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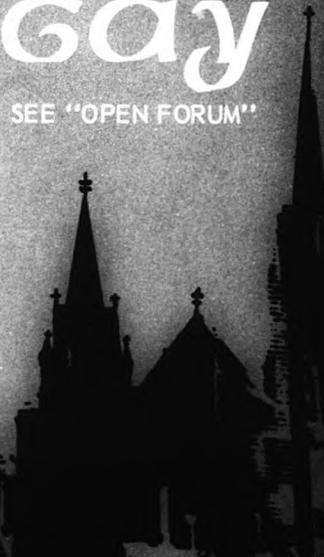
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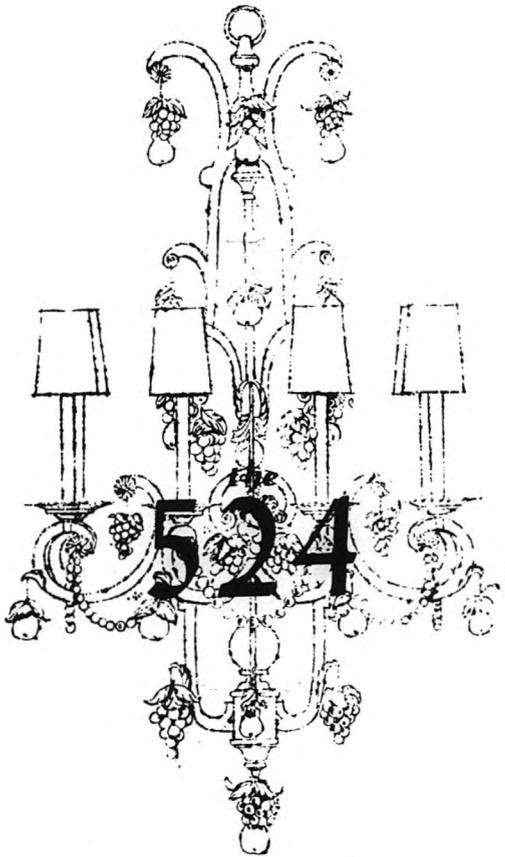
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JUNE 1967

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IF GOD IS DEAD

HE WAS KILLED BY HIS FRIENDS

by Tommy A. Quiness

To say that the church has failed would be the understatement of the ages. One need only to look around him to conclude that the philosophies and teachings of all religious founders from him in the bullrushes to Him in the manger, has never been instilled in the hearts of men.

In the beginning,..to quote an old cliché, we read of violence and murder, hatred and lust, and right down through the ages, the world has been beset with wars, floods, fires and pestilence. Is this the lot of mankind for whom the Supreme Being sacrificed His only begotten Son on the cross at Calvary? If the founders of religious beliefs could not practice love in a less violent way and could not instill brethrenly love into the hearts of men, how can we expect so miraculous a feat by ordinary church leaders.

I believe the populace has adopted an attitude of take, get and do what you can before the church takes, gets and does what it can against you.

Throughout the ages the church has taught the Ten Commandments and proliferated the ideal way for men to live in peace with his neighbor. Yet at the same time the church has been responsible for and has aggravated more wars and hatreds among men than any other source, by imposing its will and beliefs on the weak and illiterate. The church has imposed upon the great masses of peoples and has at times, denied education and professional skills to the low born and the peasants in order to conserve the wealth and power for the church.

I do not intend to castigate the teachings of the Man from Nazareth, or those individual philosophers from the east, but I invite you to re-

view, if you will, the action of the churches which make no effort to set an example by their own activities and relationships with the populace.

While church leaders preach from their pulpits against gambling, they are organizing and conducting for their own profit, raffles, Keno games and Bingo socials. These same church leaders preach peace and love one another, yet since the crusades they have perpetrated religious wars

conducted inquisitions and generated hate among men. Basically, the Vietnam War is happening because of two opposing religious beliefs. You need not refer back more than a year when two major religious groups in Vietnam fought openly for top political power, expressing extremes of self-emulation.

Ever since the American Constitution was adopted the church has made every effort to circumvent those tenets which separate church from



Stop worrying Maude, they welcome everyone in Church.

state. The church does not want its influence to be impugned, thus it engineered a scheme whereby the congress of the USA would be opened with prayer; the armed forces of the USA would open its ranks to its chaplains; that space and buildings would be allocated for places of religious worship on federal ships, and military bases as a platform from which the church could carry on its mission. There was a militant struggle to win this privilege and there is still a militant stand to preserve it. The inconsistencies remain that the church is conducting religious services praying for peace from both sides at the same time while standing in the pulpits set up by the military and both sides pray to the Prince of Peace that they may win the struggle.

I've often wondered if we had no churches as organized institutions which demand financial support, and there was no one to impose his interpretations of the good book upon the will of others, and if people just lived as their conscience dictated for the common good of all, unhampered by the militant desire of the church to expand geographically and financially, politically and dictatorially, I wonder if this world wouldn't be better off and a better place in which to live.

History records many periods of rebellion against the church. I think the present parade of "hippies" in the Haight-Ashbury, wearing all sorts of religious symbols and artifacts in ridicule of the church is a good example of what youth is saying.

Youth is saying, you have failed to practice what you preach, and thus we cannot buy your wares; its saying, do not attempt to influence our way of life, morally, politically, or financially. Youth is telling the church, it has its conscious with which to live, and we expect to live according to the dictates of our own conscious. Youth is telling the church, clean up your own houses before you attempt to purify ours. Youth is recalling that throughout the centuries there has been a pox upon the church militant and the

church universal, and its about time it evangelizes itself from within. The purity of the hippies' love commitment towards one another and verily towards all mankind is akin to that of the early followers of the basic judo-christian teachings.

I am afraid the voice of today's youth is a voice crying in the wilderness, because the establishment and the organized hierarchy of religious patterns refuse to surrender their prestige, authority and financial power over the people.

To verify the fact that IF GOD IS DEAD HE WAS KILLED BY HIS FRIENDS, we need only to look towards Central and South America. These are the areas where strict church influence and authority have prevailed since civilization. Here, the church's influence has been strengthened by civil authority and dictum; here, the church has been made the bulwark of the several civilizations. Yet in these areas where the "one" "True" philosophy of the church was taught and forced down the gullible throats of an ignorant and superstitious people, we find class hatreds and wars, militant force used against the unprotected, aggravated hunger, ignorance, illness and a breeding pot of all that was despicable to the Man from Nazareth. These deplorable conditions are not what "God hath wrought", but rather what the church has wrought. God is love and where there is love there can be no malice towards one another.

While from its rich pulpit, the church preaches of humility and charity, it builds more basilica and cathedrals which cast their shadows on the hungry, the sick and the poor of the world whom it threatens with hell-fire if they do not support the gold and glitter, the pomp and the ritual of its services. At the same time, they are preaching to render unto God the things that are Gods and to Ceasar the things that are Ceasars. They compound it all by getting right smack dab in the middle of every political controversy. Under a tax free

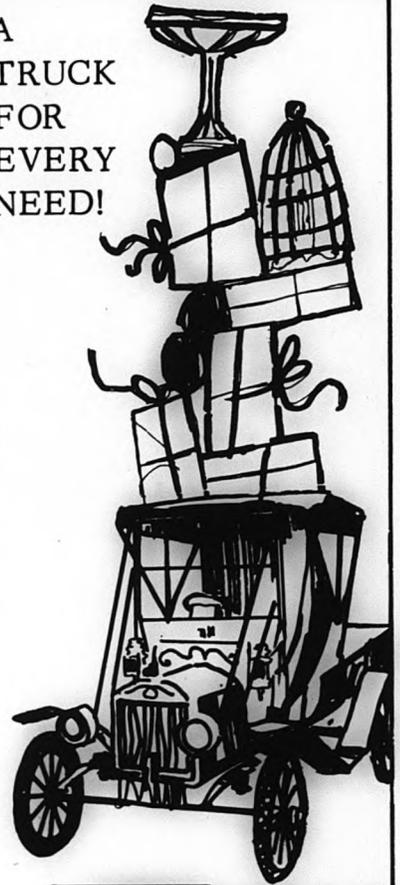
Continued on page 30
See "If God is Dead".

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President's Corner

BY DORR JONES

WHY ARE WE IN SPACE?

This challenge was presented during a talk at the S.I.R. membership's open meeting on May 17th by the guest speaker Morris Kight of Los Angeles. It is strange how one question extracted from a talk or discussion can remain and haunt one's thoughts and enliven his interest in values. I have decided to use it as a theme for this column.

I am in complete agreement with Mr. Kight when he expresses amazement and concern over the amount of money and man-hours going into this country's great project to land a man on and, perhaps, develop the moon and distant planets.

Anyone can accept intellectual curiosity as a legitimate reason, but are these the real motives? A safe guess would be that the drive for possible material and military prestige resulting from such ventures far overshadows the efforts of those involved for the purposes of scientific achievement alone.

One can only wonder what is actually expected or desired from it all--and then continue to ask if it's worth the price?

I am far more concerned with what is happening on Earth, and if what is happening on Earth is any indication of

what is expected to develop on other planets, I'd prefer not to be included in any future plans!

How can any sane group of humans expect to conquer the Universe when they have been proving for thousands of years that they aren't capable of appreciating what they have been given on the Planet Earth? Regardless of one's interpretation of the Creator anyone can comprehend that we are surrounded by untapped resources which could improve our living and add beauty--and a more loving atmosphere--to this planet.

Yet, when discoveries of natural resources are made, the scientists are pressured into finding ways to use this new power for destructive purposes. How many of our wasted millions of dollars are spent on exploring constructive use for atomic energy--compared to the vast amounts spent on producing more and more bombs and weapons?

The President of the United States talks of a Great Society and at the same time killing his own worthwhile domestic projects by expanding the ridiculous war in Viet Nam. The war merchants prosper, while thousands of others either live on an inflated--credit economy, or starve!!

This land abounds with unlimited potential even while we destroy food to control prices; ruin our forests; and pollute our air. Included in the list of activities, there seems to be still enough time energy and money to encourage the persecution of minorities (racial, religious and sexual !), attack institutions which we have built and which are trying to improve needed programs of mental health and education, and harass artists and writers and shops which sell their creations--ad infinitum.

Suspended thus in an earthly vacuum of ignorance and prejudices, how can anyone think we're ready to confront the Challenges of Outer Space?

Three One-Act Plays

by David Noel Hinojosa

On June 9, 10, and 11, S.I.R. once again will intimately reveal its strong and individualistic personality in the field of bay area theater. The three one-act plays, to be presented are: Noel Coward's Fumed Oak, a serio-comic look at the nature of love in a heterosexual marriage; Jack Frake's The Final Dress Rehearsal, an all-out camp farce about homosexuals putting on a play about Cinderella; and The Last Mile, a scathing, brutal, attack study of capital punishment.

Particularly with the Last Mile, S.I.R. will be introducing itself into the field of serious drama. This will be the beginning, hopefully, of a long list of serious plays which S.I.R. will undertake to produce. It is time that the membership asserts its awareness of the entire human drama, whether it be through the socially-conscious plays of Clifford Odets, or the fiercely personal human studies of Tennessee Williams, or the avant-garde writings of Becket or Ionesco.

The Last Mile is not the last mile: for S.I.R.'s productions committee it is the first.



Announcing

The Production Committee has selected the new fall musical set to run two weekends in August. The selection is "Pal Joey" the O'Hara, Rodgers and Hart show. Try-outs will be held on June 13th and 14th at 8 PM at SIR Center. Bring your own sheet music, since singing will be part of the audition and be prepared to read from parts

chosen by the director that night.

The dates set for the musical are:

Aug. 18, 19 and 20th.

Aug. 25, 26 and 27th.

These dates are weekend days, Fri., Sat., and Sun.

Also needed is someone who plays the trumpet. Those people who can play a trumpet please attend on audition nights and contact John Simo.

Ken Dickman
Productions Committee



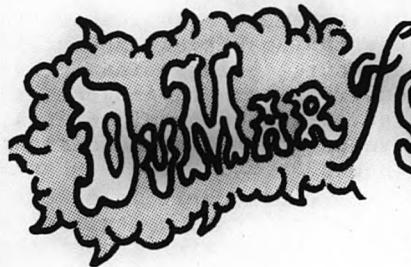
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Episcopalians Take Stand On Homosexuality

by D. Watson

THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SEXUALITY was formed by the Episcopal Church in the Fall of 1966 to coordinate efforts by various departments in the church community for the good of the homosexual, and to try to define church policy with regard to the homosexual and of the social and legal problems which most of us face at one time.

The general attitude of the Episcopal church has been one of assistance and help whenever it was possible to be of mental or spiritual assist.

The following statement is in many senses a landmark in the church and community. So few times in history have our needs and problems received this kind of badly needed attention.

Some statements in the resolutions approved this last September by the Council for the California Diocese of the Episcopal Church and given a final approval by the Rt. Reverend C. Kilmer Myers, Bishop of the Diocese, follow:

Be it so Resolved:

ONE

That the present laws of our several states be changed so that any sex behaviour between consenting adults in private be free of state control and criminal sanctions.

TWO

That the police departments, and public officials do all in their power to bring to an end the procedures leading to entrapment, (such as suggestive dress, and/or misleading remarks on the part of police officers.....

FIVE

That a broad sex-education program be initiated--including the area of homosexuality --in this Diocese of California (and hopefully in others as well) for both the Clergy and Laity.....

The council also advocates a program of reform for the Alcohol Control agencies, and--none too surprisingly--closer dialogue on the legal and societal problems we face with law enforcement agencies, the Congress and State Legislature.

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Semi-Annual Board Retreat

By Pat Kelly

On May 12, 13, and 14 the Board of Directors of S.I.R. took their semi-annual retreat. This was designed as a brainstorming session to work out the problems facing each committee and S.I.R. as a whole.

We met at Juanita's near Sonoma. It was a gas. Not only was a great deal of work accomplished but the Board had some time for events.

The food was excellent and more than anyone could eat. The prices for food and cottage were extremely reasonable. I will be surprised if the Board does not find this an excellent place for their next retreat. There is ample outdoors room for meetings as well as a special room that was fixed up for us to meet in. The bar was good and the swimming excellent.

If you haven't gone to Juanita's yet by all means do so. You will remember it with great fondness for a long time and you will never forget wonderful Juanita.

Need I add that one purpose of this semi-annual meeting is to get better acquainted with your fellow board members. I think that many will agree that this was one of the successful items accomplished. Enough business was agreed on that it may be necessary to call a special board meeting just to formalize the agreements reached at the retreat.

Among the major items on which agreement was reached were the following.

1. The desirability of setting up of a six months budget.

2. The setting up a Central Purchasing Department for S.I.R. This department would determine the approximate amount of material such as paper towels, cups, etc.

that is used in bulk. They would then place the order for bids and purchase from the least expensive source. This could well result in saving several hundred dollars a year.

3. The requiring of a written report from each committee not less than every two months was agreed upon. This would serve not only to inform the Board more fully what the committee was doing but it would be available at election time to indicate as to whether the chairman was actively fulfilling the duties for which he was elected

4. A great deal of interest and agreement was centered around returning responsibility to the committees and relieving the board of routine matters. This will be a major policy change and will take some time to completely implement.

5. It was agreed that the Political Committee should set up a complete political education program, including if possible a workshop on the techniques of implementing political action.

All of these and more will be discussed at the next board meeting and it is expected that resolutions and directives to start implementing them will be passed at that time.

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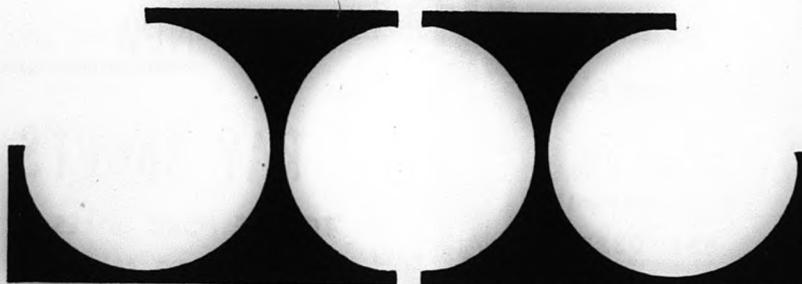
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NEW SIR CENTER IS PROPOSED

A grand and imposing building, containing over 19,000 sq. ft. of floor space on three floors is being proposed as a new SIR Community Center. The building at 1859 Geary Blvd., has a large double hall with brick and frescoed walls, beamed ceiling, and a fireplace on the first floor. The marble-tiled entrance hall is flanked by a sitting room with a fireplace and a panelled executive office. Other rooms on the first floor could provide office space for SIR activities. In addition, there is a large kitchen, big enough for Bill Plath and Jim Fooks together.

The second floor houses a gilded theatre with a balcony, the theatre seating about 700. The theatre is equipped with lighting panels, dimmers, stage drops, etc. and a real pipe organ. Behind the stage is a tremendous dressing room with an adjoining shower. The dressing room is carpeted and lined with two tiers of lockers on the main floor and the balcony. Also on the second floor are rooms that could be used as a bar for

the theatre, offices, etc.

The third floor has a large library with built-in bookshelves on all four walls, wall-to-wall carpeting, and 14 foot ceilings. Other rooms on the third floor could be used as offices or custodial quarters for a full time janitor.

The building is uniquely suited to SIR as it houses both a large hall and a theatre. The building is just across from the new Japanese Cultural Center and in a rapidly improving area.

The price is \$166,000 with a first mortgage of \$109,000 from a private party assumable without a loan fee. The Building Fund Committee proposes to provide the balance through donations and a second mortgage from funds provided by friends and interested members of the community.

Arrangements are being made with the Golden Gate National Bank to collect funds in two accounts. The first Fund, known as the Center Building Fund, would accept donations of any size and hold them for 6 months. If by that time, the building were not pur-

chased, the Bank would return all donations over \$100. although the interest earned on deposits as well as donations under \$100. would become part of the existing building fund. The limitation on the size of returnable donations is necessary in the interests of bookkeeping simplicity. The second fund would provide a second mortgage, paying 10% interest annually to contributors, with principal due in 5 years. In the interests of efficiency, contributions to the second mortgage fund are limited to a minimum of \$500.

Checks are being accepted by the Building Fund Committee. Make checks payable to the Golden Gate National Bank Trustee for the Center Building Fund, or Second Mortgage Fund. Further details are available from the Chairman, Larry Littlejohn.

The Chairman further asks that names of potential donors be submitted to him so that arrangements for personal interviews and/or tours of the building can be made.



PROPOSED BUILDING

SMALL ACTIVITIES

BY PERRY GEORGE

The Bowling Group held their bi-annual banquet in the SIR community center. Well over 100 people sat at large tables overwhelmed by the fabulous floral arrangements by Gene Boche. Michelle, as eternal as "Marlene", again appeared on stage in front of such a glittering array of silver prizes it looked as though he had just bought out Paul de Vries Et Cie. Then there was a long procession of winners receiving trophies, all in all a rather impressive show.



You don't all have to be a grandsinging star like MME. Aida Soto-Voce, all you have to be is interested in having a good time singing together. We have secured an experience director (imported from Milwaukee) and accompanist to aid in getting us to lift our voices in song and beauty. The organizational meeting will be held on Friday, June 23rd at the Community Center.

The Gourmet Group had their organizational meeting in our library at SIR center and have decided to make it a progressive dinner group to

peoples houses and apartments. For more details contact Bill Plath, my sub-committee chairman, or myself.



The ballroom dancing group has graciously suspended itself until after the three one act plays by the production committee. It will emerge like a Phoenix Bird from the ashes of age, to a new vigor on June 12 and regularly on Mondays thereafter.

John had only expected every one to be interested in the current fad dances only, but the dancers seem most fascinated with the tango, or waltz.



"A lifeguard is never around when you want one!"

The swimming group, in lieu of pool, has taken to the ocean, I myself, found the ocean too cold to freeze any

thing higher than my knee caps. The group decided very bravely to just sunshine along lovely San Gregorio beach.

June 20th is the day to show up at the center with all those bolts of yard goods you have gotten on sale and learn how to sew! Tommy Brown is now free to teach. Learn how to sew and think of all money you'll save on making draperies when you move every three months--that's what Jim Graham of the membership committee says when he does the unending bit of address changes--and we all know the windows are never the same in number of size!



On June 4th, the Faithful Hiking group will climb to the heavens--I thought I really should say something religious in this issue---up Mt. Tamalpais after they meet at eight a.m at Oak and Van Ness. On June 25th, the group will meet at Market and Van Ness, and the destination will be a mystery, unless you wish to call Paul at 346-0617

SIR SKIERS

SEASON FINALE!

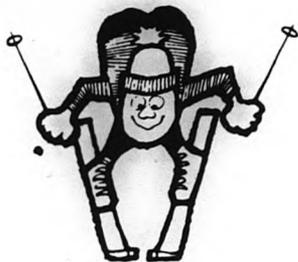
SIR Skiers' fantastic snow season was finished with a flourish at the Squaw Valley Spring Carnival!

SIR's sundeck suite at Squaw Valley Lodge was the focal point for festivities, and a large group kept the suite swinging! After an active Saturday of skiing, the group

had cocktails on their sun-deck while watching the torch light parade down "Exhibition Run". It was a breath-taking sight!

There were more sights in store as the group prepared for the costume ball at the lodge. The Ball was such a great success that for the first time of the season, SIR skiers failed to steal the show--there was far too much competition.

Due to uncertain weather, the Champagne Brunch on Sunday was held in the SIR suite. It was also a great success!



After devouring caviar, oysters, and various other fine viands, the group staggered back to the slopes.

The weekend was considered by many to be the most fabulous of the season and several skiers were so unwilling to end it that they stayed over another day for more skiing.

SIR skiers owe the success of the '67 season to the invaluable assistance of several people, among them are: Darner; Jim, sensational skier of '67; Chris, the most active new member of this season; and to all the others who contributed to a great season.

Thanks also to the gang at Dave's V.I.P. for making Sir so welcome!

It is fondly hoped that those who could not join the group during snow season will consider joining us for water-skiing this July!

Please call Jon at 673 6390; or Darrell at 863 8935 for more information

The Host Corps Needs You

by Jim Skaggs

These are exciting days for the many SIR members who are helping to activate the Religious committee. At a specially called "brainstorming" session held on Wednesday, May 8, and at the weekend Board retreat many new programs of vital interest to Sir were outlined and discussed.

As a result of the new enthusiasm the committee hopes to implement the "Host Corps" within the coming month so that individual members could begin this commitment program early in June.

The necessity for greater individual contact between members and non-members who express an interest in SIR's activities has long been recognized and debated; however, no serious steps have been taken previously to introduce interested persons to SIR functions. With the cooperation and support of all members and committees, the Religious committee hopes that the Host Corps will answer the challenge for greater personal commitment on a person to person basis.

A second item of great im-

portance in coming weeks involves the strengthening of the lines of communication between SIR and other related groups which are trying to assist members of the homophile community in the areas of religion, ethics, and personal involvement. The Council on Religion and the Homosexual and the various ministerial, diocesan and church-related organizations will be the major areas of the committee's liason activities.

Tired of the same faces and trite conversation at Sunday brunch? Then, come and assist the Religious committee with its initiation of Sunday brunches designed especially for all persons interested in socio-religious discussion and fellowship. It is hoped that these meetings will provide a necessary avenue of social direction as well as a time for discussion of various topics of interest concerning the many religious and social communities in the Bay area.

Watch Vector each month for important announcements concerning future activities of the Religious committee.





SECRETARY'S CORNER

by Pat Kelley

At the Closed Membership Meeting this month we achieved a great deal of work in a minimum amount of time. Among the most noteworthy items was the setting up of a special committee to prepare a report on feasibility and the ways and means of securing money to purchase the old Masonic Building for a new Community Center.

The Membership also approved the expenditure of the necessary money to cover the cost of burial and the shipping of the body of one of our members to his family. This is the first member we have had that died without any funds to take care of the necessary expenses.

At the Board meeting of May 9th, the Board created a new committee with the responsibility of recommending to the Board and/or membership ways to raise money. This will become a very important committee. As we continue to grow, we must insure that we have an adequate financial base to carry out our many projects. Persons who would be interested in serving on this committee should contact the Office Secretary or any Board Member for further information.

The Board held its semi-annual Retreat at Juanita's in Sonoma this month. A more detailed report of what happened is in the Gold Sheet for members.

At the Open Meeting a discussion was held on Capital Punishment. We also had a guest speaker, Mr. Morris Kight of Los Angeles who gave an interesting and often hilarious speech on history and the ways people have changed their opinion on questions of rights and conduct.

Don't forget that at the Closed Meeting on June 7th a vote will be taken on the ratification of the codification of the Constitution that was mailed to you last month.

BLOOD NEED FOR S. I. R.

(The following letter is published to inform the gay community of a need that is constant and demanding.)

Re: Blood Bank Account

Irwin Memorial Blood Bank
270 Masonic Avenue
San Francisco, California

Gentlemen:

We have recently reviewed the statements of our account with the Irwin Memorial Blood Bank, and we find that the number of units presently credited to this account and the number of donations currently being made are not so numerous as we desire. In an attempt to generate more activity on this account we are organizing a campaign to encourage more of our members to donate blood. For purposes of this campaign we would appreciate your sending any information you have available, printed for mass distribution or otherwise. We particularly need to know such things as the hours at which donors should appear and the appropriate address, the amount of time required of a donor for giving the blood, and the types of medical histories which preclude one from giving the blood. If you can suggest any techniques which you have found helpful in previous campaigns of this sort, we would appreciate learning them. We also wonder if there are places at which blood may be given other than at the blood bank, or if there are circumstances which would warrant establishing another location for a specific occasion.

In addition, for our own information, we would like to know the rules which govern the operation of our account.

Thank you for your cooperation and assistance.

Sincerely,
James Foster, Chairman
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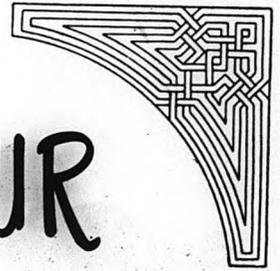


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BAR TOUR



By Tequila Mockingbird

The fabulous Morris Knight toured the bars!..A standing ovation at the Tavern Guild meeting and prolonged applause from the well attended S.I.R. open meeting had him in a fine mood for a tour of some of the city's better bars. Accompanied by many S.I.R. Directors and Officers of other organizations, Mr. Knight arrived at the 524 in time to hear all of Ann Weldon's performance. From her stirring opening "Born Free" to her "Rolling Stone" finale, Ann held her audience enthralled. Particularly outstanding was the Spiritual "He's Got The Whole World In His Hands." With it the 524 audience turned into the "Caddell Place Choral Society" and sang the melody while Miss Weldon improvised. The fervent, handclapping swaying singing audience would have won a nod of approval from the most conservative minister in the land. Some of our city's cogniscent musically "normies" turn out for these performances, pretending to

be gay so that they may bask in Miss Weldon's radiance.

Morris after being assured "How it feels to be a Rolling Stone", arrived for the finale of the grand opening of Tortuga on Jones St.. The Tortuga turned out to be a large dining room presided over by a famous name chef. After discussing chapter DXXIV of the virtues of San Francisco with host Bill Fowler and T.G.S.F. Secretary Bob Ross the evening wound up at one of our town's most popular landmarks, the Dalt Club. It seems that Morris and Joe Roland, the proprietor, have a mutual admiration society going, and Morris considers himself one of the Dalt's most ardent patrons.

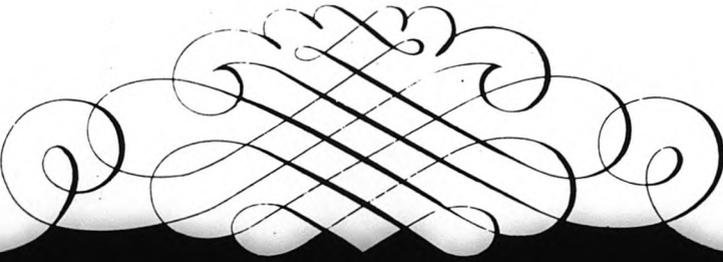
The following day, Morris drawn by flower power to the Vatican of the Love generation, arrived in the Haight-Ashbury area. After laying in a stock of God's "eyes" and posters at the Print Mint for the needy of Los Angeles, this Southern California institution visited two more of our famous San Francisco Institutions, The Golden Cask and the Lucky Club. Morris allowed that he had not heard stylish organ playing in 25 years. He was happy that the Cask was preserving this art form. Hopefully, on his next visit Morris may hear Aunt Henry--that other great exponent of stylish organ--playing "Lady Of Spain" in a new S.I.R. Community Center.

The next morning Morris Knight, blooming with love, Daisies, and Old Granddad, flew back to the Southland. San Francisco is a happier and wiser city due to his visit. We all look forward to another visit from this wonderful and colorful personality!

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Public Sex is Sex is Sex is Sex



--by W. E. Beardemphl

Has the urbanization of Western Man, coupled with his agrarian morality, led to a "sexually sick" society?

VECTOR's last "Open Forum" was "Sex in Public Places" and it drew from our community the same reaction patterns that would come from a comparable contemporary heterosexual group; some condemning the immorality of public sex acts, some saying it's just fun and some writing "look the other way." But at the heart, there exists a profound social tragedy--a tragedy that requires our attention.

I question one assumption made by ALL persons who wrote on this subject. I was reminded of the remark made by Jack Parr when he went to England that Englishmen drive on the left side of the road instead of the right side "as God intended they should." Who, in heaven's name, has decreed that sex is exclusively a private function of mankind? Some societies have operated successfully with some sex acts being public. Some have even used it as part of public religious festivals. In our prudish twentieth century, sterilized, urbanized social straight-jacket, we have been brainwashed by the "right of privacy" into believing that liberty means...get in your little cubicle baby, lock your door behind you and stay there and ONLY there have you the right to be a human being.

Some homosexuals are beginning to open their eyes to the fact that our society is controlled by such illogical standards. It is the same old Americanism: do as I say not as I do. The old saw buzzes, if you do it, I am offended and I have the right not to be offended by you; if I do it, it's none of your business and you shouldn't have been looking. Translated into heterosexual-homosexual social terms, we find that homo-

sexual public acts are de facto criminal whereas heterosexual public acts are NOT de facto criminal. I mean everything from holding hands to fornication. If anyone questions this, go to Half Moon Bay this Summer or any of the numerous spots around San Francisco where heterosexual "lovers' lanes" exhibit a constant orgiastic panorama for God or Child or whoever wishes to look. Public heterosexual acts are flagrant and constant and they are unpunished by our system of law enforcement.

One can conclude that, if "lovers' lanes" are all right for heterosexuals, they are now all right for homosexuals.

Society recognizes that "lovers' lanes" exist and persons have a right to protection wherever they are. If a murder were committed in a heterosexual "lovers' lane" the whole community would be up in arms, yet the punks in the "rat pack" that beat and murdered SIR member, Stoltz, at the beach two months past believed they were HELPING THE POLICE ENFORCE THE LAWS! Those criminals that beat and murder gay persons are an ever-present outgrowth of society's sanctions against homosexuality in general.

In the last "Open Forum," not one person commented on or even mentioned as an aside that homosexuals have a right to live or that they have the right to protection.

Am I the only one who is outraged that just to be a homosexual in public is to be subjected to beatings and possibly murder for no reason other than you ARE a homosexual?

Most of our community, also, must believe that such acts are aiding the enforcement of our laws. Of the many gay persons in the area that day who saw the beating and murder of Stoltz, not one came forward to testify. Were their positions in the community or their jobs too sensitive and important for them to come forward and see justice accomplished for a fel-

low-homosexual? I still cannot believe that homosexuals can be so callous and unprincipled as to acquiesce to violence as just part of the game of being gay and it is the victim's fault if it happens. It seems to be a sociological rule that a minority group will believe more fervently than the rest of society the lies perpetrated about itself; and, the minority will act out with more zeal than the society at large the false plays that enforce these myths. If there are persons who are, by their very nature, homosexual, and we do have good evidence to support this contention, then we can conclude that the intent of our society with its strange customs, illogical laws, and unequal enforcement procedures is to debase and distort the nature of the individuals involved. But the way our society regards homosexuals is just one example of an inherent societal sickness which desires and needs to create a criminal element to punish. Enforcement of sanctions against any selected group creates tragedies for which the society must assume moral responsibility.

Acquiescence to this kind of a social order is a disgrace. Only we can change our society to a good society. Only we can change the police surveillance through peepholes of restrooms. Only we can change the present sophisticated cruelties of law enforcement procedures perpetrated against homosexuals. Only we can change the simplifying rationales and sexual taboos that are the basis for our society's sexual attitudes.

The whole "sick" scene of sex--public and private--in this country is beginning to unfold:

Ignore it--never.

Morally condemn it--no.

Do it just because it's fun --and subject yourself to continued injustices? --no.

DEMAND and GET equal rights with heterosexuals--we damn well better.



OPEN FORUM

GOD AND THE Gay

BY LARRY CARLSON

This issue of VECTOR is directed to religion, and therefore, the Open Forum follows suit. The results of the questionnaire to which, disappointingly, only forty people responded, follows. (1) Do you believe in God? Yes--32, No--8. (2) Would you classify yourself as (a) very religious--0, (b) somewhat religious--22, (c) indifferent--4, (d) agnostic--10, (e) atheist--4. (3) Has your homosexuality prevented you from being a part of the church you would like to attend? Yes--8, No--32. (4) Should homosexuals be barred from churches? Yes--2, No--38. (5) Do you think the church has something to offer to the homosexual? Yes--36, No--4. (6) Do you believe a homosexual can maintain a "religious ethic" outside of an organized church? Yes--38, No--2. (7) Have the ethical values of Christianity made your adjustment of being accepted as a homosexual more difficult? Yes--26, No--14. (8) Does religion create a moral conflict for the homosexual? Yes--36, No--4. (9) Are you familiar with the workings of the C.R.H. (Council on Religion and the Homosexual?) Yes--25, No--12, did not know--3. (10) Do you approve of the workings of the C.R.H.? Yes--38, abstained--2.

I wish to thank all those people who wrote in letters. Although they were all very interesting, space did not permit the printing of all

of them this month. The following are some of the letters submitted to Open Forum.

Officially, the Church looks upon the homosexual as a sick man in need of help and deserving of Christian pity, but not fit company for Christians. When a homosexual appears on the scene the Church first attempts to ignore him and his special problems. If this tactic fails to rid the Church of the problem he presents, he is then consigned to the outer darkness with the rest of the heathen population. And thus by ignoring the problems presented, the Church seems to think that they will simply disappear. Will they?

To further complicate matters the Church feels that it will endanger its position of power and wealth if it should alienate the majority of its membership by receiving into its community the homosexual population who wish to seek after God. Thus, the Church condemns the homosexual not for his actions but only because of his existence.

It is long past the time when the Church should have stopped condemning the homosexual and started to actively reach out to help him. Unless the Church soon throws off this state of fear and ignorance into which it has fallen, it will come out of it only to find that it (the Church) is no longer a relevant force in the life of the homosexual.

As bleak as this picture looks, there is still hope for the homosexual who is looking for and needs the spiritual consolation that is found only in God's presence. If this man will but take it upon himself to seek after God in his own stumbling manner God will take note of him and will bless him with the full abundance of His love. For is it not written "Knock and it shall be opened"..... "Seek and ye shall find."

....Frank Miller

One of the meanings of the word 'bless' is to make happy. So the question might read, "Does God make the queen happy?" God makes this queen happy so many times in the course of a day for He puts beautiful things in the world for me to see. Some of

those things are flowers, trees, and handsome men.

While I am eating breakfast I look out the window. People go by. A tall cop sways his wide shoulders, a butch mover carries furniture into the house across the street, an athletic fellow in tight bluejeans runs for a bus. Sights like that happy up my breakfast. As I travel about S.F. during the day, I see so many handsome men that I become as happy as a hippie at a happening. In the darkness of my bedroom I can't see any handsome men, but I can put my arms around one. That is the greatest happiness I can imagine and I have had the privilege of putting my arms around that nice guy for 28 years. Yes, God has certainly blessed this queen.

....C. D.

I believe that organized religion in the U.S. and most specifically, the Roman Catholic faith, is the most retardant, destructive, regressive power in our culture.

Using "God's Will" as their reference book, the professional religionists seek to control man by making him feel guilty. The Christian "All men have sinned in the eyes of God and can only gain redemption by taking Christ" is a concept that no one "here on earth" should accept as logical. We meet all new things as neutral, and then (if the things are people) we allow them to make or lose points as we get to know them. It is sick to be introduced to a new person and think, "Baby, you've struck out, but you can be my friend if you treat me well enough."

Then, using this power of guilt, perpetuated by parent-

al teaching, and "our society," the Church then seeks to establish a moral standard. The most abominable of the edicts of these "standards" are the sexual ones delineating who with, and how

to have sex, and even so far as why to have sex.

Modern man, with his progressive education, and search into psychological mechanics is swept over by the number of Christians and Catholics who, by blind faith and a healthy feeling toward

the concept "that's the way it is, and that's the way it should be," with the result that any hope of progress in the fields of sexuality, psychology, mental illness, etc. is limited. At the same time we are sending rockets to the moon, we are pounding our neighbors and loved ones over the head with a club. I think this is the sickest thing in our society. Who's worried about Drags???

....Robert Koch

The church is in a difficult position. Whenever it has made pronouncements on the subject of sex, they have always been ill-informed and in keeping with the various prejudices of the time. Moreover, psychiatrists of today, knowing very little of religion while at the same time never having studied morality or ethics, have managed to build their own prejudices into what they term 'mental health.' There really is only one place for the church to turn--back to its basic teachings about loving and understanding people---which one hopes C.R.H. is trying to do. Heaven forbid that the neuroses brought about by persecution either of the church (in the past, which made it judgemental and exclusive) or of homosexuals (in the present, making them as impossible to live with as the churchpeople) should prevent the urgently needed work in this direction. Deprive people of sexual expression one way or another, and you deprive them of life.

....Anon

The homosexual, as with all men, creates his own conflict and furthers a conflict created for him, or uses a conflict (trauma, etc.) as a crutch. Religion, as with all other things, gives back to the individual what he, himself, puts into it--and sometimes more.

The C.R.H. is doing a good job in many ways. However, they are somewhat "inborn" and self-complacent. I hope that the funds received from the various churches can be used for something other than expenses, etc. They also need a "drive" in addition to their printed reasons for being.

....Anon

I acknowledge the rationale of an original and continuing prime force. I am, and am likely to continue being, an agnostic so long as bigotry, narrow-mindedness and prejudice with regard to race, creed and sexual proclivities is so demonstratedly rife among church-goers. However, I can see no reason for the homosexual to be more at conflict with the Church than with the myriad of social strata whose imposed mores we allegedly offend. There are reasoning and enlightened individuals among the clergy and there are many homosexuals who find solace in religion. One may draw comfort from the certainty that a "supreme being" is doubtlessly impartial in the final analysis!

....Jack Miller

After a year of group therapy sessions in Mattachine, one met mostly those who were completely disgusted with psychologists or psychiatrists and got more out of group therapy, and most discussions were on accepting one's self and little talk of religion. Whereas in S.I.R. conversations, so many spoke of their religion, though few admitted it was a problem. It seems to be a problem among the Catholics mainly or those who are "out" recently, or among the Mormons who are told they can't get into heaven unless married.

But if one can stand to lead the double life among workers at work and then feeling free at S.I.R. activities, then one should be able to take a double life of not confessing in church re: his sex life, but take in what he gets from the sermons.

Being irreligious, I say to change your church to Glide Church, or come to S.I.R. functions and mingle with the here and now practicalities of life and forget the vague promises of churches. Feel free like the hippies who fear no one!

....Bois Burk

I accepted the invitation to become one of the incorporators of C.R.H. and was re-elected to the board of C.R.H. primarily because of my belief that many, but not all, homosexuals need and

want the kind of spiritual stability and ethical strength which in the view of some flows from the social nature, the historic tradition and the community acceptance of the organized church. I believe there are a rather sizeable number of homosexuals who desperately need a close intimacy with the church, and I believe that the organized church also needs these "children of God." There are many others, and I myself am included in this group, who feel the organized churches of today serve no valid purpose and society would be just as well off if they were all to be abolished by an act of God. Each group is entitled to its view, and who is to say which is more right. Neither group should point an accusing finger at the other. I believe a person can be just as moral, ethical and Christian having no formal connection with any organized church as the most devout tithing church member. Note my use of the term "organized church." It is my belief that twentieth century organized churches bear little resemblance to the purpose and function which Jesus Christ set forth as their objectives. I believe that the C.R.H. can and should assist the attempts of those churches with a social conscience and a compassion for the human soul to become a more meaningful part of human life.

....Robert S. Walker
Director, C.R.H.

I believe a person's religion is a personal matter for him, the same as his sexuality is. In general, I do not sympathize with the organized religions because many of them exist for the purpose of exploiting people. I believe it is the fault of organized religion that homosexuals have been persecuted throughout much of history. However, I still think organized religion can do good for individuals are better off without it. I prefer to keep my distance but still observe.

....Anon

My view of religion is that relationship an individual can develop with God. Thus,

in essence, religion to me is a highly individualistic thing that does not depend on an established, organized church for expression or practice. As a result, I believe a church could have something to offer the homosexual, as it could any other human being, if it acts merely as a mediator between the individual and God. But if a church instead acts as the spokesman of God as Christianity has, it harms the relationship between the individual and God and establishes rigid codes of ethical values and practices for godliness. Furthermore, since Christianity has condemned homosexuality, homosexuals have suffered in Christian societies for being homosexuals regardless of their individual worth and godliness.

....Ramon

In answering the question, "Does God bless the queens?" I assume that your choice of the word 'queens' includes all homosexuals. As a group, I rather doubt it. Actually, I don't think He even blesses all Christians or Hebrews. Torquemada, Napoleon, Henry VIII, Catherine the Great, and Lucretia Borgia all professed to be Christians. When they got as far as the pearly gates and showed their credentials, the Almighty must have been at least a bit puzzled. And let's face it, things have not been all milk and honey for the Tribes of Israel these last few decades either.

Homosexuality has been recorded in every civilization that left any kind of written or pictorial evidence. It has been observed among all levels of life capable of having sexual relations. It is a part of Creation. It is inconceivable that God, who is Good, would create something abominable in His own sight.

Homosexuality is neither blessing or curse. It is irrelevant. The important thing is how we lead our lives. The Lord is not interested in our bodies. He wants our souls.

Christ directed His entire ministry at sinners and outcasts. His message was beamed at those troubled in body, mind and spirit. That message was one of love and compas-

sion, mercy and tenderness. He didn't waste time with condemnations of particular vices. Instead He promised that all those who accepted Him would be shown the way to God. He came as the Good Shepherd, not as a dictator.

The Church, as an institution, has long withheld the sacraments from homosexuals. Yet Christ warned, "Judge not lest you be judged." The Church, for Her own sake, needs to be reminded of this.

There are times when the doctrine and dogma of the theologians should be set aside. Christ called all men to Him. The doors to His House and a place at His Table are open to all to come. Let no man, bishop or peasant, saint or bigot, tell you differently.

People make a "religion" of marxism; they make a "religion" of conservatism, or more explicitly sometimes, "anti-communism;" of wilderness preservation; of sexual freedom--you name it. Right now I feel "very religious" or red-hot about "humanism," the love for all people. This feeling enhanced by our utterly monstrous doings in Vietnam.

....Bill Colvig

In closing I would like to include the following which was brought to my attention by G.M. This is the homosexual prayer from the Avon book "Are You Running With Me, Jesus?" By Rev. Malcolm Boyd.

"This is a gay bar, Jesus. It looks like any other bar on the outside, only it isn't. Men stand three and four deep at this bar...some just feeling a sense of belonging here, others making contacts for new sexual partners. This isn't very much like a church, Lord, but many members of the church are also here in this bar. Quite a few of the men here belong to the church as well as to this bar. If they knew how, a number of them would ask you to be with them in both places. Some of them wouldn't, but won't you be with them, too, Jesus?"

Next month's Open Forum is about the "hippies." See the 'Gold Sheet' in this issue to reply to next month's forum.

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the march of thyme

BY BILL BEARDEMPHL

Would you believe another suggestion for a byline? "Aunt Beatrice Hasschlinger;" a name with a German flavor. "---ouch!" Try pronouncing that name with a strong Southern drawl. Or maybe we could work up a "hippie" version: "Ante Beat - Rice Hashis - Swinger, Esquire." I'll stop.

Have you heard about the good doctor who contends that Roman society disintegrated, not because of its homosexuality, but because of the use of lead cooking utensils by the wealthy class that caused the affluent to die at an early age? Can you picture a Roman Senator sending for his chef?

SENATOR: "Chef Antonio, your food was exceptionally delicious tonight--superb--stimulating."

CHEF: "Thanks, Senator. Would you like another lead pot-ful?"

SENATOR: "Si, Si. Life is so short. We must enjoy every fleeting moment while we are able."

CHEF: "You're right there, Senator. I'll send you another "Patina a la Apicius" in my new lead pan. My pots wear out fast, too; such expenses." (He returns to the kitchen muttering to himself.) "Those queer Senators will ruin this country yet."

The question arises as to how a whole group of presumably sensitive persons did not object to the flavor that the lead utensils obviously gave to their food. Some persons today will not use aluminum pots because of the tendency they have to distort food flavors. This is particularly noticeable if you cook a delicately flavored cream or egg sauce in aluminum. One doctor suggested to me that the use of aluminum pots could result in or have a tendency to aggravate ulcers, though I do not believe this has ever been proven.

Well, what foods did the Romans eat that would over-come a strong metal taste? I dug out an English translation of "Apicius, The Roman Cookery Book," The book was translated by (are you ready?) Flower and Rosenbaum. Recipe after recipe is unbelievably deadly camp. From Book I, "The Careful House-keeper" is the following delicately seasoned purgative.

SALES CONDITOS AD MULTA

Aromatic salts are for the digestion, and to move the bowels. They prevent all diseases and the plague, and all colds. Moreover, they are mild beyond all expectation. Take 1 pound dried common salt, 2 pounds dried sal ammoniac, 3 ounces white pepper 2 ounces ginger, 1½ ounces anní (a kind of cumin), 1½ ounces thyme, 1½ ounces celery seed (if you do not want to take celery seed, take 3 ounces parsley instead), 3 ounces origan, 1½ ounces rocket seed, 3 ounces black pepper, 1 ounce saffron, 2 ounces hyssop from Crete, 2 ounces aromatic leaves*, 2 ounces parsley, 2 ounces dill. *(translators' note:) folium can be any aromatic leaf: we would choose bay-leaf for convenience.

That's all it says. Wouldn't that make a lovely Xmas gift from your kitchen, packed in a hand-painted lead cannister you made all by yourself? The card could read "I whipped this up just for you."

Everything in the book has so many spices added that the original flavor is destroyed. Cooks must have prided themselves on cooking unrecognizable food. One recipe in this book concludes with the remark, "At table no one will know what he is eating."

I think that the following pig would be remembered for the rest of one's life, if one dined it.

PORCELL HORTOLANUM

Bonè the pig from the gullet so as to make a sack. Stuff it with meat from a chicken cut up in pieces, thrushes, fig-peckers, force-meat made of the pig's entrails, Lucanian sausages, stoned dates, dried bulbs, snails

taken out of their shells, mallows, beets leeks celery, boiled cabbage, coriander, peppercorns, pine-kernals, finally, put in 15 eggs and liquamen (translators' note - a manufactured bottled sauce resembling Worcester sauce) mixed with ground pepper. Sew it up and brown. Then roast in the oven. When done cut it open at the back and pour over the following sauce: pounded pepper, rue, liquamen passam (translators' note - a sweet wine), honey, a little oil that has been thickened with cornflour when boiling.

I would guess that some old Romans were glad to die young just to avoid the food that killed them. Even today, I'm certain that some persons eat their way to an early grave.

BUTTER

Americans like to think we are superior in all ways to all peoples of all times. Yet I find excessive smoking of tobacco, drinking of alcohol and other forms of sensory-incapacitating stimulants, narcotics, medicines along with tooth pastes, mouth washes, et al have made most Americans insensitive to discern the taste and smell of foods probably more developed than the Romans' insensitivity with their excessive use of spices.

For those who can taste and do care about enjoying food more than being "high" or "pure", a few tips on butter may be beneficial. Most of us seem to ignore the little extras that change "petit cuisine" to "haute cuisine", the use of butter is one of these.

If butter is just melted, you will notice it separates into two parts consisting of an oil and a milk. If you taste butter that has been melted and then solidified again, it does not taste like it did before it was melted. That is because the milk and the fat have not been recombined the same. If you remember this simple truth that a certain amount of milk in butter gives it its expensive spread taste, you will understand how to use butter for the greatest taste appeal.

Clarified butter is just the fat of melted butter. It

may have a slight butter taste, but many good oils will serve the same purpose.

Bound butter is melted butter that has the milk and fat still combined in the original way. This is accomplished by taking whole butter and a little cold water in a sauce pan and shaking them constantly over the fire while the butter melts. The fire cannot be too hot but must be medium to low. The butter when melted in this fashion will come to a boil and form into a sauce that binds the milk into the fat. You will notice a tremendous difference in flavor from just melted butter when this butter sauce is used with your vegetables or other foods such as broiled lobster.

Brown butter is supposed to be one of the secrets of French cooking that chefs are not to tell. I was cautioned by the French chef who taught it to me, (who, incidentally, had his apprenticeship at the "Tour D'Argent"), never to tell the secrets of good cooking, like brown butter to anyone. In France all cooks must spend years working in kitchens as apprentices without pay, and in the better places, they pay the chef to work there, just to learn to cook.

Back to browning butter and its uses. Last month, I mentioned that the butter for omelettes should be slightly brown before putting in the beaten eggs. This is the flavor principle. When you melt butter, the milk first separates and if you leave it over the fire, it will foam and turn brown and then black as it burns. Browning butter is cooking the butter until the milk in the butter browns. This imparts a superb taste to the foods it is used with, but it can be vile if one gets the butter too brown or black.

The uses are many. One is to fry flowered and seasoned sole fillets in a pan with oil. Drain the fish on a paper towel and then transfer it to a hot serving dish. Pour the oil out of the pan, put the pan back on the fire, add two or three tablespoons of butter, a few blanched and sliced almonds, shake the pan while the butter and almonds are turning a light brown,

squeeze in the pan some lemon juice from a fresh lemon, watch it foam, pour the butter and almond sauce immediately over the sole, sprinkle with chopped parsley and serve. You have made "Fillet of Sole Amadine" as a "haute cuisine" chef would cook it. Taste the difference from the fried fish you have been eating.

The next time you cook spinach try draining it well; cool it in cold water and squeeze the water out, if you will. Then brown quite a bit of butter in a sauce pan, add the spinach, season with salt, pepper and slight touch of nutmeg, mix well as it is heating. After you taste spinach in brown butter I defy you to say you do not like spinach. Even Johnny eats it that way.

You must take it from there. I get static every month from my VECTOR staff that this column is too long and from certain Board members that VECTOR is too big, when I really could go on for days. Best I end till next month.



The "Sick", "Unhappy" HomosexualTime To Get Well.

By John Bradley

In recent months the American public has been bombarded with an unusually large number of magazine articles, television documentaries and even a long-playing record purporting to provide information on and solutions to the problem of homosexuality. Almost without exception the opinions expressed by such men as Dr. Samuel Hadden (in March Harper's), Dr. Charles Socarides ("CBS Reports---The Homosexuals" from Stanford), Dr. Heersema (Jan. 20 Look) have reflected the general attitude that homosexuality is a pathological condition that by definition homosexuals are "sick" are "unhappy" and that treatment is desirable if not obligatory if homosexuals are to achieve even a minimal adjustment to the world around them. The fact that these views in reality are little more than personal opinion is rarely emphasized by the supposedly responsible organs of the press through which these "authorities" speak.

To some degree, of course, we are all victims of the view that "homosexuality is a disease" and "all homosexuals are sick." Such a view was popularized some years ago, most notably by Dr. Edmund Bergler, whose totally pessimistic views on the subject have served as a model for a number of other "eminent" psychiatrists. Dr. Bergler tells us, for example, that the homosexual is a "psychic masochist, plus" who derives pleasure from displeasure by encouraging running the risk

of being beaten, arrested, blackmailed and infected with VD. Homosexuals have a megalomaniacal view of life, according to Dr. Bergler, and their gaiety is mere camouflage, for in reality "they are irrational, violently jealous, narcissistic to a fantastically exaggerated degree, hypersupercilious, unreliable, flippant, defensively malicious and hypersuspicious. They are unable to stay with any specific task for any appreciable length of time, have a pronounced tendency toward parasitism and dependicem, retain an infantile attitude throughout life, fail to progress to maturity, reject societal standards in non-sexual as well as sexual matters, harbor wild hatred of ex-lovers, and are immune to moral arguments or legal restrictions. They operate through the misuse of power, the exaggeration of malice and cynicism and the perfection of subtle systems of emotional blackmail." (The preceding quotations are taken from William Parker's abstract of "Homosexuality: Disease or Way of Life" by Dr. Bergler.)

Throughout the nation, Dr. Bergler's views predictably serve as a rationalization for every repressive moral and legal indictment of the homosexual. One would think at times that there were no other medical views on the subject, so anxiously do federal, state and local legislative and police bodies encourage harrassment of this particular minority group. It is of course unfortunate that such archaic attitudes continue to mislead and confuse the general public, who after all have little enough con-

tact with homosexuality in general or with homosexuals in particular; however, it is tragic that this same assortment of contradictory and slanderous opinions (reflected in the pages of Harper's and Look) should be accepted by the homophile community as well.

It is time that homosexuals rejected a philosophy that considers them "sick" by definition. There are literally scores of highly respected men and women writing authoritatively who hold in utter contempt the views of men like Dr. Bergler. Were the various mass media exercising responsibly the powers with which they have been entrusted, homosexuals would not find themselves continually patronized by a society which considers them little more than feeble-minded outpatients.

Why, for example, are we so infrequently reminded by Harper's, CBS, et al. of this particular opinion, held by Dr. Sigmund Freud, the founder of psychoanalysis?

Homosexuality is assuredly no advantage, but it is nothing to be ashamed of, no vice, no degradation, it cannot be classified as an illness; we consider it to be a variation of the sexual function produced by a certain arrest of sexual development...It is a great injustice to persecute homosexuality as a crime, and a cruelty, too. (from a letter to an American mother, April, 1935.)

And why is it that our liberal, "responsibly researched" documentaries never refer to men like Dr. Fred H. Brown a clinical psychologist at

Mt. Sinai Hospital or Dr. Rudolf Kempton, Chairman of the Zoology Dep't. at Vassar College who have written:

In order to understand inversion we must cease to view it as a disease. The homosexual or invert becomes a problem for the psychologist because he does not fit into any clear niche in our society. We do not yet know a great deal about the causes of inversion because research on this subject has been prevented by our social taboos. The word "cure" suggests disease. We have already stated that sexual inversion is not a disease, but a consequence of biologic or psychologic factors or a combination of both.

And surely no widespread mention has ever been made in the mass media of the views of Drs. Kurt Hiller, Franz Reinhard and Juergen Roggenhausen:

We declare that love between those of the same sex however incomprehensible, absurd or even abhorrent it is to the feelings of "normal" people, is neither a vice nor a disease; it is not a mockery of nature but a manifestation of nature; it is an erotic variation that has been observed amongst all peoples of the earth since the dawn of human thought.

Others who unqualifiedly disagree with men such as Dr. Bergler have published opinions as follows; Dr. Richard von Krafft-Ebbing (New Studies in the Domain of Homosexuality):

That contrary sexual sensation cannot thus be necessarily regarded as physical degeneration, or even as a manifestation of disease, is shown by various considerations...It has become impossible to maintain in this connection the idea of "disease."

Dr. Iwan Block (The Sexual Life of our Times):

I have observed a great number of homosexuals belonging to all ages and occupations in whom not the slightest trace of morbid-

ity was to be detected. They were just as healthy and normal as heterosexuals. For me there is no longer any doubt that homosexuality is compatible with complete mental and physical health.

Dr. Charles Berg of the British Hospital for, Functional Nervous Disorders, and the Tavistock Clinic:

Homosexuality is not a disease nor even a clinical entity. It is nothing more than a particular form of expression, of a psychic state which is common to all living creatures.

In addition to differences of opinion as to whether homosexuality is an illness, there are any number of authorities differing with Dr. Bergler, theologians and legislators as to whether or not homosexuality is "unnatural"; Drs. Alfred Kinsey, Wardell Pomeroy and Clyde Martin (Sexual Behavior In The Human Male):

The homosexual has been a significant part of human sexual activity ever since the dawn of history, primarily because it is an expression of capacities that are basic to the human animal.

Dr. Blanche M. Baker:

I regard homosexuality as a way of life and not a disease in any sense. I agree with the late Dr. Alfred Kinsey that homosexuality is one of our mammalian heritages appearing widespread in the general population as a matter of individual variation. Laws which speak about "the unspeakable crime against nature" are completely irrational and indicate quite clearly that the ancient lawmakers didn't know their biology. When viewed in this light, homosexuality is not something to be cured but rather something to be understood and accepted. There are thousands of well-adjusted homosexuals leading busy and useful lives. With a little encouragement there can be many more doing the same. I firmly believe that homosexuals have a very definite place in society today.

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Under capable leadership within their own ranks they may again occupy positions of trust as they have in civilizations in the past.

Dr. Ernest van den Haag, Professor of Social Philosophy, New York University:

Homosexuality, therefore, is to science as natural as heterosexuality and not less so, even if less frequent; nor would homosexual acts be "unnatural" if confined to the human species (which they are not)...Moral distinctions are not made by (or in) nature, but about it...Nature has not eaten from the tree that makes us wise. We have. Hence, homosexuality may be disapproved "wrong," "sinful," or "immoral," but not in any scientific sense "unnatural."

Dr. Donald J. West:

Homosexual behavior seems to arise from some deep-rooted natural urge which finds different expression in different cultures. Homosexual propensities are a part of man's natural biological inheritance. In our culture such tendencies are suppressed. To most people today homosexual indulgence seems so obviously abnormal that it may come as a surprise to learn that many communities do not share their attitude.

Dr. Joseph Stein (Maturity in Sex and Marriage):

Since homosexual behavior does not depend upon anatomy or physiology different from that employed in any other sexual behavior, it can only be seen as a biologically natural expression of the sexual instinct. The individual's inherent capacity to respond to stimulation, no matter what its source, implies that he would respond to his own sex if he were not so strongly conditioned against doing so. The fact that those who refuse to conform to the prescribed pattern are ostracized, sometimes deprived of the opportunity to earn a livelihood, or even thrown into jail, is highly suggestive that such behavior persist-

ed against so much opposition is expressive of basic instinctual patterns. To perceive it as a perversion of the social dictate of the sexual instinct, is to lose sight of the fact that the social dictate does not reflect biology.

Dr. Frank A. Beach, Yale University:

People who say that homosexual activities are biologically abnormal and unnatural are wrong. We find ourselves then, agreeing with Gide in his contention that homosexual behavior should be classified as natural from the evolutionary and physiological point of view.

And as an indication that occasionally individual members of the medical profession are capable of viewing homosexuality as something other than a medical problem. Dr. Harry Benjamin, Endocrinologist:

Must the individual homosexual be rejected in our time? That such a question should even be asked makes me feel a bit ashamed...The fact, however, remains that we have not only widespread rejection and discrimination against the homophiles of our time, but even harsh punitive laws. I am optimistic enough to believe that these laws in a hundred years from now may be looked upon as we today look upon laws against witchcraft.

Dr. D. Stanley-Jones, Royal Society of Medicine:

There can be no question of asking the invert to accept the ordinary standards of heterosexual morality, and any course of therapy which seeks to reverse the fundamental pattern is not only fore-doomed to failure, as all reported cases testify, but is also quite indefensible when regarded in the light of absolute morality; attempted "treatment" or alteration of the basic personality of an inborn homosexual can only be described as a moral outrage.

The material cited above represents but a fraction of the volume of material available on this subject and was gathered by this writer in a most casual manner over an

embarrassingly short period of time. How is it possible that the mass media with their enormous budgets and highly efficient production staffs are consistently unable to come up with anything other than the customary dribble we, the public, are continually fed concerning the "pathological" nature of

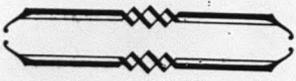
homosexuality? are we to believe that these media are incapable of locating such documentation? Are pressures from advertisers keeping the positive side of the question from open discussion? Or is it more likely that the television networks, magazines and newspapers merely are guilty of not having done their homework?

Aside from the question of press responsibility (or lack thereof) there is another issue of great importance, that of the homophile community's responsibility to itself. Organizations such as S.I.R. can no longer afford the luxury of non-involvement. They must make every effort in the future to educate, to inform, to clarify issues for their own memberships as well as for the larger heterosexual community. The Supreme Court is currently deciding a case bearing directly upon the questions raised here. In Boutilier vs. the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service the American government is seeking to deport a homosexual alien on the grounds that since all homosexuals are pathological by definition, he was an "undesirable" at the time he entered the country eleven years ago.

During the 1930's another nation attempted to rewrite existing civil law as well as the laws of natural biology in order to deny yet another minority its civil rights. The first step in the systematic annihilation of the German Jewish population began with the relegation of this minority to second class citizenship. In America today many homosexuals already are virtually second class citizens by virtue of the unequal enforcement of civil and criminal laws. The next step is "proving" that by definition homosexuals are patho-

logical and should be "hospitalized" (another term for incarceration or imprisonment). Dr. Sherri Cavan, Sociology Professor at San Francisco State College spoke to this very point last February at an all-day symposium here in San Francisco. According to Dr. Cavan, many people are in state institutions not because they are crazy. "They are committed mainly because their opinions and style of life happen to differ from those who have the power to enforce middle-class moral standards---the police, judges and psychiatrists. The protection of due process is regularly bypassed by state hospitals seeking to incarcerate those "too sick" to understand the charges brought against them.

Again--it is time that homosexuals stopped apologizing for their condition and defended themselves with the great quantity of scientific and medical material available to them. Homosexuals must state boldly, wherever and whenever possible, that they are not "sick;" even more importantly, they themselves must believe this to be true. For their own mental health and well-being they must throw off the cloak of guilt in which they have permitted themselves to be shrouded. They must cease to excuse their own individual character weaknesses and emotional handicaps (most of which are totally unrelated to their homosexuality) merely as part of their homosexual orientation. Homosexuals as individuals and as a group are no less "happy" than their heterosexual counterparts. The dangers of believing otherwise are great for as Dr. Cavan reiterated, "pathways to mental hospitals have been paved by well-intentioned middle-class psychiatrists who insist on viewing a person as sick rather than bad or evil." The final irony of psychiatry well may be that after having provided the rationale for removing homosexuals from the state prisons across the country, it has doomed them nonetheless to a lifetime in our state hospitals.



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THE JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GOVERNMENT - WATCHDOG OF LIBERTY

by Evander Smith

An arrest is a traumatic experience for anyone irrespective of his job. Many employers upon discovering that an employee has been arrested will discharge him. This is especially a problem if the charge is a sex one. Where the employee is a member of one of the professions, e.g., medicine, law, teaching, etc. the police will most assuredly notify the accrediting group.

The case of Sarac v. State Board of Education 249 A.C.A. No. 1, 64 California, is an example of the rank discrimination from arrest through the courts and of how a life can be ruined by prejudice. Mr. Sarac was arrested by a Long Beach policeman, L.A. Bowers, who alleged that in July, 1962, at a public beach Mr. Sarac "rubbed, touched, and fondled the private sexual parts of the policeman. Bowers, a person of the masculine sex, with the intent to arouse and excite unnatural sex desires in said policeman Bowers and in the defendant." Bowers was the arresting officer and there does not appear to have been any witnesses except the two principals involved. Consequently one person's word would be as valid as the other if Mr. Sarac had chosen to contest his arrest in court.)

Charged with a serious sex crime, albeit a misdemeanor, the defendant chose to plead guilty to a "lesser" offense. This undoubtedly had the effect of saving himself the trouble and embarrassment of a trial involving a nasty situation. He "saved expenses," lawyers don't charge as much for pleading you guilty as they do for defending you.

The policeman was saved the embarrassment of being cross-examined and subjected to his integrity being impeached and his own morals impuned. After this expeditious plea of guilty, THEN the teacher dis-

covered what it was all about! His teaching credentials were revoked by the State Board of Education.

Next the teacher went to the Superior Court in a Civil mandamus action to force the restoration of his teaching license; He lost. He then petitioned the Court of Appeals to set aside the lower court's decision; he lost.

The civil courts were asked to vitiate a criminal proceeding in effect, simply because the punishment (loss of teaching position) is far, far greater than the defendant believed possible when a plea of "guilty" was entered. At the civil proceeding twenty three (23) character witnesses, a psychiatric expert, and the teacher himself all testified that he simply was not capable of doing the act charged by policeman Bowers. It is indeed unfortunate that this array of testimony was not produced before a jury in Long Beach at a criminal trial in 1962. After casting the die of doom with a plea of "guilty," the defendant teacher changed attorneys and began an exercise in futility involving costly and protracted civil litigation. He gave away his presumption of innocence by pleading guilty to the crime and then trying to pull himself up by his bootstraps in the civil courts tried to undo the damage. To try and overturn in the Civil Court a criminal plea of "guilty" is almost an impossibility.

The Court of Appeals said in justification of its affirmation:

"Homosexual behavior has long been contrary and abhorrent to the social mores and moral standards of the people of California as it has been since antiquity to those of many other peoples. It is clearly, there-

continued on page 32
see "Watchdog of Liberty"

THURSDAY - JUNE 1
 Productions Committee
 8:00P.M.
 Dinner Group P.M.
 FRIDAY - JUNE 2
 Conversation Group
 1256 Page Street
 SATURDAY - JUNE 3
 Swimming Group
 9:00A.M.
 Dance - 9:00P.M.
 SUNDAY - JUNE 4
 Bridge Group
 5:00P.M.
 3160 Clays Street

SUNDAY - JUNE 18
 Bridge Group
 5:00P.M.
 MONDAY - JUNE 19
 Membership Committee
 Workshop 6:30P.M.
 Ballroom Dancing
 8:00P.M.
 TUESDAY - JUNE 20
 Ways & Means
 8:00P.M.
 Art Group 8:00P.M.
 Dinner Group 8:00P.M.
 Public Relations
 7:00P.M.
 Sewing Group 7:00P.M.
 WEDNESDAY - JUNE 21
 Open meeting
 Membership Comm. 7:00P.M.
 THURSDAY - JUNE 22
 Dinner Group
 7:00P.M.
 Social Committee
 8:00P.M.
 Stamp & Coin Club
 8:00P.M.
 FRIDAY - JUNE 23
 Conversation Group
 1256 Page Street
 Mens Glee Club
 8:00P.M.
 SATURDAY - JUNE 24
 Swimming 9:00A.M.
 Dance 9:00P.M.



SUNDAY - JUNE 11
 3 One Act Performance

Hiking Group
 9:00A.M.
 At Market & Van Ness
 Info. 346-0167
 Bridge Group
 5:00P.M.

MONDAY - JUNE 12
 Ballroom Dancing
 8:00P.M.

TUESDAY - JUNE 13
 Art Group
 8:00P.M.
 Dinning Group
 7:00P.M.
 Board Meeting
 Tryouts for Pal Joey
 8:00P.M.

WEDNESDAY - JUNE 14
 Tryouts for Pal Joey
 Productions Committee
 8:00P.M.

THURSDAY - JUNE 15
 Productions Committee
 8:00P.M.
 Dinner Group
 7:00P.M.
 Host Corps
 8:00P.M.

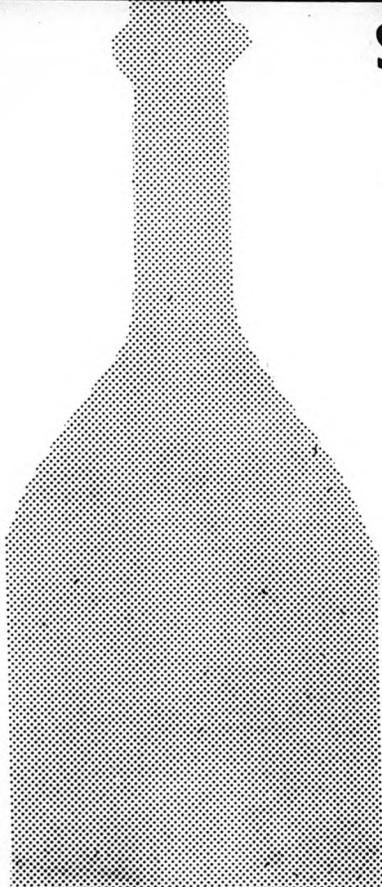
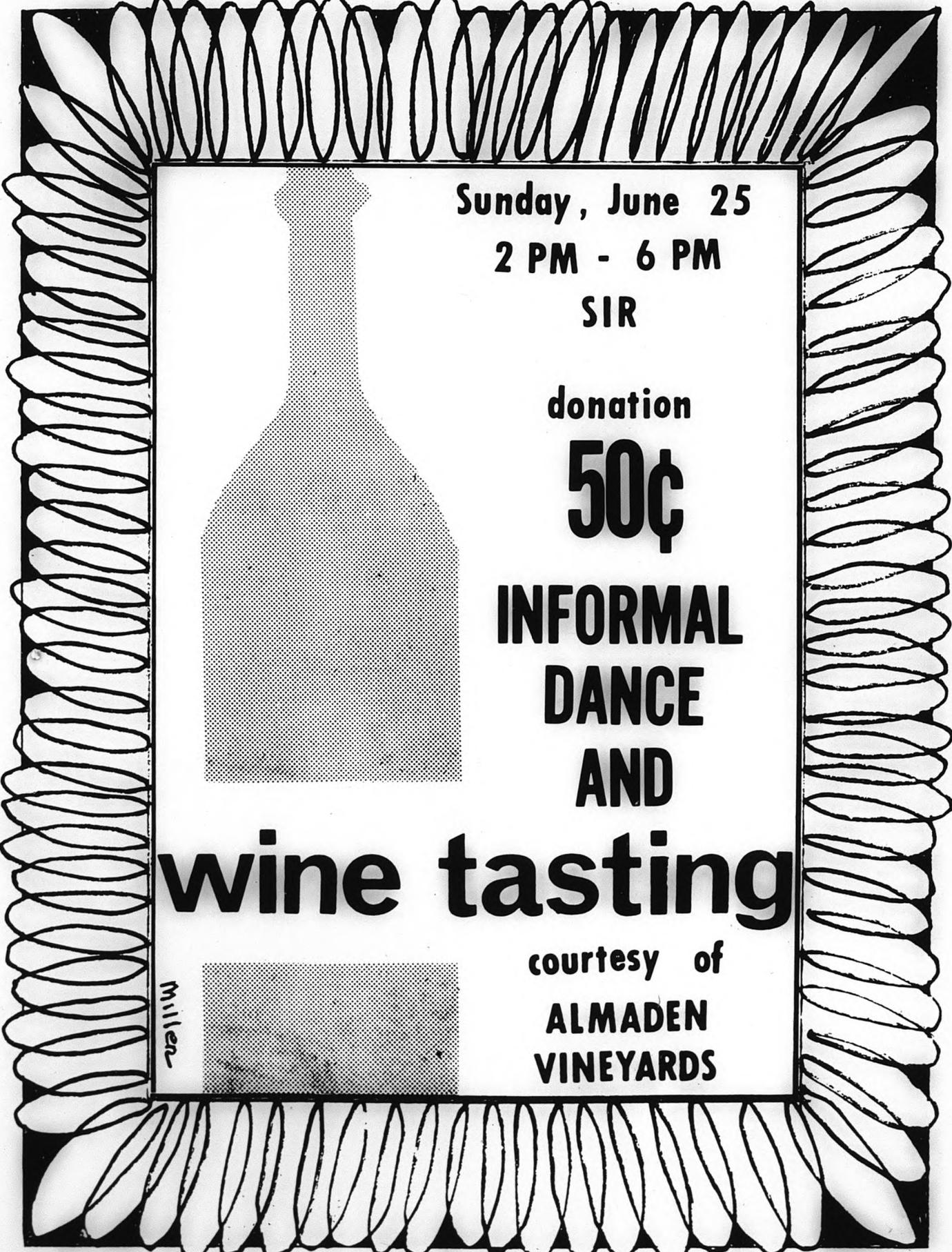
FRIDAY - JUNE 16
 Conversation Group
 1256 Page Street

SATURDAY - JUNE 17
 COIT-TILLION
 RUSSIAN HALL
 8:00P.M.
 Swimming Group
 9:00A.M.
 Dance 9:00P.M.

MONDAY - JUNE 5
 Membership Committee
 Workshop 6:30-9:30
 TUESDAY - JUNE 6
 Dinner Group
 7:00P.M.
 Public Relations
 8:00P.M.
 WEDNESDAY - JUNE 7
 Closed meeting
 Membership Committee
 7:00P.M.
 THURSDAY - JUNE 8
 Political Committee
 8:00P.M.
 Social Committee
 8:00P.M.
 Dinner Group
 7:00P.M.
 FRIDAY - JUNE 9
 3 One Act Performance
 8:00P.M.
 Conversation Group
 1256 Page Street
 SATURDAY - JUNE 10
 3 One Act Performance
 8:00P.M.
 Swimming 9:00A.M.



SUNDAY - JUNE 25
 Hiking Group
 9:00A.M.
 Market & Van Ness
 Info. 346-0167
 Wine Tasting at Center
 MONDAY - JUNE 26
 Publication 7:30P.M.
 Ballroom Dancing
 8:00P.M.
 TUESDAY - JUNE 27
 Art Group 8:00P.M.
 Board meeting
 Dinner Group 7:00P.M.
 Sewing Group 8:00P.M.
 WEDNESDAY - JUNE 28
 Community Center Comm.
 8:00P.M.
 THURSDAY - JUNE 29
 Productions Committee
 8:00P.M.
 Dinner Group
 7:00P.M.
 FRIDAY - JUNE 30
 Conversation Group
 1256 Page Street
 Mens Glee Club
 8:00P.M.



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IF GOD IS DEAD--
Continued from page 6.

status they have campaigned vigorously against sane, humane and charitable political legislation. Look at all the church representatives who testify as experts before legislative committees on everything from abortions to censorship. If other than a church organization should attempt as much, it would rapidly lose its tax-free status. But the church with its political power enjoys immunity.

While the church uses all manner and means of preserving and increasing its importance, power and material wealth in the society, it hides behind its veil of spiritual promises of life eternal in the hereafter and presents a sacrosanctaire of only being interested in the "soul of man".

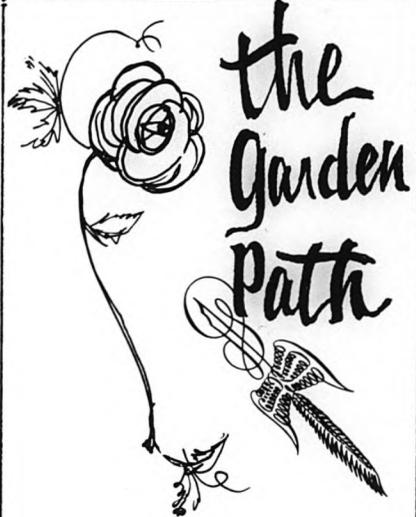
Do you know of the Christian Crusade operated by the Rev. Billy James Hargis of Tulsa, a "fiery evangelist of both religious and political fundamentalism" whose listeners contribute about a million dollars a year? Tax free.

Do you know of the Twentieth Century Reformation Hour-brain child of the Rev. Carl McIntire who was expelled from the Presbyterian church on 1936 for causing "suspicion and ill will". Five times a week he is heard on 635 stations. His wealth and annual take is estimated in the millions. Tax free.

Have you seen the new large modern, office building in Minnesota which houses the headquarters organization of the Rev. Billy Graham? In it there is more complicated IBM accounting equipment than is enjoyed by most banks.

Why has God been killed by his friends? Because the church has become a group of "religious patrioteers for profit". Society is beginning to say to the church, practice what you preach, because society will not buy that philosophy of "do as I say, not as I do".

The chances of the church captivating the minds and hearts of today's society, is about as unlikely as a hippie catching VD from a seat in a pay toilet at Grace Cathedral.



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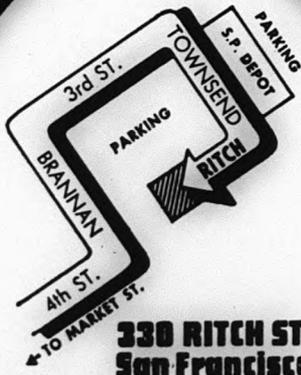
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Dear Madame;

I have a very visible problem. I have a nose bigger and more prominent than the Indian. I find this hinders my search for a lover. I feel self-conscious and can not even meet people. An operation is expensive, but I'll make myself afford it if I must. Please advise me.

Chief Pontiac

Dear Chief:

I am acquainted with your dilemma. I remember when I

was appearing in the role of Lenora in *Il Trovatore* with Fairy Glen Grand Opera Association, of Fairy Glen, Saskatchewan. My performances were radiant, of course, but my Manrico, the Tenor lead, was doing a worse and worse job with each performance. When I inquired what his problem was, he told me he felt self-conscious about playing romantic leads and having a nose as "ugly" as his was. His mind was not on his performances, but on his appearance. My Manrico was convinced that a "nose job" was the only answer. Even with my renowned persuasive powers, I could not convince him the operation was really unnecessary. I told him some people find a large nose a sizable indication of a man's virility! But, alas, even that did not work, I did, however, make a deal with him. He was to tell no one that he was

Continued on Page 33
See "Mme. Soto-Voce"

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COMMUNITY SERVICES

by Jim Foster

The function of the Community Services Committee is to create and carry through projects which are of service to the homophile community and to the extent that we are able, to the larger community as well.

The Committee's work involves the handling of employment referrals, housing, medical and psychiatric aid, and other counselling agencies. We maintain a file of professional persons and businesses and can refer anyone from plumbers to proctologists. Our referral system has been instrumental in helping newcomers to the city and members of the Organization find a more fulfilling employment.

The Community Services first began the "Check 33" campaigns 3 years ago. We are now in the process of finalizing another "Check 33" campaign for the summer months in cooperation with the Tavern Guild, the Tenderloin Committee and several other local organizations. Our buttons, matchbooks, brochures and posters bring an awareness of the problem of venereal disease and that "love needs care."

Other successful projects of the past were the formation of the Sirporium and our Community Center. These projects have become so successful that they are now under independent direction with their own chairmen and board representation.

Our current projects are numerous and varied. In addition to our summer V.D. campaign, we are making progress on a project to be helpful to persons being discharged from the military service with undesirable or bad conduct discharges. Members of the Organization will find a questionnaire included in the "Gold Sheet" that will be helpful in furthering this project.

We have long been concerned with crimes committed against

members of our community. The police are not as concerned with the implications of homosexuality as with violence. We are convinced that a great deal of the violence can be reduced if there were an exchange of information between our community and the police department. We are developing a project along these lines. We will serve as liaisons between persons with information regarding crimes and the police. Confidentiality or anonymity will be maintained. Also in the works is an "ability bank." This will be of help to us in our referral and sponsor programs. We are also looking forward to a program of seminars conducted by people with 'know-how' for people interested in acquiring particular skills.

The Community Services Committee is active, however, we suffer as do other volunteer committees, from an absence of members to do the work. We are always looking for ideas, fresh outlooks and people willing to donate time to be of service. If you think you would like to be a part of this work, drop by the Center any Monday evening at 7:00 p.m.



WATCHDOG OF LIBERTY
continued from page 27

fore, immoral conduct.... "Needless to say, we find no abuse of discretion by respondent (school board) in the penalty it here imposed on appellant, nor any constitutional questions whatsoever with respect to such action (vevoking his teaching certificate) on its part."

(Our readers will recall in the September, 1966, issue of VECTOR we discussed two cases involving the deportation of aliens because of alleged acts of homosexuality. The United States Supreme Court has just announced its split decision in these cases. The citizens of this country are the losers. Next month we will report this landmark decision to you.)

the
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LETTERS

Dear Vector Editor:

You're kidding--all praise. Do you throw out letters you don't like? I'm all for S.I.R., but let's face it, the last thing queens need is another "homophile" publication. Vector is too wordy--too long to read. I thought it was just to report S.I.R. events, not go off and discuss our sex life or drag or law or any of that other junk. Who needs that? The Gold Sheet is more to the point than Vector.

Rosita

This is the same criticism received when S.I.R. was first formed, i.e. ye Gods, another homophile organization. Give us a chance and you will see that Vector is not just another publication, anymore than S.I.R. is just another homophile organization.

W.E.B.

Gentlemen:

I have been reading homo(sex)-phile publications for one hell of a long time. Most of them are not worth the postage and a few of them an insult to the intelligence of a 10 year-old. I have published some of these myself.

The current issue of Vector is probably the finest periodical ever issued by a homo(sex)phile organization. With the Gold Sheet to carry the organizational news etc. Vector should become the nation's #1 homo(sex)phile publication.

Guy Strait

I can not resist. I must agree with your second and third sentences. But your parody of the Life magazine article on homosexuality, was one of the most brilliant things that was ever printed in a homophile publication.

W.E.B.

Dear Sirs:

Certainly you must be aware that homosexuals have been charged with a conspiracy to undermine the American way of life with a plot to defeminize women and demasculinize men thereby creating a homosexually dominated society. In the minds of these critics an organized underground of perverts has infiltrated the theatre, fashion design.....

...Your article on "drag" in the May issue of Vector gives some credence to the charges of these banal conspiracy-oriented critics who preach a doctrine of fear of homosexuality.....

R.P.

Quite bluntly there is no conspiracy and homosexuals are not trying to undermine anything. We are just trying to solve some of our own very difficult social problems.

One section of the "Drag" article that was deleted because of space was a discussion of this charge against homosexuals of trying to "feminize" men, thereby increasing the number of homosexuals. If homosexuals wished to, as a group, increase the number of men who practice homosexuality, they would try to exaggerate the masculinity of men to such a point that few men could comfortably con-

form to the strict masculine standards. This would bring their male sexuality into question and would make them tend to homosexual activities. The complete rationale and discussion is very long and we may take it up again.

W.E.B.



SU 1-1570

MME. SOTO-VOCE

Continued from page 31

having his nose done. He was to tell the opera company that he had a special short singing engagement in Duluth or some other major music center, get this operation, and return to Fairy Glen and see how many people even noticed the change. he did as I asked, and not one of his friends noticed the change.

In conclusion, Mr. Pontiac learn from this. You will be amazed how many people who know you and care for you completely ignore what you consider a glaring flaw.

Ask yourself, just how much of a flaw is this, anyway? Think of people you know who, lookwise, are less attractive than you, yet acquire a good string of lovers and admirers and remember that a lot of romantic prowess is just bravado (guts).

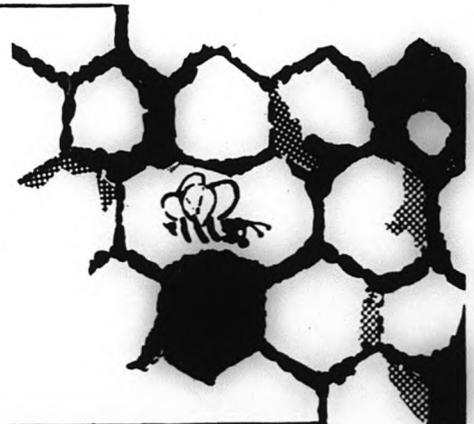
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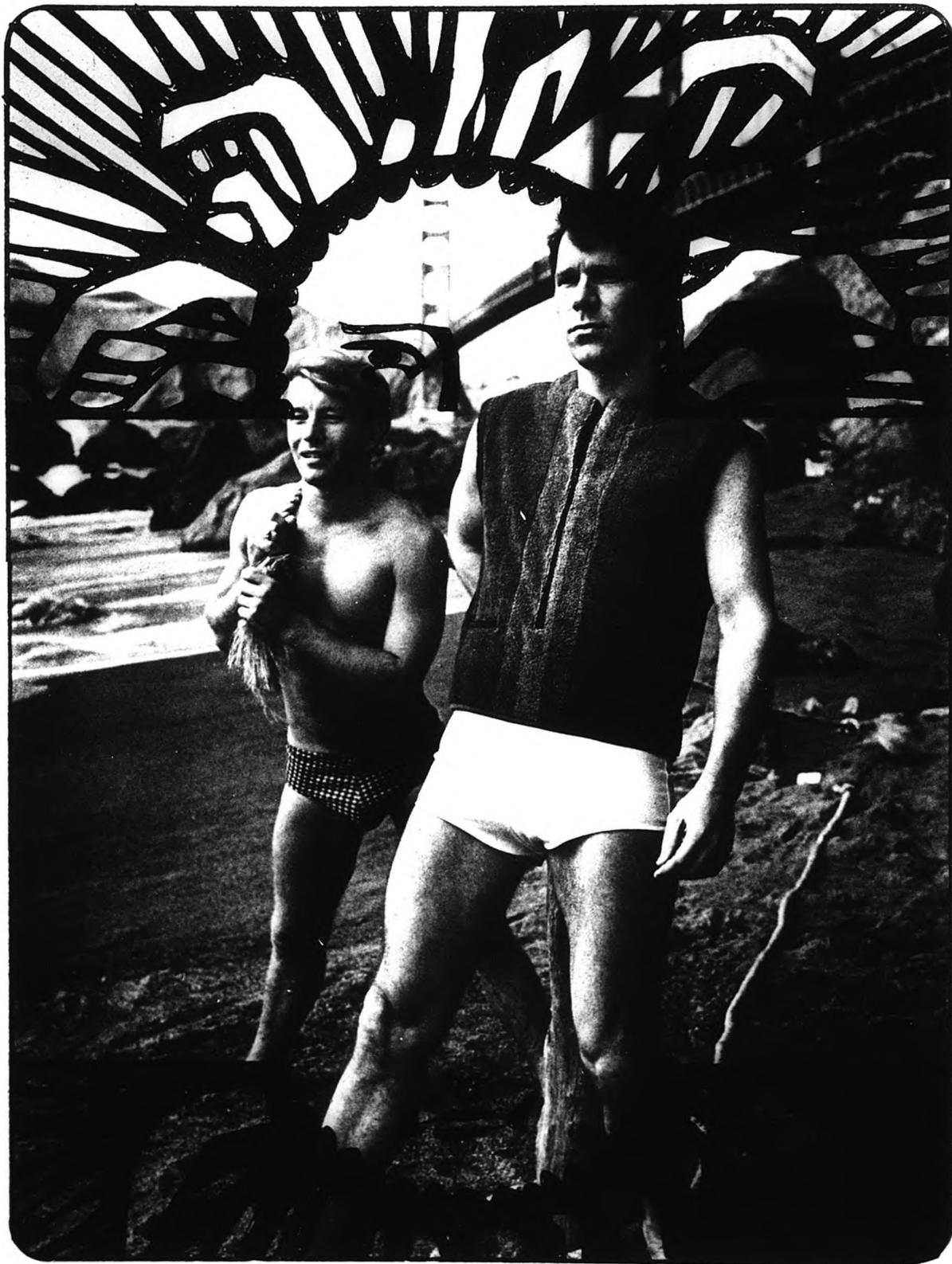
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