

**DEEP are
the Roots**

**CARL B.
HARDING**

*Let's Start Over in
NORTH CAROLINA*

*Justice Scored in
PROVOO CASE*

SEX "PERVERT"
—Age 7

*History of the
Mattachine Society*

Book Reviews

Quotes

Letters

*—and many, many
other features!*

MARCH-APRIL 1955

**Second Issue
50 CENTS**

INTOLERANCE

HATE

Prejudice

Ignorance

Mattachine Society, Inc.

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"Membership-at-Large" in the Mattachine Society will now be permitted in accordance with the following resolution recently adopted by the organization. Such affiliates will be known as Contributors, however, and not officially as members. Here is the plan:

RESOLUTION

Since there have been numerous requests from individuals outside of the Mattachine Society to participate financially and actively in the program of the Society, and

Since it has always been a primary concern of the Mattachine Society to promote participation on the basis of quality in order that the aims and objectives of the Society may be accomplished without dishonor,

Be it therefore resolved:

That the Mattachine Society does establish the designation of Contributor for all interested persons who shall:

1. Make proper application for such designation
2. Sign the Pledge of the Society
3. Pay a fee of \$10 per year, due each January 1st

All Contributors shall receive a Contributor's card and a one-year subscription to the *Mattachine Review* upon payment of their yearly fee. No Contributor shall be entitled to be a delegate to a convention of the Mattachine Society or attend a chapter or area council meeting of the Society or represent the Mattachine Society in any way, unless expressly authorized in writing by the Board of Directors.

Adopted by the Board of Directors:

MATTACHINE SOCIETY, Inc.
Los Angeles, California

February 8, 1955

Lithographed in U.S.A.

Mattachine REVIEW

Second Issue

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Carl B. Harding



DEEP are the ROOTS

AUDIENCES SQUIRMED in their seats in 1954 when d'Usseau and Gow's gripping drama of race prejudice hit the Broadway stage. Jolting the conscience of whites and Negroes alike, "Deep are the Roots" portrayed with stark reality how ignorance and fear manifest in people's antagonisms toward one another.

An important emphasis of this

ON OUR COVER: Artist Mel Betti has illustrated several of the basic concepts which form barriers to mutual acceptance and understanding of the homophile and the world we all live in. These ideas are set forth in the article by Carl B. Harding, "Deep are the Roots." Author Harding is engaged in research begun several years ago on causative factors which lead to a homosexual orientation. It is hoped that additional articles by him will appear in future issues.

play was that deep ARE the roots. Prejudice goes deep in the minds of men. No one is born unprejudiced. The child by nature is potentially free to love and treat his fellowman as brothers in creative fellowship. It is the environmental misconditioning of the child, namely by his elders, which distorts his attitudes and warps his emotions in his relationships with humankind.

A major distortion of thought is caused by ignorance with a leary suspicion of anyone or anything that is different no matter how infinitesimal the differences may be. All too prevalent is the adherence to preconceived superstitions of "differences" which have no basis in fact. When our thinking is guided by the magnification of individual weaknesses and the common tendency to judge the whole by some of its parts, the stereotype is born. The homosexual who distrusts any non-homosexual as a confidant about his nature is

equally guilty of the same illogical precept. Basically, most people are more human than we think.

But the most dangerous rootage of human antipathies is fear, not the healthful fears which have for us survival value but the unhealthy fears which spring from insecurities within ourselves. Silently and often unexpectedly they surge up out of our unconsciousness and cause us to be cruel to one another, hampering our happiness. Fear bleeds the heart of love and makes us ill. It constricts and holds back whereas love reaches out in joyful fulfillment of life.

Self-sufficiency or insecurity in adulthood have their foundation in the emotional climate of the home during the impressionable years of childhood. They are rooted in what the child is taught and how he is permitted or not permitted to express his natural capacity to love. When there is a thwarting of the child's expression in the give and take of love, there is a breeding of people who in adulthood are apt to react from a compulsion to take out on others the emotional deprivations of their own early years.

The arrogance of prejudice finds its most devastating outlet through the authoritarian personality, the individual who feels so desperately insecure within himself that he is compelled to seek security in assumed self superiority over others rather than in mutual appreciation, cultivation and good will. Defining strength in terms of power, the authoritarian seeks to engulf others as his subordinates to fill the gnawing emptiness he feels within.

But the surface satisfaction found in dominating others is a false security. Those who depreciate others are dissatisfied with themselves. There is the antithesis of creativity. Their attitudes would stifle the best

in men if it were not for faith. Authoritarians would utilize their fear to engender fear in others if they could and they often do. And because their power corrupts, the vicious circle of fear continues to revolve and has its ramifications and repercussions in every area of our lives. Their behavior may take on organized scapegoating. The individual or a minority group may be the victim of their whims. Their emotionally-charged philosophy maintains caste systems with the denial of justice and civil rights. Mistreatment of their victims may extend to mental tortures and violent persecutions. Their tyranny reached its most terrible extent almost unbelievable for man in the Nazi massacre of the Jews.

The ill effects of prejudice are not alone upon those against whom prejudice is inflicted. Those who hurt others thereby hurt themselves because prejudice and discrimination further poison the minds of those who would vilify the spiritual worth of men.

The homosexual has been the victim of interpersonal prejudices and organized anti-campaigns. Here, too, ignorance and fear are the roots, and the most dangerous is fear. Paradoxically, fear of one's own latent and repressed homosexuality is the cause of much of the anti-homosexual attitude in our culture today. There are those who use the compensatory defense mechanism of subjecting homosexuals to mockery and humiliation, vehement scorn and persecution, to unconsciously shield an element of the same inclination within themselves. Their reactionary impulse not only exhibits a failure to understand the inadequate parent-child relationship in the formative years which usually causes homosexual development, but also a refusal to recognize the causes of their own

frustrations out of which their hostilities spring. He who does not honestly accept himself can hardly be expected to accept others as they are. Even the overtly homosexual male who speaks with contempt for the more effeminate members of his group is projecting hatred for himself.

When people learn to understand themselves and come to know others as individuals, their prejudices disappear. When we look beneath the surface of things to the whys of their existence, our self-knowledge and understanding of others is richly enhanced. The individual is born as a sexual being with the potential for development in the heterosexual or homosexual direction, or both in different degrees depending upon the personality forces acting upon the plastic sensitivity of the child's subconscious mind. Variations in psychosexuality exist as a matter of degree. Bisexuality in its varying gradational ratios is far more prevalent than complete sexual inversion.

Homosexuals constitute an invisible minority. They are loved by those who know them as individuals for themselves, but not necessarily as homosexuals. Through fear of ostracism homosexuals themselves have helped maintain the aura of prejudice surrounding them, prejudice which can be alleviated by those who believe in the philosophy of truth. If in fantasy we can imagine all homosexual men and women, including those of conscious bisexual orientation, proclaiming to the world who they are and WHY, we can envision a large part of the homosexual problem being quickly solved. To the astonished but historically adaptive masses the homosexual population would be found to include persons within their most intimate associations, and others of public influence and prestige. Stereotyped

concepts would be no more.

Obviously such a miracle of homosexual revelation en masse is not going to take place. But the idea does point the way toward a personal program of social enlightenment and



integration—that of the homosexual confiding in selected favorite friends. It is a spur of security for the homosexual to know that if people really like him they are going to continue to like him regardless of his homosexual nature. Also, when confronted with the usual condemnatory remarks, enlightened non-homosexuals will speak constructively in defense of the homosexual variant.

It is unfortunate that through fear so many people are restrained from natural communication with one another. They are therefore blocked from discussing their problems together. There is often a lack of honest communication even between people who are in love, including some husbands and wives. This is usually true in cases where one or both partners have a strong homosexual component in their psychic makeup. Because the individual is motivated largely from the unconscious feeling level of his being rather than from his intellect, it is even more important that he be able to talk freely about his feelings with others. Such mutual sharing of personal problems

is a deeply enriching experience and practical psychotherapy. It brings release from fear and a closer bond of friendship is established where before there was a separating distance of the unknown.

While society has been not only anti-homosexual but rather pre-eminently anti-sex, it is little wonder that attitudes change so slowly regarding any form of deviation from the status quo. Deep ARE the roots of prejudice which would make men slaves. In a democratic society when the minds of men are free, uniqueness and individualism can be signs of both personal and social health. But in totalitarian thought rigid conformity is the order of the day. The power of authoritarian personality is well to be feared as a dangerous threat to personal peace and to democratic civilization. But for the authoritarian himself we need compassion for the agony he suffers alone. Our task is to build a new world in which each individual is cherished to live in dignity with self-esteem and freedom from fear. Mankind is moving more assuredly now toward understanding of his sexual nature. As the dark curtain of taboo is lifted from the sexual sphere, many unconscious conflicts are being resolved and mental and social health improved. More people are coming to be accepted as individuals and will ultimately achieve mutually creative fulfillment in an atmosphere of good will in our common world.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

The greatest thing about man is his ability to transcend himself, his ancestry, and his environment and to become what he dreams of being.

—Tully C. Knoles

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Worth looking into

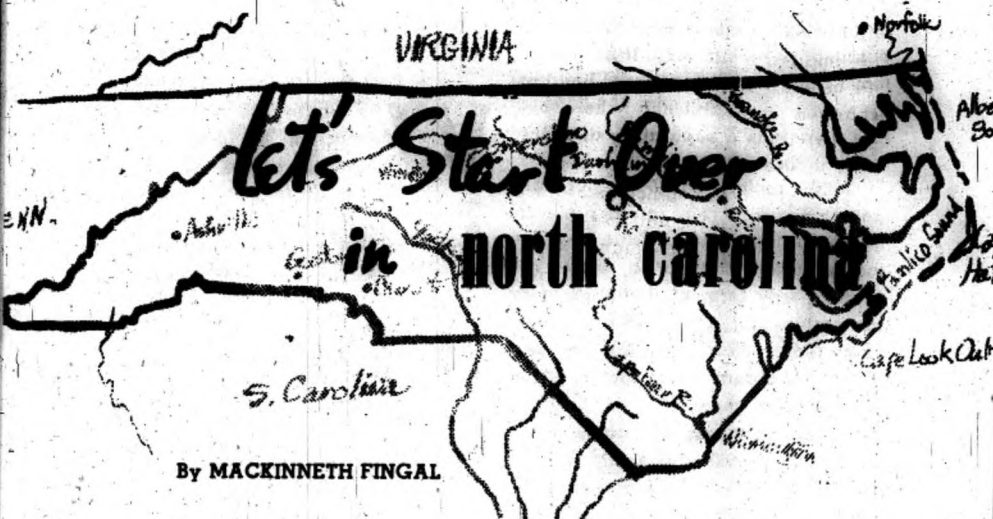
EVERY ISSUE of the Mattachine REVIEW will contain----

- * 5 Lead Articles
- * Book Reviews
- * Quotes of significance
- * Letters
- * News Notes
- * Critiques
- * Opinions

PLUS information about progress of program & projects of Mattachine

FOUR MORE ISSUES WILL APPEAR THIS YEAR...and monthly publication is planned for 1956.

All subscriptions are mailed first class sealed. Clip the order blank on page 21



THE ABOVE TITLE might well be the summary of an article by James R. Spence, attorney, entitled, "The Law of Crime Against Nature." It appeared in April 1954, North Carolina Law Review.

Author Spence in his documented article has given a good survey of the so-called "crime against nature." He divides his article into six sections, viz:

- I — Introduction
- II — History and Meaning of the N. Carolina Statute
- III — Interpretation of the Statute by the North Carolina Supreme Court
- IV — Interpretations in Other Jurisdictions
- V — Problems to be Considered in Drafting a New Statute.
- VI — A Proposed Statute for North Carolina

Thus, from divisions IV and V we get a glimpse of the laws and the court cases in other jurisdictions of the country besides North Carolina.

He begins by saying that ever

Law graduate of an Eastern University, Mackinneth Fingal, Washington, D. C., has objectively "reviewed a review" for this magazine in the article presented here. This is the first of several special legal articles prepared by the author. His second will appear in the May-June issue.

since the first Kinsey report many people have taken a different attitude toward the homosexual and his legal, social, and economic plight. Then he launches into the North Carolina statute, pointing out that it was copied from England's statute enacted during the reign of Henry VIII. He then describes the difficulties that courts, not only in his State but elsewhere, have had in ruling upon what is the "crime against nature," "sodomy," "buggery," etc., and shows how inconsistent they have been.

Spence states erroneously, however, that the Georgia statute is the worst of them all. It is not. The statute of his own state might well be the worst although the Nevada law,

if fully utilized, would be. Mandatory life imprisonment in Georgia remained in effect until 1949, when it was changed thusly:

- "(a) Where committed on a person under the age of 16 years, a sentence to the penitentiary for not less than 10 years nor more than 30 years;
- "(b) Where committed on a person 16 years or more, by a sentence to the penitentiary for not less than one year nor more than 10 years;
- "(c) Where previous conviction of plea of guilty of the offense of sodomy is alleged in the indictment and proven on the trial, by sentence to the penitentiary for not less than 10 nor more than 30 years."

North Carolina, as he says, still metes out "not less than five nor more than sixty years"² in the state prison. Nevada, however — where heterosexual divorce is so easy to obtain — provides "for a term not less than one year, and which may extend to life."³

Connecticut ranks next, of course, with a maximum of 30 years.⁴ Colorado used to be a tough one, but in 1939 she changed her statute from "one year" "to life"⁵ to "not less than one year and not more than fourteen years."⁶

In concluding his article, Spence does a novel thing. He drafts "A Proposed Statute for North Carolina." Briefly, this is his recommendation:

- (1) Acts PER OS or PER ANUM not entered into with mutual consent by persons (and consent being no defense if other party is under 16 or is mentally incompetent, or the ravishing of a dead body: maximum of 20 years, in the discretion of the court.
- (2) Sexual copulation with an an-

imal; maximum of 10 years, in the discretion of the court.

- (3) Taking any liberties with a child under 16: maximum of 10 years, in the discretion of the court.
- (4) Any heterosexual or homosexual acts committed purposely in the presence of a third person or persons: maximum of 10 years, in the discretion of the court.
- (5) Acts by persons PER OS or PER ANUM other than above: misdemeanor only; provided, if committed privately by husband and wife, no offense.

Apparently, he patterned his proposed statute for North Carolina somewhat upon the New York law, which has been in effect since 1950. The New York law, the best of them all, is briefly as follows:

- (a) 1st DEGREE SODOMY—Acts PER OS or PER ANUM with man, woman, animal, bird or dead body, not entered into with mutual consent, or where there is force or violence or the use of drugs: felony, and maximum of 20 years.
- (b) 2nd DEGREE SODOMY—Person over 21 with another 16, PER OS or PER ANUM, whether or not with "consent" of minor: felony, and maximum of 10 years.
- (c) Acts PER OS or PER ANUM, other than in (a) and (b), by consenting majors: misdemeanor only.⁷

¹Code of Ga. Annot., 26-5902 (1953)

²Gen.Stat. of N. Car., 14-177 (1953)

³Stat. of Nev. (1951), p. 525

⁴Gen.Stat. of Conn., Sec. 8544 (1949)

⁵Colo. Stat. Annot., c48, sec 64 (1953)

⁶Colo. Rev. Stat., 40-2-31 (1953)

⁷N. Y. Penal Law, Sec. 690 (1953)

Under the New York law of today, those who have reached their majority and enter into homosexual acts with the mutual consent can commit nothing more than a misdemeanor. And for homosexuals to commit a misdemeanor in this situation the act would usually have to be accompanied by a breach of the peace, the concomitant injury of a rightfully interested third party, or, if the act were committed in public, as in an automobile.

Some of us might want to take issue with attorney Spence about husband and wife committing the

"crime against nature." We have some evidence that there are married heterosexuals who do commit the "crime against nature" and we do not fully understand why they should be made an exception. But we won't argue the point at great length. Spence has made an important contribution to the subject in his article.

In nearly all jurisdictions a misdemeanor is a crime that provides for a fine or a year or less in jail. A felony brings more than a year in prison.

MATTACHINE SOCIETY

SECOND ANNUAL CONVENTION--MAY 14-15, 1955

Second annual convention of the Mattachine Society will be held May 14-15 at Los Angeles, Calif. A new feature of the 1955 convention will be a first day's program open to the general public.

Program for the first day opens with registration at 11:00 a.m. Registration fee is \$1.00, which must have been paid in advance.

Four 45-minute panel discussions will comprise the afternoon program, followed by a banquet in the evening.

Second day of the convention is for members only. It will be a general session, with business matters, election of officers, and general discussions of the Society's program and projects.

Those persons interested in attending the May 14 session and banquet should apply in writing to Convention Chairman, Mattachine Society, Inc., P.O. Box 1925, Los Angeles

53, Calif. Request should be accompanied by a registration fee of \$1.00 for the daytime session, plus \$3.50 for a banquet ticket if desired. Registration card, banquet ticket and other information, including exact location where these events will be held, will be sent by return mail. Reservations must be in by May 5.

Here is the program released by the chairman of the Society:

SATURDAY, MAY 14
 Registration (Fee, \$1.00) 11:00 a.m.
PANEL DISCUSSIONS:
 Research 1:00 p.m.
 Legislative-Legal 2:00 p.m.
 Public Relations 3:00 p.m.
 Organization 4:00 p.m.
BANQUET 6:30 p.m.
 Speaker : Awards

SUNDAY, MAY 15
 General Session 10:00 a.m.

mattachine REVIEW

Treatment of the SEX OFFENDER in DENMARK

By Paul W. Tappan

"Treatment of the Sex Offender in Denmark" is the title of a paper written by Paul W. Tappan, Ph.D., Jur. Sc.D., New York City, upon return from a trip to several European countries for the purpose of study. Specifically, he visited Denmark, Holland, Germany and Sweden. He discussed the problem of handling "sex psychopaths" with authorities, visited institutions and made first hand observa-

tions.

Dr. Tappan paid maximum attention to the effect of castration of males as a means of preventing repeated sex offenses. Only highlights of his report are presented here.

Dr. Tappan's research was supported in part by grants from the American Philosophical Society and by the American Social Hygiene Association.

A great amount of attention has been devoted to the abnormal sex offender in the United States in recent years. Widespread anxiety has been stimulated by an apparent increase in sex crime and more especially by the fulminations of the press against the "sex maniac." The result has been a hysterical haste to apply heroic but naive and ill-considered measures . . . Popular thinking and official action have been misled by an assortment of myths relating to the criminal sex deviate . . .

During the summer of 1950 the writer talked with leading psychiatric and legal authorities in several countries, particularly in Denmark, that have employed special approaches in their work with sex offenders and inspected treatment facilities that are being used . . .

The most that one may conclude from the evidence thus far available is that there does exist a rather distinct group of sex-deviated habitual offenders who are nonpsychotic but distorted in their emotional and volitional responses . . . (who) engage in repetitive, compulsive, and dangerous crimes. But they constitute a very small percentage of all sex offenders . . .

The most striking single feature of the programs in these European countries . . . is the employment of castration as a method of therapy for certain cases. . . moreover, where this treatment has been tested extensively, it has received rather strong, though not indiscriminate or uncritical, endorsement. . . Statutes vary considerably in the several countries as to the circumstances under which the surgery may be performed, the ideology supporting the policy, the types of institutions used for the sex offenders.

and the associated treatment measures. They are rather similar, however, in providing for castration under specified circumstances when abnormal sexuality has been evidenced by criminal behavior and a psychiatric diagnosis. The purpose of these laws is alleged generally to be therapeutic rather than punitive or deterrents...

Psychiatrists consulted on the issue have held quite consistently that in order to achieve desired psychotherapeutic objectives the patient must desire and seek castration himself, that otherwise his feelings of resentment and inadequacy may be seriously damaging and, perhaps, dangerous... under the Danish practice the patient's decision to seek castration is in actuality something rather less than a free choice on his part, since prospective candidates for surgery are under indeterminate commitments... the time of their release depending upon the decisions of the authorities... (and) they know from the customary practice that without castration their confinement may be prolonged for many years (but) that their submission will result in early release... Critical studies of their experiences in Denmark have pointed to the conclusion that the cases that are most benefitted by castration are those in which there is clear evidence of biological aberration or mental deficiency along with persistent sexual delinquency.

(In Holland) there is usually no pressure upon (the sex psychopath) to request the surgery, and, as in Denmark, approval of the government must be given. The trend has been away from the employment of castration because of what they believe to be a danger of excessive personality changes...

Castration, however effective it may appear to be in European experience, with specialized types of sex deviates, cannot gain favor in the United States... What with the hysteria so easily provoked in the United States relative to sex criminality, there is very real danger that the castration technique, if it were adopted here, would too easily be misapplied... Finally, though there is disagreement on the point, it appears that castration may produce pronounced personality as well as physical changes that may complicate the problems of the deviate and increase his danger to the community.

The data from Denmark confirms recent findings in the States: that most sex offenders do not recidivate and that those who do tend to repeat their prior offenses rather than develop more serious forms of criminality. Very few display marked psychiatric aberration and most of them do not require special treatment methods

differentiated from those applied to other types of law violators. The data suggest, however, that suspended sentences and probation could safely be used far more frequently than they are.

Sex 'Pervert'... AGE 7

Californians, who generally accept without emotion a daily fare of sensational headlines, were jolted last December by the news that a seven-year-old boy in a mining camp had been charged with a sex offense. On December 12 the boy was placed in a juvenile home and held there until released back to his parents after a hearing on January 4.

Paul V. Coates, in his daily column, "Confidential File," in the Los Angeles *Mirror-News*, probably told the story of this event as well as anyone. On January 3 he wrote, after a New Year's Day visit to the parents of the boy at their residence in Eagle Mountain, the mining camp:

"Neighbors have charged (this boy) with being a 'sex offender!' And he is only seven years old!

"Since December 12, when he was taken into custody by two deputy sheriffs, the child has been held at Riverside (Calif.) Juvenile Hall, on the recommendation of a probation officer. The probation department claims the boy is being held because of a "horrible allegation" against him.

"The complaint reads that "on or about November 13, he did willfully and maliciously commit lewd acts upon a female person, age approximately 5, by placing his hand under her dress."

"Any psychiatrist, or, for that matter, any parent, would consider this just part of a child's normal, healthy curiosity. But the probation officer is not a psychiatrist. And, perhaps, he's not even a parent. To him, the charge was a "horrible allegation," and he recommended to a Superior Court judge that the seven-year-old suspect be kept in custody."

Here Coates admitted there might be justification for holding the child if the parents were incapable of caring for him and explaining his curiosity to him. But, the writer added, he found no reason to believe the parents were incapable of fulfilling their responsibility to the child when he visited the mining camp on New Year's Day. The other two children in the family were well behaved. The entire family was in a state of bewilderment and tension.

In his column, Coates quoted the father:

"It's a pretty awful thing," the young father told me. "When they come to take my boy, that's the first I heard anything was wrong."

"I figured they was the law. And if they said they had to take him, why, we had to let them. They told me it would all be cleared up right away."

"What does the boy say when you go to visit him?" I asked. "Does he know why he's being held?"

The mother shook her head.

"He doesn't say much," she replied. "He cries some when we get ready to leave."

"He thinks they're keeping him there because he played doctor with a neighbor girl."

The probation officer, Coates wrote, originally claimed he was recommending the child be kept in custody because there were threats against his life. Here again is a portion of the column in reprint form:

But I talked to the people in the mining camp. There have been no threats. Rather, the father's co-workers took up a collection to help him pay expenses in trying to get the youngster free.

And, of course, if there had been a threat against the child's life, it would make considerably more sense to arrest the adult who made the threat.

I spoke to the boy's schoolteacher. "He's just a normal, average kid," she told me. "A little unruly. But I'd worry about a boy who wasn't. And the parents have always been very co-operative with me."

I talked to others in the camp who spoke bitterly about the men who had made the complaint against the child. "It all started about a year and a half ago," someone told me, "when the kid's family got in an argument with that other family over the kid riding his bike on their lawn."

Tomorrow, this fantastic case will be given a hearing. It seems to me impossible that the child will not be released.

And that will be the end of the story.

But for the 7-year-old "sex suspect," it will be just the beginning.

He'll have the rest of his life to try to cope with the deep feelings of guilt instilled in him by a brand of justice with all the intelligence of witch-burning.

On January 4, newspapers headlined the hearing with "Sex Offender, 7, Learns Fate Today." Superior Judge Russell L. Waite, a father himself, was to hear the case.

The child was released to his parents--with no provision for probation department supervision. A further hearing was

scheduled for April 15.

The sheriff's juvenile division had instituted proceedings to make the boy a ward of the court. Their petition, according to newspapers, charged that his act of putting his hand under the dress of a five-year-old girl indicated he was in danger of leading an "idle, dissolute, lewd or immoral life!"

At a recess, however, Judge Waite said, "Whenever I have one of these youngsters before me, I try to look at him as if he were one of my own. There have been times when one of my own children could possibly have been in my court. I'll base my decision on the feeling I've gained in my own life as a father."



In the Next Issue....

James Barr returns to these pages again in the third (May-June) issue of MATTACHINE REVIEW, after telling how he faced friends in his home town in the first issue. His second feature will bring the U. S. Navy's "DISCHARGE UNDER HONORABLE CONDITIONS" into focus.

Another look at the legal picture will be presented under Mackinneth Fingal's by-line. He is author of the criticism of a review of the sex laws in North Carolina in this issue. His next is called, "The Coming Model Penal Code."

R. S. Rood, M.D., superintendent and medical director of Atascadero State Hospital in California (an institution where psychopathic sex offenders are committed) has written about his work in that field, with emphasis upon therapy applied to rehabilitate patients there.

"The transvestist is one who at least has the courage to signal, if with mistaken colors, his dilemma," writes a prominent author who is an authority on the psychology of costume in an article that will appear in the next issue. It is entitled, "The Problem of Appearance."

Other articles will deal with religious and mental health aspects of the problem of the homophile. In addition, more information about the Mattachine Society and its program will appear, together with many interesting and lively departmental features. THE ISSUE WILL APPEAR AFTER MAY 15 — DON'T MISS IT!

JUSTICE

Scored in PROVVOO CASE

Paul Bennyhoff

(From a copy of the New York Times, a news article telling of the reversal of a verdict by the U. S. Court of Appeals in the case of John D. Provoo is reproduced herewith. Date of the article is August 28, 1954. An extract from another newspaper article, dated December 10, 1954, attacks the accuracy of the report of the administration when it cited its record for cleaning out subversives in government: Provoo was included and he should not have been, because the issue of Communism did not enter his case at all.

(Following the newspaper article is a letter written to the New York Times early last September by Paul Bennyhoff. The scorching indictment is presented here because it reflects the strong opinion of an American who believes that government classification of homosexually inclined persons as "security risks" is an invasion of privacy which cannot be permitted. Yet no one arises to protest.

(In presenting this material, the MATTACHINE REVIEW makes it clear that no stand or concern of Provoo's guilt or innocence on the charge of treason is intended here. We are concerned only with the fact that homosexuality was introduced and the verdict of guilty reversed because of it. Whether Provoo is guilty of treason or not is rightfully the province of the government authorities; whether or not he is a homosexual is Provoo's own business, inasmuch as sexuality of any kind did not enter the case.)



CONVICTION REVERSED:
John D. Provoo, former Army staff sergeant, whose conviction for treason and life sentence were reversed by the U. S. Court of Appeals.

Treason Conviction Of Provoo Is Upset

The United States Court of Appeals reversed yesterday the World War II treason conviction of John David Provoo, former Army staff sergeant.

Provoo received a life sentence and a \$10,000 fine on his conviction.

tion. He was found guilty of offering his services to the Japanese after the fall of Corregidor in 1942.

In a unanimous decision in which the case was sent back for retrial, the Appeals Court found that Provoo should not have been tried in New York and also that the Government had no right to cross-examine him on a collateral issue of homosexuality.

On the matter of the cross-examination, the court said "the facts so developed were so prejudicial as to constitute reversible error, if they were properly admitted."

"They had no relevancy to the charges on which he was being tried and were certain to degrade him in the eyes of the jury," the court continued. "No authority has been cited which suggests that homosexuality indicates a propensity to disregard the obligation of an oath. The sole purpose and effect of this examination was to humiliate and degrade the defendant and increase the probability that he would be convicted, not for the crime charged, but for his general unsavory character. Permitting it was error."

In 1949 Provoo was in the Army stockade in Fort Meade, Md., awaiting court martial trial on charges of homosexuality. By arrangement with the Department of Justice, the Army dropped the court martial charges and sent Provoo under guard to Fort Jay, Governors Island. Here he received an undesirable discharge, then immediately was arrested by Federal Bureau of Investigation agents on the treason indictment.

From the New York Herald Tribune
WASHINGTON, Dec. 9 —
Tuesday's White House statement listing the record of legal action that has been taken against "subversives" since Jan. 10, 1953 has created something in the nature of a controversy in Washington.

The Evening Star, examining the figures that were released following the attack on the President by Senator Joseph R. McCarthy (Rep.-Wis.), holds that the statement contains "a number of apparent discrepancies and misleading facts."

"Included in the tabulation," the newspaper declared in a front-page article, "are cases of duplication, the inclusion of at least one person never suspected of Communist activities."

"The treason indictment lumped with the two espionage convictions, however, had nothing to do with Communism. This was admitted today by a Justice Department spokesman, who identified the indicted man as John David Provoo.

EDITOR, NEW YORK TIMES:

It is a matter for genuine thanksgiving that at too-long last there is a perceptible dawn upon the horizon of the dark age of freedom of mind and action in this slowly progressive land. That the U. S. Court of Appeals found that the government had no right to cross-examine John Provoo on alleged homosexuality hews a road through the forest of ignorance and prejudice to genuine civilization. Thus: "No authority has been cited which suggests that homosexuality indicates a propensity to disregard the obligation to an oath. The sole purpose and effect of this examination was to humiliate and degrade the defendant and increase the probability that he would be convicted not for the crime charged, but for his unsavory character."

The army has for a long time invaded a domain which is not its business or anyone's. Sexual expression (expressed privately and without force) is each adult's very private business. The Army's interference (in this aspect of) private lives (has re-

sulted in) men who cannot find employment worthy of their abilities because of dishonorable or undesirable discharges...

The State Department assumes arrogant distortion of human lives — of employees whom it has dismissed for sexual deviation. They are not "security risks." If these unfortunates were requested to report blackmailers to the FBI (with protection), there would be no blackmailing, much less the present encouragement and blessing of it...

Some countries of dear, benighted, primitive Europe, with Sweden as a leader (didn't she have social security about 50 years before the U. S.?) have abrogated laws concerning homosexuality where minors (and force) are not involved. The International Committee for Sexual Equality, comprising men and women who are leaders in the professions, has aided in this enlightenment. Ignor-

ance, prejudice, hate and legislation are still invading the domain of human preference and rights.

Although I am NOT promoting homosexuality, I am prepared to fight for man's right to regulate his private life. Anything interfering with this privacy is an acknowledgement of fear, and fear has already weakened this country tragically. Politicians, State Department nor Armed Forces are qualified to prescribe for human personal behavior.

It should be noted that there is a recent organization in the U. S. (where there is a considerable crawling in the ooze of bigotry) which parallels the humaneness of ICSE: the Mattachine Society, Los Angeles. If human bloodhounds "hound" this organization, existing to free the individual, then it must, in consistency, take the U. S. Court of Appeals to task.

APRIL 1955						
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MORALITY

marches on . . .

Dr. Alfred C. Kinsey has come across much personal information in his sex research interviews. He will quickly tell anyone that it was given in confidence which cannot be violated.

But once in a while, some story which he CAN tell comes along. A lecture audience heard him tell this one when the subject was "Sex and the Law."

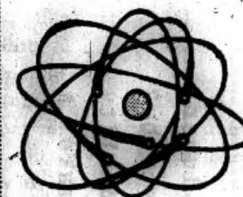
In an unnamed city where the Kinsey staff was at work, it was not-

ed on police records that 75% of arrests for sex violations were made in the second week of each month!

That raised a question: Was sex behavior of the people in that city such that only during the second week of a month did they veer off the 'straight and narrow'?"

Further investigation gave the answer: Police charged with enforcement of sex laws were assigned quotas of arrests to be "filled" monthly. And each new monthly quota began on the 15th!

mattachine REVIEW



famous firsts...

in this atomic age may not include the Mattachine Review this soon after its initial issue.

But nevertheless, we believe that many new subscribers who will want to follow the growth of this new publication WILL want to get in on the very beginning. That is why we purposely reserved a few copies, so that all new subscriptions for the time being will begin with the first issue.

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use the convenient order blank on page 21.

Mattachine REVIEW

Post Office Box 1925
Los Angeles 53, California

Mattachine Society, Inc.
Post Office Box 1925
Los Angeles 53, California

March 15, 1955

Dear Friend:

As you read this second issue of the REVIEW, why not clip out the lower part of this page, and pass it on to a friend who may wish to subscribe? In that way you will be aiding their understanding of varied personality orientation, and at the same time doing us a favor in helping to make a better magazine possible.

You may also wish to fill out and mail the comment sheet printed on the page following the order blank. The pages were designed to be cut out without destroying any part of the issue you may wish to keep.

Thanks a million.

PUBLICATIONS DIRECTOR
Mattachine Society, Inc.

mattachine REVIEW



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QUOTE...

“There is need for a realistic assessment of the American sex laws that penalize sexual behavior; some laws should be revised, and perhaps some abandoned. In operation our sex laws are harsh, too often nourish corruption and fail to protect the community from persons who are potentially dangerous. At best they are inapplicable. Moreover, if they are strictly enforced we should be indeed witness to a colossal travesty reaching all levels of American society. Absolute law enforcement would perforce touch about 95 percent of the total male population. In contrast to the universality of illegal sexual behavior actually only a meager number of persons falls into the law enforcement net to suffer inordinate punishment for the conduct of the many. In one category alone, recent statistical studies bring to light that SIX MILLION HOMOSEXUAL ACTS TAKE PLACE EACH YEAR FOR EVERY TWENTY CONVICTIONS. In the area of extra-marital copulation, the frequency to conviction ratio is nearly 30 to 40 million to 300.

“There is great variance of the sex laws with actual human sex behavior. Such laws are uniform in that they permit the judge to decide the issue of delinquency on the basis of antecedents in archaic common law, which are even further removed from the realities of modern life and human behavior. In some American courts, the conviction of a defendant can be secured on the testimony produced by an immune witness himself tainted by participation in the illegal act.”—from Section IV, Report No. 9, “Psychiatrically Deviated Sex Offenders,” by the Committee on Forensic Psychiatry of the Group for the Advancement of Psychiatry, Topeka, Kansas, William S. Meninger, Chairman, May, '49.

“It has long been our experience that the homosexual adjusts best who can make the greatest compromises with his own social and sexual needs, and the best adjusted individuals are those with the fewest contacts in the homosexual world or half-world. It is quite impossible for any homosexual to live in a world peopled

exclusively by those similarly situated. The wisdom of permitting such a course, even if it were possible, is questionable."

"The definition of prejudice as dislike of the unlike is singularly appropriate in this connection. Society has a way of judging groups by the conduct of their most unsavory members. To too large a section of the public, the stereotype of the homosexual is that of the preening, mincing, effeminate individual who gaily cavorts through life ogling the public in much the manner that a female prostitute is expected to behave."

"Society fails to take into account the orderly and useful lives of the countless individuals who, save for their psychosexual difficulties, fail to attract even a passing glance, and who, if misfortune does not overtake them, go to their graves sincerely mourned as useful citizens. Should, however, an untoward incident involve the exposure of such men, the public clamor for their disgrace and punishment is much louder than when an exhibitionist "fairy" falls into the toils of the law. That is the way of the world."

—George W. Henry, M.D., Psychiatrist in Chief, George W. Henry Foundation, Inc., New York: 6th Annual Report, 1954.

* * *

"Although it was formulated nearly four decades ago, the major thesis of the Second Dialogue in "Corydon" is in accord with present-day interpretations of human sexual behavior. People who say that homosexual activities are biologically abnormal and unnatural are wrong. Some of the evidence that led Mr. Gide to this belief has been modified by more recent findings, but his final conclusion stands."—Frank Beach, Department of Psychology, Yale University, in "Comments on the Second Dialogue," CORYDON, by André Gide: Farrar, Strauss & Co., 1950.

”



The real tragedy is the tragedy of the man who never in his life braces himself for his one supreme effort, who never stretches to his full capacity, never stands up to his full stature. —Arnold Bennett

DEMOCRACY REQUIRES DISSENTING OPINIONS



Quotation
reprinted from

Judgments & Prophecies

TIME

THE WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE

FEBRUARY 14, 1955

LEARNED HAND, retired chief judge of the Second Circuit United States Court of Appeals, speaking before the annual meeting in New York of the American Jewish Committee.

WHY is it that totalitarianism arouse our deepest hostility? The best answer is not so much in their immoral quality as in the fact that they are inherently unstable because they are at war with our only trustworthy way of living in accord with the facts. For it is only by trial and error, by insistent scrutiny and by readiness to re-examine presently accredited conclusions that we have risen, so far as in fact we have risen, from our brutish ancestors. and in our loyalty to these habits lies our only chance, not merely of progress, but even of survival. They were not indeed a part of our aboriginal endowment: Man, as he emerged, was not prodigally equipped to master the infinite diversity of his environment. Obviously, enough of us did manage to get through, but it has been a statistical survival, for the individual's native powers of adjustment are by no means enough for his personal safety, any more than are those of other creatures. The precipitate of our experience is far from absolute verity, and our exasperated resentment at all dissent is a sure index of our doubts.

All discussion, all debate, all dissidence tends to question, and in consequence to upset, existing convictions: that is precisely its purpose and its justification. He is, indeed, a "subversive" who disputes those precepts that I most treasure and seeks to persuade me to substitute his own. He may be of those to whom any forcible sanction of conformity is anathema; yet it remains true that he is trying to bring about my apostasy, and I hate him just in proportion as I fear his success. Heretics have been hateful from the beginning of recorded time; they have been ostracized, exiled, tortured, maimed and butchered; but it has generally proved impossible to smother them, and when it has not, the society that has succeeded has always declined.

BOOKS

"THE HEART IN EXILE" by Rodney Garland (London: W. H. ALLEN, 1954). The following review by John Boland, Chicago, takes a critical view of Garland's book, with which many readers may not agree. The reviewer, how-

ever, is presenting his own viewpoint. This magazine intends to publish other comment on "The Heart in Exile," because it believes the work to be an important contribution to the literature of the homophile.

ARE HOMOSEXUALS HEARTLESS?

THE BOOK JACKET blurb says candidly that this novel "tells more of the structure of contemporary English society than many a good sociological treatise." In fact, the work is less a novel than a sociological treatise, and not a good sociological treatise, either. The author hides behind the framework of a novel without having to defend his propositions concerning homosexuality, which apply not only to England but to this country as well. The author's spokesman is a psychiatrist who relates the story.

Tony Page, young psychiatrist, is approached by a young woman to help her discover the reason for the suicide of her fiance, Julien LeClerc, who, it happens, was the first love of Page. The search for clues to the death of the young, handsome, wealthy solicitor leads through London's homosexual "underworld," the "hominterns" (i. e., pubs of the moment), the drawing rooms of the wealthy invert, the hovels in working class slums, and even Scotland Yard. The psychiatrist believes himself "suffering from a stunted heart" and incapable of love. Most of those he encounters are in the same fix, love for them being only a physiological adventure. In fact, only the slavish devotion of Page's secretary, Terry, seems to warrant the name "love" in the author's estimation.

The real hero is Julien LeClerc. His character is revealed as the story unfolds, and it is a most manifold character. He is alternately an exceptionally mature, sophisticated seducer of his schoolmates; a daring and courageous soldier, who loves men of the "working class" because only they seem capable of the straightforward, wholehearted Whitman-ish camaraderie that he admires; a satyr whose varied sexual appetites cannot be satisfied; a gentle, devoted and faithful lover; a successful lawyer. His character is too manifold to be believed as that of one man, but at least the author does not depict it in unbelievable fashion.

The reason for LeClerc's death is, despite his charm, courage,

self-confidence, physical beauty and economic success, due to his fear of growing old and not having sufficient funds to maintain his social position. It was, after all, the psychiatrist concludes, his social position that attracted his working class companions.

In the course of the book, Dr. Page feels the first faint stirrings of love. He is pursued by LeClerc's bereaved fiancée, and he manipulates a great number of people to the purpose of his investigation with superhuman dexterity. One is also persuaded to assume that a "stunted heart" permits one to walk unsinged through any emotional holocaust.

The author believes that World War II ended the power of any individual to influence history and marked beginning of a collective world from which the invert, particularly, feels exiled. Inverts are incapable of escaping exile as a group, because the "pursuance of individual happiness is hardly the basis for social organization, however difficult or dangerous to achieve."

"CONCEPTS OF NORMALITY AND AND ABNORMALITY IN SEXUAL BEHAVIOR," by Alfred C. Kinsey, Wardell B. Pomeroy, Paul H. Gebhard and Clyde E. Martin (chapter reprint in booklet form from "Psychosexual Development in Health and Disease," Grune, Stratton, 1949). Little publicized, but still remarkable is an essay by the authors of "Sexual Behavior in the Human Male" and a more recent volume on the human female. Here Robert Kirk of the University of Chicago reviews the booklet.

ARGUING LUCIDLY and forcefully, Kinsey and his co-workers defend their earlier findings and conclusions regarding "sexual perversions" against the attacks of persons "who will not grant the scientists the right to make analyses which are detached from special values . . . who contend that a scientist should, in some fashion, keep secret all data which may threaten the continuation of the STATUS QUO—as though the STATUS QUO, in our

attitudes toward sexual perversions, for instance, represented the acme of human wisdom in dealing with socio-sexual problems!

Opening with remarks on the unique character of the social and legal taboos against certain forms of sexual activity in our own and other societies, the authors observe that, although most societies have regarded as criminal and punishable acts which violate the lives, liberties, persons and properties of others, in the case of the so-called perversions, our law punishes certain acts on the ground that they are "crimes against nature—that is, abnormal or perverse behavior . . . In all the criminal law, there is practically no other behavior which is forbidden on the ground that nature may be offended, and that nature must be protected against such offense."

The bulk of the essay is devoted to examining the truth of the proposition that the sexual perversions are contrary to nature, and its ultimate conclusions may be summarized thus: There is no biological basis justifying the condemnation of sexual per-

versions, so-called: the data gathered by biologists proves only that these proscribed forms of behavior stem from the same biological sources

as all forms of mammalian behavior, and are thus as "natural" to man as any other forms of behavior he shares with his fellow mammals.

what price **MEMBERSHIP?**

A question which is often asked of the people in the Mattachine Society is "How many members do you have in your organization?" The answer is very few. Probably no organization ever has enough.

It is true that the number of members is important. In the first place, they are the chief source of income. Every organization knows that it takes money to provide a strong program of action and information. In the case of the Mattachine Society, this must necessarily be a long-term program. And, more than money, quality of membership will determine its achievements.

No one would deny that the aims and objectives of the Mattachine Society are subject to very sensitive factors--which are, for the most part, uncontrollable by the organization itself.

The fears that people have of being associated with an organization concerned with the homophile and his problems are not easily overcome. Many believe this could result in loss of jobs, being labeled as a homosexual, or the acquisition of a distasteful social stigma.

Often, too, a defeatist attitude is displayed. Some believe that any organization is bad, and that any dealing with homosexuality is doomed from the beginning. Nothing can be accomplished to improve the status of individuals within the community, so why try?

Perhaps we should be honest with ourselves. Only by proclaiming the truth can we hope to overcome the burden of living two lives at the same time. It might be a more positive approach to act to accomplish our ideals for the betterment of all persons.

Compared to the goals set by the Society, membership is alarmingly small.

In reality, however, this small membership makes our job

easier. We are not retarded by persons without the missionary zeal to undertake the tasks that lie ahead. The members we have are secure, devoted individuals, willing to spend their time and energy on behalf of the society. It's a role played without glory; faith in future accomplishment is the only reward.

Because of this, membership in the Mattachine Society must necessarily be reserved only for those unselfish few who are dedicated to improving the welfare of the community in which they live.--Chairman, Board of Directors

WHY I AM A MEMBER OF THE MATTACHINE SOCIETY...

By HAROLD SYLVESTER

(The following is an expression of
of a Society member in Ohio. While
much of what Writer Sylvester has
stated here has appeared in information material about the Society, nevertheless the REVIEW considers the fact that a member as far away from "home base" as he is deserves recognition.)

Moral choice is my reason for becoming a member of the Mattachine Society. I most certainly believe in the aims and principles of the organization, finding them wholesome and ethical. Some of my convictions may help others. Notwithstanding that a minority of homophiles may behave badly in various ways in public, we find that probably more than 12 million homosexuals in America are far from overt in their interpretation of their sexual nature. The press is guilty of gross cruelty when it prints sordid articles about overt behavior and attributes this to homosexuals as a whole. The Mattachine Society

realizes that we cannot judge the many by the few. Readers of newspapers can and do get an impoverished picture of homosexuality. Judging wrongly because of poor background on the subject, the public may think all homosexuals are institutional cases. Everybody needs enlightenment on the subject, for there may be a homosexual on the job with you, living next door, or among your friends and acquaintances. It might be that a son or daughter, brother or sister in your own family, or your oldest friend is a homosexual.

For hundreds of years--yes, centuries--disdain and utter cruelty have been the lot of the homophile. There has been no attempt in the past in Western civil law to ameliorate the fear and doubt in the homosexual heart. Society pays a dear price for this, because homosexuals are prevented from contributing their best as citizens because of this attitude.

The Mattachine Society and its new magazine expect to reach enough people in time to help alter the prevailing ignorance. Homosexuals them-

selves need enlightenment to check what is termed objectionable overt behavior [which is after all a manifestation of extreme frustration]. All society needs accurate information about the subject to effect a fair and just understanding of the homophile. Each group, then, needs to understand the other, and thereby erase barriers to integration and acceptance.

The Mattachine Society wishes to accomplish its mission in a responsible and constructive manner. As stated in its aims and principles, the Mattachine program is one which respects "sanctity of home, church and state," and it has never entertained any idea that the organization would be exclusively for homosexuals. "Evolution, not revolution" is the theme of the manner in which the Society hopes to accomplish its aims. Seeking integration of the sex variant as a responsible, productive and acceptable citizen in his community is an important thing to accomplish.

The wonders of civilization today were problems yesterday. Likewise, through research and education, groups such as the Mattachine Society today can make important contributions in solving emotional and social problems of mankind for tomorrow. That's why I chose to join the effort.

REFORMERS can be cruel

By Luther Allen

(Writer of the following criticism is a subscriber from Maryland. He took issue with statements made by Frederick Kidder in a book review which appeared in the first issue of the REVIEW. Along with the welcome praise, the REVIEW is pledged to present Allen's criticism for all to read)

REVIEW EDITOR:—Congratulations on your thoroughly good first issue of the Mattachine Review. It is a matter of some pride to me to be one of your original subscribers, although I am not one to go overboard for "causes" and I have always found it difficult to bring myself to applaud a poor effort only because I think the cause is good. But no such difficulty today! Your review is interesting from cover to cover. Whoever does your make-up deserves congratulations for a professional job too.

In the entire first issue there is but one criticism I can make: in the review of SEX AND MORALITY by Abram Kardiner, your writer says, "... the complacent, asocial variant who often takes refuge in a supposed biological basis for his deviation is confronted with the fact that deviation is largely the result of social and developmental forces which can be dealt with, if there is sufficient motivation, in a way in which biological factors could not be controlled. If the variant rejects modern knowledge and is unhappy or anti-social, it is pretty largely his own fault." That statement is, I think,

the one intolerant note in your magazine. As to whether or not there may be a biological basis to homosexuality, are you quite sure that all the returns are in? As to "modern knowledge" concerning homosexuality it is my impression that the experts are pretty much at sixes and sevens, the best of them healthily aware of the uncertainty and inconclusiveness of most of the work which has been done in this field. Far be it from me to take an obscurantist view, but the question arises, "Just which brand of modern knowledge? Whose particular version of modern knowledge?" Next, in the passage which I have quoted, I must object to the naive assumption that, because homosexuality may not have a biological base, because it may be the result of environmental conditioning, it is therefore accessible to change. Often, through no fault of the individual, the early experiences which led to the development of the homosexual pattern have so deeply twisted and gnarled him it is tragically impossible for him materially to change. In your reviewer's words I hear the harsh tones of the reformer—and reformers can be very cruel men, due to a false simplicity of outlook and an excess of zeal. I think of Andre Gide's wise words ...

"Laissez a chacun le soin de sa vie."

The answer for every homosexual lies in his own breast, not in the clinics. What goes by the modern label of homosexuality is profound human emotion, it is kinds of living human experience. The scientists know the words, some of them, but they don't know the music. If Walt Whitman were alive today and were interviewed by Dr. Kinsey, the good doctor's record card would not be *Song of Myself*. And furthermore, there is greater truth in *Song of Myself* than in all the psychiatric case histories ever published.

When psychotherapy attempts to be more than just the key to free the poetry in man, then it becomes another tyranny.

If you care to print my letter, and I hope you do because I believe urgently in what I have written here, I would be proud to have my full name appear in your pages and equally proud to see my name signed to what has turned out to be a little declaration of faith.

May your venture prosper and thrive.

PROSECUTORS ARE CAUTIONED TO HALT ILLEGAL ARRESTS

"There can be no excuse in a democratic society for illegal activity of police," stated a professor of law at the University of California, Berkeley, to more than 100 state, federal and local officials at an institute for prosecuting attorneys not long ago. He didn't specify any particular charges, but he did urge a change of laws governing arrests in order to avoid judicial and public criticism for violation of civil rights.

The professor, Edward L. Barrett, Jr., said his proposal to ask the California Legislature to change the law of arrest came after an analysis of Supreme Court decisions involving use of dictagraphs by police, coercion in obtaining confessions, and a Southern California case in which narcotics taken from a man by stomach pump were used as evidence against him.

The U. S. Supreme Court and the Supreme Court of California in recent decisions have used such phrases as the following, Barrett noted:

"... This is conduct that shocks the conscience . . ."— "... that an officer of the law would break and enter a home and conceal an instrument is unbelievable . . ." and "... We can assume the confession was a result of terror."





From: HOMOSEXUALITY AND MENTAL HEALTH: Report of the Third International Congress for Sexual Equality [I. C. E. S.], September 12-14, 1953, Amsterdam. "Tasks of an International Organization in its Present State," by Floris van Mechelen.

We must say that in our days . . . the global problem is the individual one. This means that the problem of reforming the law, the problem of the scientific explanation, the religious and social problem of the homophile will never be solved, without having investigated and understood the soul and the spirit of the homophile as an individual. The homophile must explore and enlighten his own innermost feelings in order to be able to accept himself, in order to make himself understood and accepted by the others, by the majority.

. . . the question arises: "What is a homophile?" Is he normal or abnormal? Is he acceptable or not? Can he or she reach individual and social maturity? As it is, we find that the reply to this question is different for each country, for each social group, and for each individual observer, depending . . . on their judgment.



Floris van Mechelen, Amsterdam, Holland, is president of the International Committee for Sexual Equality with headquarters in that city. For the past three years, ICSE has held an annual congress at which progress of the organization is evaluated, and reports on various subjects related to the homophile are given. The following article is a condensation of van Mechelen's opening address to the 1954 congress, a discussion on the problems of administering an international organization.

I therefore come to the astounding conclusion: **WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT A HOMOPHILE IS . . .** we have, of course, a whole set of ideas and characteristics, but none amongst them satisfies me, none gives the essence, the pivot and real criterion. [Here van Mechelen summarizes the biological, psychological, social and metaphysical approaches to the subject.]

We cannot say that the human sex serves primarily for procreation nor even that the desire for children does not exist in the inmost homophile union of both sexes; we can only say that there are close and complicated interactions and that we will only know the human being by observing his way of living.

In fact, the [homophile] can only live in a certain way if he accepts himself in that way; this is the paradox—the homophile will only make himself acceptable once he has certain freedom, [yet] he can only acquire this freedom after he has made himself acceptable [to] himself as well as by the others . . . he will only know his potentialities after attaining a social position, but he will not attain it if he fails to realize first his potentialities, or maturity and dignity, as a homophile.

The only solution in my opinion is the creation of national groups of homophiles . . . so that the homophile may learn to know himself and his equals. We have had the experience in the few countries where a serious group exists since the war and even before: this group creates an atmosphere of wonder first, then of astonishment, relaxation, of self-confidence, moral courage, sense of collective responsibility [which]

opens perspectives [and] takes down the walls of imaginary fear.

If these groups understand their educational task, it will be from them that legal and social reform projects will be more generally accepted and it is from them that modern science will collect its information and inspiration. It is in the midst of [such] organizations that this individual struggle will take place which is always paradoxical [because] man becomes mature when discovering his immaturity; when desperately struggling with his inferiority complex, he discovers all its implications and in accepting it he liberates himself. [Translated from Dutch in The Netherlands.]

Mattachine NEWSREEL

Professional Speakers at San Francisco

Two outstanding discussion group programs are listed for members and friends of the Society at San Francisco. March 3 speaker was a practicing psychologist from Oakland; speaker for April 7 is to be a San Francisco psychiatrist. Discussion groups meet in San Francisco Bay area first Thursday each month. Chapters hold combined dinner-business meeting third Thursday each month.

Corporation Registered In Illinois

Chicago chapters are grateful that Society's charter has been accepted and registered in Illinois. Some difficulty in plans to issue publications arose, but legal snarls have been untangled. Chicago area newsletter, temporarily suspended in December, will be resumed.

Public Relations Projects at Long Beach

Long Beach area chapters have concentrated on public relations projects. Correspondence and secretarial unit has been formed there to aid board members and officers whose administrative work load exceeds time available. Long Beach area holds monthly discussion groups during final week of each month. For location, date and time, inquire from Long Beach Area Council (see Directory, page 37).

Group Therapy Technique Explored

Los Angeles chapters hold discussion group open to public on third Wednesday each month. Films and speakers are featured, with group discussion following. Group therapy techniques are being explored at these forums. Los Angeles Area Council held a blood bank party February 11 - 12, creating a Society Blood Bank which will be a continuing project there. New blood will be added to the bank frequently, with the old material to be supplied to the Hemophiliac Foundation of that city. Blood is donated at Red Cross Blood Center, 11th & Vermont streets.

Research Chapter on Bibliography Project

Research Chapter 104, Los Angeles, in cooperation with Research Director, is compiling an up-to-date bibliography from medical and psychological journals dating from 1929. Chapter will submit report on progress of this project at the General Convention at Los Angeles in May.

Renovation for Los Angeles Area Office

Los Angeles Area Council office, 337 Belmont street, has undergone renovation and painting recently. Members of area donated time and materials to get the place decorated and in shape for the convenience of convention guests and delegates. The office will be official convention headquarters.

NEWSSTANDS WHICH CARRY "MATTACHINE REVIEW"

San Francisco, Calif.--City Lights Book Shop, 261 Columbus Ave.

Oakland, Calif.--Four-Star Liquor Mart, 1201 Broadway

Berkeley, Calif.--Campus Smoke Shop, 2300 Telegraph Ave.
U.C. Corner, 2350 Telegraph Ave.

Cleveland, Ohio--Kay Books, 1374 E. 9th St.

Buffalo, N. Y.--Little Book Bar, 953 Main St.

New York, N. Y.--Village Theater Center, 116 Christopher St.

Virgin Islands--Tram Combs Books, St. Thomas

Denmark--Vennen, Post Office Box 809, Copenhagen



pan & fan

Review Editor:

Congratulations on the progress of the magazine. We sincerely wish you the best of success in this publication effort. The program of social adjustment and integration desperately needs such a medium for its expression of principles and progress. The anticipated high quality and tone of the material to be published is, indeed, heartening to these of us who are struggling for an effective means of communication of the educative and enlightening findings of the sciences regarding human sexuality.

National Association For Sexual Research
P.O. Box 750 Los Angeles, Calif.

Review Editor:

Your first issue is far superior to anything I had expected. I am proud to be a part of it. Thank you. Again permit me emphasize my pride in your first effort. How many of us will carry our heads just a little higher because of your courage and intelligence!

James Barr

Review Editor:

I have just received your acknowledgement to my subscription. I shall give it wide publicity and try to get my friends to subscribe to it themselves, or, in some cases, I may send them gift subscriptions...one way or the other, I shall help as fully as I can.

-- G.S., New York

Review Editor:

I have received my copy of the first issue of MATTACHINE REVIEW. I want to say that you have done a truly great job. This is the best thing that I have seen in this field of counselling with the sex deviate. As a minister I have found it like water on dry land. Keep up the good work.

-- Rev. W.D., California

Review Editor:

I am grateful to know that more publications are forthcoming and soon hope that people will be as used to us and respect us as a rather necessary commodity...I remember when the word airplane terrified people and now it is as commonplace and respected as a train.

-- J. McC., New York

Review Editor:

Enclosed find \$5.00 for subscription. I want you to know that I think that it is wonderful for you to start publication of your magazine. There is little done in this country for the "gay" person today...I know that there is plenty of room in the U.S. today for many more understanding publications.

-- J.W., Arizona

Review Editor:

This is being written as a protest....remove my name from your mailing list..The unethical method that you must resort to in order to force yourself upon potential subscribers is both to be deplored and pitied. It merely indicates the desperateness of your position. I am not sympathetic to your so-called aims or objectives; please be intelligent enough to realize that. I realize, further, that sensationalistic material may be obtained at any good, commercial news stand. Of course, I do not expect to receive further correspondence from you or any of your affiliates. You are welcome to preach your evangelism elsewhere...Unfraternally yours.

-- R.F., Maryland

DIRECTORY

The Mattachine Society, Inc., Office of the Board of Directors
Post Office Box 1925.....Los Angeles 53, Calif.

mattachine REVIEW

MANUSCRIPTS—for publication in this magazine are solicited. At the present time, such manuscripts, articles, reviews, etc., must be accepted on a no-fee basis. Manuscripts not accompanied by postpaid return envelope become the property of Mattachine Review.

ADVERTISEMENTS — accepted only from publishers and/or authors of books, magazines and periodicals related to the research field of the Mattachine Society, Inc. Rates upon application. Publisher reserves the right to reject any and all advertising.

PUBLICATIONS—The following Mattachine Society publications are available upon order: From the Board of Directors, "The Mattachine Society Today," two booklets (third in preparation), each 25 cents. First booklet tells general information, history, aims and principles of the Society; second contains the constitution, bylaws, articles of incorporation, pledge and policies for legal, legislative, public relations, publications and research departments. Third booklet, when issued, will contain administrative structure, reporting forms, information on how to conduct discussion groups, form chapters, etc., and other material of value to group leaders. (All booklets mimeographed; all are mailed first class)

AREA COUNCILS

Los Angeles Area Council
Post Office Box 1925.....Los Angeles 53, Calif.
San Francisco Area Council
Post Office Box 259.....San Francisco 1, Calif.
Chicago Area Council
Post Office Box 3513, Misc. Mart Post Office...Chicago 54, Ill.
Long Beach Area Council
Post Office Box 1232.....Long Beach, Calif.

NEWSLETTERS

Area newsletters are published monthly by each area council listed above. San Francisco and Chicago areas charge \$1 per year subscription in advance. Los Angeles and Long Beach areas accept contributions to help defray cost of publication and mailing. All newsletters are mailed first class sealed.

FOREIGN ORGANIZATIONS & PUBLICATIONS — Belgium: Centre Culturel Belge, Postbox 30, Ixelles 1, Brussels (no publications).

Denmark:

(a) Forbundet, Postbox 1023, Copenhagen. Publishes monthly magazine, "Pan." (b) Ganymedes Samfundet, Postbox 848, Copenhagen (no publications). (c) Internationalt Forbund for Sexual Lighed, Postbox 242, Copenhagen (no publications). (d) Vennen, Homofil Organization, Postbox 809, Copenhagen; magazine, "Vennen," monthly in Scandinavian languages, some German and English, \$3.50 per year by regular mail, \$4.50 per year mailed first class sealed.

France: Cercle de France, 162 Rue Jeanne d'Arc, Paris XIIIe; magazine, "Arcadie," monthly in French, \$9 per year.

Germany: (a) Gesellschaft für Menschenrechte, Neustadter Strasse 48, Hamburg 36; magazines, "Hellas," monthly, and "Humanitas," monthly. (b) I.F.O., Auzer der Scheifmühle 67, Bremen, publishes "Der Weg,"

monthly, address Colonnaden 5, Hamburg 36. (c) Verein für Humanitäre Lebensgestaltung, Arndstrasse 3, Frankfurt-am-Main. Magazine, "Dei Gefährten," monthly, address as above. (d) Independent publication: "Dein Freund," monthly, Kleine Freiheit 25, Hamburg-Altona.

Holland: (a) International Congress for sexual Equality, Post Box 542, Amsterdam; periodical, ICSE Newsletter in English, French and German, \$3.00 per year. (b) Cultuur en Ontspanningscentrum, Post Box 542, Amsterdam; magazine, "Vriendschap," address above, \$4.00 per year.

Norway: Det Norske Forbundet Av 1948, Postbox 1306, Oslo. No publication.

Sweden: Friends-Club, Box 1710, Gothenburg, no publications; Riksförbundet för Sexuellt Likaberättigande, Postbox 850, Stockholm, no publications.

Switzerland: "Der Kreis (Le Cercle)," organization and monthly magazine (since 1936) in German, French and English, \$7 per year. Address: Postbox 547, Zurich 22, Fraumünster, Switzerland.

India: "International Journal of Sexology," Dr. A. P. Phillay, O.B.E., M.B.E.S., publisher, Whiteway Bldg., Bombay (monthly).

(PLEASE NOTE: Persons subscribing to the above publications must obtain international bank drafts or money orders negotiable in the foreign country concerned. Where no subscription price is listed, advance inquiry by airmail, enclosing unstamped self-addressed envelope is recommended. The Mattachine Review assumes no responsibility on behalf of any organization or publication listed above.

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in the U.S.A.

one

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wanted:

Articles, manuscripts, letters, art suggestions, and other contributions to make the *Mattachine Review* a better magazine are needed, and the Society is counting on you for help! Send all such material to *Mattachine Review*, Post Office Box 1925, Los Angeles 53, Calif. Please include self-addressed envelope if return of manuscript is desired.

A Brief History of the Mattachine Society

THE MATTACHINE movement had its inception in 1950, when a group of three men, convinced that the time was right for such an idea, gathered several of their friends together at Los Angeles and inaugurated the first Discussion Group—the characteristic feature of what was to become, three years later, the present Mattachine Society.

In the meantime, the original group of three had grown to seven, and they filed for incorporation as a nonprofit research organization in the State of California as the Mattachine Foundation, Inc.

To carry on the work of the original discussion group, a secret society was instituted, headed by several of the original members of the foundation. The secrecy in the groups extended from top to bottom and, although intended as a measure of protection, it served only to handicap functions of various levels or "orders" as they were called.

It was the task of the lowest "order" to organize and sponsor discussion groups. Attendance at these group meetings was from 20 to 60 persons. They met in various homes or churches, generally every two weeks. Through these groups people were introduced to the movement, its aims and principles. The groups not only performed an educational and indoctrination role, but had the value of group therapy benefits as well. They helped dispel fear, suspicion and distrust among those present.

It was this "lowest" order too, that handled mailing committee functions, and gathered and forwarded to the

Foundation the donations collected at the discussion groups.

As the Mattachine movement grew it became apparent that a secret and non-democratic society was proving too great a hindrance. Difficulties in communicating from the lowest order and the Foundation arose. With an increasing number of persons attending discussion groups, an insistent sense of responsibility grew, and with it the demand for a democratic association.

In response to this, the head of the Foundation called a meeting to form a new organization. It met April 11, 1953. It created and adopted a new constitution under the name of the Mattachine Society.

It required a second such constitutional convention a month later to agree on the final form of the constitution, elect officers, pass resolutions, by-laws, and lay down initial policies.

It became apparent during this last session that the original founders of the movement had built better than they knew. For there emerged from the convention a Society designed to carry out all functions of the Foundation, which agreed to disband. Gone were the "secret" orders, the questions of who was behind it all, and the possibility of alternate motives. Established was an association of persons who knew and trusted the others within the group, and shared the zealous desire to alleviate a pressing social problem.

Less than a year after formation of the democratic society, final incorporation as a non-profit educational and research organization was granted by the State of California.

Mattachine



1. Education through public discussion groups, forums, film programs, publications, etc., on the true aspects and conditions of human sexuality

2. Research through cooperation with established research organizations, foundations, universities, and public agencies and institutions seeking greater knowledge about human sexuality; and further, to make known the results of such research, wherever appropriate.

3. Social Action through cooperation with and assistance to individual authorities and public agencies, which, through democratic processes, advocate changes of law which recognize true conditions of human sex behavior, with a view to strong support of laws which forbid sex activity (a) in public; (b) between adults and minors, especially children; (c) involving use of force, violence or fraud, and (d) which spreads disease through indiscriminate contacts.

4. -In General, to dispel false ideas about human sexuality and at the same time advocate adoption of a code of acceptable and responsible individual and group conduct; to aid and cooperate with therapy programs designed to provide all persons the right to due process and justice under the law, especially as regards sex offenses. In this connection, the Society will endeavor to expose those who commit extortion and blackmail. Finally, the Society will operate to prevent the above outlined conditions from continuing as a source of tragedy and unhappiness among people in this nation and elsewhere.

5. To Carry Out This Program, the Society will enlist the aid of others, professional and laymen, whose concern is to alleviate the conditions referred to above, and thus promote understanding, happiness and freedom for all.