

The Ladder April 1962 50¢



urpose

A WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROMOTING THE INTEGRATION OF THE HOMOSEXUAL INTO SOCIETY BY:

- F-3 DEducation of the variant, with particular emphasis on the psychological, physiological and sociological aspects, to enable her to understand herself and make her adjustment to society in all its social, civic and economic implications -- this to be accomplished by establishing and maintaining as complete a library as possible of both fiction and non-fiction literature on the sex deviant theme; by sponsoring public discussions on pertinent subjects to be conducted by leading members of the legal, psychiatric, religious and other professions; by advocating a mode of behavior and dress acceptable to society.
- Education of the public at large through acceptance first of the individual, leading to an eventual breakdown of erroneous taboos and prejudices; through public discussion meetings aforementioned; through dissemination of educational literature on the homosexual theme.
- 13 Participation in research projects by duly authorized and responsible psychologists, sociologists and other such experts directed towards further knowledge of the homosexual.
- 4 Investigation of the penal code as it pertains to the homosexual, proposal of changes to provide an equitable handling of cases involving this minority group, and promotion of these changes through due process of law in the state legislatures.

the Ladder

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> THE LADDER is regarded as a sounding board for various points of view on the homophile and related subjects and does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the organization.

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MARCH AND APRIL COVERS BY KATHY ROGERS

Ten Years of History

Part II

"Ten Years of Homophile Responsibility and Leadership" was the theme of ONE's Mid-Winter Institute held this year in Los Angeles, January 26-28. This is a continuation of the Institute's proceedings as reported in the March issue of THE LADDER.

Martin Block, first chairman of ONE, presided over the festivities at the banquet which was held Saturday night at the Hotel Clark.

Geraldine Jackson, earliest woman staff member of ONE, spoke very well and to the point of the need for internal unity in our group. She also spoke movingly regarding her memories of the beginnings of the Mattachine and ONE in Los Angeles. Miss Jackson favors a return to the earliest concepts of the Mattachine Society. Her ideas on this are made more explicit in the January issue of ONE.

Sten Russel, editorial and corporation member of ONE, 1954-61, said, "I resigned from ONE as an associate editor and corporation member seven months ago, mainly due to great/policy differences between myself and the rest of the editors of ONE. It is dismally depressing to be a minority of one person most of the time."

"I am presently the vice-president of the Los Angeles Chapter of the Daughters of Bilitis, the Los Angeles reporter for THE LADDER, and...a Friend of ONE. I would say that I stand relatively in the position Henry Hay dscribed (in a recent issue of THE LADDER) as one of the Loyal Opposition to ONE," she continued.

Miss Russell went on to commend ONE on its existence for ten years, as had Mr. Donald Webster Cory earlier in the day. Despite great differences of opinion between the three main homophile organizations as to Homophile Ends and Human Means, she said she felt it a very important thing that many approaches to the problems of the Homophile Minority exist and move.... and be. "No one has the right answer for all homophiles or all people," Miss Russell declared. She said she would continue to support ONE because she felt the importance of ONE Magazine can never be minimized - no matter how great the idealogical differences between the various organizations.

TOWARD A RATIONAL APPROACH TO HOMOSEXUALITY

Donald Webster Cory, New York, author of "The Homosexual in America" was the main banquet speaker. He spoke of the changing attitudes of public opinion, and said that to understand homosexuality, one must understand the majority-minority dynamics of society. He asked for a "rational approach to homosexuality" on the part of hetero sexual and homosexual alike.

Society's approach of suppression of all sex acts not conducive to procreation and the approach that homosexuality was something to be "destroyed, condoned or encouraged" were all equally irrational, operating from irrational assumptions. Rather, society should be working toward furthering happy sexual relations.

"We should be going to the roots of the problem of homosexuality and not focusing all of our attention on the repressive attitude of society," Mr. Cory stated.

Society has disregarded its own responsibility of bringing forth so many unhappy people and has focused its attention on making them more unhappy, he said.

Mr. Cory said that the prevention of the development of homosexuality, to a greater or lesser degree, is desirable - not because the form of behavior is wrong, immoral nor because it has been defined as illegal - but because it is, for the most part, a development that is an outgrowth of many other problems that are hard to handle.

Mr. Cory said that the greatest difficulty for the homophile movement has been the "wall of silence", though there has been a tremendous break-through in these last 25 years. "We must put forth free interchange of opinion", he declared, and went on to say that truth must

have a value of its own, and not be just a tool to be distorted to our own end. There is distortion on both sides in research. Yet the irony is that truth is the only way either side will ever gain the end it wishes. There is a necessity for understanding attitudes towards other groups.

The homophile movement and society both should be concentrating on easing the problems of the homosexual rather than creating more. Mr. Cory spoke condemingly of the intolerance within the homosexual minority towards other minorities within itself. He gave as a case in point the prejudice and intolerance toward the extreme effeminates.

The roots of homosexuality are in our family system,
Mr. Cory believes. He said there should be more research
of homosexuality regarding family and social attitudes.
He mentioned the homosexual's futile copying of the heterosexual stereotype of marriage. This brought a murmur of assent from the audience. He drove home the point
of the great amount of self-inflicted guilt from the
failure to live up to the standards of another society.

There should be a re-evaluation of such standards, which are not necessarily good for heterosexuals, let alone homosexuals. Mechanically following such out-moded standards is a waste and expenditure of energy, and a romantic concept filled with absurd and ridiculous jealousies.

Mr. Cory took another tack and asked point-blank, "Is cure the dirtiest word in the English language?" Why is the homosexual so afraid? What does the homosexual mean when he says (as Don Slater had said earlier), "You don't send the heterosexual to be cured"? Mr. Cory countered this with his own statement, "You send the disturbed people, heterosexual or homosexual, to be cured."

In some cases, he further stated, it would be better if other problems could be worked out and leave the sexual orientation alone so there would not have to be a big sexual and social adjustment. "However, if this changes at the same time, then I am all for it. Heterosexual or

homosexual, in either case, it is damned hard to change, and then it is only a small percentage." Someone's being cured causes trouble for the movement because as it becomes known, society will put greater pressure on the rest. This makes it more difficult to explain that this is still not possible for the majority of homophiles.

Mr. Cory said that the homophile movement has done much good, but that there must be amity. He ended by saying that, "In this movement we are really founded upon the idea that is rational above all others, namely, that the worth of an individual and his own human dignity are in the person himself." He added, "Above all, we can be, in our own minds, human, dignified, and worthwhile beings."



Well, of course I'm butch - What do I look like?

IT CAN HAPPEN HERE

"THE CHILDREN'S HOUR" HAS MADE HEADLINES CLEAR ACROSS THE COUNTRY. THE GRITICS HAVE RAVED ABOUT WILLIAM WYLER'S MOVIE PRODUCTION, WHICH WAS BASED UPON THE PLAY WRITTEN IN 1935 BY LILLIAN HELLMAN.

THEY ALSO SEEM TO BE GENERALLY IN ACCORD THAT THE FILM IS OLD FASHIONED. THEY CONTEND THAT THE PLOT (SHOWING THE TRAGIC CON-SEQUENCES OF SCANDALOUS LIES, SPREAD BY A PSYCHOPATHIC CHILD ABOUT "UNNATURAL ACTS" BETWEEN TWO HEADMISTRESSES OF A PRIVATE SCHOOL) IS SOMEWHAT PREPOSTEROUS BECAUSE OF THE RADICAL CHANGE IN SOCIETY'S ATTITUDE TOWARD SUCH ABNORMALITIES. FURTHER THEY CLAIM THAT, WITH THE KINSEY REPORTS AND OTHER SOPHISTICATING IN-FLUENCES, IT HARDLY SEEMS POSSIBLE TODAY FOR TWO WOMEN'S LIVES TO BE WRECKED BY MALICIOUS GOSSIP OR FOR A GROUP OF WORLDLY MOTHERS TO PULL THEIR DAUGHTERS OUT OF A SCHOOL BECAUSE OF PANIC CREATED BY A CRACKPOT LITTLE GIRL OR FOR TWO SUPPOSEDLY INTELLIGENT SCHOOL TEACHERS (WHO PROBABLY HAD PSYCH | AND !! AND SEVERAL EDUCATION COURSES IN COLLEGE) TO BE SO NAIVE ABOUT THEIR SITUATION AND SO THROWN BY ADVERSITY OR FOR THE DOCTOR-FIANCE OF ONE OF THE WOMEN TO BELIEVE THE LIE AND WALK OUT ON HER OR FOR THE OTHER TEACHER, SUDDENLY REALIZING HER LOVE FOR THIS WOMAN, TO BELIEVE THAT THIS IS THE END OF THE WORLD FOR HER.

PREPOSTEROUS THEY SAY?

"THE TROUBLE WITH MOST OF THE CONTROVERSY ABOUT THE FILM IS THAT IT'S MISDIRECTED," STATES JAMES GARNER, THE MALE LEAD. "THE MAIN THEME IS THE POWER OF A LIE TO CAUSE HARM. THE GIRL WHO WHISPERS TO HER GRANDMOTHER ABOUT HER TEACHERS DOESN'T KNOW WHAT SHE'S TALKING ABOUT. SHE'S JUST FEELING HER WAY AND WATCHING THE REACTION."

"AND I DON'T THINK THE FILM'S DATED. IT'S ALL VERY WELL FOR CRITICS IN BIG CITIES TO SAY THAT WE'RE MORE ENLIGHTENED NOW AND THE TRAGEDY OF THE TWO GIRLS COULDN'T HAPPEN TODAY. I DISAGREE. GOSSIP IS JUST AS DESTRUCTIVE NOW AS IT EVER HAS BEEN, AND I'D BET THAT, IF SIMILAR RUMORS AFFECTED THESE SAWE CRITICS, THEY'D REACT IN THE MANNER SHOWN IN THE FILM," THE ACTOR DECLARED.

Biography of The Well'

BOOK REVIEW BY GENE DAMON

THE LIFE AND DEATH OF RADCLYFFE HALL BY LADY UNA VINCENZO TROUBRIDGE. LONDON, HAMMOND AND HAMMOND, LTD., 1961.

IN 1926, IN PARIS, RADCLYFFE HALL BEGAN TO WRITE THE WELL OF LONE-LINESS AND THUS INSURED CONTINUING INTEREST IN HER LIFE FOREVER AFTER.

NOW IN 1961, WE HAVE A COMPLETE UNEXPURGATED ACCOUNT OF HER ENTIRE LIFE, PERSONAL AS WELL AS LITERARY, WRITTEN BY HER LOVER OF THIRTY YEARS DURATION.

NEVER AGAIN WILL THERE BE ANY SPECULATION ABOUT STEPHEN'S IDENTITY, NOR ABOUT ANYONE ELSE IN THE FABULOUS "MELL".

THE INITIAL SHOCK TO THE WORLD OF LOVERS OF STEFHEN GORDON WILL BE THE INFORMATION THAT WARGUERITTE RADCLYFFE HALL WAS KNOWN BY ALL OF HER FRIENDS AS "JOHN" AND ONLY IN HER BOOKS AS RADCLYFFE HALL.

JOHN RADCLYFFE HALL'S LIFE VARIES FROM THE SEMI-FICTIONAL STEPHEN IN SOME RESPECTS. HER MOTHER WAS FAR MORE OF A MONSTER IN REAL LIFE AND HER FATHER, WHILE CHARMING, WAS AN ALCOHOLIC WOMAN CHASER. ANGELA - THE BITCH IN THE "WELL" - WAS IN REALITY A DISTANT COUSIN OF JOHN RADCLYFFE'S AND PLAYED A SIMILAR ROLE IN HER LIFE.

IT IS MADE MORE CLEAR THAT HER EARLY LIFE FROM SEVENTEEN UNTIL TWENTYSEVEN WAS THE LIFE OF A SPORTS-MINDED, FUN-LOVING HEDONIST. SHE
DRANK, SMOKED, MADE LOVE, HUNTED, AND RODE - AND LITTLE ELSE.
THEN IN 1907, SHE MET MABEL VERONICA BATTEN. JOHN RADCLYFFE WAS
TWENTY-SEVEN AND MRS. BATTEN A WIDOW OF FIFTY. MRS. BATTEN TOOK
HER IN HAND AND MADE A POLISHED SOCIAL PERSON OF HER AND DIRECTED
HER INTERESTS INTO LITERATURE, MUSIC AND THE ARTS. THEY WERE LOVERS AND CONSTANT COMPANIONS FOR EIGHT YEARS UNTIL MRS. BATTEN
(CALLED AFFECTIONATELY LADYE) DIED.

AT THIS JUNCTURE LADY UNA VINCENZO TROUBRIDGE ENTERS THE STORY.

SHE WAS A COUSIN OF LADYE AND HAD MET JOHN RADCLYFFE HALL DURING

THE LAST YEAR OF LADYE'S LIFE. THERE IS EVIDENCE THAT THEY WERE LOVER'S ALMOST AT ONCE. JOHN RADCLYFFE HALL WAS THIRTY-FOUR AND LADY TROUBRIDGE WAS THIRTY.

HERE THE BOOK TAKES ON SUCH A PERSONAL TONE AND IS SO BEAUTIFUL TO READ THAT IT BECOMES ALMOST AN AGONY FOR THE READER.

NO REVIEW CAN ADEQUATELY CONVEY THIS QUALITY, BUT THEIR LOVE WAS AS WILD AND WARM AND MELLOW AS MARY'S AND STEPHEN'S. FOR OF COURSE, IT IS THE SAME STORY - WITH ONE VERY IMPORTANT DIFFERENCE. HOW JOY-FUL TO KNOW THAT MARY NEVER LEFT STEPHEN IN REAL LIFE. THEY LIVED TOGETHER UNIL JOHN RADCLYFFE HALL DIED IN 1943.

LADY TROUBRIDGE DESCRIBES IN DETAIL THE HOW AND WHEN OF THE WRITING OF JOHN RADCLYFFE'S BOOKS AND OF THEIR JOURNEYS AND HOMES AND PETS AND FRIENDS. SHE SOLVES ALL THE MYSTERIES OF WHO WAS WHO IN THE WELL OF LONELINESS. VALERIE SEYMOUR, FOR INSTANCE, WAS NONE OTHER THAN NATALIE CLIFFORD BARNEY, RENEE VIVIEN'S EARLY LOVE.

SHE TELLS OF THE MYSTERIOUS DEDICATION, "OUR THREE SELVES", WHICH APPEARS IN MOST OF JOHN RADCLYFFE'S BOOKS. THE THREE ARE LADYE, UNA TROUBRIDGE - AND JOHN RADCLYFFE HERSELF.

ALL OF THIS AND MUCH MORE AWAITS THE READER OF THIS LOVELY BOOK.

IT IS WELL ILLUSTRATED WITH WONDERFUL, AND FOR THE MOST PART, UNKNOWN PHOTOGRAPHS OF JOHN RADCLYFFE. THERE ARE HILARIOUS STORIES
OF THEIR ADVENTURES TOGETHER - INTIMATE MOMENTS SHARED - HONESTLY,
BUT WITH TASTE.

IT IS, OF COURSE, A LOVE STORY AND BELONGS BESIDE THAT MONUMENTAL LESBIAN LOVE STORY, THE MELL OF LONELINESS, ON EVERY HOMOPHILIC BOOK SHELF. PERHAPS IT IS BEST TO CLOSE THIS REVIEW WITH THE NOTE JOHN RADCLYFFE HALL LEFT FOR LADY UNA TROUBRIDGE TO FIND AFTER HER DEATH - "GOD KEEP YOU UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN ... AND BELIEVE IN MY LOVE, WHICH IS MUCH, MUCH STRONGER THAN MERE DEATH...."

the tenth muse

THE LIFE AND DEATH OF RADCLYFFE HALL

By Lady Una Troubridge, London, 1961 - \$5.00

to order, write box 214, old chelsea station, new york 11

DOB CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

"POTENTIALS - THE LESBIAN IN SOCIETY" WILL BE THE THEME OF THE SECOND NATIONAL CONVENTION TO BE HELD IN HOLLYWOOD ON THE WEEK END OF JUNE 23-24, 1962.

REV. ROLLO BOAS OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH, APPEARING ON A PANEL WITH MEMBERS OF THE CLERGY FROM THE CATHOLIC AND JEWISH FAITHS, WILL SPEAK FROM THE RELIGIOUS POINT OF VIEW.

JESS STEARN, REPORTER AND AUTHOR OF THE SIXTH MAN, ALONG WITH RE-PRESENTATIVES FROM THE MEDIA OF TV, RADIO, MOVIES AND LITERATURE, WILL EXPLORE THE PROBLEMS INVOLVED IN PUBLICIZING THE HOMOSEXUAL THEME.

MRS. SUZANNE PROSIN, SAN FERNANDO STATE COLLEGE GRADUATE, WILL APPROACH THE THEME FROM THE STANDPOINT OF THE RESEARCHERS. SHE WILL PRESENT THE RESULTS OF HER RESEARCH ON SOCIOLOGICAL PAIRINGS, A STUDY OF 20 LESBIAN COUPLES WHO HAVE BEEN TOGETHER MORE THAN A YEAR. THE BASIS FOR HER STUDY IS THE QUESTION OF HOW THE LESBIAN MINORITY INTERACTS WITHIN ITSELF AND WITHIN SOCIETY.

THANE WALKER, DEAN OF THE PROSPEROS ACADEMY, IN HONOLULU, WILL BE THE BANQUET SPEAKER, WHO WILL PRESENT THE POINT OF VIEW OF THE PSYCHOANALYST. IT IS EXPECTED THE DR. WALKER WILL ANSWER THE CHALLENGE PRESENTED BY DR. RALPH H. GUNDLACH IN AN ARTICLE WHICH APPEARED IN THE JANUARY ISSUE OF THE LADDER ENTITLED "IN OPPOSITION TO DRS. WALKER AND BERGLER ON HOMOSEXUALITY". THE CONTROVERSY AROSE WHEN DR. GUNDLACH TOOK EXCEPTION TO SOME REWARKS CREDITED TO DR. WALKER IN THE LADDER'S COVERAGE OF THE MATTACHINE SOCIETY CONVENTION HELD IN SAN FRANCISCO LAST SEPTEMBER.

THOSE WHO EXPECT TO ATTEND THE CONVENTION IN JUNE ARE URGED TO MAKE THEIR RESERVATIONS AT ONCE. CAPACITY FOR THE LUNCHEON AND BANQUET IS LIMITED TO 150, AND TICKETS WILL GO ON A FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED BASIS. REGISTRATION FOR THE FULL PROGRAM ON SATURDAY, JUNE 23, INCLUDING THE LUNCHEON AND BANQUET WILL BE \$12.50. SEND THE FULL AMOUNT NOW - OR A \$5.00 DEPOSIT WILL INSURE YOUR RESERVATION - TO DOB NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS, 1232 MARKET ST., SUITE 108, SAN FRANCISCO 2, CALIFORNIA.

Employment for the Social Variant

"Solving the Problems of Employment for the Social Variant" was the theme of a talk by Charles Davis, head of the counselling section of the Southern California Division of the California Department of Employmen; before guests of the Hollywood Assistance League at its first anniversary celebration.

Mr. Davis stated that some of the major difficulties homosexuals have had in obtaining employment stemmed from their instability, of never being satisfied with a position and flying from job to job. Education for the desired position and more emotional stability were the things that the Department of Employment recommended. Flaunting of individual differences, including effeminancy, were mentioned as the objectionable qualities that employers had given for not hiring persons known to be homosexuals.

Persons afflicted with alcoholic problems frequently had poor attendance records and could not face up to the stress and tension periods. For the person with a prison record, Mr. Davis thought the solution lay in finding employers who will accept parolees even though fully aware of their past records. So many people with prison records have lost their jobs when it was discovered they hadn't been honest with their employers and had withheld information on their past records.

Mr. Davis stated that his department had been dedicated to finding employment for various types of social variants whenever they could search out understanding employers.

The anniversary celebration also featured entertainment with a popular artist performing to the initimate and exciting voice of Judy Garland as background. The event broke all attendance records for the League.

For information concerning future events, speakers, parties, committee meeting and discussion groups, write to the Hollywood Assistance League, P.O. Box 29048, Hollywood 29, California

DOB Book Service Presents-

A FIRST

In Publishing History

THE HOMOSEXUAL REVOLUTION BY R. E. L. MASTERS

What is a homosexual? What is homosexuality? Whether or not you approve of homosexuality, these are questions that directly concern you, since today homosexuals constitute a large section of our population and some of them are organizing as a voting block with a potentional strength of 12 million. If these figures and facts are in any way reliable, you are going to have to learn to live with homosexuals. History demonstrates that society cannot deal intelligently with a minority in its midst unless reliable information concerning the minority group is readily available. On no other basis can we take steps to prevent conflicts between the minority and the dominant majority, and to lessen the bitterness and destructiveness of such conflicts when they occur.

Surely this oriterion applies to homosexuals as to other minority groups beside whom we are learning to live with ever diminishing friction. In fact, the special nature of the problems posed by homosexuality calls for an even firmer background of facts, figures, and informed opinion than those of racial and religious minorities.

For too long a time homosexuals have been laughed at as freaks, their civil rights have been ignored, and they have been the butt of innumerable brutal and uncivilized attacks even by those whom society has appointed custodians of law and order. That time is now definitely over,

and a more civilized approach must be taken if anything like a "solution" is ever to be achieved.

Today homosexuals are employed in almost every walk of life. They teach in our schools, they share our religious laws and beliefs, they participate in shaping out foreign policies, our code of ethics, the various entertainment and communication media, etc. Under these circumstances is it wise that we continue to class all homosexuals indiscriminately as criminals, to treat them with open scorn, to allow unprovoked attacks on them to go unpunished, to hand them over as easy prey to the sadist and the blackmailer?

THE HOMOSEXUAL REVOLUTION is the first book ever published that offers an objective discussion and analysis of both the homosexual cults and secret societies of the past and the homophile movement as it exists today - in the United States and throughout the world. It presents scientific data concerning the origins and nature of homosexuality and its therapy. It estimates the number of inverts in the United States and elsewhere, and the educational levels and social development of the different types who comprise the total. It examines the goals and directions of the various sections. It shows how police violations of the civil rights of homosexuals provoke, not surprisingly, anti-social attitudes in their victims.

For the above reasons, and many more, and in the light of the emerging goals - legal political, social - sought by this large and increasingly vocal percentage of our population, this new book is must reading for every thinking citizen.

Price of this outstanding book is \$5.95. Publication date is May 29, 1962. Orders received prior to publication will not require a handling charge. A 20c handling charge will be assessed on orders received thereafter. ORDER YOUR COPY NOW!

the Ladder by the Daughters of Biliti

is regarded as a sounding board for various points of view on the homophile and related subjects

\$4 per year

BY THE SAME AUTHOR-

SEXUAL BEHAVIOR AND MORALITY

This is the only book in the English language which examines objectively present-day "forbidden" sexual practices in different cultures and the morality governing them, based on the wealth of scientific data made available in this century. The philosophical studies and psychological reserach of the author, R. E. L. Masters, as they relate to sexual behavior and to a more sane and sensible sex code, have also been published in Europe and Latin America. The book contains a bibliography and indes.

Price for this excellent study is \$9.50. Publication is expected in April or May. Orders received through May will not require a handling charge. A 25c handling charge will be assessed thereafter. DON'T MISS THIS PROVOCATIVE BOOK!

HOMOSEXUALITY

This pioneering new study of homosexuality represents the first systematic investigation of the crucial factors in the origins, developments and potential treatability of the male homosexual. The study embodies the collaborative offorts of 77 psychoanalysts, all members of the Society of Medical Psychoanalysts. The data covers the psychoanalytic findings of 206 men - 106 homosexual males and a comparison group of 100 hetrosexual males.

Male homosexuality, the study notes, is the result of parental psychopathology transmitted to the child through the parent-child relationships and the family dynamics which such parents influence. The type of mother-son relationship which favors the development of male homosexuality is documented in detail.

The personality profile of the homosexual that emerges from the study casts doubt upon several current theories, including genetic predisposition. Also, the study provides evidence that homosexuality is reversible, even in

adult life, through psychoanalytic intervention, especially for those homosexuals who are motivated to change.

This exhaustive study of male homosexuality is priced at \$8.50. All orders should include a 25c handling charge. This book will be of extreme value to the professional!

CHRIST AND THE HOMOSEXUAL

Without mincing words, Rev. Wood becomes the first member if the clergy to offer a way for homosexuals to enter the Christian community and join the Church, yet remain homosexuals without fear or guilt or apology. All aspects of homosexuality in its relation to community and church are forthrightly discussed. \$3.95, 20c handling.

SYMPOSIUM ON 'SEX OFFENSES'

This special issue of LAW AND CONTEMPORARY PROBLEMS published by the Duke University School of Law examines the problem of "sex offenses" from the varied points of view of the law, anthropology, ethics, sociology, and medicine. This scholarly study is priced at \$2.50, 15c handling.

In California add has sales tax.

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The Photograph

Jan stood for a moment watching the fog blow in from the ocean before she pulled the drapes to close it out. She came to the fireplace, stirred up the fire and tossed another log on the grate. Then with a sigh she sank into her favorite chair, opened her book and started to read. She was faintly aware of the sound of Lesley in the bedroom getting ready to attend her meeting and the snapping of the log on the fire.

The peace was shattered by the ringing of the telephone in the hall.

"I'll get it," Lesley called out. Jan was vaguely aware of the murmur of her voice, then Lesley appeared in the doorway.

"It's for you, honey. Nancy. I'm afraid it sounds as though your evening of reading will have to be post-poned. I'm off," she added. "See you about ten."

Jan came to the door and kissed her good-bye. "Be careful, gal, the fog's pretty thick," she warned.

She heard the door click after Lesley, then picked up the phone.

"Hello, Nancy," she said. "Sorry to keep you waiting. Lesley was just leaving, so I had to bid her a fond farewell, you know. What's new with you?"

"Jan, I've got to talk to you. Could I come over for a few minutes?" Her voice sounded disturbed.

"Of course, honey. Come along. I'll put the coffee pot on."

"Thanks a million, Jan. I'll be there in ten minutes."

In a few minutes the front door bell rang. Jan let Nancy in, took her jacket and led her in by the fire.

"Sit down, Nancy," she said. "I'll get the coffee."

Jan returned in a few minutes with a tray, two mugs and coffee in the coffee warmer. She set them on a low table near the fire, poured two mugs and turned toward Nancy.

Nancy was huddled forward in the chair, staring into the fire, with a look so bleak and hopeless that Jan was shocked.

"Nancy!" Jan exclaimed. "Whatever is wrong? Here, take your coffee and tell me about it." She pulled her own chair facing Nancy and sat, waiting.

"It's Phyl," Nancy said, finally. "She's found some one else."

"Oh, Nancy, you must be mistaken. You two have been together a long time."

I know, Jan. I thought things would go on forever this way. Seems as though I was wrong," she answered.

"Want to tell me about it?" Jan asked softly.

"Yes. That's why I came, but now that I'm here, I don't know how to start. There are so many little signs that pointed that way, but I guess I was just too dumb to see them." She was silent for a while, sipping her coffee and staring into the fire. Jan said nothing, but waited quietly for Nancy to tell her story in her own way.

Finally Nancy continued, "It all started this spring, I think, when Phyl wanted to take the night school courses in typing and shorthand. I tried going with her for a while, as you know. Then with my job and keeping house, it was just too much. I was too tired to sit two hours a night, two nights a week, in a class."

"But, Nancy, I'm sure Phyl understood that. She was always protesting that you did too much," Jan interrupted.

"Yes. She did understand that part. It was okay that I dropped out. I got in the habit of finishing up at home, then going to meet her at the coffee shop. We would have coffee, then come home together."

She was silent again, so Jan got up and re-filled their cups. When she was seated, Nancy sighed and began again.

"A comple of months ago, she brought a girl from one of her classes to have coffee with us. Her name is Anne Something-or-other. I never thought too much about it, Jan, at the time. But Phyl began to be moody and the only time she was her old self was on class night. Finally, she suggested I not come to meet her, pretending it was concern for me and that I should be in bed getting my rest."

"What did you do?" Jan asked gently after so long a silence that she began to wonder if Nancy was going to continue.

"Oh, oh yes." Nancy seemed to shake herself from her reverie. "I was thinking about the few times I saw Anne.
Well, naturally, I didn't go to meet Phyl. She kept coming in later and later...and...Jan," her voice broke. "I know she's going to leave me...for Anne...What shall I do? I...I wouldn't be any good without Phyl."

"Tell me about Anne," Jan said. "What's she like?"

"Well, she's a blond, like me. Very feminine. She had on a blue wool skirt and white sweater the last time I saw her. Blue earrings and bracelet. Oh, Jan," Nancy broke off, "she's really very lovely. I don't blame Phyl."

"Nonsense," said Jan. There was the beginning of an idea stirring in her mind. "Wait here a moment. I'll be right back. I think I can find what I want in a few minutes."

Nancy was aware of Jan's leaving her, but not of the passing of time. Her mind was still on the last time she had seen Anne. On her beauty, her vivaciousness, her sparkling, breathless way of speaking to Phyl. And Phyl... "Oh, Phyl," she thought, "How you responded!"

She started suddenly when she realized Jan was standing in front of her. Jan was holding out a photograph.

"Did she look something like this, Nancy?"

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I know, Jan. I thought things would go on forever this way. Seems as though I was wrong," she answered.

"Want to tell me about it?" Jan asked softly.

"Yes. That's why I came, but now that I'm here, I don't know how to start. There are so many little signs that pointed that way, but I guess I was just too dumb to see them." She was silent for a while, sipping her coffee and staring into the fire. Jan said nothing, but waited quietly for Nancy to tell her story in her own way.

Finally Nancy continued, "It all started this spring, I think, when Phyl wanted to take the night school courses in typing and shorthand. I tried going with her for a while, as you know. Then with my job and keeping house, it was just too much. I was too tired to sit two hours a night, two nights a week, in a class."

"But, Nancy, I'm sure Phyl understood that. She was always protesting that you did too much," Jan interrupted.

"Yes. She did understand that part. It was okay that I dropped out. I got in the habit of finishing up at home, then going to meet her at the coffee shop. We would have coffee, then come home together."

She was silent again, so Jan got up and re-filled their cups. When she was seated, Nancy sighed and began again.

"A comple of months ago, she brought a girl from one of her classes to have coffee with us. Her name is Anne Something-or-other. I never thought too much about it, Jan, at the time. But Phyl began to be moody and the only time she was her old self was on class night. Finally, she suggested I not come to meet her, pretending it was concern for me and that I should be in bed getting my rest."

"What did you do?" Jan asked gently after so long a silence that she began to wonder if Nancy was going to continue.

"Oh, oh yes." Nancy seemed to shake herself from her reverie. "I was thinking about the few times I saw Anne. Well, naturally, I didn't go to meet Phyl. She kept coming in later and later...and...Jan," her voice broke. "I know she's going to leave me...for Anne...What shall I do? I...I wouldn't be any good without Phyl."

"Tell me about Anne," Jan said. "What's she like?"

"Well, she's a blond, like me. Very feminine. She had on a blue wool skirt and white sweater the last time I saw her. Blue earrings and bracelet. Oh, Jan," Nancy broke off, "she's really very lovely. I don't blame Phyl."

"Nonsense," said Jan. There was the beginning of an idea stirring in her mind. "Wait here a moment. I'll be right back. I think I can find what I want in a few minutes."

Nancy was aware of Jan's leaving her, but not of the passing of time. Her mind was still on the last time she had seen Anne. On her beauty, her vivaciousness, her sparkling, breathless way of speaking to Phyl. And Phyl...
"Oh, Phyl," she thought, "How you responded!"

She started suddenly when she realized Jan was standing in front of her. Jan was holding out a photograph.

"Did she look something like this, Nancy?"

Nancy took the photograph questioningly and glanced at it.

"Why, yes, as a matter of fact she..." Nancy broke off and stared at the picture. "Why, that's..."

"Ye's, Nancy. It's you. Taken five years ago when Phyl first brought you to a party here. You had just met. She was so proud of her 'lovely lady', as she called you."

Nancy raised stricken eyes to Jan, then getting upslowly, she went to stand in front of the mirror at the end
of the room. The girl who stared back at her was iressed in an unbecoming pair of tight jeans, an old sweat
shirt of faded yellow with a red plaid shirt over it. Her
hair was cut in the straggling Italian way, completely
unsuitable to the round, feminine face underneath it.
She wore heavy oxfords and was a good ten pounds heavier
than the girl whose face smiled out at her from the picture. That girl's hair was short, too, but softly
curled and brushed up, forming a halo around her face.
She wore a white low-necked blouse and a full peasant
skirt and white pumps. A string of beads and earrings
completed a lovely picture.

Presently, Nancy came back to her chair and sank down. "So that's it." she murmured.

"Yes, dear. I think so," said Jan. "I think Phyl really loves you. She's just looking for the girl she used to have. Her 'lovely lady'."

They were silent a while. Jan got up and replenished the fire. Finally, Nancy stirred.

"What can I do, Jan? I can't shed those extra pounds overnight and my hair is too short to do anything with for a while. By then, it will be too late."

"I think we can get some curl in your hair," Jan answered, thoughtfully. "And you're a good seamstress. To-morrow is Saturday. We can go buy some materials. You can run up a full skirt in an afternoon and I can give you a permanent in between times. Tomorrow is Phyl's Saturday to work, isn't it?"

"Yes. Oh, Jan, do you really think it will work?"

"We can try. I'm sure it will. We can have a little party here tomorrow night. The new permanent and a new skirt, jewelry, perfurme...the 'works'...it will give us a start."

"Oh, Jan! You're wonderful! How can I ever thank you?"
Nancy exclaimed.

"Don't try," Jan smiled. "These things happen sometimes without our quite knowing how. It happened to me, too."

"Not you!" Nancy's shocked voice protested. She looked at Jan who was dressed in black velvet lounging pants with a green and gold manderin jacket buttoned up to her throat. Her long, dark hair came nearly to her shoulders and she wore a pair of dangling, green jade earrings. On her feet were slippers of embroidered black velvet.

"Yes. Me, too, Nancy." Jan smiled. Then, talking seriously for a moment, she continued.

"We who are 'new' to gay life so often make that mistake, Nancy. In our eagerness to conform, to be a part of the group, to be like our wonderful, confident, masculine sisters, we forget that it takes the masculine and feminine principle to make the balance just as it does in any kind of life...gay or otherwise. We forget we are chosen, or to put it more accurately, we are attracted by the masculine principle on the one hand...or the feminine..as the case may be. We forget..or maybe we don't know..but the polarity between the male and female principle exists within every man and every woman.

"Man or woman finds union within himself only in the union of his female or male polarity. This polarity is the basis for all creativity. When we try to become like our loved ones in dress, manner or speech, we upset that polarity. It's as though we had two positive currents or two negative ones. Nothing sparks. Nothing happens. We are only pretending when we try to be something else.

"Our real self hasn't changed, but our partner doesn't know that. She must start looking again for the spark...

the balance that allows the creative principle to work freely.

"There are many books on the subject, Nancy," she waved a hand at the book case. "I'll loan you a couple. Then on your way, girl," Jan said affectionately. We have lots to do tomorrow."

After Nancy left, Jan stood thoughtfully gazing into the fire, a piece of newspaper in her hand. When she heard Lesley's key in the door, she dropped the bit of paper on the fire and watched the flames curl around the tall model in the ad, dressed in immaculately tailored slacks. As Lesley appeared in the door, the flames licked around the neatly printed name, Miss Janice Hale, on the order blank beneath the picture.

"Hi, darling," Lesley called. "What are you doing? Burning secrets?"

Jan laughed and she started across the room toward her.

"Not exactly, my dearest. You might call it a burnt offering to love."

-by Gail Williams

Coming in Future Issues

"The Dare of the Future" is the title of DOB's rebuttal and commentary on the trends of the homophile movement, as exemplified in the March and April reports of THE LADDER entitled "Ten Years of History", and will be featured in the May issue. This will be followed in the June DOB Convention issue with a declaration of DOB philosophy and policy.

THE HOMOSEXUAL REVOLUTION, a new and outstanding book by R.E.L. Masters, will be reviewed at length. See page 13 for this month's introduction. Also to be reviewed in future issues will be HOMOSEXUALITY, a searching study of male homosexuality by the research committee of the Society of Medical Psychoanalysts, and SEXUAL BEHAVIOR AND MORALITY, also by R.E.L. Masters.

Here and There

AUTHORITIES IN GRADY, ARKANSAS, WERE FACED WITH AN UNUSUAL LEGAL PROBLEM RECENTLY. A 29-YEAR OLD "MAN" SENTENCED TO PRISON FOR BIGAMY TURNED OUT TO BE A WOMAN.

THE WOMAN, USING THE NAME OF DAVID REGINALD VAN RIPPY, WAS DISCOVERED WHEN "HE" CHECKED IN AT CUMMINS PRISON FARM AND WAS GIVEN A PHYSICAL EXAMINATION. ARKANSAS AUTHORITIES WERE CONFOUNDED BY THE FACT THAT IT APPEARED IMPOSSIBLE UNDER ARKANSAS LAW FOR A WOMAN TO COMMIT BIGAMY BY MARRYING TWO OTHER WOMEN.

THE SECOND "WIFE" SWORE OUT A BIGAMY WARRANT THAT BROUGHT ABOUT THE ARREST AND CONVICTION. MONROE COUNTY PROSECUTOR BILLIE LEE SAID, THE SECOND "WIFE", HAD TOLD HIM SHE HAD NOT KNOWN HER HUSBAND WAS A WOMAN. THE FIRST "WIFE" AND THE PRISONER HAD TWO ADOPTED CHILDREN. THE FIRST "WIFE" AND THE CHILDREN NOW ARE LIVING IN TEXAS.

FROM "TOP OF THE NEWS" BY PAUL THOMPSON, A FRONT PAGE COLUMN IN THE SAN ANTONIO EXPRESS:

* * * * *

"THERE ARE SO MANY HOMOSEXUALS IN SAN ANTONIO THAT THE CITY, IN MILITARY CIRCLES, IS KNOWN AS 'FAIRYLAND, U.S.A.'"

POLICE CAPTAIN G.E. MATHENY MADE THAT STATEMENT AT A MEETING OF ALAMO KIWANIS CLUB. HE SAID AFTERWARDS, "I BROUGHT UP THE SUBJECT BECAUSE HOMOSEXUALS DO A LOT OF RECRUITING AMONG BOYS, AND THE PROBLEM GETS BIGGER EVERY DAY."

THE CAPTAIN IS OF THE OPINION THAT AS A MILITARY TOWN WITH THOUSANDS OF MEN MOVING IN AND OUT, SAN ANTONIO DRAWS MORE THAN ITS
FAIR SHARE OF LIMP-WRISTED CAMP FOLLOWERS. THE TOTAL NUMBER OF
HOMOSEXUALS KEEPS GOING UP. HE REFUSED TO SPECULATE ON JUST WHAT
THE TOTAL WOULD BE AT THIS POINT.

"SEX PERVERSION IS LIKE DOPE - ONCE HOOKED IT'S TOO LATE TO CHANGE.
THE WHOLE THING IS PSYCHOLOGICAL," MATHENY SAID. "WHEN THE PATTERN
IS ESTABLISHED, JUVENILES FIND IT ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO THINK OF SEX
ANY OTHER WAY. AND THEN LATER ON, THEY DO THEIR OWN RECRUITING."

MATHENY SAID OF LAW ENFORCEMENT, "WE CAN'T BOTHER KNOWN ADULT HO-MOSEXUALS WHEN THEY TRAVEL TOGETHER IN LAW-ABIDING FASHION. WE GET TIPS ALL THE TIME AND ME KNOW THE 'WHO'S WHO' BY HEART, BUT OUR HANDS ARE TIED UNLESS WE CATCH THEM SOLICITING - AND THAT ISN'T EASY. THE THING IS GETTING TO BE A GRAVE PROBLEM."

HOMOSEXUALS GIVE POLICE TROUBLE IN STILL OTHER WAYS. WATHENY TOLD OF THE WAIN ONE: "YOUNG TOUGH GUYS WILL LURE THEM ON, ROLL THEM AND BEAT THEM UP. OLDER MEN HAVE POSED AS DETECTIVES TO SHAKE DOWN HOMOSEXUALS, WHO WON'T REPORT IT TO US. WANY OF THESE PERVERTS ARE VERY TALENTED, INTELLIGENT AND HOLD GOOD JOBS. THEY ARE AN INVITING TARGET FOR SHAKE-DOWN ARTISTS."

MATHENY MENT ON TO SAY THE QUESTION OF WHAT TO DO ABOUT A FAST-GROWING HOMOSEXUAL POPULATION NETTLES POLICE ALL OVER THE COUN-TRY, NOT JUST IN SAN ANTONIO. THE COPS ARE SYMPATHETIC UP TO A POINT, HE SAID, BUT WHEN NORMAL MALES ARE ACCOSTED IN PUBLIC REST ROOMS, WHEN RECRUITMENT GOES ON AMONG JUVENILES, THAT'S WHEN THE POLICE MOVE IN.

UNFORTUNATELY, HE CONCLUDED, IT'S HARD TO CONVICT THE SOLICITING HOWOSEXUAL, AND SUCH FEW AS DO NOT SUCCEED IN BEATING THE RAP ARE USUALLY OUT OF JAIL AND BACK ON THE PROWL IN A MATTER OF MONTHS.

* * * * *

PERTINENT TO SOME OF CAPTAIN NATHENY'S VIEWS ON POLICE PROBLEMS INVOLVING HOMOSEXUALITY IS THE MOVIE, "VICTIM", WHICH HAS JUST RE-CENTLY APPEARED ON THE SCENE.

SOME VERY TICKLISH PROBLEMS ARE POSED IN "VICTIM", AN ENGLISH FILM DEALING WITH HOMOSEXUALS WHO ARE THE PREY OF BLACKMAILERS. IF THE MCVIE WEREN'T SO WELL MADE, IT COULD EASILY BECOME JUST ANOTHER EXCURSION IN SENSATIONALISM, BUT THE PRODUCER AND THE SCRIPT WRITERS WERE CONCERNED NOT SO MUCH WITH THE MORALITY OR THE PSYCHOLOGICAL STEPS LEADING TO THE BEHAVIOR OF HOMOSEXUALS AS WITH THOSE WHOSE ABERRATION MAKES THEM THE VICTIMS OF CROOKS.

"VICTIM" IS NOT A FILM FOR YOUNG PEOPLE, BUT NEITHER HAS IT BEEN DESIGNED TO ATTRACT SENSATION SEEKERS. IN SPITE OF ITS FRANKNESS AND THE OCCASIONAL BITTER STATEMENTS MADE BY THE BLACKMAILERS' VICTIMS, THE SUBJECT IS NOT TREATED WITH FLAMBOYANCE.

"HOMOSEXUALS GO TO MOVIES JUST TO SEE SHOWS . . . THEY'RE BORED SILLY AND HAVE NOTHING BETTER TO DO."

THIS STATEMENT WAS MADE BY DR. ROBERT E. STOLTZ, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF PSYCHOLOGY AT SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY, AT THE \$LOSING SESSION OF THE THREE-DAY INSTITUTE ON JUVENILE DELINQUENCY AT THE UNIVERSITY.

DR. STOLTZ CONTENDED THAT CERTAIN MOVIES AND LITERATURE CANNOT BE HANDED THE BLAME FOR SENDING A JUVENILE INTO A SEX CRIME. "THERE IS NO EVIDENCE THAT MOVIES OR BOOKS STIMULATE CRIMES. THEY MAY BE CONTRIBUTORY, BUT THEY AREN'T CAUSAL."

AN UNIDENTIFIED MATRON TOOK EXCEPTION TO ALL THIS AND, GAINING THE FLOOR, STATED THAT SEXUAL DEVIATES HAVE A GREAT LOVE FOR MOVIES. DR. STOLTZ DENIED THIS.

"THEIR RATE OF MOVIE-GOING IS NO GREATER THAN THAT OF ANY OTHER CONTROL GROUP," HE SHOT BACK. "NOR DO THEY SPECIALIZE IN MOVIES THAT APPEAL TO PRURIENT (LEWD) INTERESTS. THEY JUST GO TO KILL TIME. ABOLISH MOVIES AND YOU'VE GOT TO ABOLISH ALL CONVERSATION IN THE POOL ROOM AND AT THE CORNER GARAGE AND ALL GATHERINGS IN A CORNER OF THE SCHOOL YARD."

"I'M VERY, VERY DISAPPOINTED," THE MATRON COMPLAINED AS SHE HASTILY QUIT THE MEETING, SPONSORED BY THE SOUTHWESTERN LAW ENFORCEMENT INSTITUTE.

LADDER READERS WILL DEFINITELY WANT TO SEE THE MOVIE, "A WALK ON THE WILD SIDE", WHICH HAS BEEN ADAPTED FROM NELSON ALGREN'S NOVEL.

BARBARA STANWYCK PLAYS JO COURTNEY, A CLEARLY RECOGNIZABLE LESBIAN WHO LOVES HALLIE (PLAYED BY CAPUCINE). THE ENTIRE PLOT REVOLVES AROUND THE ATTEMPT OF DOVE LINKHORN (PLAYED BY LAURENCE HARVEY) TO TAKE CAPUCINE AWAY FROM STANWYCK.

THERE ARE MANY PERTINENT SCENES BETWEEN THE WOMEN INCLUDING A FEW "LONG DRINK" LOOKS BY STANWYCK. THERE ARE ALSO DIALOGUE INTERCHANGES WHICH ARE CLEAR ENOUGH TO BRING AUDIBLE DEROGATORY MURMURS FROM A THEATER AUDIENCE.

A RATHER STARTLING BIT OF INFORMATION SENT IN BY GENE DAMON, WHO HAS READ THE BOOK, IS THE FACT THAT ALGREN'S NOVEL DOES NOT CONTAIN EVEN A SUGGESTION OF LESBIANISM. THE WHORE HOUSE "MADAM" IS AN ENTIRELY DIFFERENT TYPE OF PERSON. IN THE MOVIE THE ENTIRE PLOT DEPENDS ON THE RIVALRY BETWEEN JO COURTNEY, THE LESBIAN, AND DOVE, THE MAN, FOR THE LOVE OF HALLIE. IN THE BOOK THERE IS NO JO COURTNEY AT ALL. IT WOULD APPEAR THAT THE MOVIE MAKERS HAVE REACHED A NEW ERA!

Help Wanted! Writers _

THE LADDER IS UNDER ATTACK AGAIN!

THE QUALITY OF THE PROSE AND POETRY LEAVES MUCH TO BE DESIRED, ACCORDING TO R.E. L. MASTERS, AUTHOR OF THE HOMOSEXUAL REVOLUTION, WHO TAKES UP WHERE ANN ALDRICH LEFT OFF IN HER BOOK, CAROL IN A THOUSAND CITIES (COPIES OF WHICH ARE STILL AVAILABLE FROM THE DOB BOOK SERVICE FOR 50¢ AND 10¢ HANDLING).

WE'VE BEEN BLASTED BY THE EXPERTS AND PRAISED BY THE NON-EXPERT, BUT THE FACT REMAINS THAT WE CAN ONLY PUBLISH THOSE MANUSCRIPTS WHICH ARE MADE AVAILABLE TO US. THE PROFESSIONAL WRITERS ARE IN BUSINESS FOR THEMSELVES TO EARN A LIVING, AND WRITING FOR THE LADDER IS NOT A PAYING PROPOSITION.

WE EARNESTLY SOLICIT MATERIAL FOR THE LADDER WHICH WILL MEET THE SPECIFICATIONS OF THE EDUCATED AND SOPHISTICATED. THE OTHER TYPE OF MATERIAL WE HAVE ON HAND - IN QUANTITY.

PLEASE! WILL SOME ONE COME TO THE RESCUE?

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