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IN THE BAY AREA
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VOLUME 6 NUMBER 26 DECEMBER 23, 1976 NEXT DEADLINE: DECEMBER 30, 1976 NEXT ISSUE OUT: JANUARY 6, 1977

THE LARGEST CIRCULATION AND READERSHIP IN THE BAY AREA

SEASON'S GREETINGS

From The Management & Staff



OIL CAN HARRY'S

OPEN CHRISTMAS EVE & CHRISTMAS NIGHT
9 PM to 2 AM

709 Larkin (Corner of Ellis & Larkin) 928-3300

Grove St. Center

The Christmas Dinner Committee of the Peoples Fund is finalizing plans to feed 500 to 600 people from 12 to 4 p.m. on Christmas Day at the new Gay Center at 330 Grove St.

The Committee is concentrating on people in need but reminds the community that all are welcome. No Gay person need spend Christmas Day alone.

At 7:00 p.m., Dec. 28, Bob Cramer is celebrating his 40th

birthday at the Grove St. Center. A donation of \$1.00 will be collected, and all proceeds will be turned over to the Center. Bob promises: door prizes, disco, no-host bar - and, of course, birthday cake.

Feinstein's Porno Ordinances

At the Dec. 14 meeting of the S.F. Board of Supervisors, Diane Feinstein called for enactment of a proposed ordi-

nance which would either relocate or close down the majority of adult bookstores and movie theaters in the city.

The proposed ordinance, which would amend sections of both the City Planning and Police codes, would ban the construction of any adult bookstore or theater that would be located less than 1000 feet away from any residential (zone R) area and would refuse permits to already-existing "adult" establishments, no matter how long such establishments have been in existence.

These establishments would have to relocate into a non-residential area no later than one year after enactment of the measure, or risk non-renewal of their permits (except under certain special circumstances to be determined by the Chief of Police). In addition, the money spent on the establishment's business license would be forfeited to the City treasury, as penalty for non-compliance.

Supervisor Feinstein's proposal would also prohibit window-display of items sold in adult bookstores, order the removal of signs which graphically or photographically depict nudity or prohibited sexual acts (such as those found on the Broadway "strip"), force adult establishment owners to submit to public hearings prior to issu-

ance of their permits, and charge a maximum \$1000 fine and/or a six-month prison sentence for violation of even the smallest regulation outlined in the ordinance.

A joint hearing of the Planning Commission, headed by Supervisor Pelosi, and of the Police Commission, headed by Supervisor Francois (co-author of the Feinstein proposal), has been called and tentatively scheduled for Thursday, Jan. 13, at 2PM in Room 282, City Hall. Public participation is welcome.

Mark Joplin

S.F. Police Arrest 2 Murder Suspects

Roderick Vanderwall, age 26, and his friend Gary Myskiw, age 25, were charged with the murder of William Locke, age 72, according to Homicide Inspector McKenna of the S.F. Police Department. The pair were also charged with robbery.

William H. Locke was found beaten to death on Dec. 12 in apartment 12 at 460 Ellis St. Locke, the manager of the Tenderloin apartment house where he lived, was found at 10:15 that morning by a neighbor who went to the manager's apartment to borrow the vacuum cleaner. The door to the apartment was

NEW YEARS EVE WITH MARTHA REEVES 29, 30, 31 & 1st

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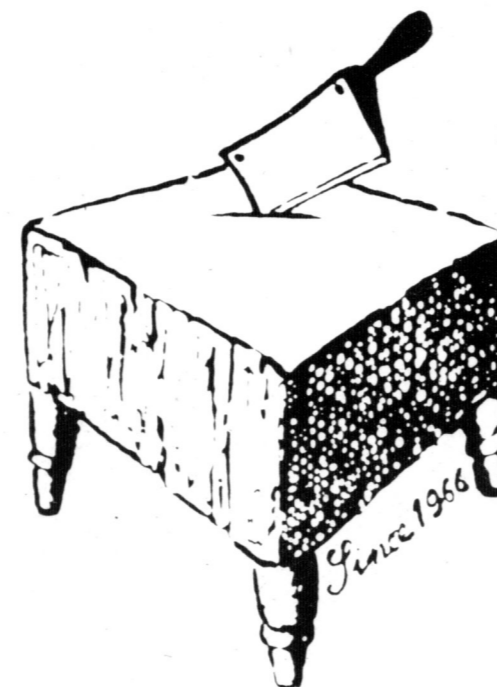
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unlocked; he entered and found Locke lying on the kitchen floor. The city's emergency service was called and they reported the suspicious death to the police.

Homicide Inspectors McKenna and Millane took over the case and reviewed the clues at the scene. The victim's hands were stretched over his head and handcuffed. The body was clothed in rust-colored corduroy pants cut off at the knees. The zipper had been

pulled down. He had on white socks and a bathrobe which was spread open.

Beneath and about the head were a blood-soaked apron and two towels, a second pair of handcuffs, a canvas strap with metal clamps, two pairs of shorts and a "cockring." Beneath the victim's thighs was a large kitchen spoon. A padlock was found on the bathrobe near the victim on the left side. On his chest was a piece of plastic used to carry canned

beverages.

A thick string was wrapped three times about the waist then attached to the head of the penis. A metal clamp was used to secure the victim's penis.

Although the coroner's report does not state the actual cause of death, the evidence of trauma suggests that the victim was beaten to death. Examination of the victim revealed that the hair on the back of the head was blood-soaked and that there was possible trauma in that area. He had bled from the left ear.

The basal skull fracture and the deep laceration at the back of the head also indicated death by beating, and the assumption is that the victim died about midnight. However, the complete autopsy is not yet on file.

Witnesses report that the apartment was in disarray; the contents of closets and drawers were dumped and strewn about the rooms. Among the things found were pornographic materials often associated with sado-masochistic acts.

The suspects were apprehended Sunday, Dec. 14, about 5:30pm attempting to use the victim's stolen credit card. The police report that the two men charged lived at the Padre Hotel in the Tenderloin and had lived there for the past few

days.

Conscious of "pre-trial" publicity, the police are avoiding any statements regarding the suspects.

Paul D. Hardman

S.F. Tradition Returns

After several years of disregard for the lavish S.F. Christmas Bar Party, Bob Charrot and Dan Turner of OIL CAN HARRY'S co-hosted what might herald the return of the constantly replenished food table, numerous good-looking, neatly-dressed waiters soliciting drink orders - and all "on the co-hosts."

Oil Can Harry's was closed for business. From 8pm till closing, the old-time "hosted" party continued in high gear with disco dancing to the latest records, including a new release of the traditional "Little Drummer Boy" played in Disco-Rock.

Sticking to their trademark colors, Oil Can Harry's was bedazzling with gigantic garlands of silver glittered leaves entwined with miniature lights which were connected to the light/sound organ turning them on-off-dim-bright in rhythm to the music. There wasn't a suggestion of "red and

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COFFEE 30¢
TEA 30¢
MILK 30¢

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GLASS WHITE WINE 75¢

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SOUP - SALAD AND FRENCH FRIES

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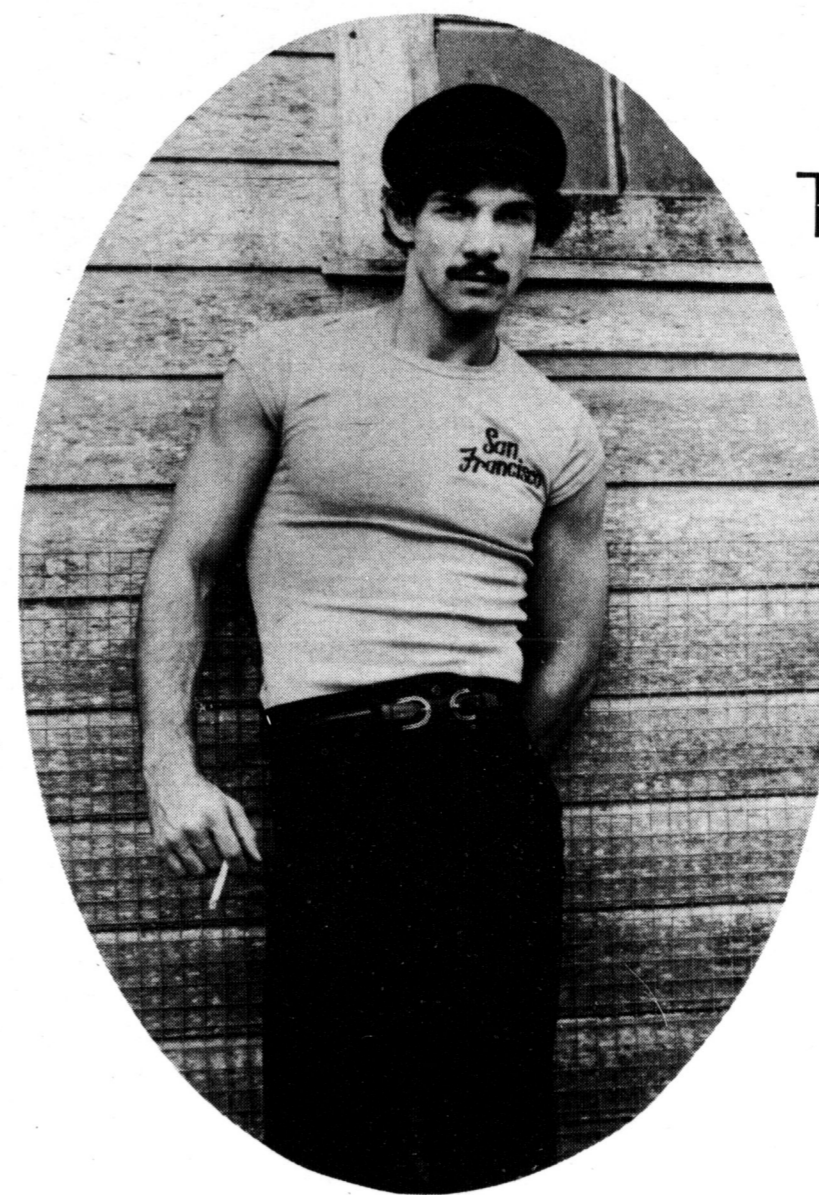
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WHITE HOUSE WINE LARGE CARAFE \$3.25
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COFFEE 30¢
TEA 30¢
MILK 30¢

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green" in the entire place, except for a couple of poinsettia plants which somehow sneaked behind the bar. Silver, white lights accented with jet black transformed the bar and dance floor to a winter wonderland stage set.

Economically it's hard to

believe that like the Baj, Gold Street, Paper Doll, The Web, The Tool Box, The Waterfront, etc. of old, the annual bar Christmas party is coming back. Co-hosts Turner and Charrot announced that this was their First Annual Christmas Party. And we say, "Welcome Back to

that San Francisco Tradition!"

Henri Leleu

NGTF News

NGTF's co-executive directors were busy this past fall covering large amounts of territory in travels related to Task Force business.

Dr. Bruce Voeller spent two weeks in Europe meeting with a wide variety of individuals and Gay political and professional organizations. The purpose of the journey was to solidify NGTF overseas contacts, to share information and expertise on a number of shared problems, and to attend a privately-sponsored conference in Amsterdam on Gay issues.

One of the issues discussed during the trip was the need for a legitimate homosexual presence and input into the United Nations, in particular as a non-governmental organization working with the various UN specialized agencies and commissions such as UNESCO. Dr. Voeller was asked to investigate, through UN headquarters here in the U.S., the possibilities for an international consortium of national Gay organizations to apply to the UN as a consulting non-governmental agency or organization.

The trip took Dr. Voeller to France, Germany, and Spain, in addition to Holland. He noted that most European countries, unlike the U.S., have no civil rights legislation on the books; and that consequently, efforts to gain civil rights for homosexuals are made more difficult by the absence of legal precedents set by other minority groups.

O'LEARY DOES TV SHOW IN MIAMI

Jean O'Leary visited Miami for the purpose of appearing on Don Embinder's "Blueboy Forum," the nation's first regularly-scheduled, commercially-sponsored Gay television series. The panel on the show included representatives of both the Democrats and Republicans and centered on the visibility of Gay issues. The program, produced by Brian Wedekind for the local educa-



Jean O'Leary

tional UHF television affiliate, Channel 51, aired on the eve of the national elections. Through an arrangement made by Blueboy Forum, Ms. O'Leary was given free and very hospitable accommodations by the Windward Hotel and Gay Resort in Miami Beach.

While in Miami, O'Leary also met with Ingrid Hunter of the N.O.W. Sexuality and Lesbianism Task Force, and visited with Bob Basker of the Dade County Coalition for the Rights of Gays.

T-Shirts For Charity

Mother F's, 438-A Castro St., has obtained exclusive rights on a full frontal nude color slide of one of S.F.'s hot young men - to be put on a T-shirt and sold to raise money for charity.

Beginning Jan. 4, this slide will be printed on a 50-50 blend of polyester and cotton in sizes from small to extra large and sold at a price of \$7.50 (\$8.50 by mail).

\$3.50 of this amount goes directly to the charity selected by the purchaser in his name. The remaining \$4.00 will be used to pay direct production costs of \$3.07 plus \$0.93 for overhead.

"The new work ethic: Sufficient sex... Sex as the exterior sign of interior grace."
John Updike

OBSERVATIONS By Paul Hardman

The Christian Crazies Ride Again

The California Committee for Equal Rights has been monitoring the activities of the fundamentalist groups which organized to defeat AB 489, the Willie Brown consensual sex bill, which passed into law Jan. 1, 1976, and report that the groups are at it again.

First using the name "Family Lobby," then "Concerned Christian Citizens," they are now using two other names, "Citizens for Moral Concern" and "California Christian Campaign Committee." Of the groups, the last may be the most insidious.

In what amounts to a conspiracy, State Senator H. L. (Bill) Richardson of Arcada has been using the office of the Chaplain of the State Senate plus his own office to raise money to "unite behind Christian candidates."

He openly and blatantly used his letterhead to ask for money from "Fellow Christians." In asking for financial support he wrote, "When Reverend Trulin told me recently of his faith in Christian people to unite behind Christian candidates, I knew he was right. I share his faith. Faith is a gift, fortified by historic examples of the good that has been accomplished by the actions of Christians both individually and collectively."

The letter is accompanied by printed material touting a pamphlet by Tim LaHayne called "The Bible's Influence on American History." LaHayne is a minister and the President of

Christian Heritage College. According to the printed material, "This book testifies to Dr. LaHayne's grasp of the real essence of America and to his desire to reclaim America for Bible-guided life, leadership and legislation." That comment is endorsed by Senator Richardson in writing with the statement, "Great reading - and right on target!"

A resolution also accompanies the material stating, "In the interest of restoring morality and principle to government, I do hereby resolve to join with the California Christian Campaign Committee for the purpose of sharing in the promotion and election of Christian candidates to public office." The resolution is signed by Rev. Paul Trulin, Chaplain of the California Senate.

Citing recent legislation legalizing consensual sex between adults, Rev. Trulin contends that, "Too many legislators are misusing their powers to pass laws whose (sic) effect has been to legalize adultery, sodomy, homosexuality and fornication, all of which according to Holy Scriptures are an abomination to the Lord."

* * *

Subsequently, Assemblyman Alan Sieroty declared the Chaplain's letter and fundraising effort to be "a misuse of office. It is reprehensible. In addition, Senator Richardson's role is out of line."

Some look upon the letter and the effort as anti-Semitic. The California Committee for equal rights has filed charges with the Internal Revenue Service and is asking for interested people to send any material on the subject of

church political activity to CCER at 1782 Pacific Ave., S.F. 94109. Those who wish to send money may also do so to help defray the cost of lobbying expenses and mailings.

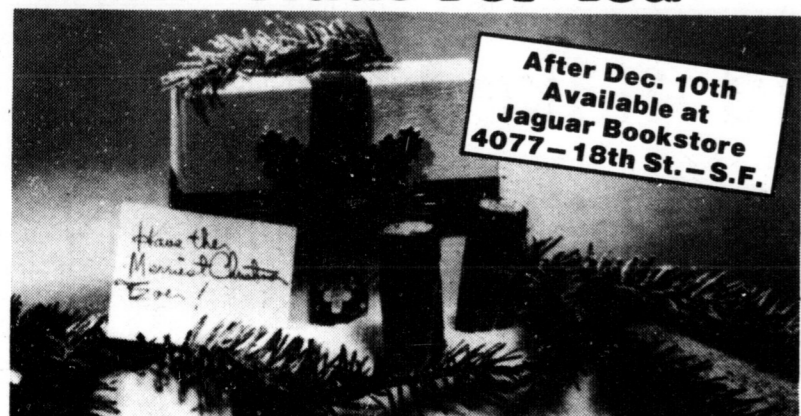
A protest has also been made to the office of Senator Milton Marks, who has been asked to investigate the possibility of censure against

Senator Richardson for his conduct.

Whether the California Christian Campaign Committee is anti-Semitic or homophobic or both, it is not to be tolerated when it engages in illegal or improper acts, the CCER insists, and it must be watched by all.

Paul D. Hardman

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Milk Forum

By Harvey Milk

The Crime of the Crime Wave

Due to some strange logic, no crime wave existed in this city until it hit the neighborhoods of the Supervisors themselves. People from the minority and poor communities have been asking the Supervisors to do something about crime in their communities for years. The answers were almost insults to our intelligence.

The Supervisors showed their "concern" about the crime in the neighborhoods by allowing the police force to be cut this year. There was no outcry from them. Their silence said it all. Their agreement to the cut makes them equally respon-

sible for that cut.

Then crime moved out of the minority and poor areas and into theirs. Suddenly there was a crime wave. "Something had to be done." "No neighborhood was safe." The contempt for many of the people of S.F. was almost unbelievable.

Only it might be too late. For the crime wave that has finally reached Pacific Heights is somewhat different than what has been plaguing the city for years.

For as long as I can remember, the Police and the Supervisors talked about stopping crime by putting more police on patrol. Using the latest available methods of crime prevention. No one seemed to talk about "why" there was crime. No one

seemed to want to discuss the social-economic conditions that were causing crime. No matter how much the people wanted to open the dialogue, the doors at City Hall remained closed. It was answered with an attitude that approached, if not reached, "lock them up and throw the key away."

Now that the crime wave has hit the "better" parts of the city, we start to hear about the social-economic conditions that cause crime. It may be too late.

For too long crime has been taking place with little or no real effort to understand it. For too long crime has been given a left-handed go ahead on many levels. Crime exists in many forms: the war in Vietnam, Watergate, corporate price fixing, legislators on the take, police corruption and street muggings. It has reached out beyond the social-economic causes to become a way of life

for many. It has turned, for some, into a real-life CLOCK-WORK ORANGE.

Those in power have finally awakened to the problem; and, rather than find solutions, they have resorted to name calling, bickering, blaming each other and now dumping the problem into the lap of the community. Are any of them without any responsibility?

The times call for strong leadership - or maybe just leadership. Something lacking in our government, on most levels, for too long. Leadership does not come from name calling, smearing, innuendos or jealousies. When people sink to that level, they avoid the problems and lower themselves from high positions to ones of pettiness, for they walk away from their responsibilities. They walk away from the problems that they have allowed to exist; and, unable to face that, they look for scapegoats. They attempt to blame and destroy others. By so doing, they allow the CLOCK-WORK ORANGE to continue to reach out for new victims.

Harvey Milk

Because fictitious reality is the only possibility for being, for ceasing merely to exist - one must struggle boldly, to the point of sacrifice, to the death, as great heroes and the implausible knightserrant struggled, so that others may believe in it, so that one may tell the world: this is my reality, the only true and unique reality. The reality of my words and their creation. Carlos Fuentes (one of Mexico's two or three greatest novelists)

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Brother Bizarre's Gaze

Christmas? Humbug!

by Mark Joplin

As this issue comes out, it will be two more days until that magical evening that They decided - erroneously, according to the historians - the Holy Child was born. As I sit typing, however, it is a little over a week away, but already I can feel Christmas and all it entails hurtling toward me with the speed and clout of a gravel-filled snowball.

If you have gathered that I abominate Christmas, allow me to dot the "i" and cross the "t." I once played Ebenezer Scrooge in a high-school musical and relished the part. I remain convinced that Scrooge was the only character in Dickens' treacherous tract who perceived the truth about Christmas as "a monumental humbug, just designed to pick your pockets once a year." Such clear-headedness and cynicism I find not only laudable, but heroic as well.

But, since Dickens copped-out and refused to let Scrooge stand his moral ground, and being unable to interfere with Tradition, I gave in to the bullying of the three Christmas

Spirits, that sniveling Bob Cratchit and that one-man diabetes plague, Tiny Tim - I even threw my cane away and stood up straight - and off I went, blathering tidings of Merry Christmas, wassail, wassail.

In short, I find Christmas to be a humbug of the highest order.

Undoubtedly, this admission of my feelings on the Sacred Event will lose me readers, many of whom have stood and cheered all the while I drove tridents through the chests of Carter, Ford, the Gay "Freedom" Day Charade, Broshears, royalty, Hayakawa and other manifestations of the American Way of Life - but so be it. If your mind hasn't been turned into tapioca by a constant soundtrack of fa-la-la-la, you might find yourself feeling much the same way.

Christmas is a universal madness; every citizen goes stark raving ga-ga. I've received dozens of mass-produced greeting cards from well-wishers, each bearing their Muzak strains of "Happy Holidays" (thereby hedging the bets for Jews, Moslems and all

you other pagans out there). I'm doing my shopping in the wee hours of the morning at a 24-hour Cala store, because daytime is a madhouse of people, fighting their ways through the checkout lines with their gallons and gallons of booze and eggnog, which they'll be tipling with their drunken guests at endless parties throughout the city. Store managers are putting on their best vapid smiles and saying "Have a Merry Christmas" with more and more phony sincerity, as they see all that holiday money pouring into their bank accounts. "Christmas Spirit" hangs in the air like a chrome-plated fart.

(But outside the store, bastion of Christmas Spirit and Good Cheer, the owner of a stalled car receives a torrent of obscenities from other well-

wishers, delayed in their rushrushrush to get their carefully-calculated gifts that will make the right impressions on-the-right-people.)

Bah! Humbug!
If these people spent half the money they waste on Christmas cards every year for meals for the needy, it would far better serve the intent of the Prince of Peace. If a quarter of the money spent on booze was spent instead on Gay charities, it would better establish the concept of love and brotherhood that Christmas supposedly entails. (Another aside: I made a donation of food to the People's Fund Christmas Dinner for needy Gays, and I still feel shitty. How hypocritical - we'll donate food for a Thanksgiving or Christmas dinner, and pat ourselves on the backs because

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we're so goodhearted. And those underprivileged Gays will eat a decent meal for two days out of the year, and spend the other 363 eating dog food or sopping up watery soup at St. Anthony's. But we don't care about them then, do we? Okay, maybe my logic is a little spotty, but you know what I mean.

In a year when my eyes have seen one of the most diverse catalogs of terrors imaginable - over 30 Gay men sadistically slain; the furtherance of nuclear proliferation over solar energy; a resurgence of anti-Gay hysteria, coupled with a rise in Gay muggings; the Board of Permit Appeals paving the way for police-stateism by

outlawing the sale of handguns - Christmas is not only unnecessary; it becomes a damn nuisance. It celebrates nothing, except the annual intimidation of automatons by the Madison Ave. moneychangers, who cluck their tongues and call me a scrooge (unaware that they're paying me a compliment of the highest order) or who give me walled looks and plaintive bleatings of "Where's your Christmas spirit?"

Christmas spirit? Not for me. Not while my eyes see all that they see, and not while my mind feels the volcanic tremors threatening to tear this country apart, not while my emotions cannot wrench free of this legacy of miserable, hopeless

frustration consigned us by a ruling class's suicidal vise-grip on outdated mores and values.

Christmas spirit? Not this year. These are the days of blood and sorrow, as the American Dream, bit by bit, reveals itself for what it truly is: a death's-head vision.

I wish to God I were a drinking man.

(Address letters to: Brother Bizarre's Gaze, 55 Sutter #143, S.F. 94104)

MASKED MADNESS ON NEW YEAR'S EVE

Dale Evans & Friends are planning a New Year's Eve Masked Ball at the Cafe Biarritz (formerly Del Vecchio's), a favorite North Beach establishment of long standing. The unusual feature of the ball is that masks will be required until midnight. Masks may be as elaborate as the imagination can devise, but a simple domino will do. Costumes are optional, but masks are a must.

The masked ball is a fund-raising event to offset a deficit incurred by the S.F. Academy of Performing Arts in this year's Golden Awards presentation.

Dale says, "For a fun-filled evening of disco dancing, unusual door prizes and other surprises, why not organize a group of friends and spend New Year's Eve with me and my friends at a masked ball at Cafe Biarritz."

Advance tickets are \$3.50 and may be obtained from Dixon at the *P.S. or at Castro Station, Elephant Walk, The Mint, Castro Records, The Record House and Cafe Biarritz. They will be \$4.00 at the door.

Judge Birdsall

The Tucson Gay Newsletter writes:

Arizona's system of justice will be put to the test when it was announced that Judge Ben C. Birdsall will be the trial judge in the murder case of John Adamson charged in the car-bombing death of Arizona Republic reporter Don Bolles. This is the same Judge

Ben C. Birdsall who only last month ruled probation for four juveniles for the murder of Richard Heakin outside of a Gay bar last June. We can only speculate that the reason Maricopa County Superior Court Judge Robert Broomfield, on a change of venue, transferred the Adamson trial to Pima County Judge Birdsall's court was to vindicate Birdsall's poor judgment resulting from the Heakin trial.

We question the competency of a man who shows so little concern for human life that he would allow four persons who did, in fact, participate in a murder, back out on the streets with only the warning that they should finish school and not drink until they are of age. We question the competency of this judge when he allowed the original charge of murder in the Heakin slaying to be changed to Involuntary Manslaughter. We question the competency of this same judge to sit in judgment of any murder trial and especially on one of such national scope as Adamson-Bolles.

Judge Birdsall said that he foresees no difficulties in handling the Adamson trial, but we as concerned members of the Tucson Gay Community certainly do.

People's Restaurant & Cultural Centre

The PR&CC, 721 Valencia St., will exhibit a portfolio of 33 photomontages by John Heartfield. Heartfield, member of Berlin Dada, innovatively used photomontage primarily against rising Naziism in the 30's. Although many of his images are familiar, most are rarely seen. The exhibit runs from Jan. 3-29 and is open on Fridays and Saturdays from 12-5 or call 431-9329.

NEW YEAR'S PARTY

The PR&CC is holding a New Year's Eve party featuring the local band, Revenge. The admission is \$2.00; everyone is welcome, and the Center promises surprises and refreshments for all.

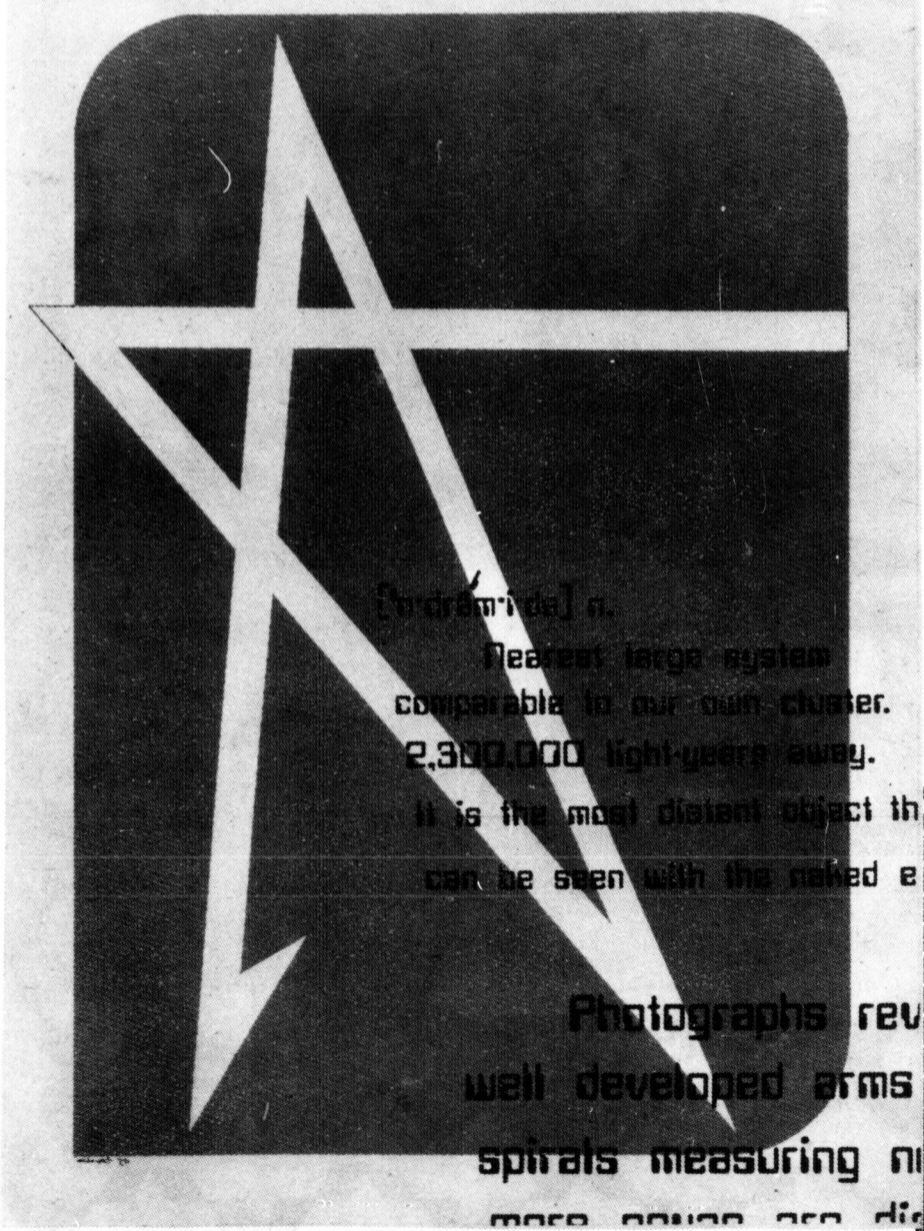
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WORLD OF WAYNE

The Attempt To Stop Harvey Milk

I try not to answer the other writers (especially those who write for the same paper), but George Mendenhall's column in the last issue must be replied to. Mr. Mendenhall writes about the upcoming race in District 5 between Harvey Milk and Earl Stokes - upcoming, that is, next November. I find it most interesting that Mendenhall and his allies find it necessary to go after Milk a year ahead of the election. But as a friend of Milk's who obviously knows Harvey and his

politics a hell of a lot better than George Mendenhall does, I am not about to let him get away with it.

Last summer when Milk was running against Art Agnos for the 16th Assembly seat, Mendenhall was among a group of Gay political "leaders" who endorsed and campaigned for Agnos (something they had every right to do). That campaign was bitter and left many scars, some of which apparently haven't healed. A campaign that some of Milk's supporters still feel was a little below the belt. Mendenhall did his bit, in more ways than one; example:

Wayne Friday

he wrote a piece endorsing Agnos saying that Agnos was married, and the father of two children, when, in fact, Mr. Agnos had been married less than a year and had no children. A small thing maybe, but it made good copy when Agnos was opposing a single Gay. Mendenhall never bothered to correct his story about Agnos and his "children." Now the learned Mr. Mendenhall, who only last issue proved that he doesn't know the difference between the Speaker of the House and the House Majority Leader, would have us believe that Harvey Milk's political philosophy is "close to Supervisor Barbagelata." Anyone who knows the least about S.F. politics knows that statement is designed to smear Milk. Saying

that is akin to saying the political philosophy of George Moscone is the same as that of George Wallace. In the recent election, no one fought harder to defeat Prop. T than did Barbagelata, while Milk campaigned daily for its passage.

Mendenhall goes on to say that in the coming race Milk will lack "both Gay and straight community leadership support." Really? Other than the "leadership" of perhaps the same "leaders" who always oppose Milk, namely: Foster, Daly, Mendenhall and Fitch, et al. I would like Mendenhall to name other Gay "leaders" who oppose Milk. At a recent party at the home of Emperor Hector, Stokes was hard pressed to find anyone there already not committed to Milk. Of course, to Mendenhall these people don't qualify as "leaders" of the community.

Mr. Mendenhall and the rest of his Gay "leaders," to the person, endorsed and campaigned for Bob Mendelsohn against Milton Marks, as did most of the "straight" community leadership Mendenhall speaks of. And we all know the result of that race. Mendenhall continues that Assemblymen Agnos, Brown and other politicians could use their considerable influence to win over neighborhood groups to Stokes' candidacy - another way of saying they can use their political muscle and that of their offices to get support for Stokes. Hell, George, I thought the passage of Prop. T was supposed to stop the meddling of the big boys in District elections, or hadn't you looked at it that way? If Mendenhall thinks Milk has no support among both Gay and straight neighborhood

groups, I invite him to take a walk through the Castro area some afternoon with Milk and myself.

Mendenhall also claims Milk failed to endorse Agnos after the June Primary (a "political sin" in the eyes of Mendenhall). In fact, the night of the Primary (Agnos only beat Milk by about 3,000 votes out of over 33,000 cast) I went to City Hall with Milk to get the election results. Agnos was there, and Harvey was one of the first to walk up and congratulate him. Agnos never asked Harvey for a formal endorsement (something that is traditional for the winner to ask of his defeated opponent), but I don't think there is any doubt in Agnos' mind who Milk voted for in November.

I am not attacking Earl Stokes; I don't know the man. He is not as visible or as involved as Harvey, and I have never met him. But I cannot sit back idly and let someone start attacking Harvey Milk a year before the election - especially when those attacks are as unfounded as those coming from George Mendenhall.

It is interesting, too, that when Milk was running against Agnos for the Assembly, George wrote that he "believes that Harvey Milk has a place in city politics; he is a superb campaigner and most articulate" - implying that Agnos should be

electd to the Assembly and Milk should wait, serve on the Board of Permit Appeals, and later run for the Board of Supervisors. Mendenhall went on to write that "there is a future for Milk in politics, but this time we have to go with Art Agnos." Now Mendenhall is talking out of the other side of his mouth. Now that Milk has decided he will run again for the Board, Mendenhall is busily tearing down Harvey in hopes of keeping him from attaining that "place in city politics" in which, only a few months ago, he agreed Milk belongs.

Harvey is no political saint. He is a politician, true; but he has his heart and his head in the right place. It will be a damned shame if the voters don't send him to the Board of Supervisors next year. Some in the political know think that the Democrat "powers that be" do not wish any Gay person on the Board of Supes next year. Their expected political ploy is to encourage as many Gays as possible to run, especially in District 5, to split the "Gay vote" - and no one can deny there is such a vote bloc in District 5. Hence, their own candidate, generally assumed to be Terence Hallinan, can squeak in and win. The ploy suggests to these Gay candidates that although they probably won't win this time, they can get

name recognition for a future race. Let these misinformed Gay candidates understand that once a candidate like Mr. Hallinan gets into office, he is there to stay. One potential Gay candidate told me that he has been "assured" of \$5,000 in campaign funds to move into "Milk's district and run." Whether it be true or not, I don't know; it was told to me that way. Earl Stokes has every right to run, as does Tom Edwards, a good friend of mine and a qualified person, so does anyone who wants to; and I am not against Stokes or anyone else. But I do find it interesting that Mr. Mendenhall and his pack are so afraid of Harvey Milk they find it necessary to start smearing him a year before the election. You must be doing something right, Harvey!

POLITICS & POKER...

Herb Caen reports that the Mayor has written to V.P.-elect Mondale urging that Carter give jobs to Feinstein and Mendelsohn. Feinstein deserves something for her early support of Carter, but Mendelsohn?? Apparently the good Mayor realizes that Bobby has an electability problem, so he is helping Mendelsohn get appointed to a job... Did you know that Senator-elect

Hayakawa's wife is a former sister-in-law of Jo Stalin's daughter Svetlana? Mr. Hayakawa's brother was once married to the daughter of Russia's Joseph Stalin... Ray Broshers and Ella Hill Hutch got into a nasty shouting match in a Polk St. store... Guv Brown has the Capitol press corps wondering what he is up to. The usually inaccessible Brown had a press blitz the likes of which Sacramento has never seen. Last week he held a total of nine press conferences and briefings... I met Laura Allende, the sister of the late President Salvador Allende of Chile, this past weekend. She was here urging an American boycott of Chilean products... My condolences to Harvey Milk who is now attending the funeral of his father... A good turnout of Gays at the Sheriff's birthday party Thursday night... that's all this week; I have some Christmas shopping to finish. Merry Christmas and a good New Year to everyone!

"In our century we've discovered that man can be a success on his planet, and this is the great change that has come over our thinking. The changes taking place are still unfamiliar to everybody, even to those who expect change... the most difficult to plot is the change of attitude, the change of awareness."

R. Buckminster Fuller

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November 30, 1976

Mr. Paul Hardman
c/o Pride Foundation
330 Grove Street
San Francisco, CA. 94109

Dear Paul:

Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$50.00 which is a donation to your organization for the purpose of using it to help remodel the new building at 330 Grove Street.

As you may know, the Boot Camp sponsors a monthly Celebrity Jockey Shorts Contest where certain well-known personalities in San Francisco use against each other to win \$50 for their favorite gay charity.

Last night in front of a packed house, La Bish Hayworth won the contest and asked that his \$50 prize be donated to your organization for use in renovating the building.

We are pleased to forward this check to you in the name of La Bish and wish you all good luck and success with the new building.

Sincerely,
FOR THE MANAGEMENT & STAFF
Marcia
G. MARCUS HERNANDEZ
Host and M.C.

ENC: djs
Enclosure

CELEBRITY JOCKEY SHORTS CONTEST
MONDAY, DECEMBER 27th,
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The contestants:

- JIM OSTLUND..... Vector Cover Man
- DOUG KOPECKY..... Golden Boy
- JOHN HYER..... Chef of the Year
- TONY DI SETTE..... Royal Baby & Closet Ball Queen III
- LARRY CASSAS..... Bartender of the Year & Closet Ball Queen IV
- EMPEROR III..... Bob Cramer
- DAVE MONROE..... ACME BEER KING

WINNER OF THE CONTEST WILL DONATE HIS \$50 Prize TO HIS FAVORITE GAY CHARITY!

The Boot Camp / 1010 Bryant / San Francisco

George Mendenhall

FINDING THE ANSWERS

"Finding the Facts" is not what we are primarily doing, so the title on this column will have to be changed soon. What we are attempting to do is comment and analyze on what is happening of consequence in our community. We understand that Harvey Milk, Milton Marks and Ray Broshears have suggested a title for this column, but Publisher Bob Ross will not print it, this being a family newspaper.

Our commentary on Milk vs. Stokes received considerable reaction. One critic emphasized that we were inaccurate and cited two recent errors. Let us correct those errors now: although we gave Assemblyman Art Agnos a few children, he actually has none; we also decided to advance Congressman Phil Burton to the race for Speaker when it was Majority Leader he was seeking. Now, can we move on?

* * *

It is in 1977 that we must move again legislatively at the state level. We must act with the same sophistication and

unity that we displayed in 1975 when the Brown consensual sex bill passed. The aim is to get legislation through the Assembly first and then worry about the Senate.

The recent election of Art Agnos to Majority Whip is highly significant. The Whip is the contact person with legislators, to get legislation passed that is favorable to the Democratic Party and to the Speaker, Leo McCarthy. Agnos, in a recent interview in his office, expressed his eager desire to organize assemblypersons for the passage of much-needed civil rights bills for Gay people.

Many Gay activists agree with Agnos that it is best to move with firmness but in a subtle manner. The first suggestion is that we move by March, 1977, with another Fair Employment Practices Bill. This time, instead of spelling out "sexual orientation," the plan is to extend the wording of the bill so that all people would be included under state fair employment law. This would permit Gay people to be included in the processing of discrimination in employment

cases with the state. It would have the added advantage of encouraging other non-Gay groups to support the legislation. Agnos believes that such a bill would have a good chance at passage.

The bill should be introduced within the first three months of the coming session, which opens Jan. 3. This will allow it time to go through the various committees, be amended, reconsidered, etc. If left to the second year of the session (as was done with Foran's disastrous attempt to pass a similar bill) it would come close to election time, when it is nearly impossible to pass social legislation.

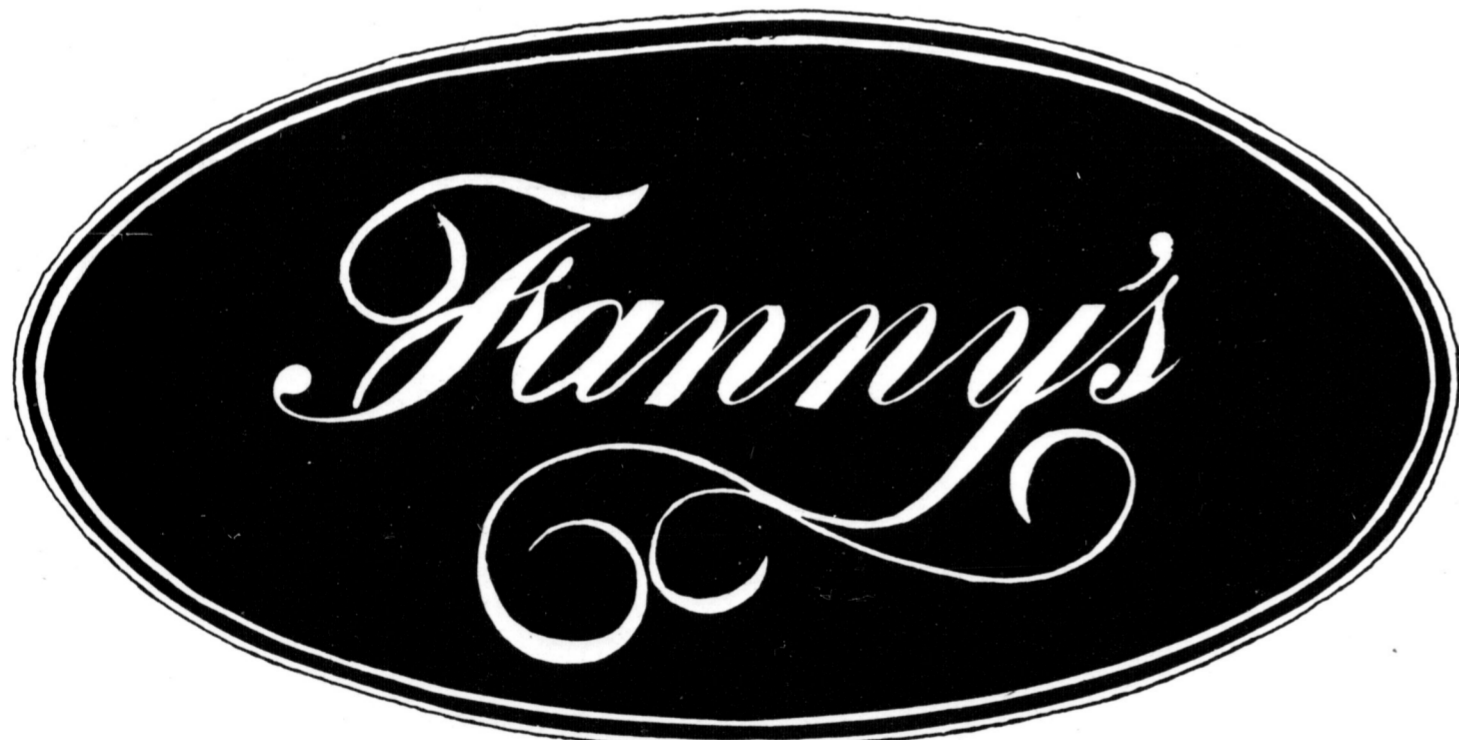
Finding a sponsor is another problem. The person who introduces the bill is of prime importance as to what attention and respect is paid to the legislation. Agnos is willing to carry the legislation himself but questions whether he or other obvious liberals such as Willie Brown are the right people. Agnos is attempting to find someone with a less "social activist" reputation.

Once the bill moves through the Assembly committees, our many friends - straight and Gay - can be of service. The hearings on bills are often non-productive, but WHO supports or does not sup-

port bills is followed closely. For example, it is unlikely that the Brown consensual sex bill could have passed if the state-wide Peace Officers' Ass'n had continued to oppose it. It was in these hearings that Gay activists were most effective with the Brown bill.

Two of our most productive Gay lobbyists are now engaged elsewhere. George Raya has recently been appointed as an Investigator in the D.A.'s office and can no longer lobby. Paul Hardman has been the driving force behind the new Gay Center on Grove St., which takes up most of his time. However, they and others such as Jim Sandmire, Gary Hesse, Larry Littlejohn, Jo Daly, Jim Foster, Doug DeYoung, Rich Stokes and Troy Perry will be there when we need them.

One aspect of presenting new legislation in 1977 is the emergence of the California Christian Campaign Committee. These are the same people who were once the Christian Coalition and then the Family Lobby. Having failed to overthrow the private, consensual sex law, CCCC is now taking a new approach. It plans to build a War Chest to defeat candidates who supported the Brown bill or who might support any other social legislation. In its



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literature, CCCC says that "legislators of California have succeeded in passing laws whose effect have been to legalize adultery, sodomy, homosexuality and fornication (to name a few) . . . all of which, according to Holy Scriptures, are an abomination to the Lord!"

The CCCC asks Christians, "Were our legislators seeking Divine Guidance when these laws were passed?" Not believing in the separation of Church and State, the CCCC is now determined to throw out of office any legislators who do not "follow God's will."

All of the above would not be disturbing if it were not that the head of the new group is State Senator H. L. (Bill) Richardson. Richardson is the wealthy anti-gun control, right wing fanatic who scares the hell out of some legislators. You can believe it when we say that Richardson will be accusing anyone who supports liberal legislation of being anti-Christ. There is also the threat that

CCCC funds will be used to defeat those on the Richardson "enemy" list at election time.

Not all of the power is with Richardson, however, and a significant number of legislators will demonstrate their courage when the time is right. There is another big Plus for us, as revealed by the chairman of the Assembly Criminal Justice Committee, Alan Sieroty, when he said, "The homosexual community has decided to stand up and become politically active. It has done an excellent job. It has become sophisticated in its political action."

George Mendenhall

"We are being barred from fundamental insights by our system of education. Only the great money and power men profit from the interaction of intelligence while keeping everybody else in line with their divide-and-conquer kind of specialization. It's a power structure. It's completely wrong. And not only is it wrong and inadequate, it works in reverse. It's designed to make men perish."

R. Buckminster Fuller

Polk St. Sally

By Dixon

My Oh My! The Xmas season is upon us - as a matter of fact, almost over. The big "amateur" drinking night of them all, New Year's Eve, is looming on the horizon. Gads! Everyone is on their own. If there is any one excellent reason why one's children should not become a bartender, New Year's Eve is the most tangible argument. Maroon! It's like 12 months of "full moon" condensed into one night. This New Year I will play it safe, hiding under a mask (all the way down to my toes) at Dale Evans & Friends Masked Ball at Cafe Biarritz. You don't mind being kissed by strangers - masked - at midnight. Don't you?

Swung through the kicky Castro area last week. Fun. I got drunk. I'm so weak. But,

had a marvelous time. Started out with a neat (good) haircut at Lloyd's Locks. Had a sensible hot breakfast at the Elephant Walk . . . 4 hot brandies. Chatted with that little? doll, Michael of Original Jackson's. Checked into Castro Station. That is always a treat. With George on the plank, Jim & Rick sharing a toddy with me, Bob Masotti of Nothing Special holding court. A very pleasant time. Trooped over to the Nothing Special. Saw my darling "wife," Ginny, the Imperial Crown Princess, of the Hombre. Ginny was preparing for her party later that night at the Hombre. She had a good-looking man in tow. (We have a civilized marriage.)

Spent most of my money. Which cancelled out some Xmas shopping. I hate to shop. For anything! I go into traumatic shock at this time of the year. I usually try to blackmail some of my chums into shopping for me. Always come up with a fake cold, Polk St. flu or something. Just about have exhausted my bag of tricks. Besides, sharing a drink with friends - old and new - is more priceless than mere material gifts . . . except for Grand Marnier . . . furs . . . jewels (real) . . . Bentleys & Morgans . . . Gucci toilet paper . . . Happy Holidays!

Love,
Dixon (Polk St. Sally)

P.S. A very large thank you to Bob Trollope, Roy, Larry, Rip, Peter of La Bourgogne and the rest of the management for the spectacular Xmas party for the staff of the *P.S. Bravo!

Sweetlips

Sez

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all my friends and customers!

Sweet Lips

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Southern Scandals

By Mr. Marcus

It's Christmas Time in the City and everyone is being extra nice, gushing and pleasant. From the glittering winter wonderland of The Stud where Pearl Heart Kelly who really worked his buns belted out the songs of Janis Joplin in an exceptional paen to the Goddess of Hedonism last Sunday night to the overflow crowds at Febe's, the Boot Camp and the Ramrod for festive seasonal gatherings of mirth, the spirit has touched down in this enchanted city. Last Sunday afternoon, the city's newest attraction opened, called the Wizard's Emerald City at 1645 Market. You owe yourself and all your friends a visit to this enchanted store richly decorated in carpets and woods and displaying the elegant craftsmanship of jewelry by Elf and a host of other enticing goodies to hang, wear, admire and care for. A stunning and exquisite store to indulge yourself in buying or browsing. Interesting art objects, paintings . . . you'll adore it.

You're all in for a mind-blower too, as the Tattoo Lagoon unveils its new disco next Wednesday & Thursday, Dec. 29 & 30. If you thought the light trip at The City was great, you'll marvel at the flying saucer suspended over the dance floor with laser beams, a light show totally innovative and disco-technics never before heard in this entire country. If you don't have your opera-size admission tickets, gratis, from the Lagoon, get down there now because you'll be standing in line when the word gets out all over town and you KNOW how rapid tel-a-fairy can travel. Methinks Carl Francis and the delightful David Yori will have a big winner with this one. Oh yes, sounds by Jack Hippchin, the sound track.

Fans of Hamburger Mary's way back in the days when Jerry

"Trixie" Jones and Heavenly Heidi were slaving their fingers to the bone getting the place going, there was this young man named Kelly who really worked his buns off in the background. After a long hiatus away from Bagdad by the Bay, the Mary-ettes are abuzz, 'cuz Kelly is coming back - in fact he's probably back already. Check out Gary the bartender too. Flawless!

For those of you who have seen your gay brothers in and around town who are deaf, you'll be delighted to know that these men have formed the Rainbow Deaf Society and they're having a get acquainted part at Febe's on Friday, Jan. 30, from 3 to 6 pm. It'll be a beer bust and snacks for a \$4 donation and also a button; so if you're interested in meeting some great guys, now's your chance to get to know a splendid group. See you there!

When Mary Ellen & Peggy were summoned to the Twin Peaks Tavern a couple of mornings ago, they weren't too happy because they were told someone had allegedly broken the plate glass windows after the 29 & 30. To their utter surprise and delight, when they arrived at the bar, there proudly stood the entire staff with a Christmas present - a whole set of new bar stools. Last year, the staff had dutch doors put on at the entrance. It's gratifying to know that employees of a bar have such a wonderful rapport with their bosses. You can tell when a bar has a "team" instead of a staff. Nice going and by the way, drop in and check out those new bar stools. You'll be glad to be glad to bask in the warmth of a successful operation. And while on the subject of neighborhood bars, you should check out the Men's Room - great taped Yuletide music, a warm and friendly crowd, and that personal touch

that means so much to so many of us. You heard me - the Men's Room at 18th & Noe.

JOY TO THE WHIRL . . . Belated birthday greetings to my favorite Sagittarian, Her Highness Princess Ginny Lee who celebrated her 45th with a huge crowd that turned out for a festive



Bart Studios presents Doug men enraptured of each other in a setting guaranteed to plung you into a paroxysm of erotic fantasy and sizzling scenario of three macho fulfillment.

Send for a free brochure of *Glory Hole* and other cinematic adventures to Bart Studios, 681 Ellis, Suite 458, SF 94109.

party at the Hombre last Tuesday upper Castro too with all the beautiful people in attendance including Michael Daley in Santa Claus drag as only Michael Daley can do it. One conversation centering on who's running for Empress XII caused La Daley to submit: **When are they going to crown a Miss Yellow Pages?** which broke absolutely

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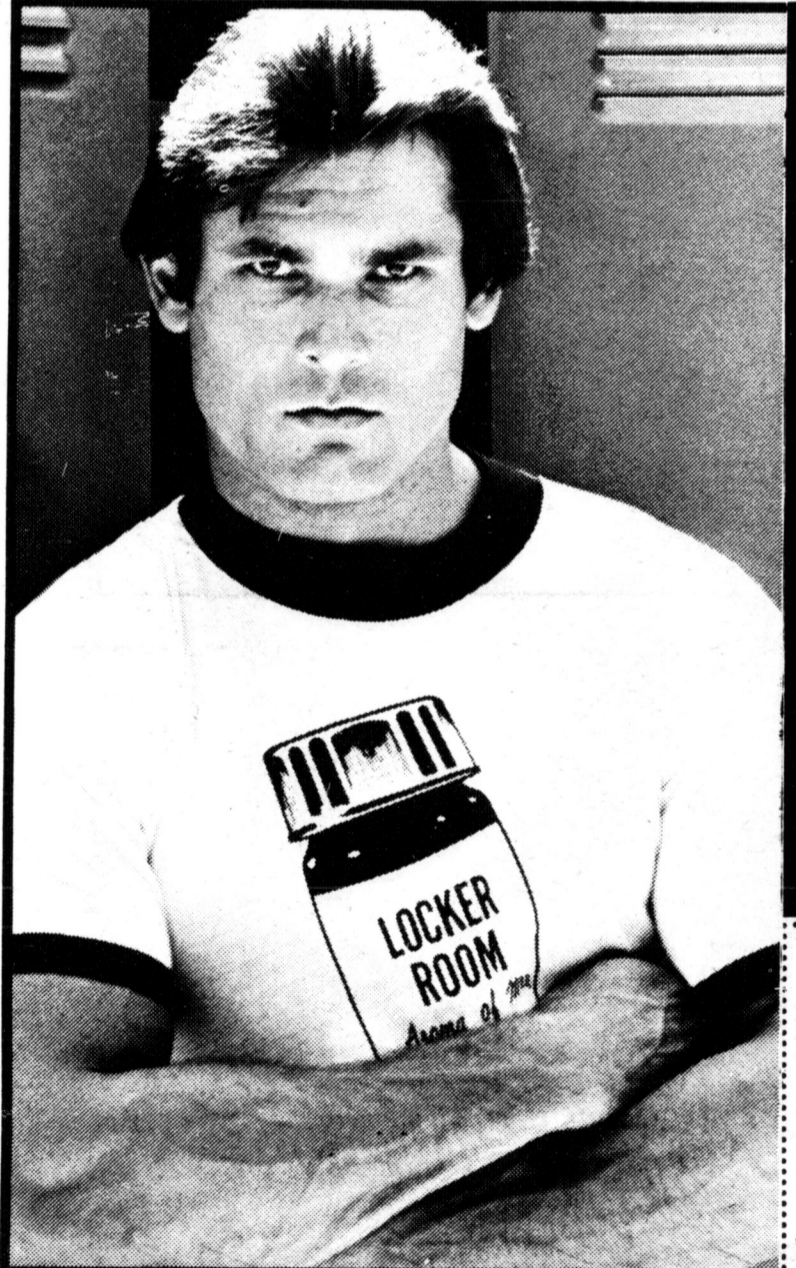


and the staff of the leather shop upstairs. And thanks to the Boot Camp for the jockey shorts madness, the Golden Dildeaux, the celebrity jockey shorts contests and the digital watch testing room as apprived by J.C. and Ray (the hunk) Hedges. Also thanks to Ritch Street for your exciting decor and polite attendants; and to Folsom Prison for those many, many great parties and murals that can never be replaced. Also thanks to Le Domino for the exquisite decor and dinners to match; and welcome to the Brasserie, Folsom's newest cuisine corner; and to the Tattoo Lagoon, truly a splendid bar (and with the Hector and the Game Cock davoan C-Cake) and yet to reach the zenith it will necessarily achieve. Thank you SOMBA for a great Mardi Gras ball and thanks to Inter-Club for the greatest Casulaty Capers yet. Remember, we still need blood for our gay brothers and sisters. The New Year promises to be better. And brighter. We have our new building. Operation Concern and People's Fund. The new year will usher in another great softball season with hot new teams in competition and Irene barely wincing as the crowds sing "Goodnight Irene" in loving mockery. Thanks to Emperor

achievement. Love you all.
MISTER MARCUS
PORN CORNER
By George Robert
Sea Cadets - A New Series
Pleasure Cruise
Color - 150' - SC4
This film opens with two cadets discussing the prowess of the captain. One cadet decides to put the make on him and his buddy agrees. This starts a hot 3-way, full of explosive action. It seems these three haven't had enough so the captain takes them home for another workout.
Sea Cadets Contd.

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Boys In The Boat
Color - 150' - SC5
We liked this one best of the entire series. It features two cadets at sea. The instructor decides to teach his cadet some extra manoeuvres. The cadet agrees and the viewer sees some really good balling scenes. Two really fine bodies in a good workout.
Hole Job
Color - 150' - SC6
Our intrepid heroes have some engine trouble. One cadet gets down in the hole and repairs the engine. His reward, you guessed it, a hot three-way.
All in all the six films in the series are good. They may be seen and purchased at the Trading Post Emporium, 960 Folsom St.

Kansas City Trucking Co.
Eastman Color - SurroundSound - A Joe Gage Film
This is Joe Gage's first attempt at writing and directing a feature length film. He is to be complimented. This is one of those few gay porn flicks that comes close to good Hollywood standards. While we did not experience their new sound trip (SurroundSound) at the preview showing, the dialogue and background music were handled very well. The color is also excellent.
The story is that of a cross-country truck ride with a few side

glimpses. It opens in a truck shed in Kansas City (a bit hilly for KC though) with dispatcher Jack (Jack Wrangler) waiting for one of his drivers, Hank (Richard Locke). He explains to Hank about his new driver/helper Joe (Steve Boyd), then proceeds to get back into some unfinished sex business with Hank. Good scenes. Meanwhile, Joe's girl drops him off for his new job and he almost walks in on Jack and Hank.
We continue as Hank and Joe drive cross-country to Los Angeles. Our first side trip is cowboy Otis (Dane Tremmell, a hot man) and a young backbaker played by Skip Sheppard. They get into some hot scenes in, on and about Otis' Jeep, finishing it off in some bushes on the side of the road. We have a hunch some good shots were left on the cutting room floor.
We cut back to the cab of the truck where Hank and Joe are getting along fine, so fine in fact they pull off the road for a jack-off session. Upon getting back on the highway our heroes pass a convertible with two college buddies playing with each other as they suck on another joint. They are side-tracked by a man standing in a shack off the highway, nude. These three proceed to turn in an excellent three-way that will be long remembered.
The final segment of the movie takes place in a truckers' bunkhouse. This episode is one of the hottest-filmed sequences to hit the screen in a long time. If we didn't know better, we would think it was shot at the Barracks (t R.I.P.). Our only objection to the film is its abrupt ending and too much reliance on Onanism. All in all, it is an excellent film and one well worth seeing... Now playing at the Nob Hill Cinema.



Interstate truck drivers Hank their cross country run in the (Richard Locke) and Joe (Steve X-rated feature film, Kansas City Boyd) take a truckstop break on Trucking Co.

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School lectures.

A third must be a good of the House. Does that mean bowler; he's ever engaged in that Rep. "Tip" O'Neill of Mass., knocking every one off — to make way for himself?? Of the crew he turns the occasional flesh phrase. Unfortunately he lacks levity and keeps milking the same tired cows.

A heavy-weight fourth gives the impression of profundity and wisdom. He is often inaccurate and less concerned with finding answers than in pumping out the P.R.

A final gadfly should hire a ghost writer.

One wonders what kind of editorial control & direction exists at your paper to allow these non-writers, slim thinkers and loud mouths to endlessly spin on.

Somebody please teach them to be concise, accurate and concerned for their craft, and that the reader is not some pawn, some dupe to be manipulated by some non entity on a power trip.

All in all, your current line up of baby "Wm. Buckley's" are not analysts but sand-lot propagandists. They should take lessons from Broshars; at least he has turned his bullshit into a kind of pop art.

Sincerely,
/s/ Elton Raab

Editor:

As a regular reader of your paper who follows your political writers closely, I am amazed that George Mendenhall is under the impression that Rep. Wright of

Texas has been elected Speaker

Henri I Leleu. The contents of that letter plus public remarks made by Leleu more than suggest that a "written" complaint was made by me to the District Attorney against the Tavern Guild. To go a bit further, public statements have been made by Leleu and others that the complaint was also signed by others.

Since there is no such complaint, and I did not write any and I did not join with anyone in writing a complaint, then the only rational conclusion is that the members of the Tavern Guild are being fed misinformation.

Sincerely,
/s/ George Ridolfi

Dear Mr. Lorch,

I've read your column in the recent issue of B.A.R. and thought it was fabulous.

I was wondering when people would become more aware and more responsible for themselves. After reading your column I know we've started in the right direction.

Keep up the good writing.
Sincerely,
/s/ John Hyer

An Open Letter to the Tavern Guild Members

A letter dated Dec. 3, 1976, addressed to Mr. Steven Castleman, an investigator for the Consumer Fraud/White Collar Crime Unit, was also sent to me as a copy. A copy was also sent to

planning stages of the Center project, the leaders of the Tavern Guild were kept informed. Every effort was made to appear before the membership and relate the details of the project while it was developing. The efforts were rebuffed, and access to the membership meetings was denied. That is a fact, but that it is not a complaint. You have a right to do just that. But those of the leadership who make such decisions ought not then report that no information is available to them or to you.

At the present time negotiations were actually underway regarding the title to the property at 330 Grove. Currently it is leased by Pride and available to all.

The target date to perfect the title is April, 1977. Details are not being broadcast, except to say that the prospects are very good. Any one who has ever dealt with the transfer of title know that care and discretion must be exercised so as not to disrupt the deal.

There are always calculated risks in any business transaction.

Very truly,
Paul D. Hardman

Ed. Note: There is nothing in the Castleman Letter to suggest a "written" complaint.)

Editor:
Some years ago I attended a screening of an amateur film on the African lion. The film was a product of two tycoons who safaried in deepest Africa and had the time and luck to screen the doings of a pride of lions.

Most outstanding was a literal recording of two hunting wildebeests. Wildebeests are handsome creatures who can outrun the king of the jungle, so-o the lions planned their attack. One lion placed himself in hiding. The other lion came roaring and stampeded the herd right into the path of the hidden lion. It was no contest; the entire pride feasted well in late afternoon at their leisure. No wonder that the lion is king of the jungle; he is monarch of his environment, and only MAN can conquer this paragon of beasts.

What is a lion were caught and transported to the frozen wastes of the Arctic? The lion would surely lose his title of king and give up the ghost in short order.

What is a man were landed in the Arctic wastes? He could make it if he called upon the knowledge of generations of men who do live in the Arctic.

Thus we find communication keeps man alive and master of his environment. Great kings of the world cannot long remain kings if their environment is altered.

And what is the connection of the gay world with this?

The gay world finds, even in in dear S.F., much malevolence. Hows to change this situation? Exterminate all non-gays? Numbers, morality and common sense abjure such a simplistic solution.

Educate the non-gays? True, but this would take more years than we can afford.

What is left? An attitude; an ability to live in the world of reality, an understanding of mankind in this mixed-up world. If we are not driven, if we can turn off the hate, the distrust and the suspicion of our neighbors on planet earth, the voyage through life smooths.


How does one get to understand this world? By examining the signs and symbols of communication. Every thought, no matter the simplicity or the complexity, must be put into messages for communication.

The young thugs who gather to go gay hunting are recipients of communication, faulty, of course, but correctible, not for the sake of God, but for the thug's better adaptability to his connection with society.

What a humn being does in bed, in privacy, should not be a signal for physical and economic and cultural maltreatment.

s/s Harvey Glascock

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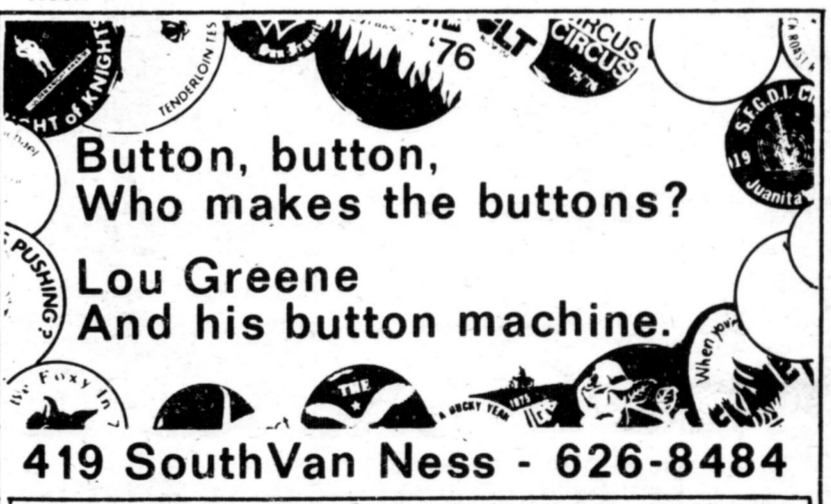
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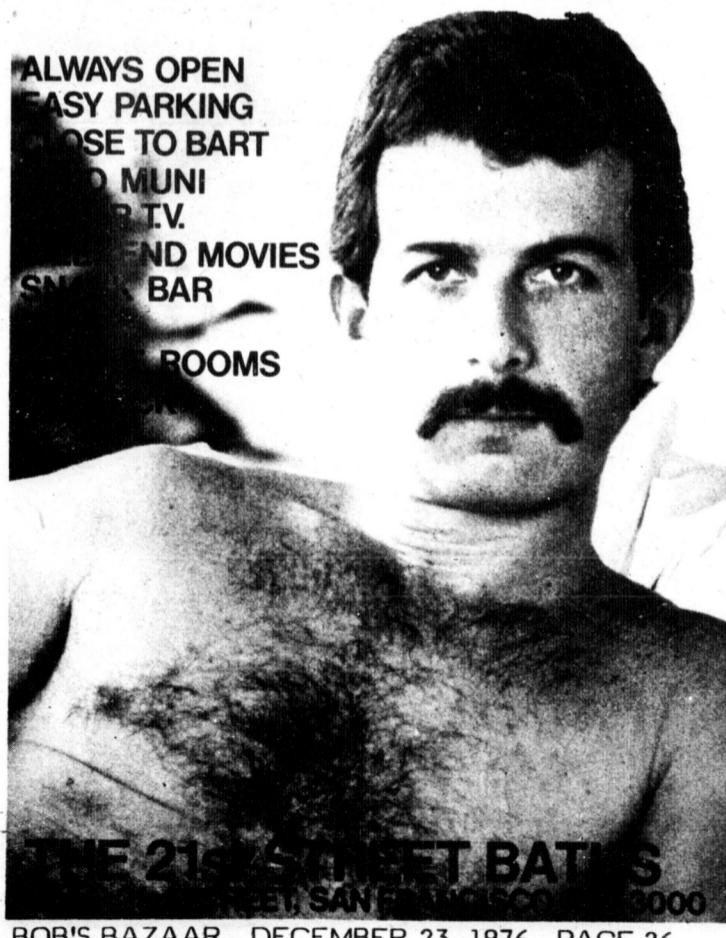
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BOB'S BAZAAR DECEMBER 23, 1976 PAGE 26

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Veteran Sex Star Jack Wrangler plays a long distance truck dispatcher in the new highway feature from Joe Gage films, *Kansas City Trucking Co.*, filmed in color and SurroundSound.

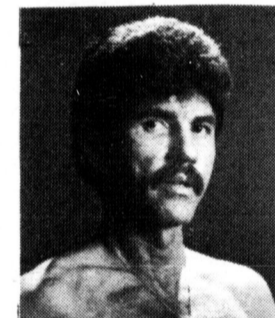
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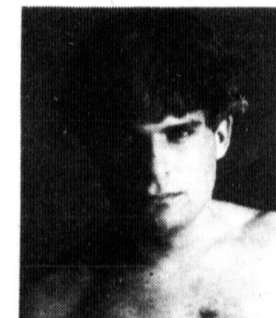
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Seasons Greetings

A Christmas Card by Jay Noonan

Once again, my friends, it's that time of year, To bring good wishes and loads of Holiday cheer.

So let us begin, and bring forth the holly, With all the season's delights for both Candy and Polly.

Let the candles burn bright and light up our Nation, For Emperors Marcus, Russ and Bobby (Carnation).

For Michelle and Mavis may their laughter reign free, and the same for Miss Minnie, Rome and, of course, Miss P.

Let the sleigh bells ring for Susie and Butch Bill Tolan, and much more of the same for VooDoo and Daddy Joe Roland.

For Tony Lasagne a big Christmas Tree, with cheers for Dallas and Shane and Sweet Jack Antonucci.

Let the glow of Yuletide come out of the blue, to cast its spell on Lenny Mollet and Henri Lay-Lou.

Happy Holidays to Reba and my friend Beau Moss, and let the tinsel shine bright for Raymond, Ron and Robert with the surname of Ross.

Holly berries, candies and pop for all, for Molly, Ollie and Barbara Ball.

To the Giants and "A's" may they have their big innings, A joyous Noel to Jorge, G.F. and Michael Winnings.

Paint the candy canes bright like fresh tossed confetti, Happy days to Dick and Gordon and John Iacometti.

Silver bells and cockle shells are also unique, as gifts for Posey and Randy and LE FEMME de COSMIQUE.

To Teddy M., Ms. Bird, Krystal and sweet Doug Twist, Please, Dear Santa, don't lead them astray, give them the best that's down on your list.

For Modesto and Bill - your own special glory, the same for Ed Spiese and Timmy at the Club Dori.

Buon Natale Fay Roy, Bob Trollope and Ken Rector, Christmas cheer Empress Flame and Emperor Hector.

Let the jingle bells ring like the sound of a cannon, Bon mots and joyous days John and Harriet and to my friend Lori Shannon.

Little elves that you be, please make it merry, merry. For Juanita, Edith, Jack and Al, the gang on top o' the hill on Ashbury.

And while speeding along at such a gay clip, Do drop some cheers on wee Madge Dillon, suave Jimmy Law and, of course, Hazel Bishop.

Now my Dear Santa before you fly into a rage, Smile sweetly and kindly on good George Banda, Little Mike and the gracious June Page.

And please my friend, before you go to sleep, a big you know what for Marvin and Chester and Little Bo Peep.

Whose Sunday shenanigans keep her in chips, keep you and bless you Mr. Adorable Lips.

Happy Hannukah Fern, you're such a Christian Martyr, also Eric Niesi and my fellow man Jim Cohen-Parker.

And to my Yanks, who did not win the pennant, Feliz Navidad Connie and Joan and, of course, Eduard Bennet.

For Lulu - Bill Reilly and Pattersons all, all the blue chips in Reno, have a New Year's Ball.

To Betty Bonko - may you only experience the best, especially on days when I need the steam for my chest.

Bake the Christmas pudding and let all make merry, here's to Tacky Ruth, plus Warren and George and Gary.

To little Paul Walliker and big Mike Dooley, fill your stockings full, but no tom-foolery.

So here's a toast, I'll have a Bacardi, here's to Chris and Steven and the good Joe Nardi.

So although I'm getting too old to blush, my love to both Larry's, Messrs. Glasser and Rush.

To T. Allen Smyth, another good year, to Joey, Big Lil, Wes and Gary, Mrs. Santa says cheers.

So for all you dear people whom I may miss, please forgive me and don't feel amiss.

My best to you all, you're charmers all.

But the last little wish comes straight from the heart, to you Dear Momma, a great big Christmas heart.

So goodbye Seventy-six, may thee rest well in heaven, Hello, and let's welcome in Nineteen Seventy-seven.

Peace and love, Jay Noonan

For Christ's Sake. PEACE!

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Show Biz In Review

By Donald McLean

Stage: A Christmas Carol

A.C.T.'s production of "A Christmas Carol" is billed as "a ghost story of Christmas." Charles Dickens would have agreed with that description; one must question Dickens' possible reaction to the murky psychological downer A.C.T. adapters Dennis Powers and Laird Williamson have written. Dickens' story, to be sure, has always been a richly over-sentimentalized tug at the heart-strings, which is the reason it has endured. In the current A.C.T. production, Scrooge, in one two-hour act examines the causes and effects of his mean, miserly ways.

Absolutely valid ... in part. But this production concentrates so heavily on the motivations of the miser that the charm, warmth and lively Christmas spirit generated by Dickens is almost totally buried under an avalanche of keening,

ominous ghosts, ragged urchins and doomsday voices. The Cratchit family is slighted to the point of non-existence. Tiny Tim is reduced to a two-line bit, and the wonderful, romanticized view of English home-and-hearth gets a token nod. There are few contrasts in this production, making it an unrelentingly dramatic probe into the psyche of Scrooge, about whom we care little, grinding to the inevitable revelation that his values were wrong. Powers and Williamson have zeroed in on one important aspect of Dickens' story, but slighted the romantic trappings that made it so appealing. This "Christmas Carol" would scare the hell out of any child!

Within this framework, the production is a visual knockout; the costumes of Robert Morgan are breathtaking; the lighting by F. Mitchell Dana complex and fascinating, and the skeletal set that strips away as the layers of Scrooge's understanding is a masterpiece by Robert



William Paterson as Scrooge chastises Bob Cratchit (James R. Winker) in A.C.T.'s "A Christmas Carol."

Photo by William Ganslen

Blackman. The acting of the large company is uneven, to be kind, though Raye Birk as Marley's Ghost, Daniel Davis as Fezziwig, Deborah May and Daniel Kern as Belle and Young Scrooge, and John Hancock as the Ghost of Christmas Present all offer first-rate performances. William Paterson as Scrooge is excellent in his early scenes, but as he discovers

more and more about himself, his Scrooge becomes more and more his Horace Vandergelder of "The Matchmaker," relying heavily upon schtick to carry him through his transitions. Williamson has directed erratically, creating powerful moments and then lurching abruptly; he seems to favor the high-charged emotional scenes and toss off quickly the lighter sentimental scenes.

As a Christmas present, the A.C.T. production of "A Christmas Carol" I receive with mixed emotions, like a cashmere sweater received from my favorite aunt ... in the wrong size.

Film: King Kong

When approaching this new production of the 1938 classic, we must all remember that producer Dino De Laurentiis is the same man who gave us the immortal "Mandingo" two years ago and followed it up with "Drum" last season. De Laurentiis specializes in filming lavish trash, so it should come as no shock whatsoever to discover that this "King Kong" is a flimsy desecration of the earlier Fay Wray epic.

This time around, fashion model Jessica Lange plays the beauty who beguiles the beast. Miss Lange floats onto the screen unconscious as the sole



Seasons Greetings

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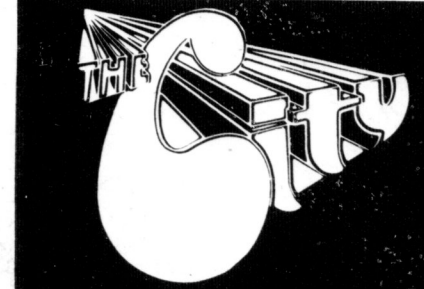
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Marinated Mushroom Caps	2.00
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— Soup —	
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Coffee .35 Tea .35 Sanka .35 Milk .50	
DESSERTS	
Chocolate Mousse95
Cheese Cake	1.25
Chocolate Cake	1.00
Ice Cream or Sherbet75

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New Years Eve

APPETIZERS	
Marinated Mushroom Caps	2.00
Escargots	3.25
Shrimp Cocktail	3.25
DINNER	
Champagne	
French Onion Soup	
Crisp Mixed Green Salad	
Prime Rib of Beef au Jus	8.50
New York Cut Steak	9.50
Rack of Lamb	9.50
Roast Duck a La Orange	8.50
Filet of Sole Meuniere	7.50
Coffee or Tea	
DESSERTS	
Chocolate Mousse95
Cheese Cake	1.25
Chocolate Cake	1.00
Ice Cream or Sherbet75

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BAY AREA REPORTER DECEMBER 23, 1976 PAGE 31

Eggar, Joel Grey, Georgia Brown - all of whom have little more than bit roles that are unworthy of them. Holmes' distrust of women is interestingly accounted for at last, and the author provides us with many insights into the mind of Holmes that make him less the crisp, dry logician of Conan Doyle. But it is a film where you must glean the moments, like picking the diamonds from the rhinestones, because the total never works.

Best example - Stephen Sondheim has written a marvelously bawdy song entitled "I Never Do Anything Twice" for French cabaret star Regine to sing in the film; it has four verses, so Ross gives us one-half of one verse, totally

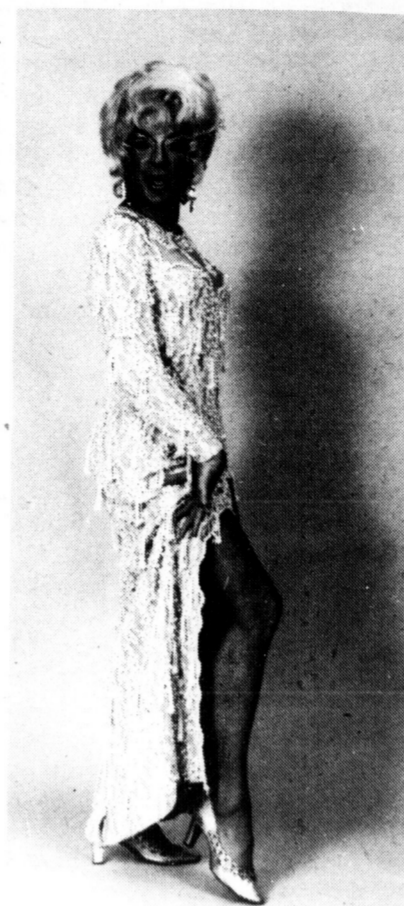
diluted of any bawdy content, and the Sondheim song sounds like any hack background number written as a throwaway. Ross had all the talents available, so he must shoulder the blame for not utilizing them. (Now playing at the Stage Door, Geary & Mason Sts.)

Club: Michelle - My Friends & Me

Now playing Sat. and Sun. evenings at Sutter's Mill, 315 Bush St., is the inimitable Michelle. The dining room has been nicely converted into an intimate cabaret, where Michelle holds forth on favorite topics that pop into his mind. His friends consist of the now-obligatory eight-boy kick line,



The inimitable Michelle now plays Sutter's Mill.



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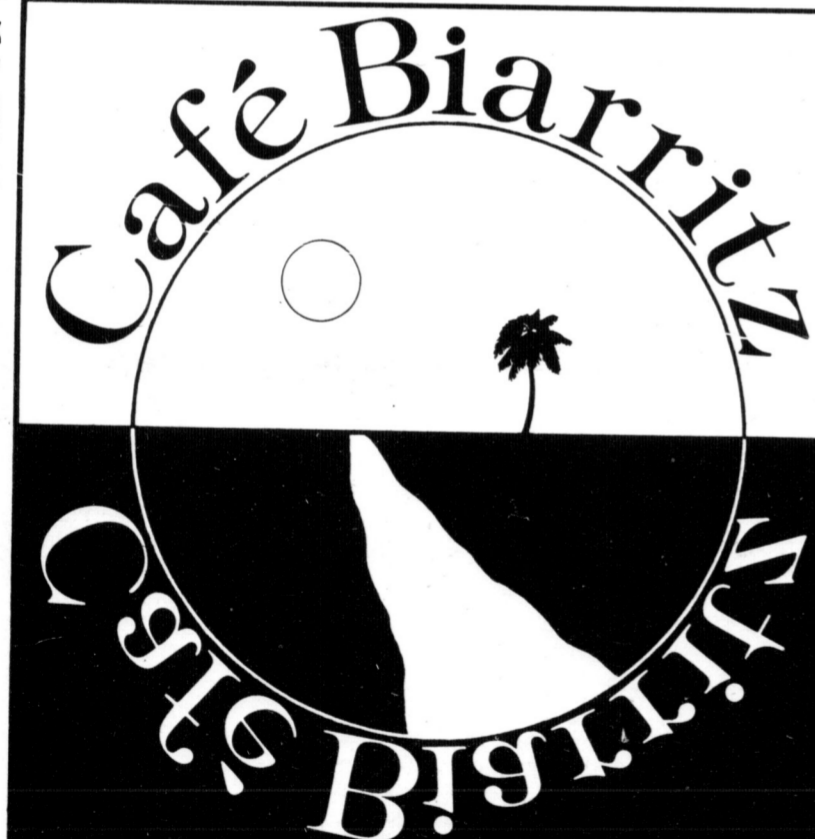
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staged by Chuck Zinn, who belt out loudly if not always well every current razzmatazz number on record. "When Mabel Comes in the Room," "Razzle Dazzle," "Hello Dolly" all begin to look and sound the same, always ending with the straight kick line down front, backed by a fun ricky-ticky quartette in the corner. Only one number, a four-man dance

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routine to "Summertime," shows any originality or skill, but if the people want schmaltz, then give 'em schmaltz.

Michelle talk/sings a couple of ballads, "Yesterday When I Was Young" and "I Am My Own Best Friend," but all of this is superfluous. Trimmings, if you will, for what the audience really wants - Michelle's mouth. Over the years, Mike "Michelle" Gerry has built a

devoted following who come to hear him discourse upon his near and dear friends, his personal experiences with Safeway, wig cases on airlines, his beauty shop, being busted, Halloween years ago, making up a corpse, and his general observations of the gay scene in S.F. Often, especially when relating actual truths, he is very funny indeed. He is a master ad-libber, always on top of the

situation, and much of his success depends upon an audience willing to participate with him. It is difficult to review a show that must change every performance; what I heard in the 2½-hour second show Saturday night will not necessarily be what you would hear on Sunday. Michelle goes with his audience; throw out a topic and let him loose on it. He's a quick wit and good showman; his humor is never so "in" that you can't follow along, whether you know the individual he's talking about or not, and he genuinely appears to enjoy what he does. The effect is one of sitting around his living room at a party, while he takes centerstage, and if the conversation bogs down from time to time, just be patient until it starts rolling again.

For the record - the handsome set pieces are by George Lowy, the band is under the direction of Don Morris, Michelle's costumes and wigs are by Hermann, the boys' costumes are by Ed Walsh, and the eight toothsome, dandy gentlemen backing Michelle are Peter Jaremko, George Lowy, Tony Nemger, Manny, Bob Paulsen, Reggie, Brent Wayne and Durwood Saber. The show plays Sat. at 7:30 and 10:30, Sun. at 7:30; for reservations call 397-0121.

See you in '77!

Don McLean



Carolyn Zaremba takes a tug on Raymond Wood's WE IN *Out of This World*.

NEW CAST FOR "OUT OF THIS WORLD"

As of Thurs., Dec. 23, there will be three major changes in Cole Porter's "Out of This World" at the Phoenix Theatre.

Replacing Pamela Brooks in the role of Helen, the mortal who causes Jupiter to leave Mt. Olympus in lusty pursuit, will be Weslia Whitfield, direct from seven months as Jenny in "An Evening at Widow Begbick's." Norman Roberts, a mainstay of The Lamplighters



since 1968, will take over the role of Jupiter; and Raymond Wood, the original Clarence Cutter in "Boy Meets Boy," assumes the role of the gangster Niki.

Reservations for "Out of This World" are now being taken through mid-January. Tickets may be obtained at all major ticket agencies or by calling the Phoenix box office at 397-3700. "Out of This World" plays Monday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 8:30pm, Sundays at 3 and 7:30pm, with student rush tickets available 15 minutes before curtain.

Belle of Amherst

DEC. 29

A TV version of Julie Harris' unforgettable rendition of Emily Dickinson will be aired locally on Dec. 29.

Of Ms. Harris performance in "Belle of Amherst" one reviewer writes, "A superb one-woman tour-de-force... gives one added pride in the English language. Her solo two-hour-plus onstage, with no other actors, clues, or prompters to play off of, and the inordinate volume of dialogue and impeccable delivery, gave new life to every word spoken..."

(Marcus, ... you'll literally pee your pants. - P.F.H.)

SAN FRANCISCO METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Special Services and Events for the Christmas Season

Rev. Charles W. Larsen, M. Div., Pastor

December 24th-11:00 P.M.-Christmas Eve Candlelight Service With the M.C.C.-S.F. Choir

December 25th-3:00-6:00 P.M.-Free Christmas Day Dinner Open to Everyone.

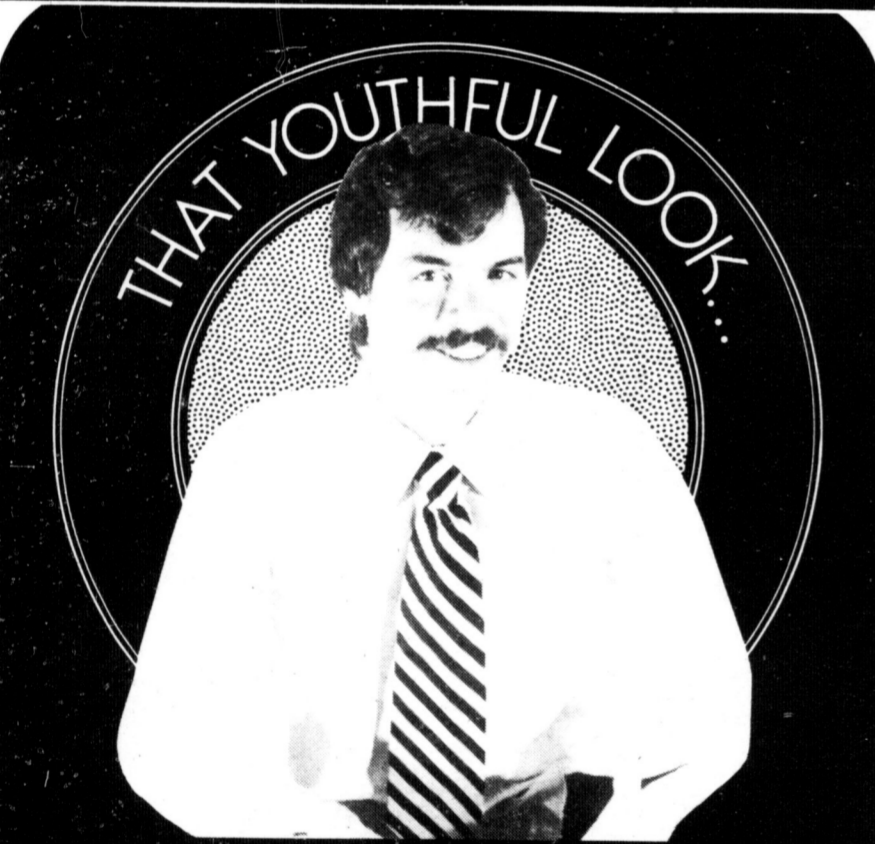
December 26th-Regular services at 1:00 and 7:30 P.M.

December 31st-11:00 P.M.-New Year's Eve Watchnight Services

*Fellowship and refreshments following all services.

All services and events will be held at Mission United Presbyterian Church, 23rd and Capp Sts. (1 block off Mission and 23rd)

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Imperator et Rex Hector

The holiday season is suddenly here and the members of the Board of Trustees of the Peoples Fund are busy as bees preparing for the Gay Community Christmas Dinner. The Dinner promises to be an outrageous success and everyone is invited. The Peoples Fund Christmas Dinner will be held from Noon to 4:00pm on Christmas Day at the Gay Center, 330 Grove St. There is no charge for the dinner; however, there will be a no-host bar with all proceeds going to the new Gay Center.

For those of you who have not yet seen the new Center, this would be an ideal time to look it over, join in a little Christmas cheer, and have a beautiful Christmas Day with your friends. Many of my Court and the Empress Flame's Court will be there, along with Chef Bob Ross, Mark Calhoun, Empress VI Cristal, our Grand Duke Lee Dow and many other good friends. If you can't join us for dinner, we hope you will make every attempt to find some time to stop by and say hello. We're all looking forward to a good time at the first event to be held at our Gay Center on Christmas Day!

The second event to be held at the new Center is Emperor III BOB CRAMER'S 40th BIRTHDAY BASH from 7:00 - 11:00pm on Tuesday, Dec. 28. A donation of \$1.00 is being asked, with all proceeds again going to the Center. Bob Cramer and his team have lined up Door Prizes, Disco, Birthday Cake and a No-Host Bar; so let's all help Bob celebrate his 40th birthday in the name of the new Gay Center.

We would like to remind you about the Interclub Fund Blood Drive. Remember, you can give blood in the name of the Interclub Fund all year around, but the holiday season is an especially thoughtful time to give a gift of life! The Interclub Fund will soon be announcing awards for their one-gallon donors. You can give blood through the Irwin Bob Ross, Mark Calhoun, Memorial Blood Bank at 270 Masonic, or for those of you who work downtown, the convenient Irwin Blood Branch at 760 Market St. would be happy to accept your gift. Be sure to state that your donation is to be credited to the Interclub Fund. You cannot give a greater gift!

David Yori of the new TATTOO LAGOON has invited

us to attend his Grand Opening on Dec. 29 and 30. It sounds like a fun new bar, and we have every intention of looking it over. Suggest you all come and take a peek!

Would like to remind you again that we will be spending New Year's Eve with DALE EVANS AND FRIENDS at CAFE BIARRITZ. Dale has planned a festive gathering that night from 9PM to 2AM. Tickets are \$3.50 in advance, \$4.00 at the door, a benefit for the Academy of Performing Arts. Tickets are still available at Castro Station, Elephant Walk, The Mint, *P.S. (Dixon), Castro Records, The Record House on Polk St. and at the Cafe Biarritz!

The next meeting of the Gamecock Court will be held on Monday, Jan. 3, at Gordon's Restaurant at 7PM. A notice

will be forthcoming.

In closing, I would like to thank so many, many of you who were kind and thoughtful enough to send holiday greetings to me and my "family." It isn't possible to acknowledge each greeting individually, but I would like to wish every one of you a joyous and glorious Christmas and a prosperous, healthy and happy New Year!

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the Peoples Fund Christmas Dinner!

With all good wishes,
Hector Navarro

"A problem for T. S. Eliot as a playwright is that for him the choice of eternity is so obviously preferable to that of life on this earth that it is difficult for him not to make actual living seem secondrate."
Stephen Spender



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TURKEY with all the trimmings	CHATEAUBRIAND
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COMBINATION turkey & ham	LOBSTER THERMIDOR

New Years Eve
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- NEW YEAR'S DAY -



Champagne Hangover Brunch 11:00 til 3:30

RESERVATIONS SUGGESTED



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EMPRESS APPLICANTS

Applications for Empress XII de San Francisco closed at midnight, Dec. 15. The envelopes revealed applications from: G. Marcus (Gilda) Hernandez, Kurt (Dale Evans) Sorenson, Michael (Jane Doe)

Nameth and Herman (Herman) Nieve. Candidates will formally announce on Dec. 28 after their formal interviews with the Privy Council. Campaigning will begin then and continue until coronation day, Feb. 5. Voting will be held at



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(BETWEEN POLK AND VAN NESS)

the Gay Center at 330 Grove St. from 11am to 7pm. Only residents of the City and County of San Francisco with proper identification (driver's license, state I.D., hunting or fishing license or other pre-established I.D.) will be allowed to vote.

GATSBY GOES MONTE CARLO

Jan. 9 will be a hot night as the city enjoys the installation of members of the Joint Royal Domiciles of Grand Duke Lee Dow and Grand Duchess Connie. They plan a buffet dinner, live show and dancing. An added attraction will be games of chance (AKA gambling) with proceeds going to the Peoples Fund. Tickets are available at the Record House and the *P.S. for \$10.00. SUPPORT THE NEW GAY CENTER!

CORONATION '77

Coronation '77, "Land of the Pharaohs," is set for Sat., Feb. 5. Latest rumors have just about everyone excited over the incredible set that Empress Cristal and Grand Duke Lee Dow are creating for my stepping down. Some innovations planned for this coronation: theme entrances by out of town courts, pre-set 5-minute entrance times, special live entertainment, group entrances by Empress XII candidates and group entrances in theme by in-town bars. This production will have all the pageantry, sets, costumes, people and special effects to rival the opening night of "Aida" (with or without Jose I). Tickets are now available at Tavern Guild bars and at the Record House. Advance (Reserved) seating is \$10.00; \$12.00 at the door.

Tentative "Coronation Week" activities include: Awards Banquet and Live Show at the Old Waldorf (Jan. 30); Imperial Cardinal Court Show (Jan. 31); Empress XI Tribute to Empress XII Candidates, Cocktail Party & Movie (Feb. 1); New Production of "Beach Blanket Babylon" Show (Court purchased house that night) (Feb. 2); Fiamma Burns - Emperor Hector's Gamecock Court Tribute to Empress Flame (Feb. 3); New Bell Saloon's Birthday Party for Empress Flame - Noon to 9pm, buffet and surprises (Feb. 4); Election and Coronation

Happy Holidays and a Hot New Year to everyone!

Faithfully yours,
Chuck Bayles (FLAME)
Empress XI de San Francisco

Martha Reeves at The City

The highly popular Soul vocalist Martha Reeves will return to The City for four nights at 9:45 and 11:45pm. Ms. Reeves opens Wed., Dec. 29, and closes New Year's night, Jan. 1. She enjoyed a sold-out engagement this past Labor Day and has been receiving excellent reviews since leaving the Vandellas. As lead singer for that group, Ms. Reeves was responsible for such hits as "Dancing in the Streets" and "Heat Wave." Writes the N.Y. Times, "... a sophisticated soul music purveyor."

Two couples will be the guests of Arista Records for the New Year's Eve show at The City, including complimentary champagne. Names should be left at Gramophone Records, 1538 Polk Street. The drawing will take place at 12 noon, Dec. 29.

The Men In My Life By Paul-Francis Hartmann

Big Town/ Small Town?

Main-street tourists prefer "Frisco" over New York, for here beetle-brow Americans feel safer and superior. Safer: because cable cars don't threaten the way a BMT express explodes into Times Square Station; because SF taxi drivers and counter girls are a tame breed, and the local tourist Bermuda Triangle (Union Square, Chinatown and Fisherman's Wharf) is sanitized and segregated. Superior: because faux pas are hard to make in California; because there are fewer ways to be suckered here; and even head waiters say "Please" and "Thank you" after introducing themselves by their first name. No matter where one wanders, the traveler is wished, "Have a good day."

Wise cracks, leaning on the horn, and telling people off are Northern Eastern specialties. Addled charm reassures strangers while hard-edged class intimidates them. (TV's Phyllis is as right for S.F. as Maude is for N.Y.C.)

One can't go wrong loving San Francisco, since everyone loves it - from hillbillies to heads, crowned or otherwise. Pilgrims flock to this coastal Mecca, worship the Golden Gateway, and fly away imagining they would like to live here.

On the other hand, people hate New York: tourists, those who couldn't make it there, and even those who abandoned the City because it wasn't safe to walk the streets (not that anyone walks the streets in suburbia when one can drive). Few who visit Manhattan would dream of settling there. And it's amazing that some ten million strangers manage to call it home (if not "home-sweet-home," then the place they're from). One doesn't hear, "I'm from Hampstead" or "from Yonkers" but simply, "I'm a New Yorker."

To the Dorothies from Kansas and the Boosters from River City, New York is indifferent, intimidating, and insulting. It leaves a bad taste in a mouth that lacks wit, soot in an albino eye, spikes in a fragile heart. It bruises and blisters

the tenderfoot (and always has).

New York's glory and grandeur lay partly in that it has always taken its greatness as it took its pot-holed streets: just one more thing to put up with. Outside of its annual St. Patrick's Day parade up 5th Ave., New York was seldom guilty of self-consciousness or self-indulgence. So large and so alive that it has been just about something for everyone. It carried on its back a small nation of losers and takers - almost blithely - and when the locust-like grubbers began to outnumber the producers, the nation's torch bearer began to stumble and lose her luster. And Peoria rejoiced and Santa Ana huffed and puffed, and Dallas almost wet her pants at the prospects of becoming Number 1. The Big Apple - a 30's name of a Harlem dance step - was up for come-uppance. The old tart now ripe for mincemeat ... no longer good enough for all-american pie.

Lest anyone gloat too soon (or before the Frisco Kid labels itself our culture's ace in the hole) - like Mehitabel the Cat, "toujour gai, toujour gai, there's life in the old girl yet."

What other town could manage to banish hookers from the streets for the revivalist mores of this summer's Democratic conventioners. For the righteous delegates, the City smiled that mammoth Georgia smile and behaved with equal righteousness. And everyone had a dull time - but left loving the City. This past July there wasn't a creep or a hustler along 8th Ave. Clusters of gregarious police strolled along 42nd St. making that fruit-cake alley look at least legitimate, if not respectable. The Madam herself turned the trick, and the Johns didn't even know they had been had.

In August the Museum of Modern Art was an oasis of green and splashing fountains, a haven amid the swirling sand storm of urban life that surrounds it. Every floor was overrun with Europeans, Mid-Easterners, Orientals, all of whom seem to have a firm grasp on what New York has to offer. This summer the feature exhibit was "The Taxi Cab" (yesterday, today and tomorrow).

With a New York City to hate and envy, there is hope for San Francisco. Without the Big Town, who can predict the reach of West Coast smallness and smugness.

Without the wolf pack of New York, we would truly be a nation of fleecy sheep and contented cows.

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row). A city's future without its "yellow" corpuscles is unthinkable - even to the most fervid ecology buff. In October the National Museum of Design opened in the Andrew Carnegie mansion on 5th Ave. The directors expect a half million visitors in the first year. The opening exhibit featured a large display devoted entirely to bread - in all the many forms

and shapes it takes throughout the world. Another display shows the hammer as an object of design.

At the Broadhurst Theater on 46th, across the street from the over-rated Mama Leones, a sprawling pseudo-Italian restaurant popular with suburbanites, Julie Harris rhapsodized the summer's civilized as Emily Dickinson in the Belle of

Amherst. She delivered a two and one half hour monologue of chatter, letters and poetry. Her exquisite talent created a rare theatrical experience. One plunged back into the hot, crowded sidewalks, engulfed in taxi horns, clanging manhole covers, and steam hissing from vents. Trance-like ... still trapped in an America inhabited by noiseless, patient spiders ...

One finds oneself on a 19th-floor terrace on 57th and 3rd that wraps itself around a one-bedroom apartment. Fifty pound sacks of potting soil, a silvery, shimmering birch tree, and flats of petunias (red, white and blue for 76). Fred barbecues three sirloin steaks; his lover, a blonde model from Tennessee, mixes tall drinks (white wine over ice, club soda and a twist of lemon). A steady, muted roar reaches the ears. I close my eyes and imagine the sound of surf. Strange how the joint hum of a thousand window air conditioners collaborate to imitate a sound of nature. Nothing can be heard from the street. Fred and Crissie had searched months for just such a terrace apartment. Trudging home after a futile day of hunting (with rents as high as the skyscrapers), they stumbled upon their dream apartment. They signed a two-year lease on the spot. Six months later they remain intoxicated with their good luck, their nude sunbathing, their sky garden.

Manhattan sports phone booths on every other corner. Mindful of litter, they contain no phone books, and they are usually filled with busy people pretending they can hear over the street noise. I finish a call, step back; the pay phone rings. No one else is around. I pick up the receiver. A Spanish voice - would I mind calling to the phone the hot dog vendor from

the corner. It's his girlfriend. I oblige, in this city of unparalleled rudeness and mistrust, and I end up watching the pushcart as Pedro "cha, cha, chas" with his Maria. I suspect I'm not the first nor the last to be so chosen ... * * *

Taking on New York City is like volunteering for combat - the risks and rewards are generous. The City is still a long extension ladder, up or down. One drops out in San Francisco and doesn't fall very far. On these pacific shores it's hard to fail. Local success is like near-beer (witness the recent beatification of Armisted Maupin for his trivial "Tales of the City," or the canonization of a Joan Hitchcock for having slept with JFK, or how carnival dancer Tullah Hanley suckered the town a few years back). We are rightly proud of our tepid, timid ways - a safe return on a slim investment. In what "real" city can a single Herb Caen be arbiter of who is "in" or "out."

One hears constantly of New York's plague of baby-eating rats. One hears less about San Francisco's annual plague of fleas (animal and human). Even the vermin seem to know their rightful territory.

Assuredly to be poor, bereft, and old in New York is to be worse off than the City's roach population. Neither infestation has ever been checked. For the young, the talented, the ambitious, the Battered Apple is still worth biting into. For many it will always be a sour apple - one that will pucker more than your lips. In this terrible hive one needs money. Without it there is only one alternative: like Paris, to be in love. If only for a honied, summer romance.

Paul-Francis Hartmann

Here 'n' There East Bay Peninsula & Beyond by Gene

Top of the news this week was the TURF CLUB's Christmas Dinner show held at the Holiday House in Hayward. The food was beautiful and the evening one to remember. Guest star Nina Hinson, soloist for the S.F. Opera and Symphony, was a show stopper. Jose made "Little Mary of the Golden West" with the Chuck Largent Review a hit.

The Snow Queen Ball in San Jose was a depressing event for me. VERY FEW people showed up. I will not say any more about it except to congratulate Lee and Arlene, who were named Mr. & Ms. Gay Youth, and Jerry and Larry, who were crowned as Snow Queen and Snow King.

THE CRYSTAL will feature a traditional holiday dinner on Christmas Day. There will be no cover for their New Year's Eve party.

The Grand Opening of Alfonso's PARK STREET STATION will be Jan. 18. It promises to be a fun-filled function.



The Answerettes, THE ANSWER's answer to the "Rockettes," put on some of the shortest, funniest Christmas shows I have ever seen. If by chance you missed any, check with Shilo or Tony for the show schedule.

Monty Crooks is opening another sauna bath in Oakland on Hegenberger Road near the airport. The plant will feature a 40' swimming pool and all the services that make the Redwood City B.Q. SAUNA a popular spot. EAST OF EDEN

Discographic Drool by H. Klein

A critic's view, of course, is just one man's opinion. What makes for popularity and what makes for quality are oftentimes worlds apart. If you're interested how money talked this year, we've asked three bell-weather local music stores for their five biggest sellers for '76.

Aquarius Records on Castro St. names Chuck Mangione's LAND OF MAKE BELIEVE, FLEETWOOD MAC, Donna Summer's new FOUR SEASONS OF LOVE, Linda Ronstadt's PRISONER IN DISGUISE and SPIRIT by Earth, Wind & Fire. Gramophone Records on Polk St. sold DR. BUZZARD'S SAVANNAH BAND, SONGS IN THE KEY OF LIFE by Stevie Wonder, Donna Summer's FOUR SEASONS OF LOVE, the original cast album from CHORUS LINE and PETER FRAMPTON COMES ALIVE. The Banana Records

store on Sutter St. downtown sold Stevie Wonder's album, Frampton's album, the Fleetwood Mac album, EAGLES GREATEST HITS and George Benson's BREEZIN'. I'm proud to say that this column didn't encourage its readers to buy any of these albums with the exception of THE SAVANNAH BAND and PRISONERS IN DISGUISE.

Chicken Skin Music (Warner Brothers RY COODER

For our last issue of '76, I've reviewed Ry Cooder's new album, certainly one of the best of the year (His recent shows at the Great American Music Hall were also excellent.)

If I had to name the three best musicians in American pop music today, there is not the slightest doubt in my mind that

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SAUNA across the freeway from the B.Q. is picking up these days. They feature Co-ed Days on Friday and Sunday, and a "friend" can be made at this, the oldest of the Saunas on the Peninsula.

The last-minute Christmas rush is about to do me in. I will be on vacation in Albuquerque next issue, so, at this point, I wish you all a fulfilling New Year.

LOVE AND PEACE! Gene

P.S. Look for the long overdue opening in January of The Watergarden in San Jose.

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Ry Cooder would be one of them. With the release of his fifth solo album, CHICKEN SKIN MUSIC, Cooder has continued in his highly successful - at least aesthetically - quest to popularize the finest in our country's rich folk musical heritage. If CHICKEN SKIN has anything to do with goose-

bumps, it's an appropriately-named album. Cooder is the absolute master of the recording studio, and his music has the invaluable trait to reach out and touch the listener as few studio albums ever do.

All of the songs on CHICKEN SKIN MUSIC are old

RY COODER
Chicken Skin Music
Includes Chloe, Yellow Roses
Stand by Me, Goodnight Irene



contemporary rural blues artist. On the new album my favorites are Huddie Ledbetter's classic barroom closing song, "Goodnight Irene" (raunchy and uncensored, of course) and "The Bourgeois Blues," which features Cooder playing mandola, bottleneck guitar, accordion and bajo sexto, as well as singing.

Alessi
(A&M)

Billy & Bobby Alessi



Billy and Bobby Alessi, identical twins from Long Island, have been kicking around the fringes of the East Coast music scene for years. Now, with a move to L.A. and the release of their debut A&M album, ALESSI, the young singing-writing brothers are poised to make their mark on contemporary pop music. Theirs is a sound which is both pleasing for its catchy, melodic arrangements and exquisite harmonies, as well as for its subtle complexity. Not unlike Hall and Oates (accomplished artists whose work is presently capturing the imagination of MOR/disco audiences), the Alessi sound is a kind of progressive MOR which can be enjoyed right across the musical spectrum. They've got plenty of "ooh's" and even "doh-wah's," as well as some moog, some nice jazzy riffs, and some hot rhythm 'n' blues percussion thrown in to boot. Most of the songs are Grade B love songs - with the exception of "Do You Feel It?" which is a Grade AA love song - or else songs about love-lost. But unlike Boston's incredible "More Than A Feeling," the Alessi's lyrics are secondary to their infectious music. They seem to be in the exact mainstream of the direction American pop music is taking, and no surprise if you start hearing a lot about them in the not too distant future.

H. Klein

"During all those thousands and thousands of years before our time, nature gave man the capacity to make many babies. Now, suddenly, she doesn't need them anymore. So I'm not surprised to see girls dressing like boys and boys dressing like girls."
R. Buckminster Fuller

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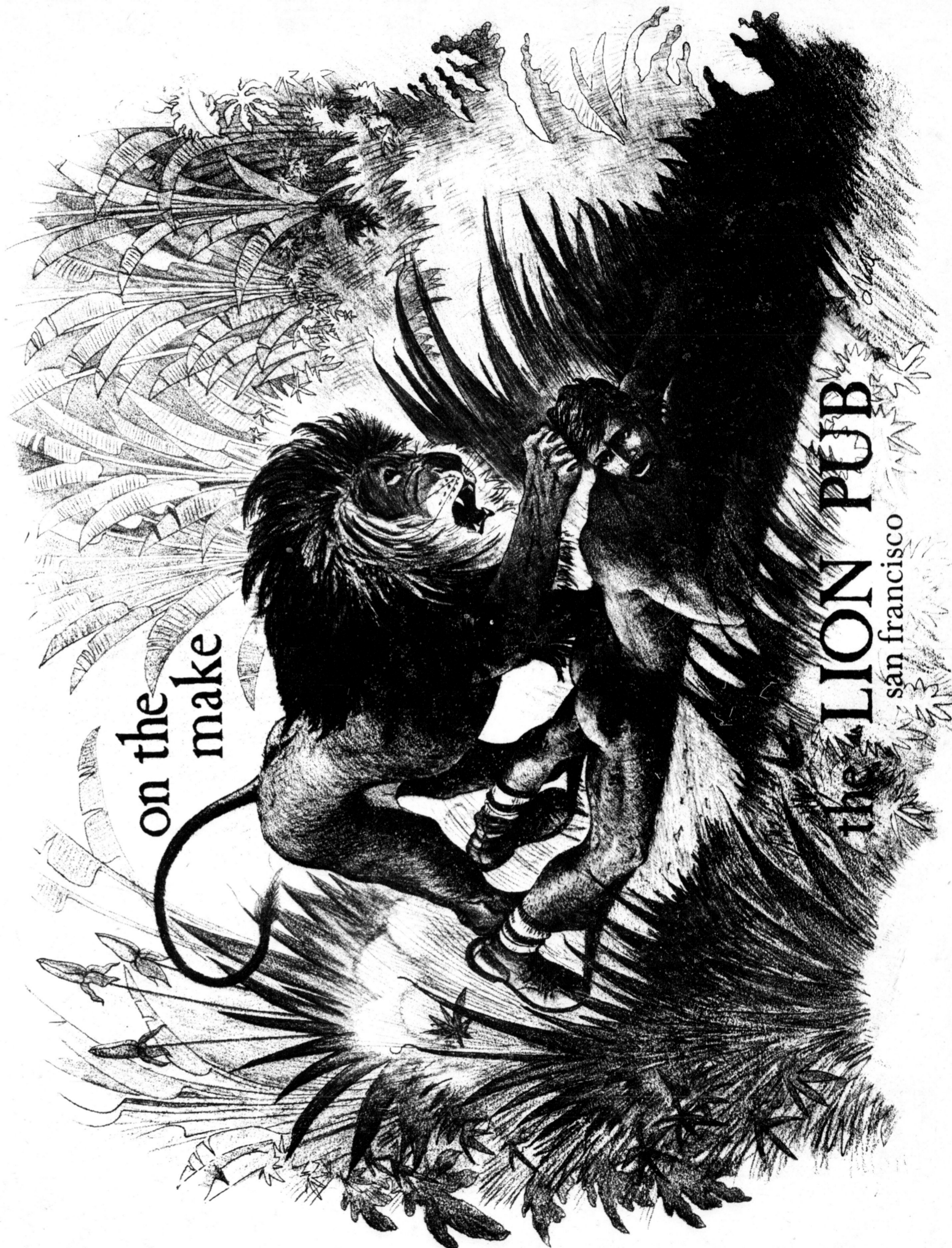
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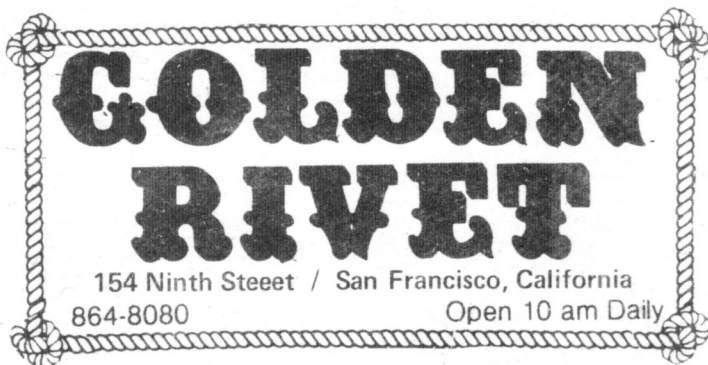
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