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NOVEMBER 1973

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ESCORTED BY - PETER BESSOL

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Evening performance of IL BARBIERE di SEVIGLIA by Rossini.
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Evening performance of I PURITANI by Bellini with Beverly Sills.
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editorial

The difference between crisis and disaster is that those in crisis live to tell and those in disaster don't. Exposure of the Society for Individual Rights' internal money problems in both the Gay and straight press have led the harbingers of doom into Elysian Fields of delight. Like vultures, they salivate over every scrap of bad news. "VECTOR has folded!" they cawed and then flapped their wings and flew in search of fresh meat.

Reluctant as we are to disappoint anyone with good news, be the first on your block to know that VECTOR is alive and well and growing almost faster than we are able to cope with.

In addition to the initiation of a national advertising/promotional campaign in such publications as *The New York Times Sunday Magazine* and *After Dark*, a massive Los Angeles promotion/distribution project led by Managing Editor Bill Ridenhour, has proven effective and requests for subscriptions and selling outlets are pouring in daily.

Our combined September/October issue was in support of S.I.R.'s financial crisis and by limiting that issue to 36 pages we were able to present a considerable contribution to the solution. Immediate plans call for increasing our monthly to 72 pages.

Folded? Hell, we're too busy to even consider bending over!

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Since private stashes of pornography have now moved from the closet to the coffee table, Austen suggests that this museum's primary function is liberation of our visitors from Duluth.

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If you understand a LIBRA you've got our respect. If attached to one accept our sympathies.

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Cover Man

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by Kevin P. Norton

Young gay liberationists have nothing on the old New England Puritans when it comes to forcing their ethics on all who will listen even to a point of violence. It's their way or no way. Norton discusses the destructive bigotry of such an approach.

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Where do prisoners go to be alone? How are "marriages" accepted by the authorities? The inmates? Prisoner Morey has written a moving and intensely personal account of the subject.

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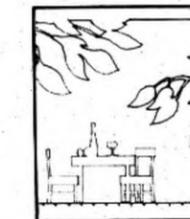
While "straight" resorts blast their sexist ads throughout the nation's Sunday Supplements, the new rural gay resort simply goes about its business of providing quiet, dignified surroundings for its guests seeking their own thing. Two such resorts are within easy access to San Francisco and their "thing" discussed.

Bar, Bath, Restaurant Guide

The only COMPLETE guide to gay entertainment offered in Northern California

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VECTOR Classified



letters

John Wayne and Marlene Dietrich

The Inter-Club Fund of San Francisco would like to introduce itself. I.C.F. is a committee formed of representatives of 10 clubs and 4 independents of the leather/western community. Our purpose is to provide funds to persons in need because of illness or injury. Since March of 1972, I.C.F. has given over \$3,100.

Last year approximately 550 guests attended our CASUALTY CAPERS and this year we expect even more. At our CELEBRITY AUCTION (to be held early next year) we will offer items donated by Lily Tomlin, Pearl Bailey, Marlene Dietrich, Bob Hope, John Wayne, Senator Kennedy, Senator McGovern, Bella Abzug and Carol Burnett, to name a few. We will be accepting sealed bids on the items. For any information about I.C.F. please get in touch with us at P.O. Box 4810, San Francisco, Ca. 94101.

Bob Kellman
Inter-Club Fund

More on Jesus

Paul Bernadino's *The Phallic Mystery of Jesus* (Aug. 1973) is an extremely well-written piece of work, but it is lacking in not being too well thought out. It is so evident he is a dis-believer in Christianity and like many dissatisfied critics of Jesus tends to confuse the teachings of the Churches with the essence of Christ's teachings.

It is a pleasure to see the meanderings of many minds on the theme of religion in publications such as VECTOR. It indicates a real religiosity. What is religion if it is not something to unite us?

Before I close, may I commend you all on the tremendous advances VECTOR is making? It is without a doubt one of the finest magazines currently being published by anyone of any persuasion. Keep it up! Onward & upward.

Tom McNamara
The Brothers of the Light of Jesus Christ

Circum Sized Complaint

Have you noticed (and who hasn't) that all the beautifully photographed models in VECTOR's text and ads are circumcised or simulated? What's wrong with a good, old-fashioned uncut tool? It was good enough for Michaelangelo's David and Donatello's St. Sebastian, not to mention Praxelites, it's good enough for VECTOR.

Do you want to take a vote? Or just look up some handsome, uncut models? I think that today, a few rugged natural types would suggest more virility than the present run of just-like-the-guy-next-door we've been getting. If I'm wrong, we'll fight it out with Polaroids at 20 paces.

K. S.
Berkeley, California



Charles Pierce

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Damn near miraculous!

After not having checked out Vector in some time, I happened to pick up your August issue and I want to tell you that the improvement strikes me as damn near miraculous! All contributions seem to me to range in quality between highly competent and highly superior, and I'm delighted to observe lots of good intentions now complemented by good talent, wider interests and very attractive presentation.

Hannibal's letter saddened me. For a bunch of people who require plenty of appreciation we surely don't excel at appreciating. I found his Amsterdam piece most clever, entertaining and informative. I hope he may be persuaded to continue his talented travel reporting.

I might mention that the enclosed check and membership application break a life time's principle of not joining anything. In doing this I like to presume that your commitment really is to all individual rights—inclusive but not confined to Gay rights. I feel I can no longer afford not to support your effort.

B. B.
San Francisco, California

Take Thyself to the Library, Mr. Ph.D.

I have had several responses to my articles on youth culture (*Vector, May and June*) criticizing inaccuracies. Perhaps the most cogent was from a Roman Catholic who sent a small bible with his acerbic remarks including, "To share thy cloak with Socrates one must first share the cloak of history." I fully agree.

Inaccuracies are inexcusable, and one should never write history from memory. In apologizing to them, however, I should also like to thank these readers for their interest in the subject and their desire to see it pursued further. This indicates that I may have been on the right track theoretically if not always in fact.

Sincerely,
Jerry Disque, Ph.D.

No more skinny nudes, please.

Your magazine, VECTOR, is just great but it does need more nudes—no skinny ones though—and at least one short story in each issue, hear?

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Post Office Intercepts VECTOR?

So far there has been no interception of copies by the Post Office but naturally the delay has made me wonder. As Chairman of the New Zealand Homosexual Law Reform Society, I believe I have a good case for free access should any enquiries be necessary.

I have found VECTOR most valuable in providing information concerning law reform trends internationally, and these have been quoted in support of our own case. We believe the New Zealand Parliament is likely to consider a Private Members Bill in the near future so that reference material has increasing importance.

S.W.N. Ransom
New Zealand

Homosexual Law Reform Society

San Francisco Bars as Firetraps

I feel compelled to write you concerning a situation in our own community which I believe should be corrected.

A number of our bars are quite frankly firetraps. Some of them have been constructed in a style I would call "Outhouse Modern," with much wooden shingling and heavy wood partitions. Should a fire occur (and in most instances a back exit would appear to be nonexistent) the patrons would be pinned in by and piled against these partitions and killed.

Entrance ways are so narrow as to allow no more than 2 persons at most egress at one time.

I hesitate to condemn ownership of any bar for lack of consideration of their patrons but... Emphasis of decor over safety can only be construed as irresponsibility.

These frightening conditions should be a prime project for the Tavern Guild and, if they too should continue to ignore the basic safety laws, the Fire Department must then take drastic steps for us all.

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books

3D by Patrick Dennis

Coward, McCann, 1972. \$6.95
by Michael Austen

On the surface, Patrick Dennis has not written explicitly "gay novels," of course, but there are enough recognizable little touches in his novels so that it seems we can almost claim him as one of our own. In other words, his novels have been full of a quality that is implicitly gay. They have been almost crypto-gay.

For whatever it is worth, dust jacket blurbs on earlier novels noted that Dennis was living with his wife and two children in Manhattan, while the latest blurb mentions no family and tells us only that he has moved to Mexico City. But whether or not Dennis is himself gay is not really the point; many of his novels, such as *Auntie Mame* and *Little Me*, have produced an almost esoteric delight for gay readers, and in this regard, *3D* is no exception. Indeed, if anything, it's not very esoteric at all.

The plot is simple but nicely handled. Into the sophisticated lives of two "straight" couples in Mexico comes young Davey Jones, the now familiar (and perhaps too familiar) type which is unbelievably beautiful and equally dumb. Constance Beale, the painter, begins to lust after Davey, whom she utilizes as a nude model for her Grecian mural, and this is what might be expected in the average straight novel. But Peter Beale, the author, makes use of Davey as well. He first hires the muscular blond to type out the lurid diaries of Sir Cosmo Mulligan, an adventuring 19th century pederast who seems to be a combination of Sir Roger Casemont and Lawrence of Arabia. Clearly a Dennis touch. Then Peter begins to lust after Davey and to resolve the situation, Hal and Jane decide to whisk Davey away to New York. Where, with another typical Dennis twist, they seem to begin to fall in love with Davey. Finally, more to achieve artistic symmetry than to belabor the obvious, Dennis sends into the lives of Constance and Peter a boyish young girl named Judd (for Judith) Payne, whom, naturally, they both begin to lust after.

3D will thus delight the gay reader as it is another variation of the successful Dennis formula of bizarre settings, campy sex and bitchy lines. It is this theatrical and flamboyant quality, I believe, which gay readers find amusing so that his plot and characters, however clever, are less important than his style. In 1953, Dennis (ne' Edward Everett Tanner III) pub-



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lished his first novel under the name of Virginia Rowans, and a reviewer commented that "Miss Rowans writes with a fine feminine realism and few of the foibles of our competitive society escape her." Since 1953 our competitive society has changed a little but, fortunately for the gay reader who enjoys light fiction, "Miss Rowans" has not. Or, if Dennis is changing in any way at all, he is becoming less coy and more explicit; if this trend continues, he may well end up an essentially gay novelist after all, whether he means to or not.

Male and Female Homosexuality: A Comprehensive Investigation

By Marcel Saghir, M.D. and Eli Rob-
lins, M.D.

Williams & Wilkins, 1973, 341 pages

Several years ago about 100 gay males, a number of them from SIR, and about 60 gay females were interviewed under the auspices of a grant from the United States Public Health Service. Meanwhile, a number of single heterosexuals were being interviewed in St. Louis to serve as a control group. The results and implications of these interviews have now been published by Dr. Saghir and Dr. Robins, both psychiatrists at the Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis.

The book is indeed comprehensive in its scope, but a main goal was to determine whether or not we are a priori "sick." The authors conclude that we are not: "Homosexual men are psychopathologically very similar to single heterosexual men" while lesbians tend to be only slightly more psychopathic than straight women of comparable backgrounds.

So that is indeed something all by itself, but the authors also document several other interesting comparisons.

So that is indeed something all by itself, but the authors also document several other interesting comparisons. They suggest there is a "sissy-syndrome" that characterizes about two-thirds of gay males as opposed to the "non-sissy syn-

drome," which produces boys who play baseball rather than paperdolls. What sort of family background produces the "sissy"? A number of different aspects are charted, and one conclusion is that it

helps if you are an only son or only child. Is there a relationship between childhood/adult effeminacy and psychiatric disorders? Yes, the authors suggests that "non-sissies" have fewer psychiatric problems.

The same intragroup comparison is made in the last half of the book on females and about the same conclusions are reached. About two-thirds of the lesbians emerged from a "tomboy syndrome" and this group is likely to have more disorders than the "non-tomboy" lesbians. Finally, comparisons are made throughout the book on behavior patterns that distinguish the typical gay male from the typical lesbian.

The tone of the book is scholarly and objective, as the authors tried to avoid being either "prejudicial" or "overly compassionate." There are supporting tables for each sub-division and 10 pages of bibliography, and you might guess that the book is designed primarily as a college text for heterosexual students.

Thus, it is not exactly the sort of book you would want to rush out and buy, or dip into on the bus in the morning. Much of the research merely confirms that which we have been telling each other

for years. However, many of us still cling to our favorite half-truths that turn out to be nothing more than myths, and you may be in for a surprise or two here. Statistics are cited on everything from "earliest erections" to nocturnal emissions, and you might be amused to discover whether you fall comfortably into the median ranges of the various categories.

This is a book, then, that the gay reader might want to check out of the library for a week or two. (It has been ordered by the downtown library.) For the heterosexual decision-makers, however, this is a book that should be noted carefully, as they seem to have more myths about us than we do ourselves. Here is the final paragraph:

"In the final analysis, homosexual men and women come out to be somewhat different from the majority of the population of men and women at large in their sexual preferences and the behaviors related to such preference. Still in most other ways they are not so different but rather strikingly similar in their patterns of behavior that are not necessarily sexual. Both scientists and legislators would do well to keep this in mind. Our data and data from other sources support the idea that to be a homosexual is not necessarily to be sick or disordered but perhaps just different.

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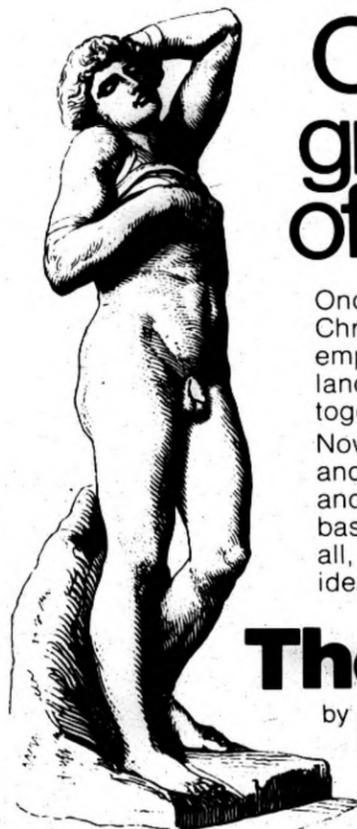
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One unique quality was in the service. Aside from the fact that the staff are incredibly handsome, they don't scurry and flutter. They, also, are *there* and add to —eureka the word!— the *relaxation*.

After a loaf of fresh, chewy sour dough bread and a superb thick soup came a salad that sang in your mouth. A bowl of fresh, crispy greens topped with —get this— large thick slices of fresh mushrooms covered with bacon bits and grated cheese with just enough of a house herb dressing to enhance the natural flavors of the greens. This was worth the price of the meal.

Chicken with Shrimps (\$3.75) brought two good sized pieces of chicken covered with a perfectly prepared rice mixed with tiny shrimp and a divine flavoring, heavy on the garlic side. This was master seasoning which revealed itself in layers of taste sensations up to the tiny bits of red pepper which kept you from wolfing. The **Beef Tips** (\$4.00) were equally expertly seasoned with a wine flavor predominating and the beef still retaining the natural qualities and pink medium rare. Each plate was flanked with fresh zucchini squash, again, tasting of the garden and cooked to perfection. **Neon Chicken** knows it's produce and honors the San Francisco tradition of not serving anything that wasn't picked that day. The deserts were respectable; a piece of



chocolate cake layered with jelly and topped with fresh whipped cream and an adequate slice of cheese cake surprisingly flavored with almond as a bonus. The management admits to having trouble with their coffee blend and are dealing with it but, as it is, it's heads over what is served in other restaurants and about 6 on our scale of 1 to 10, but still a long way from coffee-coffee. We sat through countless cups and were loathe to leave the warmth, intimacy and charm of what is now our favorite restaurant in town.

Just down the block we wandered into the **Corner Grocery Bar** and into the trip of the decade. Instead of mind-numbing heavily throbbing rock music we were

confronted with Beverly Sills and a complete recording of MARIA STUARDA. Zel, the owner-manager informed us that every Tuesday night there is a complete announced opera recording and on Friday the live San Francisco Opera broadcast. On other nights there is the juke box with only classical music available ranging from the Boston Pops to the Vienna Philharmonic. There's news here and that involves our being given an alternative to the universal gay bar scene and we congratulate Zel and the **Corner Grocery Bar** for making the choice available. Try a Bellini aria with your beer and freak. We hope to report more in detail later.

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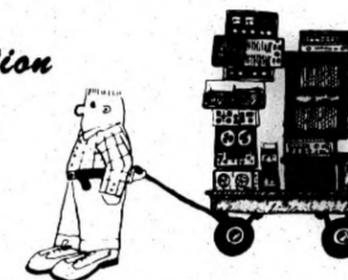
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dear don

Note: I am a clinical psychologist who, by choice, specializes in work with gay people. Gay is not sick. But I believe, as do a growing number of humanistic psychologists, that you do not have to be sick to get better. The purpose of this column is helpful commentary rather than advice or psychotherapy. Only those letters selected for this column will be answered. Other letters that contain a self-addressed stamped envelope will receive a list from this publication of available counseling and psychotherapy resources in the community. Brief letters with questions of general interest are solicited.

by Don Clark, Ph.D.

Dear Don:

My lover and I are both 39. We have been together 6 years. We have a comfortable home and enough friends to share mutual interests. Life is fine except for one thing. Six or seven times since we have been together I have seen my lover get specially interested in some friend. I think it is sort of an infatuation. I don't know whether sex is involved. All I know is that it makes me feel miserable. While having one of these "affairs" he is no less attentive to me—in fact, I would say he's even more cheerful and affectionate than usual. It just makes me feel awful and I wondered if you had any thoughts about such a situation.

T. N.
Palo Alto, Calif.

From the information that you have offered, it sounds as if you have the kind of relationship that so many people are seeking. Often, when involved in a satisfying and loving relationship, a person suffers when his loved one showers another person with love because of the "one loaf of bread" assumption. Many of us grew up learning the questionable code of unsharing love that pictures a person's love as finite and consumable. It is as if your lover's love is a loaf of bread—if he offers it to another person who takes a bite of it there is less left for you to consume and enjoy.

It can be helpful to think of love as a muscle rather than a loaf of bread. You might try the assumption that your lover's love is a muscle and, when exercised with someone else, it will become more healthy, alive, and larger—the more enjoyable then for you to have in the mutual exercise of love.

There is always the risk in any loving relationship that your loved one may meet someone else, fall in love, and withdraw some of his love from you. It is a risk that we must take if a loving relationship is to be kept healthy and alive. The alternative is to become possessive and, eventually, a restrictive nuisance to

your loved one.

The best way to hold on to love is with an open hand. When a lover is apparently loving someone else yet bringing more joy to his love for you it is usually a good time to throw away the stale loaf of bread.

Dear Don:

Thanks in part to some time spent with a good gay shrink, I have learned to tell people that I don't like it when they make anti-gay remarks. Depending on the

circumstances and also the relationship I sometimes say, "I'm Gay and that remark offends me." It has always made me feel good about myself and has never caused damage to any relationship that I value. Yet, every time it happens I get nervous before I speak and my stomach is tight for a while after. I guess I'm afraid they won't like me. I don't like the tense feeling. My shrink is many miles away. Any ideas?

J. R.
Joliet, Illinois



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VECTOR

Being face to face with your oppressor should create some sort of reaction and and fright is an easily understandable one. If you had no reaction it would be time to wonder where you were hiding your feelings. Facing fright inducing stimuli may get easier with time but never easy as long as you are in touch with your feelings. And it is this being in touch that makes it possible to face up to such situations and handle them in a way that facilitates your growth. With more practice, one is able to handle bigotry and prejudice with more skill but never without feeling.

After a good psychotherapy experience, it can be helpful in later years to contact the therapist again for a session now and then. It is like calling on an old friend when in need. It's not an admission of failure. Your old therapist knows a lot about you and you have lots of experience working through problems together. Even if he is many miles away, a telephone call might be worth the money.

A tight stomach is better than a shattered sense of worth but some consultation with a therapist who knows you well might even ease the tight stomach.

Dear Don:

I am 30 years old and have been gay all my life and done plenty of suffering. I have a 17 year old brother who just told me he is gay. Should I get him to a psychologist or psychiatrist now before the years of suffering?

C. R.
Sherman, Texas

People do not suffer because they are gay. They suffer because of the homophobic attitudes and behavior of other people and because they sometimes do accept the oppressive negative message about their worth and begin to think less of themselves. If a person has bad feelings about himself or is suffering in ways related to his gayness then it is a good idea to get him to a competent therapist if possible. Joining one or more gay organizations and attending rap sessions or consciousness raising groups can also be helpful. But there is no reason to rush a young person into therapy simply because he is gay. That would seem to imply that "gay" and "sick" are equated. That assumption has harmed us long enough. Gay is to be enjoyed and if something is interfering with that enjoyment, psychotherapy might help.

For any gay person entering therapy, I would strongly recommend checking out the therapist to make sure that he is not homophobic. A therapist who just "accepts" homosexuality is still suspect

to me. I prefer to see a Gay person find a therapist who appreciates Gayness and can encourage him genuinely to find more joy and dignity in his gay identity.



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Photograph by SUSAN ELIZABETH HARRIS



Photograph by Sierra Domino

**Museum of Erotic Art
540 Powell St., San Francisco**

by Michael Austen

In the guest book at the *Museum of Erotic Art* someone from Duluth, Minnesota has written, "Duluth has a lot to learn."

Well, of course it has, and it seems to me that the Museum has been created chiefly for our heterosexual visitors from Duluth and other places where erotic art is on relatively short supply. Up on the third floor are displays from China, Japan, and India, some several hundred years old, all from the extensive collection of Drs. Phyllis and Eberhard Kronhausen. There is also a special room devoted to erotic art by women with the emphasis, as you might suspect, heavy on female forms. Down on the lower floor are the 20th Century pieces, many by European surrealists, and on the main floor is a gallery for traveling exhibits which has been featuring this past summer the realistic work of Betty Dodson. Altogether the permanent collection consists of 1200 pieces, and almost all of them are heterosexual; if any other sort of favoritism is shown, it seems to be towards the female nude at

the expense of the male.

If you are the average gay male, you might wonder if the museum is worth the \$2.50 general admission. And the answer is that if you are looking for sexual thrills you would do better to send your money to Colt for their latest series of sketches. There is, people at the museum admit, very little male gay art; it consists of some post-World War II ink drawings down on the first floor by a German named Hildebrand.

Is this wrong? Have we been overlooked? No, I don't think so, given the rationale for the museum, which seems to be to educate and liberate those who need it most, e.g., the heterosexuals from Duluth. Most of us who are gay and living in San Francisco have left our various Duluths rather far behind us. Most of us have been collecting erotic art for years and years and rather fancy ourselves as connoisseurs. It used to be that almost everyone had his pile of "porno" stashed away in paper sacks in some closet but with its greater availability and increased



aesthetic excellence, it has come out of the closet and onto the cocktail table. Thus, many of us have, in effect, seen it all, and don't really need the liberating experience the museum has been designed to produce.

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gay theatre

The Michael Owen Show The Cabaret

Michael Owen has places to go, people to see, things to do and magic to perform. Fortunately, he is doing this throughout October at the Cabaret in what is the beginning of a national tour.

He is energetic and effervescent in the great Garland/Streisand/Minnelli tradition and dominates with a versatility which verges on the astonishing. He belts, he soothes, he caresses his lyrics and pays homage to popular showtunes, and he reiterates beautifully the highly personal statements of Carole King, Harry Nilsson, and Jacques Brel, et. al.

Owen is a slender, extremely personable young man. He mimes, he dances, he high-kicks, and literally does everything an astute showman does and does it with eye-blinding brilliance.

Catch his show right now, so that you can say, "I knew him when." By the way, stay for all three sets. They are different, varied, and musical happenings.



Dames at Sea Kimo Productions The Village Theatre

A new and soaring success steamed to town with the opening of Kimo Production's *Dames at Sea*. It was a humdinger. The show captured the spirit of the '30's, perfectly, and Bob Paulsen's sets, Carl Berry's makeup and Pat Campano's fashions took you back to a time when we were all *Dames* and all *At Sea*.

Joe Virgil directed with a light and nimble touch, Gil Lopez's dances were high-spirited and lively, and Larry Canaga (with Jackie Jones on drums) was an astute, resourceful musical director. John Reynolds was the quintessence of the arch-bitch arrogant ego-maniac Superstar; counterbalancing nicely was the sweet subdued innocence of Chuck Zinn as Ruby, the starlet who saves the show.

Dames is a happy, escapist show, one in which everyone wins, and everything turns out happily, with true love. Contributing to the fun were stars Faye, Ken Dickmann, Kreemah Ritz, Chip Roberts, Sheldon Glickman and Mike Lewis.

After opening, cast and crew and audience had the opportunity of meeting one of the show's co-authors, George Haimsohn who had flown in from NYC to catch the opening and to discuss the West Coast mounting of his new show, *Zing!*, with Kimo Productions

Dames at Sea is exactly what our Gay Theatre needed and we welcome it with open arms.

Noel Hernandez

Plaza Suite Neil Simon The City Players

The City Players production of Neil Simon's *Plaza Suite* is not an easy show to "review." It's that good. The evening was so totally successful that one wishes it were not necessary to fragment the experience in discussion. I refuse to believe that this was Carl Berry's first directorial assignment. The man is a master of detail and design and the totality of his artistic force was everywhere evident such as Jim Richey's sets which were stunning and exactly matched to the script.

The acting throughout was uniformly superb. Neil Simon has that genius of getting inside humans and the three women he presents are classic. Because of

Michael Owen



Buddy and Matthew of Glendale

the complexity and tragedy of the character, Brandie's portrayal of Karen Nash sticks to the ribs longer. With her husky voice and absolutely hopeless situation, Brandie managed to twang every chord of human vulnerability and left you limp with laughter and quivering with sadness. This was the deepest of the three acts—the confrontation of a marriage which had gone 23 years beyond repair.

Faye's Muriel Tate was a study in sustained hilarity. A New Jersey housewife visits her former high school sweetheart after 17 years of separation. He now a famous (Horney) Hollywood producer and she a happily married hausfrau.

The final act concerned a bride who locks herself in the bathroom and the efforts of her parents to go on with the wedding at all costs. Nancy's Norma Hubley was a composite of every Long Island/Westchester matron who would kill rather than appear in public with a run in her stockings. We are all familiar with Norma Hubleys and Nancy's portrayal was perfect—just perfect!

In each of these plays there was a man—Chuck Waltz—and along with the talent for creating three distinctly different characters, his timing, motivations, readings and sheer acting ability demonstrated a master actor who is a blessing to any theatre company.

The directorial uniformity and stunning attention to detail made it difficult to separate people from characters, actors from people and reality from fantasy.

--Richard Piro

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Cast & Crew of *DAMES AT SEA*
Photo by Eddie Van

Libra

by Jon Comines

Libra is ruled by the planet Venus, and is feminine. She rules the sense of touch and has much to do with the disposition. She inclines to all that pertains to the higher attributes of the mind: music, art, dance, singing, poetry, drama, and all refined amusements and adornment. Libra is considered a cardinal and benefic sign, bestowing much talent, refinement, and generosity upon its natives. It is symbolized by the "balance" and represents justice and harmony. Librans usually have logical, well-balanced minds; are perceptive, aware, discerning, and, because of these attributes, are considered some of the most intelligent people in the zodiac. Since they have the capacity to reason abstractly, they do well as mathematicians, scientists, and philosophers; they also make admirable judges and lawyers.

Libra is a masculine sign but its ruler is feminine. In terms of personality this means that people born under this sign give the impression of being amiable, easy-going, and adaptable, when in reality they are very aggressive and independent. But their strong sense of individuality is hidden underneath their external facade which is pliable and accommodating, for Libra is an air sign, and as with all air signs, the key-note of their personality is

Emotionally unstable

On the negative side however, Libra is a very romantic, idealistic, and impractical sign. This aspect of their personality usually expresses itself through their emotions. When they are in love it is very difficult for them to remain objective. Emotionally they are very sensitive, and any conflict in their environment will cause them to become imbalanced. Then they are inclined to go to extremes, they may become lazy, indolent, slovenly, and self-indulgent. They will become insatiable in their appetite for pleasure, especially where food, liquor or drugs, and sex are concerned. Moreover, they vacillate, are inconsistent, and usually have bad judgment. In relationships they are clinging and dependent.

In love, there are three types of Librans.

Romantic idealists

The second type of Libra love nature is very intense. These people are inclined to be possessive and demanding in marriage. They are forceful and dynamic lovers but are inclined toward excess were the emotions are concerned. They are much too sensual for the even-tempered, well-balanced Libra personality, and usually have trouble in love relationships. They make stable mates however because they are very careful in choosing a partner and would never admit it if they had made a mistake. This Libra mates well with Taurus and Scorpio, but would not get along with Aquarius or Leo. (Examples: Oct 1936, Sept/Oct 1938, Oct 1939, Sept/Oct 1941, Oct 1944, Sept 1946)

Best as the passive partner

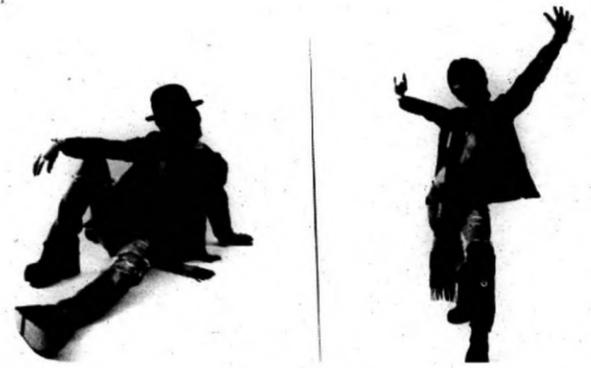
Finally, the third Libra love nature is the antithesis of the second type just described. This Libran is cool, detached and, in many cases, completely unresponsive emotionally. They tend to live in the intellect and are the practical idealists of the group; the professional type. They are at their best when the passive partner, for they are adaptable, and in many cases, can simulate emotions that don't really feel. On the positive side, this is an ideal position for nurses or doctors; or people who sympathize with others but don't let their feelings interfere with their work. This type of Libra is noted for his devotion and self-sacrificing nature, so in many cases he makes an ideal partner for someone who is more involved with his work than with domestic concerns. This type will almost invariably marry a Virgo or Pisces. (Examples: Oct 1932, Oct 1935, Oct 1937, Oct 1940, Sept/Oct 1943, Oct 1948)

Inclined toward excess

This type is the romantic idealist, his love nature is subtle and refined. He is an extremely sensitive and devoted lover. The perfect mate; he is kind, warm, considerate, and loyal to his partner. This type is the true Libra and is perfectly suited for marriage, for he brings to the relationship all of the positive qualities necessary for maintaining harmony in the relationship. This person mates well with any sign in the zodiac, but especially so with Aries, Leo, and Sagittarius. (Examples: Oct 1931, Oct 1934, Oct 1939, Oct 1942, Sept 1947)

Aggressive and independent

The first type is the aggressive and independent. The sign's strong, independent nature is held in check also due to the fact that Libra, in astrological symbolism, rules partnerships and marriage. Its function is to compliment and support, not to lead. Consequently they make excellent partners because they tend to compensate for the partners short-comings. In any relationship you can count on the Libra to remain objective and offer balanced judgment.



PAUL VENTERSTEIN

Our first encounter with Paul Venterstein was when he presented his act, ROAD APPLES, at the S.I.R. Fall Fair. Paul is not specifically a singer, nor a dancer, nor a comic nor a stripper—he's all of those. "I'm an entertainer," he'll tell you.

His "entertainment" is not easy to dismiss since, along with the hard, driving rock music provided by his musicians, Paul is sending out often conflicting messages about his body, his feelings at being lusted after by an adoring audience, his sexuality, his asexuality, his contempt and his love for his work and—most important—who he is.

Off stage he is even more mercurial and enigmatic, often shocking, intimidating, loving, insulting, warm, turned off, concerned and vulnerable. In short, exposure to Paul on or off stage is an experience in chasing a moonbeam. It's not a comfortable feeling. Paul prefers it that way.

Who is he? We asked him to express some thoughts about "The Performer as the Ultimate Whore," which we print here along with Richard Boetger's superb photography of ROAD APPLES in action.

Paul may be seen Sunday afternoons doing his show at Big Town, on Fridays at the Waikiki in Oakland or at the big S.I.R. Halloween Ball on October 31st at the Center on 83 Sixth Street, San Francisco.



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Being a performer is no different than any other job. The one thing that is different is you have to really like what you're doing. And that's with a capital L.



If I love someone I call them "butterfly" but on the other hand, if I don't understand someone I don't call them anything.

I look at my work the same way anyone else does their own job. I enjoy my work and I enjoy it more when I know the audience is in to what I'm doing.

Sometimes when I do a show I look around the room and it's like a wonderful circus so . . . to make sure I'll be a part of it all, before I walk out on stage, I get ripped to the tits. I don't always work drunk or stoned but that really doesn't matter because people as a rule always think I'm one or the other anyway.



I ask my audience, "You think you're watching me? Well, I'm watching you and being no different than you. I also have ears and hear you." I heard two gentlemen talking at a show I was doing one time and one said to the other, "Oh, look, there's that sexy singer," and the other replied, "Oh, her! You could probably fuck her all night and she would never feel a thing."



Sometimes I feel like a million dollar baby from a five and ten cent store but never cheap. I know a lot of whores in the business who feel they are entertainers by selling their bodies. Yes, you can buy a piece of ass but never a soul even if it is offered as a package. But you can share it. To be a good performer you have to give and never expect to receive.



Some people think I use sex as a gimmick in my show. People, as a rule, are far removed from what they really are—MAN, the king of beasts, but still animal and when

I take off all that crap known as clothes and say my pad is very messy, I got whiskers on my chin.



Being a Leo, everything I do is ego. At least that's what everyone tries to lay on me. However, I don't think I'm Mr. America or another Einstein. So, leaving those two items behind me, I'll let you come see the product and judge for yourself.

Happy Birthday can't be Tuesday heartbreak for such a beautiful Butterfly.



Right this way, ladies and gentlemen, just one thin dime... one tenth of a dollar will buy you a cheap San Francisco thrill.



I'm all hung up in music but I always play to win. I've got no time for loving cause my time is all used up just setting around creating on that groovy kind of stuff. But I'm a man, yes, I am, and I love you so. In other words take a look at me. I'm no different than you and I won't ask anything of you but love.



Paul Venterstein, that's right, and I share my soul if you've got the time.



Everyone has their own reason for their work. Mine is because I love Nicholas Bo-Tan, and, oh, yes, you—very much.



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THE NEW PURITANS

KEVIN P. NORTON

Sexism has been a part of civilization at least as long as recorded history. By sexism I mean any way of thinking or acting which limits the humanity of a person on the basis of that person's sex or sexual activities, regardless of the non-interference of those activities with the freedom of others. Like most other "isms," sexism is traditionally judgemental, establishing a hierarchy of humanity according to criteria based on physical accidents and modes of behavior rather than on personal essences.

It is natural that Gay Liberation should concern itself with sexism, since it is particularly the hierarchy established by sexism that had accorded all homosexuals the inferior social status which we know to be unjust. It is, therefore, natural that gay liberationists should attack sexism wherever it occurs. It is not, however, natural to label sexist anything sexual and to accuse of sexism those who take pleasure in lust, for instance.

I have noted an alarming trend, particularly among my more radical brothers and sisters, to attack bars, baths, pornography, and even people with beautiful bodies as sexist and therefore harmful to the cause of Gay Liberation. Businesses that cater to the "pleasures of the flesh" are characterized as sordid sexist rip-offs and those who patronize them are called insensitive sexists. It is, in fact, the attacks and the attackers that are harmful, not only to Gay Liberation but to Human Liberation as well. How can we expect "straight society" to respect our right to function sexually in manners which are natural for us and and harmless to others if we are unwilling to respect the rights of all people to function sexually in manners which are natural to them and harmless to others?

The New Puritans among us are, in reality, the sexists among us, establishing a hierarchy of humanity according to their criteria. In so

far as these people put down others of whose sexual behavior they do not approve they are as harmful to the cause of Gay Liberation as are the restrictive ethics of their spiritual ancestors who landed at Plymouth Rock in 1620. In so far as these people are among us, dividing us on a basic issue on which we must be united if we are to succeed, they are as harmful to the cause of Gay Liberation as is a cancer to the health of a body.

If these sexists were outside the Gay movement we, as a group, would relate to them exactly as we relate to straight bigots; if they were a real cancer in our combined body we would excise them as we would any disease; but they are not outside the movement and they are not a real cancer. How, therefore, should we deal with them?

"... attack bars, baths, pornography..."

Charity demands that we assume that these New Puritans realize neither the logical inconsistency nor the destructive divisiveness that their sexism represents and causes. Our basic task, therefore, is to make them aware of these facts and influence them to abandon their judgemental attitudes. This is not to say that they must participate in modes of sexual expression which they have hitherto condemned, simply that they must stop condemning any mode of sexual expression. There is, after all, a difference between recognizing the right of another and assuming that that right is a duty. The only duty lies in the recognition of the right. For a person to judge another because the other does not enjoy, for instance, pornography, is as wrong as the reverse.

A well known social reformer, in another time and place, is reported to have said, "Judge not lest you be judged." The New Puritans would do well to heed that advice.

NOTE: I realize that a logical extension of the argument that I have made would bring one to the conclusion that anyone at any time in any place should be allowed to engage in any kind of consensual sexual activity. While I believe that this conclusion is as moral as it is inescapable, I do not believe that any society in the world will, in the foreseeable future, allow anyone to act with impunity on that conclusion.

Kevin P. Norton

WE WANT JACK

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 Wynn Brady
 Hal Call
 David Clayton, Esq.
 Charl Cochran
 George Coffman
 Mary Lou Coleman
 Bob Cramer
 Jo Daly
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GAY CITIZIENS FOR MORRISON



Photograph by James Armstrong

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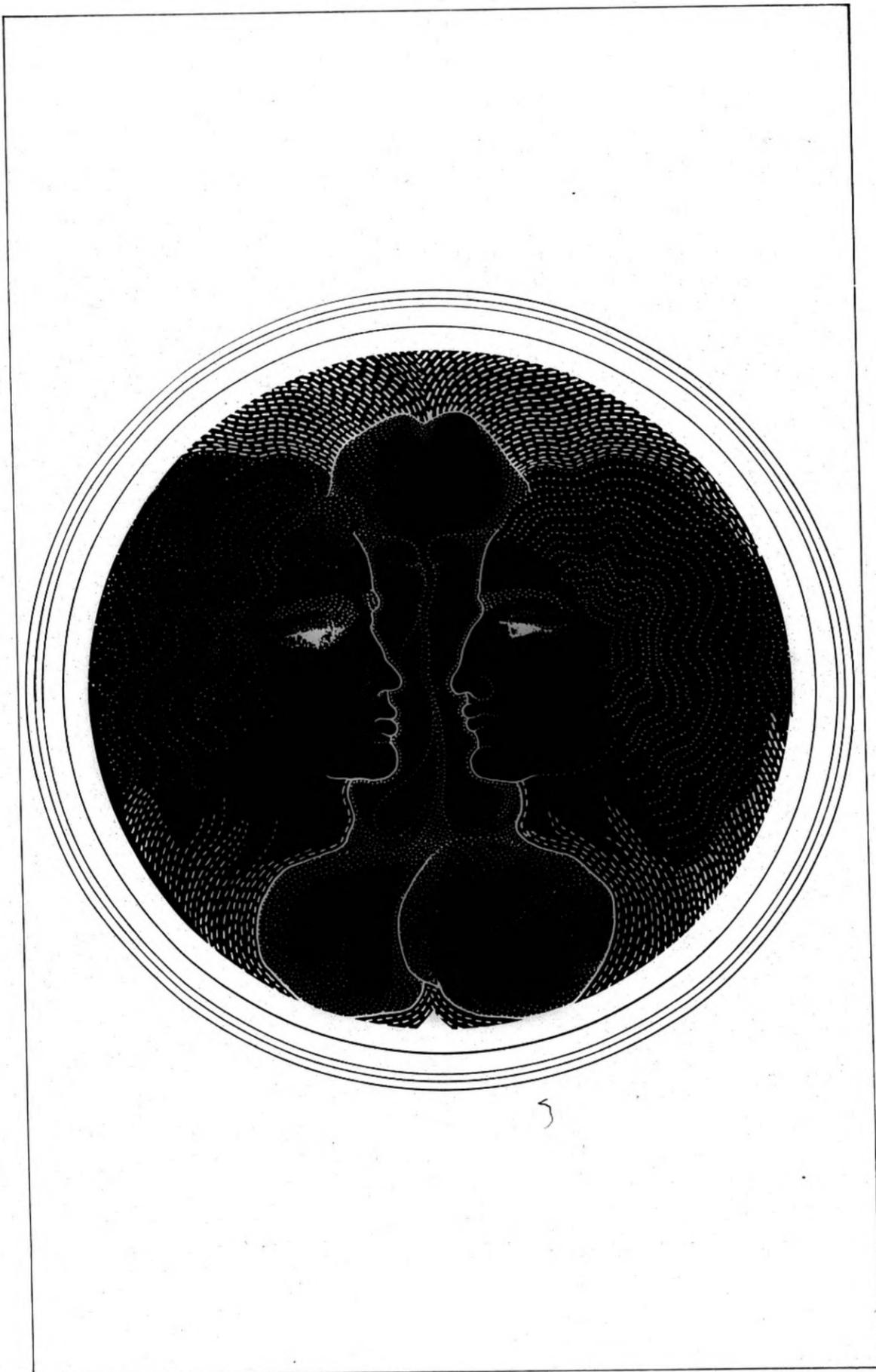
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I LOVE YOU I LOVE YOU

A Short Story by James Brennen

As he was walking home along the river Mac saw a good-looking youth leaning against the low wall. They stared at each other solemnly as Mac passed by, the deep dark look, the youth afraid to smile in case he was making a mistake. They were near the round iron latrine where a lot of the brotherhood came to pick up or be picked up. Tonight however there were only two of them and it was too late to be waiting for a bus. Mac made a quick gesture with his head which meant "come on" and kept walking. He stopped at the next corner, well away from the latrine and waited to see if the boy had followed him. He had. He came up to Mac, smiling now, and said without any hesitation, "Where can we go?"

"My place," said Mac, "it's just around the corner."

They walked along in silence, taking shy sideglances at each other. Sometimes their elbows touched and once crossing the street Mac fell back a step to look at his back. The youth guessed what Mac was about and said over his shoulder, "Do you like it?"

Mac could only smile, a little ashamed at being caught, and said bravely:

"What's your name?"

"Terry."

"Mine's Timmy." They didn't shake hands, instead Terry turned to Mac with a brilliant smile and said:

"Hello Timmy."

The house appeared eerie to Mac as they approached, like a skull with the three windows as two empty eyesockets and an open mouth. He realized both he and the old house missed the noisy family but of course if they were here he couldn't take Terry home to bed. Inside Mac made instant coffee and didn't mention the fact that he used tinned milk. The coffee would allow him time to sober up a bit. As they drank, Terry began to talk about his job as a waiter in England, which he liked. He said he was home on holiday and going back to England at the end of the week. He was nineteen and had been gay for as long as he could remember and was just about to give up and walk home when Mac had come along tonight. He

didn't ask what Mac was doing for a living didn't comment on the house or the coffee with tinned milk and Mac found him immensely likeable, pleasant on the ears and very pleasant to look at. He was about to ask why a goodlooking boy like Terry hadn't been picked up by tonight by some rich bloke in a big car, then he stopped himself. Idiot, he told himself, don't ask how or why, he is here now, that's all that matters, just take it and count your blessings.

The coffee was finished when mac remembered about vaseline. He'd forgotten where he'd put it. Fine kettle of fish if I can't find it now. He said excuse me and went to look for it in the back room. vaseline at this stage of the game was a delicate subject. Mac was very discreet with it and didn't allow the other person to see it until the moment of application. After they had been intimate it would be accepted as a necessity, one of the facts of love but the first time it was probably embarrassing for most people to be made aware of it. Imagine saying to someone

Continued on page 43

WE URGE YOU TO VOTE...

Over the past few years the Gay Community has developed a political strength unmatched by any other community in the city.

In order to maintain that strength and to insure Responsible representation in city government on the issues that affect us all, we urge you to vote on November 6 for the following candidates:

DIANNE FEINSTEIN
JEFF MASONER
JACK MORRISON
DOROTHY von BEROLDINGEN

GAY CITIZENS FOR RESPONSIBLE REPRESENTATION

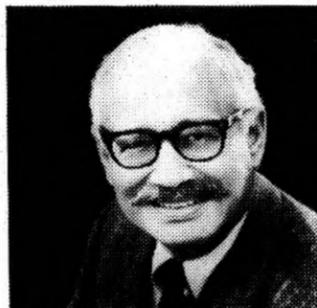
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Ron Bentley	Kimo
Don Berry	Dog Lady
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Jerry Disque	Dick Nelson
Lyn Fitzpatrick	Richard Novak
Denis Foster	Mike Newton
James Foster	Bill Plath
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Darryl Glied	Eric Roberts
Roger Hayden	Martin F. Stow
Boyce Hinman	Rev. James Sandmire
Norman Hughes	Duke Smith
Hector	Chuck Schneider
Russ Higginbotham, II	Thomas Turner
Evander C. Smith	Earl Rick Stokes



FEINSTEIN



MASONER



MORRISON



von BEROLDINGEN

(A PAID POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT)

It's been an exciting time for S.I.R. these past two months, despite the trials and tribulations of our financial difficulties. They still exist and as usual, we continue to tell both members and non-members alike that we need their active participation as well as their financial support to continue our work of achieving equal rights for homosexuals.

Yes folks, there are still financial debts to be paid. The how, why and wherefore of their having been incurred is not as important here as my telling you that we are working to pay them off as quickly as we are able. Our organization has cut expenditures to the bone. In so doing we have discontinued our answering service, our hot line, and cut down mailings to such a minimum that even The Insider no longer is a separate newsletter (This is The Insider!) We've closed the downstairs office, hoping to sub-lease it, thereby eradicating that financial burden, and are once again completely esconced in the upstairs hall. Such moves as these and others cut down our total expenses, but they also cut down on our ability to serve the community as effectively as we would prefer. Hopefully, once our debts are paid off, we will resume serving the community to our fullest capacity.

Two events have taken place in the interim since the last issue of Vector that have helped us pay some of these debts. The Fall Fair on Saturday, September 15 was a grand success. With the help of a great many people volunteering their time, the Road Apples, the live rock band featuring Paul Venterstein (yes that far out number) played to a crowd of dancers greeted by candidates for "Empress" as well as the newly elected "Emperor II of San Francisco. Goodies were purchased from the various booths selling such items as books, photographs, wines, cheeses, planters, arts and crafts of various sorts and so on. Even our hard-working president and his other half ran a booth selling lemonade and hot food. Harvey Milk, candidate for supervisor was present with his other half campaigning and registering voters. The raffle for the trip to Hawaii was won by one of the Society's office volunteers, George Hill, and the December Coverman Contest was won by Terry Black, Pat Montclair's other half. When the afternoon had ended, Social Director Hector and his committee had added another feather to their cap of successful fund-raisers for S.I.R.

With City elections on the horizon again (November 6th), Jim Foster, S.I.R.'s Political Director and his committee held another fund raising event for the Society at the P.S. Restaurant. The

Crystal Room was the scene of a "Hot Seat Dinner" featuring invited candidates for the office of supervisor in San Francisco. Incumbents Dorothy von Beroldingen, George Chinn, Dianne Feinstein, and Peter Tamaras, along with new candidates Jack Morrison (who had been a supervisor from 1962 to 1970), Jeff Masonek, Harvey Milk (Gay candidate running for all the people of San Francisco and not just the Gays), and Al Nelder (former San Francisco Police Chief) all spoke to issues they believed to be important involving the City.

A question and answer period followed at which, placed on the proverbial "hot seat" the candidates had a chance to really let the guests in on how they felt about such things as law enforcement and the city budget, gay rights, etc. Of all the candidates invited only John Barbagelata refrained from even responding to our invitation. (Barbagelata can be remembered for his drive against the entertainment places on North Beach).

At the Monthly Membership Meeting on October 3, the following candidates were given S.I.R.'s Stamp of Approval:

(Each candidate was voted on separately and the results were as follows:

Dianne Feinstein
Jack Morrison
Harvey Milk
Jeff Masonek

Dorothy von Beroldingen
Remember them when you cast your vote!

Social Director Hector Navarro tells us that on Halloween Night, October 31, at 9 p.m. the doors of the Center will be open once again for its annual Halloween Dance. The Center will remain open until 4 a.m. the following morning. There will be a Free Midnight Buffet and a catered bar up to 2 a.m. Following that coffee and snacks will be served.

Admission is by donation: \$3.00 to midnight and \$1.50 for guests coming in after 1 p.m. Special reservations will be taken in advance of \$10.00 for a table of for a table of four.

The evening should be a star-studded one (that means there'll be both stars and studs present). Entertainment by Paul Venterstein and the Road Apples Vaudeville Show. All participants in costume and on busses may parade across the S.I.R. stage using the side entrance for easy in and easy out. Among others to entertain will be the Gary Poole Dancers giving us a chance to see a preview of their up-and-coming show at the Kabuki Theatre.

As always, door prizes and prizes for best costumes will be given.

Witches Christmas will be a wild night at

S.I.R. See you there on your broomsticks!

The Center will be open on Saturday evenings again from 8:30 - 12:30, featuring music by Juke Box. Conversation, and a Soda-A-Go-Go Bar for those 18 and over. Admission is by \$1 donation at the door.

Chet Sieger and friend Steve, S.I.R. members, appeared on KPFA F.M. Sunday, October 7th discussing the Homosexual Senior Citizen. Chet and friend are two of S.I.R.'s older, and very actively participating members.

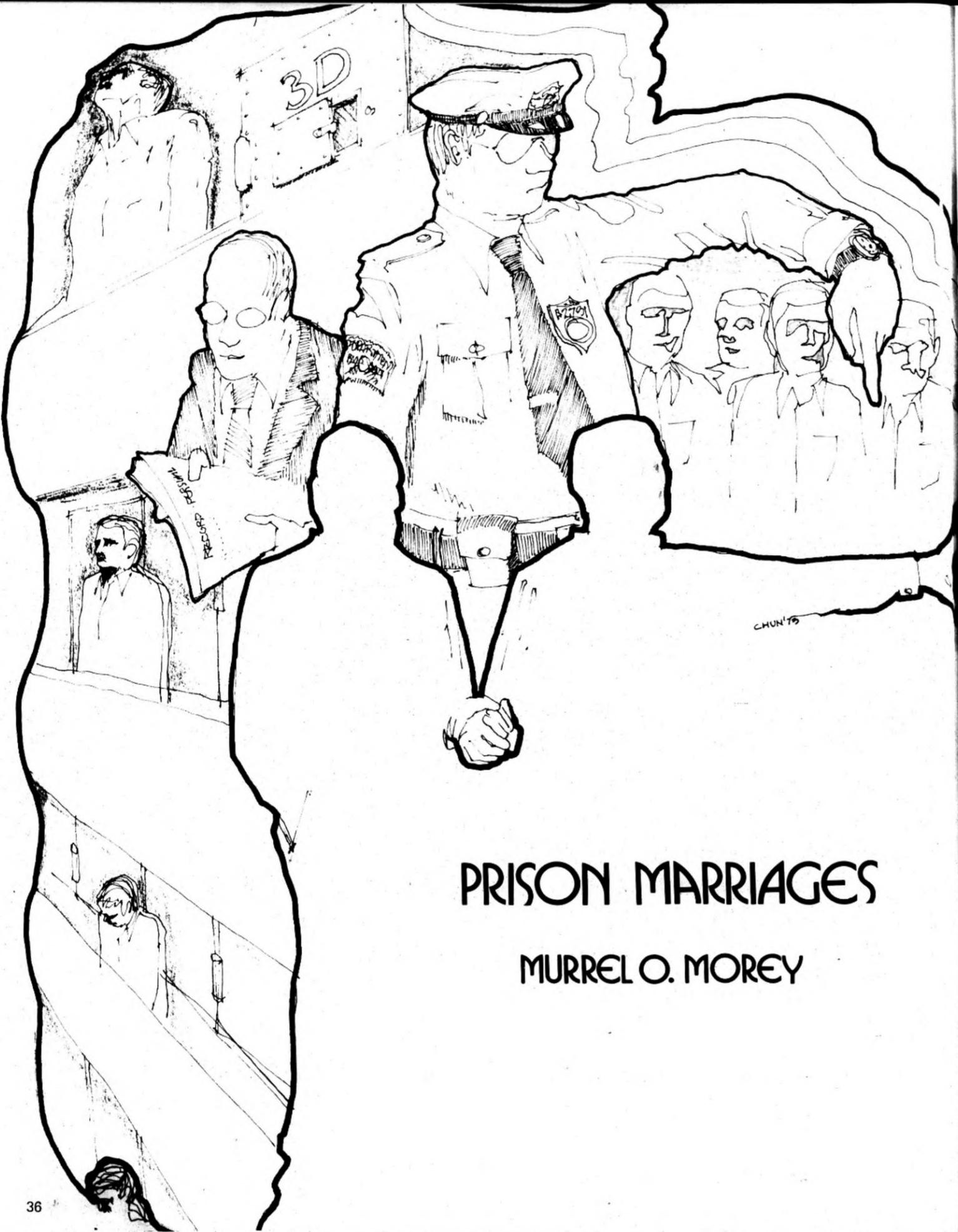
So you see, we're still alive. We welcome your active participation as well as your financial support. And while I'm talking about financial support, I'd like to remind you that M.C.C. of San Francisco is having a building fund to rebuild their church. M.C.C.'s church was recently set ablaze here, too. So when you think about writing a check for S.I.R. remember them, too. Thanks.

Last minute news!

Hector Navarro is S.I.R.'s newly-elected vice president. Newly elected Trustees to serve on the board are Elmer Wilhelm, Bob Scott, and Rick Hansen.

Welcome aboard and good luck to all of you.

THE INSIDER
MIKE NEWTON



PRISON MARRIAGES

MURREL O. MOREY

In spite of the improvements in prison systems over the past several years, one part of prison life will never change. So long as man is kept incarcerated with members of his own sex, there will be a demanding need of prison marriages.

Here in prison, some staff will frown upon gay married couples, while others will do all that is possible to encourage a homosexual into finding and settling down with another inmate for the purpose of living a married life while in jail. There are different reasons for each of these feelings to be expressed by the staff and although they may not all be what we would call "just" reasons, they are still strong enough to keep the staff member satisfied.

The homophobic corrections officer generally goes overboard in expressing his distaste by delivering hostile words to gay couples at every opportunity. Usually, this type of harassment will not be done in the presence of one of his fellow officers or too many listening inmates for fear of the inmates winning some action against the staff member. Of course, this type of winning action is seldom utilized by the inmate.

Many staff members make every effort to bust the gay couple in an act of sex resulting in either one or both of the couple will be shipped out to another floor or even another institution. If an inmate has a release date set and gets busted in an act of expressing his love for a brother inmate, he may be and usually is charged with immorality whereby he will find himself going out to court and undoubtedly losing his parole date.

Another attack on the gay couple behind bars is put into action when the staff member finds the couple "hallway visiting." This consists of one of the partners standing in the hallway door of his mate, while the other will be sitting inside his cell, both engaged in conversation. The floor officer may shout for the hallway to be cleared and, in many cases, even after one has cleared, the officer will then write a chrono on one or both of the couple. In this chrono (which the inmate does not always see) the officer may make a request that one of the couple be moved to either another section of the institution or to another institution altogether. Perhaps not always on the first request, but sooner or later

the complaining officer's request will be granted, whereby the prison married couple will find themselves separated. When an inmate is busted for a homosexual act or for hallway visiting, the staff decide if the inmates should be separated, placed on room confinement for an unknown amount of time (from one night to several weeks), or transferred to another institution. The two inmates may be fully clothed and in plain sight of the floor officer and yet still be found guilty of performing an abnormal act of perversion.

In either event, the staff will always win the decision. Just what motivates this desire to separate happily married gays, is still a mystery, though there have been cases witnessed where the officer would go to any extreme until he had completed his mission of making the time a little bit more unpleasant and difficult to serve for the once happy, gay married couple.

Where can a married couple go to be alone? They may either go out to the yard and sit on the benches next to the stairwell, of which in either case, they shall not be alone. To have sex in as much privacy as possible, the gay couple may enter one of their cells together, but even this will only offer little privacy as none of the walls here are soundproof and all the doors have clear glass windows. The windows are for the building officers to be able to clearly see into either of the cells at any given time. Often, when the floor officer suspects a gay couple to be engaging in a sex act, by darkness of their room, the officer will carry a flashlight with him to shine into the cell whereby he will be able to catch the couple. Some building officers have even been known to work as a team for this end. In this type of raid, one officer will pull the deadlock bar up front of the hallways which will double lock all the cells in one quick motion and prevent any inmates from leaving the cell they happen to be in. Then all the cell lights are turned on from up front and either one or more of the officers will walk down the hallways glancing into each cell and writing down the names of inmates who are considered

to be out of bounds.

Another problem to be considered is that of separation. Sometimes the one getting the parole will be so in love with his mate that he will make every effort to lose his date. Should he be forced out of prison he may commit another crime for the sole purpose of returning to his love.

Most inmates will respect a prison marriage and leave the couple alone in their world of happiness. However, in here as out there, there are people who feel the need to destroy and leave each of the partners open to a new lover.

A certain type of gay will not turn to marriage but will quote a price of pills or cigarettes for the use of the wanted body. He thinks that variety is everything and he just as well may be paid for doing what he enjoys. Some gay couples live for each other and do not "trick" out on their mate. Thus the "sissy" (as the fem in prison has been labeled) becomes faced with repeated irritation from others who think that they can either talk or bribe him into giving them a play. Should the "sissy" tell his "old man" about it a fight will usually erupt, which can also be a justified excuse to separate the married couple.

"Where do prison married couples go to be alone?"

If it is true that prison marriage has problems it also has advantages. Doing time behind bars is not easy but with a loving mate you don't have to do it alone and you can take your mind off the fact that you are incarcerated from all reality. Being married gives you someone to eat with, talk with, and even more important, someone to share the happiness of being in love with.

Another important advantage is that you only need share sexual love with the person of your choice. Those without partners encounter the problem of rape. When an inmate witnesses a rape there is only one thing he can do about it

Continued on page 42



*I still find gold
where your body fattens.*

*Why should I apprehend the time, if ever,
when you take sides with the world against me?*

We made loneliness impossible again.

*We fed upon ourselves and starved gluttony
by feeding it time.*

*What appears eternally wasted
is only temporarily spent.*

Love didn't kill us as it's supposed to.

It's never over for me—I still find gold.

*I suck the still air between my teeth
and lie back in unspoiled unfoolish faith.*

*I listen to the objects in your room—
the aerial views, the dead megaphone,
the shut lattices of the Victrola's antique volume control.*

There is always that regret

from the after-bed

*for other things we owe as much
as we pay each other.*

*I remember and memorize your face
turned off beside me, its life*

protected by unconsciousness,

a river rushing

*in the black midnight shadow
of a canyon wall.*

*I imagine the star chart of your brain's darkness
and its debris scattered like jewels and coins,
teapots, bows, arrows, belts and ancient hunters' clubs,
scales and empty houses of our cosmology.*

My fingers tune the abacus on the floor.

I draw clean air.

*The afterwards of the flooded skin portends
the legendary, post-coital sadness,
because we gave worlds away
and yet have worlds to render.*

from THE SOUND OF JADE

by Ralph Moreno

the gay resort

by Gary Menger

For many gay singles and couples who are bored with bars, and getting overexposed to the same small circle of friends, the "gay resort" is becoming a popular way to spend holidays and weekends.

There are several around the country—one sees the ads from time to time in National Gay Magazines; then doesn't see them anymore. That's not generally because these places have gone broke and closed up; quite the contrary, they have a healthy, frequently returning clientele, and are content to stay with it and let a little discreet word-of-mouth keep them full. So the ads disappear, the general gay public hears no more about them, and they become "in" places to go for a relative handful of gay vacationers and weekenders.

We have two such places near the San Francisco Bay Area: **Wildwood Ranch** (in Sonoma County, near the Russian River), and **Bear Wallow Ranch** (in Mendocino County).

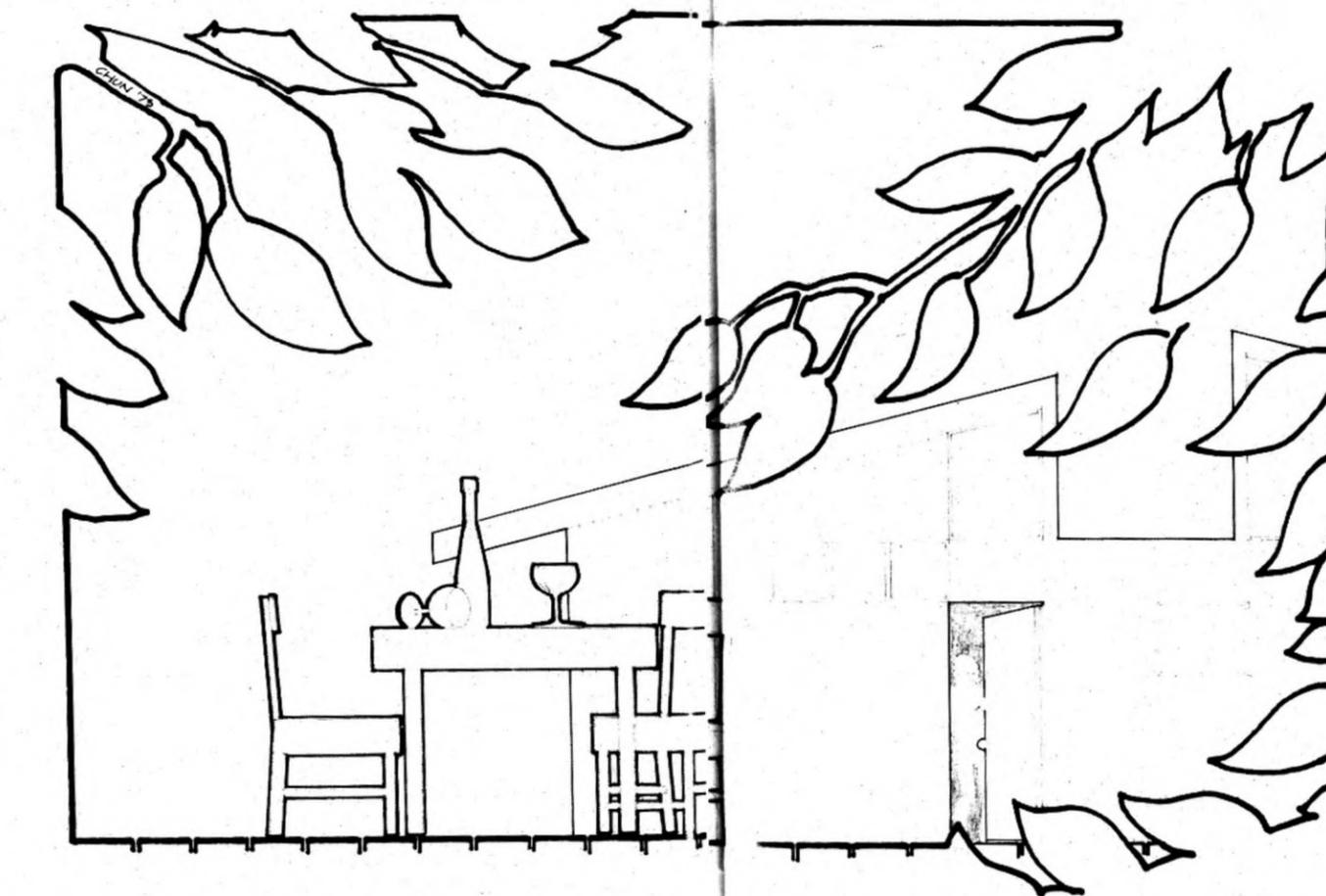
These are both little more than two hours from San Francisco, and certainly worth the attention of anyone who would enjoy an exhilarating change of pace, a healthy rest in the country, and the happy experience of meeting new friends under relaxed circumstances.

Wildwood is an hour's drive up 101 to the River Road, then West to Guerneville, then six miles straight up a road you won't believe till you drive it (don't worry; it's paved). Once up, you need to watch carefully for the one or two signs; they're a whisper on the landscape and if you miss them, God knows where you'll find yourself!

"... "in" places for a handful of Gay vacationers..."

When you get there you'll find a pleasant Lodge, (a redesigned, comfortable private home), flanked by a shady picnic ground, a lovely heated pool, and an abundance of fruit trees and flowering bushes. There's ample parking, and room to pitch a tent or park your camper if you like. You'll enjoy a breathtaking view of valleys and hills, and many hiking and bridle paths that go for miles, with small probability of encountering any other human beings.

You'll meet a gentle, friendly horse that enjoys being exercised, and Sonny, a big, beautiful German Shepherd, and perhaps a cow or two. Best of all, you'll meet two delightful hosts, Ken and Jerry, the owners or, if you go during the quiet



week days, Tom, the caretaker, a mellow young man whose function may only be to make sure you don't drown in the pool or set the woods on fire, but who will extend himself to make you feel relaxed and at home; show you around, demonstrate the mechanics of the cookout facilities, find you a fresh towel, help you and the watchdog become friends and, in general, ensure that your visit is a pleasant one.

How does it work? You buy an annual membership for a nominal rate, then go as often as you like, paying a token fee for admittance, and for use of a bed. On weekends, you can also pay an absurdly low rate to be fed. Privacy depends on quantity of attendance; there's a bunkhouse where you may fine one person or twenty, and a large room with a collection of double beds. On a quiet weeknight you might take over a

edge bedroom, or open out a couch and sleep by the fire, here's little or no supervision; once attending to the purchase of membership, you feel that it's "your place" and a nice place to be.

Bear Wallow Ranch is arrived at by going North on 101 through Cloverdale, and then West on 128 toward Fort Bragg

"... always someone to play with..."

to Boonville. It's just four miles outside Boonville, putting it a little over 100 miles from the Golden Gate Bridge.

There you'll find a magnificent lodge, with fireplace and wet bar, heated pool, lots of in and outdoor games, and always

someone to play them with; the privacy of your own comfortably furnished, secluded cabin in the woods (with fireplace and sundeck). Or, if you prefer (for a lesser rate) a "bunkhouse" cabin, or areas for pitching your tent or parking your camper. The dining room is pleasant, and the food is both plentiful and extraordinarily good. And there are hiking trails, magnificent views; the pleasure of relaxing in a Redwood forest.

"... an absurdly low rate to be fed..."

How does it work? No "membership," just the requirement of advance reservation. The American Plan rates may at first seem rather high, but they include all meals and setups for drinks (which are generally served to you), and rates are more than justified by the exceptional food, the beauty of the surroundings, and the plush comfort of the cabins. (Bunkers and campers pay about half the rate of people staying in private cabins, which includes the same food service.)

Neither place will welcome you if you just drive up on a whim. The courtesy of advance notice is definitely required (and to your benefit; they'll be better prepared to make you comfortable.) Pets are not welcome; the critters on the premises have a positive function, and *your* pets might not get along with them, and might be hard on the furnishings, not to mention the nerves of the other guests.

The two ranches have in common that you bring your own liquor, bug spray, cigarettes, etc. (Nobody's selling these things in the woods, and stores aren't all that handy.) Both offer beds with fresh linens, and most other creature comforts.

Rates, directions, and more complete general information may be obtained by writing either establishment, both advertised in Vector, and in other gay area publications.

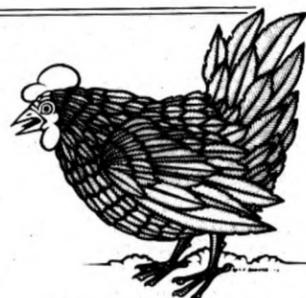
Continued from page 37

and that is absolutely nothing. Should you tell the staff about what you saw you will find yourself labeled a "snitch." Most snitches never live to make it out of prison.

"... effort to bust the gay couple in an act of sex."

A prison married couple share all the things they have, from razor to full canteen draw. The one with the money will buy supplies for both of them, just as the working man will provide for his family. One of the biggest advantages with providing your mate with supplies is that he will be less apt to step out on you for fear of losing all those luxuries which you have been providing for him. Of course, many couples remain totally faithful due to love and satisfaction.

Love is a real powerful thing and even humans doing time can feel and share it. Most all marriages here are based upon the same thing as marriages out there. Almost any man inside prison could find real pride in dying for his lover, regardless of what role he may play in bed. When it comes to a married convive fighting for his mate behind these bars, there is no delay. Marriage is marriage, whether it be in here or out there and regardless of the rules for the given area.



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Continued from page 33

you had just met a half hour before, "Hold it there a minute till I go get the vaseline." It wasn't over the sink, try the medicine chest; ah, here it is. He slipped the small jar into his pant pocket and went back to Terry.

"Well, shall we go to be?"

Terry nodded happily and stood up. Mac put out the light and guided him up the dark stairs.

The bedroom was shabby and untidy so instead of putting on the light, Mac lit a thick candle on top of the chest of drawers. They would see the grubby little room all too clearly in the morning, why look at it now. He placed his cigarettes, matches and an ashtray on the floor beside the bed and when Terry wasn't looking, the vaseline underneath. Terry was undressed first and stood at the end of the bed in his white Y-front shorts with both hands behind his head tossing his jet-black curly hair and stretching. Mac, still a little drunk, leaned on the bureau for support. This vision before him, the slim wellformed young body stretching in the candlelight left him breathless. Nothing, he thought, nothing in the world could possibly be half as beautiful as this body, this glorious man who was about to offer his body to Mac in bed.

Immediately they were in between the sheets. They wrapped themselves around each other and began to kiss. Sucking Terry's tongue into his mouth as far as it would go, Mac was delirious with excitement. He kissed his eyes and throat, bit his shoulders and nipples, sometimes Mac on top, sometimes Terry. They wriggled out of their shorts and kicked them free of their feet and started masturbating each other very quickly, still kissing, stopping every so often to look down at the hand that was touching them until Mack couldn't resist it any more. He dived and got Terry's cock in his mouth. Terry spread his legs, knees bent, and gripped Mac's head, pulling it down on him. When his jaws got tired Mac turned Terry over and after feeling his buttocks for a while, pulled them apart. The flower of Terry's youth lay in the valley between two velvety hills. Mac kissed. Terry squirmed and then he pressed up to Mac's face. Mac began to lick until Terry gasped, "Do it, do it now." Mac reached down, took the vase-

line and put a generous amount on his cock, spreading it around with his hand. With the other hand he rubbed some into Terry's behind. This was so pleasurable, Mac nearly came but Terry couldn't wait so he turned on his side and, putting his hand behind his back, took Mac's cock and guided it into him. It was slow going at first and Mac let Terry take control. Gently Terry worked himself on to it. When it was halfway in, Terry took his hand away as Mac began to push. Mac pushed harder—suddenly Terry went rigid, the air hissed as it was drawn in between his teeth. For a few seconds the taut, agonized body lay impaled on Mac's erection. This is the most poignant moment of the love between two males. There is pain, sometimes a lot of pain, Mac knows this but cannot stop himself from causing it. Terry is suffering the intense pain for Mac's pleasure. What more could you do in the name of love for someone you met only one hour ago?

Now Terry's body is slowly relaxing, ever so slowly coming back to press itself to Mac, whose cock is disappearing up and in. The pain is over and Mac's arms go around Terry pulling him closer in a huge grateful embrace for letting him enter.

I'm in, thought Mac, in, in, entered into another man. Not only that, but all of me, my whole self, I'm melting, moving, slipping into this beautiful man. In the most secret of all his entrances, on in the pathway to his very insides, push it through his lovable pipes and even up to his tender, throbbing red wet heart, yes, nudge his heart playfully, caress it with my cock, thrust it in and feel his hot blood pouring over the tip. Oh, there is no other feeling ever felt to compare with this. This could be the last person I'll ever sleep with! the last man I enter. My last fuck!

With this realization Mac's love for this man he was in, this body moving with him, increased tenfold. His excitement rose to such a pitch, it poured through his cock, his hands and everywhere else they touched and charged into Terry who became just as excited as himself. He kept twisting his face around to kiss Mac on the mouth, to bite his lips, letting his head fall back down on the pillows when his neck couldn't hold him up anymore.

"It's so big, it's so big. How big is it?"

"I love you, Terry, I love you."

"Fuck me, fuck me," came the whisper.

"I am, I am, oh, I am."

"Harder, more, more," Terry groaned and began masturbating himself. It only needed a few strokes more. Terry came first and just after Mac had the most piercingly unbearable ejaculation he had ever remembered.

They lay for a long time in a satisfied torpor, still joined by the now soft organ, Mac kissing the shoulders before him.

"I've never had it like that so good before," Terry said as Mac pulled himself out very gently.

Before falling asleep, Mac thought about washing himself. He got up to blow out the candle and had a look at his cock. No need to. More perfection.

Mac woke up. He could hear buses stopping at the corner and moving off again when the lights changed. He became aware of the humming machinery at the factory. Must be after nine. He had missed the seagulls screaming, a sound he liked, all down at the docks now getting breakfast. He reached down to get a cigarette and touched against Terry.

"Cigarette?"

"No thanks." Terry's voice was clear and sounded as if he had been awake for a while.

"Feel like getting up?"

"Yes."

They dressed in silence. Downstairs Terry put on his overcoat and sat in the living room. Mac made the instant coffee and felt ridiculous going through the motions.

"What do you work at, Terry?"

"I told you last night," a hint of anger, "a waiter."

"Oh, so you did, sorry, I forgot. I pushed a tray myself for a while."

Idiot, he cursed himself. Better keep your mouth shut if you can't remember last night's conversation.

"Well, I'd better be getting home now."

Terry stood up.

"Oh! Right. Well, goodbye. It's been great sleeping with you. I'll bump into you again around."

"Yes, probably see you before I go back. Bye bye."

"Bye."

Mac closed the door and stood at the window sniffing his fingers, watching Terry disappear down the street.

James Brannan
Dublin, Ireland

bar·bath·restaurant guide

SAN FRANCISCO DOWNTOWN

Alley Cat, 330 Mason St. 982-7968, D
Bo Jangles, Larkin & Ellis, D
Blue & Gold, 136 Turk St. 673-2040
Body Shop, 98 Eddy, 986-0561
Frolic Room, 141 Mason St., E
Gangway, 841 Larkin St. 885-4441
Jackie D's, 147 Mason St.
Kokpit, 301 Turk St. 775-3260
Landmark, 45 Turk St. 474-4331
La Cave, 1469 Sutter St. 775-2060, D, W
One-Eighty-One, 181 Eddy St. 441-5373, E
Page One, 431 Natoma St. 982-1837, L, B, E, R
Peke's Palace, 180 Golden Gate, 775-4959
Rendezvous, 567 Sutter St. 781-3949, D
Sutter's Mill, 315 Bush St. 397-0121, L, R
Totie's, 743 Larkin, 673-6820
Trapp, 72 Eddy St. 362-3838
Turf Club, 76 - 6th St. 863-4615
Wilde Oscar, 59 - 2nd St. 392-4455
Windjammer, 645 Geary, 775-9796, D, B
The Wood Shed, 1601 Market St. 861-9462
1001 Nights, 335 Jones St., 474-1067, R, B, W

VALENCIA - CASTRO - MARKET

City Dump, 506 Castro, 861-4186
Connie's "Why Not?" 878 Valencia, 647-6949
The Corner Grocery Bar, 4049 - 18th St., 863-9463
* Fickle Fox, 842 Valencia, 826-3373, R, B
Hans-Off, 199 Valencia, 864-9652, D, E
J.B.'s House, 1884 Market, 863-3323
Kelly's Saloon, 3489 20th St. 285-0066, R, B
* Mint, 1942 Market St., 861-9373, R, B, L
Missouri Mule, 2348 Market, 626-1163, R, B
Mistake, 3988 - 18th St. 861-1310
Naked Grape, 2097 Market, 863-7226
Nothing Special, 469 Castro, 626-5876
Pendulum, 4146 - 18th St. 863-4441
Purple Pickle, 2223 Market St. 621-0441
Scott's Pit, 10 Sanchez St. 626-9534, W
The No. 3, 18th & Valencia, E, D
The Twilight, 456 Castro, 621-9193
Tiffany's, 1900 Market, 626-1308, B, L, R, 24 hrs.
Toad Hall, 482 Castro, 864-9797
Twin Peaks, 401 Castro, 864-9470

NORTH BEACH

Baj, 131 Bay, 421-1872, R, B
Cabaret After Dark, 936 Montgomery St., 788-3365, D, E
Gold Street, 56 Gold St. 397-5626, R, B, E
Jackson's, 2237 Powell, 362-2696, R, B
Katie's Opera Bar, 1441 Grant, 986-9551
Savoy Tivoli, 1438 Grant St. 362-7023, R

HAIGHT AREA

Bradley's Corner, 900 Cole, 664-7766, B
Lucky Club, 1801 Haight, 387-4644
Man Handler, 1840 Haight, 668-7655
Maude's Study, 937 Cole, 731-6119, W

POLK STREET

Cloud 7, 2360 Polk, 474-9960
Early Bird, 1723 Polk, 776-4162
Gordon's Saloon, 1750 Polk, 775-4152
House of Harmony, 1312 Polk, 885-5300, E, D
New Bell, 1203 Polk St., 775-6905, E
On The Q.T., Polk & Clay, 885-1114, R, B
Polk Gulch, Polk & Post, 885-2991
Hot House, 1548 Polk St. 441-8413, E, D
P.S., 1121 Polk St. 441-7798, R, B
Wild Goose, 1488 Pine St.
Yacht Club, 2155 Polk St. 441-8381, B, R

FOLSOM STREET AREA

Big Town, 115 Harriet St., 626-1250, R, B, D, L
Boot Camp, 1010 Bryant St. 626-0444
Country Club, 2742 17th St. 864-1949, R, B
Febe's, 1501 Folsom, 621-9450
527 Club, 527 Bryant, 397-2452
Folsom Prison, 1898 Folsom, 647-9134
The Lumber Yard, 979 Folsom
The No Name, 1347 Folsom
Ramrod, 1225 Folsom, 621-9196
The Red Star Saloon, 1145 Folsom
Round Up, 6th & Folsom, 863-9628
Stud, 1535 Folsom, 863-2980

AROUND TOWN

Club Dori, 427 Presidio, 931-5896, R, B
The Lion, Divisadero & Sacramento, 567-6565
Peg's Place, 4737 Geary Blvd. 668-5050, D, B, W
Pier 54, China Basin Rd., 398-7846, L, B, R

AFTER HOURS

Big Basket, 966 Market St.
Covered Wagon, 278 - 11th St. 626-7220, R
Hamburger Mary's, 1582 Folsom, 861-9223
L, R
The Lumber Yard, 979 Folsom St.
The Shed, 2275 Market, 861-4444, D
Tiffany's, 1900 Market, 626-1308

E - Entertainment D - Dancing
B - Brunch, Sunday W - Women
R - Restaurant also L - Lunches

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MARIN COUNTY

Fairfax:
Vi's Club Drake, 1625 Sir Francis Drake, 453-8247, D, B

Sausalito:

Sausalito Inn, 12 El Portal, 332-0577, R

Santa Rosa:

Bunk House, 9117 River Rd. 887-9905
Monkey Pod, 616 Mendocino Ave. 546-5070

SACRAMENTO

Topper, 1218 "K" St. Mall, 444-2815
Atticus, 5121 El Camino, Carmichael, 481-5595
Charlie's Place, 371-9768
Cruz-In, 2026 I St., 447-1300
Ernie's, 3480 W. Capitol Ave., 371-9901
Off-Key, 1040 Soule, 371-9725
Purple Stallion, Folsom near 65th St., 383-9958
Underpass, 1946 Broadway, 457-5867, R, D
Other End, 3480 W. Capital, 371-9901, D
Bryte:
Hide & Seek, 825 Sunset, 371-9817, D, E
Club "Yolo" Baths, 1531 Sacramento Ave., 371-9949

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EAST BAY

Berkeley:
* Camp Grounds, 2329 San Pablo, 848-9292, R, B

Oakland:

Berry's, 352 - 14th St. 832-9116
Chalet, 414 E. 12th, 444-8556, W
Club Carnation, 1200 - 13th Ave. 532-9425, B
Exit, 3333 Lakeshore Ave. 451-2329, E, D
Grandma's House, 135 12th, 444-9966, R, B, D, L
Han's, 316 - 14th St. 893-6280 R, B, D
Lancers, 3255 Lakeshore Ave. 832-3242, R, B
Waikiki, 1451 Harrison, 832-9549 D, E
White Horse, 6547 Telegraph, 652-3820, D

Hayward:

Aloha Club, 58 "A" St. 581-9856, D
Chances R, Manyon & Tennyson, 783-4426, D, E
Chandelier Lounge, 22615 Mission, 581-9310, D, L
Queen's Palace, 799 B St. 582-9881, D, E
Turf Club, 22517 Mission, 581-9877

RENO, NEVADA

Club Baths, 1030 W. 2nd St.
Dave's Westside Motel, 3001 W. 4th St. (702) 786-0525
The Jade Room, 214 W. Commercial Row, (702) 786-9841
Reno Bar, 424 E. 4th St.
V.I.P. Club (behind Dave's at 3001 W. 4th St.)

PENINSULA

Palo Alto:
Kona Kai, 3740 El Camino Real, 493-0204, B, D
Locker Room, 1951 E. University, 322-8005
The Garden, 1960 University, no phone
The Shack, 1972 University Ave. 342-1131

Redwood City:

Bayou, 1640 Main, 365-9444, D, B, R
Cruiser, 2651 El Camino, 366-4955, B, R
The Hive, 3201 Middleford Rd. 365-9568

San Jose:

The Harbor, 1035 Sunnyvale-Saratoga Road (Hwy 9), 252-9443, D

Santa Clara:

The Tinker's Damn, 46 Saratoga, 243-4595, D, B

Cupertino:

The Savoy, 29469 Silverado Ave. 255-0195, W, R, D, B

BATHS

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Baths, 3244 - 21st (at Mission) 285-3000
Castro Rock, 582 Castro, 863-9963
Club, 132 Turk, 775-5511
Dave's, 100 Broadway, 362-6669
Finnish, 1834 Divisadero, 921-0306
Folsom Street Barracks, 1145 Folsom
Jack's, 1143 Post, 673-1919
Ritch St., 330 Ritch, 392-3582
San Francisco, 229 Ellis, 775-8013

PENINSULA

Palo Alto:
Bachelors Quarters, 1934 University, 325-7575
Golden Door Sauna, 1205 Bayshore, 325-9121

Redwood City:

Fred's Health Club, 1718 Broadway, 365-9303

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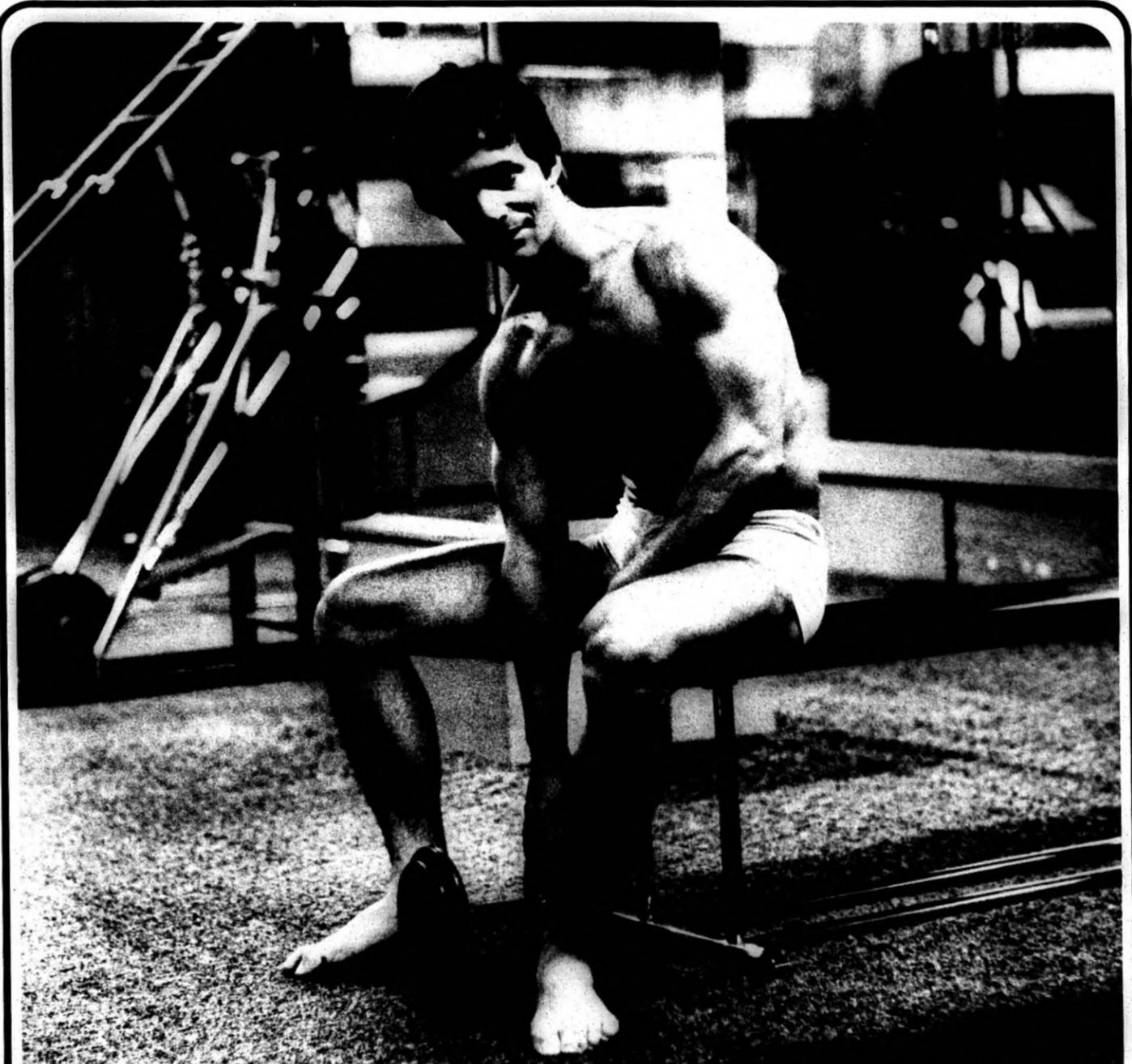
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ROAD APPLES
In Rock Concert
Sunday Afternoons
2:30 PM

(626-1250)

By Day:

LUNCH: Everyday 11:30 AM to 2 PM
At The Last Call, on the Patio

BRUNCH: Sunday 11:00 AM to 3 PM

Come Night:

DINNER:
6:00 PM to 11:30 PM

DANCING



BIGTOWN

115 HARRIET STREET
SAN FRANCISCO
(Off Folsom at 6th Street)