SIK's second intensive campaign against venereal disease is underway. We would like to have 100% cooperation among our members and friends during March. It is extremely important that we conduct this campaign on a person-to-person basis. Make certain that our brochures, lapel buttons, and match books, which have been designed to create comment and discussion, are made available to your friends. It is important that you, as individual members or friends of the organization, make certain that the comments and discussion are acted upon. Know your facts: Venereal disease in this community has reached epidemic proportions. It is spreading rapidly because many are unaware of the symptoms of syphilis; indeed, there may be no symptoms at all until it reaches a stage where lengthy and expensive treatment is required. SIK's past October program helped reduce the number of venereal disease cases in the community, but we still have a long way to go before it is eradicated. Emphasize the fact that all public health records concerning venereal disease are CONFIDENTIAL. The health department has assured us that NO other government agency, including the F.B.I., State, or local police forces may have access to any of this information.

Because of the success of our October program, SIK has won many friends in the Public Health Service, and others. Let's keep these friends and increase their number in March by fulfilling this important responsibility to our community. "CHECK 33" yourself and urge all you know to do so.

Proprietor Peggy Foster has announced that March 15th will be an evening of great expectation at the Golden Cask. In connection with T.G. members, Bill Plath, Darryl Glied, and Bob Ross, a lavish stage show will be presented. It will feature the entertainers of our community whom we have all come to love.

The reason for all the festivity is that it's "Benefit Night" for the council on religion and the homosexual. The gross receipts will go to the Council. All liquor, wages, and expenses have been generously donated by the Cask. From the time the bar opens at 5 p.m. that Monday evening, the Cask is prepared to handle the largest crowd it has hosted since starting business. We encourage all our members and friends to help a good cause by joining in on a great time.

Hiking

On Washington's Birthday twelve of SIK's hardy members hiked to the top of Mt. Diablo. There's been no report on how many times they stopped to rest on the way up, but the members asked claimed the Fifth Amendment. Nevertheless, each of them enjoyed the hike well enough to sign up for the next one which is to the summit in Portola State Park.

If you are rough and tough enough to join them on future excursions and wish to do so, call MA 6-5233.

Theatre

Led by Bill Plath, this group attended "The Committee" and a performance of the San Francisco Ballet Company recently. Next on the agenda is a night at Finnochio's and later a performance of the Moiseyev dance group from Russia.

If you want to join SIK's group, call Bill at 'M 2-0294.

Conversation

The group has outgrown itself and split in two sections, each meeting Friday at the same time but at different locations with each discussing a different subject. The lively discussions of the "Free Speech Movement," "Location of a Life Long Love Partner," and "The Ideal Love Relationship," testify to the reason for the popularity of (Continued on Page 2)
President’s Corner

by Bill Beardemphl

A basic desire of every person is to satisfy the feeling that he belongs. This task for a homosexual takes on gigantic proportions.

Most of us can never be completely at home with our families; on our jobs we attempt to ignore others or build a wall between co-workers and ourselves. With the "straight" we always find ourselves put aside as part of that weird group, or, when accepted we are a "real character - but lots of crazy fun - swell but - ya know what I mean." Wherever we go, walking on the street, at the theatre, or church on Sunday, we search faces for others like ourselves so we can ease the alone feeling. Our constant question is, "Is he?"

That a relief to become part of a gay crowd in a bar when we can no longer stand the alone feeling. Our constant question is, "Is he?"

When Mattachine gets a bowling bowl; well, SIR has a bowling night that's a wow and believe it or not we are going to bowl a team from D.O.B.'s.

When Mattachine gets a bowling team and plays SIR you can bet you all life that night I am going to be there cheering when we beat the out of them. This is only a sample of the things that our Social Activity Groups are doing.

Our credo is ACTION. We intend to live in San Francisco and have as much of a ball as any but when it comes to making a social fabric, or curing VD, or doing any of the dozen hundred and one things that our group is doing in our Community, then it looks like we are going to have to do it ourselves if it is ever going to be done.

If you want to be a part, it is the easiest thing in the world to do; come to any SIR meeting next one is March 15 and see if you can fulfill your needs. SIR's program depends on every gay YOU in San Francisco joining in with others. YOU CAN BELONG.

THANK YOU - We wish to thank all those who contributed to offsetting the expenses arising from the January 1st ball. Donations are still needed. Your contributions will continue to be accepted with our gratitude. The cut off date for contributions is April 19.

- Board of Directors

ACTIVITIES -

this group.

Slated for future discussions are such topics as "Does Any Pornography Deserve Censorship," "Human Rights and Homosexuals," and "The Age Factor in Homosexuality."

If you are interested in joining the discussion groups phone SIR for information.

Art

The art group meets on Sunday afternoon under the direction of Gene Swartz. Most of the work for posters, dance decorations, and like SIR projects have been done by this group.

Individual creation has given fascinating results during afternoon drawing sessions of still life and human figure compositions. Much interesting clay work is being undertaken by some of the members.

Gene can be reached at 776-3460 for more information.

Bowling

One of the most active fun groups has been meeting Thursday nights. It's the Bowling Club. A match with some of the girls from D.O.B. resulted in a 2 to 1 win in their favor. A rematch is contemplated. If you want to bowl with the club, get in touch.

- JOIN A GROUP TODAY-
- HELP FORM A NEW GROUP-
- NONE YOU LIKE IS ACTIVE-

Support Our Work

JOIN TODAY

VECTOR

Issued monthly by the
SOCIETY FOR INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS
Post Office Box 5326
San Francisco, California 94101
Dear Reader:

We hope to obtain the cooperation of all groups in the community so that this Calendar will be an important service in planning your social activities and in keeping you informed as to what is going on in San Francisco and the Bay Area.

March 1966

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SPECIAL REPORT

C.R.H. WESUS DONATIONS

The following letter has been reprinted from The Council on Religion and the Homosexual, Inc., Robert Walker, Treasurer, 330 Ellis Street, San Francisco, California:

"The Council on Religion and the Homosexual, Inc. has started action on significant educational, moral and civil rights aspects which affect all areas of the homosexual community in the bay area. The Council recognises the important work of existing homophile organisations and does not intend to replace or superimpose itself on these groups. Rather it intends to supplement the work of these groups where such action seems appropriate and to establish dialog (mutual communication) with many influential segments of San Francisco leadership.

...... Traditional fund raising sources such as picnics, dances, raffles, etc. are the principal source of income for the existing organisations and the Council feels it would not be appropriate to usurp the prior claim of these groups. Therefore it is necessary to rely principally upon contributions from individuals and corporations who are interested in furthering the work of the Council.

"You are asked to search your conscience and determine the amount of money which would be appropriate for you to contribute to the general operating expenses of the Council. You may contribute any amount, however we will give certificates for donations as follows:

- Patron $100.00
- Sponsor $25.00
- Supporter $5.00

"Please send your donation today in order that we may proceed with the vital work of the Council."

Victorian Corner
2500 Clay St.
San Francisco

YOUR HOST
GEORGE ZELL

featuring

at the piano—
- Tuesday thru Saturday - ROGER VON
- Sunday & Monday - NEME WIDGETT

Entertainment Ritely
The Gordian Knot

by Bill Beardemphl

PART II

The Oracle of the Gordian Knot blocked men from conquering Asia by diverting their concern from fulfilling actions. When Alexander cut the knot he destroyed the psychological deterrent that had prevented the spread of Western Culture throughout Asia. On all sides men have self-defeating diversions.

There are limits beyond which acts become self-defeating; such as those of the libertine who flaunts convention for the sake of the taunt and the man who cannot grapple with society's standards; these persons are forced into acting out a role of worthlessness. Some individuals bind their actions with such strict control that they do not act at all and other individuals do not act because of social restrictions. All of these "types" sublimate their natures to hostile and cruel actions. These extremes show a lack of awareness of human nature. Life fulfillment is the opposite of such destructive conditions. The individual must not act in such a way as to negate his being or in such a manner that results in a sublimation of his nature to open destructiveness.

Man must by nature exist in relation with other men; even the hermit does so by antithesis in attempting to limit his human contacts. When one speaks of life experience, he cannot take it out of the context of all life experience, which is the history of mankind as a changing-becoming process. Part of the historical collective life experience of mankind becomes, necessarily, part of the individual's life experience. Trial and error teaches man that a balance must be maintained between experiences or his perceptions lead to false judgments. Even a man's religious "revelations" are useful to others only as they reinforce or are consistent with the collective life experience, or they are rejected. All contemporary oracles must base their statements on proofs substantiated by scientific method. If a man tends to a better perception or awareness, he must realize that this is possible only if he evaluates his experiences in relation to the evaluations of other persons. Despite the obvious fact that objective considerations are judged subjectively, man must be cognizant that other persons exist and perceive and evaluate and act. An interrelation of persons qualifies our appraisals of life and necessitates an idea of subjectiveness. So here again is the crux: what do we select from man's collective experience and how do we judge it? Are we not entangled in a knot of inactivity or destructive acts? Or does the argument matter at all? Let us extend our previous premise of subjective considerations to societal considerations. Society fulfills through activity; there are certain limits of societal actions which, when overstepped, become self-defeating. Therefore man must judge what societal results are desired and, by perceiving what actions bring these results, act in such a way as to achieve the desired results in the most expeditious manner.

We are confronted with a great variety of societal fact such as ethical standards, rights and wrongs, blacks and whites or shades of gray, satisfactory and unsatisfactory evaluations. The greatest probability is that none of these is correct but that the variations derive from the differences found between the varying individual natures of man. "Human Right" in a social organization is based on man's consent by his accepting the social contract. Man must necessarily agree to societal human right that upholds the individual's right to fulfillment. Society should not compel any person to act in a fashion that will lead to negation of his being or any personal action that causes sublimation of his nature to destructive action. Society must support action that accords with human nature and guarantees the right of man to pursue the fulfillment of his nature. If social legality does not guarantee this basic protection for all man's fulfillment, then social circumstances are self-defeating.

Western culture has regulated man's social contract on the assumption that mankind's nature is basically evil. But, the social circumstance excludes the importance as to whether evilness and destructiveness are part of the basic nature of mankind as long as controls on evil and destructive action are exercised. If one evil or destructive drive is sublimated, it can only express itself through a good act or through another evil act. Until man can prove beyond reasonable doubt that actions which take away others' right to exist or act fully are (continued Page 5)
THE GORDIAN KNOT —
necessary, man as a social
being must merely agree to
not acting in such a way that
takes away any person's right
to self-fulfillment; then
promise that such agreement
will be enforced. Herein
should be the only basis for
law and justice.
The Social Contracts of
man have always been predic­
ted on a homogeneous as­
sumption. The assumption of
homogeneity of man's nature
has created the assumption of
the need for a homogeneous
social contract. A legitimate
social contract should be
limited to these provisions:
man seeks fulfillment; man
tends to gregariousness;
through group actions man ac­
complishes greater-better in­
dividual actions; group con­
tacts allow a balance of in­
sights that creates a greater
awareness of personal ful­
fillment; man as a social be­
ing enlarges his scope of ex­
periences and increases pos­
sibilities of individual
choices. Man must agree to a
society that heterogeneously
tends towards encompassing
all aspects of human nature.
He should seek social assur­
ance, through law, that every
individual is entitled to de­
cide his orientation by his
own choice of actions. So­ci­
ety must guarantee that to
take away any person's right
to life, wholly or in part,
is evil, destructive and cru­
el and must be guarded ag­
ainst. We should just agree
that man has a free will, and
act as though he has a right
to choose his own methodology
towards fulfillment as long
as he does not encroach on
others' similar right. No one
has proven a need to believe
otherwise. Until someone does
this is the most satisfactory
relationship mankind is so­
cially capable of accomplish­
ing at this time. If man
tends to this end, he is tend­
ings towards self-fulfillment.
Man does not exist except
as he is becoming. He must
by limitations of what he is
tend to fulfill that which he
is or tend to frustrate that
which he is. Each person may
choose direction only as he
is placed in a social process
of being able to choose. If a
man cannot or will not choose
his direction, he pragmatic­
ally has been placed in a
position tending toward frus­
tration of self. Obviously,
man has one choice to live —
a tending to self-fulfill­
ment.
If man is to live, he must
do so through actions. If man
is to act, he must do so in a
manner that fulfills his na­
ture. If man is to live as a
social being, then society
must guarantee his right to
seek self-fulfillment. Man
can do no less than this if
he is truly to establish CIVIL­
IZATION throughout the
world. (To be continued)
Books

by James H. Ramp

Why do we read homophile literature? This casual commentator is concerned only with books which dignify the Community and love. Consider:

LOOK DOWN IN MERCY. Walter Baxter. Putnam Sons, 1952. British Army, Burma, WW II. An agonizing chronicle of the love of a private soldier for his Officer. The officer is a bastard of infinite variety - vain, class conscious, cowardly, cruel, callous. Through danger, defeat, retreat, the love of the soldier is constant and patient. The officer is gradually shorn of all his defenses, and there is a surprise ending.

THE HEART IN EXILE. Rodney Garland. (English) Coward McCann, 1953. A penetrating, tender story of the evolving relationship between a psychiatrist and his patient, devoted houseman and orderly.


THE WORLD AT TWILIGHT. Fritz Peters. (Paper-back now available) Reprint of Finisterre. Lancer Books, Inc., New York. One of the most beautifully sensitive books of our time. If you have tears, prepare to shed them for the brutality of a careless lover.

These should be available at the library.

REQUIRED READING

PLAYBOY, MARCH, 1965

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