Dear Members,

This letter is a report to our membership and is also a request for your approval of some recommendations. Since we have only two officers (myself and Linda Kerber, our Sec-Treas,) and no executive committee, I am taking this means of keeping you posted and of ascertaining the wishes of our entire membership concerning some matters I believe should be acted upon. Please return the attached ballot to me immediately.

Report:  1. Our officers and several members attended the PCB Conference in Portland, where we established good relations with Emiliana Noether of the Berkshire Conference of Women Historians. We held a breakfast meeting at the conference.

2. Linda Kerber established contact with Professor Earl Pomeroy, President of the PCB, prior to the conference. At his suggestion, we distributed a questionnaire on the Status of Women in the Historical Profession. Additional questionnaires will be distributed by mail to these history departments from which we have no data. The results of our survey will be tabulated and made available to the PCB, the AHA Committee on the Status of Women in the Historical Profession, and anyone else who is interested.

3. We introduced two resolutions at the business meeting, both of which were amended from the floor in our favor. Both resolutions passed overwhelmingly. Original resolutions:

Whereas the existence of discrimination against women in the historical profession is a matter of concern to the PCB,

Be it Resolved that the PCB undertake to arrange more equitable representation of women historians in its committees, programs, and events under its sponsorship

that the Council of the PCB undertake to
discourage discrimination against women in member departments of history.
These resolutions were amended and passed as follows:

Whereas discrimination against women in the historical profession is a matter of concern to the PCB,  
BE IT RESOLVED that the PCB undertakes to arrange equitable representation of women historians on its committees, programs, and events under its sponsorship that the Council of the PCB undertake to encourage equal opportunity for women in the history profession.

4. Judging from the number of male historians who spoke to us before the introduction of the resolutions, many of our male colleagues recognize that discrimination against women exist in our profession.

5. Our membership has grown by almost 50% since our spring conference at Astoria.

6. One of the members of the Program Committee, chairing next year's PCB Conference, urged that women historians suggest topics for papers and that they volunteer to read papers at next year's meeting. I was pleased that every suggestion by a women historian would receive serious consideration. I am willing to act as a clearing house for ideas and transmit these topics to the Program Committee. Please submit your ideas for entire panels, as well as for individual papers you consider writing.

7. The San Diego Conference of women historians has asked us to meet separately with them as the PCB meetings in Boston, probably on the day before the formal sessions begin (Mon. 27). If you plan to be in Boston, please let me know so that we can make plans to meet with the San Diego Conference.

8. We plan to include information in our next newsletter concerning the professional activities of our members. Please send me news of the following: a) new positions, b) recent books or articles you have published, c) recent papers you have delivered.

9. I need a copy of our questionnaire. If you do not think that we have an answer from your department, please answer the questions and return to me.

Sincerely,

Dorothy A. Fecteau, Asst. Prof. of Hist  
Sacramento State College  
Sacramento, CA 95819
ACTION ITEMS:

1. Shall we change our name to West Coast Historical Association of Women Historians or West Coast Association of Women Historians?
   Rationale: Our present name sounds like an organization in competition with the PCB; there is no reason to hide the fact that we are an organized group of women in the historical profession; the Berkshire Conference on the East coast has as its full name, The Berkshire Conference of Women Historians.

2. Shall we act as a clearing house for employment opportunities for women historians?
   Rationale: Several questionnaires which have been returned to us indicate that women would be considered for employment on an equal basis with men, but that they fail to apply for positions which are available. Perhaps some women do not know where these jobs are located. One questionnaire was accompanied by a letter which included the information that the department was seeking a Latin American historian who is fully qualified and would give consideration to a woman applicant. Undoubtedly, similar information will reach us. (If you know of a qualified woman, Latin American historian, please have her contact me so that I can pass on the information.)

3. Shall we invite women without Ph.D.'s teaching history at the Community College level to join our association?
   Rationale: At our Asilomar Conference, it was recommended to invite only Ph.D.'s from the Community Colleges to join. But a large membership will enable us to exert greater influence within the profession. Probably only those women with a serious interest in history as a profession would join our association.
Please return to:  Dr. Dorothy A. Sexter  
History Dept.  
Sacramento State College  
6000 J St. Street  
Sacramento, CA 95819  

1. Shall the name of our association remain the West Coast Historical Association, or be changed to one of the following: West Coast Historical Association of Women Historians West Coast Association of Women Historians (vote for one)  

2. Shall we act as a clearing house for employment opportunities for women historians?  
   Yes____  No____  
   Shall we invite women without Ph.D.'s teaching history at the Community College level (Jr. college) to join our association?  
   Yes____  No____  

4. Do you wish to present a paper at the PCB meeting next August?  
   Yes____  No____  
   Topic:  

5. Can you suggest a topic for a panel and panelists for the PCB?  

6. Do you plan to attend the AHA meeting in Boston?  
   Yes____  No____  

Comments:  

________________________________________  
   Name  

________________________________________  
   Address  

________________________________________  
   Name  

________________________________________  
   Degree  

________________________________________  
   Field of Specialization  

________________________________________  
   Mailing Address  

Please return with $2.00 dues to Dr. Linda K. Kerber, Department of History, Stanford University, Stanford, California.