

BIS supports developing libraries in progressive countries lacking the needed resources.

BIS opposes any official contacts with libraries used in the service of oppression.

BIS thinks that UNESCO's manifesto on public libraries should be the self-evident foundation for the public libraries of the world.

### BIS — THE ASSOCIATION

The association BIS shall through its journal "BIS" and in other connections participate in the cultural and social debate working for the extension and realization of its program. The association BIS shall through its internal bulletin and meetings constantly develop and deepen intellectual and ideological work on library issues. Members of BIS shall support one another in solidarity in the struggle for equal and democratic libraries.

*Translation from the Swedish original was jointly made by Lennart Wettmark and Ebba I. Johnson.*

## RESOLUTION ON LOYALTY OATHS by University of Illinois, Student ALA Chapter

WHEREAS, A democracy must preserve freedom of thought and expression if it is to serve its people; and

WHEREAS, Loyalty investigations of library employees contribute to an atmosphere of suspicion and fear and place constraints on intellectual freedom by rendering it hazardous to hold or express other than popular views; and

WHEREAS, Librarians have a special responsibility to provide information on all sides of controversial issues, but cannot do so if intellectual conformity becomes a factor affecting their employment or tenure; and

WHEREAS, The American Library Association has received evidence that loyalty tests may easily lead to the violation of the constitutional rights of library employees, and in the last half century have historically done so; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that we, the Council of the of the American Library Association, strongly protest loyalty programs which inquire into a library employee's thoughts, reading matter, associates, or membership in organizations. We disapprove of the compulsory affirmation of allegiance to the government or to the Constitution. We assert that loyalty oaths are inappropriate prerequisites for employment in any library, and we censure any library that openly or silently condones oaths as conditions of employment.

*Endorsed by the University of Illinois Student Chapter of the American Library Association, March 1992.*

*Forwarded to the Council of the American Library Association for action, June 1992.*