SIR'S STATEMENT OF POLICY

SIR is an organization formed from within the Community working for the Community. By trying to give the individual a sense of dignity before himself and within his Society, it answers the question of how we can maintain our self-respect. SIR is dedicated to belief in the worth of the homosexual and adheres to the principle that the individual has the right to his own sexual orientation so long as the practice of the belief does not interfere with the rights of others.

We must not forget that there are certain rights connected with being a man which are, despite peculiarities of color, of creed or of sexual orientation, guaranteed to all men. These inalienable rights must be constantly defended against the erosion of public power and ruin by personal apathy. There should be an end to dismissals from our jobs; an end to police harassment, and the interference of the state with the sanctity of the individual within his home. To assure that these reprisals cease, we believe in the necessity of a political mantel guaranteeing to the homosexual the rights so easily granted to others.

We find ourselves scorned by the very society which may be in fact largely responsible for our creation, our rights as persons and citizens before the law imperiled, our individuality suppressed by a hostile social order, and our spirit forced to accept a guilt unwarranted by the circumstances of our existence. Believing as we do that there is no strength but through organization, SIR is determined that through its actions and through cooperation from within the Community, these conditions will be changed. In those areas where we need to change, let us change ourselves.

Other organizations have done good and necessary work, but there are still many areas which desperately call for attention. There is the need for political action, the need to provide adequate and responsible legal counsel, the need to establish cooperation with the churches, the need to educate all men in their rights as citizens, and the need to provide our people with an honorable social fabric. These are but few of many worthwhile projects which will occupy the efforts of SIR in the months to come.

But also, we must learn from the experiences of other organizations, their successes and failures, adding to their efforts SIR's specific dedication to the democratic process. Rejecting inwardness, the strife of personality and politics, and the languishing under a forever unchanging dictatorial control, we intend to give service where service is due. Through action we shall demonstrate a serious comprehensive program of financial stability and resourcefulness, a provision for active and responsible participation of individuals in our efforts, a willingness to get necessary jobs done, and in particular to provide an attractive, meaningful and healthy social fabric for the well-being of our members.

While we are still dedicated to a spirit of free competition, eventually we hope to achieve the coordination of all organizations working on behalf of the homosexual. Recognizing that we live with an urgency of need, in a time when change is constant and often dramatic, we respond to the call to action, certain that a feeling of Community has been established. Working toward that goal, and an accord to that belief by all people, SIR is pledged to act.

Reprinted from Vector 1964
Gracious Dining

Cocktail Bar

524 union street

phone 362-9835
COMMUNITY CENTER TO OPEN

Culminating an intensified year-long search for a Community Center building, facilities have now been acquired. The new Center is located at 83 Sixth Street, between Market and Mission, on the second floor. It is 5,500 square feet in area, and will accommodate up to 500 people for meetings and social functions, according to Mr. Gene Boche, Chairman of the Community Center Committee.

The Center will be used by SIR as the focus of SIR's activities and for service to the community. It will be used for: SIR's offices, membership meetings, committee meetings, small activity groups, full membership social activities, counseling and referral programs, events of community wide interest, such as lectures and forums, concerts, art exhibits, and as an information center for members and for persons new to San Francisco.

The building has been leased for a three year period at a monthly rental of $400. The lease contains two options to renew for successive one year periods.

Formal opening is scheduled for Sunday, April 17th, and will consist of a Donors' Brunch for persons who have contributed to the Community Center Fund Drive and a Dedication Ceremony for members and invited guests.

The building, which was formerly a union hall, contains offices, small meeting rooms, a large public meeting room, and a kitchen. In addition, the Community Center Committee plans to install movable partitions to close off part of the main floor area for use as a dining room, when desired, and to provide a color TV comer.

SIR volunteers have been working steadily for the last two weeks painting and remodeling the building. It is anticipated by Mr. Boche that the work will continue up to April 17th. Additional volunteers are welcomed to report for duty.

In order to raise the necessary funds for initial opening costs and to provide basic furnishings, including office equipment and 400 folding chairs, letters have been sent to all members requesting contributions. According to co-chairmen of the Community Center Fund Drive, "The Community Center will need every member's support to make it successful."

FUND DRIVE
FOR NEW CENTER

SIR has set a goal of raising $3,000 from its members for initial operating costs and basic furnishing of the Community Center. Every member is being asked to contribute at least $5 to the Community Center Fund Drive.

Formal opening is scheduled for Sunday, April 17th, and will consist of a Donors' Brunch for persons who have contributed to the Community Center Fund Drive and a Dedication Ceremony for members and invited guests.

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Many persons have shown interest in SIR, but are not members. We have often heard friends say, "I would like to support SIR, but I'm just not a joiner." The Community Center Fund Drive is a good opportunity for our friends to help SIR. We are soliciting the financial support of our friends in establishing and maintaining the Community Center. A Form for use in making donations will be found elsewhere in this issue. The Community Center will serve the whole community. So, friends of SIR, how about your help?

April Hiking

One hiking trip is scheduled for the month of April. It is the Mt. Tamalpais trip to be held on April 17th. Members will assemble at the Pioneer Grill at 9:30 a.m., ride to Mt. Tamalpais, and then hike along the old railroad tracks. For further information, dial MANJADE.
PRESIDENT SPEAKS

by Bill Beardemphl

With this issue I shall start to outline some principles that are used in our beginning organizational work and discuss those areas which we feel tend to destructive activities that could prevent SIR's moving ahead.

SPECIFIC, IMMEDIATE, REALIZABLE [VECTOR humbly apologizes for the printing of this word as RELIABLE in the March edition -Ed.] should be applicable to all projects and activities that SIR undertakes. It is time for the homosexual to stop living in a dream world and to start dealing with practicalities of day by day living. We can not address ourselves as individuals or as a group to those areas of activity that do not inherently apply these principles. This is the first rule: Outline activities in specific, immediate, and measurable terms from which power can be generated.

In our social structure, all persons have only so much time to achieve accomplishments. Let us not waste our precious time with wishy-washy, pie-in-the-sky, after-the-fact, never-get-results. No one is going to support a cause if no results or if destructive results are realized. People want something for their money; they work hard for it. Homosexuals have not and never will receive charity from anyone. If something has to be financed, the homosexual community will have to finance it. "The flour and bake the bread, mill the flour and bake the bread themselves. No one shall be excluded from contributing, but no one will be included who does not contribute. Contributions are work, goods, talent or money.

The concerned community must finance the basis of the organization. If bread is to be eaten, then those who wish it must grow the wheat, mill the flour and bake the bread themselves. No one shall be excluded from contributing, but no one will be included who does not contribute. Contributions are work, goods, talent or money.

The second focal point of social power is in numbers of persons. An organized group is important in accordance to its size. But, an effective organization should not go outside of individual experience and self-interest. People must actively apply themselves to their interests, therefore an organization of people must apply itself to its members' interests. The homosexual must be included in the homosexual movement. In our societal circumstance, the only things that homosexuals will ever get is what they are strong enough to get, so they must organize as a unified people if they are to achieve anything. Rule three is: The organizational structure must be committed to democracy and inclusiveness.

The only practical responsive organizational form so far developed is democracy. To reinforce this principle we must reiterate Saul Alinsky's "A community lacking in popular participation dies of paralysis." It is also true that the guarantee of individual rights is ineffective unless it has universal application. To reinforce this principle, we must reiterate Carl Schurz, "If you want to be free, there is but one way; it is to guarantee an equally full measure of liberty to all your neighbors. There is no other."

These are the first basic principles and their rationales that were formulated in the first months of SIR's formation. Next month the discussion of other SIR concepts will continue.

- 34 softcover books on sexual problems —- a complete library on sex education in today's complex world —- value, $17, available in all new copies for $10 per set while they last. Send check or money order with name and address clearly printed to: LORKEN ENTERPRISES, 2206 NE 15 Ave., Wilton Manors, Fl., 33305

SECRETAIRE'S CORNER

CHEERS TO THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE for the March 16th open meeting. It was the old time SIR with lots of new blood thrown in. For a report on the principal speakers of the evening, see a separate news story, this edition.

JAMES RAMP, who wrote and has just had published the delightful WILD STRAWBERRY PATCH, autographed copies of his book for purchasers. Any profits over costs have been generously donated by the author to SIR.

THE COMMUNITY CENTER WILL OPEN APRIL 17. Members were advised of a mailing requesting donations toward this project. $3,000 is needed for this effort.

M A N Y SMALL ACTIVITIES GROUPS are still unchaired, and members were urged to volunteer for duty or to join groups now active. The MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE awarded the prizes for the recent membership drive; and the LEGAL COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN advised against photography, distribution, sale, purchase, and possession of pornography.

President Beardemphl reported on the situation at the LOCAL BATHS, and described pending ordinances pertaining thereto.

A TOWN HALL TYPE PROTEST MEETING AND DAY against the exclusion of homosexuals from the armed forces was unanimously approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 p.m., but a post meeting film of Europe was presented by the Excursion Group. The Community Center Committee held a short meeting in the lobby of the building during the film. All groups left the building by midnight. IT WAS QUITE A MEETING.
THE PROPOSED BATH ORDINANCE
A POWER GRAB

On December 11, 1964, a resolution was introduced by the Chief of Police of the City and County of San Francisco relating to a proposed ordinance providing for the licensing and regulation of massage parlors, massage services and public bath houses, and repealing those portions of the local health code which grant jurisdiction over such services to the Health Department. This proposed ordinance is now in Police Fire and Safety Committee which consists of Supervisor Casey as Chairman and Supervisors Francois and McCarthy.

It is presently anticipated that the matter will be taken up at the June 9 meeting of this committee.

Basically what this proposed ordinance does is to grant to the Police Department the licensing of massage parlors, out-call massage services and public bath houses. If this legislation is passed by our Board of Supervisors, ninety (90) days after the passage all outstanding permits for public bath houses will be considered and the bath houses, massage parlors, as well as out-call massage service, will then have to apply to the Chief of Police for licensing. The ordinance carries a proviso that the Police Department shall not issue a permit unless it be satisfied that the moral character of the applicant or applicants and employees, including masseurs or masseuses, is such that the maintenance and operation will not adversely affect the public interest, morals or welfare. The proposed ordinance also specifies physical design for public bath houses and the most important aspect of this is that bath houses serving men which contain more than five cubicles or rooms for dressing or resting shall provide as to each cubicle a transparent glass partition alongside of the cubicle facing the corridor which will start forty inches from the floor and shall extend at least 18 inches vertically and which shall not be covered at any time to prevent observation. There is also proviso that lighting in the cubicles shall be sufficient to illuminate the interiors as to allow continuous observation and should be the type that cannot be covered or controlled by the patron.

The bath houses and outcall massage services shall also keep a daily register of all patrons by name, address, and hour of attendance, and this daily register is to be at all times subject to inspection by health department officials and by the Police Department.

There is the usual proviso that violation of any of these regulations is considered a misdemeanor and on conviction shall be punishable by a fine of not more than $500 or imprisonment for a period not to exceed six months or both. There is also a provision that the Police Department and the Department of Public Health shall from time to time and at least twice a year make an inspection of each massage parlor or public bath house or the premises of an outcall massage service, for the purposes of determining that the provisions of the ordinance are complied with. It is to be noted that the inspection is at least twice a year and there seems to be no ceiling on how many inspections can be made.

The proposed ordinance is another example of the local Police Department's attempting to regulate the morals of the citizens of this city and each individual should make every effort to contact responsible people in an effort to see that this proposed ordinance does not pass.

There would seem to be more than coincidental circumstances in the fact that a matter of a day after the newspapers of San Francisco carried a news story which demonstrated that public bathing had a long and honorable history there was an arrest made in one of the public baths in this city by two plainclothesmen (or should it read "noclothesmen") who were employed in wasting the taxpayers' funds by reclining in...
KING FOR A DAY

On Sunday, March 20th, Pat Kelly, second prize winner in SIR's Membership Contest, was crowned King for a Day. His Majesty, dressed in a tuxedo and wearing the red sash of the Order of the Baths, the Coat of Arms of His Kingdom, the State of Confusion, the Star of the Order of Purity and the Order of Endurance, was accompanied by the Royal Consort, Prince Troy, who was wearing a black suit with the red sash of the Order of the Baths, the Order of Proficiency and various medals awarded by His Majesty for valor and courage in the performance of his duties.

In honor of His Coronation, His Majesty was entertained at Brunch by the Noble Order of the Daughters of Bilitis. He was won by the Golden Cask. Courtesy visits were made to Bradley's Corner and His Majesty then proceeded to Selina's Parlour, where Madame Selina, acting as Secretary of State to Her Imperial Majesty, the Empress Jose de San Francisco placed the Imperial Crown of State on his head and proclaimed him King for a Day.

After being royally entertained by Madame Selina and furnished with "flowing champagne", His Majesty proceeded to the 524 Club for dinner. Here again he was royally received with dinner and champagne.

His Majesty and the Prince Consort ended their reign with a courtesy visit to a new establishment, the 721 Club.

His Majesty has requested that we extend His Royal Appreciation to all those who so kindly extended their time and talents to make this a memorable day. He especially wishes to thank the owners and employees of Selina's Parlour and the 524 Club for their efforts on his behalf.

EXCURSION GROUP PLANS RENO TRIP

Coming up much earlier than the European tour is a trip to Reno or the State Line area. Many members have requested such a trip, and those interested are urged to phone the SIR office to indicate their preferences as to dates, as well as location.

STELLA'S CIVIC CENTER CLEANERS

7:00 - 7:00
incl Sat.
21 McAllister
San Francisco
HEALTH DEPT. POSITION ON PUBLIC BATH ORDINANCE

On March 22 SIR interviewed Dr. Erwin Braff, Chief, Bureau of Disease Control, San Francisco Health Department. Dr. Braff expressed the following sentiments in regard to the ordinance on issuing permits to public baths and massage parlors. This ordinance legislates morality and "the Health Department should not play God; we are not the keepers of the public morals." Dr. Braff went on to clarify that he thinks that business licenses are a legitimate right and should be issued to all legitimate businesses. "If a permit is required beyond a business license, the issuing agency should not be the Health Department. The department that issues permits is not going to be determined by the Health Department."

Dr. Braff felt that the health aspects of the baths are sufficiently adequate and "issuance of permits for the baths should not be in the Health Code as there is not a significant health component." Dr. Braff did express disapproval of the present ordinance because it is vaguely written and is difficult to enforce. Such statements in the present ordinance as "applicants will not adversely affect the public interest, morals, or welfare" and "every applicant for a permit to operate may be required to furnish such further evidence of moral or physical fitness..." are open to varied interpretation. A badly written law, such as this, is an unenforceable law and should not be on the books.

Incidentally, the above quoted phrases from the present ordinance are included in the proposed ordinance, which means that these requirements will still be subject to police department interpretation.

SHOP SIRPORIUM

The SIRPORIUM is SIR's second-hand goods thrift store at 525 Hayes Street in San Francisco. Stop by the store - you will be surprised at the variety of items for sale. And don't forget that all SIR members receive a 10% discount on all merchandise. (Just show your membership card.)

All merchandise in the store comes through donations from SIR members and their friends. You can help your store by bringing your saleable used goods to any SIR membership meeting or to the SIRPORIUM.

The SIRPORIUM is generally open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Saturday. The store is also sometimes open on Sunday.

Since the manager is occasionally out of the store making pickups of merchandise, you may check on the store hours by calling the SIRPORIUM number - 629-9759 (MANY - PLA).

STAMP & COIN GROUP

The Stamp and Coin Collection Group will hold its first meeting April 18th in the library of the Community Center at 8:30 p.m.
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REV. HANSEN SPEAKS ON REDEVELOPMENT

Reverend Hanson spoke directly to the point in his recent appearance before the Board of Supervisors on the Tenderloin Dilemma and San Francisco redevelopment projects currently under study. The full text of his speech follows:

"I have not come here to quibble over the concepts of redevelopment which have been discussed thus far. From my work in both the south and north of Market I have seen first hand a compelling need to physically redevelop these areas. However, I also feel that the redevelopment of structures must be followed by the redevelopment of human lives and it is on this count that I must protest the Yerba Buena project."

"During the last year I have witnessed desecrations of the human spirit which are depressing and ugly to see. In the south of Market the old people are being left to die in dirty drab hotels, or even in the streets. No one seems to care about them and I get the feeling they have been so abused that many of them no longer care about themselves. There are no adequate health facilities in the area around Fifth and Sixth Streets, no parks, no benches, no trees ... nothing except decay, corruption, and death. It is into this area that many of the dispossessed from the Yerba Buena area of Third and Fourth Streets will be placed. They cannot rightfully be moved there as long as there are no adequate programs to care for their needs."

"These past months I have been working the Tenderloin in San Francisco. I wonder what sort of country we live in when the conservation of redwood trees conjures up more support than the conservation of human lives. In the report titled 'The Tenderloin Ghetto', the full reality of these conditions is disclosed. Many youths in our city are being left to a process of self-destruction, without so much as a murmur. Recent calls for a police cleanup are certainly the least humane thing this city and its people can do to stem the waste in young lives. Yet, Yerba Buena would cause people to move into this area of many unmet needs."

"Put together, both the north and south of Market Street constitute one of the most blighted and impoverished parts of the city. The statistics indicate tragic needs:"

"41% of the 6,020 families in the area earn less than $4,000 per year. The median family income is around $4,700, which is lower than the median family income in the other designated poverty areas."

"Of all infants born here, 41 out of every thousand are dead before they reach one year of age. This is the highest infant mortality rate in the entire city. 7% of the population in the area are children under age 13. Of the children under 18, 41% of them live in homes with one parent, or no parent at all."

"The juvenile crime rate for these same children is 114 for every thousand. This is by far the highest in the city."

"The unemployment rate for both sexes is 12% - the highest in the entire city."

"The number of families receiving welfare is 6% - among the highest in the city."

"Of the total area population 25% of the people are over 65 years - by far the highest in the city."

"Of the 25% who are 65 or over, 22.3% are receiving old age assistance - by far the highest in the city."

"6% of the housing in the total area is overcrowded and in the south of Market alone 77% share bathroom facilities."

"21% of the housing in the area is deteriorated, dilapidated, or inadequate."

"The median years of education for this area is 10.1, and 18.9% of the residents over 25 have not completed 8 years of education. This is (Continued on Page 8)
among the worst in the city.

57.4% of the residents over 25 have not completed their high school education. This is also one of the worst figures of the entire city.

"And again I say, the lack of facilities to deal with these needs is appalling. The figures sneek coldly and to the same point. The central city ghetto is the human dump heap of San Francisco. It is the place where the social outcasts - the aged, the poor, the infirm, the youth with sexual problems - persons of all races and religions - go and are out of sight. Here they are forgotten, ignored, and ultimately die, emotionally and then physically.

"As it stands now, redevelopment does nothing about these human problems except compound them. It builds new buildings while it talks of inadequate steps to deal with the pressing human needs.

"The rest of the city, the elected representatives, members of the economic opportunities council concerned directly with human poverty, and all the others turn their backs on these people and say "You haven't got any political muscle so we will ignore you". Over and over again our pleas for immediate action to help these people are sneered at, our concern described as if we were foolish people who hadn't learned to shut up when told to. We petition the mayor, and we have yet to hear of any results: we petition the EOC and we learn that some presently designated poverty areas don't want to share federal money with the poor in other districts. Despite the publicity and consultation with decision makers, the appalling poverty and wastage in human lives continues.

With all the facts so clearly stated, with all the convincing arguments presented, we are still being told that there is no problem, that there are only unconventional, unpopular people here, that there is no need for a fifth anti-poverty area, that in time all this will go away.

"But it won't go away. It gets worse and it grows as an irritant, and as the worst..."
AN OPEN LETTER TO OUR FRIENDS

Sunday, April 17th. is the day set for the formal opening of SIR's Community Center at 83 Sixth Street. This is an important event for the whole community. A description of the Community Center and its purpose will be found elsewhere in this issue of Vector.

SIR is hoping to raise a minimum of $3,000 from among SIR's members. This amount will provide for initial opening costs and basic furnishings.

In order to sustain the Community Center and to assure that the Center will function most effectively in serving the needs of the community, SIR is also asking for financial support from our friends.

A donor's card for the Community Center Fund Drive is furnished on the reverse side of this letter. Thank you for giving your support to the Community Center.

SOCIETY FOR INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS

William E. Beademphl
President
Society for Individual Rights

COMMUNITY CENTER

PLEASE FILL OUT AND MAIL TO:
SOCIETY FOR INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS
P.O. Box 5526
San Francisco, California 94101

COMMUNITY CENTER FUND DRIVE

On Sunday, April 17th there will be a formal Dedication Day at the Community Center. In connection with this event there will be a DONOR'S BRUNCH. Every donation will be acknowledged by return of an invitation to the DONOR'S BRUNCH. Details of other Dedication Day events will be announced in the April issue of Vector.

THIS IS MY CONTRIBUTION: Enclosed find

___ Check
___ Money Order (Make checks payable to S.I.R.)
___ Cash

in the amount of $__________

We would like to acknowledge each donor in the printed Dedication Day Program. Of course, we will only do this with your explicit permission. Please complete the following:

___ You may list my name in the Dedication Day Program
   (Special recognition is planned for those who donate $100 or more.)

___ Please do not list my name but you may acknowledge my donation as:
   ____ A gift in memory of ______________
   ____ Other (specify) ___________________

___ I would prefer to make this donation anonymously.

SIGNED ________________________________

ADDRESS ______________________________

LETTERS

Open Liquor in Car

"Editor: Several weeks ago some friends were stopped by an officer for a minor traffic violation. Instead of receiving a ticket, however, they were arrested for having open liquor in their car. They were not drinking and were all over 21. Would you please explain the basis of their arrest.

"Partygoer"

Ed: Ordinarily, this column does not answer legal questions, but suggest that in the future such questions should be directed to the legal committee. However, in view of the importance of this question to our party-going members, we are setting forth the applicable law.

Sections 23122 & 23123 of the California Vehicle Code provide that no person shall have in his possession on his person or keep in a vehicle while on a highway any bottle, can, or other receptacle containing any alcoholic beverage which has been opened, had the seal broken, or the contents of which have been partially removed.

The code does provide that such container may be kept in the trunk of the vehicle, if the vehicle is equipped with a trunk, or in some other area of the vehicle not normally occupied by the driver or passengers if the vehicle has no trunk. A utility or glove compartment, however, is expressly stated to be deemed an area occupied by the driver and passengers, and hence such container may not be kept there.

ART & CRAFT SHOW

The Community Center Committee is interested in arranging a series of art and craft work shows. Members engaging in such work are invited to submit their products for consideration. Work of nonmembers also will be accepted.

For further information, dial MANJADE.

ROLES OF SOCIAL SCIENTISTS

IN DEALING WITH HOMOSEXUALS

EXAMINED AT OPEN MEETING

Two disparate views of the social scientists were presented to SIR members and guests at the March open meeting. Dr. Joel Forte, Chief of San Francisco's new Center for Special Problems, explained the purpose of his agency and the help it offers to the homosexual community. The center, which is located at Van Ness and Pacifica and is a division of the Public Health Department, deals with such "special" social and health problems as so-called sexual offenses, drug abuse and dependency, and crime and delinquency. One unique feature of the center's program, the speaker pointed out, is that for the first time the problems of drug dependency and alcoholism are treated in a single context, instead of being regarded as two distinct and unrelated illnesses.

Dr. Forte stated that in counseling the homosexual, it is not the philosophy of the program to change one's sexual orientation, but to "provide an atmosphere where the homosexual, as well as the heterosexual, can come to deal with their various problems and discuss them." Among the "variety" of programs available are vocational counseling and consultation for the Tenderloin hustler.

Following Dr. Forte, who stressed the pragmatic role of the social scientist, the next speaker, Dr. Joe T. Adams, criticized the theoretical attitudes and concepts of modern-day psychiatrists and psychologists toward homosexuality. Speaking on "The Hidden Functions of Sexual Taboos," Dr. Adams stated that one of the consequences of the "taboo" against homosexuality is to provide an opportunity by which men who have no "decency" in their dealings with others may nevertheless "look down" on an outcast group. The prevailing concern about sex perversion, moreover, has harmful consequences for all citizens. According to the speaker, many men, whether they are heterosexual or homosexual, cannot be "friendly" with their associates because of this taboo.

The fact that there are so many laws which are broken daily, the speaker continued, offers an opportunity for tyranny by those who equate their own sexual repression "with being good." The social scientists, he said, have contributed to this attitude by developing a set of stigmatizing labels. Thus homosexuals, who were burned during the Inquisition as heretics, are now disparaged as "mentally ill." In other words, according to Dr. Adams, our culture has the 18th Century concept toward homosexuals, "but in different form." The speaker accused the medical profession of "not standing up for the right of people to do as they please," but merely of saying, "Let us handle them," instead of the legal profession.

Both speakers were introduced to a large attendance of members and guests by SIR President William Beardemphl. During the "coffee break," Mr. James Ramp sold autographed copies of his new book, "Wild Strawberry Patch." Mr. Ramp announced that all profits would go to the SIR Building Fund.

Mr. Larry Littlejohn, chairman of the Siorporium Committee, reminded members to bring household items and articles of clothing to future meetings for donation to the Siorporium inventory.

Plans for the European tour, sponsored by the newly-formed Excursion Group, were announced and movies shown of European areas which the Group plans to visit.
THE JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GOVERNMENT
WATCHDOG OF LIBERTY

by Evander Smith

As quickly as the Bielicki and Britt cases (reported in our March 1966 issue) were reported, the appellate courts were flooded with appeals by convicted defendants. Interesting is the fact that most appeals have been from narcotics users who have unsuccessfully tried to get in under the homosexual's coat tails. Without attempting to treat these cases separately, we will present a composite of the facts which usually exist and the courts' disposition.

The facts usually involve a men's restroom which has a urinal(s) and toilet booth(s); the latter without a door. There is ordinarily a main entryway through which the public comes and goes. The existence or absence of windows are of no importance. (Yes, if there are windows, the police are at liberty to peak through them in California.) In practically all men's restrooms one will find the ubiquitous "vent" or spy screen above the room's appointments - it is from these vantage points which the police conduct their clandestine surveillance on the unwary. People, one or more, who indulge in any nefarious activity, especially sex acts, are likely to be seen by any member of the public who enters the premises. The fact that the urinal(s) and commode(s) are all open and fully in view to an entrant is the important distinction between these cases and the Bielicki and Britt cases.

Two leading cases which permit the police to view through their spy screens the action in sex cases, or any other kind of violation of law, are People v. Norton (1962) 209 C.A.2d 173, and People v. Young (1963) 214 C.A.2d 131, both of which were denied a hearing on appeal to the California Supreme Court. These cases hold that a consent to search (e.g., spy on you through the vent; take pictures through telephotographic lens at the restroom window or door; or record or listen to conversation or sounds emanating from the restroom) is implied, or even unnecessary, where illegal acts observable in or from an area open to the general public, are in plain view to the police as to any member of the public. Moreover, for the police to observe what is perfectly apparent to any member of the general public who might happen to be on the premises is not a search.

Since these offenses were committed out in the open the fact that they were observed by arresting officers from a vantage point concealed from public view from which the officers could conduct a more effective vigil does not render the evidence inadmissible on the ground that it was illegally obtained.

The best analogy we can assist our readers with which will use the salient facts of the two lines of cases discussed is as follows: (1) You and a friend rent a room and close the door - no need to lock it, nor is your sex orientation important. This is your citadel against the police and the world in general; here you are secure and safe from spying through vents and pipes by the police. (2) Next, let's have your room with no door which you can close, or you leave the window shades open, or you get carried away and sorta spill yourselves out into the hallway or onto a front porch. All of these acts constitute an abandonment by you and your friend of your right to privacy and protection. You have in effect announced: "We do not choose to be private in our conduct, we want the public to observe us." Consequently, the public may observe you and indeed any citizen may arrest you if you violate the law. The police are then privileged to do something not allowed in No. 1 - they can now observe you from places and positions not known to you. Since you have chosen to open up to public view your conduct, you now may not claim immunity for your illegal conduct by hollering illegal search.
and seizure. The California Supreme Court cases protect you in Mo. 1, but turn a deaf ear to you in No. 2.

The third and final installment of this series of three will deal next month with the Federal law on this subject in California.

REV. HANSEN
(Continued from Page 8)

black spot on this city's civic pride. This area of overwhelming great need cannot be ignored any longer. We who know this need will not be silenced or put off, we will not rest until full justice and a rich measure of human resources are directed to dealing with the problems these people face.”

BULLETIN

FOR SALE. Afghan hound, black, 6 mos old, registered; papers avail. Grand sire a world champ. $85.00. Ph. 566-7152.

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WORLD'S LARGEST SELECTION OF HOMOSEXUAL LITERATURE

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WHITE PAPER, The anonymous short novel intro. by Jean Cocteau. Delinates the striking passion of a young Frenchman. Was $3.50, now only $1.95, #152.

IUTUMPLP, Sanford Friedman. Novel told in terms of sexual identification, from boyhood to coming out during the Korean war. Best new gay novel! #95.95, #161.

THE HOMOSEXUAL IN AMERICA, Donald Webster Cory. Still ranks as one of the most informative and important basic books in print. Belongs in every library. $1, #205.

GAY IS NOT CONDUCIVE, James Loo Horst. Unique and accurate view of a young hustler, rootless and wandering in search for identity. Not as lurid as City of Night, but more compassionate and understanding. Worth reading. #4.95, #206.

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On February 1, 1966, a SIR member was denied a second hand dealer's permit by the Chief of Police. The sole reason given for this denial was the fact that this individual had a conviction for a misdemeanor morals charge 11 years ago. He had received a 30-day suspended sentence and six months' probation. On completion of probation, he applied to have the record of his conviction expunged, and his application was granted. About two years later, he applied for and was granted a second hand dealer's permit by the San Francisco Police Department.

Now, some eight years later, when applying for another permit, he was informed at the hearing on his application that there was a change in police department policy. Evidently, the police department had decided that regardless of the fact that the record had been expunged, it would nevertheless deny the permit which was necessary for the individual to engage in a business enterprise.

SIR's volunteer attorneys, Herb Donaldson and Evander Smith, agreed to argue the case before the San Francisco Board of Permit Appeals.

On March 7, 1966, the Board overruled the Police Department and ordered that a permit be issued.
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