

sonoma county lesbian & gay alliance

NEWS

Free

Volume 2 Number 8

September 1979

Anti-Gay Rights Bill In Congress

by Dan Daniel

Washington, DC

Rep. Larry McDonald (D-GA), with the backing of the Christian Voice lobby, has introduced a bill concurrently in the U.S. House of Representatives and the Senate which is intended to convey "the sense of Congress... that homosexual acts and the class of individuals who advocate such conduct shall never receive special consideration or a protected status under law."

House Concurrent Resolution 166 was introduced in the House July 24, and has been referred to the Judiciary Subcommittee on Constitutional and Civil Rights, which is chaired by Don Edwards (D-CA), a supporter of Gay rights issues and a co-sponsor of HR 2074 (the Waxman-Weiss Bill), the federal Lesbian and Gay civil rights measure. HR 2074 has 46 co-sponsors to date.

McDonald, who has been associated with such right-wing organizations as the John Birch Society, introduced his resolution at the urging of Christian Voice, a newly-formed lobby with a membership of more than 100,000 persons (including 1500 ministers) across the country. Steve Endean, Executive Director of the Gay Rights National Lobby (GRNL), said, "The real importance of this legislation lies not in its chance of passage but in creating the 'climate' for action on basic civil rights for this nation's Lesbians and Gay men. I am sure that 'Christian Voice' will use this

legislation to mobilize anti-Lesbian and Gay male sentiment around the country and stop the progress of our civil rights struggle."

Elected representatives in the Congress, like elected officials anywhere, are especially responsive to large amounts of mail which they receive. It is anticipated that, with McDonald's bill to rally around, the members of the Christian Voice lobby and their friends and supporters will flood the offices of senators and representatives with mail supporting HCR 166 and opposing HR 2074. Essentially, McDonald's measure would give employers the right to fire or refuse to hire a person if she or he were homosexual.

Gary Jarmin, spokesperson for Christian Voice, said that employers must have the right to fire a homosexual because continued employment of such a person might hurt business.

"Suppose you hired someone and he didn't take a bath for a week and let his hair grow long—just generally became so unkempt that your customers complained," Jarmin explained. "You'd fire him because he was hurting your business."

"Now, suppose that your customers find out you have a homosexual working for you and say they won't come into your shop anymore unless you get rid of *him* (our emphasis). You have to be able to fire *him*, too."

Anti-Gay amendments to pending legislation have been proposed in the past. One such amendment was pro-

posed by McDonald last year to be added to the Legal Services Corporation Act. HCR 166, however, is the first anti-Gay measure to come before the Congress as anything but an amendment to existing or pending legislation and, according to Endean, it "appears to be far more dangerous to the progress of the Lesbian and Gay civil rights." If the resolution is approved, it will put the Congress of the United States on record as supporting discrimination against Lesbians and Gay men.

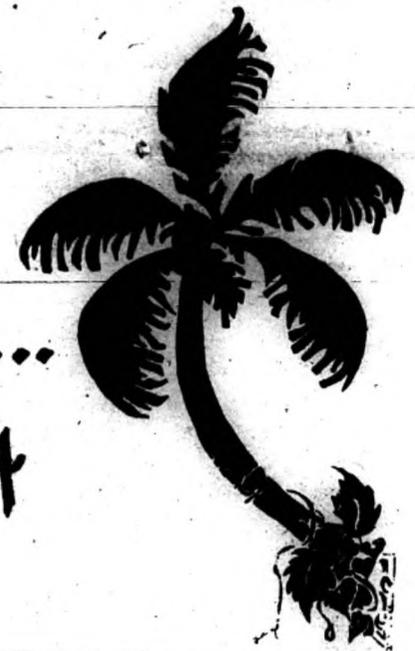
In a statement issued by Christian Voice, Dr. Robert Grant said, "This is the beginning of a national

campaign to oppose the National Gay Rights Bill (HCR 2074). Should this bill pass, Christian businessmen and school principals would be subjected to stiff penalties for refusing to hire people whose sexual conduct they find morally offensive." Grant further said that Christian Voice does not want McDonald's bill to be seen as "a campaign of hate and persecution" against Lesbians and Gay men.

Jarmin told a reporter for the *San Francisco Chronicle* that he and Christian Voice are opposed to discrimination against black and minority employees because they have no control over the color of their

Continued on Page 5

... see you
at the
Gay Prom...
September 14



Why We Will Be Marching

During the weekend of October 12 to 14 thousands of Lesbians and Gay men will converge on Washington, DC to march for our rights and lobby legislators for passage of House Resolution 2074, the Waxman-Weiss federal Lesbian and Gay civil rights measure, and for the defeat of House Concurrent Resolution 166, the McDonald measure that seeks to assure the denial of civil rights for Lesbians and Gay men (See story this issue).

"Christian Voice," a new Christian lobby group which claims 100,000 members, has already called for a march of one million of their members and supporters for April, 1980 to demonstrate against the rights of Lesbians and Gay men.

Daily headlines continue to reflect a growing movement against Lesbians and Gay men's rights. Two new anti-Gay Christian lobbies, "The Moral Majority" and "One Nation Under God," both fronted by ministers, apparently are uniting with "Christian Voice" in their opposition to rights for Lesbians and Gay men.

There has been a call for a Constitutional Convention by the Right (and indeed by our own Governor Brown), for the addition of an amendment establishing a federal spending limit.

It has been widely feared, however, that a Constitutional Convention at this time would open the door for the consideration of an anti-abortion amendment and, in the present climate, it is not outside the realm of possibility that an anti-Gay amendment would be proposed.

Rising inflation and continuing recession brings further call for repressive laws and actions by the people of the Right. Even some Black individuals and groups have been speaking out against rights for Lesbians and Gay men, claiming we are sick and are not a true minority, perhaps fearing that whatever progress they have achieved to this point in history would be in danger if legislative bodies began eliminating the rights of the most economically expendable groups.

And they would be correct. The rise in activity of the Ku Klux Klan (most recently in our own East Bay), American and European Nazis and the Popular Front of Great Britain (who now seek to rid the British Isles of "colored people" who are no longer advantageous to the labor force) are all indications that those in power and who have privilege will seek to hold onto that privilege, the civil rights of individuals be damned.

The movement for Gay civil rights has made tremendous strides in the last ten years and it is imperative to reaffirm these gains.

Now, more than ever, we as Lesbians and Gay men must assert ourselves and take this opportunity to establish ourselves in the consciousness of America and the world as a group that crosses every class, religious and national barrier and demand the protection of the law against the infringement of our civil rights based on our sexual preference.

—THE SCLGA NEWS COLLECTIVE



FORUM

We Get Letters...

Please put me on the subscription list for the SCLGA NEWS

It's distressing to think that it may fold. We do need this medium for communicating information and news regarding the Gay community.

In hopes that this will ease the struggle a little,

Thanks,
Mary Morin

Good Morning:
Going through this month's paper, I'm impressed!

Eyes fall to the item that Runes has folded—I needed to get hit to realize how much you need our contributions.

I want you to be there. Thanks for a truly fine publication.

Jude

The newspaper continues to be excellent. I liked reading the July/August issue.

I especially enjoyed Melvin's article on masculinity.

I hope you're able to keep the paper together. Keep up the good work!

Don Harig

Dear Y'all:

My thanks and appreciation for your paper—it's much needed and I hope will be a project which will grow and expand. And my donation to good comprehensive Gay news coverage in the area will increase as circumstances allow.

Special thanks to those of you who are putting in the time and energy to make it available.

Sincerely,
Harold Booth

March Organizers Stress Unity

Dear Alliance Friends,
A hearty thank you for the opportunity to write "Washington Group Represents Gay Diversity." That the message of the Houston conference got out, was of prime importance to our organization. We felt that the Northern California area would best benefit from that information through your newspaper. If only there were more such publications as yours, serving the Lesbian and Gay community.

The National March on Washington organizers have attempted to enhance the similarities we share, rather than capitalize upon our differences and

rage. Through that emphasis, we have learned that Lesbians and Gay people must control what is done to, said about, and for us. Larger than that, however, we are attempting to educate through communications and politics. We feel quite successful!

Again, with the involvement of other media we shall assure that the March and Conference will gather the broadest based, most representative friends, brothers, and sisters to demand Lesbian and Gay rights on October 14. Thanks again!

Yours in Struggle,

Brandy Moore
National Media Director
National March On Washington
For Lesbian and Gay Rights

Riot Prosecutions: D. A. Politics

The prosecution of the Dan White trial brought on a widespread belief throughout San Francisco that the outcome was more the result of avoiding revelations about the real Dan White and his political alliances, than it was a weighing of all the facts.

The Dan White verdict, which seemed to result from the prosecution's mishandling, triggered a massive spontaneous response from a significant cross section of San Francisco's population. A great many people throughout the city felt cheated and endangered by the District Attorney's failure in upholding his responsibility as the highest elected representative of the criminal justice system in San Francisco. There was only that one legal recourse in their defense against the violence unleashed by Dan White six months before. The chain of events that followed that night was in direct response to and contingent upon that perceived negligence by the D.A. The people arrested during and in the vicinity of those protests and the attendant police mayhem were in effect arrested for their behavior in criticizing the lax performance of their own prosecutor especially against violent cops and former cops.

Signs, chants and speeches on the streets and throughout the media that night reflected the obvious criticism that ignited such an extreme sense of rage toward the D.A. and the Police Officers Association.

The D.A. has since that time given every indication through his treatment of these cases of his intent to punish

these defendants not just for any alleged misdeeds they're accused of but in retribution for the embarrassment to his performance and status as a prosecutor and elected official that the conflagration of that night brought upon him.

Supporters of
the Defense Fund

Classifieds

The NEWS offers classified ads at the following rates:

BUSINESSES—40 cents per line, four line minimum, 35 characters and spaces per line.
OTHERS—25 cents per line, four line minimum, 35 characters and spaces per line.

Payment should accompany ad. Make payable to:

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For 2 Bdrm house in East Bay w/space for dog. Can also be 2 sep. apts. in same building. Must have space for dog.
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Typesetting: Melvin Muller.

Mailing Address: The Northern California Gay Media Project, Inc., PO Box 4801, Santa Rosa, CA 95402. Contributions of articles are welcomed. To assure return of articles enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope.

"The Best Gay Newspaper In California."

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Enclosed is a donation of \$ _____
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Address _____
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Please make all checks payable to:
The Northern California Gay Media Project, Inc.,
P.O. Box 4801,
Santa Rosa, CA 95402

Friends,

Enclosed is a check for a subscription to the SCLGA NEWS. I wish I could contribute more.

Our community is very much in need of the paper (especially now that Runes has ended). It provides access to news, legislation, events, etc.

We definitely need our own medium to get the truth.

I hope you will get support from others in our community to be able to continue.

In Struggle,
P. Adinoff

Banana Boycott Continues

In California and Arizona 4500 lettuce workers are on strike.

United Brands, owner of the Chiquita banana label, also owns Sun-Harvest Farms, the largest lettuce producer in the Imperial Valley. The United Farm Workers has called



for a nationwide boycott of Chiquita bananas to help persuade Sun-Harvest to resume serious negotiations with the union and lead the way to settling the lettuce strike.

Boycott Chiquita bananas and iceberg lettuce.

Ride The Freedom Train With Robin

Robin Tyler, nationally known feminist-comedienne and Rev. Troy Perry, founder of the Gay-oriented Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches will headline a whistle-stop tour aboard Amtrak's Gay Freedom Train to the March on Washington.

The Freedom Train will make stops from Oakland-San Francisco to Ogden, Utah, Reno, Cheyenne, Denver, Omaha, Chicago, Philadelphia and Wilmington, Virginia with rallies across the country sponsored by the MCC churches.

The Gay Freedom Trains to Wash-

ington will service most major U.S. cities. However, due to strict block-booking reservation deadlines Amtrak requires of travel agencies, tickets will be available only during the next few weeks. Sales rates indicate a complete sell-out soon.

The National March on Washington has established a 24-hour toll-free National Transportation Information Center. The number is 1-800-528-7382.

Callers to the toll-free information Center will first be given general information and a basic schedule of March Weekend events. Events currently planned include the March and Rally, a National Third World Lesbian/Gay Conference 12-15, a meeting of the National Democratic Gay Caucus, a National Gay Business Breakfast October 14, an International Gay Sports Expo October 13, Congressional Lobbying Visits October 15, various religious services, concerts and other events.

Next, a caller to the Information Center will be given up-to-the-minute data on transportation available from his/her area to the March—including air, rail and bus schedules and costs, hotel options and where to pick up tickets locally. Information about a limited number of no-cost, "crash-type" housing will also be available.

Finally, if desired, callers can be arranged in carpools. Using a computer system, this process requires early registration by both riders and drivers.

Information center facilities will serve as a hub for a network eventually involving more than 150 travel agencies in 100 U.S. cities. Because of the excellent group excursion rates they have access to, travel



Robin Tyler

agencies friendly to local Gays and Lesbians are invited to participate. Representatives of major airlines, bus companies and Amtrak have indicated an eagerness to accommodate agencies working with the March Travel Center. Already, block reservations for thousands of train, plane and bus seats, as well as hotel rooms, have been made.

According to March Travel Coordinators Ray Hill and Greg Carmack, March enthusiasts are encouraged to reserve travel and hotel accommodations early.



Gay National Lobby Endorses March

The Gay Rights National Lobby (GRNL), by a vote of its board of directors, endorsed the March on Washington scheduled for October 14.

Explaining the apparent reversal of GRNL policy on this matter (the lobby had not opposed the March, but had earlier issued a statement withholding its endorsement), GRNL Executive Director Steve Edean said:

"Two of our concerns at the earliest stages of discussion were the March's timeliness and focus. On both counts, our concerns appear to now be satisfied. The introduction of Congressman McDonald's anti-Gay

resolution (HCR 166) gives a new sense of timeliness to the march in our minds. While House Concurrent Resolution 166 will not pass, it nevertheless poses a great danger to our progress because it will be used by 'Christian Voice' to mobilize anti-Gay constituent mail.

"The March (and the accompanying Constituent Lobby Day) is, we believe, one way to begin the critical mobilizing of Lesbians and Gay men in support of the federal Lesbian/Gay civil rights bill, HR 2074, and in opposition to McDonald's resolution."

Boutonniers, Corsages, and Flowers For All Occasions

Designed by Pardee

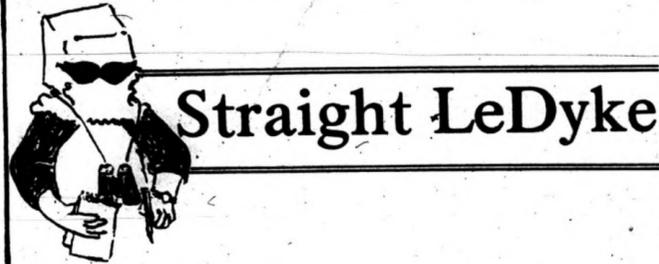
GROHE II
2792 Fourth St. Santa Rosa, California 95404
PHONE 542-4521
Wine and Champagne Available

Lavender Moon Over Cotati Prom, scheduled for September 14 at the Cotati Vet's Building, is open to all Gay people, singles or couples, regardless of style of dress.

This is a community event we hope everyone will come to and enjoy.

The NEWS Collective and the Fundraising Committee

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Straight LeDyke

THE ONLY THING WORSE than a heterosexual is a drunk heterosexual: The Flyers softball team spent the last three innings of their game against Ed's Liquors enduring questions about their sex lives from drunken base coaches. You know, the "what do Lesbians do in bed" kind. It eventually got so disgusting the umpires became involved and tossed one of the coaches from the game. That should be the end of this story but it's not. From the third base coaching box our sociologist joined the other fannies in the Ed's rooting section to continue his taunts at Flyers as they took their turn at the plate. The game finally ended after many interruptions by the umpire to caution the stands. Had enough? Sorry. While three Flyers walked to their van after the game the coach from Ed's followed them with a baseball bat and began threatening to knock 'em on the head. They talked the bat out of his hands (the ole "why should a MAN need a weapon against women" argument), pushed him back, and jumped in the van and locked it. But not before one of the women received a few caresses from our hero's clenched fist.

SPEAKING OF FOLKS with(out) alcohol problems: The Brown Bag Readers Theater, made up of eight local Lesbians, have performed their script on women and alcohol to about 700 people. There are approximately 25,000 Gay people in Sonoma County and if 1 in 4 are alcoholics (while 1 in 10 hets are) that means there are 6,5000 Gay alcoholics here. A good beginning, Brown Bag.

ANOTHER GOOD BEGINNING are the efforts by the newly formed North Bay Lesbian and Gay Men's Support group in Sonoma to let folks in that community know that we are indeed everywhere. The group started with the name "Valley of the Moon" support group but changed after fellow S.F. Gay Pride Parade marchers kept asking if they were Gay Moonies. Their current project is to plant trees in the park in the group's name.

BEWARE: Recently a Lesbian and Gay man read an ad announcing a Gay rap group happening at the First Presbyterian Church on McDonald and Spring on Monday nights. They went only to find out that the rap consisted of Anita Bryant info. to help Gays make the switch.

I THOUGHT I'D FOUND ANOTHER WEAPON in the war against sizism. In fact, I couldn't wait to get my pudgy hands on the book "Fat is a Feminist Issue" to lend to my non-fat friends. Fortunately I read it first. The book is about finding a cure for compulsive eating, a problem few fat people I know have. Pretty depressing to read a feminist speak of fat as a way to keep men away (I should be so lucky) and/or a way of dealing with mother-daughter conflicts, etc. If you want to beef up (or tofu up) thin consciousnesses, buy tickets to see Fat Chance, a dance and gymest group made up of fat women who have a firmer grip on fat as a feminist issue.

RISING WOMAN BOOKS, operating as a non-profit collective for the last few years, has been sold to two local women who plan to continue as a feminist book store using the same name. The only planned change will be adding to their inventory.

Congratulations to former SCRAP 6 steering committee member Orin Sapp on his successful surgery. We send him our best during his convalescence.

The owners of Railroad Square's new 3rd Street Station say they don't want to be known as a Gay restaurant. So do the Station a favor and don't eat there.

OLIVIA RECORDS, a collective whose politics I have always admired, have satiated my curiosity over their choice of the straight owned Inn of the Beginning as a performing space. Olivia's Ginny Berson said that the Inn is the only place that has invited their artists to perform. I also felt better wpe she said the Inn gave them most of the money from the door.

OH HOW I WISH I could be a fly on the wall at local tuxedo rental shops during the parade of dykes preparing for the prom. From there I would fly to the thrift stores for the parade of faggots selecting their gowns.

DON'T Forget the upcoming Gwen Avery concert on October 5th at the Sebestopol Vet's Building.

Women Runners Establish Network

A National American Network of Women Runners was started in early May of this year by women runners who gathered in Cleveland for the first National Women's Running Conference to share information and find a way to deal more broadly with our concerns as women runners.

At the conference, it was decided to extend and continue the efforts of the Caucuses formed by Black, Lesbian, older, disabled and employed women as well as the Task Forces on Safety, Exploitation and Resources, and Mental and Physical Health. And so, the Network was born as an information-sharing, action-oriented organization of women runners in

North America. All women who are into running--marathoners, beginners, middle-distance as well as track and field runners--are welcome to join the Network and become involved in Network Causes or Task Forces that meet your particular needs and interests. Yearly membership dues are \$3.00 for individuals and \$20.00 for clubs.

For more information about the Network, its organization and what we might do in Northern California, please contact Val Robb at (415) 552-6899 or write Robb at P.O. box 14512, San Francisco, 94114. ●



San Jose, CA Just as the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors was about to vote on a non-discrimination ordinance on August 6, an earthquake shook the area.

"There are no accidents," shouted one of more than 1,000 fundamentalists gathered to protest the ordinance, "and the earthquake is God's hand telling you to vote against this ordinance." "Praise the Lord," shouted the crowd.

The Board of Supervisors, ignoring the opponents and the earthquake alike, voted 4 to 1 to approve the ordinance prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual preference in housing and employment.

Gay Community News

Lesbian Health Resource Book

Santa Cruz, CA The Santa Cruz Women's Health Center has announced publication of *Lesbian Health Matters!*, a comprehensive resource book about Lesbian health by Mary O'Donnell, Kater Pollack, Val Leoffler and Ziesel Saunders.

The book deals with such areas as gynecological health, health and sexuality, alternative fertilization, alcoholism, feminist therapy, and more. Individual copies are priced at \$3.75, which includes mailing and handling, with discounts available for larger orders.

For further information, or to order a copy of *Lesbian Health Matters!*, write to the Santa Cruz Women's Health Center, 250 Locust St., Santa Cruz, CA 95060, or call (408) 427-3500.

Gay Community News

PUZZLED? Why Not TALK to GOD ABOUT THE Homosexuals

San Jose Follows Suit

The San Jose City Council voted 5 to 1 August 14 to adopt a Gay rights ordinance much more stringent than adopted by the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors four weeks ago.

The San Jose ordinance forbids discrimination because of sexual preference in hiring, advertising, job training and labor organizations, as well as in housing and real estate transactions, including credit transactions.

The county ordinance called for a civil code to cover discrimination based on "presumed or actual sexual preference," and asked for mediation of complaints through the county's Human Relations Division.

The dissenting vote at the San Jose council was from Larry Pegram, who said passing the ordinance "would encourage significant legal problems and has opened a Pandora's Box." ●

S.F. Chronicle

THE NESTLE BOYCOTT

- Don't buy any of these products:
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 - Sunrise Coffee
 - Pero
 - QUICK
 - Choco-Chill
 - Nestle Chocolate
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 - Souptime
 - Maggi products
 - Swiss Knight cheese
 - Stouffer products
 - Stouffer restaurants & hotels
 - Barringer Bros. wines
 - Los Hermanos wines
 - Libby, McNeil and Libby products
 - Crosse & Blackwell products
 - Deer Park Mountain Spring Water
 - Lancome cosmetics
 - L'oreal cosmetics
- IMPACT
1701 UNIVERSITY AV. SE
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55414

Anti-Gay Rights Bill Introduced

Continued from Page 1 skin or their ancestry. "But," said Jarmin, "if a person chooses to be a homosexual, that's different. We have to make a distinction there."

McDonald, a member of the Christian Voice Congressional Advisory Board, said, "The time has come when the United States Congress must finally address this issue once and for all. It seems clear to me that the vast majority of Americans, especially Christians, find homosexuality to be immoral and a great offense and would strongly oppose any protected status under law."

The resolution reads as follows: "Whereas homosexual individuals have over the last several years pressed their conduct and behavior strikingly before the eyes of the public in an attempt to gain legitimacy, acceptance and recognition under law; the need has arisen for this great legal body, the Congress of the United

States, to finally address this class and their conduct.

"A man's own abomination against God may well be at times a matter solely between his maker and himself in the pursuit of the eternal salvation.

"It also can be stated that no man should ever hold malice towards another.

"Nevertheless, it is unequivocally clear that consensual sodomy and other homosexual acts should never be accepted as legitimate in this Republic, nor should the class of individuals who advocate such conduct gain special status under the law.

"The idealism of this Republic that is embodied in its codes, protected under its laws, emulated by its institutions would be clearly debased by the acceptance of such action.

"The time has come, America,

to turn our hearts back to God and away from the secular humanism that has lead us to this day in our history. Let us have this turning finally take place with this issue and let it begin here and now.

"Be it, therefore, resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring) it is the sense of the Congress of the United States that homosexual acts and the class of individuals who advocate such conduct shall never receive special consideration or a protected status under law."

Edwards has said that HCR 166, now referred to his committee will go "nowhere." He added, however, that the resolution and the attendant campaign around it by Christian Voice could "stir up alot of anti-Gay feeling" in the country.

Gay Community News

Men's Group

A Gay men's support group meets every Thursday evening at 7:30 pm in various people's homes. For information on meeting place call Mike at 795-6292. ●

Gays Okay For San Diego P. D.

San Diego The San Diego Police Department has announced the withdrawal of its longstanding opposition to hiring Gay people as police officers.

Police Chief William Kolender, who feels it is wrong to discriminate against a person because of her/his sexual orientation, said, "We're not going out and searching for them," but if a person meets the qualifications, she or he will be hired.

Gay Community News

Country Grounds says "How can two boys with Jewish & Irish backgrounds make a great pizza?"

HYBRID VIGORI

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Sept. 22

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N. Y. City Gays Rage Against Movie

New York City
Now winding up an eight-week shooting schedule, the filming of *Cruising* has continued to generate a degree of Gay anger and militancy not seen in New York since Anita Bryant's campaign.



The protests have attracted national attention and have probably played some role in the significant changes which have been made in the past few weeks.

An August first march of over 300 Lesbians and Gay men stopped in front of New York Mayor Koch's residence to protest his refusal to withdraw city filming permits for *Cruising* and to express more general disillusionment with his record on Gay issues. "He gave us nothing...he continues to give us nothing," shouted Joe Smenyak of the Chelsea Gay Alliance.

The march, which came after a four-day lull in protest activity, failed, however, to gather the numbers or the force of the earlier protests.

On the night of July 26, the crowd swelled to well over 1000 and marched down Christopher St., having heard representatives of the Chelsea Gay Alliance, the Coalition form Lesbian and Gay Rights (CLGR), and the National Gay Task Force, and Youth Against War and Fascism address a rally at Sheridan Square.

with the rest of the crowd and rushed to occupy the entrance of the building. Scuffles broke out, and marchers tried to penetrate the police lines. One Gay man was clubbed with a nightstick and arrested. Shortly thereafter, ostensibly to clear a path for the police van, 20-30 police officers suddenly charged the protesters remaining in the area, swinging nightsticks at everyone in their path. One officer was heard to yell, "You faggot." Several protesters were hit, although none were seriously injured.

Throughout the week's protest marches, there were frequent altercations between march leaders who appeared to want to avoid a confrontation with the police at any cost, and groups of protesters who advocated a more militant response to the police presence.

Many protesters felt the leaders, an *ad hoc* group of representatives from various Gay and Lesbian organizations, failed to lead the marches in any really purposeful action. The leaders spent a lot of energy trying to control the more radical elements of the crowd, repeatedly asserting that a San Francisco-style confrontation with police would be too dangerous, given the large numbers of police and relatively small number of demonstrators.

However, the protests have achieved, and most likely will continue to achieve, minor but costly disruptions of the shooting schedule, as well as registering a forceful protest against what are seen as negative Gay images in films. Further protests are planned at the shooting sights. ●

Gay Community News

TRB Quits

London, UK

After two and a half years together the Tom Robinson Band (TRB) has called it quits. According to Robinson, the band is "no longer a challenging and risky venture." He added, "Now, after two and a half years, it's become a bit tame and predictable. It's time to move on and try something fresh."

In spite of the split, Robinson is preparing new material for a third album to follow *Power in the Darkness* and *TRB II*, and he hopes to arrange a new TRB line-up for next year. ● *Gay Community News*



Speaking about *Cruising* at the July 26 rally, Smenyak told the crowd, "We are tired of being spoken of in less than human terms." A CLGR spokesperson emphasized that "we don't need an encouragement to the bigots who do violence to Lesbians and Gay men, who take our lives at no value at all...It's time we run these people out of town like we ran Anita Bryant out of town." She urged a boycott of films released by United Artists, which will release *Cruising*, and, to cries of "Boycott them," she denounced elements of the Gay community that were cooperating with the filmmakers, such as the Stonewall II bar.

The July 26 march was marked by arrests and clashes with police at two points during the night. At Pier 40, a city-owned garage on the waterfront in which Lorimar Productions (producers of *Cruising*) was renting office and storage space, hundreds of protesters broke ranks

Gay Task Force Protests Filming

By Charles F. Brydon and Lucia Valeska
Co-Executive Directors, National Gay Task Force

Over the past couple of weeks, gay women and men in New York City have been demonstrating against the filming of *Cruising*, now being shot in the streets and bars of Greenwich Village. During that time, those of us who have organized and supported such demonstrations have been asked a number of questions about what we're up to and why. Here are some of these questions, and our answers to them.

What makes you think you've got the right to interfere with somebody else's free speech? Do you think you have the right to be censors?

We're not trying to be censors, and we haven't asked the government to be censors either. We did ask New York to withdraw its economic cooperation if that could be done without censorship. But the talk about censorship misses the point. We are telling members of an industry that has thrived on our patronage but insulted our humanity that we insist on being included in its system of self censorship. We know that *Cruising* producer Jerry Weintraub and director Bill Friedkin wouldn't make a movie that would encourage prejudice, discrimination and violence against Jews, blacks or any other religious or ethnic minority. Their consciousness wouldn't allow them to be responsible for the damage it could do. We insist that they apply their consciences to us.

But they say they're not making an anti-gay movie. They say that they're just making "a horror mystery movie with a gay background."

That's it. Gay men are being used in this film as a titillating background for horror and are seen entirely in terms of violence and obsessive sexuality. Not one gay person in the script we've seen is drawn as a three-dimensional human being. No one who witnesses the shocking series of murders in this film will care one bit about the victims. They will all too easily be seen as people who got what they were looking for and deserved.

Aren't there people like that? Friedkin and Weintraub admit that these people represent only a small segment of the gay community, but he says that this is their subject, and all they want is to be "true to our subject."

You are not true to your subject if you fail to show the human context for human behavior. For instance, the people who made *Looking for Mr. Goodbar* — a movie about the seamier side of heterosexual behavior — didn't just show us the surface manifestations of their subject. They showed us *people*, people with problems like the rest of us. Furthermore, nobody went to this film and came out saying, "This is what heterosexuality is about." They knew enough other things about heterosexuality not to make that mistake. But they don't know other things about our lives, because the film industry hasn't had the courage to tell them.

Are good things all you're going to let us see? What right have you to object to the truth?

Remember when media images of blacks in this country consisted entirely of shuffling darkies and violent marauders? The same argument was used then: "There are some people like this." But everyone knows now what damage was done by blacks by showing only one side of their lives and reinforcing stereotypes. Not only did the white majority continue to deny civil rights to a group perceived as less than fully human, but blacks grew up with skewed images of themselves. When the conscience of America finally woke up to the reality of Black America and realized the damage that had been done, the media deliberately adopted a *compensatory* policy, presenting a broad range of images that would be perceived by the majority as positive. And only when the diversity of black Americans began to be appreciated did less "acceptable" black lifestyles receive media exposure. Like other minorities who often still have cause for complaint about media images, we're not asking the film industry to pretend that gay men and women are uniformly happy, righteous and wise. But when nobody in Hollywood is prepared to commit money for sympathetic portrayals of our lives, we think it ironic for them to complain about us suppressing the truth.

Don't you think that all your protests, as Jerry Weintraub said, are just going to make more people want to see the movie?

Maybe. But if this picture does get made, people will now view it with some suspicion about its fairness and accuracy. And maybe — just maybe — all the noise we're making will finally reach the consciences of the motion picture industry. They might even make an honest film about our love and responsibility, our human problems and our joys.

Uniroyal Loses \$36 Million In Sex Bias Suit

Washington, DC

The Carter administration on July 20 won a federal judge's support for its cancellation of \$36 million in government contracts with Uniroyal, Inc. in a sex discrimination case.

U.S. District Judge Harold H. Greene ruled the government had the power to cut off Uniroyal's federal business solely because the company refused to cooperate in a sex discrimination investigation against the firm.

The ruling marked the second time in a month that a court strengthened the President's right to use the weapon of withdrawal of federal contracts. On June 22, the U.S. Court of Appeals held that Carter can deny federal contracts to companies that violate his voluntary wage-price guide-

lines.

The Uniroyal contract cutoff was imposed under a 1965 presidential order that permitted use of the penalty against contractors guilty of unlawful discrimination.

Uniroyal's refusal came during an administrative proceeding looking into Uniroyal's decision in 1968 to lay off 520 women at its plant in Mishawaka, Ind. An administrative law judge recommended that because of this, Uniroyal's government contract should be canceled. Labor Secretary Ray Marshall accepted the recommendation on June 28.

Uniroyal, the third largest U.S. rubber manufacturer, has said cancellation of the contracts would lead to layoffs and dismissals among its 24,000 employees. ● *Associated Press*

Tattooed Vegetables Rock With Political Force



by Melvin Muller

Musical terrorists of political rock and rollers, The Tattooed Vegetables cause a stir wherever they go.

With controversial songs about mental hospitals, prisons, sex roles and Gay politics The Vegetables are used to unusual responses from their audiences.

One club even sought to tell the band what they could play, fearing the affect a song about violence against the state might have on the audience. The band doesn't play there anymore.

"There's alot of violence in our show," says the lead singer Applebaum a Cotati resident. "We portray the violence that takes place against Gay people and all oppressed people. But we portray answers, too."

While not all members of the band are Gay, "We deal with the poli-

tics of Gay people," says Applebaum adding, "our band is very blunt."

Declaring the band not Punk or New Wave but an art event, Applebaum says the band "is a cross-section of the rejects of the world." Applebaum has had experience with prisons and has been in and out of mental hospitals since a child. Other members include a Viet Nam veteran, a professional dancer (who choreographs the group) and musicians who have worked in both country and rock bands.

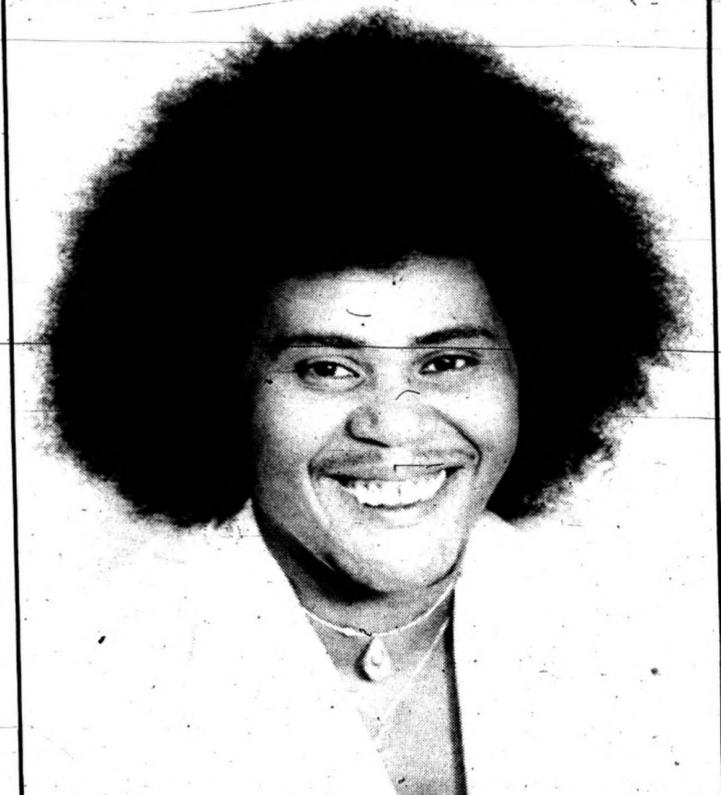
Applebaum feels there is a rising tide of fascism in this country and, being from Los Angeles originally, fears that "alot of people like Ed Davis and Evelle Younger are going to start running for office" and that people need to take a stand.

He feels it is "really important for Gay men and Lesbians to unite and stop this segregationist stuff. There needs to be unity."

"There is only one thing that straights have over Gay people and that is intimidation and intimidation is a two way street."

"The only people who have a chance to be politically relevant are Gay people."

The Tattooed Vegetables will be playing September 16 at the Inn of the Beginning with the Symptoms (New Wave) and the Improved Formula, an all women's group who play 50s rock and roll and, September 20 at Garbo's in Guerne-wood Park. ●



Gwen Avery, Lesbian feminist singer best known for her single "I want To Be Your Sugar Mama," will be providing a musical treat when she appears in her first Sonoma County concert on Friday, October 5, at the Sebastopol Vet's Building at 8 pm. Tickets will be \$3.50 at the door. Childcare will be provided.

Norma Rae Shines With Power, Dignity

by Metece Riccio

Norma Rae shines and it is also a film of mixed blessings. Director Martin Ritt brings us in Hollywood Technicolor the story of a prize fighter, a spirited and shit-kicking working class woman fighting to put a union in a small town southern textile mill.

Working in an environment that dehumanizes and grates down workers, Norma Rae stands up and refuses to take defeat. In a society that strips away self-respect from the poor and working class, this woman respects herself and will not be degraded. Norma Rae, however, is not a flat, paper cut-out character. We also feel her work worn weariness from days and years of giving too much and getting too little in return. We see the tiredness, the discouragement, and feelings of powerlessness etched in the lines of the faces of her co-workers.

Norma Rae, offers a small glimpse into what a working class life filled with struggle can do to people, from the feelings of defeat to the incredible ability to endure, fight and survive.

When Ruben Warshawsky, an intellectual middle class organizer comes to town to put a union in the mill, the workers response to this disconnected attempts to organize them ring true to life.

"Hello sir. Do you like your job?" "I'd like to keep it."

Part of Reuben's problem is that he has little or no understanding of the people he is trying to organize. Although he says he wants to hear what workers have to say, basically we do not see him listening and responding to the real needs and feelings they confront him with.

He never even acknowledges the question they consistently put to him in one form or another: How will I survive if I loose my job in the process of trying to win the union? We know, however, that there is no otherwork in this small mill town. We see a family of seven having six turnips in two quarts of water for dinner because workers involved in organizing got their hours cut back. We see no support for them, only that Reuben drives his rented car back to his motel room and seems to have enough Fritos and sandwiches to last him a while.

It is Norma Rae, with her fire for justice and her practical concern for herself and her fellow workers who does the real grassroots organizing. Some of the most realistic scenes in the film are small, heartfelt gestures between co-workers that convey their support for each other. The film also touches on management tactics to divide workers, pitting the Black and white workers against each other. There is a wonderful scene that gives some insight

into the tension created internally and externally for workers when they are promoted. Norma Rae is offered a job spot checking for a dollar fifty more an-hour. Needless to say, her friends resent her timing their work and pushing them on the job. Feeling isolated and angry, she quits spot checking and is demoted back to the weaving room. As she returns to her old position, one of her women friends ties her own apron around Norma Rae's waist and the loving bond between them as workers lights up the screen.

Through Norma Rae's relationship with Reuben, we see different classes in contrast and often in contradiction. Here is one working class woman's life, a realistic kaleidoscope of satisfying affairs and real needs—material, emotional and sexual. He plays the wise and knowing mentor and tells her she is too smart for what is happening to her. And, although this may be true, one can not help feeling how little he understands about her life. He makes many references to his own background, that of a middle class, New York, intellectual, most of these which she does not understand.

Unfortunately, he does not explain or demystify what he is talking about unless she asks, and even then his responses have a patronizing, condescending quality about them. For an organizer, this kind of insensi-

tivity is sorely lacking and potentially destructive. She has learned from him and we hope he has learned from her. The end of the film is a misleading fantasy where the union wins, while in real life the fight to put a union in JP Stevens continues on.

More true to life, however, is the fact that Norma Rae has lost her job standing up for what she believes in and is not even able to celebrate her co-workers victory with them. Instead, she is outside the mill fence saying goodbye to Reuben as he drives back to New York, back to art museums and Nathan's hotdogs. And as he exits into the sunset, one can't help wondering what she'll do for a living while he's at the opera.

Norma Rae is a Hollywood film and politically leaves alot to be desired. The real Norma Rae, Crystal Lee Sutton, did not like the film and is considering a lawsuit. Barbara Kopple, producer of *Harlan County, USA*, plans on doing a film of the actual story of Crystal Lee Sutton and her fight to organize textile workers at a JP Stevens plant in Roanoke Rapids, N.C. in '73-'74.

I look forward to seeing Barbara Kopple tell the real story.

Still and all, it makes me glad to see a working class heroine in Technicolor. ●

U. S. Immigration Yields To Gays

San Francisco

The United States Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) announced August 13 that it will no longer attempt to exclude foreigners from this country on the basis of their sexual orientation.

Although the new policy directive was phrased as to appear temporary, it will probably mark the end of harassment of foreign visitors suspected by INS of being Gay.

The directive, issued by INS Commissioner Leonel Castillo came as a direct result of litigation brought by Gay foreigners whom INS officers stopped at San Francisco International Airport on two separate occasions this summer.

The first of these challenges, brought by British citizen Carl Hill resulted in the August 1 decision by the U.S. Public Health Service (PHS) no longer to cooperate. The second case, involving two Mexican citizens, Miguel Eduardo Roman Martinez and Arturo Javier Cruz Garcia challenged the authority of INS to proceed with the requirement of PHS psychiatric examinations. The policy directive came just one day before the second case was scheduled for a hearing in immigration court.

In 1952, Congress provided that homosexuals be excluded from the U.S. as persons "afflicted with psychopathic personality." The law further provided that PHS psychiatrists examine whether they were homosexual. On August 1, however, U.S.

Surgeon General Julius Richmond announced that PHS would no longer participate in this procedure, leaving two unresolved legal issues: whether PHS could, in fact, refuse to examine foreigners to "diagnose" homosexuality, and whether INS could deport Gay foreigners without "certification" from PHS.

Because of these unresolved issues, Castillo's directive orders INS to cease attempts to deport entering Gay foreigners until such time as Congress resolves these issues. In the meantime, Gay people can technically be placed in a temporary or "deferred examination" status rather than being legally admitted to this country. However, if Congress fails to pass a new law to enable INS to turn away Gay visitors, it is as though the 1952 law were not on the books.

Gay foreigners can enter and leave the U.S. without affecting their chances to visit the country in the future. Until the August 13 directive, if a Gay foreigner were excluded from the U.S. she or he would be denied permission to enter the country for a period of one year.

According to Don Knutson, Executive Director of Gay Rights Advocates (GRA), the non-profit San Francisco law firm which pursued both cases, it is unlikely now that Congress will either repeal the 1952 law restricting Gay foreigners from entering the U.S. or strengthen it to provide for a way to enforce it.

"Without an enforcement mechanism," said Knutson, "the law is, in effect, dead."

Of course, a homophobic INS officer could harass a Gay foreigner with or without specific legal basis. The result of policy changes made this summer is that there is no legal basis for such harassment. INS now has no legal powers, however, to keep out a Gay foreigner who wishes to visit this country.

Gay Community News

Anti-Nuke Group Endorses D. C. March

Philadelphia, PA

A national organization coordinating efforts to halt nuclear power and nuclear weapons has endorsed the October 14 March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights.

Formally supporting the Gay march --and publicizing it in its July-August issue of its periodical, *The Mobilizer*--the Mobilization for Survival Gay Task Force issued the following statement: "We recognize that the Gay and Lesbian movements and groups like the Mobilization for Survival are natural allies; we struggle often against the same enemy and struggle towards the same goals. We recognize that our issues of human rights and human survival are not separate issues. They are the only issues. We must stand together to carry on the struggle to transform our nation."

Gay Community News

Gay Socialists Form Network

Washington, DC

Lesbian and Gay male socialists have formed an *ad hoc* network-building group which seeks to form a nationwide network for mutual support. Organizers feel support is needed among people doing political work in the Lesbian and Gay male communities and dealing with Lesbian/Gay issues in progressive parties and movements.

Tentative tasks which have been suggested include a newsletter, a conference, and a coordinated presence at the October 14 March on Washington. Any other comments and suggestions are welcome.

People wishing to become part of the network, or wishing additional information, are asked to contact the *ad hoc* network-building group from Baltimore, Philadelphia and Washington by writing to Joe Stewart, 1425 Rhode Island Ave., NW, Suite 203, Washington, DC 20005.

Gay Community News

Flaunting It In Georgia

Martin, GA

For the third consecutive year, a Gay pride banner has been strung across the main street of this small north Georgia community of some 300 people. The banner reading "Gay Pride Refuses to Hide," was presumably put up by the town's two Gay citizens. Gay Community News

Little Girls Still Sugar And Spice

Philadelphia

Toy commercials for little girls are sugar and spice, but the message for little boys is designed to nurture macho men, according to a research study.

Writing in the summer edition of the University of Pennsylvania Journal of Communications, researcher Renate C. Welch of the University of Kansas reported that advertisers used "blatant obvious and exaggerated" sexually stereotyped messages to sell toys to children.

Female child actors did very little talking in neutral commercials, whereas they did a great deal of talking in female commercials.

Aggression was almost entirely limited to male commercials.

"The problems of male role stereotypes are sometimes neglected because of our frequent focus of females," Welch said.

In general, girls play with dolls and miniature domestic implements; boys play with vehicles, competitive games and war games.

"These content messages are blatant, obvious and exaggerated versions of sex stereotypes," Welch said.

United Press



Military Drag

More subtle, but still pervasive and perhaps more dangerous, said Welch, were the techniques toy commercials used to get the message across.

Welch's team distinguished three types of commercials among the 60 studied: Male, using solely male child actors; female, solely females, and neutral, using both sexes.

Among the techniques: Male and neutral commercials had a higher rate of scene changes than female commercials, which contained more fades, dissolves and soft background music.

During World War I, the record shows, 389 French women disguised themselves in uniforms, worked their way up to the front lines, and fought the Germans. Many were killed. One was awarded the Croix de Guerre for bravery, and was permitted to keep it after she revealed her gender.

S.F. Chronicle

Congress Members Speak Out Against Gay Immigration Ban

Washington, DC

The Gay Rights National Lobby (GRNL) announced August 15 that ten members of Congress have joined "the battle to reverse the Immigration and Naturalization Service's (INS) discrimination policy towards Gay people." The action followed letters sent by GRNL and the National Gay Task Force (NGTF).

The congresspersons were also urged to take a stand on the issue by Congressperson Ted Weis (D-NY), one of the chief sponsors of federal Gay rights legislation (HR 2074). The ten members of Congress have sent a letter to outgoing INS Commissioner Leonel Castillo stating:

The INS policy can and should be changed administratively. The INS has, in a previous case, changed its regulations in view of changing facts and attitudes. After federal

courts ruled in 1930 and 1934 that fornication and adultery were grounds for exclusion under "moral turpitude" provision of the act, the INS removed both these categories as grounds for exclusion or deportation, presumably in view of changing public attitudes. In the case of homosexuality, not only public attitudes, but professional opinions and definitions have changed. Surely administrative action is warranted.

The congresspersons who joined in signing the letter to Castillo are Ted Weiss, John Burton, Fred Richmond, James Weaver, S. William Green, FortneyPete Stark, Parren Mitchell, Ronald Dellums, Paul McCloskey, and Mickey Leland. In addition, Congressperson Julian Dixon sent a separate letter to Castillo which urged a reversal of anti-Gay INS policy.

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FBI Decides To Butt Out

Washington, DC

Stating his belief that "conduct, not personal beliefs" should be stressed, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Director William H. Webster announced July 27 that the FBI has terminated its practice of dictating rules for the private lives of employees.

"We're trying to stay out of people's private lives," said Webster, "unless their conduct--and the emphasis is always on conduct--impacts upon the effectiveness of that individual and the bureau." Formerly, the FBI had penalized employees who violated the

stringent sexual code implemented by the late FBI director J. Edgar Hoover.

Commenting on the recent firing of Gay FBI file clerk John Calzada Webster said that most law enforcement agencies feel that when Lesbian or Gay employees have access to "top secret" data "there is a potential for compromise for those who engage in such conduct, which is generally not approved by society and in some places illegal...We treat it as a factor, and, in all candor, as a significant factor. It is a troublesome thing."

Gay Community News

Witchhunt Thwarted

Those who had the opportunity to meet former Women's Army Corps member turned comedienne/monologist Pat Bond following a performance in Sacramento recently, heard the story of another service-woman.

The woman had been a non-commissioned officer in the European theatre following World War II. She told Bond how she had been approached by her commanding officer with the specific request that she help "ferret out" the Lesbians in the company.

"Yes, sir," she said. "I'll be glad to, sir. However, sir, I must inform you now, sir, that my name will be at the top of the list."

Suddenly, a second voice, that of the company's secretary, joined in: "And I, sir, will be glad to help. However, sir, the Sergeant here should be aware that she will have to fight me for first place on the list."

According to this anonymous storyteller, this particular witchhunt was ended as quickly as it began.

--Mom, Guess What-Sacramento

Bounty For Khomeini Set By Italian Gays

Turin, Italy

The Front of Revolutionary Homosexuals (FUORI) has declared war on Iran's Ayatollah Khomeini, offering a \$1 million reward for his delivery to Italy to be tried for crimes against homosexuals.

Angelo Pezzana and Renzo Francome of FUORI said a large portion of the reward has already been raised through self-taxation by Italian Gays, and they explained that they expected additional financial support from international Gay organizations in general agreement with FUORI's

actions. Cash will be paid for Khomeini's extradition.

FUORI officials said, "We have put (out) a reward to have someone bring Khomeini here. We will not be seeking a death penalty or a life term. We are against such penalties. We will put a symbolic penalty on him."

Claiming that Khomeini's regime is responsible for the execution of many Iranian Gays, Pezzana said the Ayatollah "must be punished for his crimes against sexual freedom and ethnic minorities."

Gay Community News

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Why Congress Is A Man's Domain

The following commentary titled, "Why a vote for a woman is a vote for America" was written for Pacific New Service by Bella Abzug, former Congressional representative from New York, and until dismissed by President Jimmy Carter, co-chair of the National Advisory Committee for Women.

NEW YORK

When the 96th Congress convenes in January, the 100-member U.S. Senate probably will have reverted to its status as the most exclusive rich men's club in the world. Its noisy neighbor, the 435-member House of Representatives, is expected to include about the same number of women it has now - 18 - give or take a few.

The absence of women from the Senate and their slight presence in the House is one of the most glaring deficiencies in the supposed democratic government of a nation in which women make up 51.3 percent of the population. But indignation about this lopsided state of political affairs is neither rampant nor even evident among the leaders of the Democratic and Republican parties or good government groups.

Why aren't women making it to Washington in larger numbers? Not many can afford the increasingly high costs of campaigning. (Americans for Democratic Action estimates an incumbent member of Congress spends close to \$1 million to defend his seat). Also, more and more millionaires are running for office. In my off-election year race for a House seat last February, my Republican opponent, heir to a supermarket fortune, outspent me three to one, and he won narrowly. He spent \$330,000 in about three weeks.

Fairness aside, does it make any difference whether we have more women in Congress or in the judiciary (their numbers there are pitifully small) or even (don't hold your breath) in the White House? I suspect that women as a whole would be less inclined to vote for expensive new missiles or neutron bombs. They'd probably think the money was better spent on making our cities livable or providing child care centers for working parents.

During the height of the Vietnam conflict, an analysis showed that the majority of women members of Congress, Democrats and Republicans, opposed the war. In the current Congress, the women members voted overwhelmingly for ERA extension and 2 to 1 against a series of devastating (and successful) amendments restricting abortion rights.

A survey by the Eagleton Institute Of Politics at Rutgers University, conducted among thousands of women office holders from local township councils up showed that women have a more "humanistic" outlook. They are most likely to support busing and less likely to advocate capital punishment. They are more responsive to the needs of senior citizens and measures promoting maternal and child health.

A Gallup poll in September 1975 reported that 71 percent of Americans feel the country would be governed as well or better with more women in

public office, and 73 percent said they would vote for a qualified woman for president. Eighty percent said they would vote for a woman in Congress, for governor or mayor.

The current imbalance reflects the male-dominated nature of politics from the founding of the American republic. For the first 129 years of this nation, it was easy to keep count because there were no women at all in Congress. Montana, one of the several states that granted women the right to vote before 1920, elected the first woman representative in 1917. She was Jeanette Rankin, considered an oddball because the first vote she cast opposed American entry into World War I. She was not re-elected. After the suffrage amendment to the Constitution was ratified, women began trickling into Washington. But the trend never got past the rivulet stage.

Of the total 9,591 members of the House in the entire history of our nation, only 87 have been women. Of 1,728 senators, only 13 have been women. For long stretches of recent time, there have been no women in the Senate. The current two women senators - Muriel Humphrey of Minnesota and Maryon P. Allen of Alabama - got there the way most of their predecessors did; they were appointed as temporary replacements for husbands who died in office.

It is a reflection on the process rather than on the women, some of whom turned out to be able legislators, that widowhood became one of the surest routes to Congress. More than a third of the 100 women who have served in Congress were appointed because they were widows of members. This routine became known as the "widow's game" - a game in which paternalistic men made the rules and women were the pawns. And it guaranteed that there would not be the kind of trouble an independently elected woman might make. Most female appointees served less than full terms.

Men still make the rules in politics, with establishment power and money remaining dominant factors in electoral success.

In the current congressional election campaign, 45 of the 89 women who entered the major party primaries won nominations. Of these, less than half - 15 of the 18 women in the House seeking re-election and several women candidates running in open contests - are considered likely to win.

In the Senate campaign, Sen. Humphrey chose not to stand for election and Sen. Allen lost in the primary. Of the two women who survived Senate primary races, Jane Esling, a Tennessee Democrat who spent \$100,000 of her own money to win nomination, is up against the probably unbeatable Sen. Howard Baker, and Kansas Republican

Women candidates are often caught in a Catch 22 - they can't raise much money because they're not expected to win and they can't win because they can't raise much money.

Not many women are encouraged to run for office by party leadership or clubs or the "old boy" network. The political establishment, big business and the unions don't seek out women candidates and rarely help those who run on their own.

Most women nominees run in districts their parties feel are almost impossible to win. If the districts look winnable, prominent male politicians move into the race. On the infrequent occasions when a party encourages a woman to run for office, it's usually for a token race or because the leadership is using her to compete against a woman with a chance of succeeding.

Women bear one additional burden: They're expected to be morally, intellectually and physically superior to - and better looking than - the average male politician.

But just as important as any of these factors is that the underrepresentation of women in government is not seen by liberal or even radical men as a stirring civil rights issue or an affront to democracy. There is little sense of outrage about an all-male Senate or largely male House voting to deny Medicaid benefits for abortion, an action that exclusively affects women. Nobody exclaimed at the irony of women having to watch the ERA extension debate in the Senate from the balcony, which is where we came in two centuries ago.

Aside from the efforts of the National Women's Political Caucus, the Women's Campaign Fund and the National Women's Educational Fund - all devoted to increasing women's participation in government - none of the national reform groups or liberal organizations has gone out of its way to encourage women to run or assist them in their campaigns.

In arguing for the necessity to have significant numbers of women in Congress - a goal that I would consider non-controversial in a self-respecting democracy - I often encounter the defensive, "You don't expect me to vote for a woman just because she's a woman" response.

The answer is, "Of course not. But if a liberal woman and a liberal man are in the same race, I'll pick the woman, and I'll help her too." The sad fact is that I have had only a few opportunities in my life to vote for any woman in any office. If we ever get to the stage where thousands of women are able to run for election, voters will finally have the same opportunity to shop around for an acceptable woman candidate as they now have with male candidates.

Riot Investigation By FBI, Justice Department

The massive investigation concerning the May 21st City Hall incidents has nearly been completed by the May 21st Legal Committee. Four Mass Law Offices were organized to receive information concerning the events at City Hall and on Castro Street. Approximately 500 people have been in contact with the committee.

The criminal defense of the 30 individuals arrested on May 21st is being coordinated by a legal defense committee of approximately 50 lawyers and legal workers. The defense committee has filed a major discovery motion to obtain necessary information from the District Attorney to dem-

by police at Civic Center, Market St., Castro St., and at the Elephant Walk Bar.

After claims are filed (the deadline was August 29), the city has 45 days to respond to the claims. After that time civil suits may be started against the City.

Other news:

• The FBI and Department of Justice have been called in by attorneys for the Elephant Walk victims to investigate and prosecute police violence on May 21st. A report and charges are expected this month.

• The Stanford Research Institute has been asked by the Police Commission to investigate police conduct on the night and make recommendations for correcting problems.

• Citizens and elected officials are working to monitor violence by police and others against members of the Gay communities.

For further information write:

MAY 21st DEFENSE FUND
558 Capp Street
San Francisco 94110
(415) 285-5066

Contributions are payable to the Capp Street Foundation at the above address. •

As we were going to press, several San Francisco policemen were preparing a suit against the City and County of San Francisco for emotional and physical damages as a result of official actions taken during the "White Night" City Hall demonstration following the verdict in the Dan White case. •

onstrate that these cases are being handled by top prosecutors in an unfair manner. The judge has ordered the DA to provide this information.

The defense committee has also asked the judge to disqualify the DA from prosecuting these cases because of its apparent conflict of interest (called a recusal motion). The request is based on the charge that the DA seeks, in effect, to punish the demonstrators for protesting the DA's handling of the Dan White murder case. The defense committee also charges that the DA has a self-interest in proving (after the fact) that he is a "good prosecutor" by making examples of those charged.

To date over \$10 million in claims have been filed against the San Francisco Police Department and the city and county of San Francisco for police violence on May 21st. These claims represent some 50 individuals of the over 200 citizens who claim injuries

White House Women's Newsletter Available

Washington, DC

The office of Sarah Weddington, President Carter's advisor for women's affairs, occasionally publishes a newsletter called *White House News on Women*.

The newsletter is printed with the aid of the Inter-Departmental Task Force on Women. To be on the mailing list, write the Inter-Departmental Task Force on Women, 1111 20th St., NW, Suite 3050, Washington, D.C. 20036.

S. F. Baths Stay Open After D. A. Probe

San Francisco

Six Gay sex clubs the San Francisco district attorney's office has been seeking to close will be allowed to remain open under an agreement imposing more stringent conditions on their operation.

Chief Assistant District Attorney Charles Breyer said his office will drop civil nuisance suits against the clubs four months from now if during that period the owners live up to the agreement they signed.

The nuisance suits, known as red-light abatement actions, were filed last February by Breyer's office after an investigation by the Police Department disclosed some sex acts in the clubs were being performed in public.

The vice squad probe was prompted by a letter from the Rev. Ray Broshars, a controversial member of San Francisco's Gay community, to Dianne Feinstein last fall when she was still a supervisor, Breyer said.

Feinstein forwarded the complaint to police.

Breyer said after the nuisance

suits were filed, he met with the club operators and property owners who were involved.

"It was the position of the club owners that these clubs were private and that therefore, acts which occurred between consenting adults in private which did not involve any other violations of the law were permissible under state law," Breyer said.

"But we were concerned because some of these clubs were not operating in such a way to insure the privacy of the people participating in the acts and in others there were violations of law occurring, such as the showing of child pornography or acts of prostitution."

To become a member of a sex club, a person must pay a membership fee of between \$3 and \$5 a year plus a fee from \$1.50 to \$5 each time they visit the club.

Because the money is paid to a club employee and no money changes hands between the sexual partners, the clubs cannot be considered houses of prostitution, Breyer said. •

-S.F. Chronicle

HUD Workers Face Sexual Harassment

Washington, DC - Women workers in the Department of Housing and Urban Development face widespread sexual harassment by their superiors, according to an unofficial survey released in July.

The survey found that in many cases "the approach is head on, and threats of reprisal for failure to 'put out' is the preferred supervisory technique."

Many of the women submitted to their superior's sexual demands in exchange for job advancement, a report on the survey said.

The poll was conducted by Al Ripskis, a HUD official and one of its most persistent internal critics. Ripskis published his findings in *Impact*, his private newsletter.

Representative James Hanley, D-NY, chairperson of the House Civil Service Committee, announced his investigations subcommittee would conduct an investigation into Ripskis' findings.

Ripskis said he received 63 written responses and 103 telephoned respon-

ses to his questionnaire into sexual harassment at HUD. He said his survey found nearly 11 percent of the solicitations came from women seeking Lesbian relationships with a co-worker.

HUD employs 7341 women, about half its work force. Virginia Armstrong, HUD personnel director, said the department has a telephone hotline to the inspector general's office that employees may use "to report any type of wrongdoing...with assurances that their identity will be protected."

So far, Armstrong noted, the office has not received "a single call from any employee alleging sexual harassment."

Of the women who responded to the survey, Liskis said, three out of ten "give in or cooperate."

"Of those who cooperate, 80 percent say making love with the boss paid off," he said. • *United Press*

Insemination Works Better

Chicago

The *Reproductive Rights Newsletter* (Summer, 1979) reports that a study of 1,500 children born from thawed sperm found that miscarriages occurred among fewer than 8 percent of the women who bore the children, as opposed to the 15 percent rate usual with conventional insemination.

Birth defects among the children born through artificial insemination were less than 1 percent, as opposed to the general defect rate of 6 percent.

Doctors said that it was likely that in the freezing process, only the healthiest sperm survive, leading to fewer problems during pregnancy and birth. • *Gay Community News*

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Gay Skate Rolling

Gay Skate, the evenings of roller skating which have been growing steadily in popularity since they were instigated in March, are continuing twice monthly.

This month, the evenings are September 10 and 24. October's first Gay Skate will be October 8.

The evenings are always the second and fourth Mondays of the month, from 8 to 10PM, at Cal-Skate, 6100 Commerce Blvd., Rohnert Park.

Admission and skate rental is \$1.50. For further information call 526-6077. ●



Women And Work

A multi-faceted conference co-sponsored by the SRJC Women's Re-Entry Program and the Sonoma County Commission on the Status of Women, Working Women, Inc, and other community agencies that specialize in vocational counseling, training and placement, will be held on Saturday, September 8 and Saturday October 6, from 9 AM to 4 PM at Santa Rosa Junior College.

There is a registration fee of \$5.00 for each conference. Both conferences are designed primarily for women, but are open to everyone regardless of age or background.

Part One of the conference will focus on individuals attitudes about themselves in relation to the world of work. There will be speakers, panel presentations, workshops and small group discussions. The conference is for individuals who are experiencing difficulties or questions in their explorations of employment alternatives.

Identifying skills and talents will be primary emphasis of the day.

Part Two of the conference will focus on alternatives. Participants will be offered an opportunity to meet with personnel staff from various agencies and business in the county. Interview skills and techniques will be offered. For those interested in technical skills, workshops will be included to acquaint a person with training programs in major fields. workshops and discussion groups will feature "blue collar" work, questions relating to math and test anxiety will be explored, as well as "reality situations: how to manage child care and an education and/or career.

Advance registration at the SRJC's Women's Center until September 7 from 9 AM to 5 PM. Attendance is limited.

For further information call 527-2161 or 527-4375. ●

Gay Youth Speak Out

San Francisco

A monthly newsletter by and for Gay youth has begun publication in the Bay Area.

Gay Youth Community News, published by the Gay Youth Community Coalition (GYCC), will contain articles written by Lesbian and Gay youth, as well as legal and health-related information and listings of resources for Gay and Lesbian youth in the Bay Area. It will be heavily distributed in the Bay Area and mailed to over 150 individuals and groups around the country.

Spokespersons for GYCC said the newsletter was begun "to help meet

our needs to communicate with each other about issues and events pertinent to our lives. It will also serve us in building a strong Gay Youth movement throughout the United States.

Written material is solicited from young Lesbians and Gay men. Subscriptions are available at the rate of \$5 per year.

Subscriptions, submissions, and inquiries should be sent to Gay Youth Community Coalition, 3759 17th St., San Francisco 94114. Subscribers should make checks payable to Sandy Thompson and John Nieto.

Gay Community News

Gay Business Ass'n. Forms

The concept of a Gay business association in Sonoma County is being presented to interested business and professional persons.

No specific structure has been established as of this time but with the Gay movement in this county on

the upswing, the time may be right for the Gay business community to work together.

For further information contact John Darragh at 795-3973. Please leave a message with your name and best time to return your call. ●

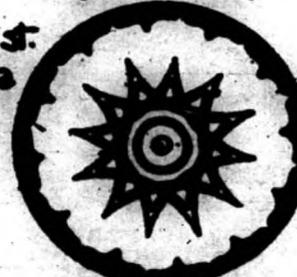
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