

**Rally for your
freedom of speech!**

Federal Column

Friday, June 10, 1977

By John Cramer
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**See you at
noon
NEPTUNE
PLAZA**

TWO UNION GROUPS representing Library of Congress employes have scheduled what they call a 1st Amendment Rights Rally on the Library steps Tuesday to protest a library ban on distribution of their newsletters and flyers.

The unions, both locals of the AFL-CIO American Federation of State County and Municipal Employes, have been bargaining since October for a labor contract, with negotiations currently deadlocked.

They charge that Librarian of Congress Daniel V. Boorstin "has taken a ludicrous position that bars employes from handing out literature on the premises before or after work or during their own free time."

When the ban first was invoked, they say, security guards went from desk to desk collecting newsletters and trying to identify those who had distributed them.

Three employes were given warning letters, which were later withdrawn after an arbitrator ruled the two locals should have the same right as other employe associations to distribute their literature.

In the wake of that ruling, the unions say, the library then banned worksite distributions by all employe groups.

The unions charge that the alleged gag rule "in an institution dedicated to the widest possible dissemination of knowledge is a disgrace to the Congress."



CELEBRATE FLAG DAY BY RALLYING FOR

YOUR FIRST AMENDMENT RIGHTS!!!!!!!!!!

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD



AFSCME ALERT

Rally for your freedom of speech!

DO EMPLOYEES OF THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
HAVE THE RIGHT OF FREE SPEECH?

yes

SAYS THE FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION.

yes

Says Umpire Frederick U. Reel. All employee organizations shall have equal rights to distribute organizational information and literature in Library work areas.

no

Says THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS. On May 3, the Library prohibited all employees organizations from distributing literature through their members or key workers. Noncontroversial organizations are now allowed to use the internal mail to communicate with their members.

STAND UP FOR YOUR 1ST AMENDMENT RIGHTS. JOIN THE RALLY.

TUESDAY 12:00 NOON JUNE 14
LIBRARY OF CONGRESS STEPS

Among the speakers will be JAMES FARMER, formerly Director of the Congress for Racial Equality.

"A challenge to the rights of the few is a challenge of the rights of all."



INTERPRETER
FOR THE DEAF

Rally for First Amendment Rights!

Tuesday

June 14

Noon

● **Library of Congress**
Steps - across from the Capitol

why rally?

The rally for 1st Amendment rights is to protest the Library's recent ruling prohibiting all employee groups from distributing literature at work during the employee's free time. In order to prevent the Guild and Union employees from communicating freely with one another and with non-Guild or non-Union employees, the Library administration has barred all employee groups from using the 'desk drop' to communicate. The new ruling has worked a hardship on all employee organizations in order to stifle the right of free association and free speech of Guild or Union employees.

the goal:

LET THE LIBRARY'S EMPLOYEES HEAR ALL SIDES.
ALLOW THE FREE EXCHANGE OF IDEAS. We ask only that all employee groups be allowed to freely distribute information within the Library. We ask that a free exchange of ideas be allowed to take place. We believe that Library employees are mature adults and that we should be allowed to freely exercise our rights.

RECEIVED
FOR THE DEPT.

WE ARE A FREE PEOPLE!

WE DEMAND OUR RIGHTS:

— OF FREE SPEECH

— OF FREE ASSEMBLY

— OF FREE PRESS

THE LIBRARY—AN INSTITUTION

DEDICATED TO THE FREE

EXCHANGE OF IDEAS AND THE

FREE FLOW OF INFORMATION

— HAS DENIED US THESE

FREEDOMS !!!

**RALLY FOR
YOUR RIGHTS**