STATE FAIR BOOTH CANCELLED

LOSS OR GAIN TO HOMOPHILE MOVEMENT

By President of ARC

The publicity accorded the homophile community in its attempt to secure a booth at the State Fair and the subsequent distribution of leaflets was of a more desirable nature; that is, an accurate factual reporting. Freedom of speech is one of the rights so much a part of the American and his beliefs that he instinctively feels a certain empathy with any group to which this freedom is denied. Thus, in the resultant publicity, the government agency found itself in the role of villain and the homophiles in the role of the good guys.

SIR CANDIDATES NIGHT

A capacity crowd attended SIR's Candidates Night, Thursday, September 21st, at the Community Center, 83 Sixth St. Six candidates for office and representatives of four other candidates spoke to the audience. Twenty three invitations to speak had been sent by the Political Committee to candidates for all major offices on the coming ballot. The invitation asked the candidates to discuss the following pertinent issues: The "Model Penal Code", the CLEAN Amendment, Civil Service hiring practices, the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, Civilian Police Review Boards. The ten speakers responded to the issues in varying degrees or not at all. Persons representing the candidates for Governor did not address themselves to the issues but agreed to submit them directly to the candidates and to solicit a reply directly to SIR. These replies will be published in SIR's brochure prior to the election.

The only candidate running for Lt. Governor appearing was Nick Simon, Socialist Labor Party. He did not directly address himself to the issues, however, but he did say that the Socialist Labor Party is not prejudiced against the homosexual or any other minority group.

Lindsay Mickles, appearing on behalf of Spencer Williams, Republican candidate for the office of Attorney General, felt that he should not comment on specific legal issues. He said such comments could prejudice enforcement of present or future laws.

Candidates for U.S. Congress, Le Rue Grim, Democrat, and William S. Maillard, Republican, who was represented by his Administrative Assistant, Richard L. Harcourt, were heard from. Mr. Grim replied directly to all the

Cont’d on page 5
President's Column
by Bill Beardemphl

Members are coming to me greatly concerned about the February elections for SIR. They say we should not change our presently successful combination of leadership. Yet, living demands constant change. Particularly, an effective, honest democracy must have periodic changes and evaluations of its directions through election procedures. It is time for us to consider moving ahead with new leadership.

I have four more months to serve as President of SIR. In February, another person must take this position. I shall not run for President this February nor would I serve if elected. I shall not be a party to any revisions in our constitution that would allow any officer of SIR to serve more than 2 successive 1 year terms.

The reasons for this have been long and seriously considered. SIR is not and should never become a personality dominated organization. The Community, from which SIR comes, must control its policies. No person should ever be considered indispensable. One person should never be allowed to dominate SIR, if it is to grow and become more and more inclusive.

We have a structure that demands activity and involvement of membership. Without membership participation and control, an effective SIR will not exist. SIR will and must die if it does not answer the needs of its membership and the homophile community. Our organizational structure is designed to insure these principles.

The structure of our group is such that control, responsibility, and powers are placed in many committee chairmen. These board members act as a check and balance on each other. This, I believe, is vital to our future stability and success.

I shall always be active and participative to the best of my ability as long as SIR is dedicated to these ends.

In the future, you can count on my running for a board position. I shall solicit your support on the basis of ability, future work, and ideas for future projects. This, I believe, is the way to make SIR effective. No one can rest on his past. No person must ever consider himself more important than the group. Nor should any person ever be considered as the group. SIR is not any one person, but all its members.

Let us continue to grow and strengthen SIR. There is no need to approach necessary changes with fear or apprehension. Our Community can and must know that we have many able leaders.

AMENDMENT TO CONSTITUTION
AND BY-LAWS PROPOSED

In accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws of SIR, the following amendments and resolutions are proposed by the Procedures and Grievances Committee. The vote is to be taken not earlier than 30 days subsequent to this notice.

RESOLVED: That Article IV, Section 2 of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Corporation be amended to delete the words: "one week prior to the Annual Membership Meeting", and that the following words be substituted therefor: "prior to the first closed meeting in January".

RESOLVED: That the slate of candidates for Officers and Directors positions of the Corporation be presented to the Membership at the first closed meeting in January, and that further nominations be allowed and called for from the floor at that said meeting and time.

RESOLVED: That nominations for Board of Directors positions of the Corporation be handled in the same manner as for Officers of the Corporation.

RESOLVED: That the January Open Meeting be designated as Candidates' Night for candidates to present their platforms to the Membership of the Society for Individual Rights.

OCTOBER OPEN MEETING

The regular monthly Open Meeting, held on the third Wednesday of each month at 8 p.m., will be hosted this month by the Public Relations Committee on October 19th.

Guest speaker will be Patrick S. Hallinan, attorney, who will speak to SIR and its guests for the first time. Among other items, Mr. Hallinan will discuss treatment of homosexuals at the San Bruno branch of the county jail.

As a special feature, the Public Relations Committee, to further SIR's goal of unifying the homophile community, is sending invitations to all local homophile clubs and organizations to attend, and they are being urged to attend as groups.

Motion pictures of many social events of the past year will also be shown, including coverage of some of the motorcycle runs held by local clubs; picnics; and other outings.

WE RECOMMEND
RADIO DISPATCHED
DeSoto Cab Co.
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FOR SPEEDY SERVICE
673-1414
COMMUNITY SERVICES

COMMUNITY SERVICES NEEDS INFORMATION

Our Community Services urgently needs information about available jobs, both permanent and temporary, full or part time. Also in immediate demand is information about housing resources, emergency board and room, share rentals, and good but inexpensive single unit accommodations.

If you have available work or housing, or knowledge about work or housing, please contact the SLK office and give this information to our office manager.

COMMUNITY SERVICES SEeks VOlunteers

The Community Services Committee is seeking volunteers to work on many urgent projects. Anyone interested in working on the various projects, please call the SLK office and leave your name and phone number where you can be reached. The Committee usually meets every Thursday either at the Center or in the home of a committee member. There are many projects to choose from and you will no doubt find at least one of interest to you.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN ELECTION

Nominations and election of a new Membership Committee Chairman will take place at the next closed business meeting which will be held at the Center on October 5th at 8 p.m.

SIRLEBRity CAPADES

The SIRLEBRITY CAPADES of 1966 promises to be an even greater smash hit than last year's show, which, according to people who saw it, was the best show ever seen in San Francisco.

Speaking of our good City, the SIRLEBRITY CAPADES this year has as its theme - San Francisco. The show, itself, presents the finest talent in our Community. Many large production numbers are planned, but the biggest surprises will remain a secret until the night of the show.

Due to the large number of requests for tickets, the show is scheduled for two nights this year, Friday, November 11th and Saturday, November 12th. Tickets are available now on a reserved only basis. No tickets will be sold at the door. Prices are $10, $7.50, $5.00, and $3.50. For best seats, order now by calling SIR at SU 1-1570, or stop in at the Community Center, or at the SIR office. A sellout is expected, so not to be disappointed, be sure to get your ticket(s) now.

HELP WANTED FOR SIRLEBRITY CAPADES

Anyone interested in helping with SIR's biggest show of the year, the SIRLEBRITY CAPADES, is asked to leave his name and telephone number at the SIR office, SU 1-1570. Help is needed for sets, sewing, lighting, bartending, display work, waiters, etc.

Any help given to make this show the finest ever held in this City will be appreciated.

The Tavern Guild of San Francisco

has trained professional bartenders available for private parties

PHONE: SU 1-1571
The United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit in Marion v. Gardner, Secretary of U.S. Health, Education and Welfare, 350 F.2d 175 (1966), is a historical landmark decision of first impression. You will hear much of this case in the future because of its precedent setting facts involving a mentally disordered sex offender. It is cases like this one which makes an American citizen appreciate the sheer genius of our form of government. This case again shows our banner for this column is aptly chosen. This decision will most assuredly be criticized, but the court has again preserved a citizen's rights.

The plaintiff mother was appointed guardian of her son who is in the Minnesota State maximum security hospital for an indefinite period as a sex deviate. The guardian-mother applied for benefits for the ward-patient-prisoner based on the fact that he is disabled. At the time of the decision, the U.S. Code provided:

"The 'term disability' means inability to engage in any substantial gainful activity by reason of any medically determinable physical or mental impairment which can be expected to result in death or to be of long-continued and indefinite duration." (Emphasis added.)

The facts, briefly, simply disclosed a man of age 33 who at age 13 began participating in homosexual conduct and who in adulthood persisted in this activity with minors. One psychiatrist, Dr. J.S. Lewis, ascribed the patient's homosexual orientation as having been fixed at age 13 level as the result of "...scar tissue in the brain caused by a childhood injury; that this restrained his sexual development ...." An encounter by the patient with an infant (defined in most States as anyone under 21 years of age) of the same sex resulted in the patient's arrest. He was found by the trial court and two doctors to be a sociopathic personality-sex deviation offender and, by Minnesota law, imprisoned in a hospital type institution where he languishes.

The patient's mother applied for benefits under the Social Security Act and was refused them by the Social Security Administration. Next, she sued the U.S. Government in Federal Court and lost. Next, she appealed this U.S. District Court decision to the Eighth Circuit and won. The Court stated:

"We deal here with a hard and unfortunate reality of life. We may not ignore that reality.

"The error in the present case, we feel, is in the hearing examiner's and the district court's too rigid interpretation of the regulation.

"We take the trouble at this point to emphasize that we are not holding, despite the Secretary's suggestion in that vein, that homosexuality in itself is a disability within the meaning of the statute .... We hold here only that this unfortunate young man—and we so characterize him, irrespective of the reasons, self-caused or externally imposed, which have brought him to his present state—meets the definitions of disability presently prescribed. The next homosexual's case may have a contrary result.

"This is a sensitive and, for many, an emotional area and one where misunderstanding often exists or where there frequently is a complete absence of understanding. We have endeavored, as we must, to judge this case by its facts."

The Circuit Court reversed the lower court and ordered that a judgment in favor of the plaintiff be entered. The time for appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court has now elapsed. However, there will undoubtedly be other circuits which deny relief on the same factual situation and at that time the Supreme Court will accept an appeal to resolve the conflict.

Our readers throughout the country are asked to see that the citation of this case is brought to the attention of local homophile organizations and their attorneys. There are statutes in most States, if not all, similar to Minnesota's which hospitalize certain types of sex offenders. Those people who are hospitalized are, in many cases, without funds which may now be available to them, if they have been working and paying social security.
STATE FAIR
(cont'd from page 1)

phile in the role of minority
downtrodden by bureaucracy.

The unity achieved by the
six participating organiza­
tions was another step toward
a broader unity based on
realization of sameness of
purpose - the fight for equal
rights - which cuts across
all differences such as gen­
der, organization structures,
distance or sexual orienta­
tion.

The favorable publicity
was carried by both morning
and evening papers in the
likelihood of this news en­
tering the conscious aware­
ness of the legislator who
can make or change laws was
far greater than an equal a-
mount of publicity in any
other State area.

The publicity in the San
Francisco papers came at a
time when the homophile com­
munity was engaged in other
newsworthy activity with the
result that the Ten Days in
August received far more ex­
tensive coverage than would
have been the case had the
news media not already been
focused upon the homophile
community.

The original intent of the
booth had been to reach and
present certain facts about
homosexuality to heterosex­
uals as well as change some
incorrect ideas about so­
called stereotypes. Instead,
distribution of the brochures
at the Fair gates put no less
than 8,000 heterosexuals into
direct vis-a-vis contact with
some homosexuals, the hetero­
sexuals going away from the
contact with factual informa­
tion about homosexuality. The
heterosexual also went away
from the contact with visual
proof that not all homosex­
uals fit previously accepted
stereotypes.

Because of the appeal to
the Court, Sacramento was
left with a presiding Judge
of the Superior Court and
various State Attorneys who
are better informed on the
subject of homosexuality than
was the case before. The
possible beneficial effects
to the individual coming be­
fore this Judge for an of­
fense involving homosexuality
are significant.

In the booth controversy
the importance of the role of
the Church through the CRH
must not be overlooked. The
broad press coverage came as
a result of past CRH rela­
tions with the press. In the
public mind homosexuality is
a moral issue and the church
is the arbiter of morals. The
CRH was the voice protesting
for the rights of the homo­
sexual and the public union
of Church and Homosexual is a
repeated blow to the moral
arguments used against homo­
sexuality.
LETTERS

Governor Brown on the Spot

Editor: In September's VECTOR you question the wisdom of the homophile community in putting Governor Brown on the spot. You counsel against such an effort on account of the Governor's "courage" in taking strong stands on L'Affaire Chessman, Proposition 14, and in the nature of his choices in making appointments to the California Judiciary. You further state that, "in view of the forthcoming election," this state that, "in view of the Governor's courage" in taking strong stands on L'Affaire Chessman, you further question the wisdom of the homophile community in putting Governor Brown on the spot. You counsel against such an effort on account of the Governor's "courage" in taking strong stands on L'Affaire Chessman, Proposition 14, and in the nature of his choices in making appointments to the California Judiciary. You further state that, "in view of the forthcoming election," this was "hardly unexpected.''

However, may I submit that probably closer to the real reason for the Brown refusal is the fact that the membership of the State Fair Board are after all, his appointees (whom he should repudiate in the face of the Reagan Campaign?) and Mr. Azevedo (Fair Board President) is also one of three, I believe, Sacramento County Co-Chairmen of the Brown Re-election Committee.

D.W.V.

New Members Speak

Editor: I am a member of SIR and I want you to know I enjoyed the functions that were held at the Community Center during the National Planning Convention, and I most certainly enjoyed the Convention Ball (although it caters mostly to the younger set).

I learned about SIR through your publication VECTOR which I picked up at a local bar. I do think a larger budget is needed so VECTOR can grow in pages, layout and PLEASE, more cartoons! I also enjoy the little extras such as in the calendar, the 1846 patent for the first sewing machine on which if it weren't for that patent, there would have been lots of rips and tears during the "Gay 90's Night." Haven't yet stopped laughing at the cartoon (parade rest) in the September VECTOR. Keep up the GOOD WORK.

A Shirley

Editor: I am writing my views of how a new member feels about SIR and its VECTOR. I've been closely connected with the members of the Social and Community Center Committees. This is why I feel my views, or comments, should be recognized. I've helped these committees in their latest projects in the past two months and enjoyed every minute of it. The participating committee members deserve more praise for the work they've done to better the organization. After all, they are putting in their spare time for all of us. I know they will continue their good work. Hit it, Shirleys!

Now, about VECTOR. This is where SIR does its most at getting itself known to others. So this is where everyone should help. If it's just a letter to the editor so he will know what the members think of VECTOR and where improvements are needed, it will help. Also, try and help VECTOR financially, so if it needs equipment, like a new typewriter, it will get it. I found out about SIR through this publication, and others have probably done the same.

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If I were Will Rogers, I could say "I've never met a SIR member I didn't like."

Another Shirley

(Ed.-There is a very active group in SIR known as "The Shirleys." They do cleaning and other unpopular work, and do indeed merit the applause of all of us. We also thank particularly our correspondent for soliciting your support of us.)

Suggestions

Editor: Each issue of VECTOR has been read and enjoyed and copies have been forwarded to friends across the country so that they might be aware of the progress of the homophile movement and of our organization in particular.

At this time I would like to offer a few comments:
1. That the events calendar be printed on a separate sheet so that it can be easily removed for carrying in a coat pocket or wallet.
2. That the person who has so diligently found those little known facts be thanked for his efforts.
3. That a membership form be printed in each issue. We are all interested in furthering our efforts to reach each member of the homophile community and such a readily available form would be advantageous in encouraging potential members to join us.

Tommy G. Brown

(Ed.-Your suggestions are under consideration.)

Confusing Calendar

Editor: What happened Sept 21st? SIR's Candidates Night and Michelle's giving a show at the 524 at the same time. It had been my impression that the calendar in VECTOR was to keep this kind of thing from happening. If the crowd at the 524 would have been at the Community Center, the candidates would have been impressed by sheer numbers. PLEASE don't make us divide our loyalties. Come on, guys. Let's plan these things so I won't suffer a guilt complex.

I want to support SIR in any attempt to organize the vote but when it falls on the same night as a Michelle show it isn't going to do.

Steve Craig

(Ed.-Somebody goofed! We are sorry we didn't have our political night on the calendar and agree with you that two such events should never be planned for the same night. We will try to watch it in the future.)

The Church and the Homosexual

Editor: I wonder what the membership of SIR would think of holding a pray-in for the enlightenment of Archbishop McGucken and the other religious leaders of the city.

Many segments of the reli-
The community have given thought to the position of the Church and the homosexual. The Catholic Advisory Committee report to the Wolfenden Committee is the result of such thought. Many segments of the Catholic Church, such as here in San Francisco, would like to ignore this problem. Only if the members of the Church begin to openly question why some of the theologians officially take one position and others the opposite will the Catholic Church be forced to examine its teachings and remove that part which is purely the prejudice and teaching of men not part of the teachings of Christ.

A pray-in has been suggested to start the awakening of the Catholic Church here in the city. I would like to hear from many members, through this column, as to their feelings, both for and against this proposition. It is time people started living the life of love that is characterised in the teachings of Christ instead of condemning anyone who is a little different from themselves.

"Augustus"

CHATTER MATTER
by Anonymous

APOLOGIES are due Mark Eckleman for his piano artistry, for without him and his music the Gay 90's Night(s) would not have been. Three cheers for him! And a special commendation to the entire group who gave a second performance on September 16.

SIR VOLUNTEERS for CRH orientations with the United Church of Christ (meeting at Intersection September 14th) and the Episcopal Diocese of California (meeting at Gresham Hall September 24th) were warmly received. It was the opinion of those participating that these two meetings were most beneficial (an understatement?). The United Church of Christ was the first church to donate money for CRH work, and now the Episcopal Church is considering adding to the fund.

THE CONVENTION produced superb reactions from the distinguished scientists who took part in the seminars. Dr. Joe K. Adams commented on SIR's unique possibility of accomplishing significant social change without a cruel scapegoating of a minority group that could be a first in the history of mankind. Mr. Morain described the convention as the most complete delineation of the homosexual's position in society in the history of Western Civilization. Are we moving?

PICNICS, picnics - none such ever! The Tavern Guild did it again by special request on Sunday, September 25th.

DANCES to record on Friday and Saturday at the SIR Center. If you haven't been there, you should be ashamed. It's fun! fun! fun! for all. And speaking of dances, kudos are due the COITS and the MISS UNIVERSE group for successive Saturdays, the 24th & the 1st.

FUN AND GAMES are requested by the Small Activities Chairman. Bats, balls, checkers, dominoes and tiddly winks are needed. And, if you can find your marbles, bring them too.

$100 is missing, in 3 separate small amounts; apparently taken by "mistake" from the Center. Truly a last, sad, sour note.

IRWIN MEMORIAL BLOOD BANK

The Community Services Committee has been in contact with the blood bank and finds that we are falling way behind in donations to our account there. They report no deposits since July. If you are able to take a few moments, please go down to 270 Masonic Avenue and tell them you want to give a pint of your blood to the SIR account, or, if you don't want to mention SIR, go down there and give anyway. We need this response badly, and surely they need the vital blood donations to save many lives.
THE LESBIAN THE HOMOSEXUAL AND THE HOMOPHILE MOVEMENT

by S. Willer, President
D.O.B., Inc.

To an extent it is difficult for me to discuss what the homophile movement should be doing. I have some very clear ideas about what the lesbian should be doing, but the problems of the male homosexual and the female homosexual differ considerably.

Most perceptive authorities have stated that the basic problems in relations between the sexes arise from the completely artificial dichotomies which are ascribed to each sex by society. From the midean beds wherein we lie, few persons, homosexual or heterosexual, arise whole and healthy individuals.

The social conformist is wracked by anxieties in his ambivalent clinging to the social artifacts which require his denunciation of his nature. The social non-conformist is driven to propound his personal revelation as being above reproach and beyond question. In such a society, lesbian interest is more closely linked with the women's civil rights movement than with the homosexual civil liberties movement.

The particular problems of the male homosexual include police harassment, unequal law enforcement, legal proscription of sexual practices, and, for a relatively few male homosexuals, the problem of disproportionate penalties for acts of questionable taste, such as evolve from solicitations, wash-room sex acts, and trans-sexual attire.

In contrast, few women are subject to police harassment, and the instances of arrest of lesbians for solicitation, wash-room sex, or trans-sexual attire are so infrequent as to constitute little threat to the lesbian community beyond the circle of those immediately involved. The rare occurrences serve to remind the lesbian that both such things are possible, and that they rarely happen.

The problems of importance to the lesbian are job security, career advancement, and family relationships.

The important difference between the male and female homosexual is that the lesbian is discriminated against not only because she is lesbian, but because she is a woman. Although the lesbian occupies a "privileged" place among homosexuals, she occupies an "under-privileged" place in the world.

It is difficult for a woman to be accepted as a leader in any community or civic organization, and the woman who does succeed in breaking down the barriers in recognition is usually greeted with a mixture of astonishment and sympathetic amusement. There are few women who desire to emulate Carrie Nation, chained to a fire hydrant and swinging a battle axe, but the few women who achieve community, professional, or civic leadership are compared to that image, sometimes rightfully so, since despite legal recognition of feminine equality, the road to public recognition for each woman leads across the battlefield.

Lesbians have agreed (with reservations) to join in common cause with the male homosexual-her role in society has been one of mediator between the male homosexual and society. The recent D.O.B. convention was such a gesture-the reason we were able to get the public officials there at all was because we were women-because we offered no threat. However, they did not bargain for what they got. They did not expect to be challenged on the issues of male homosexuality. In these ways we show our willingness to assist the male homosexual in seeking to alleviate the problems our society has inflicted on him.

There has been little evidence, however, that the male homosexual has any intention of making common cause with us. We suspect that should the male homosexual achieve his particular objectives in regard to his homosexuality he may possibly become a more adamant foe of women's rights than the heterosexual male has been. (I would guess that a preponderance of male homosexuals would believe their ultimate goal achieved if the laws relating to sodomy were removed and a male homosexual were appointed chief of police.)

This background may help you understand why, although the lesbian joins the male homosexual in areas of immediate common concern, she is at the same time preparing for a longer struggle waged on a broader base with the widest possible participation of the rank and file lesbian. It shows why, to the lesbian leader, diversity and uniqueness are as important as leadership and direction. Demonstrations which define the homosexual as a unique minority defeat the very cause for which the homosexual strives-TO BE CONSIDERED AN INTEGRAL PART OF SOCIETY. The homosexual must show that he is in fact NOT a unique "Social Problem." That concept is too widely held to require endorsement from homophile organizations. Demonstrations that emphasize the uniqueness of the homosexual may provide an outlet for some homosexuals' hostilities, but, having acted out his revolt, he loses a part of the drive that might have been available for more constructive approaches to problem solving.

The basic objectives of the homophile organizations must continue to be to open up new avenues of effective communication. Their energies must not be channeled; their attempts must be repetitive; their approaches must be as diverse as imagination will allow. To put this more specifically, THE MORE WAYS WE CAN GET MORE PEOPLE INVOLVED IN THE GREATEST VARIETY OF APPROACHES TO THE WIDEST POSSIBLE CONFIGURATION OF THE PROBLEMS RELATED TO HOMOSEXUALITY, THE MORE LIKELY WE ARE TO ACHIEVE SOME MEASURE OF SUCCESS.

The argument that concentration is more productive than diversity is false when applied to homophile organizations. You cannot "retool"
I am a Lesbian. These words tell very little about me actually. But they conjure up a picture to most people of a caricature of a perfervid masculine, aggressive woman, a vamp who preys upon members of her own sex to satisfy her mysterious, sensual appetites. They do not see me as a woman, very much like any other woman, who is seeking an identity as a person, as a creative member of society.

I am a Lesbian. These words do not come easily. They are the result of months, sometimes years, of soul searching. They are difficult words to say openly.

Homophile Movement
(cont'd from page 8)

2. Homosexual men attempt to appreciate the value of women as PEOPLE in the movement, respect their abilities as individuals, and not seek them out as simple "showpieces."

3. Those philosophical factors of homosexuality that engage both sexes be basic to our concepts of reform.

I am a Lesbian. In the excitement that follows any moment of self-knowledge - a dearly bought, I am eager to share this experience of wonder and expectation. And suddenly my worth as a person is on the judgment block. Society says I am a degenerate--illegitimate, immoral and sick just on the face of it. As my value as a person declines in the eyes of those who meant so much to me, I become deficient. I play the buffoon, I act out the behavior they expect of me. If I am to pay the price of their judgment, I may as well defiantly enjoy the pleasures for which I am already condemned, the pleasures they call "sordid." I must take on the guilt for which I am to be punished, and I move into the mysterious Lesbian underground for sanctuary in the hope of finding acceptance and security.

I am a Lesbian. But I am so much more. I am a human being, I am a person, I am a woman. I am not satisfied with the boundaries of the Lesbian world. I am a citizen, a part of society, and I have need to express myself in the much larger sense of community. So I teach in your schools, I join the armed services, I become a dedicated social worker. And always the knowledge and the fear that some one may point the finger at the Lesbian facet of my being and all that I have invested in my life's work, my career, will be immediately stripped from me. I want to serve, I must serve and I do. But the fear of discovery and the repudiation follows me wherever I go. I am forced into the hypocrisy of the double life.

I am a Lesbian. I give love, and I receive love. I know the richness, the fulfillment of a love relationship that has been bound in the love of God if not by man in his church sanctuary or his courtroom. I know the spirit of adventure and the growth of personality in a love relationship that transcends society and church condemnations. "They" speak, but I try not to hear. For I was taught as a small child that God is love, and all the wrath that may be heaped upon me cannot change that. Love is not based on the sex act; the sex act is an expression of love. And the measure of my love cannot be based upon the sex act itself nor upon the gender of my love partner.

I am a Lesbian. You reject me because you do not understand me. You despise me because I am different. You fear me because you have misgivings that knowing, understanding and accepting me might somehow change you. And it will. It will not change a heterosexual into a homosexual any more than the homosexual has been changed in your prisons and on your psychiatrists' couches. But it will lend truth to what is now the lie of the Christian brotherhood of man.
We recently read in a San Francisco newspaper where the State Department, to prevent employment by it of homosexuals "for security purposes," has included in its application forms the question "Have you ever engaged in a homosexual act?"

Historically, there never was any question about the patriotism of homosexuals, at least not prior to the enactment of oppressive laws making homosexual acts illegal. But towards the end of the 19th Century and in the early 20th Century, such laws were enacted (sodomy has probably been a crime since about the time Christianity became the official religion of Rome) by most States of the United States and many countries throughout the world. (California's first law making oral copulation illegal, for example, was enacted in 1915, but because the Legislature had used the Latin words "fellatio" and "cunnilingus" to describe the forbidden act, the Supreme Court held that the law was unconstitutional on the ground that laws making conduct criminal must be written in English. In 1921 the Legislature reenacted the law using the English words "oral copulation" in place of the Latin, and the validity of the law in English has since been upheld.) Oscar Wilde, who was the first noted person tried and convicted under England's new anti-homosexual law, allowed himself, as evidence at his trial indicated, to be blackmailed to keep his homosexuality secret; but no question of his patriotism was ever involved. The only reported case of a homosexual's betraying his country to keep his homosexuality secret was that of a German General during World War I. However, the facts surrounding the case are garbled and there are good reasons for rejecting the entire story as more fanciful than fact. In any case, there were many betrayals in both World Wars by highly placed German officials and no one has yet suggested that homosexuality was involved, much less a motive.

It is true that there have been "defections" of homosexuals from one side to the other in the present "cold war" between the United States and Russia, but all available evidence indicates that such defections were for ideological and not sexual reasons. In fact, there is not one shred of evidence that such defections involved homosexuality per se or was the result of the defector's desire to keep his homosexuality a secret. And since one out of every ten men is a homosexual, it would seem likely that ten percent of the defectors would be homosexual by the law of averages, but even this amount is not borne out by the statistics. In fact, most defectors are, so far as anyone can tell, heterosexual and the number of homosexual defectors is negligible.

Finally, as a footnote to the foregoing discussion as to betrayal, it should be noted that not a single spy, not a one, who has been tried and convicted for treason in this country was homosexual!

Thus, the State Department's newest attack on homosexuals is not supported by any available evidence and must be taken at face value for just exactly what it is - intimidation, harassment, and just plain stupid! It's stupid for two reasons: (1) As indicated, there is not a shred of credible evidence to support the proposition that a homosexual constitutes a greater security risk than a heterosexual, or any security risk at all, and (2) if there were such evidence, it would be absurd to think that a homosexual would betray his own country to keep his homosexuality a secret but would willingly tell all to the State Department. Conversely stated, if a homosexual would betray his country to keep his homosexuality secret, he absolutely would not disclose his homosexuality in a mere application for employment! The homosexual who would willingly answer the State Department's question truthfully could obviously not be blackmailed to betray his country or do anything else - to keep his homosexuality a secret which it no longer is, and thus he could not be a security risk on the ground that he could be blackmailed. Yet, he is the one who will be denied employment! The State Department is simply discriminating against homosexuals in its employment policies and should be made to account for it honestly.
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<th>SUNDAY</th>
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the detour

a side trip

888 mc allister

MONDAY:
Prizes for
Best Mod Costumes

TUESDAY:
Amateur Go Go
Dance Contest

THURSDAY
FRIDAY
SATURDAY:
Live Music

SUNDAY:
Brunch 12 - 4
Live Music from 4
Dinner at 7
Go Go Boy on Stage
New Position

NOW OPEN
Secretary to Board and SIR Office Receptionist.

Salary $100 per week.

Qualifications:
- Must be good typist, 45 w.p.m. min.
- shorthand, know basic office machines, simple bookkeeping.
- Personality and effectiveness in dealing with public and membership most important.
- Apply in person to Bill Harkovich, SIR president, after 3 p.m. daily.

Vaudeville and melodrama returned to the stage of the Community Center on Friday, September 16, 1966, when the SIR Players, yielding to popular demand, gave a second performance of "Bessie The Bandit's Beautiful Baby." The play was initially performed at the Community Center on August 26, before the delegates to the National Planning Conference of Homophile Organizations, and received tumultuous acclaim on both nights. "Bessie" was presented in a turn-of-the-century setting in the same vein as the celebrated "Drunkard" melodrama, in which the audience, on cue, cheered the virtuous heroine and hissed the villainous villain.

The play and the vaudeville acts which followed it are reviewed in more detail in last month's VICTOR.

Ed's Truck

"A Truck For Any Need"

524 Castro Street
San Francisco
UN 3-1500
SIR GIVES GREEN STAMPS?

No! But it can sure use any green - or blue, orange, purple, or any other color stamps to help furnish the kitchen and the Community Center.

Bingo Bonus, Gift Stars, cigarette coupons, and so on, would also be appreciated and can be placed in the special receptacle for that purpose at the office window.

THANKS!

The staff of VECTOR would like to acknowledge the excellent response to our request for clippings and to thank those who have so generously responded. A special thanks goes to those who sent us clippings they had been collecting for years.

Everyone can help - just clip any article or story, noting the publication and date, and mail to Bill Hay at 83 Sixth Street, San Francisco, California.

TGSF SPONSORS

The campaign of homophile organizations to eradicate venereal disease is sponsored this year by the Tavern Guild of San Francisco. As a reminder of the importance of a medical checkup, over 10,000 lapel buttons have been distributed bearing the campaign's slogan - a check mark followed by the number 33. "Check-33" refers to 33 Hunt Street, the address of one of the health centers of the San Francisco Department of Public Health, where blood tests may be obtained free of charge.

According to Mr. William Plath, President of the Tavern Guild, the Health Department recommends a blood test every three months. All records of the Department are kept confidential.

The campaign last year was sponsored by SIR.

TAVERN GUILD PICNIC

A large contingent of SIR picnic fans journeyed over to the East Bay on Sunday, September 25, 1966, to attend the all-day Tavern Guild picnic held in a mountain resort near Walnut Creek. Many of the picnic-goers spent the day lounging by the swimming pool and partaking of beer which flowed cornucopiously from nearby spigots. Others joined in baseball, high-jump, races, and other sport activities organized by Bill Plath, President of the Tavern Guild. Prizes were given away by drawings throughout the day, and in the afternoon there was dancing, followed by a bar-b-que dinner.

Tickets for the picnic were available at Tavern Guild bars throughout the City. Drivers with cars and those needing rides met Sunday morning at The Baj, Landmark, Baud's, or Fe-Be's for a map and directions to the picnic.

EXECUTIVE TRAVEL PLANNERS INCORPORATED

"It would be a pleasure to handle your travel arrangements"

NORMAN M. FORRESTER
THE HARTFORD BLDG. 650 California Street
YU 1-2484

join ACLU
PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE
TO TRAIN PRESS PHOTOGRAPHERS

The Public Relations Committee is looking for members interested in learning professional press photography who will be trained while covering SIR activities and spot news events as press photographers. Under the guidance of one of our members, who is a professional photographer, this program will make it possible for one or more persons to learn the trade of press photography while covering SIR events.

A full professional dark room will also be made available, and training in its use will be included for those who wish to undertake the program.

Some experience and interest in photography is essential. Interested persons should contact Jerry Read, Chairman, or other members of the Public Relations Committee.

Long-term plans include acquisition of our own cameras and dark-room equipment for the SIR press photography unit.

Dark-room equipment will also be a fine asset for small activities or hobby groups to use in the future.

CANDIDATE'S NIGHT
Cont'd from page 1

issues. Mr. Harcourt stated he was not adequately familiar with Mr. Maillard's views and "would have the Congressman comment on all issues at a future date."

The four candidates for State Assemblyman addressed themselves to the issues and all of them expressed opinions favorable to the homosexual community. These candidates are: Raymond E. Bright, Republican, 20th District; Willie L. Brown, Democrat, 18th District; John L. Burton, Democrat, 20th District; and Nick Verreos, Republican, 23rd District.

A brochure expressing the candidates' opinions in depth will be published by SIR's Political Committee in advance of the election and will be widely distributed to the homophile community.
937 COLE
(across from Bradley's Corner)

MAUD'S - STUDY
GRAND GRAND PARTY
MONDAY AND TUESDAY OCTOBER 17 - 18

ENTERTAINMENT

DOOR PRIZES

BUFFET
(catered by Bob Ross of the 524 Club)

YOUR HOSTESSES: Rikki Streicher  Gloria Grant
HOSTESSES' HELPERS:  Lee Burrus  Low Delben
Ted Zeller  Jean Green  Will Wheat  Sandi Singer