

THE LADDER

november '62

50¢



purpose of the *Daughters of* **BILITIS**

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

- ① Education 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.
- ② 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.
- ③ 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.

contents

MATTACHINE CONFERENCE	
A DECADE OF PROGRESS IN THE HOMOPHILE MOVEMENT.....	4
CHANGING ATTITUDES TOWARD HOMOSEXUALITY.....	8
HERE AND THERE.....	10
AND ON THE OTHER HAND - A STORY BY MARGARET IVES.....	12
A TRIBUTE TO A FRIEND.....	14
MOOD MISCELLANEA.....	16
MASCULINE VIEWPOINT - YOU KNOW, A STORY BY ERIC CASHEN.....	21
LESBIANA BY GENE DAMON.....	23
READERS RESPOND.....	24

COVER BY ANNE B.

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A Decade of Progress in the Homophile Movement

The afternoon session of the Mattachine Conference held at the Jack Tar Hotel in San Francisco on August 25th was devoted to a discussion of "A Decade of Progress in the Homophile Movement" from the point of view of research, the law and government employment.

Because Dr. Evelyn Hooker, research associate in psychology at the University of California at Los Angeles, spoke informally about her research project and not from a prepared paper, she requested that her remarks be omitted from any news report.

Marshall Krause, staff counsel for the American Civil Liberties Union in San Francisco, spoke from the point of view of the law. In his opening remarks he suggested that what unifies a group that calls themselves homosexuals might well be persecution - persecution on various levels, from the outright to the more subtle.

"It is very rare that any homosexual does not run into some such persecution," he said.

People have indignantly asked why the state has the right to regulate private, voluntary sexual conduct, but it must be remembered, Mr. Krause pointed out, that some behavior is harmful regardless of consent. He referred to incest, prostitution, arousing children, bigamy, public indecency.

As to what is accepted morally in the community, Mr. Krause said that in every direction there was the pressure of conformity. "The deviate - whether political, social or moral - will run into trouble."

But patterns of behavior are constantly changing, and what was once not acceptable may become acceptable, he added.

Mr. Krause admitted that so-called sexual crimes on the statute books apply to both heterosexual and homosexual

alike, but in practice are more often applied to the homosexual, as in the case of oral copulation.

As to obscenity and what is acceptable, Mr. Krause stated that the law is in a great state of unrest in this area. In the case of the physique magazines it was difficult to get the Appellate Court to look at the evidence, considering the material to be appealing to the prurient interest of a narrow group. There were two Justices, however, who did voice the opinion that the magazines were not considered obscene. But the case was finally decided on another issue - that the Post Office Department had no right to censor - and was not decided on the obscenity issue.

Mr. Krause said that the American Civil Liberties Union had to assume that the legislators have the right to legislate on behavior the public believes wrong. The only civil liberties question is that of equal protection. The laws are not always equally enforced, and homosexuals can not be treated differently from heterosexuals in his opinion. And this is a problem which deserves consideration, he said.

There has been expansion of protection from illegal search and seizure (evidence secured illegally cannot be introduced in any court of the land without violation of the United States Constitution) in the recent California Supreme Court decision that peepholes used by the police in public toilets "without reason to believe that illegal conduct is taking place" is clearly a violation of privacy.

Certainly the dragnet procedure of raiding "gay bars" is legally questionable, according to Mr. Krause. It is an impossibility for the police to know what 100 people are doing at a given time and place, he said, and it is not a crime to be in a gay bar. Nor is association with homosexual people a crime, he added.

The abuse is not in the way the law is drafted, Mr. Krause observed, but in the way it is enforced. There is a certain amount of prejudice in the police department and advantage taken of those who may plead guilty in order not to be embarrassed by possible publicity.

There is also concern for those people who have a homo-

sexual history and who have held government jobs and been fired for immoral conduct and also for those in the armed services who have some accusation made against them, Mr. Krause said. The threat of exposure, even though there is little evidence, forces many to succumb without exercising their rights. One's homosexuality has nothing to do with the job he is doing, Mr. Krause declared.

"Your rights as a minority will not be protected until you get up and fight for them," he concluded.

Richard Schlagel, researcher from the American University in Washington, D. C., spoke on "Armed forces and Government Employment" and pointed to the distinction between our 50 state governments and the Federal government in our constitutional system. He emphasized that those powers not specifically delegated to the Federal government are relegated to the state governments.

The Department of Defense has the greatest employment impact on the nation, and the employment policies and practices of this vast agency (which includes all the military services) is subject to the whim of a handful of men, Mr. Schlagel declared. One phrase - "confusion compounded" - can be applied, he said "when sex enters the military establishment."

Mr. Schlagel deplored the manner in which lives can be blighted by the undesirable discharge given to suspected homosexuals in the military service and the dismissal of suspected homosexuals in civil service for immoral conduct. Ever since the Joseph McCarthy era the Defense Department has held tenaciously to the witch hunt on homosexuals, he said. This has damaged the Government generally and has damaged the Government's effectiveness in dealing with the problem, in his estimation. As a result the Federal Government has become the arbiter for morality for its employees on the basis of "moral turpitude" - without further definition. Homosexuality is considered to be immoral conduct, and the homosexual unfit for anything but to starve quietly, Mr. Schlagel declared.

He went on to cite many court cases involving the Defense Department where the charges of immoral conduct (homosexuality) had been made and the accused dismissed where

there was uncorroborated evidence, where dismissal was based solely on homosexual tendency or inclination, where the homosexual episodes cited happened a full 12 years before the action was brought and the statute of limitations denied, where the charges had no bearing on the plaintiff's current enlistment record, where entrapment was used by Intelligence men.

The charges were always "immoral conduct", and Mr. Schlagel wanted to know by what authority the Federal Government was arbitrating the moral question. It is Mr. Schlagel's contention that this question is relegated to the various state governments and is not a power delegated to the Federal government by the Constitution.

But if the Defense Department is to act as the defender of morality, Mr. Schlagel did not understand why it was so selective - as in the case of homosexuals. What about the prostitution in Hawaii which went on with the watchful and assenting eye of the U.S. Army? What about Korea where 168 out of 175 men were infected by venereal disease, treated and sent back to work? What about the mistresses who became a status symbol in army life and were invited to overseas social gatherings? Vice is big business on Okinawa, Mr. Schlagel declared, but the military looks the other way, figuring that "gambling, gin and girls are a necessary ingredient to keep the men from going nuts." Illegitimate pregnancy is a tragic social problem in Japan, he pointed out.

The persecution of homosexuals as "security risks" persists even though they may have no access to classified documents, and no concern is given to the Korean women who are given free access to the base there. Could they not be a part of a spy network passing information on to North Korea and Red China, Mr. Schlagel asked. "As long as American men are repressed sexually, there will be opportunity for espionage" - and this applies to heterosexuals as well as homosexuals, he said.

Mr. Schlagel has singled out the Defense Department as the nation's biggest employer to analyze and revise its employment regulations. If nothing else can be worked out, he plans to take the entire issue into the courts. "Either arbitrate all morality - or none," he challenged.

Changing Attitudes Toward Homosexuality

Dr. Karl Bowman, Director Emeritus of the Langley Porter Psychiatric Institute of the University of California School of Medicine in San Francisco, gave an excellent wrap-up of the messages of the day's speakers at the Mattachine Conference banquet held in San Francisco in August. In reference to venereal disease, Dr. Bowman said that if three-fourths of all the reported cases are homosexual, unfavorable public opinion would be created. The homophile groups should take this information to heart, show that they have the best interests of society in mind and take steps to help prevent venereal disease.

Dr. Bowman said that his three main professional interests - alcoholism, narcotics addiction and sexual deviation - were all anathema to society. His pet interests you couldn't talk about, and there was no money for research. In 1941 California wouldn't spend any money on research on alcoholism, but now spends a million a year on it. While there has been progress in the field of narcotic addiction, a doctor is still threatened with imprisonment by the Federal Government if he tries to treat an addict on an outpatient basis.

In 1950 there were two horrible sex murders of small children. The California State Legislature voted \$100,000 for the investigation of sex deviation and put Dr. Bowman, then Superintendent of Langley Porter Clinic, in charge of the project. The project was to take five years. But just about the time the sex research was going nicely, appropriations ceased and the project was dropped. There were not many sex crimes in the headlines at the time!

After New York had cut the penalty for homosexual offenses to a misdemeanor with not more than six months imprisonment, Dr. Bowman recommended that California do the same. The legislature instead stiffened the penalty. The research didn't have much effect.

Dr. Bowman seemed to feel that the core of the problem of

sex in our society lay in teaching our youngsters to be ashamed of the word "sex," not to mention the shame and fear attached to any sexual act. In general our whole scheme of dealing with sex is very unhealthy, he said.

In passing, Dr. Bowman mentioned that the new penal code in Illinois was essentially the Code Napoleon, where sex acts between consenting adults without violence or without involving children are not considered to be a crime.

Dr. Bowman implied that there was a grave doubt as to whether homosexuals would react favorably to better treatment. This doubt is based on the reactions of several minority groups to more freedom after long periods of persecution. He urged the homophile groups not to be too aggressive or too demanding. He suggested that there was a good chance of getting the laws against homosexuality liberated in other states as well if homosexuals would watch their behavior in public.

Interestingly, Dr. Bowman felt that a lot of homosexuality was caused by strict laws against homosexuality. He said that when you want to rebel against society you frequently do it by doing the most forbidden thing. Dr. Bowman pointed out that in Europe, only West Germany, Great Britain and the Communist satellite countries had laws against ordinary homosexual acts. The rest of the countries follow the Code Napoleon. Likewise in Asia and in South America there are no specific laws against homosexuality. In the United States over half the states have sexual psychopath laws and are now recommending treatment rather than punishment, which doesn't get anyone anywhere. Dr. Bowman cited England's Wolfenden Report and the Model Penal Code of the American Law Institute as milestones in liberalizing sex laws.

Dr. Bowman agreed with Dr. Evelyn Hooker that homosexuality had a plurality of causes; however, he stated that he had different views on the possible biological causes. He told several amusing tales regarding pedigreed bulls and stallions that were worthless for stud because they turned out to be homosexual. Dr. Bowman felt that the differing degrees and intensity of the sex drive in people hadn't been taken into account. There are some people whose sex drive is so high in intensity that the average person will never

understand him either. Dr. Bowman felt that it was really impossible to lump all the different kinds of homosexuality together and talk about it as one and the same thing. In the first place, he considered homosexuality as an individual problem. There are degrees and degrees of homosexuality, overt, unconscious and repressed. Some wish to change and can; others don't want to. There are very few exclusive homosexuals. There are also transsexuals and transvestites who identify with the opposite sex. One cannot generalize about all the different kinds of homosexuals, Dr. Bowman said.

Here and There

DR. MAURICE LINDEN, PSYCHIATRIST (QUOTED IN THE NEW YORK TIMES MONDAY, JULY 16TH) SAYS PARENTS HAVE GOTTEN SO THEY WON'T TRUST THEIR OWN INSTINCTS ABOUT THEIR CHILDREN EVEN TO THE EXTENT OF SPANKING OR HUGGING THEM WITHOUT CONSULTING A REFERENCE BOOK.

QUESTIONS DR. LINDEN HAS RECENTLY BEEN ASKED BY ANXIOUS MOTHERS INCLUDE ONE ASKED BY A MOTHER AT A P.T.A. MEETING WHO SAID SHE WAS WORRIED BECAUSE HER HUSBAND COULD HARDLY WAIT TO GET HOME FROM WORK TO PLAY WITH THEIR 7-MONTH-OLD SON.

DR. LINDEN ASKED HER, "WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?" AND LEARNED ONLY AFTER PRODDING THE RELUCTANT MOM A BIT THAT SHE WAS CONCERNED THAT SUCH FONDLING BY THE FATHER MIGHT TURN HER SON INTO A HOMOSEXUAL.

* * * * *

THE ALBANY TRUST EXISTS TO PROMOTE MENTAL HEALTH THROUGH THE WIDER PUBLICATION OF ESSENTIAL FACTS ABOUT SOCIAL QUESTIONS NEEDING CONSTRUCTIVE ACTION. THE TRUST IS NOW ESPECIALLY CONCERNED WITH HOMOSEXUALITY AND ITS PROBLEMS AND IS COOPERATING WITH THE HOMOSEXUAL LAW REFORM IN LONDON IN A FULL PROGRAM OF PUBLIC EDUCATION WHICH AIMS TO CHANGE PRESENT SOCIAL AND LEGAL ATTITUDES.

"MAN AND SOCIETY", THE TRUST'S BIENNIAL JOURNAL, APPEARED IN MAY, 1961. THE FIRST NUMBER WAS ENTIRELY DEVOTED TO ARTICLES ON HOMOSEXUALITY BY J. B. PRIESTLEY, DR. W. LINDSAY NEUSTATTER, GORDON

WESTWOOD, AND OTHERS, AND THE TRUST INTENDS TO INCLUDE AT LEAST TWO ARTICLES ON THIS TOPIC IN EVERY ISSUE UNTIL THE LAW IS REFORMED.

BESIDES PROVIDING MATERIAL AND SPEAKERS FOR THE PRESS, RADIO AND TELEVISION WHEN OPPORTUNITIES OCCUR, TRUSTEES HAVE TAKEN PART IN MEETINGS THROUGHOUT ENGLAND AT WHICH HOMOSEXUALITY HAS BEEN DISCUSSED. THE TRUST HAS BEEN ENCOURAGED BY THE SUCCESS OF THESE ACTIVITIES TO START A SERIES OF TALKS WITH RELIGIOUS, MEDICAL AND SOCIAL WORKERS ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF GIVING MORE POSITIVE HELP TO HOMOSEXUAL PEOPLE THROUGH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CONSULTATION CENTER IN LONDON FOR THOSE IN NEED OF MENTAL, SPIRITUAL OR MEDICAL ADVICE.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE ALBANY TRUST, ITS WORK AND PUBLICATIONS, WRITE TO 32 SHAFTESBURY AVE., LONDON, W.1., ENGLAND.

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THE CAROL LANE SEX CASE IN HOLLYWOOD, WHICH KNOCKED OUT ORDINANCES THERE ON GROUNDS THAT ONLY THE STATE LAW APPLIES IN SEX OFFENSES, HAS ERASED A SECTION OF THE SAN FRANCISCO POLICE CODE. POLICE CHIEF THOMAS CAHILL CONCEDED THIS IN NOTING THAT A COURT APPEAL HERE RULED UNCONSTITUTIONAL A POLICE CODE SECTION MAKING MASQUERADING IN CLOTHING OF THE OPPOSITE SEX A CRIME.

THE APPELLATE SECTION OF SUPERIOR COURT MADE THE RULING JULY 11, IN THE CASE OF JAMES ARTLEY LANE, JR., ARRESTED FOR WEARING FEMALE ATTIRE. IN ALL SUCH CASES IN THE FUTURE, CHIEF CAHILL EXPLAINED TO HIS OFFICERS, ARRESTS SHOULD BE MADE UNDER THE STATE PENAL CODE. A SECTION OF THE STATE CODE COVERS THE SAME FACTS, HE SAID.

* * * * *

AN ANGLICAN BISHOP IN A SEPTEMBER SUNDAY SERMON CRITICIZED BRITAIN'S "UTTERLY MEDIEVAL" ATTITUDE TOWARDS HOMOSEXUALS AND SAID IT WAS A BLOT ON THE NATION'S CONSCIENCE.

"ONE MAN IN 25 IS LIKELY TO BE HOMOSEXUAL", BISHOP JOHN ROBIN-

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 19)

And on the other hand...

A Story by Margaret Ives

We were walking with our arms linked, as girls do. This had no special significance except that our age - sixteen - our relative plainness, our disdain of the pin-curled elegance of our classmates and our ascetic insistence that college was a place for education rather than man-hunting, made us link arms and walk defensively shoulder to shoulder among a thousand women hostile to each of us for varying reasons. Hostile to Mickey because they sensed, behind her bunny-soft roundness and gentle speech, something that sized up their sex and found it wanting; hostile to me because I had not yet joined the mob, because I was still the Cat That Walked by Herself among them all, and because I was outspoken in my scorn.

And yet, though we linked arms against the common concord of the hallways and cafeteria and the dormitories which had proclaimed us aliens, we were not really united. We disputed softly, endlessly, vehemently, and with a secret, hidden bitterness. Mickey told me of her loves, hidden and unorthodox and never to be spoken; and I, sympathetic, still held myself firmly and coldly behind any such identification. Mickey, who frankly avowed that she could never love any man, was yet a different sort of person from me, Laurie, who simply insisted that she had not yet found any man worth loving in the herds of football-playing, jazz-loving, class-cutting knuckleheads who bore our college banners.

Let me at once dispel the thought that I resisted Mickey as a reluctant lover, or that she sought me so. Rather our comradeship was that of the married man who seeks to persuade his bachelor friend to emulate his own state. And - in accord on all else, alike haunting the mineral exhibits in the museum, the severity of pre-medical courses, the opera broadcasts on Saturday in the lounge - on this one point we were in endless and bitter opposition, and yet this one rock which might have split our companionship, rather cemented it.

We never agreed to disagree; endlessly, patiently, she quoted to me the proofs that no man was worth a woman's look, that no woman of sense abandoned herself to such slavery, and with equal patience I would quote and argue that a woman's highest natural delight, as well as her highest natural destiny, lay in the rich fulfillment of her instincts of love and motherhood. But, to the mother of the Gracchi, she held up Sappho; and, to Mary Lincoln, she flung a triumphant actress whose bent we both knew. And when I challenged her to hear unmoved the tender love and sacrifice in the passions of Tristan and Iseult in Wagner, she refuted me with the white-hot tenderness blazing between Norma and Adalgisa, until the interweaving of soprano voices wrung from me my reluctant tears and I looked at her shaken, and abandoned my efforts at proof.

But still we could not leave the topic alone. We discussed it endlessly, and we were always together, from the moment we sauntered into the locker room to check our hats and run careless combs through our hair, until, our last class behind us and half-forgotten in the coffee we drank together afterward, we separated with the secret eye-crinkling grin and casual wave, Mickey to her bedridden mother's side, I to the drugstore counter that kept me in textbooks and stockings.

On this particular Saturday we were walking on the downtown streets, arms linked like carefree college girls, while Mickey returned to her obsessive subject, today making at last the flat pronouncement that any woman with genuine creative intelligence had to deny her intellect or become a Lesbian.

To this exaggeration I reacted bitterly, and she spoke with equivalent scorn of my failure to face the bare facts. How in today's world could a woman maintain her self-dignity and self-respect when she was no more than adjunct to a male? That wasn't the point, I argued, lost as always behind Mickey's mild vehemence.

"Look here," Mickey said at last, with gentle tolerance for my stupidity, "you have to admit that the more intelligent women are, the fewer children they have, the

(Continued on page 18)

A TRIBUTE TO A FRIEND

Dr. Blanche M. Baker was a dear friend and a moving force in education, her major subject being homosexuality. She worked effectively and constantly towards bringing understanding between the public and the homosexual. As a tangible tribute to her memory and as a means of furthering her work, the Daughters of Bilitis has established the Blanche M. Baker Scholarship Fund.

There are two types of scholarship awards. The first is for any woman (over 21 years of age) who is a full time student, either graduate or undergraduate, attending a recognized college or university. The applicant must maintain at least a B average and shall be majoring in one of the following fields: anthropology, education, journalism, law, medicine, political science, psychology, social welfare or sociology.

The second type of award is for furtherance of the education of the Lesbian, enabling her to better her earning power. This scholarship would include any type of vocational or trade school (art school, business school, etc.).

In January 1963 available funds will be divided equally among the four DOB chapters - San Francisco, New York, Los Angeles and Chicago. Each chapter will make its own awards in its particular area and will determine if awards will be made in one category or the other, or both.

Financial need will be of prime concern in the selection of applicants. Scholarship awards shall be given as grants, but any monies returned by the recipients will automatically revert to the Scholarship Fund.

This is an ambitious undertaking, but its success is, of course, dependent upon the amount of the funds available. The Fund now has only about \$300, and the year-end deadline for the 1963 awards is upon us. We need your support to make this scholarship program a success.

Please send donations marked "scholarship" to the Daughters of Bilitis, 1232 Market St., Suite 108, San Francisco 2, Cal.

We knew her simply as "Doc".

To the world she was known as Dr. Blanche M. Baker, San Francisco psychiatrist.

"Doc" was one of the first from the professional field to accept and work with the organizations in the homosexual movement. It was her belief that homosexuals could fill a unique place in society, combining as they do both male and female attributes.



BLANCHE M. BAKER, M.D., Ph.D.

The best way to introduce newcomers to "Doc" Baker's philosophy would be through her own words from the introduction to Helen P. Branson's book, Gay Bar:

"Homosexuals are human beings, too. They are interesting, real, unusual, creative, beauty-loving people, if one can get behind the mask of camping pretense and sham so many of them feel compelled to wear to protect their sensitive souls from the condemnation and hate leveled at them by a hostile and prejudiced, uncomprehending society. It is my firm belief, based on years of experience working with many types and varieties of the clan in a psychiatric practice, that homosexuals have a definite place in society today as in the past, but they, themselves, must demonstrate their true worth by coming to know and accept themselves, thus releasing their potentials which are all too often blocked by their lack of self-confidence and reflected hostility. To my way of thinking, homophiles, both male and female, are really not so different from the rank and file of humanity except in their preference for a love object belonging to the same sex."

mood miscellanea

LOVE SONG

AFTER CITY HUMDRUMS
WERE THROWN FAR AWAY
I SAT WITH YOU
UNDER THE SPRING MAPLE'S
LIGHT GREEN CLOUD
TASTING THE DAY
BRIGHT ON YOUR LIPS,
SOFT AS EARLY GRASS.
THE SUN IN EAGER
PRESENCE
MADE DIAMONDS OF YOUR HAIR.
I FOLLOWED YOUR EYES
LIKE A SWALLOW
FOLLOWING ANOTHER
ON A LIGHT WIND
OF A SUMMER DAY.
AS YOUR EYES FOUND MINE
A DEEP, RICH SILENCE CAME
STEADY AS A CELLO
IN A CONFUSION OF HORNS.
OUR LOVE CONFESSED IN
THE CHURCH OF SILENCE
STOOD HIGH, STRONG
SUNLIT ABOVE CITIES
AND THE BELLS RANG
MAKING THE DAY
SONOROUS,
A CIRCUMSTANCE
TOO RARE FOR
LICENSE
AND COMMON STAMP.

THE MOON - SETTING
AN ORANGE HALF-SHELL
THE SEA - FRETTING
A DARK GREEN KNELL.

- M. M.

RUTH SHELDON TELLROD

THERE IS NO SPECIAL PLEASURE TO THIS DAY
THOUGH SUN-WASHED MAY THE WORLD AND WINDOWS BE
BECAUSE THERE IS NO ONE TO CALL OR SAY
BESTIR YOURSELF AND SPEND THIS DAY WITH ME...

THERE IS NO SPECIAL NEED WITHIN MY SOUL
FOR MELANCHOLY SIGH OR HERMIT'S NEST
BUT I MUST STAY ALONE AND PLAY THE ROLE
OF SOMEONE FILLED WITH VAGUE DISINTEREST...

THERE IS NO SPECIAL ONE TO WHOM I MEAN
MORE THAN A MOMENT'S FLIGHT FROM FEAR AND PAIN
FOR I AM PART OF THE BRIEF, PASSING SCENE
AND WHERE I LIGHT, I CANNOT LIGHT AGAIN...

- J.R.G.

FIRST IMPRESSIONS - LIVE JAZZ

. . . JAZZ HUE
THE SOUNDS WERE PURE HORN
GOLD WAS THE HORN SOUND
AND RED THE DRUM
RED AND WHITE AND BLACK
THE PIANO WAS BLACK IVORY
THE FLUTE WAS ALL THE COLORS
EVEN BLACK
AND THE BASS SPOKE MUTED SILVER
SOUNDS MOVING
SOUNDS TEARING AND RIPPING
QUIET SOUNDS MENDING
THE GRAY SMOKE DRIFTED
THROUGH THE BLACK SILK NIGHT
AND THE SOUNDS GAVE LIGHT
AND FILLED SOULS
AND EMPTIED MINDS
AND I HEARD . . .

- TERRY

AND ON THE OTHER HAND . . .

(Continued from page 13)

later they marry, and the higher the proportion of Lesbians. Right?"

I nodded, conceding. Those statistics I could not argue. I pointed out, nevertheless, that it could simply mean that only the more intelligent women could realize their alien-ness from normality...

"If you use that word, normal, again like that, Laurie Byrd, I'll pinch you," Mickey threatened in her softly serious way. "All I'm trying to prove is that the Lesbian, by and large, is a higher type than the heterosexual woman. Good Lord, it ought to be self-evident! Artists, musicians..."

"But on the other hand..." I broke off abruptly, for a woman was approaching us. I did not see her clearly; only in retrospect did every detail of her, every tiniest feature, show up clearly. Her face was flushed and covered with a fine net of narrow, broken veins. She lurched slightly when she walked. Her hair was thick and coarse and cropped short above her ears, and she wore a faded pair of jeans and a man's mackinaw jacket - a costume not too unusual for farm women come to town on Saturday. Her path was such as to lead her into collision with Mickey and me, and in mild apprehension of the drunken woman we stepped apart a pace or two, letting our clasped arms drop so that she could pass between us.

She walked steadily enough between us; but just as our clasped arms parted, she tilted her face up to mine and gave me a great, monstrous wink. At the same moment she reached out both her hands and gave each of us a generous pinch. Mine landed straight on the round portion of anatomy which might be intended; Mickey had drawn away slightly, so that the woman got only a fold of her plaid skirt and a surprised little yelp. The woman staggered slightly, recovered her balance, gave Mickey's arm a little pat, and said in a rich contralto voice, "Ah, excuse me, darlies. I wouldn't be separatin' ye."

And she staggered on her way. Mickey and I looked at one another in hysterical amazement, Mickey giggling nervously.

"You were saying?" I prompted gently. And Mickey, gazing in faint embarrassment after the receding old drunk, murmured softly, "Well, shut my big mouth."

I think it was the last conversation Mickey and I ever had on that subject, and soon after, she went into the WACs as a private and I lost track of her. I retained a warmth, a sense of silent loss, and a little ache in my throat, coupled with a hope that she may have found someone to echo her hopeful words - and that she may never stagger against college girls who walk with their arms linked, talking of things they do not understand.

* * * * *

HERE AND THERE

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11)

SON SAID. "THIS IS NOT A CONDITION THAT CAN BE CHOSEN. IT IS DUE EITHER TO INBORN FACTORS OR TO EMOTIONAL CONDITIONS DURING CHILDHOOD AND ADOLESCENCE."

COURTS IMPOSED ON HOMOSEXUALS PRISON SENTENCES "UNWORTHY OF A CIVILIZED, LET ALONE A CHRISTIAN COUNTRY," HE TOLD HIS CONGREGATION IN CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL.

* * * * *

IN THE MAY ISSUE OF THE LADDER WE DESCRIBED THE "CURE" OF A SEX DEVIATE PRINTED IN THE MARCH ISSUE OF THE BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL.

FROM THE OBSERVER WEEKEND REVIEW, LONDON, LETTERS TO THE EDITOR COLUMN. "THE ACCOUNT WHICH YOU QUOTE FROM THE BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL OF A 'CURE' FOR HOMOSEXUALITY BY AVERSION TREATMENT MAY INDEED HAVE BEEN EFFECTIVE IN THIS PARTICULAR INSTANCE, WHERE THE MAN WAS APPARENTLY ANXIOUS TO BE RID OF HIS HOMOSEXUALITY; BUT IT BY NO MEANS FOLLOWS THAT SUCH METHODS ARE LIKELY TO BE OF ANY USE IF IMPOSED UPON SOMEONE WHO DOES NOT WISH TO ALTER HIS PERSONALITY IN THIS WAY. THIS IS QUITE CLEAR FROM A READING OF THE FULL PAPER IN THE B.M.J.

"FURTHER, LEST ANYONE SHOULD THINK THAT SUCH TREATMENT SHOULD BE UNIVERSALLY APPLIED, IT MUST BE POINTED OUT THAT ANY ATTEMPT, EITHER BY THE COURTS OR BY THE MEDICAL PROFESSION, TO FORCE SUCH TREATMENT UPON UNWILLING HOMOSEXUALS WOULD BE, IN DR. STANLEY JONES' WORDS, 'A MORAL OUTRAGE', AND IT IS TO BE HOPED THAT SUCH EXTREMES OF BRAINWASHING WILL NEVER BE COUNTENANCED IN THIS FREEDOM-LOVING COUNTRY."

* * * * *

HOMOSEXUALITY AMONG THE EMPLOYEES OF OREGON STATE HOSPITAL, THE SUBJECT OF RECENT CRITICISM BY A MARION COUNTY GRAND JURY, OCCUPIED MUCH OF THE DISCUSSION OF THE LEGISLATIVE INTERIM COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL PROBLEMS AT A SEPTEMBER MEETING IN PORTLAND.

DR. DEAN BROOKS, THE HOSPITAL'S SUPERINTENDENT, OUTLINED FIVE CASES OF SUSPECTED HOMOSEXUALITY - FOUR OF THEM INVOLVING EMPLOYEES SINCE RESIGNED OR DISCHARGED AND ONE INVOLVING A WOMAN STILL EMPLOYED BY THE HOSPITAL. THE LATTER HAD NOT BEEN DISCHARGED BECAUSE THERE HAD BEEN "NO PROOF" OF THE ACCUSATION.

DR. BROOKS SAID THERE HAVE BEEN TIMES WHEN PATIENTS HAVE ACCUSED EMPLOYEES OF MAKING ADVANCES, BUT HE WARNED THAT INVESTIGATORS MUST BE VERY CAREFUL ... BECAUSE PATIENTS OFTEN USE THIS AS A MEANS OF MANIPULATING EMPLOYEES.

THE HOSPITAL SUPERINTENDENT SAID THAT, WITH MORE THAN 900 EMPLOYEES, IT WOULD BE SURPRISING IF THERE WERE NO HOMOSEXUALS IN THE HOSPITAL. "BUT HOW DO YOU FIND THESE PEOPLE? HOW DO YOU GET EVIDENCE ON THEM?" HE ASKED.

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GENE DAMON SUPPLIES US WITH "AN INTERESTING NOTE FOR POETRY LOVERS": MAY SARTON'S LATEST COLLECTION OF POEMS ENTITLED CLOUD, STONE, SUN, VINE; POEMS SELECTED AND NEW, N. Y., NORTON, 1961 (1962). THE MOST MOVING AND MAJOR ITEMS OF INTEREST ARE "SONG" P. 52, "LEAVES BEFORE THE WIND" P. 71, "DEATH AND THE LOVERS" P. 77, AND THE HEARTBREAKING SEQUENCE OF TWENTY SONNETS ENTITLED "A DIVORCE OF LOVERS" PP. 125-134. MISS SARTON IS, OF COURSE, THE AUTHOR OF THE MOST INTERESTING MAJOR LESBIAN TITLE IN 1961, THE SMALL ROOM.

Masculine Viewpoint

You
Know

A STORY BY ERIC CASHEN

THIS ALL HAPPENED IN A KINGDOM FAR AWAY. IT HAPPENED TO FRANZL POLAND. HE WAS A BOY WHO GREW UP AT THE TURN OF THE CENTURY. GREW UP, I SHOULD NOT SAY HE DID, FOR HE DIDN'T. HE GREW TO THE AGE OF EIGHTEEN AND STAYED THERE. IN OUR MINDS, AT LEAST.

THE KINGDOM IN WHICH FRANZL POLAND GREW UP, OR DIDN'T GROW UP, HAD A CAPITAL CITY. IT WAS CALLED ZENZ. AND IN THAT CITY THEY HAD CUSTOMS, NOT STRANGE CUSTOMS, BUT RATHER EXTRAORDINARY ONES. IN THE MATTERS OF SEX. A BOY, IF HE WERE OF GOOD FAMILY, OR HAD MONEY, WAS INITIATED INTO SEX QUITE EARLY. HE WENT TO A HOUSE - THERE WERE TWO OR THREE - WHERE YOUNG GIRLS FROM POORER FAMILIES LIVED. AND THERE THEY SPORTED WITH THE GIRLS. BUT THAT WAS NOT ALL. THE GIRLS WERE BROUGHT UP TO BE YOUNG LADIES, AND THE BOYS, IN THEIR COMPANY, WERE IN THE COMPANY OF YOUNG LADIES.

ALL WAS DONE IN A VERY ABOVEBOARD WAY. NOTHING WAS HIDDEN. THE GIRLS WERE EDUCATED, LEARNED TO RIDE, AND TO KNOW MUSIC. THE BOYS WERE IN THEIR COMPANY, AND BY BEING IN THEIR COMPANY, LEARNED HOW THEY WOULD LATER ON RESIST THE WILES OF LADIES AND THE FRANK CHARMS.

ALL THIS WAS VERY EDUCATIONAL. FRANZL POLAND ENJOYED IT, AS A YOUNG MAN OF GOOD FAMILY, AND HE MADE FRIENDS WITH A YOUNG GIRL NAMED MIMI. AFTER THAT, OF COURSE, WHEN HE HAD REACHED THE AGE OF SIXTEEN AND HAD FINISHED HIS SCHOOLING, HE WAS SEND ABROAD TO STUDY BANKING. AND THERE HE MET A FRIEND.

THE FRIEND'S NAME WAS WALTER. WALTER CAME FROM A VERY GOOD FAMILY,

YOU KNOW, AND HE HAD A VERY GENTLE DISPOSITION. FRANZL AND WALTER SPENT THEIR TIME TOGETHER AND WERE VERY FAST FRIENDS. THEY WENT TO THE COFFEE HOUSE TOGETHER. THEY WENT TO THE OPERAS TOGETHER. TO THE THEATRE. AND THEY DID NOTHING THAT YOUNG BOYS SHOULD NOT DO, IF THEY ARE OF GOOD FAMILY, AND ARE BROUGHT UP AS CHRISTIANS.

FRANZL, OF COURSE, FOUND IT DIFFICULT TO STICK TO THIS REGIME. HE DID IT FOR WALTER'S SAKE. BUT HE KEPT, AFTER THREE MONTHS, A MISTRESS ON THE SIDE.

FRANZL AND WALTER PLAYED CHESS TOGETHER. THEY RODE TOGETHER, AND THEY ATE TOGETHER WHENEVER POSSIBLE. WALTER WAS A NATIVE OF THIS CITY. FRANZL WAS NOT.

IT CAME TIME FOR FRANZL TO RETURN TO HIS HOME. HE TOOK WALTER WITH HIM AS A WEEK-END GUEST. WALTER STAYED MANY WEEK-ENDS, AND WEEKS IN BETWEEN.

THEY DID THE SAME THERE AS THEY HAD DONE IN THE OTHER CITY. FRANZL LEFT HIS MISTRESS BEHIND. WALTER, OF COURSE, WAS OVERJOYED TO BE VISITING. HE LIKED THE PROVINCIAL THEATRE OF THIS SMALL COUNTRY, AND HE ENJOYED MORE THAN ANYTHING THE CHESS, AND THE TALK AT THE COFFEE SHOPS. FRANZL, OF COURSE, WAS INCLINED TO WANT SEXUAL RELEASE. AND IN HIS CITY, AT HIS HOME, IT WAS AT THE HOUSES THAT ONE SOUGHT THAT.

HE DECIDED ONE NIGHT TO TAKE WALTER ALONG WITH HIM. IF WALTER DID NOT WANT TO DO ANYTHING THAT WAS HIS BUSINESS. HE WOULD KNOW NOTHING, OTHERWISE.

SO THEY WENT ONE EVENING TO THE HOUSE WHERE MIMI LIVED. AND THEY WERE LET IN AS LONG LOST BROTHERS. WHICH IN FACT FRANZL WAS. WALTER WAS ACCEPTED AS HIS FRIEND.

AND THE EVENING PASSED WITH MIMI, WHO DIVIDED HER TIME BETWEEN THEM. WHEN NIGHT CAME, THE LATE NIGHT OF MIDNIGHT, FRANZL TOOK MIMI ASIDE. HE SAID, "WHAT WILL WE DO ABOUT WALTER?" "I CAN TAKE CARE OF HIM, OR FRANNIE CAN." "NO," WALTER SAID, "THIS BOY IS INNOCENT. GENTLE BREEDING. YOU UNDERSTAND." MIMI SAID SHE DID, AND SHE WOULD TALK TO HIM A WHILE AND THEN RETURN TO FRANZL. FRANZL SAT DOWN. HE WAITED, FOR IT SEEMED, AN HOUR. MIMI CAME

BACK THEN; SHE SAID "HE IS NOT AS INNOCENT AS YOU THINK." HER HAIR WAS AWRY AND HER DRESS DAMAGED.

FRANZL, AFTER ENJOYING HIMSELF ALL NIGHT, SET OUT FOR HOME ON THE MAIN ROAD. IT LED TO HIS HOUSE, AT A CROSS-ROAD, BUT HE NEVER STOPPED THERE. HE WENT ON UP, ON THE MAIN ROAD, UNTIL HE REACHED THE GRANITE QUARRIES. IT WAS VERY COLD. HE STOOD THERE, AGAINST A WALL OF GRANITE, IN THE SUN, TO GET WARM. HE FOUND HIMSELF BOUND BY INVISIBLE BONDS TO THE CLIFF OF GRANITE, AND HIS FEET AND HANDS HURT AS IF THEY WERE NAILED TO THE WALL.

HE STAYED THERE ALL DAY, WHERE HE COULD LOOK DOWN ON THE HOUSE AT WHICH HE HAD SPENT THE NIGHT, LOOK AND DREAM. HE DREAMT A LONG TIME.

LESBIANA



BY GENE DAMON

212. LOVE IS WHERE YOU FIND IT BY PAULA CHRISTIAN. AVON BOOKS, 1961.

READERS WHO REMEMBER GALE WILHELM'S TORCHLIGHT TO VALHALLA WILL ENJOY THIS NOVEL. IT IS A MODERN UPBAT STORY ON THE CONFLICT THEME. DEE SANDERS, A SUCCESSFUL PHOTOGRAPHER IN HER LATE THIRTIES, HAS LIVED FOR YEARS WITH A DRAINING EMOTIONAL BITCH, RITA. THE INEVITABLE TENSIONS FINALLY END THIS LIASON AND IN A STATE OF EMOTIONAL FLUX, DEE TURNS TO HER YOUNG SECRETARY FOR LOVE - IGNORING THE MUCH MORE MATURE ADULT LOVE OF THE SINGER "MARTIE". ONCE AGAIN THERE IS THE INEVITABLE SEPARATION BUT THE MUCH WISER DEE, AT THE END OF THE NOVEL, IS WAITING FOR MARTIE. AS IN TORCHLIGHT TO VALHALLA, THE NOVEL ENDS AS IT BEGINS.

WHILE PAULA CHRISTIAN'S TOTAL WORK TO DATE DOES NOT EQUAL THE OVERALL EMOTIONAL IMPACT OF ANN BANNON'S - SHE IS A VERY CLOSE SECOND AND IF SHE BECOMES MORE PROLIFIC PERHAPS SHE WILL SURPASS MISS BANNON. THEY ARE BOTH YOUNG WOMEN

AND READERS OF GAY NOVELS CAN PROBABLY LOOK FORWARD TO MANY MORE FROM BOTH OF THEM.

213. THE EVIL THAT MEN DO BY BEN SIMCOE. SIGNET, 1961

FOR THOSE READERS THAT REMEMBER THE PATHETIC POIGNANT YEARS OF SIXTEEN YEAR OLD LESBIAN LOVE, THIS IS A MUST BOOK. THE TRAGIC, OVER-MAGNIFIED QUALITY OF "BOBBIE'S LOVE FOR HER FRIEND SUE, IS CONVEYED WITH A REALISM AND SYMPATHY ALMOST UNBELIEVABLE FROM A MALE AUTHOR AND THIS LEADS ONE TO BELIEVE THAT "BEN SIMCOE" IS MERELY A CONVENIENT PSEUDONYM.

214. THE CARPETBAGGERS BY HAROLD ROBBINS. SIMON & SCHUSTER, 1961.

IN A 700-PAGE PANORAMIC NOVEL WHICH HAS FARED POORLY AT THE HANDS OF MOST REVIEWERS, THERE IS AN EXCELLENT PORTRAYAL OF A WOMAN TRYING TO RUN FROM HER LESBIANISM AND IN DOING SO NEARLY DESTROYING EVERYONE SHE MEETS AND FINALLY DESTROYING HERSELF. INDEED IT IS A MAJOR LESBIAN NOVEL IN THAT OVER 300 PAGES OF THE BOOK DEAL WITH RINA MARLOWE, MORE THAN THE LENGTH OF MANY LESSER NOVELS. THE INCIDENTAL PORTRAYAL OF THE NOBLE IRENE GALLIARD, RINA'S LAST LOVER, WILL APPEAL TO ALL SINCE IT DEALS WITH A SELFLESS ATTITUDE SELDOM FOUND IN TODAY'S HARSH WORLD.

READERS RESPOND

"ALTHOUGH I HAVE BEEN A SUBSCRIBER FOR SOME THREE OR FOUR YEARS FOR THE PURPOSE OF RESEARCH FOR A NOVEL, I HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO EMPLOY THE INFORMATION GAINED FROM YOUR EXCELLENT PUBLICATION UNTIL RECENTLY. I AM SENDING ALONG TEAR SHEETS OF A STORY I HAD PUBLISHED NOT LONG AGO WHICH IS ONE OF THE RARE TIMES A STORY PARTIALLY DEALING WITH LESBIAN LOVE HAS APPEARED IN A 'POPULAR' MEN'S MAGAZINE. I WILL ALSO HAVE A NOVELETTE IN A FORTHCOMING ISSUE OF KNIGHT MAGAZINE (TENTATIVELY VOL 3 #12) ENTITLED TORERA WHICH DEALS WITH A LESBIAN AS A LEAD CHARACTER. UNFORTUNATELY, COMMERCIAL FICTION DICTATES HER 'REFORMATION' BUT IT CERTAINLY GOES

INTO SOME INTERESTING PSYCHOLOGICAL FACETS WHICH THE ENCLOSED STORY WAS UNABLE TO DO. ALSO, I AM CURRENTLY WORKING ON A HARDCOVER NOVEL IN WHICH A MAJOR HARDCOVER PUBLISHER HAS EVINCED GREAT INTEREST. THE KNOWLEDGE I HAVE GAINED FROM THE LADDER WILL PLAY A VERY LARGE PART IN THE PSYCHOLOGICAL MAKEUP OF THE LEAD CHARACTER -- AN 18 YEAR OLD GIRL. FOR ALL THESE REASONS, THE LADDER HAS BEEN INVALUABLE TO ME.

RICHARD L. SARGENT, CALIFORNIA

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"I HAVE READ YOUR ARTICLES ABOUT DIFFERENT MEMBERS OF CHURCHES TALKING ABOUT LESBIANISM AND HOMOSEXUALITY. I HAVE AN OPINION WHICH MAY NOT BE APPROVED, BUT THEN I AM ALWAYS VOICING MY IDEAS-- SO HERE GOES.

"I DON'T THINK THAT RELIGION HAS THAT MUCH TO DO WITH THE WAY YOU ARE SEXUALLY. I CONSIDER MYSELF RELIGIOUS, I BELIEVE IN GOD AND I ATTEND CHURCH. I HAVE PRAYED AND TALKED WITH GOD MANY TIMES AND I HAVE ASKED HIM FOR GUIDANCE IN MY LIFE. I DON'T THINK HE HAS EVER DISOWNED ME BECAUSE I AM A LESBIAN.

"WHEN I TALK TO GOD ITS FOR STRENGTH TO COMFORT ME, TO HELP ME THROUGH WORK EVERY DAY, FOR COURAGE TO GET BY THE CHANGING TIMES, TO SOFTEN BLOWS THAT COME MY WAY, TO GIVE ME A FEW FRIENDS WHO WILL LOVE ME FOR MYSELF AND TO BE THANKFUL FOR WHAT LIFE HAS TO OFFER ME, TO KEEP ME FROM STANDING IN JUDGMENT OF OTHERS. IN THESE THINGS GOD GOVERNS MY SOUL AND HEART.

"THROUGH FAITH IN GOD, I SEE MYSELF - MY SELFISHNESS, PRIDE, GREED, FEARS AND MY MANY MISTAKES. BUT I FEEL THAT BY DOING MY BEST IN MY WAY OF LIFE THAT I HAVE FOUND HUMILITY AND UNDERSTANDING.

"I THINK THAT THE OTHERS WOULD GAIN MUCH MORE IF THEY WOULD CONCERN THEMSELVES WITH FAITH IN GOD AND IF THEY WOULD ACCEPT PEOPLE FOR WHAT THEY ARE AND WORK FROM THERE. THEY WOULD FIND THAT THERE ARE JUST AS MANY WHO BELIEVE IN GOD REGARDLESS OF WHAT THEY ARE.

"I DON'T THINK ANYONE HAS THE RIGHT TO CONDEMN ANOTHER BECAUSE OF HIS DIFFERENCE. MANY THINGS THAT ARE HAPPENING IN THIS WORLD TODAY IS BECAUSE PEOPLE CAN'T UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR NEIGHBORS ARE NOT LIKE THEM."

A.B., OHIO

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"THANK YOU A THOUSAND TIMES OVER FOR YOUR PUBLICATION! HOW ELATED I AM TO KNOW THAT SUCH A MAGAZINE EXISTS. I CAN'T BEGIN TO TELL YOU HOW LONELY IT IS WALKING ALONE. (VERY BADLY PUT, BUT NEVERTHELESS --) I HAVE AN INTENSE LONGING TO COMMUNICATE WITH OTHER PERSONS LIKE MYSELF, WHO LIVE ON THE OUTSIDE.

"I AM TWENTY-SEVEN YEARS OLD AND HAVE NEVER MET ANYONE WITH WHOM I COULD EXCHANGE PROFOUND FEELINGS. I AM DEEPLY SENSITIVE TO INSENSITIVE PEOPLE, AND FOR THIS REASON I CHOOSE TO LIVE ENTIRELY ALONE.

"I PAINT A GREAT DEAL, AND IF I AM FORTUNATE, I MANAGE TO SELL A CANVAS NOW AND THEN. MY FATHER OCCASIONALLY AUGMENTS MY INCOME WITH AN INFREQUENT ALLOWANCE; IF I GET DESPERATE, I DO SUBSTITUTE TEACHING.

"MY MAIN PURPOSE IN WRITING THIS LETTER IS TO INQUIRE IF SUCH A WRITING GROUP EXISTS? AND IF SO, MAY I JOIN IT? I DON'T EXPECT YOU TO FORWARD ANY ADDRESSES, BUT I WOULD SINCERELY APPRECIATE IT IF YOU ADVANCED MY LETTER TO SOMEONE THAT WOULD BE INTERESTED IN SUCH A CORRESPONDENCE.

"A FEW OF MY OTHER INTERESTS ARE PHILOSOPHY, PSYCHOLOGY, LITERATURE, AND MUSIC, BOTH CLASSICAL AND FOLK. I LOVE POETRY, AND MAKE FEEBLE ATTEMPTS AT COMPOSING MY OWN."

L. L., CALIFORNIA

EDITOR'S NOTE: SORRY, THERE IS NO CORRESPONDENCE CLUB, AND FOR MANY REASONS, IT IS NOT THE POLICY OF DOB TO FORWARD NAMES AND ADDRESSES. HOWEVER, WE NOTE THAT YOU ARE NOT TOO FAR AWAY FROM THE BAY AREA AND SUGGEST YOU ATTEND SOME OF THE FUNCTIONS OF THE SAN FRANCISCO CHAPTER AND GET ACQUAINTED WITH THE GROUP.



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