



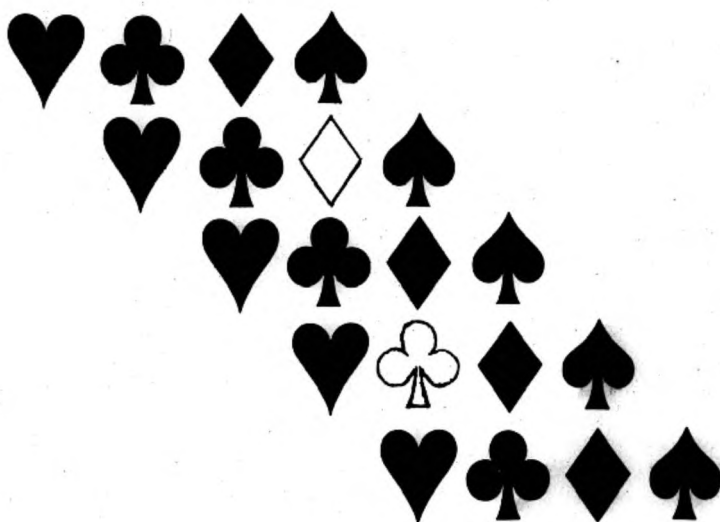
# matta machine REVIEW

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MARCH 1960

## Every Tenth Man

Leading Article and Special Article with 16 Case Histories  
of Well-Adjusted Male Homosexuals, by a  
British Medical Doctor



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**DORIAN BOOK QUARTERLY** is a new and unique venture which will attempt to make known to an ever-expanding readership the availability of most of the books on sex variation and related themes. It will be more than an advertising medium, however.

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# mattachine REVIEW

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IMPORTANT DATE COMING UP...

SEVENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

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**ADVERTISEMENTS:** Accepted only from publishers and/or authors of books; magazines; periodicals and booksellers concerned with homosexual and other sexological subjects. Rates upon application.

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THE LITERATURE on homosexuality is heavy with expositions on how maladjusted is the vast majority (if not all) of the homosexuals in our society. Most of these writers, it would seem, are careful to point out that they are *not* homosexual themselves.

But a growing body of students of the subject are taking the opposite viewpoint. Some of these who dare to write that all homosexuals are not necessarily maladjusted write from personal experience and intimate personal observation. In other words they are homosexual themselves. This, some social scientists believe, is as it should be. Others hold that the "subjective viewpoint" offers little that is valid. They dismiss that which is written by homosexuals as "special pleading" and a poor defense at best.

But is it? Why should sexological science expect the total authoritative pronouncement about homosexuality to come from non-homosexuals only? How can someone who has never faced the problem of adjustment in a hostile society know what it means to do so?

In *EVERY TENTH MAN*, an article abstracted from the British medical journal, *THE LANCET*, a medical doctor with 30 years' experience as a general practitioner describes how 16 of his personal acquaintances have achieved adjustment in terms of their families, their work, and their homosexuality. This doctor

# Every Tenth Man

states that these cases did not come to him for treatment or consultation for homosexual problems. And finally the doctor concludes that sexual attraction of one person for another of the same sex is not unique, and that homosexuals themselves know that medical treatment cannot make them different from what they are.

At least 10% of adult males fall into the Kinsey ratings which would classify them as predominantly homosexual, this doctor has found.

That means between 1½ and 2 million men in Britain and approximately 9 million men in the U. S. fall into these categories. Add to this an unknown but conservatively estimated number of women, and the figure in this country becomes something greater than 15 million adults. Can this country long afford to consider this segment of our population as

Few issues in modern times have had any greater impact on a nation and attention in its press than the recommendations of the Wolfenden Committee in England. This Committee, appointed by Parliament, investigated the matter of homosexual offenses and prostitution. It made its report in September 1957. First official attention was given to it a few weeks later when a member of the House of Lords addressed that body and moved that the recommendations be considered.

But in the meantime, the British press had been alive with thorough discussions of the subject.

In November 1958 the House of Commons devoted a day to debate of the Committee's recommendations to change laws so that consenting sex acts between male homosexuals would no longer be an offense, providing both were 21, and no harm, violence or fraud were involved. This was the embodiment of the principle conclusions of the Committee.

This debate ended with no action taken. Home Secretary R. A. Butler announced that British public opinion was still not advanced to the point where Parliamentary action was indicated.

Thus in England today, this subject is still "on the shelf." However, the press and many public leaders are busy with action designed to spur legal reform.

The Homosexual Law Reform Society was formed in London over two years ago. It is advised and supported by a hundred or so men and women prominent in public life in England, including many from the clergy, law and medicine.

Both the Anglican and Roman Catholic churches have come out favoring legal reform in England. They say private sex acts of this sort are a sin, but should not be considered a crime.

Most leading British newspapers and magazines have published one or more articles on the subject—and the general attitude has been one that favors passage of the Wolfenden recommendations.

socially unacceptable? Can it afford to designate these people as "security risks" just because of what they are? Or should a real examination be made of our "moral standards" and morals laws so that we can discard those attitudes and regulations found wanting in the light of modern knowledge of human sexual behavior?

In the article in *THE LANCET*, the editors state that "where prosecution is undertaken (for homosexual offenses)—even unsuccessfully—the penalty can be appalling; and our present system has serious side effects in blackmail and (often unexplained) suicide. In considering either the fairness or the efficacy of



the punishment, we should note that sexual proclivities are distributed so that the predominantly homosexual individuals at one end are separated from the heterosexual at the other by an infinite gradation, and that though people may be able to choose what they *do* they cannot choose what they *are*."

THE LANCET editors state there is doubt whether a child of normally developing sexuality is likely to suffer lasting harm from seduction, and it is all too clear that prison "might almost have been designed as a forcing-ground for young developing homosexuals," a quotation taken from Dr. Kenneth Soddy.

Oddly enough, doctors themselves have been slow and reluctant to face up to their professional responsibility, the magazine seemed to indicate. The medical profession, over the years, has provided many of the facts from which studies such as the Wolfenden Committee made, have been drawn. Further the problem is as much medical as it is legal.

"Though (the public) does not yet seem ready to accept these remedies (such as recommended by the Wolfenden Committee), its attitude would change the sooner if doctors would take their full part in helping ordinary people to understand the need for change and accept the necessary reforms." Then followed a short quotation from Dr. Soddy:

"In the absence of any rational justification, the retention of male (but not female) homosexuality in the penal code can be explained only as a sop to the primitive and instinctual fears of the community. The responsibility of the homosexual offender for his actions is highly doubtful, for his capacity to control his impulses has often been impaired. There is no evidence that the condition is quantitatively on the increase, and only very doubtful evidence that normal youth can be corrupted by it. At present bad laws are maintained—bad because they cannot be enforced without giving the police intolerable powers of interference with law-abiding citizens. The police are set impossible tasks in proving their charges; and, when convicted, the offender can be sent only to a place which is so unsuitable for him that hope of eventual cure must be abandoned. All this is too high a price for the community to pay for its own primitive fears and feelings."

The introduction to the "case history" documentation which showed a typical cross-section of male homosexuality came from an unnamed doctor who stated that he was homosexual himself. He is a general practitioner. None of the following cases cited came to him for help in understanding or "treating" their homosexuality. They are picked from "several hundred" homosexual men of many nationalities, colors, cultures and creeds known personally to the doctor. Here are the case histories he listed and described:

## Case-histories

**Cases 1 and 2.**—In 1935 A was a contented married man of about 40 with two children. About this time he introduced into his business, with a view to future partnership, a man B, aged about 25, with capital to invest. B was homosexual and knew it. A bond of friendship, then affection, grew between A and B which later led to overt homosexual practices. A's marriage disintegrated and his wife and family went to live abroad. After some five years of cohabitation A and B separated amicably, and they are still close friends.

A tells me that he had no suspicion that he was homosexually inclined until he met B. He had been reasonably happy. His marital obligations had been fulfilled adequately, but he had realised that sexual intercourse interested him less than it seemed to interest most of his friends and he had supposed that he was "made that way". Since the break-up of his marriage A has led an exclusively homosexual life with no further interest in heterosexual activity. He is now chairman of a big company, a member of many committees, a prominent and respected figure in the community.

B, a man of considerable private means and strong religious convictions, is a bachelor. A practising homosexual who disapproves of promiscuity, he lives discreetly and unostentatiously with a friend of many years' standing in a community where he is respected by all. He takes no part in public life but some of his friends—like myself—know of his kindness and generosity to many people, mostly elderly and infirm men and women, a considerable number of whom he has supported for many years.

**Case 3.**—C is a senior captain in an airline. Now in his late 30s he is good-looking, virile, and self-confident, with a well-integrated emotionally stable personality. His sexual outlet in orgasms has always been high and still averages 5 to 6 per week. His sexual activity has always been predominantly, but not exclusively, homosexual. About six years ago, for a variety of motives (not all admirable) he married, and he now has a family. The marriage has been successful, and he is very fond of both his wife and the children. His work takes him away from home for about two weeks in every four. During these



absences (but not while he is at home) he still leads a homosexual life. But he is worried. "What is going to happen when I stop flying and have to remain at home all the time? I don't think I could ever be exclusively heterosexual."

**Cases 4 and 5.**—D is a middle-aged doctor, a bachelor, successful and respected. He came from an emotionally secure home, had a happy childhood, has brothers and sisters, attended a boarding-school, and was never seduced by an older person. As a medical student he enjoyed the companionship of women and dancing. At the age of 21 he became engaged to a young woman whom he admired and of whom he was very fond. Intercourse took place often, but, though he was potent, he found it lacking in emotional and physical satisfaction. Finally the engagement was broken off because "the ritual of heterosexual intercourse" became increasingly distasteful to him and because he realised that the marriage, if it took place, would certainly end unhappily. He is sure that his fiancée never suspected the real reason for the break.

At the age of 30 he met E, aged 19, who was illegitimate, had had an unhappy childhood, and believed himself to be homosexual. They lived together for twelve years in mutual affection, respect, and happiness. D was able to bring educational and material advantages to E who now holds a responsible executive position in business. When E was 31 he fell in love with a girl whom he wished to marry. They have now been happily married for about eight years and have three children. D remains the closest of all the family friends, attends them all professionally, and is godfather to the eldest child. E says that he has never behaved homosexually since his marriage.

**Case 6.**—F, aged 25, is tall, well built, Scandinavian by birth. At the age of 15 he was warned by his mother that some of his friends were suspected of homosexuality and that he should be careful. "But I am homosexual," he replied. His mother told me of this incident. She sought advice from their (Scandinavian) family doctor who explained that her son might well change his mind later, but that, in the meanwhile, nothing would be achieved by argument or recrimination. He stressed that it was most important that the son should feel that he had

the confidence, sympathy, and understanding of his parents in this matter. In due course the position became accepted by his family who decided that he had had no personal choice in his sexual orientation and that—for better or worse—he had the right to live his private life in his own way.

He is a cheerful extrovert, a keen and proficient ballroom dancer. He has many friends of both sexes but he tells me that he has never at any time in his life experienced any heterosexual desires. Genitalia are well developed but hair distribution is feminine, and he has little, if any, need to shave. He is not effeminate in voice or mannerisms, nor has he any transvestite tendencies. He is a hard and conscientious worker earning over £1500 p.a. in a business which gives him scope for his artistry and originality. He appears to be free from complexes about his anomaly, and says that he is content to be as he is. He is not promiscuous, does not frequent places where homosexuals are known to forgather, and hopes to find a permanent partner. In the meanwhile he has led a vigorous homosexual life in liaisons most of which have lasted several years.

**Case 7.**—G is a successful farmer, aged about 46. He has an open-air appearance, heavy build, sunburnt complexion, rather stolid manner. He served in the Navy during the war. It was not until he was about 35 that he became fully aware of his sexual orientation. He says that women have never attracted him sexually. He admits that several times during his naval service he was attracted by other men, but he was too frightened to make the first move and none of the others ever did. I do not know the circumstances under which he had his first overt homosexual experience, but he is now leading an active homosexual life—deliberately, I think, trying to make up for lost time. Like so many who discover their homosexual inclinations relatively late in life, he suffers from a guilt complex and from hypochondria.

Before I met him he had consulted a general practitioner who was believed to have had some psychiatric experience. When G explained that he was homosexual the doctor exclaimed "Good God! you don't look like one." The patient tells me that he spent most of the consultation answering, not

asking questions ("Are there many of you about?"; "What do you really do?").

Although G has no heterosexual desires, he is active in a homosexual relationship.

**Case 8.**—H, aged about 35, works as a member of the aircrew of an international airline. He is a cheerful, uninhibited, stocky, rather tough type, full of bounce. His first wife divorced him when she discovered his homosexual tendencies. His second wife married him with full knowledge of these facts. She stipulated that, though he would be free to do as he wished with other men while away from home, she would not tolerate any affairs with other women. His sexual activity appears to be about equally divided between heterosexuality and homosexuality: in the former a sadistic tendency is apparent, whilst in the latter he prefers a passive role.

**Case 9.**—I, whom I have known for some eighteen years, is now about 38 and is a man of fine physique—6 ft. 4 in. in height. During the war he served as an A.B. in the Navy, and, though he had no lack of female admirers, his sexual activity was almost entirely homosexual. After the war he returned to work for the firm he had joined on leaving school, and for which he still works. He comes from a happy home. There has been no divorce, no alcoholism, and he says that he was never seduced by an older person.

Because he wanted a home and family he married shortly after the war. As he is a sensible level-headed person he chose a nice girl with whom, after some ten years of marriage, he is still happy. They have a family. He tells me that since the birth of their first child sexual intercourse has become of less and less importance to them. His wife "is wrapped up in the kids now and it does not worry me". He is still predominantly homosexual by inclination, but he lives a quiet domesticated life on a modest income in a home where he is happy; so, as he says, "I don't often get a chance to go off the rails." Nobody meeting him socially or in business would suspect for one moment homosexual tendencies.

**Case 10.**—J, now in his late 30s, says "I have always been homosexual—I knew that before I left school." During the

war he served in the Army. A successful businessman, he is a good mixer, an extrovert who rarely reads a book or remains by himself for any length of time. He has a large circle of friends, including many women (usually rather sophisticated types) with whom he is very popular. He shows no outward signs of homosexuality.

He has lately attempted heterosexual intercourse with a partner who was already aware of his tendencies. He said afterwards "It was awful, it brought me out in a cold sweat . . . the trouble is that a woman lacks the *only* thing I find sexually exciting . . . it was quite hopeless but luckily she understood."

**Case 11.**—K is 25 but looks younger. A self-taught but successful commercial artist, he is intelligent and a devout Roman Catholic. His father, an alcoholic, died some years ago. He lives in a student hostel but spends his weekends with his mother, stepfather, brothers, and sisters, with all of whom he gets on very well. Both at boarding-school and since he has had several emotionally intense homosexual relationships resulting in mutual masturbation. These affairs have caused him deep feelings of guilt and remorse as he considers any form of extramarital sexuality sinful. On the other hand, he has no wish to enter the priesthood. He often has bouts of depression, because he sees no solution to his problem. He has never had any heterosexual inclinations and is convinced that he is entirely homosexually orientated. He says "I can't help falling in love with other men." He says that marriage would be impossible for him; yet he knows that he will never be able to achieve complete sexual abstinence for long periods.

He has always wished to be a woman and has had to make deliberate efforts to suppress transvestite tendencies. In school plays he was usually chosen for female parts (which he enjoyed playing) but suffered many taunts for being effeminate. Now he is constantly on his guard, while making every effort to appear normal. In this he has been successful, for he shows no obvious signs of homosexuality in speech, manner, or dress. He is very interested in the recently publicised cases of change of sex which he wishes were possible for himself.

To his friends he seems to be a cheerful chap with a happy outlook, but he has admitted to me that he has several times seriously considered suicide as the only solution to his problem.



**Cases 12 and 13.**—L, aged 21, says that he has never had any heterosexual desires. Mesomorphic in physical type, he is virile in appearance and has larger than average genitalia; puberty was early. From childhood he has thought of himself as being female; many of his interests are feminine, and he says that, if he were offered the opportunity of becoming a "real woman", he would accept without hesitation. At the age of about 10 he was friendly with a small girl of the same age. Their favourite game was to re-enact the film exploits of Tarzan and Jane, but he insisted upon being Jane whilst the small girl had to be Tarzan. He belonged to an average happy family, with normal brothers and sisters; no divorce, or evidence of an emotionally disturbed background. His work has now taken him away from his home town.

At the age of 13 he was introduced to mutual masturbation by a middle-aged man. I have discussed this incident with him at some length and he is emphatic that the experience did not determine his sexual orientation of which, he says, he was already aware. He admits that he probably encouraged the incident, says he was not in the least frightened or upset by it, and anyway knew what to expect. "I still write to the old boy—well, a card at Christmas anyway." From the age of about 16 he has had many homosexual partners of his own age, but most of these affairs have been unsatisfactory. He says that he does not want to be promiscuous and that "sex without affection is wrong".

A little over a year ago he formed an intense emotional attachment to M, an older man (38) with whom he works and who—though homosexual—at first showed little interest in him. M does not resemble at all the conventional picture of a homosexual—quiet, masculine manner, well built, a pipe-smoking beer-drinking type. These two have now shared a flat for nearly a year, with L doing all the housekeeping. M has undoubtedly become very fond of his young friend, whilst L idolises his partner. L is a conscientious and hard worker who is very popular with the rest of the staff, both men and women, and he has been promoted twice with rises in salary during the past year.

**Case 14.**—I first met N, now 45, about fifteen years ago when he was a sergeant in the army—an ordinary, friendly, not very

intelligent, but very likeable person—whom I had reason to believe was completely homosexual in his habits, though there were no outward signs. After the war he joined a friend (not homosexual, but tolerant in outlook) in a retail business which is now prospering.

I have known for some years that, though he is still a practising homosexual, he wished to get married. The reasons were, I believe, that he was lonely and wanted companionship, that he wanted marriage as a camouflage for his reputation, and because he believed that sooner or later the alternative would be a police prosecution. Three years ago he married a woman he has known for many years, aged about 40, a comfortable, homely, placid person. There is no doubt that he is trying to be a good husband, but it is equally clear that he is no less homosexually inclined than he was. He still occasionally behaves homosexually if temptation and suitable opportunity offer. Afterwards he is very remorseful. When I asked how the sexual side of his marriage was going, he replied, rather guardedly, "Oh, all right," then changed the subject. I hear that his wife is shortly going on a long visit to her family. I hope that this is not a prelude to a breakup of the marriage.

**Case 15.**—O, now 48, a man of independent means, widely travelled, had always been predominantly, but not exclusively, homosexual in his habits. In his late thirties he met a rather unusual, attractive, intelligent young actress, cosmopolitan in outlook like himself. They became very fond of each other and finally married. For five years all went well; they shared many interests in common, travelled extensively, and seemed to be happy together. Then the break came—I do not know the details. They still correspond in a friendly way, but live in different countries. There were no children and she has not remarried.

He has now lived with a man of 28 for several years. Neither O nor his friend is promiscuous and they do not mix in any homosexual coterie. O said to me recently "This is the only way I can live. The other was an unnatural existence for me and I could not keep it up any longer."

**Case 16.**—P is a bachelor now in his mid-80s. He comes from a socially prominent and prosperous family. During his



student days he travelled extensively, studying languages. He was tall, a keen athlete, and, he says, a good-looking young man. One of his tutors, several of his student friends, and some acquaintances on his travels made homosexual advances; but these shocked him. He had a distinguished Service career in the first world war.

As he became older he realised that he was predominantly homosexual in orientation, but his family background and training had taught him that this was reprehensible; so he did not allow any homosexual behaviour to occur. He tells me that he never discussed his inclinations with any person until about five years ago when he did so with me. His knowledge of the subject up to that time was derived from reading Greek and other classical writers. It appears that not until after his 50th year did he have his first experience of sexual activity with another person.

He is now obsessed by the thought of his "wasted youth". It distresses him to find that it is the physical beauty of the youth of both sexes—but particularly young males—which attracts him. He admits that mutual masturbation with young men in the 16–20 age-group has occurred often during the last thirty years, but no sexual acts with women or older men. Since a prostatectomy a few years ago these incidents have ceased or, at least, become less common. He says that if he had had some sexual fulfilment during his youth and maturity he would now be content to "grow old gracefully".

In his community he is liked and respected and his personal problem is unsuspected by his friends and neighbours.

These case-histories have been selected from a much larger number to illustrate different types of male homosexual. All are known to me personally, none shows any outward signs of homosexuality (except possibly no. 6), only one (case 16) is sexually interested in adolescents; only one has sought medical advice. None of them has ever been on a police charge for a homosexual offence. None of them knows of any reason why they are homosexually orientated, and all agree that seduction in childhood by older persons was not the cause.

"It is my considered opinion that the cause of homosexuality is still unknown." This was the way the doctor began his conclusions. Neither homosexual or heterosexual men have the slightest choice in their sexual orientation, he states. And discovery of one's real sexual orientation can be accidental, distressing and embarrassing in many cases.

Doctors, judges, magistrates and lawyers use terms such as "cure" and "treatment" too freely, this doctor believes. For the homosexual, cure can only mean the reorientation of his desires into heterosexual channels—and as far as this doctor has observed, he has never seen any homosexual permanently re-oriented. Chastity and castration are not cures either, he states. To accept marriage as a criterion of cure is unrealistic.

Every tenth man, this doctor states, is predominantly homosexual, an observation drawn from more than 30 years. This, the doctor states, means they fall in Kinsey rating 4, 5, and 6.

"Investigations I have made in several European and non-European countries leads me to believe that the incidence varies little, if at all, from country to country," he adds.

"In discussions of homosexuality the physical aspects tend to be overemphasized, while the emotional aspects are overlooked. Yet these may be as intense as those experienced by heterosexuals. Many homosexual friendships, like many heterosexual friendships, do not include physical acts. The homosexual liaison—unlike marriage—is unsupported by legal, social, economic, or family considerations tending to encourage permanency. I do not believe that homosexuals are inherently more promiscuous than heterosexuals would be if they had to live under similar conditions of loneliness and sexual insecurity.

"Lesbianism, fornication, adultery, rape, even murder can usually be discussed calmly and objectively, but male homosexuality rarely. It seems likely that the illogical and disproportionate emotional reaction produced in some people—usually men, not women—by this subject is caused by unresolved conflicts. It is widely believed among homosexuals that exaggerated revulsion is an indication of latent homosexual tendencies.

"Homosexual problems are often the cause of alcoholism and suicide, though the basic reason for these tragedies is rarely disclosed and usually unsuspected.

"I make no attempt to defend the immorality disclosed in many of the case-histories, beyond suggesting that it should be judged alongside heterosexual immorality."

Finally, the doctor concludes, "homosexuals are reluctant to seek medical advice because they believe that most family doctors share the ignorance and the emotional prejudice of laymen on this subject; most of them know that medical treatment cannot make them heterosexual, and people, including doctors, find it easy to preach life-long chastity for others when they do not have to practise it themselves."

(Mattachine REVIEW is indeed grateful to T. F. Fox, M. D., editor of THE LANCET for permission to extract most of the preceding material from the excellent articles which appeared in the December 12 issue of this distinguished British medical magazine. THE LANCET is published in London (WC2) at 7 Adam Street, Adelphi.)



## STANDING ROOM ONLY

by Claude Lane

"Birth Control"—"Planned Parenthood"—"Family Planning"—articles in the newspapers—Seminars—discussions on the street corners—everywhere the subject is being bandied about. Even the President of the United States got in the squabble—(with two left feet). And there is good reason for all this discussion of Birth Control. The "Population Explosion" is the cause.

The population of the world has doubled in the last century (1850-1950). In 1950 the world population was 2½ billion. At the present rate of increase the number will again double by the year 2000. The \$64,000.00 question is how to feed this increase and give it space to live in. Every thinking person realizes that this is a vital issue. "Something should be done," all agree. What to do, that is the question.

The most vociferous of the minorities dealing with the question in this country is the Roman Catholic Church. Their suggestion is the so-called rhythm-method: That is, for the husband and wife to have intercourse only during the "safe" period, when the ova is not present to be fertilized. Unless, of course, an additional child is desired.

At best this is a hit and miss method for accomplishing a needed result. The weakness of this method is seen even by Roman Catholic leaders.

Speaking informally, in Providence, R.I., on the subject a Jesuit said: "The Church (the Roman Church) will never change its doctrine on the Gospel principle, but there may be an evolution of our concrete situation which will require a modification of the application of the Principle."

The Jesuit, The Rev. Gustave Weigle, S.J., Professor of Ecclesiology at Woodstock (Md.) College, made the statement in response to a request for clarification after an informal discussion of "Catholic and Protestant Relations Now" at Brown University.

A nurse at one of the New York hospitals made an informal survey of the women and girls who came to the hospital for methods and mechanisms for birth control and found that 4 out of 5 of the persons seeking such information were Roman Catholics.

Recently The University of Michigan—aided by the Scripps Foundation for Population Research—interviewed 2713 married women between the ages of 18 and 39.

Two-thirds (62% to be exact) of the women expressed unqualified approval of birth control and 12% more approved with some qualifications.

The research teams then asked about the methods they used and it turned out that "standard contraceptive devices" were used, occasionally or exclusively by 89% of the Protestants and 96% of the Jews who practice birth control.

So, a large majority of American families DO practice some form of birth control.

The rapid population growth in Asia, Africa and some European countries is a different matter. More than 40 years ago Margaret Sanger wrote: "the greatest threat to the peace of the world is to be found in the teeming population of Asia." And that threat to the peace of the world is even greater than it was 40 years ago.

At that time, (1910-20), infant mortality took a large percentage of the new-born but today with modern medical advances most of these children grow to be men and women and are a still greater threat to "the peace of the world."

All of the "methods and mechanisms" of "family planning" have, so far, been centered on the female side of control. But there is also the male control side, also, not as a form of libertinism but as a concern to see sex as a natural part of the total man and a means, a very sensitive means, of expressing man's relationship to his fellow man.

The recognition of the fact that man's love relationship extends far beyond the mere expression of the marriage relationship as expressed in the begetting of children means that the healthy and whole man expresses this love relationship in himself, his fellows and his world. The main concern of the thinking man today must be with his inner attitude toward his male as well as his female companions.

Civil laws and church canons concern themselves with human behavior—symptoms only. Curing a symptom never yet has reached the curing of the fundamental "disease." Bad law and unfortunate canon can never reach the heart of these multiple relationships.

As one writer states: "All the Judeo-Christian attitudes toward sex are wrong and many of them are positively vicious," or to put it in a more classical way: Christians have much to unlearn in the area of sex and much in their tradition has been positively harmful.

Nowhere are these harmful attitudes toward sex more evident than in the area of the control of the population explosion both here in America as well as among the teeming population of Asia, Africa and elsewhere.



# Calling Shots

## ANNULMENT IS POSSIBLE IF ONE IS HOMOSEXUAL

If it can be proved that one of the parties is incapable of giving consent in a marriage, then there is no contract and annulment is in order. That is the viewpoint expressed at a meeting of the American Guild of Catholic Psychiatrists in St. Louis recently. Dr. John R. Cavanagh, a Washington, D.C., practicing psychiatrist, said the church might be able to therefore offer annulment in good conscience in cases where one of the partners is a complete homosexual.

"The complete homosexual," he said, having no true concept of what normal sex is, cannot give his consent to marriage because he can desire nothing that he does not understand."

## TIGHT PANTS ON BOYS DRAWS REACTION FROM GIRLS

"Tight pants look rather effeminate." That is a partial reaction of a San Francisco high school girl who was asked, along with her classmates, how they regarded the form-fitting pegged jeans so popular among teen-agers and young male adults today. Seven girls were quoted in the commentary which appeared in a newspaper column

for teen-agers. However, five of these girls did favor the style, although three of them had reservations about it. Neatness was cited; but some girls wondered how the boys got them on and off. Main objection to the tightness of fit (and reason the girls said they made the boys look sissified) was that the snugness tended to round off the boys' hips too much. In fact, the girl whose statement appears above added that the fashion was absurd, lacked individuality, and showed little taste. No doubt this is ground for differing opinion among the male students.

## HOMOSEXUAL PURGES ON AT TWO UNIVERSITIES

The campuses of two large state universities have been the scene of concerted police action aimed at breaking up "homosexual contact centers." In each instance, many individuals have been arrested, with court trials, forced resignations, etc., resulting.

At Gainesville, Fla., an undisclosed number judged homosexual by administrative officials have been "purged" from the University of Florida. At Ann Arbor, Mich., 34 arrests have been made on the campus on charges of homosexual activity (generally for importuning or soliciting), at the University of Michigan.

The Florida clean-up has apparently been triggered by pressure from the Johns' State Legislative Investigating Committee in that state. In Michigan, local newspapers indicate the action is merely a zealous enforcement of state laws which declare such behavior a crime.

In both instances University officials have sanctioned the actions. Florida's was conducted by campus police, working in conjunction with city authorities, but involving the use of a number of "young special agents" who loitered in campus toilets. The Michigan actions have been pressed by Ann Arbor police who also utilized a trained trio of special plainclothes officers to make the arrests. In each instance entrapment tactics have been denied.

From Ann Arbor, a report to the REVIEW states that entrapment procedures were positively utilized, and a report in the *Michigan Daily* also charges the truth of this.

In one of the opening examinations of one of those arrested at Ann Arbor, this exchange occurred when the lawyer questioned the arresting officer:

"What time was the arrest made?"

"10:30."

"What time did you enter the restroom?"

"8:45."

"That's a hell of a way to make a living, isn't it?"

A reporter, who states that he knows two of those arrested in Michigan, added that it was the plainclothesman in each instance who started the conversation and made the advances.

## HOMOSEXUAL CRACKDOWN OF DUBIOUS VALUE

...Thus was headed an editorial in the *Michigan Daily* for January 9, when Staff Writer Thomas Hayden wrote the following editorial, which states the case as understandingly and as sensibly as possible:

The Ann Arbor homosexual crackdown, which has resulted in some 34 arrests so far, is seriously questionable with regard to methods, motives, legality and moral implications.

The methods, although police have been reticent to explain them in detail, boil generally down to this: three special officers were selected about two months ago to linger day after day in restrooms around the city, waiting to make contact with homosexuals, then arrest them.

More critically stated, they have been paid with public funds to aggravate the psychological problem of the homosexual, first by enticement, then by arrest, arraignment, trial, and perhaps a prison sentence. This is neither a logical way to spend public funds nor a sensitive way to handle a public problem.

THE UNIVERSITY'S part in this seems negligible, although police insist it is cooperating very well. True, the University has been inane enough to remove the doors from stalls in one Angell Hall restroom, and has not yet replaced them. But other than that, it hasn't helped the police significantly.

The University cannot refuse the police admittance to its restrooms, of course, and what the officers do there is their own business. But for the University to cooperate any further would be unfortunate. When an individual is arrested, tried, and found guilty, then it is the University's place to talk with him and make the final decision on his future here.

A natural question arising from the above is what motives the police might have for the sudden crackdown. No maj-



or incident—such as an attack on a child—triggered it. The police themselves admit no organized ring exists.

Since the state law against indecent conduct between males has been on the books for many years, the suddenly renewed enforcement for no specific reason seems curious. It leaves one to guess that an irrational force in Ann Arbor is overly interested in keeping the city “a decent place to live” and that the police are hypersensitive with regard to the public image.

City prosecutors claim that each arrest was properly made and will hold in court, which remains to be seen. Since the officers involved have apparently undergone special training in the apprehension of homosexuals, they are aware of the conditions of “entrapment”, which invalidates an arrest if the officer lures an individual into a crime. Whether the police were successful in apprehending the individuals without “entrapping” them, which seems unlikely, is a question to be answered in the courts. Certainly some of the individuals arrested will argue that the police violated the rules of arrest.

The moral implications involved are most far reaching.

The situation once more illustrates the cultural lag which puts the homosexual under the heading of “criminal” when he is most often an individual with serious psychological difficulties. In one sense, the police are right: they are bound to uphold the laws of the state. And in doing so, they have rendered at least one service, that of being the break-up of certain well-known

“contact centers.” But this result hardly overrides the most disastrous effects.

What must be questioned most basically is the state statute itself. It simply is not consistent with advances in modern psychiatry. It is based on an absurd conception of homosexuality as the immoral behavior of stable rational individuals. It makes little attempt to understand such individuals as anything other than criminals, and most frightening of all, it sentences them to state prisons where their environment is hardly conducive for cure.

In relation to this problem, the police methods and motives are dwarfed. They are only the obnoxious repercussions of a problem which must ultimately be faced by the states and the citizenry.

#### CAMPUS WAG STRIKES HUMOROUS NOTE

Tragic as the results of such actions as reported here are to the individuals involved, the situation at the University of Michigan was not without a touch of humor.

On January 5, this advertisement appeared in the classified ads under “Personal.” “PERCY: Stay out of the johns in A. H. They’re on to us.”



*mattachine* **REVIEW**

# BOOKS

## A Couple of POCHOS

By Dick Tyner

I read two books over the weekend *about* Mexican-Californian-Americans; but there the similarity ended. One was the “autobiography” of Pancho Gonzales, the tennis champion; the other was a novel, *POCHO*, by Jose Villarreal. Though Gonzales concludes he is “not composed of the stuff good husbands are made of,” there is nothing of homophile interest in the book; nor is there any literary distinction. We are glad the Mexican boy made good; but we couldn’t care less how he did it.

Gonzales has made his “autobiography” a work of considerable merit. Like so many first novels based on personal experiences, Villarreal must surely have written himself out. One wonders what he has left to be said in another book. Richard Wright, of course, has done quite well re-writing the same book year after year. Villarreal is not so impassioned a writer but is in many ways a better one than Wright. Both are of the contemporary realistic school, though perhaps Villarreal is (with no pun intended) more *real*, a true primitive. The reality of Villarreal is enhanced by the familiarity to me of the locale of the story: the Santa Clara Valley. There will be objections to the earthiness of the language and of many of the incidents. Some of these add nothing to the story or to the picture of the author’s people; but the combination of talent and conviction make them acceptable if not always in good taste.

The Pocho of the story is a precocious boy in any culture and something of a sissy. The latter quality may account for his desire to learn but it certainly does not interfere with his sexual exploits. More important, however, are his relationships with his boy friends, both the pachucos and the more Americanized boys of foreign extraction with whom he usually played. One of the latter is upset by the Pocho’s remark that they have fun together because they “love each other.” Pocho asks him, “Haven’t you ever heard of having love for a friend, of loving people or things, without getting dirty about it?” This at thirteen; I told you he was precocious.

One of the strongest influences on the younger Pocho was a Portuguese dairyman; an exiled nobleman, he taught the boy many things in-

cluding the lesson that "a man must find out some things for himself." The old man was undoubtedly homosexual but there is some confusion whether or not he abused little girls as he was accused. He goes mad in jail: one of the more violent ways Villarreal disposes of his characters.

As the Pocho grows older he does find out things for himself. When his father expresses concern that his son might have become one of "those others," he explains, "They have their place." He later explains to his friend:

"about those two guys you were talking about—they're queer, and and they have a bunch of friends that are the same way, but they're real intelligent and good people. They just happen to be like that, that's all. Like a guy with only one leg, or a deaf-and-dumb guy, or a con. They can't help it, but they make the most of their life. And, another thing—they like being that way, and they never fool with me, because they know I'm straight, and I respect them for that. Those two guys live together, and they really love each other. You ought to see them, how nice they talk to each other and the way they take care of one another. Hell, even married people don't act that good."

I am afraid what I am saying about the book makes it seem foolish. It is of such a piece that to take anything from it to look at more closely exaggerates that part as a magnifying glass laid upon the page.

POCHO is erotic realism; a romantic tale told in a realistic style; gamey but rich reading fare.

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(To Be Continued)

## LOOKING AHEAD

Coming in the APRIL issue of the REVIEW:

A NEW YORK CRIMINOLOGIST GIVES ADVICE ON  
"HOMOSEXUAL BLACKMAIL"

C. V. Howard is back with another good story...  
"THEY'RE ALL ALIKE"

Manfred Wise has a "NOTE ON D. H. LAWRENCE"  
Plus: Additional Features, Letters, Reviews, Calling Shots

Who has seen this before?

Failings

Dear Bobbie —  
I am sorry that I must  
be leaving a note  
to you one

# note of regret

by ROBERT ANON

Dear Bobbie:

I am sorry that I must do it this way, leaving a note and disappearing while you are away. But, unfortunately, I do not believe that I have the courage to face you. For two years we were happy, loving and all the rest. As to what has changed you during the past four or five months, I am unable to say.

You have, undoubtedly, turned into the nastiest, loudest, most annoying S.O.B. I have ever had the misfortune to know. I quite fully realize that I myself have been no prize package to live with—but considering all in all; the changing of a job, the responsibility for reorganizing an office, and the death of my mother—I have certainly not become impossible to live with.

When I first met you, Bobbie my love, you were bright-eyed and bushy-tailed, full of youthful vim and vigor, hope and aspirations and above all—talent. It has only recently dawned upon me that your more-than-wonderful personality traits have undergone a hideous transformation. You have become, and not in just the past few months, either, lazy, a little shiftless, thoughtless, and a few other "less's".

I have always made fun of the swishing, screaming, flaunting queens and you have always laughed with me. When did you stop laughing? Stop laughing and start becoming one of these parodies on the human race? Besides your warm and loving nature, one of the things that attracted me to you was your delightful voice, so soft and musical, warm and tender. I have not had the privilege of hearing that voice in many months. I believe that is when that which is terminating in my departure began. At the time your voice grew just a little harsh and raised an octave or two. It grated my nerves, but I refused to allow it to bother me. I loved you enough to pay it very little mind.

Then from being my bouncy baby boy you began being my saucy little miss. Which was but a step from full-fledged swishing and swooping. And I congratulate you on the split-second timing it took you to take that step!

One thing I will never understand is your jealousy. For two years, loving and lovable. Then, within one day or two of our anniversary, a streak of coldness and indifference crept into our relationship. First it was headaches, then you were so tired from rehearsals, then you felt kind of lousy, but always with an undercurrent of "don't bother me—if I want you, I'll tell you."

I would come home from the office, tired, beat, worried about acquiring an ulcer from worrying about business, and be offered a cheek. After two years! I found myself making love to a cheek!

Then to climax this icy indifference beautifully, I found myself subjected to petty snoopings and arguments after each and every hour that I spent away from the apartment, and after business hours were supposedly ended for the day.

Never, not once during our entire relationship (up to and including this minute that this is being written) have I ever given you any cause for jealousy, my dear Bobbie.

I have looked at others, but only admiringly, so to speak, if I were single. But I was not, nor did I really want to be. I have been jealous of you. Never though did I resort to screaming tirades or accuse you of infidelity. And you know that.

The last two months have been really much more than I could possibly be expected to take. I do not mind a party, nor do I mind having friends drop

## FOREIGN PUBLICATIONS

### THE CIRCLE (DER KREIS)

Published monthly since 1932, in French, German and English (no translation duplications); contains photos, illustrations and art reproductions, Rolf, editor. Annual subscriptions \$11 first class sealed, Bank draft or cash to Leszek Der Kreis, Postfach 547, Fraumunster, Zurich 22, Switzerland.

### ICSE NEWSLETTER

Mimeographed English edition, published bi-monthly by International Committee for Sexual Equality, Jack Argo, editor. Annual subscriptions, \$10. Address Postbox 1564, Amsterdam, Holland. (Single copies 50 cents each --may be ordered from Mattachine Review.)

### ARCADIE

Monthly literary and scientific review in French, A. Baudry editor. Subscriptions \$9 per year. Address 74 Blvd. de Reuilly, Paris XII



over. But I do, most assuredly, mind having the apartment turned upside down every single night. And populated with individuals whom I had never seen before and I don't mind telling you I hope never to see again. Since one half of the apartment is officially yours, I really have, or had, no right to complain. But when these —yes—“degenerate” soirees persisted in continuing well past midnight, every night, then I would, as I did, complain.

Did you really expect me to put up, for very long, with:

Complete indifference towards me;

Long silences, loss of communication between us;

Secrets;

And being shut out of your life—other than when alone and you decided to be nice to the poor guy,

And realizing (you need not deny it) that you had stopped being true to me months ago...

\* \* \*

Although I am very sorry that your father is ill, I am glad that something happened to take you away from here. Being left alone for a complete week gave me the opportunity to stop and reason things out. And much to my surprise, I discovered that with you not here, it was exactly like it was when you were here. Either way, I was alone.

I put in for my vacation and am leaving for two weeks as of tonight. I have made arrangements with Kenny and Phil to remove my furniture and place it in storage for me. They plan to take care of it this weekend. I am not ever coming back to the apartment.

I have paid my share of the rent for this month and next. I feel certain that you should be able to find a roommate by the end of next month.

You wanted this particular apartment. You slaved over the interior decor. So I will leave you with it and forget completely how much I put into it.

Please do not attempt to find out where I am. The only people who know won't tell you, so don't bother yourself.

I would prefer never seeing you again. For you see, Bobbie, I am still very much in love with you (you can gloat over that for quite a while, I am afraid). But I cannot continue to live as I have been. I am in serious danger of losing my dignity and self-control. I am, also, beginning to lose my self-respect. And I do not particularly respect myself for sneaking away, leaving just a note, rather than facing you. I cannot do that, though, for I fear I might break down and stay. So in order to remain true to myself and be the man I long thought I was, I shall go away from you.

I wish you luck and happiness. And please give my condolences to your next. He will need them.

D.

*matachine* **REVIEW**

# READERS *write*

*Letters from readers are solicited for publication in this regular monthly department. They should be short and all must be signed by the writer. Only initials of the writer and the state or country of residence will be published. Opinion expressed in published letters need not necessarily reflect that of the REVIEW or the Matachine Society. No names of individuals will be exchanged for correspondence purposes.*

**REVIEW EDITOR:** Enclosing a money order for \$5 as a small contribution to your work. Sorry it cannot be more, but I hope to send contributions from time to time to show my appreciation for what you are doing.—Mr. J. F. S., New York

**REVIEW EDITOR:** Each time I renew I can't help wonder "Why?" I am sure some good comes from our organization but for the life of me I cannot see any improvement in the way we are treated. Police departments, P-TA and women's clubs have apparently driven us or are driving us to oblivion and our organization which so many of us hoped would improve our lot apparently has done little or nothing to alleviate our persecution, prosecution and crucifixion in this order. Perhaps you there are able to see an improvement which I am not able to see. I sincerely hope you do. There is I believe a more direct approach to individuals needed. How this can be brought about is a problem. It is my sincere belief that things are worse now than they were two or three years ago. I'll go along for a while though, just for the ride.—Mr. H. S., California

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Not in a single lifetime are we apt to see drastic changes and improvement in laws and attitudes toward sex which have been formed and woven into our heritage for 25 or more centuries. The very fact that Matachine exists, publishes a small magazine and other local periodicals, conducts public discussion forums, maintains small libraries and offices, and

conducts a growing program of education, research and social service **IS SOMETHING THAT WAS NOT A REALITY ONLY TEN SHORT YEARS AGO.** Today, for instance, in our San Francisco office, Matachine extends direct social service helps to some 600 individuals per year who bring problems to us. That's not a lot, but it is something. True enough, the surface of the total project has barely been scratched. Stay with us—that's better than commiserating over a void.

**REVIEW EDITOR:** Enclosed is my renewal—a bit late. I do hope that it doesn't cause any confusion as I don't want to miss an issue.—J. B. M., New York

**REVIEW EDITOR:** Your January issue was the first I have read and I feel it my duty as a homosexual to commend you on the fine work your staff and members are doing. My main pet peeve with society is the stereotype they have given to homosexuals (and many of the other minority groups). A homosexual to "Mr. Jones" is the hand-on-hip type with distinctive lisp and a yen for public lavatories, etc. If we were to try to find the "average" American homosexual, arbitrary as this may be, I sincerely believe he would not be anywhere near the above effeminate model described, but an honest-to-goodness man with but a different cross to bear in life.—Mr. D.C.S., Calif.

**REVIEW EDITOR:** I have been receiving copies of the REVIEW regularly since my subscription went into effect, but so far I



## CHANGES OF ADDRESS

Notice of change of address should be sent not less than two weeks prior to the date change becomes effective. Send the address at which copies are now being received and the new address at which you wish to receive copies.

haven't received "Four from the Circle."  
—Mr. L. J. C., New York

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Another copy of the book has been shipped.

**REVIEW EDITOR:** I read Norman Mailer's "White Negro" five times. He didn't say what "hipsters" like to do. What do hipsters like to do? Do they want rape and statutory rape legalized?—Mr. F. A. K., New York

**REVIEW EDITOR:** The REVIEW has given me a comfortable feeling. I feel we are all the children of God regardless of how we see our fellow men. Man has his rights but there are certain laws that have to be obeyed. The thought that comes to me often is that respect does not come cheap. Some of us have to deprive ourselves of the things we'd like in order to gain that respectability.—Mr. E. F. N., Maine

**REVIEW EDITOR:** I have reviewed with great interest the 12 issues of 1959 and wish to offer one general comment: "Lead with the Cover!" Every periodical must use the cover to attract attention. This is done by use of color, of artistic drawings, photos as well as headlines of articles in the current issue. The most successful magazine is the one which focuses attention on the leading article for that issue. And that article should come first and not submerged by editorials or other less important material. From this point of view, good as they are, each issue could be improved, given the punch which would make the REVIEW a really distinguished magazine.—Mr. J. F. W., Ohio

**REVIEW EDITOR:** We are accustomed, I and friends, to take vacations in New York or Florida, but we would like to go to where the "boy-friendship" is better understood. Do you know a few countries less conformist (or less moulded) and more open to caprice, and art? We are tired of the ugly visage of materialism and cops.—Mr. M. B., Canada

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Laws in Scandinavia and some Western European countries (except England) are less severe regarding private association of homosexual adults than is the case in the U. S. and most other English-speaking nations. This is not to say that such associations are condoned, nor is it to imply that protection of the young is absent from the penal codes of those countries. And finally, we restate our policy in these matters: It is outside the Mattachine purpose and function to introduce or guide anyone to any place where development of personal relationships is a goal.

The law as it exists must be respected and obeyed, and police must enforce these laws. Working to change the law concerning certain forms of sexual behavior is a stated Mattachine project, using accepted processes of education and dissemination of research findings. But this doesn't change the legality of any act presently proscribed by the law.

**REVIEW EDITOR:** With great pleasure I take time to express my feeling toward the wonderful work you and your staff are doing in trying to get people to understand that everyone is not alike. I have just finished January issue and look forward to February.—Mr. J. L. A., California

**REVIEW EDITOR:** During the period of a year or so that I was able to visit San Francisco more frequently, take part in some of the work at the office, join the Society as an active member, attend some meetings, contribute to the magazine, I felt I belonged and that I was helping the fight. Though I have actually sent you more money than I had previously and have made another contribution of books, I don't know what is going on any more. I read REVIEW, the NEWS-LETTER and INTERIM, but it is like reading the activities of the Republican National Committee. I can't do anything about it, so I couldn't care less. I know there are members and others who are in and out of your office often who have no more feeling of belonging than I do; and there are probably more who enjoy the comradeship from whom you have to pry the payment of dues. There are, I'm sure, a greater number like myself who could and would contribute more money if we got something for our money: not tangibles, but satisfaction, participation. I've no idea that I have contributed anything new to your thinking. I am enclosing your "reading fee." Maybe you ought to make a charge for reading the opinions of all those who criticize without offering anything constructive.—Mr. D. G., California

**REVIEW EDITOR:** We of KPFA welcome the Award of Merit presented by the Mattachine Society for "outspoken and provocative programs and commentary on controversial subjects," and particularly for the 2-hour program "The Homosexual in Our Society," broadcast on KPFA-FM, KPFA-FM and WBAI-FM. Rest assured it is our intention to remain provocative and meaningful in all areas of human concern. It is reassuring to know we are making sense to the specialized audience represented by the Mattachine Society.—Harold Winkler, President, Pacifica Foundation, Berkeley.

**REVIEW EDITOR:** Many thanks for your letter and for the award you have presented to Grove Press.—Barney Rosset, Publisher, Grove Press, New York.

**REVIEW EDITOR:** This is to convey our Committee's thanks to the Mattachine Society for presenting us with an Award of Merit. As you must know well, tokens of appreciation are somewhat rare in this sort of work; and we are honoured and gratified to receive your award. We follow with great interest the progress of your work, which is in many ways closely parallel to our own. Our objective is of course limited to effecting a reform of the law, whereas you, as I understand it, are concerned with the whole field of the position of homosexuals in the community. But in the sphere of social education there is much that is common to both our aims; and it is encouraging to know that the problem is being tackled energetically in the United States.—The Rev. A. Halliday Smith, Secretary, The Homosexual Law Reform Society, London.

**REVIEW EDITOR:** It will certainly be surprising if you don't get a huge stack of letters about Howard Simpson's story, "A Day of Firsts," which appeared in January... Personally I wasn't too disturbed by it, however the matter came up for discussion...and some objected (with) valid points. They maintain that if the REVIEW is to function by presenting the homosexual viewpoint to the public, such stories have no place in it. This may be true. Unfortunately, however, this story presents a situation which, with minor variations, occurs with alarming frequency in real life. I wonder if it would not have been better to preface the story with a little longer explanation than you did. It might have been pointed out that this is the sort of thing Mattachine is working to eliminate through its program of social and legal acceptance of the homosexual. On the other hand there are those who would maintain that it is a reasonably good piece of realistic writing and as such deserves a place in the REVIEW. It would be unfortunate if someone were to pick it up for the first time and get the wrong impression of the magazine from this article. If nothing else, it did arouse some lively discussion (in our group).—Mr. R. L., Illinois

**REVIEW EDITOR:** I'm not going to say: 1) this contribution isn't much; 2) I wish it were more; 3) Perhaps next year---; 4) Keep up the good work; 5) You're doing a good job; 6) God Bless you. All of these things I'm sure you're tired of reading...

Incidentally, how did the law-suit come out?—Mr. P. J., Texas

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Thanks for the contribution. The lawsuit was dropped because its psychological effect had been spent, it would have been almost impossible to win, and it would have involved action which would serve no useful purpose to the ultimate advancement of Mattachine goals. Fact is that public opinion and other results of the "campaign blast" aided rather than damaged Mattachine. As one newspaper reporter put it, "No organization so small ever got so much free publicity." And here's a twist: Assessor Russell Wolden, the politician-officeholder who blasted the Society and San Francisco "deviates" in his unsuccessful campaign for mayor last fall will be the guest speaker of the San Francisco Area council of the Mattachine Society on April 1. That's no "April Fool" joke, either, although there'll probably be reference made to that. Mr. Wolden has learned, we believe, that Mattachine performs a necessary and useful community function in its field, and warrants the serious attention the Society is striving to attain. For that he has our admiration. And besides, it's much, much better to have a spokesman as vociferous as Mr. Wolden was last fall as a friend, providing that he does agree that Mattachine aims are a benefit to humanity.

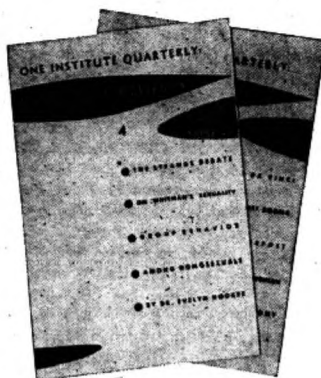
**REVIEW EDITOR:** Although I don't have an active part in Mattachine, I am still glad I can at least belong. By the way, Howard Simpson's "A Day of Firsts" (January) was a piece of powerful writing. Let's have some more of this. It was well done.—(Rev.) B., Calif.

**REVIEW EDITOR:** I congratulate you on on the good job you are doing with the Mattachine REVIEW under difficult circumstances. For this reason, it has been with some hesitancy that I have decided to address this communication to you, knowing that it is all too easy to criticize. But, as I do not like to see anything appearing in the "Review" which might reflect adversely on the Society, I feel impelled to offer one or two criticisms. The first has to do with that rather silly little story in the December issue, "When I Am With You" by Arnell Larsen in which he is guilty of an egregious error in causing the priest to state "You have stolen my communion brandy." Doesn't Mr. Larsen know that there is no such thing as "communion brandy"? Wine is used in the Eucharist, not brandy. A little simple research would have enlightened him on this point. Secondly, he ends



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his story with the priest performing a sort of marriage ceremony for Philo and Chico, a service which no priest would or could perform. The second criticism relates to the vignette in the January issue, "A Day of Firsts" It is a fine and powerful piece of writing but did Mr. Simpson find it necessary to be so unpleasantly descriptive—e.g. "He had really got hot over that guy's body. \*\*\*\*\* Anyone would get hot in that men's room, with the smell of urine and the way you could sit in the booths and see the men as they stood in front of the urinals"? It does not seem to me that either of these stories comes up to Mattachine standards. I hope you will accept my remarks in the spirit in which they are meant. I notice that a reader of ONE protests vigorously and, I think, justifiably in ONE's January issue about that story, "Joel Beck", which appeared in their November 1959 number. Perhaps ONE can afford that sort of story but I don't think our REVIEW can.—Mr. G. D., New York

**REVIEW EDITOR:** I know that items such as the story of the Indian dwarf in December and "A Day of Firsts" in January will draw protests from some people. But I for one want to go on record as saying hooray for being so brave and perceptive to print some of this kind of thing. To me it indicates that there are all kinds of aspects to sex and you are not afraid to look at them for what they are. While the Arnell Larson story, "When I Am With You," was actually harmless, it rankled some no doubt. But "A Day of Firsts" was stark, real, and even ugly as you said in introducing it. It is not a situation we are proud of in this world. How powerfully it told in a few words the high price we pay for perpetuating ignorance and the hypocrisy of our sex standards, for failing to give the young an insight into the real meaning of their own developing sexuality, and for piling up a load of guilt in people who may be just as natural as the next one, only different. I can remember when I was sixteen and had already known for three years that I was homosexual, but I didn't know anybody else who was. I made fun of the sissies, too. I knew a deadly homosexual attraction to others my age but never dared to show it. "A Day of Firsts" shows me a lot of things. It means your staff has recognized one of the most important reasons why there should be a Mattachine REVIEW, because with adequate sex education for the young, such tragedies would not happen. Congratulations for Mr. Simpson's eloquent story and for your courage in facing the reality that we don't like to look at because it isn't clean and nice.—Mr. C. H., Kansas

*mattachine* **REVIEW**



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