CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AUG 7:  PUBLIC LECTURE MEETING
1830 Sutter Street - 8:00 PM
Book PRE-View - Gavin Arthur

AUG 8:  KOFFEE KLATCH
"Moderated Discussion Group"
Area Council Lounge - 8:00 PM

AUG 15:  MUSIC KLATCH
582 Grove Street, Apt # 9
8:00 PM

AUG 17:  LITERARY CHAPTER
205 28th St., Apt # 11 - 4:00 PM
Corner of Church and 28th Sts.

AUG 21:  BUSINESS MEETING
693 Mission St., Lounge 8:00 PM
Nomination of National Officers

AUG 29:  ANNUAL CONVENTION
Barbizon Plaza Hotel
New York City

AUGUST 1958
LITERARY CHAPTER REPORT

Much of the final discussion of *Cuntrefoil* by the Literary Chapter concerned the differing mores of homophilia in societies all over the world. The ultimate conclusions of the group could be summed up in the statement, "We have barely begun to learn anything about it."

Since Havelock Ellis's time there have been few instances where really intensive attempts have been made by scientific workers to determine what its role is in human societies. "Nearly always", commented one of the group, "when you read books or studies by anthropologists they only briefly mention the forms it took in the society they are describing, if they mention it at all."

What is especially needed, the group felt, is a study of the role it plays in our society. "Not a study of the sexual practices of homophiles, but one of the cultural role they play in it," another stated. "For example, just to what extent do they originate and disseminate new modes and ideas in the fields of fashion and art? Do they do so as a distinct minority group, or as isolated individuals?" Until this and questions of a similar nature are answered, it was thought, it cannot be said we truly know anything about homosuxuality.

The next meeting will be at George's, 205 26th St., Aug 17th at 4PM and Plato's Symposium will be discussed.

GRAPHIC ARTS REPORT

The Graphic Arts Chapter works on a day-to-day basis, thus has no monthly meetings. During the month of July, members contributed over $43.00 to those whom we considered to be deserving, needy individuals. Many hours of counselling must be done to determine these needs. Also, 16 personal letters have been answered, requiring much time, thought and consultation among the members.

FIFTH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE

With this issue, the San Francisco Area Council Newsletter marks its completion of five years of publication.

Upon the beginning of its sixth year, the Newsletter can report that in the area it represents the membership total is as great as ever before, and the local organization is as busy working on Patachaine projects as at any time since the first Northern California Area Council setup was created in the summer of 1953. The SFAC appreciates the support of readers of the newsletter and its friends in the area in making this continuing program possible.
POLICE METHODS REVIEWED

The State Vagrancy Law, Constitutional rights of individuals, wire tapping and arbitrary actions of police departments and officers, were closely examined by the California State Assembly Interim Committee On Constitutional Rights at hearings in San Francisco July 28-29. The committee is to be commended for their friendly attitude. They asked lawyers, and several witnesses whose opinions were based on experiences with the police, for specific suggestions for changes in the penal code.

Lawrence Speiser, S.F. Atty., and former counsel for American Civil Liberties Union, read from the 1956 annual Report of the S.F. Police Dept., stating that 64% of the 2006 vagrant arrests in S.F. in 1956 were dismissed. 1,553 of these arrests required $1,000.00 bail. Mr. Speiser told the Committee that policemen on the beat should not have power to search at their own discretion, and that it is very annoying to be detained by an officer, even in the daytime, and questioned as to where he was going and why. He also recommended that records should be destroyed when a person is detained and then dismissed. Another witness testified that fingerprints and pictures, in cases of those dismissed, should not be filed in Sacramento and Washington, D.C.

Attorney General, Pat Brown, on the stand previously, defended "detention" and booking "on route" and that records of these and those "held on suspicion" should be retained in police and State files. Mr. Speiser and other witnesses pointed out the unfairness of a person's having to go thru life with an arrest record standing, when they have been dismissed. He further maintained that in cases of illegal arrest, it should be the individual's right to refuse such an arrest. He stressed the extremely high cost of bringing action for false arrest against police authorities.

Regarding future legislation, he made the following concrete recommendations.

1. Police should inform an arrested person of his arrest at the time of booking.
2. Inform one of his rights regarding bail.
3. Notify the individual of the specific charges, and give the name of the arresting officer.
4. Allow 3 phone calls — to an attorney, a family and a bondsman — and have the state pay for the call.
5. Set up definite standards for officers to follow.
6. Establish standard statewide booking methods.
7. Overhaul juvenile courts.

(Cont'd next page)

Most difficulties of the homosexuals arise from the fear, apathy, selfishness, immaturity and sometimes, outright rebellion of homosexuals themselves as they try to find their own life-meaning and values in cultures ... often hostile and uncomprehending.

-4- Rudolph Burkhardt,
Der Kreis

Gregory Stout, S.F. Atty., told of great shakedowns among those arrested for "vag-lewd". Officers intimidated those arrested under this law, (see 647.5) to plead guilty to another dragnet "catch-all" law referring to disturbing the peace (see 650.5), and then they would not have to register under section 290, as a sex offender. He quoted Judges as saying, "Leave section 647.5 to our learned Judges, for we can interpret." However, Mr. Stout pointed out the prejudices, even of Judges. He commented that most "toilet cases" should be under a new section of the code or, amended to section 311 (indecent exposure), rather than classified under "vag-lewd". An assemblyman chimed in that he agreed with this proposal.

Alfred Arnaud, legal adviser to the S.F.P.D., told how all rookies go through a 14-week course of 6 hours a week, under Prof. Carol Instruei, of S.F. State College, on the Constitutional and individual rights, and that this professor was doing a good job. Then he showed a large sheet showing arrests and the great percentage of those released, the Committee Chairman expressed deep surprise that all the arrests were made without warrants and "all" booked as "suspicion of felonies". However Mr. Arnaud explained that there were other arrests not indicated on the chart.

Los Angeles District Attorney, Phillip Erbien, (Police Chief Parker of L.A. was not present at the hearings) testified that in L.A., 20,000 persons were arrested on "suspicion of felony" but only 5,000 went on trial. He pointed out that many innocent persons were acquiring arrest records with photos and fingerprints being sent to Sacramento and Washington.

Eric Nord, manager of North Beach's Co-Existence Bagel Shop, on Grant Avenue, S.F., who asked by letter to testify, was well received by the Committee and allowed to go into detail of harassment of his patrons and employees.

Prof. Arthur Sherry, U.C. law dept., and S.F. District Attorney, Thomas Lynch, attacked existing vagrancy laws as archaic and indefensible, calling for a re-writing of the present statute which was enacted in 1872.

Ralph Guzman, ACLU representative from L.A., told how difficult it is to find lawyers to take cases and doctors who will testify where innocent people and minorities of LA are brutally and illegally beaten up. He advocated legislation, making it more easily possible for the public to obtain redress from over-zealous officers.

The Interim Committee on Constitutional Rights will use the testimony obtained in these hearings for future recommendations for changes in the penal code at the State Legislature.

BLOOD DONATIONS NEEDED

All types of blood are drastically needed at the County Hospital Blood Bank, we learned from Bob Foster recently. As you know from the last ML, Bob has been hospitalized, and his condition was finally diagnosed as a combination of difficulties, resulting in rheumatoid-arthritis. At the latest word, Bob is supposed to be released from the hospital by the end of the month, but will have to "re recuperate" at home for some time before returning to work.
CONSTITUTION DRAFT MADE

After burning much mid-night oil, the Constitution Revision Committee has come up with the final draft of the Revised Constitution which will be proposed for adoption at the General Convention in New York. A bouquet of orchids to Dr. Lormier, who has spent many hours wading through past notes (some of them just scribbled) amendments, "suggested changes", and a bevy of legal terminology, to come up with a streamlined, legal instrument, of which I believe the Society will be proud. To give you some idea of the work that has been involved ... we inquired around and found that it would cost any organization in the vicinity of $1500.00 to get this work done by the average attorney-at-law. The Committee feels very fortunate in having the "donated" services of Dr. Lormier.

DEENER SAYS 'Thanks'

A letter from Carl B. Harding—Secretary of the Denver Chapter, expresses thanks for the gift of books from the SFAC, and for "file" issues of our SFAC Newsletter which was bundled and sent to them recently.

LOUNGE RUG CLEANED

Notice the NEW LOOK in our Area Lounge? Well, the fresh appearance of the room is a result of the ACME RUG CLEANING SERVICE, who came in and cleaned the rug "for free". This much-needed service is the result of a good word put in for us by the Pan-Graphic Press who did some printing for the company.

MRS. GAILEY reports that she is getting "settled" in her new 'temporary' job and likes it very much, but she states that she will be glad to come back to spend some time with us after the job is completed. Though she has been able to do some typing for us, we miss her technical skill in the Library.

*** BOOST THE REVIEW ***

CONVENTION DATE NEARS

Be sure to sign and return your "Proxy Form" to the Area Council so you will have a 'voice' at the National Convention. August 29th is getting closer than you may realize. MEMBERS, get your proxies in!

"Thine own reproach alone do fear." This line from Robert Burns was adopted as a motto early in life by none other than Andrew Carnegie. We think its good 'food for thought'.

LIBRARY ADDITIONS

All of us know the homophile whose life is dominated by his lack of adequate adjustment to his sexual tendency. It is the central fact of his existence, his life consists of one long conflict with it and he is so preoccupied with trying to uphold his inadequate defense that he never fully realizes whatever talents he may possess.

Frederick Rolfe, the author of Don Marzillo which was recently given to the Area Council library, was just such a person. His life was one long, sustained flight from what he was. He had great potential talent and his novel Hadrian the Seventh is considered a minor masterpiece of English literature. Unfortunately, however, he was never able to come to terms with himself and after a lifetime of obsessedly attempting to be ordained a priest, an ambition he was never able to realize, he died in misery and poverty, without ever having really accomplished the work of which he was capable.

The obverse side of the coin in the recent additions is represented by a prose-poем by Forrest Anderson, who is one of those people who has faced his loneliness and isolation down and found something beyond them. His writing is permeated by this victory, and as such, apart from being good poetry rather than good platitudes express in poetic fashion, has a special value for all who encounter the same problems.

 ReasonsYOU should join Mattachine, P.8

ORCHIDS TO:

Those who have contributed much time and effort at the office during the month of July ... Bois E.; Dick G.; Bill M.; Hans V.; Bob B.; John; Henry M.; Fred K.; Chuck G.; Don C.; Dick J.; Sam R.; L.G.; Roy H.... If you worked, but we missed your name in the list, please call it to the attention of the SFAC Acting chairman, as records are being kept of the hours worked etc., and we will appreciate your help in this way.

VISITORS FROM CHICAGO

There's a good possibility that the Chicago chapter will be re-activated in the near future. Art and Fred, who used to be active in that part of the country, were here during the month on a short visit, and got to spend some time with us in the Area Council office. A small informal gathering was held for them on Monday evening the 14th. They indicate that with the new interest of several correspondents in the City, that prospects look good for establishing the chapter again.

ACTIVITY Magazine — "Listing Free and Inexpensive Bay Area Events", will carry announcements concerning our Public Meetings. 25¢ on most Bay Area Newsstands.
7 REASONS WHY YOU SHOULD JOIN MATTACHINE

1. Because in times like these when prejudiced and bigoted forces are so potent, it is all the more important for the forces of education and understanding to make their impact felt in human life.

2. Because it will give you satisfaction to take those impulses for good that you feel—and harness them up with a group and a program for action and influence designed to serve a public need.

3. Because the Mattachine Society does stand for that natural and humane approach to matters relating to sex behavior, unclouded by the vagaries and the lingering attitudes of anti-scientific Puritanism.

4. Because Mattachine works in a quiet, non-sensational way to effect changes in the antiquated, out-moded laws against a natural, harmless sex instinct.

5. Because conformity to social pressures causes loss of a man's creative contributions in various fields, which is too great a price to pay for the questionable benefits of a culture of automation.

6. Because Mattachine affords a medium (THE MATTACHINE REVIEW) to discuss matters in the sexual sphere directly affecting as many as 10 out of every 100 adults seriously. 

7. Because unless you are willing to undertake some of the responsibility for enlightening society regarding these matters, you are falling far short of your obligations as a free American.

PUT YOUR INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTION TO WORK ....

BY JOINING MATTACHINE TODAY!

Write for details to:

Mattachine Society, Inc. 693 Mission St.
San Francisco 5