

March 1969

C M D U U W F NEWSLETTER

President's Notes

Hi. And I say that with a huskiness reminiscent of Tallulah Bankhead. I could not allow my friends to be one up on me so joined the flu bandwagon. Entered the hospital in December for minor surgery with a cough which developed into the flu and I've been sort of dragging since.

I won't infringe upon the Allerton Committee, but I must say that from the report at the January Board meeting the Institute promises to be one of the most exciting and thought-provoking we've had. Just a little secret -- I'm boning up on the 'four letter words' so that I can hold my own in discussion groups with this younger generation.

Jessica Barr, Betty King, and I represented the Board as part of a committee which met with Connie Burgess at the Meadville Theological School late in January for discussion of the Federation's role in the inner city and, in the discussion which followed concerning abortion legislation, it was gratifying to know that our District is way out in front in this matter. Others are just beginning to study it.

Woman Power, that's my bag, and we have a chance to prove the strength of these two words. The C M D won't give us a voting status on their Board -- but I am on their nominating committee for 1969 and this is a splendid opportunity for us to get representation if you will send me names. Please poll your units and let me hear from you. I would like to push this issue because with a new administration the C M D Board has pushed us into oblivion again. We have had no communication from them at all this year. I think it's time to let them know "Hell hath no fury like a woman scorned."

With spring upon us, start thinking of Allerton and shortening skirts. I promise to unveil my minis there.

Margaret

ALLERTON COOKING

Plans for the 1969 Allerton Institute are shaping up. In line with the theme: "The Rights of the Young", youth from our own L R Y will be invited to start things off Thursday evening. On Friday there will be a panel of adults working with or concerned with younger children who will kick off discussion groups on the younger problem children.

Two plays by our own people will be read. The first will be "The Devil's Baby" a Sesquicentennial prize-winner by Marion Baker and Ruth Davis. This portrays Jane Addams and the problem of the human need for dreams. The second will be another Sesquicentennial play by Lucile Kazmark, "Little Angel of Cairo".

The dates for the Institute will be later than usual: June 26 - 28. It will also run later in the week, opening after noon on Thursday and ending with lunch on Saturday. Mrs Lawrence Huff will be registrar and forms are included with this NL. More are available.

Betty King and Betsy Davis are the program committee.

Four books are recommended for reading before coming to Allerton - or for anyone interested in the subject.

"The Population Bomb" Dr Paul Ehrlich
Ballantine 95¢

"Paul and Mary" Bruno Bettelheim. Two case histories from "Truants from Life" Doubleday anchor \$1.45

"Love Is not Enough" Bruno Bettelheim
Collier Books \$1.50

"The Crime of Punishment" Karl Menninger
Viking Press \$8.95

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Lucy Veit, First Unitarian, Chicago, has received the John P Wilson Award for 1969 as Volunteer of the Year for Planned Parenthood.

Central Midwest District
Unitarian Universalist Women's Federation

NEWSLETTER MARCH 1969

President	Mrs Howard Harris
411 East 62nd St	Chicago, IL 60637
Secretary-Treasurer	Miss Jessica Barr
508 Frost Woods Road	Madison WI 53716
Editor, NL	Mrs Donald B King
227 S 2nd St	Geneva IL 60134

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Something Our Size

Might we not consider doing some specific work in areas lost in the study and work with 'giant' moral issues of the day? There are small actions which groups like ours can take which can be direct aids to those in great need.

Therefore it is suggested that it might be well for us to consider working quietly and perhaps with more direct effect in some specific areas in which we can serve in making small improvements.

What are the straws that add up to break the camel's back? Which can we do something about in the Midwest?

- 1 Do you know how many juveniles are handled in Illinois courts? How many in your area? What ages? What does Child and Family Service do for neglected children? Youth Commission?
- 2 Do you know the difference between a delinquent and a dependent or neglected child in fact? Before the law? In methods of treatment?
- 3 Does your county detain young children in its jail or have foster homes? A juvenile Home? Juvenile officers?
- 4 How many foster homes are available in your area? How many are needed? What protection do they have?
- 5 Why is it so much harder to find a home for a delinquent girl than a delinquent boy?
- 6 How are separations of young people and hardened criminals made in local jails? Women and men? Mentally ill?

7 What is spent in our prisons for literacy education? What is a recidivism rate? Why is it so high in Illinois?

8 Have you read Menninger's "The Crime of Punishment?"
-- Ruth Davis

CONTINENTAL TO ST LOUIS

For its Fourth Biennial Convention the Continental U U W F is trying something new -- meeting at a time and place different from the U U General Assembly. This meeting will be held in St Louis May 9-12. Full information is in the Bridge.

Margaret Harris has been nominated as a candidate for the Continental Board. The election will be held at the meetings in St Louis.

CHICAGO AREA MEETING

"The Rights of Children" will be the theme of the annual meeting of the Chicago Area UUWF April 23 in Oak Park. The meeting begins at 9:30 and will run thru mid-afternoon.

STEPS UP

Dr Lonny Myers, who spoke at Allerton last year, has been elected Mid-west Chairman of the National Association to Repeal Abortion Laws.

DUES

Miss Barr wishes to express her appreciation for those Units which have already sent in their 68-69 dues -- and to urge those who haven't to do so by June 1 so that she may have her report ready at Allerton.

ON THE ROAD

Elise Cade, Hinsdale, visited the Beverly Alliance, where she spoke on the role of the District and Continental UUWF organizations.

ON INNER CITY CONCERNS

The Women's Alliance of First Unitarian, Chicago, is co-sponsor with the Church Council of a six-session workshop relating to the concerns, values, potential, and the growth needs of the individual. It is stressed that this is not a workshop on sensitivity.

Geneva Book Bin - April 19 - 10:00 - 2:00