GENERAL CONVENTION BEGINS
TODAY AT SAN FRANCISCO

Everything is in readiness for the 1st General Convention of the Mattachine Society, Inc., which opens Saturday, May 15, at San Francisco.

Beginning with a pre-convention breakfast at 10 a.m., registration starts at 1 p.m., with the first business session beginning at 1:30. Place of the meeting is the center of the American Friends Service Committee, 1830 Sutter Street.

Election of a convention chairman, reports, review of areas, charters for new chapters, approval of publications and adoption of policies comprise the first day's business.

In the evening on Saturday, members, delegates and friends of the Society will attend a banquet at the Three Little Swiss Restaurant, 530 Broadway, at 6:30 p.m. Awards will be presented, and an address will be given by a speaker to be announced.

Sunday's session will begin at 1:00 p.m. Constitutional amendments, by-laws, resolutions, old and new business are all listed on the program. Final item on the program is the election of officers for the coming year.

About 20 delegates from Los Angeles, two from San Diego, one from Chicago, and eight from San Francisco are expected to attend.

TWO DELEGATES TO REPRESENT SAN DIEGO AREA AT CONFAB

Credentials have been received for two delegates to go present at San Francisco on May 15-16 at the convention, representing the new San Diego Area Council.

There are two chapters in the San Diego area: Alpha Charter, La Jolla, and Key Chapter, San Diego.

SECOND CHAPTER ORGANIZED IN CHICAGO;
AREA COUNCIL FORMED THERE RECENTLY

The rally to the Mattachine movement has gained added momentum in Chicago.

A chapter was formed there two months ago, and a second chapter has been formed there within the past few weeks, according to word received here recently.

An area council has been organized, and officers elected.

At least one delegate from the Chicago area will arrive in San Francisco to attend the convention.

Additional out-of-state charters are organized in Cleveland and Detroit. Two more additional cities where interest is keen include Seattle and Kansas City. New York is another city where possibilities for charter organization look good at the moment.

NORTHERN AREA CHAPTERS SHOW GAIN;
BUT HOW MANY NEW MEMBERS?

With activities recently centered upon the convention, San Francisco charters in the past few weeks have been putting emphasis upon membership, along with other chapters in the Northern Area.

As of May 1, here is the membership total for charters in the Northern Area:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Membership</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ALPHA</td>
<td>(#109) 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BETA</td>
<td>(#111) 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GAMMA</td>
<td>(#115) 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMERYVILLE</td>
<td>(#112) 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OAKLAND</td>
<td>(#110) 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BERKELEY</td>
<td>(#108) 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>40</td>
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These figures represent an increase in the Northern Area of about 10 members who joined in March and April. It entitles the area to 10 convention delegates.

WELCOME DELEGATES TO SAN FRANCISCO...!
THE MATTACHINE SOCIETY, INC.
SAN FRANCISCO AREA

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MAY

20 -- Discussion Group, San Francisco, 1830 Sutter St.
26 -- Northern Area Council Meeting, Oakland, 22nd & Telegraph

JUNE

3 -- Discussion Group, San Francisco, 1830 Sutter Street
6 -- Board of Directors, Northern Area, Oakland, 1 p.m.
9 -- Oakland-Berkeley Chapters, Oakland, 22nd & Telegraph
17 -- Discussion Group, San Francisco, 1830 Sutter St.
30 -- Northern Area Council Meeting, San Francisco (Address to be announced)

JULY

1 -- Discussion Group, San Francisco, 1830 Sutter Street
7 -- Board of Directors, Northern Area, San Francisco, 8 p.m.
14 -- Oakland-Berkeley Chapters, Oakland, 22nd & Telegraph
15 -- Discussion Group, San Francisco, 1830 Sutter Street
21 -- Northern Area Council, San Francisco (Address to be announced)

NOTES: Additional chapter meetings not listed above will be held by San Francisco and Emeryville Chapters. Special events such as picnics may also be scheduled. Dates for Board of Directors and Northern Area Council meetings are subject to change, and additional special meetings of these groups may be called if conditions warrant. Times for all meetings unless listed otherwise is 8 p.m.

LANGLEY-PORTER STAFF MEMBER
TO SPEAK AT BANQUET MAY 15TH

Mrs. Bernice Engle, assistant to Director Carl Baumann of the Langley-Porter Clinic of the University of California at San Francisco, is guest speaker at the banquet of the Mattachine Society which is to be held at 7:30 p.m. May 15 at the Three Little Swiss Restaurant at 530 Broadway, San Francisco.

Mrs. Engle has collaborated with Dr. Baumann in the preparation of articles describing studies of sex problems they have made, and she also worked with him on the recently completed sex studies for the State of California.

Her talk will concern the latter project, and she has indicated that she will hold a question and answer period following her remarks.

THREE AWARDS TO BE PRESENTED
AT SOCIETY DINNER MAY 15TH

Two awards of merit and a third honorary membership award will be presented at the banquet May 15 by the Mattachine Society.

Awards of merit will go to Dr. Alfred C. Kinsey, director of the Sex Research Institute of the University of Indiana at Bloomington, and Le Cercle, Zurich, Switzerland, an international magazine on the homophile topic, which is published in 3 languages.

The honorary membership award will go to Dr. Wallace Maxey, Fresno, former pastor of the First Universalist Church of Los Angeles, and long-time friend and advisor of the Society, especially in the matter of religious aspects of the organizations program.
If March came in like a lamb, then May 1954 came in like a nosegay of pansies.

A San Francisco millionaire, who apparently cared nothing about anonymity, announced to a gathering of reporters from four city newspapers that he was going to England, then possibly to Denmark, this summer for operations to change his sex from man to woman.

John Cabell Breckenridge, 50, and scion of wealthy California families with one namesake ancestor a former vice president of the U. S., was pictured and quoted liberally in the press as the month began.

"I shall come back," he said, "as Catherine Cabell." He is also writing a book which is now at the publisher's. Asked if his operational series would be more complete than that performed upon Christine Jorgensen, Breckenridge said the erstwhile celebrity this supremely cynical crack: "Oh heavens yes, because he's just nothing."

Meanwhile, Miss Jorgensen, after a 2-week engagement at a San Francisco night club, was continuing her tour. Her agent got the attraction signed up for the California State Fair, to be held at Sacramento in September. But a meeting of the fair's governing board forthwith made this decision: No act permitted on the midway by Christine. "The fair, after all, is primarily an agricultural exposition," they said. A few days later, a columnist noted that Christine and her manager were wondering who would make good the $5,000 per week called for in the signed contract they held.

The traditional dancing girls, so long favored by stag parties at conventions, and so often the source of headlines because performances exceed the bounds of good taste, took a back seat in early May also. For at a leading San Francisco hotel, where some 100 area banking executives were holding a regional confab, the program at the banquet was headlined by the complete cast of the current Beige Room show. Although the youthful entertainers, glittering with jewels and garbed in off-the-shoulder formals & furs looked like gals, they weren't. But the boys, we are told, loved it, and one of them said to another: "Well, at least if the wife asks me if I saw one of those "girlie" shows, I can truthfully say I did not."

And finally, as the month began, not less than four night clubs in the city offered showbills starring female impersonators, all of which were playing to packed houses of the first wave of tourists from the provinces east, north and south. In addition to the Beige Room and Finocchio's, two other clubs had such programs: Ann's U40, and the Chi Chi. None of them were one-week stands, either.

That was the beginning of May. True enough, these events have no connection with the serious side of the Hattachine program, but their prominence was such that the editor couldn't overlook it, and we thought you'd like to know, too.

REJECTION SLIP FOR ARTICLES ABOUT SOCIETY RECEIVED FROM ONE MAGAZINE

In a move that surprised no one, One Magazine last week rejected two articles about the Hattachine Society, written and submitted after a "cease fire" agreement of sorts was reached in March. Because the articles dealt with aims and principles of the Society, the editors felt they would have little or no appeal to "Little Larry Eimpurist," of the Corner Comfort Station, whom the magazine inferred was characteristic of the growing readership of the magazine, in contrast to the professional people, such as scientists, lawyers and ministers, whom the magazine further admitted could do more for the Hattachine Movement.
Emeryville Chapter Plans to Establish "Community House" Welfare Project Soon

A "Community House" project is now being planned by the Emeryville Chapter of the Northern Area, according to a report received from the chapter after a recent meeting where plans were discussed. The proposed project is the establishment of a home somewhat along the idea of the International House Plan at the University of California at Berkeley.

"We have had our attention sharply drawn to the dire financial straits of many of our members," the report stated. "We have found many of these members, their friends and acquaintances to be capable, industrious and desirous of helping themselves, but because of the employment situation at the present, they are simply "out in the cold."

Continuing, the report stated: "We feel that with a little help and a few kindnesses, at these times, that these people could better help themselves. There are also among us those with emotional difficulties, handicaps and similar problems. There is no doubt that we can help these persons take a rightful place in society with a little help.

"Therefore, our plan is thus far formulated as follows: To obtain and operate a dwelling large enough to accommodate (1) a permanent resident who would rent the house as his home; (2) two bedrooms to be rented for needed income, and (3) one room to be used for housing any individual in need. This makes four bedrooms. We also would rent rooms large enough to house any other needy persons on an emergency basis if the need arose.

"To raise money for sponsoring this project, we propose to serve meals, rent two rooms, and have a series of scheduled events and activities, such as block printing, ceramics design, furniture refinishing, making greeting cards, and so on. Persons staying at the house will find a wealth of activities, participation in which may aid in their defraying their expenses.

"We do not intend to stop here, however. We will act as a rehabilitation center for those people seeking such service, helping to secure for them psychiatric advice, medical aid, and employment.

"We will also give all possible aid to others whether they stay at the house or not. In other words, all friends and members of the Society will draw benefits from this project. We hope to include a telephone answering service.

"Ways for raising money to sponsor this project are endless. Vacation tours for members and friends in Southern California and out of the state could be arranged. Dinners would be served each evening. Social events--such as breakfasts on Sunday--could be held periodically. We will operate as a clubhouse, have a game room, free library, and other cultural and recreational facilities.

"We hope to provide a religious aspect available where any members so inclined may be able to obtain spiritual advice and counsel. The plans for such a project can go to great length, but this brief resume generally tells the story."

CHICAGO AREA COUNCIL CHAIRMAN TO BE A DELEGATE AT CONVENTION

Word was received May 12 that the chairman of the newly-formed Chicago Area Council will be present at the General Convention at San Francisco May 15-16. He will arrive May 14 by plane from the Windy City, representing two chapters with a total of 50 members. These chapters were recently formed after the visit of a Society representative in that area.

ARITHMETIC CALCULATION ON PAGE ONE FOUND TO BE IN ERROR .......... On the first page of this newsletter, a statement appears to the effect that the Northern California area, with 40 members, is entitled to 10 convention delegates. This is incorrect. The area is entitled to only eight delegates, based upon the constitutional provision of one delegate for each 5 members.