Eminent experts from fields of law, medicine and psychology will be featured at the Public Sessions of the 7th Annual National Convention of the Mattachine Society, Inc., to be held on Saturday, September 3rd. This year's convention theme is "Let's Change Our Outmoded Sex Laws." The Hotel Bellevue, scene of the 2nd Annual Convention in 1955 and many past Mattachine events, will be the location of this year's convention also.

The highlight of the morning session on Saturday will be an address by Mr. Joseph R. Silver, Executive Director of the Northern California Service League whose offices are here in San Francisco. His talk is entitled "Problems of Rehabilitation."

The Luncheon Session will feature Dr. Harry Benjamin familiar to both New York and San Francisco Mattachine members. He most recently talked at the July

*(Convention Article continued page 3)*
"Let's Change Our Outmoded Sex Laws"

THEME OF 7TH ANNUAL CONVENTION * MATTACHINE SOCIETY

(Convention Article continued from cover)

Public Discussion Forum in San Francisco (see August SPAC Newsletter). His talk at the luncheon is entitled "The Seven Sexes of Man." A prominent sexologist, gerontologist and endocrinologist, Dr. Benjamin is also a member of the board of consultants for SEXOLOGY magazine.

At the afternoon session, Mrs. Molly Minudri, San Francisco attorney, will moderate a panel forum which will take up the convention's theme "Let's Change Our Outmoded Sex Laws." Mrs. Minudri has long been active in Bay Area political, legal and civic affairs. Last year she was named chairman of the San Francisco Citizens' Committee for Decent Literature. She was a member of the panel at Mattachine's Publications Day Seminar last December which took up the subject "Should Americans Read About Sex?"

Panel members include San Francisco attorneys John O'Connell and A. Phillip Burton. They both are members of the California State Assembly, where O'Connell is Chairman of the Judiciary and Criminal Procedures Committees and Burton is Chairman of the Social Welfare Committee.

Other panel members include Mrs. Bernice Engle, Dr. Joseph Andriola and Dr. David W. Allen. Mrs. Engle is research assistant for Karl M. Bowman, M.D., of the Langley Porter Neuropsychiatric Institute and she has collaborated on important research into sex deviation in California. Dr. Andriola is Chief Psychiatric Social Worker at California's Atascadero State Hospital and Dr. Allen is Assistant Clinical Professor of Psychiatry, University of California School of Medicine.

At the evening Awards Banquet, Mrs. Minudri will give a talk on her views on the theme of the convention. Also, she will summarize the conclusions made at the afternoon panel she is to moderate. These are the events which will add an important chapter to Mattachine work in San Francisco. Be sure and attend—it's going to be a fine program.

Included as part of this September Newsletter is the Convention Program. It gives all the details, times, fees, etc. for the complete Saturday events. Also listed are events to take place starting with Thursday and ending with Monday.
FRIDAY NIGHT RECEPTION
TO BE HELD AT NAT'L HQS

Directly after the last session of the One Institute of Homophile Studies on Friday evening (Institute session from 7 to 8:30 pm) there will be a reception for members and guests attending the Mattachine Convention in the Area Council Lounge, 693 Mission Street. Refreshments will be served. This reception is scheduled to start at 8:30 and run until 12 midnight.

A COMMENT ON MAGAZINE BANNING BY JACK PARRISH

The recent banning of The Grecian Guild Pictorial and certain other physique magazines by a Washington, D.C. judge on the grounds that they were bought by and appealed to homosexuals in many ways creates a dangerous precedent. For one thing the action is based upon the all too-common view that homosexuality and all its manifestations are essentially something to be stamped out by whatever legal methods are available.

Undeniably the amount of physique magazines has increased tremendously in the last few years. With such a state of affairs it was inevitable that eventual legal action would be taken against them. The only trouble is where is it to stop? At the present date even a book as highly praised as a work of literature as J. D. Salinger's The Catcher in the Rye is banned from libraries all across the nation for fear that it will corrupt our youth. What will be done next, ban "Little Red Riding Hood" because the encounter between her and the wolf may have overtones of Lolita to it?
Convention Program

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 1
9:00 A.M.—3:00 P.M.  Rooms 304-304A, WILLIAMS BUILDING
MATTACHINE REVIEW WORKSHOP, with production demonstration
3:00 P.M.—4:00 P.M.  Room 312
MATTACHINE REVIEW EDITORIAL BOARD MEETING

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 2
9:00 A.M.—3:00 P.M.  Rooms 308-309, WILLIAMS BUILDING
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS WORKSHOP DAY
3:00 P.M.—5:00 P.M.  Room 312
SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING, BOARD OF DIRECTORS
7:00 P.M.—8:30 P.M.  Room 312
PANEL CONFERENCE, ONE INSTITUTE OF HOMOPHILE STUDIES
W. DORR LEGG, JAMES KEPNER, JR., DON SLATER
($2 admission unless previously registered for this series)
8:30 P.M.—12 Midnight  3rd Floor
RECEPTION FOR MEMBERS & GUESTS
(Refreshments; donation basis)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3
9:00 A.M.—10:30 A.M.  CAPRI ROOM, HOTEL BELLEVUE
REGISTRATION
10:30 A.M.—12 Noon  CAPRI ROOM
INVOCATION
REV. O. M. BAILEY, Ph.D., B.D. (ret.)
ADDRESS OF WELCOME
Address: "PROBLEMS OF REHABILITATION"
JOSEPH R. SILVER, Executive Director,
Northern California Service League, San Francisco
12 Noon—1:30 P.M.  RIVIERA ROOM
LUNCHEON
"THE SEVEN SEXES OF MAN"
HARRY BENJAMIN, M.D., New York and San Francisco
Sexologist, Gerontologist, Endocrinologist

2:00 P.M.—5:00 P.M.  CAPRI ROOM
PANEL FORUM: "LET'S CHANGE OUR OUTMODED SEX LAWS"
Moderator: MRS. MOLLY MINUDRI, San Francisco, Attorney
Panelists: JOSEPH ANDRIDA, Ph.D., San Francisco, Chief
Psychiatric Social Worker, Atascadero State
Hospital, Atascadero, Calif.
A. PHILLIP BURTON, San Francisco, Attorney and
Member, California State Assembly
JOHN O'CONNELL, San Francisco, Attorney and
Member, California State Assembly
DAVID W. ALLEN, M.D., San Francisco, Assistant
Clinical Professor of Psychiatry, University of
California School of Medicine
MRS. BERNICE ENGLE, San Francisco, Research
Assistant, Langley Porter Neuropsychiatric
Institute
(15-minute intermission at approximately 3:30 P.M.)
6:00 P.M.—7:30 P.M.  CAPRI ROOM
COCKTAILS
(Bar setup by Bellevue Hotel)
7:30 P.M.—10:00 P.M.  RIVIERA ROOM
SEVENTH ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET
Introduction of Guests
Presentation of Awards
Featured Address: MRS. MOLLY MINUDRI

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4
9:00 A.M.—3:00 P.M.  HOTEL BELLEVUE, CAPRI ROOM
REPORT FROM SECRETARY-GENERAL
REPORT FROM AREA COUNCILS
REPORT FROM DEPARTMENTAL DIRECTORS
REPORT OF TREASURER-GENERAL
ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
(1-hour luncheon interval at noon)
3:00 P.M.  CAPRI ROOM
ADJOURNMENT OF CONVENTION
SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING, BOARD OF DIRECTORS
8:00 P.M.—12 Midnight  CONVENTION SOCIAL WITH ENTERTAINMENT PROGRAM
HOSTS: San Francisco Area Council
Refreshments (donation basis)
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 5
9:00 A.M.—3:00 P.M.
3rd Floor, WILLIAMS BUILDING

AREA COUNCIL DAY
For Officers, Area Council Representatives and Interested Members. Continuation of workshop procedures not completed on September 2.

ART EXHIBIT
In connection with the convention, a special one-artist gallery of oil paintings, water colors and sketches in various media will be on display in room 312, Williams Building. These works by C. C. Hazard, San Francisco artist, are for sale to anyone. Half of the proceeds are a contribution from the artist to the Mattachine Society. A list of titles and prices for the display is available.

FEES
Fees cover Saturday sessions, luncheon and banquet only. Attendance at Friday Reception, Saturday Cocktails and Sunday Convention Social is optional and extra. Registration fees for Saturday, September 3:

- Entire Day ............................................................. $15.00
- Morning & Afternoon Sessions Only ..................... $5.00
- Luncheon Only ...................................................... $5.50
- Banquet Only.............................................................$7.50

TELEPHONES
National Headquarters...........................EXbrook 7-0773
Hotel Bellevue.................................GRAYstone 4-3600

HOTEL BELLEVUE RATES
Single rooms, 7.50-10.00; Double Bedded Rooms, 10.00-12.00; Twin Bedded Rooms, 11.00-14.00; Suites, 18.00-25.00. All rooms have tub, shower, television. Hotel located 1 block from downtown air terminal.

DOB INVITES ALL MATTACHINE MEMBERS TO THEIR PARTY
Daughters of Bilitis San Francisco Chapter has extended an invitation to all San Francisco Mattachine people to attend a cocktail party on Sunday, September 29th. It will be held at 443 Justin St, in San Francisco from 2 to 6 p.m. There will be a donation of $2.50.

POSTAL BAN UPHELD ON HOMOSEXUAL OBSCENITY
(Reprinted from SF Chronicle, Aug. 16 '60)

WASHINGTON, Aug 15 (UPI)—A Federal judge ruled today that the post office can ban from the mails any magazines that appeal to the "prurient" interest of homosexuals.

The decision, in theory, sets a new yardstick on obscenity for the department, giving it the right to ban material which is obscene to a single segment of society, rather than the average person. The Supreme Court set up the "average person" yardstick.


Half a dozen or more other magazines, which contain pictures of nearly nude young men in different poses, could be affected by the ruling. They are sold at newsstands throughout the Nation.

Defense attorney Stanley M. Dietz said he would take the case to the United States Court of Appeals.

He said homosexuals are also citizens, and if the average person can buy magazines with pictures of nude women, "isn't a homosexual entitled to get magazines with pictures of semi-nude men if that's what interests him?"

SHOULD WE DISCOURAGE GAY BARS?
(Reprinted from San Francisco CHRONICLE column "The Question Man" by Allen Brown of August 6, 1960. Answered at gayola trial in the Hall of Justice.)

Chief Deputy Public Defender: The police method of handling the problem is not the proper one. I favor the European method of leaving homosexuals and Lesbians alone as long as they don't bother other people. If gay bars bring this about let them stay.

Attorney: They should hang a sign out in front to keep the unaware out, so that unsuspecting innocents wouldn't walk into something. Homosexuals do have a right to congregate, but it should be apparent that the place caters to them.

Student: No! Homosexuality should be accepted by society. It's there, and you won't stamp it out by discouraging the bars. We should supervise the bars, though. This is a free country, and if a guy wants to hang up pictures of men, he should be able to. You can't control sex drives.

Attorney: Of course! Gay bars are merely places for homosexuals to meet young people and entice them into homosexuality. They have rights, of course, and should not be coerced. The danger is that young people go because of curiosity and might experiment.

Attorney: It goes beyond the problem of whether homosexuals are people. That's established. But advertising themselves to young people and tourists will get out of hand speedily. Homosexuals should be adult enough to mingle with others in places of entertainment without being conspicuous.

Attorney: These people have to drink some place and like any minority group they're entitled to equal accommodations. As long as they conduct themselves...
ves properly in a legal bar, I see nothing wrong with it. A gay bar is a public place, and if non-homosexuals don’t like it, they can leave.

Assistant District Attorney: That question must be answered by the Legislature, citizens and the courts. The bars are not desirable. You might say it’s better to have homosexuals in one resort rather than spread throughout the city, but it’s better not to have them at all. Still, you can’t throw them out of town without some violation of law. They’re entitled to equal protection.

OSCAR WILDE, THE MOVIE
Reviewed by Eric von Gothenburg

I like to think that somehow it was more than morbid curiosity which provided full houses night after night at the Presidio Theater for Oscar Wilde. I would like to think that it somehow was interest in Oscar Wilde as an artist, a compensation to his genius, which saw such sudden eclipse 60 years ago under the cruel hands of “honourable men.”

I would also like to say that the film Oscar Wilde, the first of two (due to dissonance) which will come to us from Warwick Studios in England, portrays the man and the writer Oscar Wilde with fairness and accuracy. I think that the film has been fair to Wilde. In the person of the veteran English actor, Robert Morley, Wilde appears as a person of great wit and self-confidence, a scion of society, awed over and aped by the lesser luminaries of the London society of the Victorian age. We see him as he first meets his Fate in the guise of blonde aristocratic Lord Alfred Douglas, and how he later, more and more becomes ensnared by the blackmail and the prostitution of the sordid world of male prostitutes with which he permitted himself to be associated. Just as the film points out quite vividly, it was in these associations, and not in his love for Lord Alfred, wherein his tragedy lies. The love of which he spoke so nobly from the witness stand “the love of an older man for a younger” (“the love that dares not speak its name,” as Lord Alfred called it) was not the love for which he stood accused, although there is no doubt that the vitriolic hatred of Lord Queensbury for his son and for Oscar Wilde, was the precipitation of the tragedy.

It is disturbing then, in an otherwise moving and fastflowing production about a fascinating literary figure, to find serious historical inaccuracies and omissions, that defer from the story as a whole. The film shows Lord Alfred and Wilde meeting during one of Wilde’s plays at their apparent ages of 30 and 30. The fact is that they were introduced to one another by Lionel Johnson in Wilde’s home on Tite street in the summer of 1891, when Wilde was 36 and Lord Alfred 21. John Neville, not only because of being too old, but because of lack of intensity and depth, represents the character of Lord Alfred all too inadequately.

A serious omission, I feel, is to dismiss the life of Wilde after the three trials with a few scenes. The years in the cruel incarceration of British jails, and the experiences he had there, were the inspiration for his last two literary pieces, his “Epistola: in Carcere et Vinculis” (published as De Profundis in 1905 and 1949) and the poetic masterpiece The Ballad of Reading Gaol. Surely the fame of Wilde would be well established with his brilliant plays (Lady Windemere’s Fan, The Importance of Being Earnest, etc.), but there is somehow, a poetic culmination in the depth and the sensitive empathy of that great poem which has been called “the greatest propaganda poem in the English language.” To dismiss the tragic realities of Wilde in prison, or his life in exile in France, with a few shallow scenes is a serious omission of truly great dramatic material.

We see Oscar Wilde, then, broken, shattered, the flame of genius gone, lost confused and friendless in France, and the film ends by showing him in a scene too macabre for justice, screaming with deranged laughter in drunken escape. I would prefer to think of his exit lines being to his good friend Robert Ross by his bedside, the inimitable quip “When the last trumpet sounds, and we are couched in our porphyry tombs, I shall turn and whisper to you ‘Robbie, Robbie, let us pretend we do not hear him.’

The prosecutor (Sir Ralph Richardson) and Phyllis Calvert as Constance Wilde are strong in supporting roles, and Robert Morley’s own son, Wilton, plays appropriately enough Wilde’s son Cyril (but why did they leave out his one year younger brother Vyvyan?). Whether we wish to view Wilde, as “the lord of language,” or a “corrupter of youth” he remains one of the truly great figures in English literature, and let us hope that the great interest this film has evinced, is an indication that Oscar Wilde as the scapegoat for the periodical fury of British “morality,” is finally being recognized as the litterateur he always wanted to be known and remembered.

Another article, by Jack Parrish, discusses Oscar Wilde, The Author. It begins on the next page.

The New York musical “Once Upon A Mattress” will open at the Geary September 28. This witty retelling of Hans Christian Andersen’s “The Princess and the Pea” started out as an off-Broadway production and ended up on Broadway. Especially clever is the scene in which the Princess tells the Prince, “My real name is Winifred the Woebegone, but you can call me by my nickname.” “W. Winkle?” checks out the Prince in a lovesick voice. “No, Fred.” Whereupon he sings a song called “I’m In Love With A Girl Named Fred.”

Jack Parrish who has been out of the hospital a month with a walking cast on his leg has had to return to the hospital for another operation. Jack himself admitted that Oscar Wilde’s comment applies to him, “He has no enemies and his friends can’t stand him.” However, he will be missed by members and everyone will look forward to his getting well enough to come down to the office again and make his usual forthright comments about everything.

O.M.B. has our thanks for donating a new hot plate to the office—the old one was burning out wiring just when we most needed it. Thank you Mark.

David L. Daniels, National Vice-Chairman, has joined the exodus from Denver. He arrived this week to attend the National Convention and is now busy looking for work and a place to live. Welcome aboard to you! With David making the total six of Denver Area Council members who have moved here since last convention we are thinking of calling Denver San Francisco’s recruiting station!
OSCAR WILDE, THE AUTHOR
Comments by Jack Parrish

The British film Oscar Wilde is playing to capacity audiences at the Presidio Theater. The general response is that Robert Morley plays the chief role superbly and that John Neville does a fine job of acting, but is a little too old to be completely convincing as Lord Alfred Douglas.

Because of his public martyrdom, Wilde is virtually the only figure of modern times whom everyone has to acknowledge as a homosexualist. That side of Walt Whitman’s nature can be ignored or glossed over, can be dismissed with Edward Fitzgerald, or tactfully ignored with Tchaikowsky. But Wilde’s deviation is blatantly, nakedly there and cannot be ignored, no matter how much one wishes to. For most people he is The Homosexual in a way that no other known homosexual is.

It seems a pity that he is the only important person of this type of whom most people are aware. He is not a good person for homosexuals to identify themselves with nor was he typical of the species, as some heterosexuals seem to think.

He admittedly was a brilliant man and one of the greatest wits in the history of English literature. However, he was also lazy, something of a poseur and dabbler and inclined to live on the surface of life. While there is no other play like “The Importance of Being Earnest” in the English language, his other plays are completely conventional in their plots and characters and are only noteworthy for a few of the epigrams to be found in them.

With the exception of “The Ballad of Reading Gaol” and one or two other poems most of his poetry is highly derivative and characterless. Only a few of his stories are on the level of “The Birth of the Infanta” and “The Happy Prince.” It was not that he lacked the ability to do more work of a better quality as that most of his life and gifts were frittered away on unimportant matters.

Bernard Shaw once commented, and it is hard to disagree with him, that if it had not been for Wilde’s unfortunate tragedy he would only have been remembered as a wit, in the style of Congreve. There have been many far nobler homosexualists than Wilde, persons who were greater and more conscientious artists and who lived more in accordance with their concept of right ideals. Unfortunately, however, it is Wilde who is paid attention to by both heterosexuals and homosexuals and not they.

“A mystic bond of brotherhood makes all men one.”
—THOMAS CARLYLE

- EDUCATION
- PUBLISHING
- SOCIAL SERVICE
- RESEARCH

ONE MAGAZINE — $5 per year in U. S., Canada, Mexico; $6 Foreign; 50c per single copy.

THE HOMOSEXUAL VIEWPOINT
Executive Director of The Northern California Service League of San Francisco, gave a talk on the "Problems of Rehabilitation."

"The Northern California Service League," Mr. Silver explained, "is a social service agency in San Francisco which is working with misdemeanors and county jail offenders, both in the institution and after release." The offender, he explained, faces both psychological and physical problems because of his "brush with the law." He said it is the job of such organizations as his to bring this point home to the public. Also the responsibility of the community to provide adequate help to those who have problems and want this help to complete his rehabilitation back into the community, must be brought home. He pointed out that here Mattachine can help in educating the community to its responsibilities.

The greatest of the offender's psychological problems is the feeling of rejection. The destructive influences to self-confidence, initiative and resourcefulness that the prison experiences produce also have to be overcome by the individual. These are problems that the social workers deal with. Concrete problems like loss of job, how to account for arrest record on employment applications, bonding, etc. are problems directly connected to the education of the public but which the social worker must cope with also in dealing with the offender. Mr. Silver pointed out that the Service League's work is not popular with the public just as Mattachine has found that bringing better understanding to the public about people with variant behavior is not popular. He further pointed out that the two organizations have a basic common element in being dedicated to the principle that people, no matter who, are human beings, with all experience, weaknesses and needs of humanity.

**The Luncheon Program**

Dr. Harry Benjamin, who spoke to SFAC in July, was the featured Luncheon speaker. His talk "The Seven Sexes of Man" was based upon a paper of his soon to be published in SEXOLOGY. Before reading the paper he said that he wished he were on the panel discussion later that afternoon. Changing or improving the sex laws had always been topmost in his thoughts. "It seems to me that," he said, "laws are being enforced that are as far removed from modern thought and science as perhaps a horse-and-buggy from a jet plane. But such is evident one of our heritages perhaps partly from the Puritan Pilgrim Fathers." He quipped, "wouldn't it have been much better if the rock had landed upon them?"

The seven sexes Dr. Benjamin outlined were: (1) chromosomal or genetic (2) anatomical also referred to as body or somatic (3) legal or nursery (4) endocrine or hormonal (5) germinal (6) psychological and (7) social which includes the sexual variant, sex of assignment and sex of dress. The first of these, genetic, is determined at the moment of conception and is immutable. All the others are changeable to some degree another. These sexes are expected to work in great harmony but in truth they don't always. In his closing statement Dr. Benjamin played up this fact by saying, "Our sexuality is one thing that has to be without fault and must function in strict conformity with customs and laws, otherwise there is either the priest who invented sin or an artificially created crime."

**The Afternoon Panel**

Mrs. Molly Minudi a Lawyer, moderated the panel which discussed "Our Outmoded Sex Laws." The panelists included A. Phillip Burton and John O'Connell, California Assemblymen; Dr. Joseph Andriola, Psychiatric Social Worker, Dr. David W. Allen, Psychiatrist; and Mrs. Bernice Engle, Research Worker.

Mrs. Minudi read from the State sex laws and had each panelist comment upon them. Inconsistency and cruelty were apparent in most all of the sex laws. Some were clearly unenforceable, Dr. Allen pointed out that punishment not only fails to deter crime but actually in some cases increases it—to some the threat of retribution only heightens the thrill. Assemblymen Burton and O'Connell both were in agreement that the laws need to be changed but said this couldn't be done until public opinion were altered providing a favorable climate for this change. No assemblyman would come out for the laws now for fear of retaliation at the polls.

**Awards Banquet**

The highlight of the day for Mattachine people is the Awards Banquet. This year's Member of the Year is Director of Public Relations Curtis Dewees of New York. A special Award of Merit for creative writing went to Rolland Howard of Denver. Other Awards of Merit went to Isadore Rubin of Sexology, Rev. Robert Wood, author of Christ and the Homosexual, the editors of Real-Life Guide, Washington Post, and Morris Lowenthal, San Francisco attorney. Honorary Membership was conferred upon Floris van Mechelen of I.C.S.E., Mrs. Molly Minudi was the featured speaker at this Banquet. Her talk centered around how to set up a committee, similar to England's Wolfenden Committee, to study California's Penal Code and to make recommendations for changes where needed. She further brought up questions that should be considered by such a committee. In the latter part of her talk she gave advice as to what one should do if they are arrested. Her talk received a standing ovation at its conclusion.

**The Business Meeting**

SUNDAY and MONDAY, Sept. 4 & 5—The annual business meeting ran into the second day. Probably the most important changes in the constitution and by-laws made at this meeting were: to change over to a delegate type system to be made in the convention business meetings. Each area council would have one voting delegate for every 5 members. New membership requirements was the other change to be made. It is now necessary for a new member first to have attended at least three activities sponsored by Mattachine before he can become a member. Harold Call, Donald Lucas and Henry Foster were re-elected to the Board of Directors. Tony Segura of New York was newly elected to the Board also. Boston was chosen as the Convention site for the 1961 Convention. Mattachine also decided to start a book service within the next 6 months.

And so in the very early hours of Tuesday, Sept. 6 the Convention activities came to a close with the first semi-annual meeting of the Board of Directors. The Convention had proved to be a long one but many important things were done which will affect Mattachine's operation in the future. (George G. St. John)
October 4, 11, 18, 25, Tuesday evenings — Therapy Discussion Group. Time: 8:00 p.m. Place: Area Council Lounge 693 Mission St. This group is moderated by Dr. John G. Shrock and is a limited attendance group. You must make reservation first by calling DO 2-3799.

October 7, Friday evening — Public Discussion Forum. Speaker: Mr. Robert Meyers of Mexico City. Topic: Historical and Current Homosexuality in Latin American Cultures. Time: 8:00 p.m. Place: Area Council Lounge 693 Mission St.

October 15, Saturday evening — October Party. Time: 8:00 p.m. until 2:00 a.m. Place: 443 Justin Street, San Francisco. All members and friends of Mattachine are invited.

October 21, Friday Evening — Regular Monthly Business Meeting. Time: 8:00 p.m. Place: Area Council Lounge. This meeting open to SFAC members only.

**MATTACHINE FEATURED ON TELEVISION PROGRAM**

San Francisco Television Station KPIX featured a filmed interview with D. Stewart Lucas our Secretary-General and Fort Pearson of that Station on September 6. The station made arrangements with Mattachine and brought all the cameras and equipment to our offices at 10:30 a.m. that morning. Fort Pearson, who conducts a daily news broadcast at 7:00 p.m. each weekday, spent some 12 minutes on the film interview. About seven minutes worth of the film was shown that night.

We have been told by our many friends who saw the broadcast that Don conducted himself well and they thought it had been a very good interview. A station official informed us that apparently the public also received the show well as they had not received one complaint about it. They also were highly pleased with the show and indicated that they would like to do some further ones in the near future.

**SFAC OFFICERS FOR NEW YEAR ELECTED AT SEPT. MEETING**

Election of officers was conducted at the September business meeting. The new officers for the 1960-61 year are: Chairman: Mark Bailey; Vice-Chairman: Aubrey Bailey; Secretary: Bois Burk; and Treasurer: George St. John.

These officers will serve until Sept. of next year.

**MATTACHINE PARTY IN OCT. DOD MEMBERS INVITED**

The October party for SFAC members and guests will be held on Saturday evening October 15 from 8 p.m. until 2 a.m. The address where it will be held is 443 Justin Street in San Francisco. There will be a donation of $1.00 charged at the door for anyone not possessing a ticket. Tickets for the party will be mailed along with this Newsletter to all members of SFAC in good standing (that is those who have paid their dues).

**MATTACHINE OFFICE HERE HAS NEW TELEPHONE NUMBER**

The Board of Directors decided to have a new telephone installed in the Society's name. So accordingly last week a new phone was installed here. The new number is Douglas 2-3799, so make a note in your records of this.

**FUND APPEAL DONATIONS COMING IN SLOWLY**

A generous member of our own area council who wishes to remain anonymous has promised to match dollar-for-dollar every donation made during the month of October to clear Mattachine's debts. This member made the offer for the month of September but has extended it through October 31. Already several hundred dollars have been received and more is expected. Conrad Bowman our Treasurer-General sent out a letter last week to the whole membership reminding all those to send in their donations that hadn't done so and also telling about the extension.

So if you haven't already — send your donation in today. Remember during the month of October every dollar you send in will be worth two for the purpose of clearing up Mattachine's debts.
LITERARY INTEREST GROUP
TO BE FORMED THIS MONTH

Sunday afternoon September 23 should be marked on your calendar of events if you enjoy a good discussion about books and that sort of thing. A new group is being formed here to become a SFAC Literary Discussion Group. This first meeting will be at 3:00 p.m. in the area council lounge at 693 Mission Street. The title of his talk will be "Historical and Current Homosexuality in Latin American Cultures."

VENUS CASTINA

Reviewed by Jack Parrish

A new addition to Mattachine's library is a reissue of C. J. Bulliet's Venus Castina, first published in a limited edition in 1928. The book is a study of female impersonation in Europe and America from the days of earliest Greece down to 1928 and is, according to the author, a description of the worshipers of Venus Castina through the ages—"that goddess supposed to respond with sympathy and understanding to the yearnings of feminine souls locked up in male bodies."

Bulliet wrote at a period when the studies of Havelock Ellis and other pioneers in his field were just beginning to be known in this country, so he has some excuse for his mistakenly regarding homosexuality, transvestism and effeminacy as synonymous. However, he has a bad habit of "assuming" too much with insufficient evidence to support his assumptions. He also lacks a bibliography and makes a few extreme errors, such as attributing the 17th century comedy The Rehearsal to Sheridan. Sheridan wrote and was performed nearly a century later, and the play is by George Villiers, the Duke of Buckingham.

PUBLIC MEET TO HEAR ABOUT
VARIANTS IN LATIN AMERICA

Mr. Robert Meyers from Mexico City will be the featured speaker at the Oct. Public Discussion Forum on October 7th at 8 p.m. The meeting will be held in the area council lounge, Room 309, 693 Mission Street. The title of his talk will be "Historical and Current Homosexuality in Latin American Cultures."

However, the book presents a great deal of material not available elsewhere, the chapter of the male actors of Shakespeare's feminine roles covering a subject not usually gone into in books on his plays. At this period, as Bulliet points out, the playing of feminine parts by men was so much the custom in England that when shortly after Shakespeare's death a group of French actors and actresses were imported from across the Channel the ladies were hooted off the stage. One writer of the time calls them "Monsters" who were "unwomanish and graceless."

The English use of female impersonators explains much not usually made clear about the Elizabethan theater, as with the Shakespearean heroines so often traveling disguised as men. Some of these actors had remarkably varied histories. One of them, Nathaniel Field was a famous Desdemona in his early days and later became a great Othello.

Bulliet also has a certain native shrewdness despite his constant linking up of homosexuality with effeminacy. In the introductory first chapter he comments that the most attention has always been paid to men who wear feminine attire. Examples of women who have worn men's are not uncommon but there is no noted instance of a woman making a living as a stage performer by impersonating men. This would seem to indicate something very basic about European-American sexual inhibitions and taboos. Perhaps this fact exists because the psychological restrictions against men imitating women are so much stricter than those of women imitating men? So that consequently there is more shock-impact and titillation for the public in the latter than the former.

If you want to know what roquefort coffee tastes like well then ask our new chairman Mark Bailey. I sat across the dinner table from him the other day and watched him pour his salad dressing into his coffee.

About the most expensive volume in Mattachine's history was added to the archives this week. It is the 454 page transcript of the business sessions of this year's convention. Somebody must have been a little windy, huh?

Jack Parrish, our member who is making a career out of his broken leg, is out of the hospital and recuperating from his most recent operation. According to him, he is back among us "dancing on elfin feet to the clattering of his crutches." He related to me that the thing he looks forward to most is to take a bath (I thought of a quick rejinder to that one but didn't say it) and he says its the first item of business when that cast comes off.

I thought it might be nice to say to Conrad Bowman our ever loving Treasurer-General that he's doing a good job sweating over those crazy books. While I'm at it I think I'll add a vote of thanks for his bartending at our parties.
A mystic bond of brotherhood makes all men one. —THOMAS CARLYLE

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