Vol. 1 No. 10
December 1978

Inside: March on Washington, D.C.
Taking Back the Night
Goodstein Claims Victory
Gay Media Purge in Canada

The Body Politic, Canada's leading magazine for Gay liberation, is under attack by the Canadian government. On January 2, Pink Triangle Press; publishers of The Body Politic, will go on trial in Toronto for possession of obscene material and "use of the mails for the distribution of material which is obscene, immoral, indecent or scurrilous."

The "scurrilous" material referred to in the charge concerns an issue of The Body Politic which featured a serious article discussing boy/man love. The story provoked a police raid of The Body Politic offices and the seizure of twelve cases of files, ailing lists and manuscripts.

If convicted three members of the publishing collective, Gerald Hannon, Ed Jackson, and Ken Popert will face jail terms while heavy fines will jeopardize the future publication of The Body Politic.

The case represents a major assault against the strong, independent voice of the Canadian Gay Liberation movement. The Collective, in a plea to its readers, has said: "That one of the few means of communication controlled by Gay people might cease to exist. That one of the few ways we have of defining ourselves to other as Lesbians and Gay men in an overwhelmingly straight world could be taken from us by the police and the courts. That we could be left more fragmented, more isolated from each other, and more inhibited than before.

A special defense fund has raised thousands of dollars as far buy needs an additional $10,000 to cover the costs of the trial. To express your support or to see how you might help write to: THE BODY POLITIC FREE PRESS FUND e/o Civilian Rights Action. We are also involved in the National Committee to Defend Political Prisoners, the University Workers Union, the Communist Party and the Revolutionary Workers Party (RWP).

For more information write to: Lyn King in Trust for THE BODY POLITIC FREE PRESS FUND.

Anti-Gay Hysteria Mounts In Greece

ATHENS-The struggle is intensifying over the new Greek venereal disease law which seriously threatens the civil rights of Gay men. The bill, originally prepared under the facist military junta has been reintroduced by the Karamanlis government. Gay people are referred to throughout the insulting term "kinaios" (those who are shame even to dogs).

"The wording of the law is contrived in such a way as to project homosexuals as a medical threat against public health. The demonstration of 30,000 people was organized by the committee to Defend Political Prisoners, the University Workers Union, the Comminist Party and the Revolutionary Workers Party (RWP).

About ten members of the FHAR marched in front of the PRT contingent with a banner and leaflets. According to one demonstrator, they created an "impression that people would clap. They wouldn't believe it." There were reports that a Lesbian group has been formed and is involved with the National Coalition of Feminist Women.

30,000 Gays March in Mexico

MEXICO CITY—For the first time in Mexican history a Gay organization has marched as a contingent in a mass demonstration.

The Frente Homosexual de Accion Revolucoraria (FHAR) marched here recently in a demonstration against police repression. The demonstration of 30,000 people was organized by the committee to Defend Political Prisoners, the University Workers Union, the Comminist Party and the Revolutionary Workers Party (RWP).

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Lesbian Marries For Money

LONDON-Pat Arrowsmith, a Lesbian-activist and prominent peace campaigner, has announced that she plans to marry in order to claim thousands of pounds left to her by her clergyman father on condition that she take a husband.

Arrowsmith told reporters that "marriage is a foolish institution."

She says she will be glad to make a mockery of both inherited wealth and invested capital by donating the money to such causes as the Anti-Nazi League, Amnesty International, The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, and the TWP Out of Ireland Campaign. Money may also be available to Gay causes.

Prop 6: What Did We Really Win?

By Karen Rye

Election Day brought a virtual end to the intense work of pressure of the Sonoma County Residents Against Briggs, Against Prop 6, and other No on 6 campaigns throughout the state. In the face of time and money shortages, polls that were almost two to one against us, the overwhelming straight world, this battle in the first place. Holding these people to our county and that we ever had to fight this battle in the first place. Holding these people to our county and that we ever had to

oral process.

Despite the need to reach as many people as possible, Prop 6 got a drubbing from the public on the issue of anger. Our anger came out in various ways, some through our literature, some through public speaking. Furthermore, we held two rallies in Healdsburg, one to counter Briggs' personal appearance in August, one to demonstrate our presence outside the Briggs-Bernan debate in late October. Both times SCRAP 6 made an active decision to provide a space for Sonoma County people to express our rage and indignation that Briggs brought his hatred and bigotry to our county and that we ever had to fight this battle in the first place. Holding these rallies made us ready targets for media scorn and belittling and for the disapproval of some Sonoma County people who wanted us, more than anything, to run a quiet campaign.

Hand in hand with this sense of compromise that arose from working in an electoral process was the plain ugliness that accompanies political maneuvering. Although countless organizations of all different persuasions came out solidly against IN- ST, SCRAP 6 still ran into political blocks along the way. The local California Teachers Association, which initially welcomed us and generously offered us the use of space in their building for our office, began balking and harassing us. They charged us rent after offering us rent-free space and insisted that we vacate the space on days when other CTA groups needed it. When,

(Continued on Page 5)
Briggs Suggests
Son-Gay for Milk Post

California State Senator John Briggs sent a telegram to Harvey Milk's former district
leader, David Goodstein, in which he urged the mayor to appoint Milk as the post of district 5.

The NEWS is published monthly by the
Sonoma County Lambda, 2060 Second St.,
San Francisco, California 94133. Phone: 255-0669.

Beverly Huggett is the managing editor. She was the news editor at the Sonoma County
News. She has been a newspaper editor for 20 years and is the author of several books.

Baby Milk's former district.

Briggs suggested that Milk was a true
Wisconsin native and that he had been a
co-creator of the Wisconsin State
Fair. He also stated that Milk was a
true son of the state and that he
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Women Taking the Night

Prop 6: What Did We Really Win?

There are no training programs to help new Feminists become active

route that would take us to Broadway and Columbus streets, the excitement built with chanting and singing. How many women had gone before us, actually walking for them as well as ourselves? This was one question that was never dealt with directly. What of all the women employed in that industry? The women's movement needed a clearer sense of direction in which to fight back. Different types of work were needed. Perhaps the fear of backlash has slowed feminist women, but not every woman. In the end of the Conference and announced that the "feminists movement is not an issue on the floor, it was generally agreed upon that more women's participation was needed. It was not an issue on the floor, it was generally agreed upon that more women's participation was needed. And so, the problem remains within the feminist movement.

The Conference was also distinguished by a political move for the Democratic Party in this county. Our "Get Out the Vote" Committee had made contacts with the offices of Mike Gage, Doug Bosco and Lucie Keene, all Democratic candidates for various county office. Each candidate was urged to support a no or at least a qualified "no" on 6. Unfortunately, Diamond did not deal with the usual registration confusion compounded by the conservative elements to have us leave the building, as it's going to work 'it's going to have to be a lot', for of de-crimitulizing prostitution it paid for. For the Democratic Party that we did indeed win.

A final example of the politics of an electoral campaign was infuriating. From the campaign was a split between the women and the men. The attack of Gay people is much a feminist issue; no rights for Gay people will ever be surely secured until sex roles are broken.

Kansas City, Mo. — Karl Marx Meets The seas were up to Kansas City. Karl Marx ate in this county by the local press. The usual "Gay-is-male" attitude prevailed. Women's movement, but you did not know it from the media. This fact was angering in many ways. The electoral process is a device to be used against Gay communities. As the post-victory letdown subsides the Scrap-Campaign. Not only was that impression in-accurate, and invalidating individually and collectively, but real treatment of our work by the media in general. Although we received some fair coverage in this county, we were aghast at the local press, the usual "Gay-is-male" attitude prevailed.

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Gay Gains in France

PARIS—The second chamber of the French Parliament, the Senate, has passed a bill excluding all the existing laws against homosexuality. The government itself proposed the change in the law. The bill was passed unanimously.

At present there are two ages of crimes in France: GIRL and boy homosexuals & lesbians, 18 for the one and 21 for the other.

Alph, the Information Center on Homosexuality, favors allowing the government's action. Alph, pledged itself to help the gay equality in every moment of legal law.

The Senate bill is expected to pass before the National Assembly next time in the fall, it is expected that the measure will be approved in the form presented.

—Gay Community News

Parents of Gay

Booklet Offered

Parents and Friends of Geet has announced publication of a free booklet, About Our Children. The eight-page booklet is designed as a "handy reference" about Lesbians and Gay teens for individuals or groups concerned about discrimination from social, medical, educational, and civic organizations regarding homosexuals in the home and school, available by writing to Parents, Box 46358, Los Angeles, CA 90022.

National Black Lesbian and Gay

Group Forming

A board member of the National Gay Task Force is helping to organize a National Coalition of Black Lesbians. Baby Jones is helping to form the National Coalition of Black Lesbians and Men. A conference is being planned for September 1979, in Washington, D.C. The conference will be open to the public. An '80 Coalition of Gay Women and Men.

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President of the group interested in the formation or plans for the new organization should write or call Billy Jones, P.O. Box 458, Columbia, MD 21043; (301) 997-3541.

Gay Community News

Gay Form Trade Union

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA—The Gay Trade Union Group has recently been formed here after meetings at the Fourth National Homosexual Confidence held this past summer. At its first meeting in September, the group proposed monthly meetings which "are open to any Lesbians & Male homosexuals & women of the same sex who wish to meet us."

The group reported that the New South Wales Council for Gay Affairs has voted unanimously to pay tribute to the Gay community and unions' attitude towards Gay workers. The groupAround the decision's significant move.

Woman's 'Bakke' case To Be Heard

WASHINGTON—In what appears to be the first major case alleging "reverse" discrimination against "lesbians" and "homosexuals," the government has requested an order of the federal judge's permission to defend a welfare hiring program that gives preference to women.

The case involves a former sociology professor at the University of Washington, James Cramer, who filed suit against the school charging it was considered only women for two permanent openings for which he applied in 1973 and 1974.

Women were hired for both spots, and Cramer contended he was not considered. At the time, the teaching staff in the school's sociology and anthropology Department consisted of 19 men and one woman.

In a motion filed in US District Court in Rich-

mond, Va., the Justice Department sought to in-

tervene in the two-year-old lawsuit, saying that it is a "significant move." Gay and lesbian activists in the American Nurses Association have expressed surprise that the normally conservative body has taken up the cause.

As its recent Honolulu conference the delegates adopted a resolution calling for equal rights legislation for all persons "irrespective of sexual or affectional preferences."

The statement went further in saying that homosexuality is not a disease but is a "stable and essentially healthy lifestyle."

—Gay Community News