

JUNE 1959 . FIFTY CENTS

(For Adults Only)

philosopher

poet

psychologist

playwright

A. J. AYER

ALLEN GINSBERG

ALBERT ELLIS

JOHN OSBORNE

## PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE BY THE MATTACHINE SOCIETY

Available now from the National Headquarters of the Mattachine Society are the following publications at the prices indicated. Please send remittance with order. All orders sent postpaid.

MATTACHINE SOCIETY TODAY (Yellow Booklet of General Information) 1958 Edition. 24 pages. Gives general outline of Society, aims and principles, how to form an Area Council, lists discussion group topics and ideas, tells brief history of Society and what Mattachine does. 25 cents.

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS (Blue Book of Official Information) 1959 Edition. 16 pages. Contains revised constitution, by-laws and articles of incorporation. 25 cents.

INFORMATION FOLDERS: "In Case You Didn't Know," and "What Does Mattachine Do." Designed to be used as companion mailing pieces. First tells of existence of homosexuality and purpose of Mattachine. Second describes in detail the projects and functions of the Society, along with the services it performs. 100 for \$1.50; 50 for \$1.00; smaller quantities, 3 cents each. Unless specified, orders will be filled with an equal quantity of each.

YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS (adapted for Illinois law), 8 pages. Discusses rights of citizens, and outlines offenses as covered by statute in Illinois. 25 cents.

EDUCATION HANDBOOK, Individual and Group Projects and Organizational Techniques. 1959 Edition. 64 pages, with semi-permanent soft cover. Compiled by Carl B. Harding, Director of Education, contains 10 chapters and 7 appendices. Essential assistance for discussion leaders, Mattachine officers, and others concerned with scope and problems of presenting a public education program on homosexual subjects. Lists hundreds of possible discussion topics, many sources of materials. \$1.00 per copy.

In addition to Mattachine REVIEW (Monthly), the Society and its branch offices issue the following periodicals and newsletters:

<u>INTERIM</u> - Quarterly. National newsletter of the Society, subscription included with each full payment of national dues. Published and mailed

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### mattachine

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Volume V

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PUT YOUR SUPPORT BEHIND
MATTACHINE SOCIETY GOALS
--BECOME A SUBSCRIBING
MEMBER...HERE'S HOW:

Open to all persons over 21 years of age seriously interested in aiding solution of human sex behavior problems. Participation in activities of established Mattachine Area Councils not required. Principal purpose of subscribing membership is to provide the organization and its publications with vital financial support. Included are subscription to Mattachine Review (monthly) and Interim (quarterly), port. Included are subscription to Mattachine Review (monthly) and Interim (quarterly), Fee, \$15.00 per year. Please make check or money order payable to Mattachine Society, Inc., San Francisco 5, Calif. Subscribing members may attend meetings of the Society and its Area Councils, but may not vote unless qualified to active membership by payament of local dues and accepted by Area Council concerned in accordance with local rules for active membership.

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Specially photographed for The Sunday Times by SOUGLAS GLASS

Professor A. J. Ayer

ONE OF THE COOLEST and most dispassionate discussions favoring passage of Wolfenden recommendations in England last fall came from the pen of Philosopher A. J. Ayer (see page following). It appeared in the New Statesman, London, in November—one week before the British Parliament devoted a one-day debate to the subject, then conveniently shelved it, saying that public opinion was not yet right for any legislative action on acceptance of the homosexual as recommended.

PROF. AYER'S ESSAY, although untimely now as concerns the debate, is timeless so long as Wolfenden recommendations are pending in England, and so long as homosexual acts between consenting adults in the Western world remains a crime. We are pleased to present them for REVIEW readers.

THE AUTHOR is an active member of the Homosexual Law Reform Society in England. He was recently appointed to the Wykeham Professorship of Logic at Oxford University. As one of Britain's leading philosophers, he published "Language, Truth and Logic" in 1936 when he was 25.

He represents the more modern outlook that, to put it crudely, any intellectual inquiry, any philosophical study has a direct relation to real life. Prof. Ayer and the contemporary philosophers, both in England and in America, show that philosophers are not necessarily remote and ineffectual.

A LEADING BRITISH PHILOSOPHER

CALMLY STATES THE CASE.....

A. J. AYER

## Homosexuals and the Law

THE Wolfenden Report is at last to be debated in parliament. As is now well known, it recommends that the indulgence in homosexual relations, in private and with mutual consent, by men who have reached the age of 21 shall cease to be a criminal offence. Is there any good reason why this recommendation should not be carried out?

There are various arguments which might be brought against it. It has been said, for instance, that public opinion is not ready for the change. As a statement of fact, this is not easy to discuss

since no scientific inquiry into the state of public opinion on this question has yet been undertaken. It is not known what answers people would give if the issue were put to them clearly. I think it probable indeed that a majority would be found to disapprove of homosexuality. The intolerance of sodomy goes back far into our history, and the false belief that all homosexuals are sodomites is still widespread. But from the fact that a person disapproves of homosexual practices it does not follow that he thinks they should be treated as crimes. Such evidence as there is available, for example of the public's reaction to the Montagu case, does not suggest that there is general satisfaction with the way the law now operates or a strong majority opinion that it should not be changed.

Moreover, even if it were established that the majority of the public was in favour of leaving things as they are, this would not relieve the members of parliament from the responsibility of forming their own judgments and acting in accordance with them. They should take the state of public opinion into account, but they have not to be entirely guided by it. It is not and should not be a principle of government that social reform must wait upon a favourable plebiscite. No plebiscite dictated the reform of the Factory Acts in the 1870s. It is possible even that, had a vote been taken, a majority would have been found against reform: for many people believed that it was wrong and futile for the state to interfere in such economic questions, and many of the factory workers themselves were against the abolition of child labour, because they did not

see how they could survive without the money that their children earned.

Yet I do not suppose that anyone would now maintain that these measures should not have been enacted until the public had received a sufficient education in economics. At the present time it would appear that a majority of the public is opposed to the abolition of capital punishment. But a member of parliament who voted to retain it only for this reason, when he himself thought on all other grounds that it ought to be abolished, would be acting wrongly. He would not be doing his duty by his constituents. For he represents them by pursuing, in the light of their opinions, what he honestly takes to be their interests, not by surrendering his judgment to theirs.

In the case of the laws against homosexual practices, this point comes out even more clearly than in the case of the death penalty for murder. I believe the abolitionists to be right in maintaining that the existence of the death penalty is not a unique deterrent; but if they were wrong, the adoption of this measure, though still desirable for other reasons, would represent a certain danger to public security. On the other hand, no public interest is threatened by the measures which are advocated by the Wolfenden Committee. It is not to be supposed that male homosexuals would launch a campaign of proselytization or that they would be successful if they did. This has not happened in the case of female homosexuality, which is not an offence, though only the good sense of the House of Lords prevented it from being made one as recently as 1921. It is clear that young people must be protected from seduction by homosexuals no less than by heterosexuals, but the Wolfenden Report provides for this. The exceptional attention which the Committee paid to this point is shown by its fixing the age of consent at 21, whereas in the case of heterosexual relations it is only 16.

The fact is that those who wish to maintain the existing laws against homosexual behaviour do not regard male homosexuals as a menace to them. They are moved rather by a feeling of repugnance for homosexual practices as such. But just among those in whom this feeling is strongest there is the least likelihood of its sources and its justification being rationally considered or discussed. It is seldom combined with any clear understanding of the psychological and social causes of homosexuality or of its effects.

A second argument which has been put forward is that it is 'a serious step' to reverse 'provisions of the criminal law which have stood for a long time'. It is, indeed, a serious step: but the suggestion that, if a law is bad, it is redeemed by being old is not a serious argument. Further, to talk of provisions which have stood for a long time is in this context slightly disingenuous. The present law concerning sodomy does derive from a statue of Henry VIII, which turned it in 1553 from an ecclesiastical into a civil offence, though the penalties against it have been relaxed. No one has been hanged for sodomy since the 1830s, and though sentences of seven years' imprisonment or more are still given in a few cases, the present maximum penalty of life imprisonment is not enforced. But howadays fewer male homosexuals are prosecuted for sodomy than for 'gross indecency', which was first made into a criminal offence in 1885. The clause was introduced by Henry Labouchere, who tacked it on to a statute dealing with prostitution and the female age of consent: it was passed without discussion in a thin House. Labouchere explained that it was intended to protect boys over the age of 13 from assault, but in fact it was used from the start to punish any form of homosexual conduct between consenting adults. Oscar Wilde received the maximum sentence of two years' imprisonment for this new offence. There is reason to believe that Labouchere knew what he was about, but also that those who were swayed by him did not.

I do not think that a measure of this kind would pass, if it were now submitted to parliament for the first time: I doubt even whether the government would wish to enact a law against sodomy as such, if one did not already exist. But this is consistent with their being unwilling to repeal these laws. The position taken is that you do not condone an evil by refusing to enact a law against it, for you may be held to consider that it is not the type of evil with which it is suitable for the law to deal; but that, when laws do exist against it, you condone it by repealing them. There is no logical distinction between these procedures: but it is assumed that there is a difference in their psychological effects.

The premise of this argument, that homosexual behaviour is wrong in itself, is accepted by many of those who reject its conclusion. I think it fair to say that I do not share this view. The reason which is most often given for it is that homosexuality is unnatural. But if 'unnatural' means

'uninstinctive', this is biologically false, apart from the fact that what is uninstinctive need not be wrong. If 'unnatural' means 'uncommon', it is again false, and again what is uncommon need not be wrong. If 'unnatural', in this context, just means 'wrong', there is no argument.

I do not deny that under present social conditions the practice of homosexuality has many attendant evils; the moral isolation of homosexuals which they try to overcome by establishing a kind of sexual freemasonry; the furtiveness which goes with their fear of being ridiculed or disgraced; the difficulty which they have in forming stable and emotionally satisfying relationships. But it seems to me that these evils result from the prevailing social attitude towards the practice of homosexuality, and especially from its being subject to legal sanctions, rather than from the intrinsic nature of any homosexual act.

However this may be, the important question which has now to be decided is not whether homosexual behaviour is a sin but whether it is a crime: and surely, so long as it occurs between consenting adults, it has none of the attributes of a crime. It is a maxim that the criminal law should not concern itself with people's private lives except to repress conduct which is injurious to society or highly injurious to the persons who engage in it, and neither of these conditions is satisfied in the present case. No adverse social effect has been observed in France or Belgium or the Scandinavian countries, in which the legal practice with regard to homosexuality is very much the same as that which is advocated by the Wolfenden Report. As for the personal effects.

if homosexuals are psychologically maladjusted, they might benefit by psychiatric treatment, as many heterosexuals also could. But whatever readjustment they may need, it has not been found that treating them as criminals is an essential means of bringing it about.

If it be granted that homosexual behaviour ought not to be considered a crime in itself, then the argument that to reform the laws against it would be to condone it appears very weak. It is questionable, in my opinion, whether it ought to be made subject to such very strong social reprobation: but experience in other fields shows that social reprobation can function effectively in the absence of legal sanctions. The very fact that many of the advocates of legal reform do seriously believe that homosexual behaviour is wrong shows that legal and moral tolerance do not stand or fall together.

Once the arguments against the Wolfenden proposals have been disposed of, the case in their favour is surely overwhelming. At present the legal sanctions against homosexuality are not an effective deterrent: they are an encouragement to blackmail; and they operate most capriciously. It is arguable, indeed, that with the growth of psychological understanding fewer prosecutions against homosexuals will be undertaken, so that the recommendations of the Wolfenden Committee will be adopted in practice even though they are rejected in principle. It may even come to the point where juries will refuse to convict. But is this thought to be desirable? Is it not better to have the courage to undertake reform than to allow the law to fall into contempt?

Allen Ginsberg's "HOWL" was originally published by City Lights Books in the fall of 1956. Subsequently seized by the U. S. Customs and the San Francisco police, it has become known as the extreme protest of the Beat Generation.

Perhaps the major function of the poet in society is to use his special sensitivities in the perception and expression of those ideas which the most of us have often felt but have not put into words. Mr. Ginsberg does just that for some millions of Americans in the final line of one of the poems from "HOWL": "America I'm putting my queer shoulder to the wheel."

Allen Ginsberg's poetry is strongly reminiscent of two earlier American homophile poets: Whitman, whom he addresses in "A Supermarket in California", and Hart Crane, as will be felt in the following poem. "The Green Automobile", which is here published for the first time, Mr. Ginsberg describes as "a sizable poem — addressed to a boyfriend... It is an important poem for me."

## Non-Conformist Voice: POET ALLEN GINSBERG

#### THE GREEN AUTOMOBILE

If I had a Green Automobile
I'd go find my old companion
in his house on the Western ocean.
Ha! Ha! Ha! Ha! Ha!

I'd honk my horn at his manly gate, inside his wife and three children sprawl naked on the living room floor.

He'd come running out

to my car full of heroic beer

and jump screaming at the wheel

for he is the greater driver.

We'd pilgrimage to the highest mount
of our earlier Rocky Mountain visions
laughing in each others arms,
delight surpassing the highest Rockies,

and after old agony, drunk with new years,
bounding toward the snowy horizon
blasting the dashboard with original bop
hot rod on the mountain

we'd batter up the cloudy highway where angels of anxiety careen through the trees
and scream out of the engine.

We'd burn all night on the jackpine peak
seen from Denver in the summer dark,
forestlike unnatural radiance
illuminating the mountaintop:

childhood youthtime age & eternity

would open like the sweet trees
in the nights of another spring

and dumbfound us with their love,

for we can see together
the beauty of souls
hidden like diamonds
in the clock of the world,

like Chinese magicians can
confound the immortals
with our intellectuality
hidden in the mist,

in the Green Automobile
which I have invented
imagined and visioned
on the roads of the world

more real than the engine
on a track in the desert
purer than Greyhound and
swifter than physical jetplane.

Denver! Denver! we'll return
roaring across the City & County Building lawn
which catches the pure emerald flame
streaming in the wake of our auto.

This time we'll buy up the city!

I cashed a great check in my skull bank to found a miraculous college of the body up on the bus terminal roof.

But first we'll drive the stations of downtown,
poolhall flophouse jazzjoint jail
whorehouse our way down Folsom
to the darkest alleys of Larimer

paying respects to Denver's father lost on the railroad tracks,

stupor of wine and silence
hallowing the slum of his decades,

salute him and his saintly suitcase
of dark muscatel, drink
and smash the sweet bottles
on Diesels in allegiance.

Then we go driving drunk on boulevards
where armies march and still parade
staggering under the invisible
banner of Reality —

hurtling through the street
in the auto of our fate
we share an archangelic cigarette
and tell each others fortunes:

fames of supernatural illumination,

bleak rainy gaps of time,

great art learned in desolation

and we beat apart after six decades...

and on an asphalt crossroad, deal
with each other in princely
gentleness once more, recalling
famous dead talks of other cities.

The windshield's full of tears,
rain wets our naked breasts,
we kneel together in the shade
amid the traffic of night in honkey-tonk

and now renew the solitary vow

we made each other take

in Texas, once:

I cannot inscribe here...

How many Saturday nights will be made drunken by this legend?

How will young Denver come to mourn her forgotten sexual angel?

How many boys will strike the black piano in imitation of the excess of a native saint?

Or girls fall wanton under his spectre in the high schools of melancholy night?

While all the time in Eternity
in the wan light of this poem's radio
we'll sit behind forgotten shades
hearkening the lost jazz of all Saturdays.

Neal, we'll be real heroes now
in a war between our cocks and time:
let's be the angels of the world's desire,
take the world to bed with us before we die.

Sleeping alone, or with companion,
girl or fairy sheep or dream,
I'll fail of lacklove, you, satiety:
all men fall, our fathers fell before.

But resurrecting that lost flesh
is but a moment's work of mind:
an ageless monument to love
in the imagination.

We'll shudder in Denver and endure
though blood and wrinkles blind our eyes
— memorial built out of our own bodies
consumed by the invisible poem.

So this Green Automobile:

I give you in flight
a present, a present
from my imagination.

We will go riding
over the Rockies,
we'll go on riding
all night long until dawn,

then back to your railroad, the SP
your house & your children
and brokenleg destiny
you'll ride thru the plains

in the morning, and back
to my visions, my office
and Eastern apartment
I'll return to New York.

In the following, the author reports on a growing censorship problem and ties it into a current postal rate hike request (to 5¢ for regular first class, 8¢ for airmail). The increase might be unnecessary, says John Logan, if the postoffice and the do-gooders would come to their senses and abandon their puritanical and expensive battle. Granted, however, that pornography and obscenity – if these things really do exist – need to be controlled, we first have to know what they are. Definitions of these terms are woefully hard to come by, virtually non-existent. In 1957, the American Law Institute spent considerable time attempting to define obscenity. What was the result? No definition at all came from this group of our nation's leading jurists and legal minds. If judges and attorneys can't define it, then how can we expect an intelligent definition from the average postmaster, policeman or churchworker? That's the riddle.



## HIGHER POSTAL RATES... TO PAY FOR CENSORSHIP?

"The recent call for postage increases by Postmaster General Summerfield and President Eisenhower might be unnecessary if the Postoffice department would come off a lot of its attempts to censor what Americans can read and receive by mail," a bookseller told me the other day.

"These efforts at censorship seldom succeed, they tie up a lot of legal experts paid by the government, and result in a lot of expensive court trials that spell economic waste," he continued. "And these efforts by the post-office, it would seem, go beyond the limits desired by a majority of the American people. They are in

direct opposition to recent events in the publishing in dustry and the courts, wherein many books and writings formerly denied the American public are now coming into general circulation."

For instance, Lady Chatterley's Lover, by D. H. Lawrence, and The Black Diaries attributed to Sir Roger Casement, both long suppressed in the U.S. and Europe, are now published in complete, unexpurgated American editions by Grove Press of New York. In a consistent pattern, banned magazines, for the most part, are declared unmailable in lower courts, but these decisions are reversed in the Federal Supreme Court.

Typical of the screaming censorship efforts is the voice of Postmaster Otto K. Olesen of Los Angeles. In the Hollywood Citizen News recently he was quoted as calling for stiffer postal laws to be invoked in "trapping" what Olesen called the "flow of smut" out of Southern California.

"I have been a defendant in 26 civil actions during the past three years," Olesen said, "and not more than three or four of the judgements were favorable to the postoffice." In one suit he referred to, magazines aimed at homosexuals of both sexes were ordered banned from the mails in a local judgement, and then allowed to be mailed by a reverse decision of the Supreme Court. (This is the case involving One, Inc., successfully handled by Attorney Eric Julber of Los Angeles. One or two nudist publications under fire were cleared in the same high court decision.

It would seem that Postmaster Olesen of Los Angeles is in the middle of the same dilemma faced by postal authorities and censorship groups everywhere: He wants to clean "smut" out of the mails. but there's no clear definition of just what smut is. Too often the label is tagged onto any periodical or publication which the postmaster, a PTA group, or some church organizatiom doesn't like. And therein lies the problem. We agree with other high-placed spokesmen that it is far better to permit use of the mails on a broad

scale rather than to deny mailing privileges to a number of publications which may (and generally would) include worthwhile material that is called "obscene" only because some small group disapproves of it. Most sex education publications would fall in this category.

Opponents of censorship have long pointed out that there is no better criterion for acceptance than the buying public itself. Look at the case of the so-called "scandal" magazines. Three short years ago there were some 14 or more titles on the newsstands, all lurid, sensational, and reeking of private sex adventures of famous personalities. Today there are six at most remaining, and they have all become tame and insipid. Circulation which approached three million copies for one such magazine at its peak, has dropped to less than a tenth of that figure.

No, the constant harrassment of government bureaucrats is not an answer to either the smut problem or the postoffice deficit. The first would more properly take care of itself if left to the good judgement of a thinking citizenship, and the second would greatly reduce itself if the waste of constant court battles could be eliminated and a slowdown ordered for the postal officials, young federal attorneys, and others determined to make political hay for themselves in the guise of protecting the nation's changing morals. 17

### "What's in it for ME?"

"Why don't you have more than 280 members," someone asked us the other day when we were trying to enlist him in the organization. "I think I'll wait and join when you get more members, when you can do more for ME." And so he is — waiting.



We have hit fear and apathy many times as high hurdles in promoting the Mattachine idea, but seldom do we harp on the selfishness we often see displayed because it's not a pleasant thing to face. But there it is, sometimes. It is reported in many letters from readers \_ readers interested in starting a chapter or branch area council of the Society in their city. So often they cannot bring four more of their understanding and sympathetic friends to join them in creating a small but constructive educational project and social service nucleus to aid the oft-wailing homophiles \_ all because the others ask, "What's in it for ME?" And the answer must sometimes be sharp: "Nothing."

Nothing, that is, but a chance to grow, to help others, to learn, and to improve one's own personal adjustment and acceptance of reality in a world of restrictive and repressive sexual taboos. And a chance to help erase these taboos. Effecting this better personal adjustment and social change, it seems to us, is a mighty worthwhile gain. We see so many friends and neighbors whose lives would be infinitely more productive, rewarding and happy if they could only achieve a workable self-acceptance and self-understanding.

But there it is. Yet in the meantime, the "dedicated core" of this organization in the national office and various area councils continues to struggle. Positive progress is visible, but there is no finality of achievement anywhere in sight. So the Society keeps on trying to interest more and more people in membership, more and more adults to undertake the increasing tasks for volunteer workers, and more and

more faithful supporters to contribute to far-from-adequate finances.

Here are some of the Society's accomplishments of the past year, a part of the record that is growing every day:

1. Appearance on six radio and television programs on the East and West coasts with named representatives voicing Mattachine aims alongside responsible and respected professional spokesmen who have also called for public attention and action on current socio-sexual problems.

2. Several favorable reports in newspapers, magazines and professional journals have been published in the U. S. and Canada. These articles have emphasized the serious aims of the Society, and have duly noted the public service it is performing. (Interviews which may result in more favorable publicity for the Society have been made by two large national publications.)

3. Sponsorship of more than 100 public lectures, forums and panel discussions in eight cities during 12 months, at which thousands of interested adults have increased their knowledge and understanding of themselves and fellow human beings.

4. Publication and distribution of more than 75,000 periodicals, booklets, folders, etc., all relating to an acceptance of true facts about human sex behavior. This inculdes the REVIEW, a national quarterly and eight monthly newsletters—the largest total volume of information on homosexuality issued by any organization anywhere.

5. Aid on research projects in at least six universities and colleges from coast to coast, conducted by professional research experts or students in advanced psychology—all seeking specific answers to sex behavior problems with which our entire society is concerned.

6. Direct aid and service to hundreds of men and women of all ages, supplying information on legal aid, veterans problems, family difficulties, employment, therapeutic counseling, etc. This is principally a referral service, and is operative in all areas where Mattachine branches are located. In San Francisco alone, more than 300 such social service cases were handled in 1958, many in cooperation with local agencies. Many office calls are from persons located all over the U. S., and hun-

dreds more seek answers to these problem situations by mail.

7. Cooperation and liaison work with many public agencies, private foundations, medical groups, and professional service personnel in related fields. Here many meetings have been held with representatives of the clergy, correctional offices and institutions, health departments, mental health societies, clinics, etc., and in some cases with public officials and legislators—all with a view to broadening mutual understanding of the homosexual and his adjustment problems.



This is a brief highlight of the positive record. THESE ARE THINGS MATTA-CHINE IS DOING NOW-not things we hope to do someday.

To date, this work has been accomplished on the most meager budget imaginable. In the national headquarters alone, there was only \$7500 to spend in maintaining an office, building a library, and doing all the things attendant to the operation of the Society, INCLUDING the entire production and distribution of the REVIEW. Area Councils, with correspondingly active programs and projects, had even smaller annual budgets, all covering 12 months of 1958.

No one was paid one cent of salary in this period. Nothing was spent to reimburse officers and members for large amounts expended on travel to conventions and group meetings in distant cities. But full time office service in San Francisco and the practical equivalent of that in New York were made possible by a dedicated staff at no cost to the Society.

On January 1, 1959, the national office in San Francisco, however, had to meet the challenge of an impossible work load with the hiring of a full-time administrative assistant (but at a wage less than that for a secretarial trainee or office boy in a private business.) This meant one thing:

More funds MUST come in to make possible the continued services we are called upon to perform.

With a membership that has almost doubled within the year (but still less than 300) part of this greater financial base is built. Magazine and newsletter subscriptions are increasing in the areas, but these are still far short of meeting direct material and postage costs. Several good friends of the Society have made outright substantial financial donations; a few are faithfully contributing monthly pledges. But even these are not enough.

More Income must be obtained. It must come very soon. Already the Society is falling behind in paying current bills in its national headquarters, even though every possible Item has been slashed to the minimum. This cannot continue if the voice of Mattachine and its public service is to be maintained at the pace demanded.

That's where readers of the Review and our friends everywhere come in. Your help, as we have solicited and received it in the past, is needed again.

We must raise approximately \$3000 within the next 60 days over our regular income to catch up. This means we must have more new and renewal memberships, subscriptions, and contributions.

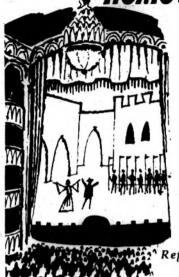
Those fortunate enough to avoid the disaster which hits many Individuals may find it hard to bring themselves to back our project with dollars. But few, if any, readers of this message would be able to refuse us if they knew the details of the assistance given by this organization in many hundreds of individual cases. They would be moved to make a contribution to keep these important services going. Won't you seriously weigh the value of our program and our accomplishments and and help us across that awful gap that only your dollars can bridge? Contributions, subscribing memberships, magazine subscriptions and support for Area Coun-



cils—we need them now. We believe that you will once again come to our aid, just as many of you have done in the past.

### LONDON THEATRE DEBATES

HOMO SEXUAL PROBLEM



Reprinted from SHOW BUSINESS for Monday, May 4,

For almost a month, the most electrifying drama in the London theatre has been the one playing outside the theatres and involving the

Homosexuality has aroused a frenzy of debate and it was an article in London's Daily Express which started it off. The London Express has a circulation of four millions, twice that of the Daily News in New York.

In a story that had a large black heading: "Isn't it about time someone said this . . . plainly and frankly? John Deane Potter, feature whiter on the Express, issued the call: "I say the homosexuals should be driven from their positions of theatrical power."

Two days later, playwright John Osborne ("Look Back In Anger") came to the "defense" of homosexuals, first lashing back at critic Potter, and then himself saying: the public and the critics have encouraged "queer theatre," and that he detests it and has been fighting it

The issue has in recent months emerged from the whispering stage to the big subject of the day. This has been because the London police has begun arresting many famous men in the theatre. The latest arrest and fine involved John Cranko, whose revue "Cranks' was seen on Broadway last season.

Below are reprinted Potter's and Osborne's articles in their entirety. They appeared in the Express in the issues of April 9 and 10th.

#### ISN'T IT ABOUT TIME SOMEONE SAID THIS ...

PLAINLY AND FRANKLY

By John Deane Potter

(Reprinted from the London Daily Express, Thursday, April 9, 1959)

Capitals and boldface type are the author's.

I read with dismay the news yesterday that a 31-year-old South African called John Cranko was fined £10 at Marlborough-street police court.

It was not the fine. It was the man and the offence. Because he pleaded guilty to a crime which has become known as the West Side vice.

Cranko is the latest on the list of famous stage names who have been found guilty of this squalid behaviour. He is a talented man of the theatre. He was the co-author of the spectacularly successful revue "Cranks."

The private lives of people, whether they are a brilliant ballet designer and author like Cranko, or an ordinary office worker on the 6.15, should, according to the Wolfenden Report, be their own business. But this question is public business.

It has become a sour commonplace in the West End theatre that unless you are a member of an unpleasant freemasonry your chances of success are often lessened.

For the theatre is far too full of people belonging to a secret brotherhood.

Most of them are not tortured misfits. They do not want psychiatric treatment or cures.

They live complacently in their own remote world, with its shrill enthusiasms.

But they are evil. For two rea-

One is their PERSONAL POW-ER.

Corruption is an outmoded word that used to be thundered with hellfire vigour from Victorian pulpits. Now this West End weakness is the subject of sophisticated wit. Their chi-chi world may seem remote from the normal theatregoer. Except for this.

If your son wants to go on the stage—what will his future be? It is a shivering thought.

So many talented young men have said to me: "It is no good in the theatre unless you are camp. You must be queer to get on."

Those are just two expressions from the cryptic slang they use to describe the social disease from which they suffer.

The boy, whatever his talents, may become bitter and frustrated.

Or worse. He does not have to travel far along the corridors of the West End back-stage to meet the smooth, unspoken proposition. He may through ambition, try to play along with it. And, make no mistake, many of these men take pleasure in corrupting the young.

Danger number two is their PROFESSIONAL POWER.

Some of the stuff they produce is beautiful, witty, and clever. But too often they try to foist upon the public a false set of values.

What is often received with trills of praise by the closed West End set remains puzzling to the formal mind of the average theatregoer who is unaware of the lace-like intricacies of the decor or the obscure oddities of the plot.

And the theatre has an expensive flop on its hands.

No one likes to indulge in a Jehovah-like loftiness about other people's lives.

But I repeat: these are evil men. They have spun their web through the West End today until it is a simmering scandal.

I say they should be driven from their positions of theatrical power.

#### A REPLY BY JOHN OSBORNE TO JOHN DEANE POTTER

(Reprinted from the London Daily Express, Friday, April 10, 1959)

Mr. Osborne's reply is printed in its entirety.

On this page in yesteday's Daily Express John Deane Potter made a vigorous attack on what he called "an unpleasant freemasonry" in the theatre. This is a reply received by the Daily Express yesterday from Britain's foremost young playwright:—

"One of the reasons I choose to live in this country is that however restrictive popular feelings may be at any time, however threatened my personal liberty, it is here in Britain that I shall have the best opportunity to defend myself—because the kindness and indignation that help to make up a simple instinct for justice belong to most people here.

If I thought that the article published in yesterday's Daily Express did not disgust most of your readers—apart from a trusted minority—I should be very unhappy.

I should like to attack this disgraceful piece, and for once I feel that I might be speaking for a majority.

Let us look at what has happened. A man is fined for importuning men in the streets. He is fined, and justly, for making himself a nuisance. His behaviour is boring and irritating to his fellow citizens.

This deserves a fine, but not a solemn, idiotic threat of imprisonment from the magistrate.

Contact with the law in these circumstances is never pleasant to any sensitive man or woman. The offender is a few pounds poorer, probably tired and unhappy, and feels pretty foolish.

For such an offence—in which, mark this, no one has suffered harm or damage—it is sufficient.

However, the offender in this case happens to be a celebrity (a friend of royalty) and, worse, he works in the theatre. The result? He is exposed in the front page of the biggest national daily newspaper and attacked indecently on the leader page, and the witch-hunting season is with us again.

"These are evil men . . . They should be driven from their positions of theatrical power."

The whole position and the fallacy of it is exposed in these two sentences.

First: 'These are evil men."

Let us really speak the truth, which is this: many men prefer the sexual companionship of men to women. To an unthinkable heterosexual it may seem incomprehensible, but it is inescapable.

Like prostitution, it has always been with us. It is a fact of living, it is a firm pattern of history. It is a factor of civilization in the same way as money or marriage.

Surely we don't need to go over what has become a dull but undeniable argument, which, summed up, amounts to this: without such people the world would have been a poorer place, and art, philosophy, and literature, would have suffered most of all.

I challenge the honesty and morality of any man or newspaper that brands such men as "evil." This is the legend of Christian morality and it is only kept alight by the desire to burn, not to purify.

It is surely a simple-minded attitude to life and human beings to believe such primitive judgments.

A man's or woman's sexual preference are his own concern until he tries to force or impose them on others. Wisdom, decency, humanity, and talent have never, thank heaven, been the preserve of the

The second proposition, "they should be driven from their positions of theatrical power," is detestable, because it combines a misconception of both morality and art.

Ever since I started work in the theatrical profession I have tried to attack the dominance of homosexuals in all its fields.

I have done this because I believe this domination has been damaging to an art I love, not because I believe in the silly, childish myth of "evil men."

It seems to me that most homosexual art tends to be—or at least to become—over-traditional, conservative, narrow, parochial, selfcongratulatory, narcissistic.

This has been particularly true of the English theatre, which has been indeed dominated by highly talented homosexuals.

The result was stagnation in the week.

form of unreal chintzy plays, gorgeous decor, and a glamorous selection of theatrical lords and ladies glittering over all.

I detest this kind of theatre and all things it represents and defends, and I shall go on attacking it because it is bad, boring, and unadventurous art.

For the answer is simple: if heterosexual art (if there is such a strange thing) is better, let us produce some.

But if any lout makes the pretence of charging at them with some blunted old barbaric lance of morality. I will defend their liberty to work and live as freely as that of my own friends.

And remember: who has encouraged and, indeed, demanded this Queers Theatre? The public, slavishly encouraged by the critics.

If the "evil men" were to be driven out, theatregoers would have a pretty poor time of it. In fact, most theatres would go dark next week.

#### How does it feel to be 'different' from most young men?

WRITTEN when the author himself was only 16, Aubade is the absorbing story of a sensitive adolescent who suddenly finds during a summer at the seashor, that he is homosexual and in love with another youth. A compassionate and candid novel about what it is like to discover this "differentness" at an early age, and exceptionally well presented by a gifted and perceptive young writer. This book has been praised by the literary press and critics in both the U. S. and England, as a work of literary art and unusually fine, but highly readable writing.



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## albert ellis, ph.d.

CRITIQUE: "THE HOMOSEXUAL IN OUR SOCIETY"

Psychologist, Author and Marriage Counselor Albert Ellis of New York read the booklet transcript of the KPFA radio broadcast, The Homosexual in Our Society, and came up with pointed comments on some of the statements therein. The broadcast, aired on the station twice in late 1958, was in two parts and moderated by Elsa Knight Thompson. In the first, panelists discussed the role of the homosexual in society. Heard were Blanche M. Baker, M.D., Ph.D., psychiatrist; Harold Call, editor, Mattachine Review, and Mrs. Leah Gailey, housewife. In the second half, four panelists discussed the role of society in understanding its homosexuals. Panelists were Karl M. Bowman, M.D., former president of the American Psychiatric Association and director of Langley Porter Clinic, School of Medicine, University of California; Dr. Frank Beach, Jr., professor of psychology, University of California; Dr. David H. Wilson, professor of criminology, University of California; and Morris Lowenthal, attorney.

Booklets of the transcript are available through the REVIEW or Pan-Graphic Press

at \$1.00 per copy.

I have been asked to comment on the pamphlet. The Homosexual in our Society, which consists of the transcript of a program broadcast on November 2, 1958 by radio station KPFA-FM in Berkeley, California. My thoughts in connection with this pamphlet lead me to make some general observations on the serious dangers inherent in confusing the defending of an individual's right to engage in homosexual acts with the denying that exclusive homosexuals are invariably emotionally disturbed individuals who are in need of treatment rather than persecution.

On the whole, I find the discussion in *The Homosexual in Our Society* quite intelligent; and the points against legal and socio-economic harrassment of homophiles, made mainly by Dr. Karl M. Bowman and Morris Lowenthal, are most pertinent and are the meat of the pamphlet. At the same

time, I find that, as usual, Dr. Blanche M. Baker shows no understanding whatever of how disturbed exclusive homosexuals are and that she consistently leans over backward, in an obviously biased and over-emotionalized manner that ill becomes a practicing psychiatrist, to apologize for and deny the sickness that is inherent in fixed homosexuality.

Dr. Baker, for example, claims that fixed homophiles have no potential for heterosexual relationships (p. 11). But in the past several years I have worked with over a score of one hundred per cent homosexuals, including several sex-role inverts (popularly known as "fairies"); and I have not only induced these individuals, through intensive psychotherapy, to enjoy heterosexual relationships, but several of them have shown little or no further interest in homosexuality and have become one hundred per cent

heterosexuals.

Dr. Baker, again, states that exclusive homosexual attraction is "a deep, biological problem" (p. 11). A good many physiological, biochemical, and psychological studies of homosexuals have been made during the last quarter of a century and they have almost unanimously shown that homophilism is definitely not a biological but is distinctly a psychogenic problem. The only contrary evidence is a highly suspect study by Franz Kallman, which essentially shows that if one member of a pair of identical twins is schizophrenic or otherwise severely disturbed, his twin brother will also be similarly disturbed. Since shcizophrenics usually have disordered sexuality, if one of these disturbed identical twins is homosexual, the other will also tend to be homosexual. Kallman's study, with its highly non-typical sample of subjects, presents some evidence for a distinctly tenuous and indirect "biological" factor in homosexuality; but all other recent studies conclusively indicate that homophilism is learned and not inherited.

Dr. Baker goes on to state that homosexuals are "almost universally gifted people" (p. 12). This is clearly a most exaggerated statement, and completely ignores the fact that hundreds of thousands of homophiles are shiftless, unproductive, and uncreative in actual practice, even though they may theoretically (like most human beings) have some esthetic or inventive potential. The only scientific study of the creativity of homosexuals that seems to have been made is a study of my own which is soon to appear in the Journal of Clisical Psychology, and which fairly conclusively shows that fixed homosexuals, and particularly sex-role inverts, are significantly less creative than a matched group of heterosexuals. The main reason for this, as the study indicates, is that homosexuals tend to be so severely disturbed emotionally that their creative potential is rarely actualized.

Finally. Dr. Baker notes that many are "fully adjusted" (p. 13). Where Dr. Baker finds these "fully adjusted" homophiles, I know not. My own acquaintanceship (quite aside from my contacts with my homosexual patients) includes scores of exclusive homosexuals -including many writers, artists, actors, scientists, and (sadly enough) psychologists and psychiatrists. I know not one of these individuals who is even remotely "fully adjusted." The best adjusted homosexual, by far, whom I have even met is Donald Webster Cory; and he, significantly enough, has been able to maintain a satisfactory heterosexual marital relationship, in addition to his homosexual participations, during the past many years.

When I read nonsense on homosexuality, such as that which Dr. Baker has written and stated on many occasions, I frankly become suspicious of the personal allegiances of the writer or speaker. Almost invariably, I have found that rash and unscientific apologists for exclusive homosexuality are either themselves homo-

erotic, or are closely related to homophiles, or have some other personal stake in making their unfounded statements. The prototype of this kind of writer was the famous sexologist, Magnus Hirschfeld, who was a practicing homosexual himself, and who consequently wrote hardly a sane word about the causes and treatment of homophilism. Occasionally, I run across a thoroughgoing heterosexual, such as my friend, Dr. Harry Benjamin, who sincerely (and I am quite certain wrongly) believes that even transsexualists, such as the famous Christine Jorgensen, may be "fully adjusted." But the vast majority of writers who contend that fixed homosexuals are not neurotic or psychotic in many instances, turn out to be, interestingly enough, personally prejudiced by their own homophilic proclivities. And this, alas, goes for most of the physicians and psychologists who, ostrich-like, ignore the obvious sickness of fixed deviants.

This is no place to go into the details of why all fixed or exclusive homosexuals are invariably neurotic. since I have explained this in my books. The American Sexual Tragedy and Sex Without Guilt and in several papers published in One, the Mattachine Review, and other periodicals. Let me merely briefly reiterate my stand that both general neurosis and sexual deviation can only be meaningfully defined by using some criterion of illogicality, irrationality, childishness, fixation, fetichism, inflexibility, rigidity, or exclusivity. A pervert or a deviant is one who is

physiologically or theoretically able to obtain sex satisfaction in several different ways - since man, biologically, is a plurisexual animal who has several available roads to sex stimulation and orgasm - but who actually is limited to one or two major forms of sex outlet because he is irrationally, fearfully fixated or fetichistically restricted by certain ideas or behavior habits which he learned at some earlier time in his life. Consequently, exclusive homophiles are definitely not born homosexual but fetichistically become so - and are hence neurotic.

The main point is, as Donald Webster Cory points out in his forthcoming new edition of The Homosexual in America, that homosexuals will only harm themselves immensely to the degree that they do not admit that fixed homophilism (as distinct from occasional homosexual acts) is invariably a distinct sickness and that this sickness may be exacerbated by but is by no means caused by the persecution the deviants unfortunately and unfairly receive in our culture. I agree with the statement of Harold L. Call in The Homosexual in Our Society that "the homosexual individual adopts a lot of his attitudes and his own hostilities as a result of the mores or the attitudes of the society in which he lives" (p.8). But what Mr. Call really means, if his statement is to be correctly interpreted, is that society teaches people to blame themselves and to blame others, to be afraid of what others think of them, and to fear failure; and

because of these idiotic attitudes of blame, fear of loss of love, and fear of failure, individuals acquire all kinds of disturbances, including and especially homosexualism. Society's attitudes, in other words, first create the sickness we call fixed homosexuality; and then these same societal attitudes often induce homosexuals to hate themselves still more and to become even sicker.

I would go so far as to say that there is no - and I mean no - exclusive homosexual who is not, somewhere deep within the recesses of his own irrational thinking, scared witless about the possibility of his being heterosexually impotent, being rejected by females, being a failure as a husband, etc. Otherwise, if he did not have such needless fears, he would not be exclusively homosexual. but, at the very most, would sometimes practice homosexual acts. The idea that any exclusive homophile has, as Mr. Call states on page 8, a "true nature" - meaning, obviously, that he was born the way he is - is drivel of the worst sort; and it is pitiful that almost all the readers, writers, and editors of One and the Mattachine Review not only believe but defensively keep expounding this nonsense. It is just as sensible to say that a neurotic must accept his own "true neurotic nature" and not be disturbed by it.

The grain of truth in this nonsense is that neurotics and homosexuals should not be disturbed about being called "dirty" or "stupid" or "degenerate" by other individuals in this

quite-blaming society of ours. But to distort the truth that neurotics and fixed homosexuals are not blackguards or criminals into the utter falsehood that they should not be concerned about being neurotic or homophilic is utterly tragic. And the Blanche Bakers of the professional world, who aid and abet this kind of distortion, are doing immense harm and are effectively preventing many sick people from seeking psychotherapeutic help.

I would like to comment, in conclusion, on Dr. Frank A. Beach's statement in The Homosexual in Our Society that "there is nothing 'unnatural' about homosexual activity." Although technically true, this statement is somewhat misleading, since Dr. Beach does not expound upon it in the pamphlet as adequately as he and Clellan S. Ford did in their fine book, Patterns of Sexual Behavior. What he means is that homosexual acts in themselves are not unnatural, for the good reason (as I noted above) that man is a plurisexual animal, biologically, who naturally tends to perform a variety of different kinds of sex acts, including homosexual ones. Nonetheless, as I am sure Dr. Beach would be one of the first to admit, when a perfectly natural form of sex participation, such as masturbation or anal intercourse, becomes fixed or exclusive, so that the individual only receives sex satisfaction from that one limited kind of activity, this mode of sexuality then becomes a deviation or perversion - and, as such, it is a distinctly neurotic (or

psychotic) form of behavior.

As usual, I expect that most of the readers of the Mattachine Review will be quite opposed to what I have just said and that they will write all kinds of highly emotionalized, and largely

irrelevant, protests. So be it. Let the chips fall where they may. If such scientifically- and clinically-based opinions as those herein expressed ever have any real effect on the homosexual movement, I shall be happily surprised.

## READERS write

REVIEW EDITOR: I am taking a chance on sending this communication with the hope that someway, someway work can be done in this city (Washington) to combat the ignorance and ill will that is usually strong against individuals who do not conform to existing conventions in the details of their private lives. There are numerous individuals in the area - good people who are capable in every way who go about their daily business of living pretty much the same as the socalled conformists. Perhaps there may be some individuals (if so I do not know them) whose interests are such that it would be mutually advantageous to hold orderly gatherings of these sincere, conscientious people to discuss books, films, etc., that are of especial interest to people who could profit thereby. I often read the "Personal" column of our Sunday Star with the hope that such a group has been formed. So far, no luck! Of course, there is the factor that D. C. has a polyalot population, and any organization should be democratic and arrange to accept attendance from all of the various cultural, racial, and religious backgrounds so long as an abiding and sincere interest is manifested in self-help and promoting better relations between the general public and a much maligned segment of the population that has been thoroughly victimized and exploited. May the good work that I understand is being done in the West continue, and I hope that it will be possible to communicate with you some type of good news about D. C. -Mr. V. P., District of Columbia.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Mattachine has had a branch unit in Washington for more than two years, but at present this group is inactive, due principally to the fact that several of its leading members have moved from the District. However, willing and capable individuals are invited to join the Society and re-establish this Area Council. Those interested in joining the Mattachine program in this city should communicate with the National Headquarters in Son Francisco. In accordance with Mattachine aims and principles, membership is open to any adult over 21, and participation may be anonymous.

REVIEW EDITOR: While in the library a few days ago I noticed several personnel magazines geared especially for personnel administrators in large industries. I thought I would send in a suggestion and ask if the Mattachine Society ever contacts these associations to advance the cause (of the homosexual). I am sure that if industry had an understanding of the homophile it would be a powerful influence in helping to change attitudes. When people learn that they can't go to an employer to have another employee fired because he is "queer", I imagine that in time they might give up and stop persecuting others. But what prompts me to write this is an article written by Martin L. Gross in the March Issue of TRUE magazine, entitled, "The Brain Pickers Can Cost You Your Job." This is very interesting, because it gives information on personality tests now being used by large industries to pick out the "proper" type of employee. Trick questions are used to discover the homosexual. I underlined this passage in the article Itself: "The testers are very worried about your masculinity, and search for hints of latent homosexuality... Today testers are convinced they can pinpoint a potential fairy without even seeing him on such exams as the Strong Vocational Interest Blank and the Minnesota Personality Inventory"

Many large organizations use these tests for prospective employees, including the New York Times, National Cash Register Co., etc., the article says. The name of the organization responsible for this act of unfeelingness is the Klein Institute for Aptitude Testing, 711 Third Avenue, New York. It has a staff of Ph.D's at work. Surely some of these well-educated psychologists must have human hearts and can be reached... Perhaps if people knew the truth they would not do such things in Ignorance. Perhaps even the Personnel Organizations in the U.S. and their journals would exert a positive influence. At any rate things could not be too much worse than they are now. And with these new personality tests there is no improvement in sight. -Mr. E. D., Col.

REVIEW EDITOR: I read both the April and May issues from cover to cover. Always I glance down the table of contents and choose what appears to be of interest. Seldom do I read any type of magazine in its entirety. However, I found these two issues stimulating, with a good balance between human interest and topical enlightenment. Congratulations — keep it up.—Mr. R. G. H., California.

REVIEW EDITOR: "McReynold's Reply to Krim" in the May Issue is the soundest advice for the gay people that I have yet seen or heard. Yes, I am as much of a variant as the next one, however the term "gay" is about as misleading as calling an ugly duckling a swan... We each and all must recognize that we are the "square pegs in round holes" of society. But flaunting our "hoped-for" freedom does not of necessity free us wholly from all social fetters no more than good fortune through wealth suddenly lifts all restrictions for the financially successful. McReynolds hits the nail squarely on the head with the last sentence in his first paragraph: "Second, in implying some kind of moral integrity and fervor to the 'gay underground' is to fail to see gay society for what it is - a tragic subculture WHICH IS EVERY BIT AS SICK AS THE LARGER SOCIETY IN WHICH IT EXISTS." Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof! If we even presume to accept the most primordial principles of life, we KNOW that the perpetuation of the species is the absolute necessity for the existence of the human, not to mention most other forms of life. Let us not fail to give full recognition to the fact

that our own (miserable or happy) role in life is wholly dependent upon the normal masculine-feminine relationship. Without it the world would be without us, the gay ones... Man could quite conceivably ao down to extinction if homosexuality is ever given too much play and encouragement by society. At some time, somewhere along the way, society would have to enforce restrictions which would be resented like any other social regulations governing some phase of our complex life. Surely we must quit whimpering about our lot when we know full well that ALL other human beings have many adjustments to make. Rather shouldn't we so live and be as tolerant in our attitude toward those whom we feel are oppressing us, as to be more readily acceptable to them? - Mr. A. V., California.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Any questions, readers? Lets not let this one pass without some constructive comment from you.

REVIEW EDITOR: The 20th Century has seen an intensification of many human problems, but, thanks to the awakening symbolized by such organizations as the Mattachine Society, the homosexual problem, at least, seems to be progressing toward solution. Let us pray that humanity will forbear its suicide that we may enjoy the fruits of this awakening. Which indicates the responsibility of each individual to strive ruthlessly toward his own perfection. —Mr. J. B. H., Jr., Mass.

REVIEW EDITOR: Now that my divorce is over, I can renew my subscription. I am not homosexual, but I am most sympathetic to them, since I, too, have my aberrations - a strong transvestite tendency and an intense fetish about women's satin clothing - and know the fear of discovery, the sense of danger, the anticipation of scorn from the duller of our business associates that so many of you have undergone, I almost wish there were a subcategory of membership in the Society for people of my kind. We could at least assure each other that we, too, are not alone. You're doing fine and commendable work and are much to be admired. -Mr. A. B., Illinois

EDITOR'S NOTE: Why a sub-membership group? You are not the first person with transvestite tendencies to seek the understanding of Mattachine. Professed homosexuals, declared non-homosexuals, bisexuals, and many intergrades are members and interested participants in the Society's educational program. So are some persons with records as sex offenders (some of them assigned to participants)

tion in our program by their probation officers), and many men and women who have never known conflict with the law. In other words, we see no need for any sub-group. Let's work to accept and minimize our differences, and "maximize" the fact that we are all human beings, tolerant of others because we have learned how to be tolerant and understanding of each other.

REVIEW EDITOR: I liked Dick Tyner's look at some of the classics in the field. I could not garee with him that Dorlan would be trade today. He was trade in the nineties, but he would be one of the airls today. Although John Gray, the handsome and talented poet, was not supposed to have become a friend of Wilde until after "Dorian Gray" was published, he was considered by Wilde to resemble the character enough to be referred to as Dorian. Actually, I think Alfred Douglas was the model for Dorian ... Mr. F. F., Missouri.

REVIEW EDITOR: Enclosed is a report of a Royal Canadian Commission in Ottawa uraing tougher laws for sex crimes. The 200-page document proposes substitution of the term "dangerous sexual offender" in the criminal code for the term "criminal sexual psychopath." It says the latter has no precise meaning. The report urges that all persons found by the courts to be dangerous sexual offenders

should be sentenced to indeterminate penitentiary terms. It defines a dangerous sexual offender as "a person who, by his conduct in sexual matters, has shown failure to control his sexual impulses." The report is rather vague on its definition of a sexual offender. I wonder whether homesexuals who engage with mutual consent could be prosecuted under such a vague definition. It seems entirely possible... It seems that in Canadian cities "purges" are conducted at the municipal level rather than at provincial or federal levels. -Mr. D. F., Quebec Province.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The report you sent indicates that the situation was clarified only through making the proposed law more vague and sweeping in its application. Yes, we agree that homosexual acts would come under the scope of this proposal, and those committing them would be adjudged dangerous sexual offenders by the courts in most instances. It is interesting, also, to note that so many violent crimes involving sex that are reported in our newspapers are committed by model (meaning puritan) citizens. Also, psychiatric studies for many years have seemed to indicate a decided correlation between the "puritan" typ e of personality and what might be termed "sexual explosion." Due to a general lack of sex education, this does not seem to have sunk in at the popular level yet.

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# Calling

MICHIGAN LAW RETURNS RECORDS OF ARREST

A new law went into effect in Michigan last September making it possible for a person to get back his arrest record and fingerprints if he is released or found innocent in court a move which proves the thinking on some matters in that state is not bankrupt, even though the treasury in Lansing is almost so.

The fight for such a law started in 1954 when a Korean veteran was held for six days as a police witness for investigation of robbery. The crime was committed while the veteran was in the armed forces, reports Federal Probation, the correctional journal of the U. S. government.

Upon release now, or acquittal, a person will be given an authorization slip to be presented to the identification bureau of police headquarters for the return of his record and fingerprints.

CIVIL LIBERTIES EXPERT TO ADDRESS CONVENTION

William F. Reynard, attorney, will be a featured speaker at the Sixth Annual Convention of the Mattachine Society in Denver, September 4-7, at the Hotel Albany. His subject will concern civil liberties and the homosexual. Mr. Revnard is a board member and past president of the Colorado branch of the American Civil Liberties Union.

"New Frontiers in Acceptance of the Homophile" is the convention theme this year, to be held in the Mile-Hi City during Colorado's centenniel celebration. Advance reservations are being accepted by the Convention Committee of the Denver Area Council now, and an invitation is extended to all readers of the RE-VIEW.

#### FANNIE HURST CANCELED FROM N. Y. TV SHOWCASE

"Showcase," a weekly topical panel program seen on television in New York on a weekly basis for some time, underwent a change about a month ago, according to a report by the New York Area Council, in which it was stated that Miss Hurst's appearance on it was canceled. This is the second time that Miss Hurst, novelist and woman of letters, has run into a possible stone wall because of daring subjects she chose to present: Over a year ago her program on another station was ordered changed from a homosexual topic to something less controversial. On April 21 and 28 last, "Showcase" explored homosexuality from two different views. On the first, Mrs. Eleanor Rawson, chief editor of the David McKay Co., publishers of the novel, "Sam," was a panelist, along with Mrs. Jessyca Russell Gaver, editor of "Writers'

Newsletter," and Bertrund J. J. Belanger, Public Relations Director of the Mattachine Society. This program was largely introductory. A week later under the heading of "Problems of the Teenager Who Doesn't Fit," homosexuality in the home was discussed. Panelists were Mrs. Lee R. Steiner, Ph.D., psychologist, lecturer, counselor and author, and Edward J. Hornick, M.D., psychiatrist. Subsequent weekly programs were to have dealt with legal and religious aspects of the subject, with experts in these fields to have been panelists. SHOULD HOMOSEXUALS MARRY?

Making the most of a difficult subject to discuss on an evening radio program, Mrs. Lee R. Steiner (see above) and four guests on March 31 delved into "Should Homosexuals Marry?"

-NEW YORK RADIO TOPIC

Presenting varied but interesting viewpoints were E. S. Grau of the Mattachine Society in New York; Miss. Vicki Martin, representing Daughters of Bilitis in that city, and Harold Michaelsmith, M. D., psychiatrist.

Marriage was presented as anything but a cure-all for emotional adjustment problems of the homosexual, in most cases. Both partners should enter it with full knowledge of the proclivities of the homosexual one, and with professional counsel if it is indicated. And should either the prospective husband or wife feel incapable of meeting the challenges presented without a deep, sweeping and lasting "change" on the part of one of them, then it should be avoided if success of the marriage would depend solely upon such change.

## SAM

A novel by

#### **LONNIE COLEMAN**

author of Clara and Ship's Company

SAM is the sensitively told story of a successful, respected New York publisher who is also an unashamed homosexual. The tense triangular relationship between Sam, the woman he loves in his own way, and the men in his life is movingly described but with uncompromising realism.

At all bookstores . \$3.95

McKAY

A LITERARY EVENT

OF MAJOR IMPORTANCE

The first complete

American edition

of LADY

## **CHATTERLEY'S**

**LOVER** 

by D.H.Lawrence

Introduction by MARK SCHORER
Preface by ARCHIBALD MacLEISH

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Since Lady Chatterley's Lover first appeared in 1928, there has never been an unexpurgated edition, either in England or in America. In the intervening years, the book has become a landmark in English literature. It is a novel of unquestioned integrity, a masterpiece of modern writing which has been

withheld too long from the reading public.

EDMUND WILSON: "This is more than the story of a love affair: it is a parable of postwar England. D. H. Lawrence is indestructible; censored, exiled, denounced, snubbed, he still possesses more vitality than almost anyone else. And this book is one of his most vigorous and brilliant."

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## BOOKS

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A Way of Love is a quiet, unpretentious little story of some depth, but more triteness. Its hero, Bruce Quantock, is around 40, a successful and lonely architect who meets a young lad accidentally at a concert, loses him temporarily, finds him, then loses him permanently.

The characters seem to live as you read them, but are easily forgotten. Like so many homosexual novels, this is another which smacks of "True Story" or "Ladies Hone Journal" except boy-meets-girl-boyloses-girl it's boy-meets-boy. Bruce Quantock sometimes springs to life, but most often seemed to me a rather vague and stuffy character whom the author attempted to make warm and real, but somehow was not convinced himself. Philip, the young one, the loved one, is more firmly delineated and more real. Perhaps because his desire not to be involved in the "gay" world was intense and convincing. In any event there are few surprises in the book. You know, before it happens, it will hap-

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Its setting is New York's theatrical and publishing world, and Mr. Coleman's insight into this world is razor sharp.

There is Addie, a girl whom Sam has loved for many years, and her husband, Toby, who hates Sam and all homosexuals in his sick and twisted way. There is Reeve, Keary, a rich, vicious homosexual and Sam's two lovers: one a vain and mediocre actor, the other a sensitive and intelligent surgeon. With these people Samis led to elegant cocktail parties, hospitals, turkish baths, smart luncheons and gay bars, each scene beautifully etched and memorable. The book is frequently relieved with wit and charm. Some of the best dialogue I've read in a long time is contained within its pages. But the important thing about Sam is that it is involved with the homosexual in the world. This is the important factor which most such books ignore.

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## Mattachine Society, Inc.

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS: 693 Mission Street, San Francisco 5, Calif., Telephone EXbrook 7-0773.

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## New Books



novels with significant homophile themes

#### by Lonnie Coleman 3.95 SAM

Thoroughly satisfying story, spiced with brilliant and moving dialogue. Concerns a dozen or more well-drawn personalities, each easily fitted into the total continuum of sexual types, and all warmly human.

#### CONFESSIONS OF A MASK by Yukio Mishima

Occasionally shocking but completely straightforward and honest story of an individual's development toward homosexuality told with understanding, sensitivity and skill by one of the Orient's masterful young writers whom Christopher Isherwood has called "the Gide of Japan."

#### THE FLAMING HEART by Deborah Deutsch

A shrewd and naive youth marries to avoid the life from which he rebels, then explores the homosexual world with his wife. In the shadow of hidden violence, Hilary and Linda seek the answers in a story that is both tender and sordid, tragic and noble.

#### A WAY OF LOVE

by James Courage 3.75

A "little history" of a relationship between a middle-aged man and a youth which works out beneficially for both-set in Regent's Park, London. Acute and humorous characterizations abound in this story.

#### THE CHARIOTEER by Mary Renault

Compassionate novel of homosexual love. delicate but devoid of prurience. Main figures are Laurie, introspective idealist; Andrew, a conscientious objector; and Ralph, a navy officer. Background is World War II.

#### THE TRANSGRESSOR

by Julian Green 3.50

Explored here are the guilt and responsibility of a man whose homosexual nature forces him to live a lie. Set against a French provincial background, this one is rich with literary artistry and psychological nuances although the story leads to catastrophe.

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