SAN FRANCISCO AREA COUNCIL

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 2: KOFFEE KLATCH
"Moderated Discussion Group"
570 Page St., Apt. #12
8:00 p.m.

May 9: SOCIAL KLATCH
463 Duboce Street
8:00 p.m.

May 13: PUBLIC DISCUSSION MEETING
1830 Sutter Street
8:00 p.m.
Speaker: Rudolf Burkhart,
English Editor,
Der Kreis
(See Page 2 for details)

(Calendar continued on back cover)
DETAILS ANNOUNCED FOR MAY SOCIAL EVENT

The San Francisco Area Council will sponsor a social evening on May 17 (Sat.), from 7 to 11 p.m. at 1553 Diamond Street. All members are urged to attend, and they in turn are further urged to invite their friends. A special invitation is extended to all readers of the newsletter, their wives and friends who are interested in meeting the membership of the Society in this area.

A program of original entertainment has been planned. There will be food and refreshments. Since one of the main purposes of this social event is to raise funds to meet certain outstanding Area Council obligations, a door charge (donation) of $1 will be made. Don't forget the date, and don't fail to invite others.

DER KREIS' ENGLISH EDITOR TO ADDRESS DISCUSSION FORUM ON MAY 13

Rudolf Burkhardt, English Editor of Der Kreis magazine, published in Zurich, Switzerland, will be the featured speaker at the May 13 public discussion program to be held at the center of the American Friends Service Committee, 1830 Sutter St., at 8 p.m. The date is a change from the usual "First Thursday" to the second Tuesday of the month, in order to present Mr. Burkhardt during his vacation tour of the U. S. Der Kreis is a tri-lingual homophile publication that has a history covering more than 25 years. During Mr. Burkhardt's visit, he will also meet with Mattachine groups and other organizations in New York and Los Angeles.

It is reported that Burkhardt's duties with Der Kreis are centered upon surveying the English press for items for the magazine and handling manuscripts for the English section of the magazine which is printed in Zurich, Switzerland in French, German and English.

Der Kreis was founded in 1932, and thus is the oldest among all homophile publications in the Western World. It has been published continuously since its founding, and has prospered largely because of the support of a few dedicated people who have pushed the publication in spite of difficult barriers of indifference, lack of financial support, and the other fears which beset such a publication even in an enlightened country like Switzerland.

POT-PORRI AT APRIL KOFFEE KLATCH

The April Koffee Klatch started with two questions: What would you like to talk about? and, Who would like to act as moderator? Following a stunned silence, everyone said, "Not me!" Then one member of the group began speaking about seeking psychiatric help. The moderator tossed the now famous bell to this person, and lo, both opening questions were answered.

The discussion followed along the idea of seeking help in emotional understanding from qualified persons. We began talking of mental illness in general, a subject of interest to all, since this is one of the basic fears of everybody. It was pointed out that the term emotional illness should really be used. The war between our feelings and our intellect is what causes all the trouble.
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---Warren Jenson

A CULTURAL APPROACH

Among the persons present at the April Brunch was one of the editors of ONE, on a visit from Los Angeles. While discussing a new book written by two psychiatrists that purports to say all that there is to say about homophilia, he commented that he is becoming more and more convinced that the subject should be approached culturally. Here-tofore, it has been primarily investigated by people in the psychological and legal fields. As yet we know next to nothing, strictly speaking, of how it fits into human societies and what roles it plays. As a result, we have no real perspective on it. While a beginning has been made, as with the cross cultural approach in Patterns of Sexual Behavior, scarcely anything has really begun to be accomplished, culturally speaking, as yet.

EDWARD THE II

The March Issue of the New York Newsletter has a review of a matinee performance of Christopher Marlowe's Edward the II, which was presented in New York by the American National Theatre Association on February 11. According to it, "...this was the first professional performance of the play in this country, so far as all the records show.... both the play and the production were most enthusiastically received by the audience and the critics."

It is a well known fact among students of the theatre that Marlowe played "John the Baptist" to Shakespeare's "Messiah", by which is meant that he was the first English dramatist to show the potentialities of English as the language of poetic tragedy, instead of using Greek or Latin. In doing so, he made ready the way in the wilderness for Shakespeare, who built his work upon the foundation laid by Marlowe, and who might not have achieved as much as he did without Marlowe's trailblazing attempts.

Edward the II is considered his greatest and most mature work. It is continually praised for the subtlety with which it shows how Edward's passion for Piers Gaveston, his favorite, antagonized and alienated his wife and nobles and inevitably led to his downfall. However, the nature of the attachment between Edward and Gaveston is generally treated by most critics as though it did not exist, even though many lines of the play are extremely outspoken on the subject.

That such plays as this, The Immoralist, and The Children's Hour are now being produced upon the American stage would seem to indicate that perhaps our society is now beginning to face sexual matters more openly. The late Dr. Kinsey had an anecdote along these lines.

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MAY 1958
60th Issue-------------------May, 1958

PUBLISHED BY THE SAN FRANCISCO AREA COUNCIL
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He was making a study in a small Quaker
community. He was discussing the project with the leaders in their meetinghouse. Among those present were three elders. They sat through the entire meeting as he outlined his procedures, their faces stern and completely expressionless. Finally Kinsey concluded his speech with the statement that the interviews would be held in the meetinghouse, and sat down. The oldest of the three got to his feet. "Glory be to God," he said, "that such things can be discussed in our meetinghouse!"

BACKWARD BURMA

At the annual gathering of the International Police at Rome, sexual crimes had been placed on the agenda. One by one the delegates of the big Western countries were reading off their gruesome statistics. Then the Burmese delegate took the floor and said in a somewhat embarrassed voice: "I have to apologize, we have no such statistics. We are a backward country where sexual crime does not exist. However, since our culture is striving at emulating that of the esteemed delegates who took the floor before me, I am confident that things will take a turn for the better. I shall endeavor to submit to you more satisfactory statistical material next year.

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"GAY BAR" DISCUSSED AT LITERARY MEETING

The book discussed at the March meeting of the Literary Chapter was Gay Bar. The nearly unanimous reaction of most of the group was that to some extent it is a work of fiction.

Several thought the writer must have deleted most of the unpleasant experiences that had happened in her bar. On the strength of what they knew of such bars through their own experiences, they were strongly skeptical of all being sweetness and light in her's all the time as she implied.

On the other hand, they agreed that while there is little of scientific value in the book, since the author is not a qualified researcher, it is one of few books that does not stress the lurid qualities of such bars. It would be a good book to give to a non-homophile to give him a reasonably unprejudiced view of a gay bar.

Also, another said, "The important thing about the publication of such books as this one is the trend they indicate. Each of them, whether large or small, has its job to do in re-educating the public and the job will be done by all and not any one of them alone."

All agreed that the most valuable part of the book for homophiles, was the introduction by Dr. Blanche Baker. It was regretted that she had not made it longer and explained more fully the different theories of homosexuality's origins.

Before adjourning it was agreed that James Barr's Quatrefoil would be the book to be discussed at the April meeting.

- Jack Parrish

K P F A PROGRAM SERIES IN PREPARATION

A special committee of the San Francisco Area Council will meet at luncheon with a staff member of radio station KPFK, Berkeley, on April 30 to advance the plans and get work under way for a series of two or more radio programs on the homosexual subject.
CALENDAR OF EVENTS (CONTINUED)

May 16: MUSIC KLATCH
582 Grove Street, Apt. #9
8:00 p.m.

May 17: PARTY
1543 Diamond Street
7-11 p.m. Food & Refreshments
(See page 2 for details)

May 18: LITERARY CHAPTER MEETING
Book to be discussed:
"Quatrefoil"
570 Page Street, Apt. #12
4:00 p.m.

May 22: SFAC BUSINESS MEETING
Area Council Lounge
693 Mission Street
8:00 p.m.

May 23: PROJECT KLATCH
Area Council Lounge
693 Mission Street
8:00 p.m.

May 27: DAUGHTERS OF BILITIS
PUBLIC DISCUSSION MEETING
465 Geary Street, Studio 30 (3rd Fl.)
Speaker: Leo J. Zeff
Clinical Psychologist
Topic: "What The Eastern Religions Can Offer You"
8:15 p.m.

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June 5: PUBLIC DISCUSSION MEETING
1830 Sutter Street - 8:00 p.m.
Moderated Discussion Forum Program

Apr 28,