

Book-Film Workers Rally for Peace



Women affiliated with Publishers for Peace spreading the word among workers in the Duffy Square area yesterday

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By HENRY RAYMONT

In an unusual work stoppage for peace, several thousand members of the book publishing and film industries observed a day of "positive action" yesterday to mobilize support for political candidates opposed to the Indochina war.

Though most publishing houses remained open with skeleton staffs, some of the nation's leading publishers and their employes spent the day distributing handbills, collecting signatures for Congressional action to curb the war, holding in-house debates and attending teach-ins.

An estimated total of 700 people jammed into Duffy Square, a narrow triangle between Broadway and Seventh Avenue at 46th Street, to hear movie stars and directors denounce the Nixon Administration's policies at a midday rally. Speakers included Sally Kirkland, Shelley Winters, Jack Guilford the writer Israel Horovitz, the lawyer William Kunstler and Bella Abzug, a peace candidate in the Democrat primary for the 19th Congressional District.

They sounded one theme: The United States must immediately withdraw from Indochina to heal the dissent tearing at the nation's political and social fabric.

This theme also dominated a series of panel discussions attended by several hundred representatives of the publishing industry at the Community Church, 40 East 35th Street. The panel members included James C. Thomson Jr., history professor at Harvard; Edmund O. Clubb, history professor at Columbia University; David Halberstam, author and editor at Harper's magazine; Richard Barnett, author of "The Economy of Death," and Theodore Solotariff, editor of the New American Review.

The industry's teach-in at the nondenominational church was the highpoint of a day that saw more than 2,000 members of the publishing community take time out to "fight for peace," in the words of Arthur W. Wang, president of Hill & Wang.

The panel and other activities yesterday were sponsored by Publishers for Peace, a loosely structured group organized within the industry by Mr. Wang, Thomas H. Guinzburg, president of the Viking Press, André Schiff-rin, editorial director of Pantheon Books, and others. It began planning the "positive action for peace" program two weeks ago after voting down a motion for an industrywide strike favored by some of the younger editorial employes.

Most visible to the public were the scores of stands with petitions and antiwar literature set up in the heartland of the city's publishing industry—from 57th Street to 34th Street bounded by Avenue of the Americas and Third Avenue. The stands were marked by large peace posters donated by Leonard Baskin, the artist.

In front of the J. C. Penney building, at 1301 Avenue of the Americas, a group of construction workers engaged in some good-natured banter with Nancy Hardin, a young editor at New American Library who was distributing paperback copies of John Kenneth Galbraith's "How to Get Out of Vietnam."

"I read it," said Robert Henkle, a young construction worker, with a grin. "It makes sense but we've got a commitment and I'm in favor of sending a few more hundred thousand troops and wiping out those countries and any others infiltrated by the Commies."

Similar scenes of peaceful coexistence took place at the fringes of the Duffy Square rally when Sandra Stollman and Patrice Glyn distributed fliers for the Film Industry for Peace to workers from a nearby construction site. After the rally scores of

movie workers picketed four theaters that showed their regular attractions instead of peace films.

The only incident took place outside Random House at 50th Street and Third Avenue when an irate passerby knocked down a table attended by Paula Scheinberg. The man, who was not immediately identified, was taken to the 17th Precinct where Miss Scheinberg brought charges against him for harassment.

Among the theaters showing peace films were the Paris, New Yorker, Cinema Rendezvous, the Bleecker Street Theater and the Elgin Cinema. The Museum of Modern Art also showed peace films instead of its art-film series.

In the publishing community, activities took a variety of forms. At several houses, including Viking, Random House, Harper & Row and Praeger, hundreds of employes donated a day's wages to the peace movement. Some 40 employes at Esquire magazine spent the day campaigning for peace candidates. Employes at American Heritage visited patients at several veterans hospitals and sent out postcards with information on electoral action.