowa Ave., Ste. 1, Los Angeles Ca 90025. Paper \$4.95, cloth \$8.95. 1 copy 20%, 2-4 30%, 5+ 40% plus postage, prepay first order. Also distributed by Bookpeople.

THE ACHIEVEMENT OF MARGARET FULLER, by Margaret Vanderhaar Allen, "examines the process by which Fuller's reputation as a thinker and writer was obscured, and explores the formation of her ideas...Humanist, journalist, critic, scholar, feminist, poet, revolutionary--she was all these and more." Pennsylvania State University Press, 215 Wagner Building, University Park, PA 16802. \$13.50, "trade discount available to bookstores."

ABOUT WIFE ABUSE is a 15-page pamphlet from Channing L. Bete Co. which seems to be aimed at people sitting in waiting rooms. It's in cartoon form with lots of underlined and *starred* words. The information seems okay, but when I come to the part called What can Society do?, I notice the absence of suggestions involving more jobs and options for women. 1-24 copies, 75¢ each; 25-99, 50¢ each, etc. Also available with "personalized covers."

More on ordering IN THE MEMORY AND SPIRIT OF FRANCES, ZORA, AND LORRAINE: ESSAYS AND INTERVIEWS ON BLACK WOMEN AND WRITING. The publisher requires prepayment as follows: 5 copies, \$15 + \$2.95 postage: 10 copies, \$30 plus \$5.90 postage: 15 copies, \$45 plus \$6.35 postage, and so on. The editor explains that they're not set up to handle invoices and billings. Institute for the Arts and the Humanities, box 723, Howard University, Washington D.C. 20001. Retail price is \$5.00.

The Council on Interracial Books for Children has a catalog of filmstrips and books aimed primarily at educators. Terms are 35% discount if paid in advance, no returns; 20% discount for 30-day net, returns okay on materials in excellent condition. Book and pamphlet titles: STEREOTYPES, DISTORTIONS AND OMISSIONS IN U.S. HISTORY TEXTBOOKS, paper \$7.95; DEFINITIONS OF RACISM, TEN QUICK WAYS TO ANALYZE CHILDREN'S BOOKS FOR RACISM AND SEXISM, TEST YOUR TEXTBOOKS, NATIVE AMERICAN AND PROUD, PUERTO RICAN AND PROUD (bilingual), CHICANO AND PROUD, BLACK WOMEN ARE PROUD, all 10 for \$150, 100 for \$7.00; THE PRINCESS AND THE PEA: HIDDEN MESSAGES IN CHILDREN'S STORIES \$2.50; PICTURE-PAC ACTIVITY ON RACISM \$3.50; PICTURE-PAC ACTIVITY ON SEXISM \$3.50; CHECKLIST TO RATE YOUR SCHOOL FOR RACISM AND SEXISM, \$3.50; LITTLE BLACK SAMBO: A CLOSER LOOK, \$2.50; TWO HISTORY TEXTS: A STUDY IN CONTRAST, \$2.00; RACISM IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE, \$2.00; HUMAN VALUES IN CHILDREN'S BOOKS, paper \$7.95; FACT SHEETS ON INSTITUTIONAL RACISM, \$1.00; FACT SHEETS ON INSTITUTIONAL SEXISM, \$1.00; CHRONICLES OF AMERICAN INDIAN PROTEST, \$5.95; RACISM IN CAREER EDUCATION MATERIALS, \$2.50; SEXISM AND RACISM IN POPULAR BASAL READERS 1964-1976, \$2.50.

Council on Interracial Books, CIBC Resource Center, Rm. 300, 1841 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10023

TEACHING HUMAN DIGNITY, Miriam Wolf-Wasserman and Linda Hutchinson is a book about alternative education. There are articles on ecology, people's history, Third World and Women's studies and more. Sketches of classroom experiences, simulation games, bibliographies and lists of source persons and materes are included. Education Exploration Center, PO Box 7339, Powderhorn Station, Minneapolis, MN 55407. 7.95 paper, 14.95 cloth. Bookstore rates unknown. Authors avail for workshops and speaking engagements on the upper Midwest and Bay Areas.

*bibs means bibliographies and Carol seems to think anyone would know this but I sure didn't--jlm

more ALTERNATIVE PRESSES...

Avocation Publishers, "dedicated to publishing books that mirror the vigorous sense of self emerging from today's gay community," has published HIDDEN HERITAGE: HISTORY AND THE GAY IMAGINATION, edited by Byrne Fone, an anthology "that documents the unrecognized contributions of gay people to world history." Cloth \$18.95. Also, MEN AND THEIR SEX, by Dr. Robert Rowan, "a comprehensive handbook on male sexuality." (Cloth, \$10.00) Available through Irvington Publishers, Inc., 551 5th Ave. New York NY 10017, 20% discount on any quantity.

EMERGING WOMAN: A DECADE OF MIDLIFE TRANSITIONS, by Natalie Rogers, is a self-published book. With a 10% discount for 6 or more, I can see why the flyer says it's being distributed primarily by mail order. Rogers has worked with Carol Rogers in developing the "person-centered approach" to therapy. Chapter headings show some feminist concerns. Personal Press, Box 789, Point Reyes Station, CA 94956. \$8.50, probably wants prepayment + postage.

Mags...

Available from Carrier Pigeon 88 Fisher Ave. (Somerville or Boston...can't remember, but it IS in back issues of FBN) (AHA! It's Boston. I was overcome by a wave of guilt & decided to look it up myself...found the answer in THE PASSIONATE PERILS OF PUBLISHING, from Booklegger. Also known as Vol 2 #5/6 of FBN. The zip is 02120)

SHREW- The Feminist & Nonviolence issue. \$1.50

NEW WOMEN'S TIMES FEMINIST REVIEW \$1. 40% discount. (You can also get it direct from New Women's times....they combine their own issue w/ NWT for 50¢. See last issue FBN for details.)

AND, special for feminist bookstores...Several stores asked if it was possible to place standing orders for magazines with the stipulation that they only get those issues of the mags which have important articles about feminism or sexual politics. They are now doing that for the following magazines. Be sure to indicate that you want only the issues w/ feminist articles....

BULLETIN OF CONCERNED ASIAN SCHOLARS

CAPITAL AND CLASS

MARXIST PERSPECTIVES

POLITICS AND EDUCATION

RACE AND CLASS

RADICAL AMERICA

RADICAL TEACHER

REV. OR RADICAL POLITICAL ECONOMY

SOCIALIST REVIEW

SOUTHERN EXPOSURE

from the straight press...

THIRD WORLD WOMEN SPEAK OUT, Perdita Huston, \$4.95^(paper) Praeger. Interviewed in fields, markets, clinics and offices, women of six "developing" countries (Egypt, Kenya, Sudan, Tunisia, Sri Lanka and Mexico) share with the author their personal views and feelings about the impact of rapid change upon their families and themselves.

SELF PORTRAIT OF A FAMILY, with commentary by Jessie Bernard, \$6.95 paper, Beacon (Harper & Row). "A fascinating account of a single parent [Bernard] and her children and the letters that held their lives together."

from the straight press...

MA, CAN I BE A FEMINIST AND STILL LIKE MEN?, Nicole Hollander, \$3.95 paper, St. Martin's. Mostly heterosexual, fairly funny, feminist cartoons. "With a sophisticated blend of sarcasm and satire, Nicole Hollander perceptively scrutinizes the ERA, public opinion, sex, love, soap operas, beauty tips, popular magazines and all the shattered illusions upon which we continue to build our lives."

CHANGING OF THE GODS: FEMINISM AND THE END OF TRADITIONAL RELIGIONS, Naomi Goldenberg, \$4.95 paper, Beacon (harper & Row). "Goldenberg goes beyond clarifying and explaining to women what our total exclusion from each of the patriarchal religions means. She suggests essential possibilities: especially when she begins to write about feminist witchcraft, the importance of getting in touch with the goddess in each of us." [Hello, Lilith? Gee, I haven't seen you in ages...]

ON LOVING MEN, Jane Lazarre, \$8.95, cloth, Dial Press. "Refusing to deny her sexuality for political purposes [and whose idea was that?], Jane Lazarre turns her attention to a subject few feminist writers have tackled in a positive, affirmative way-- women's relationships to men, not only as lovers and husbands, but as fathers, sons and friends. An Alternate Selection of the Book-of-the-Month Club."

NETWORKING: THE GREAT NEW WAY FOR WOMEN TO GET AHEAD, Mary Scott Welch, cloth, \$9.95 Harcourt Brace Jovanovich. Ms. Welch reinvents the women's movement--small groups and communication between women, what a great idea! Focuses on work and careers.

THE NEW GULLIVER, Esmé Dodderidge \$9.95, Taplinger Publishers (200 Park Ave. So., New York, NY 10003). Satirical novel on sexism. (?)

NOW IN PAPERBACK

BLACK MACHO AND THE MYTH OF THE SUPERWOMAN, Michele Wallace, Warner \$2.50.

BACK IN PRINT

HILLBILLY WOMEN Avon \$2.75

Where does the F.B.N. get all these nifty summaries and quotes, you ask? Some come from press releases, some from dust jackets, some from detailed and some from cursory examinations of the books, and I bet you'll never guess which are which...

- * National NOW Conference....I just talked to Marilyn at the Oracle (I called about something else, but then, that's how all the information gets passed, isn't it?) who just got back from selling books at the NOW conf. in Los Angeles. She said there were 145 vendor booths...that it was really exciting to talk to the other vendors. They took about \$5700 in stock (retail) (the store was bare to the walls) and sold just under \$3000. They took a master charge/visa machine & didn't advertise having it, just used it when customers asked if they had it and did \$700 of their sales on charge cards. "When people found out we'd take charge cards, they'd add two or three things more. That seems to be how those things work. It more than made up for the 3% the bank takes." The wave of the future?

* THE ABOVE TIDBIT MAY BE YEARS OLD FOR ALL I KNOW - FILLING SPACE WITH THINGS WHICH SOMEHOW NEVER GOT PRINTED - WHAT DO I KNOW, I JUST WORK HERE! A.

THE FOLLOWING COMPILED BY DARLENE AT ICI - THANKS.

PUBLISHER'S WEEKLY 3/7/80

ADS

Whoever Said Life is Fair, Sara Kay Cohen. Finding dignity and hope in times of personal tragedy. Author writes weekly column for Phila. Inquirer. Scribners, April \$7.95.

How to get Pregnant, Dr. Sherman Silber. "...success rate is the highest yet reported." Scribners, June \$10.95.

Act II: Mid-Career Job Change and How to Make It, Nancy Baker. "For both men and women". Vanguard \$10.95.

The Butterfly Ward, Margret Gibson. Short stories about sanity and insanity. Vanguard \$8.95. (Vanguard Press, 424 Madison Ave. NYC 10017)

Has your Bantam rep told you that CH Hasseloff, a new Western writern, is a woman? Ours did---Darlene, ICI.

Books you may carry that will soon be movies: Happy Endings by Margaret Logan; Innocent Blood by PD James. (James' first name is Phyllis--I never knew)

Speaking of women Western writers, Ballantine will re-issue A Man Called Horse, Dorothy M. Johnson. (speaking of books into movies)

Penguin is establishing a new series of book, "The Contemporary American Fiction Series". The women therein include: Maureen Howard, Before My Time, June \$3.95; Music and Silence, Anne Redmon, Oct \$3.95; The Life I Really Led, Jessamyn West, Jan '81--no price given.

HBJ - Women and Writing, V. Woolf, \$3.95, a collection of criticism from the Times Literary Supplement and other publications by Virginia on the books and careers of other women writers.

Citadel Press/Lyle Stuart: Ordeal, Linda Lovelace, \$10, now has 85,000 copies in print. (We're getting phone calls for this book, as she does the talk shows. Also the article by Gloria Steinam in the May MS seems to be upping the interest.)

FORECASTS

Rock and Roll Baby, Aida Pavletich, Dblday \$14.95. "...overview of two decades of women in popular music."

The Divorced Woman's Handbook: An Outline for Starting the First Year Alone, Morrow \$4.95 paper

PW 3/28/80 (3/14 & 3/21 in last issue of FBN)

Publisher's Weekly does interviews of about 1 1/2 pages in each issue. At least 1/2 of them are on women, usually authors. Some have been excellent and informative, worth cutting out and displaying.

ADS

Your Rights and The Draft, \$1.95, Wallaby/S&S, includes the probability the women will be drafted.

That Year at Central High, Elizabeth Paisley Huckaby, Louisiana State U. Press (no pub. date or price noted), vice principal for girls during integration struggle at that school in 1957, Little Rock, Arkansas (7 of the 9 black students were girls. There will probably be a TV dramatization this summer).

FORECASTS

Breaking Out of the Middle-Age Trap, Leslie A. Westoff, NAL Books \$11.95.

Real Property, Sara Davidson (Loose Change), Doubleday \$10.95. Essays and observations. (paperback rights to Pocket)

Maybe: A Story, Lillian Hellman, \$7.95 Little Brown. Another volume of her memoirs.

Helen and Teacher: The Story of Helen Keller and AnneSullivan Macy, Jos. Plash, Delacorte, \$15.00.

Fly Away Home, Mary Hedin, Univ. of Iowa, \$5.95 paper. Nearly rave reviews on this short story collection.

Nan, Sarah and Clare: Letters Between Friends, Avon \$4.95 paper, nonfiction original.
Alcoholism: The Way Back to Reality, Claire Costales, Regal Books, \$3.95. Starting from the personal to the general, has some religious content.
What Every Woman Needs to Know to Find a Good Job in Today's Tough Market, Jean Summers, Fawcett, \$4.95.
Silks, Roberta Speer, HR&W \$4.95, paper. Winner of the National Poetry Series.
Ariel View of Louisiana. Cleopatra Mathis, Sheep Meadow Press, \$4.95 paper. "Vivid poems of a rural woman."

AD
The Sea, the Sea, Iris Murdoch, \$.95 paper, July.

PW 4/4/80

ADS
Dell, Kilgallen, \$2.50 paper, August.

Movies From Books: Compromising Positions (Susan Isaac's second book will be from Lippincott and Crowell, Close Relations, paper rights to Avon)

Gyn/Ecology went back for another printing for a total of 40,000 in print.

Victorian Working Woman, Michael Hiley, \$17.95, Godine. Incredible rare collection of photos.

FORECASTS

What to do With the Rest of Your Life: the Catalyst Career Guide for Women in the 80's, forward by Bess Meyerson, S&S, \$16.95.

Smile Please: An Unfinished Autobiography, Jean Rhys, H&R, \$10.95

The Handbook of Nonsexist Writing, Cosey Miller and Kate Swift, Lippincott and Crowell, \$8.95.

Breast Self-Examination, Albert Milan, M.D., Workman \$3.50 paper.

AD
Teenage Sexuality, HB Macmillan (no price given)

PW 4/11/80

ADS
Call the Darkness Light, Nancy Zaroulis, Signet/NAL \$2.95 July.

Unsung: A History of Women in American Music, Christine Ammer, \$22.95. "The 14th volume in the Greenwood Press Women's Studies Collection."

Star Hunters: A Novel of the Diadem, Jo Clayton, DAW, \$1.75.

The Spinner, Doris Piserchia, DAW, \$1.95, sf horror.

Annpurna: A Woman's Place, Arlene Blum, Sierra Club Books, oct, no price given.

FORECASTS

More Than Mere Survival: Conversations With Women Over 65, Jane Seskin, Newsweek \$7.95.

Beating Men at Their Own Game: A Woman's Guide to Successful Selling in Industry, Richard Buskin and Beverly Miles, J. Wiley \$12.95.

The Moon and The Virgin: Reflections on the Archetypical Feminine, Nor Hall, H&R, \$9.95.

Aspects of the Present, Margaret Meak and Rhoda Matraux, Morrow, \$10.95.

Valiant Friend: The Life of Lucretia Mott, Margaret Bacon, Wslker, \$14.95.

Muggable Mary: The Most Decorated Woman Cop in America, Mary Glatzle w/ Evelyn Fiore, P-Hale, \$9.95.

Diary of V. Woolfe: Vol III 1925-30, HBJ \$15.95.

Off Center, Barbara Grizzuti Harrison, Dial \$9.95. (20 essays - frequently appearing in MS.)

The Death God's Citadel, Juanita Coulson, Ballantine \$2.25. sf/fantasy.

The White Album, Joan Didion, Pocket \$2.75.

kids--Part-time Boy, Elizabeth T. Billington, illustrated by Diane de Groat, F. Warne \$6.95.
hb, (ages 8-10) sex roles and non-sexist childraising.

Anyone been watching the midnight soap, "Prisoner, Cell Block H"? Well, Pinnacle will bring out the novelization in Nov. no price set.

Books into Movies: Stepping, Nancy Thayer, Doubleday, has been bought by the same folks who brought you "Norma Rae".

Bellefleur, Joyce Carol Oates, EP Dutton, \$12.95, August.

On My Own: Personal Independence for Today's Woman, Greta Walker, Morrow, \$9.95. Problems of newly single women.

The Women Who Made the West, Western Writers of America, Doubleday, \$10.95. True stories by women about women.

Eve's Rib: A Revolutionary new view of Female Sex Roles, Mariette Nowak, St. Martin's \$12.95, "Cross-cultural proof that men are not innately dominant".

Baby Dance: A Comprehensive Guide to Prenatal and Postpartum Exercise, Elysa Markowitz, P. Hale \$7.95 paper. (A better book than the cutsey title).

Sally Heming, Barbara Chase, rebound, Avon \$2.75.

A Private Battle, Cornelius and Kathryn Ryan, Fawcett/Popular \$2.95. (on death and dying).

Superlearning, Ostrander and Schroeder, Delta, \$4.95.

PW 4/25/80

AD

Everyone's Money Book, Jane Quinn, Delta, \$8.95 paper.

FORECASTS

China Men, Macine Hog Kingston, Knopf, \$10.95, ("stories of her patriarchal forebears").

A Book About My Mother, Toby Talbot, FS&G \$10, ("an intensely felt and moving memoir,...").

My House has Two Doors, Han Suyin, Putman, \$19.95. (4th and final volume of her autobiography)

Powers of the Weak, Elizabeth Janeway, Knopf \$13.95, ("..women can change the power structure and reverse their subordinate role in society.")

Single Parents are People, Too, Carol V. Murdock, Butterick, \$9.95.

Barn Blind, Jane Smiley, H&R \$8.95, novel of woman on Illinois farm and horse ranch.

The Clone Rebellion, Evelyn Lief, Pocket, \$2.25. sf, first novel.

Two to Conquer, MZ Bradley, DAW, \$2.25.

Private Lives, MK Cooper, Fawcett/Popular, mystery revolving around two closeted male lovers.

OUT OF PRINT (R-H)

Corregidora, Gayle Jones, hb.

Woman Loving, Ruth Falk, pap.

Voices From the Mountains, Carawan, pap.

Monster, Robin Morgan, Vintage, pap.

PW 5/2/80

ADS (HR&W)

Women Who Kill, Ann Jones, \$15.95, oct. (again, sounds much better than the title).

The Edwardian Lady: The Story of Edith Holden, Author of the Country Diary of an Edwardian Lady, Ina Taylor, \$18.95, Sept.

Eleanore: A Novel, Rhoda Lerman, \$4.95, paper, Sept.

First of All: Significant "Firsts" by American Women, Joan McCullough, \$5.95, paper, Jan '81.

(DAW)

CJ Cherryh, Serpents Reach, \$2.25 and Hunter of Worlds, \$2.25.

FORECASTS

Expecting Miracles, Linda Howard, Putnam, \$10.95. (PW didn't like it much-however as a sub-plot we get the protagonists' sister, a lesbian, and her lover who are going to have a baby via artificial insemination).

Mary Baker Eddy: An Interpretive Biography of the Founder of Christian Science, Julius Silberger, Little Brown, \$12.95.

The Ways of My Grandmothers, Beverly Hungry Wolf, Morrow, \$9.95, a Blackfoot Indian woman trying to overcome white assimilation.

The Woman's Day Book of Fund Raising, Perri and Harvey Ardman, St. Martin's \$11.95.

Marketing Yourself: The Catalyst Women's Guide to Successful Resumes and Interviews, forward by Sylvia Porter, Putnam, \$9.95.

American Women Poets: Pioneers of Modern Poetry, Jean Gould, Dodd Mead \$8.95. ("There's no such thing as a poetess; you're either a poet or you're not.")

Women Who Drink, John and Dolores Langone, Addison-Wesley, \$5.95.

Regina's Song, Sharleen Cooper, Dell, \$2.50 (I'm not sure I should include this, but imagine if the the Beatles had some women members and there was definately going ot be a re-union concert. That's this book.)

Martha: The Life of Martha Mitchell, Winzola McLendon, Ballantine, \$2.75.

OUT OF PRINT (Little-Brown, hb only)

The Lady and the Law, Berkman.

Whatta Gal!, Johnson

Daughters of the Promised Land, Smith

Goodies and Trivia* from the FBN mail bag. (and is it ever wonderful to get this stuff in the mail!)

*Silences by Tillie Olsen (Dial, cloth) now has 21,000 copies in print. Death of an Expert Witness by PD James (Pop. Lib., Paper) has 200,000 copies in print.

*The Bell Jar, Sylvia Plath's only novel will open as a movie in March starring Julie Harris. (You may want to stock up as Q who see the movie may want to read the book.

BOOK CENSORSHIP "EPIDEMIC" SWEEPS SCHOOLS ACROSS THE COUNTRY

This is according to the National Coalition Against Censorship. "There is so little case law in this area that the sheer number of cases makes this news." 7 cases were cited in the 2/12/70 PW. One of them being the banning of OUR BODIES, OURSELVES by the trustees of the Helena (Montana) School District #1. Helena Citizens for Freedom of Expression chagre that reomoval of the book violated students' consitutional rights of freedom of speech and due press....At one point in the preceedings the Montana state prosecutor threatened to bring criminal charges against any teachr or librarian who gave the book to a minor. Censorship of books in public schools & libraries is one of the fronts the right-wing is working on in this country, along w/ anti ERA, anti-abortion laws, anti-gay & third-world peoples' civil rights, etc. Beyond the immediate problems of those particular books not being available in those particual schools are the 'ripple effect' problems...publishers hesitate to publish books that might be banned in conservative communities, fearing that they'll make less \$\$\$\$. That could lead to an increasingly conservative bend on the part of a publishing industry that already fails to adequately serve feminist needsnot to mention anyone else who isn't white & male and middle/upper class.....

*Six of One is due out this fall from Bantam. It will also be published in England by W. H. Allen (cloth) and/or Star Books (paper). (This in addition to the fairly wide distribution the Bantam paperback seemed to get in England when it first came out. Six of One, along with Special Effects (Harriet Frank, Jr. Houghton) and A Woman Of Independent Means (Elizabeth Forsythe Hailey-Viking) were all aquired by Judith Burnley who heads the editorial boards of the above mentioned publishers. She seems to be picking up women's books on purpose. I hope it's a trend.

PUBLISHER'S WEEKLY cont. 2/2/80

the woman's Day Book of Food Raisin...
Learn the Yourself: The Catalyst Women's Guide to Successful Interviews...
American Women Poets: Poems of Modern Poetry, Jean Gould, Dodd Mead \$9.95 ("There's
no such thing as a poetess; you're either a poet or you're not.")
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Matters: The Life of Martha Mitchell, Winola McLenahan, Ballantine, \$2.75

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Whate's Gail, Johnson
Sisters of the Promised Land, Smith

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...laws, anti-gay a third-world peoples' civil rights, etc...
...beyond... anti-sectarian...
...membership of books in public schools & libraries is one of the...
...one point in the proceedings the Montana state prosecutor...
...the book violated students' constitutional rights of freedom of...
...School District #1. Helena Citizens for Freedom of Expression...
...OURSELVES by the trustees...
...the sheer number of cases makes this news... 7 cases were cited...
...according to the National Coalition Against Censorship.