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VECTOR is the official publication of the SOCIETY FOR INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS, an organization dedicated to the education of all people who may be interested in better understanding the homosexual community.

Articles represent the viewpoint of the writers and are not necessarily the opinion of the SOCIETY FOR INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS.

WHAT IS S.I.R.?

"Believing in our democratic heritage and that ethical values are self-determined and limited only by every person's right to decide his own, we organize for: the reaffirming of individual pride and dignity regardless of orientation; the elimination of the public stigma attached to human self-expression; the accomplishing of effective changes in unjust laws concerning private relationships among consenting adults; the giving of real and substantial aid to members in difficulties; the promoting of better physical, mental and emotional health; the creating of a sense of community; and the establishing of an attractive social atmosphere and constructive outlets for members and their friends."

Preamble, S.I.R. Constitution

IS S.I.R. A SUCCESS?

In three years S.I.R. has become the largest active homophile organization in the United States. S.I.R. continues to expand and is favorably recognized by the broader community for its mature and intelligent approach.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS

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I CERTIFY THAT I AM TWENTY-ONE YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER. SIGN ____________________________
Sirlebrity Capades, 1967, was a new high in theatrical accomplishments for San Francisco's gay community. The development of a well-paced, professional show that matched such previous successes as "The Boyfriend" and "The Gay '90s," provided a thoroughly enjoyable time for those who were lucky enough to catch either the December 9th or 10th performances at the Russian Hall. Gene Roche is to be congratulated on assembling a superb array of talent. But our special bouquets must go to Robert Turner and John DeLeon for their overall pacing and adequate display of some superb talents.

The chorus was the most outstanding which has ever appeared in any gay community production; I don't see how it could have been improved, and it would have been a credit to any Broadway show. The choreography was, by far, the best that has been seen in any gay show in San Francisco. We understand that this is the first show ever choreographed by Mr. DeLeon, who previously did a can-can number for the Gay '90s. Such a good beginning promises future surprises and improvement. Costuming and makeup were superb and in some instances, shocking beautiful. This was under the able direction of Curt McDowell. Lighting by Jack Perpick was simple and effective. The sets were a bit disappointing for more help was needed in this area.

The opening number was a fashionable rendition of the lavishly-costumed Ziegfield girls of yesteryear. The girls in their bright and gorgeous array of plumes, sequins and jewels reincarnated that crazy and almost forgotten era of Earl Carroll's Vanities, George White's Scandals and the Ziegfield Follies.

A highlight of the show was the exceptionally well-staged and choreographed "flappers" number. The chorus moved with clock-like precision, and their dances were exciting, especially an exotic tango danced by Faye and Terry.

The late and beloved Jeanette McDonald and Nelson Eddy would have applauded the comic satire performed so ably by Curt McDowell and Tommy Kohl in "Love Conquers All." Mel Stone's voice in "One Wonderful Evening," was melodic and effective.

Laura was indeed a lovely "belle of the South," and although her number was too long, the chorus performed admirably.

"Castanets and Lace," which was similar to those Spanish numbers performed in other revues, nevertheless, captured the serenity and effervescent beauty of a night in Spain. The act was highlighted by an exciting mambo ably performed by J. DeLeon and Walter Zelinski.

Madame Aida Soto-Voce was in excellent voice and gowned in a lovely creation resemb-
ling a Lester Le' Mont original. Her "pansy faces" was delivered exquisitely, as only a former diva of the Ogallalla, Nebraska, Opera Company could perform.

The western number was far too long, although it was fun to hear such old songs again as "Don't Fence Me In" and "Wagonwheels."

Grady Clark's delivery of two songs from the ever-popular "The Fantastiks" received great audience acclaim. His voice was mellow, expressive, and clear. As a matter of fact, I enjoyed his voice far more than the man I saw in the original New York production of "Fantastiks."

Ron Warren, our "super hero," deserves much applause for a brilliant rendition of "If My Friends Could See Me Now."

Char Lee K's clown brought both laughter and tears to all. The exciting Kimo in his exotic sword dance performed professionally. "The happening" received praise and seemed to me like a night at a discotheque; Jay Dee's dancing is something to watch.

To me the highlight of the show were Nancy and Curt as the Duncan sisters. No one could upstage these two ravishingly costumed beauties of the 20's.

The curtain descended with the entire cast singing a potpourri of Christmas favorites. BRAVO, Sirlebrities Capades, 1967!

We wish to thank not only the performers, but all those who gave of their time to make the Sirlebrities Capades such an outstanding success.
The following letter is one that I have sent to Governor Reagan. It concerns the recent public statements he has made concerning homosexuality and the position that is imperative for all members of our community to take. Many of you know that I worked in the Republican party for the election of Mr. Reagan, but this issue is clearcut and has nothing to do with partisan political feelings or background.

Dear Governor Reagan: I am taking this opportunity to write you on behalf of our community to take. Many of you know that I worked in the Republican party for the election of Mr. Reagan, but this issue is clearcut and has nothing to do with partisan political feelings or background.

Our political committee has been going over the transcriptions of several speeches you have made recently both in this state and nationally.

In your public utterances you have made references to homosexuals and homosexuality which indicates that you have spent little time or energy in availing yourself of the tremendous wealth of material available on this subject.

You speak of homosexuality as being a "tragic disease" in one breath and in the next proclaim that homosexuality should be illegal. Have you considered the social consequences of making a disease illegal? True, we could save a great deal of money for hospitals by making it illegal to become ill, but then the expense to the judicial system and the building of jails would be prohibitive.

I do, however, want you to understand that we do not consider homosexuality to be an illness. To us it is just a natural expression of one aspect of man's sexuality in general.

From a purely practical point you might consider the following facts: The population of the State of California according to the last census was 18,338,000. The best figures available would indicate that 10% of the adult population is homosexually orientated. The figures given for the state population include children. Therefore, to balance it out a figure of 7% is closer to the actual number of homosexuals in the State of California -- this would be 1,283,660 persons and potential voters. On a national basis, it is estimated that there are at least 18,000,000 homosexuals.

For the last 15 years the homosexuals have slowly begun to organize to fight for their rights. Presently, this movement is one of the fastest growing groups in the United States. The last two elections have seen the homosexual community start to move into the political field.

Do you realize the political voice that 1,283,660 voters can have in this State when they are organized?

This movement is not only on a state and local level, it is also on a national level. The movement each year has a conference of the Eastern, Midwestern, and Western Homophile Organizations. Once each year they meet on a national scale. True, they are still weak on a national level, but their strength is growing.

Statements such as the ones you made at Yale obtain national publicity as well as being reported in the homophile publications where you may be sure they cost you a great deal of political prestige and votes.

If you are not interested enough in the problems of the homosexual minority for humanitarian reasons, then I suggest that for purely political reasons you might consider examining the problem more closely prior to making rash statements.

I would appreciate your comments on the situation before I make a public statement that will be picked up by the whole California Homosexual Community and the national homophile movement.

We will await your answer and act accordingly. Respectfully, K. Macre, President.

Following is the response received from Mr. Reagan's office:

State of California
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE
Sacramento 95814

Mr. K. Macre, President
Society for Individual Rights Inc.
85 Sixth Street
San Francisco, California 94103

Dear Mr. Macre:

I am replying for Governor Reagan to your letter of October 18. The Governor will stand by the statements he has made on homosexuals.

Sincerely,

Ronald Reagan
Communications Director

Let me also urge all members of S.I.R. to be active and concerned with the elections that come about in February for Officers and those Board positions that are up this year. Remember, that this is a unique organization and it is directly controlled by the membership. You must determine the directions that lie ahead by your awareness of the issues and by your selection of who is to translate ideas into actions. I have heard many disgruntled complaints about certain committee activities. This is your chance to see that Committee Chairmen are doing the kind of job and fulfilling the kind of responsible policies that meet with your approval.

I want to urge all members of S.I.R. to search out candidates and come forward yourself to help lead this organization. S.I.R. is only as strong and as useful as you make it.

On January 3, 1968, the closed membership meeting will have on the agenda additional nominations from the floor. On January 17, the Open Meeting will be a presentation of all candidates for office with their speeches and a question and answer session. February 7, will be the ELECTIONS.

All officer's positions are open for election: President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The Board positions to be filled by election will be: Community Center Committee, Community Services Committee, Membership Committee, Publications Committee, Religious Committee, and Sirporium Committee.
THE JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GOVERNMENT - WATCHDOG OF LIBERTY

By Evander C. Smith

An emerging field of law has received support in the case of United Mine Workers of America v. Illinois State Bar Association handed down by the United States Supreme Court, December 5, 1967. The subject is query: may the union retain an attorney on a salaried basis to represent the injured union members and their families before the Illinois Industrial Commission with respect to workman's compensation claims.

The court answers an unequivocal "yes," the dissent by Mr. Justice Stewart responds, "no."

The case is a culmination of a series of similar ones throughout the United States which the legal profession has been dealing with. This case is a metamorphic stage and by no means is the definitive word on the subject; there will be many more cases to answer the myriad of questions raised but unanswered by this one. The dissent together with its footnotes opens up problems which the court's opinion chooses to ignore.

What does the case do for organizations as a class? Does it protect the lawyer's license if he should be suspended by his state court system for practicing before courts as distinguished from a state commission? May the lawyer now have non-lawyers interview clients and give general and specialized legal advice in the name of the lawyer where he is a paid employee of an organization? Is the lawyer or his employer liable for malpractice? May the lawyer's employees make appearances in a proceeding and thereby bind the lawyer as attorney of record? May the employee of the house lawyer be held in contempt of court? Will the organization hiring the lawyer hire his associate employees, if so, who will exercise control over their legal practices? These are just a few of the questions which will be dealt with over the next 50 years by the courts in refining this new field of law dealing in human rights. It is long, long overdue, but any organization and lawyer would be foolhardy to proceed with full speed and ignore the absence of guidelines. A reading of the court and dissenting opinions, one sees how honest and fairminded men can have differences of opinion while all attempting to accomplish a common goal.

SIRPORIUM...

BY BOB KOCHE

Elections are coming in February, and my term of office expires at that time. A few comments are in order in my last month in office.

The Sirporium, since its creation in the Community Services Committee, has been an arm of the organization. Functioning as a store to many persons S.I.R. members have never met, the store has been a contact to the low economic group for nearly three years.

The Sirporium is not an annex to Gump's; it is a junk store as is the Goodwill Store or the Salvation Army. It has seen good times and bad, and I feel that this is an era when it is going into a very good period.
Up & Down... The West Coast
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PHONE: 273-9114
4520 MISSION BAY DRIVE
The Appreciation Dance

SOCIAL COMMITTEE
Carl Driver

The Appreciation Dance is the big news this month. On Saturday evening, January 27, 1968, S.I.R. will host a dance with NO DONATIONS. All S.I.R. members and their guests are welcome. The capacity of the center is about 300, so come early if you wish to make certain you get in.

The regular Saturday night dances will be held on the 6th, 13th, and 20th of January. A small donation is requested.

With the wealth of parties and other activities throughout the City last month, Game Night barely struggled along, but larger turnouts are forthcoming this month. Also, don't forget the NEW MEMBERS RECEPTION from 5 to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, January 9, 1968.

The Right To Work

By G. Coffman

Question: Are you, the homosexual, denied the right to work because you are a homosexual?

Has your experience been one of dismay when filling out application forms that ask questions relating to your private life? Often such applications request your marital status, and subsequent oral evaluations request the reason why you are not married. Work forms demand to know of your background—not recorded confessions. Why? To determine your moral character and personal way of life.

State licensing programs are often designed to filter the applicants through a process in order to eliminate those of questionable moral attitudes. When the process fails to define the homosexual, subsequent state revocation procedures work to remove the right to practice, not because of a lack of skill or professional integrity, but on the basis of a personal moral selection.

Civil service applicants know the bias used in such personnel procedures. The statement issued by Governor Reagan recently, is typical of the attitude of the Civil Service Hiring Practices Commission.

Why? Why is a homosexual less capable than a fellow human being in performing clerical skills, professional counselling, or menial duties? Why?

Members of Glide Memorial Church have established a Committee for Fair Employment Practices For homosexuals. This is a "task force" that burst forth from the germinating seed of community concern by members of the Glide Church. Today, this task force is projecting itself forward to eliminate the employment stigma attached to homosexuals.

The Legal Committee of S.I.R., enhanced by this task force, has established the F.E.P.C., a subcommittee, to coordinate S.I.R.'s efforts for fair employment with the task force of concerned individuals.

Members of the homophile community are urged to make themselves aware of this movement. Are you, the homosexual, denied the right to work because you are a homosexual? Is the Governor's statement of "tragic disease" a compelling idea to refute your right to work?
New Haven: The first part of December found the Governor of California on the road trying to become a national political figure. The chameleon characteristics of the species, Americanus Politico Reagoanus, is becoming more evident. Over the years Mr. Reagan's stands have been changed, intermittently, from a bright pink hue of the super-liberal Democrat to a deep royal purple as he has heard the clarion call as one of the chosen of God. During the election for Governor his private conversations with certain members in S.I.R. were very different than the outrageous quips about homosexuality uttered at his Yale University campus press conference.

The Governor was asked if homosexuals should be barred from holding public office. "Certainly," he said, "they should be barred from the Department of Beaches and Parks."

The news, radio and television reporters crowding the Commons Room of Timothy Dwight College responded with loud laughter. In a more serious vein, however, the Governor said he considered homosexuality "a tragic disease." 

Answering a further question about allowing it to be practiced by consenting adults, Reagan said, "It should be illegal."

We now wonder if the Governor is advocating jail for the man that masterminded his campaign which elected him. If any man could be given credit for placing Mr. Reagan in the Governor's chair, it was the man who was summarily dismissed as a homosexual by him. Loyalty to oneself knows no bounds in politics, it seems.

A columnist syndicated in Eastern newspapers, James A. Wechsler, reminds us: "Once upon a time the late Franklin D. Roosevelt was confronted by reports that one of his high diplomatic officials was being denounced by bureaucratic rivals as a practicing homosexual.

"Well, he may be, "F.D.R. is said to have replied very quietly, "but he doesn't do it on the government's time."

Eventually, the man was apprehended in a public misadventure, and Mr. Roosevelt felt obliged to dismiss him. But the victim had rendered many years of distinguished service in the interim.

New York: Howard R. Moody, in an editorial in "Christianity Today," brought back some sense to the whole subject of the ugly use of homosexuals as scapegoats for the insecurities of our society. The following is an excerpt from this article entitled, "Homosexuality and Huckling."

"It is no more acceptable when Drew Pearson attacks a conservative politician than when the late Senator Joseph McCarthy leveled the charge against "pinks" in the State Department who, said he, harbored homosexuals. One of the things that makes libertarian mouthings so incredulous to people is that when McCarthy-like tactics are used by conservatives it is immoral, but when liberals use it against conservatives it becomes "political honesty."

Some consistency in indignation helps make principles a bit more believable even to political foes.

The time has come in civilization for those who value the democratic process and the political dialogue necessary to that process to demand that there be a moratorium on the use of this kind of base and unenlightened fear. Many who applaud Pearson's revelation of Reagan's "indiscretion" would probably find themselves completely at sea in any intelligent discussion of homosexuality with either of the two men. The fact that discovery of a practicing homosexual on the opposition's staff can mean a "coup de grace" for any politician is evidence of a rather severe cultural lag that belies the present situation in our nation. This is due to the incredible reluctance of all of us to "face reality."

The debate about whether homosexuality is a "sin" or a "sickness" will probably continue to rage wherever people discover the problem, but can't we at least declare out of bounds the use of this issue as a guaranteed method of political assassination? Further, hasn't the time come in American life when we should seriously reexamine our attitude and ethical stance on this problem, since this makes many decent people easy prey for blackmail and intimidation? The issue keeps recurring in public life, but we make no progress in developing a new relationship to it. Great Britain has taken some of those steps, and its new laws could well be guidelines for us. There, the Church of England was a leading proponent of reform. When he faced the press, Mr. Reagan angrily denied there had been any incidents or problems. He would have better served his own interests and the moral atmosphere of the nation if he had done something more than bluster and "bleat. It is to be hoped that the church can muster the integrity and the courage to challenge the public climate that turns sexual deviation into criminality and victimization.

Chicago: On December 8, a former Chicago policeman accused of heading a ring that preyed on homosexuals was convicted of extortion by a U.S. District Court Jury. He is John J. Pyne, 53, a policeman from 1938 to 1966 who is appealing a five-year prison sentence and a $5,000 fine on a similar charge. He also is under indictment in Dallas and New York.

Convict with Pyne was one of the ring members, John H. Fellabaum, 27, of Monroville, Pennsylvania.

Prosecutors said Fellabaum, a weight-lifter, was used as bait in what the government declared was a multi-million-dollar operation. They charged he lured victims into hotel rooms, and that later other ring members, posing as policemen, went to the victim's home cities and demand-
Parries & Thrusts

ed payments to prevent scandalous charges being brought against them.

Pyne and Fellabaum, in the trial that ended today, were charged with conspiring to travel across state lines from Raleigh, North Carolina, to Chicago in May, 1966, to shake down a college professor. The attempt to extort $10,000 from him failed.

London: ARENA THREE reports a similar situation to the one reported in December, '67 VECTOR on the placing of a classified ad in local papers by S.I.R. When Miss Lasse Langley tried to place a simple statement in the Sunday Classified of the SUNDAY TELEGRAPH, "Homosexual women read ARENA 3," she received the following:

"Dear Miss Langley, Thank you for your order for a classified advertisement. We agree that we have carried advertisements for you before and we do not object to doing so again. However, we would like to re-think this copy. We find it rather bald, and likely to cause unnecessary offense to some of our readers. Can it be altered, please? Yours Sincerely."

(Signed: MANAGER CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS' DEPARTMENT.)

Miss Langley replied in the pages of ARENA THREE:

"Statistically, many thousands of 'Sunday Telegraph' readers must be either homosexual, or sensibly heterosexual. We wonder how many of them are 'offended' or astonished by the attitude displayed in the above letter. It is the kind of twisted thinking that we must tackle collectively, unless the views and wishes of sane and responsible people are to go on being smothered in favour of twilight fantasy and embattled ignorance."

New York: It was at the last L.C.O Conference in New York City in 1964, that we brought up the suggestion that a possible way to break the stanglehold by the Mafia over gay bars in such cities as New York and Chicago, was for the gay community, to form Gay Clubs that were incorporated and allowed only members and guests. Bring your own bottles would definitely get around the State Liquor Control Law and be legal, we pointed out. Attempts to form such clubs by the Gay Community were initiated, such as the Corduroy Club in New York City.

"On the NEW YORK TIMES that the Mafia has gone out and started the same thing. Such clubs as the Two Penny Civic Association, 36 East 30th Street, and the El Baron Club, 74-02 Liot Ave., Middle Village Queens, are establishments owned and run by the Mafia that cater to homosexuals. It is reported that the private status of private clubs makes them immune to routine police inspection and State Liquor Authority control. However, the police have managed to infiltrate the above two Mafia controlled clubs and serve summonses for illegal sale of liquor."

It is also reported that the Mafia is selling off some of its investments in bars catering to homosexuals. Legitimate operators who have previously shunned this field as too risky and socially repugnant are buying them. The monopoly, previously held by the underworld is being broken. We can only shout a big halleluyah.

The same NEW YORK TIMES, also reports that a hearing on whether to revoke the liquor license of a Mr. Segal, brought about by charges by the House Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee's investigator, William L. Kane, former F.B.I. agent, that John J. Alliegro, an investigator for the State Liquor Authority, was the Mafia contact in the agency. Mr. Alliegro had tried to extort $25,000 from him. Segal said the effort to deprive him of his liquor licenses had stemmed from his refusal to pay the bribe.

While we started this column this month on a somewhat depressing item of political damage being done by California's Governor, we now feel that maybe San Francisco is about to become the center of a new liberal approach to homosexuality and the law. This is a surprise for us. We had not been aware of Mr. Alioto's political position on crime and law. No statements, privately or in public, showed anyone that we knew what position he would take as Mayor in relation to the homosexual community. But now that Mr. Alioto has been elected Mayor of San Francisco, he has asked for a complete review of what constitutes crime and just what should be the area of concern of law and law enforcement.

We quote from Charles McCabe's column of December 20, in the SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE. "I would like to see this new Crime Commission, of which even the members are not yet chosen, do for the UNITED STATES what the Wolfenden Report did in England."

Mr. Alioto's Wolfenden analogy is enormously suggestive. He is more than willing that his Crime Commission go into the whole matter of private behavior of which society disapproves, and of how much of this area is properly a police concern.

He said, "There's no cop in San Francisco who will not agree that he's doing a lot of things he's compelled by law to do which he would rather forget about."

"We have to explore thoroughly the area of private personal behavior, as the English have in the single matter of homosexuality. I'm no more in favor of homosexuality than of opium smoking, but I want to know if either is or should be properly a concern of the law-enforcement arm of our society."

"We have so much real crime to deal with, in the streets and elsewhere, that we might profitably rule out of our definition of crime such matters as simply concern what people do to themselves, and their friends. What criminals do to decent people is the relevant consideration."

What a glorious way to start the New Year. Happy '68 to you all and to our new Mayor. Mr. Alioto may make a lot of us change our minds about him yet.
SMALL ACTIVITIES

BY PERRY GEORGE

I must consult my astrologer and find out when things will pick up for me. After 2 trips to Minnesota to visit, then bury, my father, I am now laid up with hepatitis, (see Sept. VECTOR health article), and in case you're curious, I got it off a doorknob. The upshot of this illness is the first two discussion groups of January will be cancelled at 856 Page St. The discussion group at 1256 Page St. will, however, be as active as ever. Their chosen subjects for January are:

Jan. 5: board recommendations for executive officers; Jan. 12: candidates for committee chairman; Jan. 19: open; and the last Friday (religious discussion) will have the President of the humanist Society talk about humanism.

I had had plans for reactivating the art group in early January, but that is going to have to wait until February. I am pleased to report that the poetry workshop group is large and productive, and they are presently screening fiction for VECTOR. I had also had hopes of reactivating the men's glee club, but that will have to wait.

I am pleased to report the first Tuesday game's night was a success, and I do suspect the Social Committee's sherry reception, which was in conjunction, had a substantial effect. We expect this activity to pick up in momentum as the new year gets into swing, and all the holiday cocktail parties have played themselves out. As always, consult your VECTOR calendar for all the other small activities, and if you feel you want a specific activity to get started, let me know, and I'll try to get your interest blown up into a small activity.

An INVITATION

Mr. Toby McCarroll, Executive Director of the American Humanist Association, will be guest speaker at the January 26 Religious Committee Discussion at 1256 Page Street, apartment #1.

It is a rare privilege for us at S.I.R. to have a man of Mr. McCarroll's stature come to discuss his views and the views of his organization with the homophile community.

So, do a little research on the humanist movement, and then bring a prepared, inquiring mind to this important dialogue.

SIR SKIERS

S.I.R. skiers celebrated the first snow of the season with a gala party in December of last year. A dozen new members promise to make the '68 season another sensation! Meetings are to be held prior to S.I.R.'s Saturday dances in 1968.

The first trip of the season will be on January 6th and the destination will be Reno. There will be skiing at Sugar Bowl and Boreal Ridge plus festivities at Dave's V.I.P.

There will be a meeting on the 13th, another ski trip on the 20th, and another meeting on the 27th.

Plans for the '68 season include a "mardi gras" party, a "Donner" party, spring carnival, and a special trip to Snowmass-Aspen. Snowmass is the most glamorous new ski resort in the west and S.I.R. skiers will add some sparkle to its opening!

For further information call Jon at 673-6590 or Jarrell at 626-7646.

J. B.

"Saint Valentine's Day Massacre"

ANNIVERSARY HAKE

February 11th

4:00 -- 10:00PM

FUN

FOOL

PRIZES

BRUNCH SATURDAY & SUNDAY

10:00 TO 3:00

COCKTAIL HOUR 50¢

4:00 TO 8:00

MONDAY THRU FRIDAY
SEATTLE HOSTS
WESTERN REGIONAL
CONFERENCE
By William Beardemphl

The Western Regional Conference was held in Seattle, December 1, 2, and 3, and everyone in the Northwest know it. Seattle Magazine, 35,000 press run, carried a feature story and cover picture on homosexuality and the conference. The magazine sold out for the first time in their history. Signs were up in all of Seattle's gay establishments, about the conference, and delegates were warmly welcomed and provided with free drinks in all bars they attended. Even the Dancing Club opened its doors, free, to the conference delegates. It was a wonderful feeling to be received so openly, and hospitably in the Pacific Northwest.

The Dorian Society, a relative newcomer in Seattle organizationally, and the Association for Social Knowledge, Vancouver, B.C., were co-hosts to this conference which was carried on in an atmosphere of friendliness that was a refreshing change from the past performances of gay organizations meeting. Not one sour note was heard, and the conference got down to the "guts" problems of these conferences. A review of the last conferences, their accomplishments and failures, led to the concept that a statement of possible guidelines for conferences should be made. After much work the conference adopted the following statement, noting that it should be only one basis for future national discussions that will lead to national cohesiveness and purposes.

The Western Regional Conference feels that the goals and purposes of homophile conferences are basically:

Organizational: The Conferences should give direction to the homophile movement by developing policies and a rationale for the movement. The conferences should foster the development of new groups and serve to revitalize existing organizations. They should develop continuing liaison between organizations, particularly, with small or new organizations. They should serve to disseminate information about the organization and problems of other groups, which is not discussed in any other forum. The conferences should develop unified national or regional projects and reduce duplication of efforts and research.

The Regional Conferences should make regional contributions to national projects through representatives on committees and advisory boards.

Educational: These conferences should educate through the use of outside resources, the exchange of information and ideas, and the development of reports and pamphlets.

Persons of professional proficiency will be called upon to present their views on various aspects of homosexuality and to enter into dialogue with members of the conference. Organizations should offer reports on their local plans and activities. Discussion following the reports will allow for developing practical guidelines for evaluation and implementation of future plans and activities.

Thoughtful homosexuals will offer statements on various aspects of homosexuality in order to stimulate discussion. Committees within the conference will prepare educational publications for the benefit of homosexuals.

Public Relations: These conferences should attempt to reach out to the community, at large, to disseminate information on homosexuality and on the homophile movement. One of the main values of such conferences is to inform the public that homosexuals are organized to improve their relations with society. To accomplish this purpose the following are some of the means that can be utilized:

(1) Meetings open to the public where programs on homosexuality and the homophile movement are presented.

(2) Seminars using established professional persons for presentation of current thought and research in academic disciplines and professions such as psychology, medicine, religion, law insofar as they are concerned with homosexuality.

(3) Controlled use of news media through T.V. programs, press conferences, and press releases before, during, and after conferences.

(4) Invitation of sympathetic observers such as sociologists, ministers, authors, political candidates, etc., who are willing to exchange views and ideas leading toward useful cooperation with society.

A report was made on "Psychedelic Therapy" using L.S.D., Mescaline and similar materials and the therapeutic adjuvant in cases of homosexuality. This report and other continued
connected drug experiments will be the subject of a forthcoming VECTOR health article.

A program was set up, tentatively scheduled for the first weekend in February, to be held in Portland, Oregon, that would bring about a homophile organization in that area. The meeting will be sponsored by the Western Regional Conference with coordination through the Dorian Society of Seattle. Information and contacts to help bring about a successful meeting in Portland should be sent to the Dorian Society or your local homophile group that is a member of this conference.

A National Clearing House advisory representative from the Western Region was elected, W. E. Beardemphl, S.I.R., San Francisco. Also two members to the N.L.D.F. Board of Advisors were elected, Doug Sanders, A.S.K., Vancouver, B. C., and Don Slater, Tangents, Los Angeles, Calif.

A lengthy discussion was held on "Religion and homosexuality." A Catholic Priest from Seattle, with the approval of his superiors, attended. The following are some quotes from his opening remarks.

"I must be honest, however, and say that many Catholics would be shocked by my presence here—many of whom are my own brothers in the clergy. Well, so be it.

"I think that the time has come when we had better be a little less shocked, a little less smug in our own self-righteousness, and start listening to others. Apparently, we don't have all the answers. I think our record of failure in many areas has proved that. One area where we have noticeably failed is in this problem of homosexuality. We don't understand it— from my studies apparently, few really understand it.

"And, if I don't understand homosexuality, we have committed some pretty heinous crimes, mainly in judging. Our tendency has been to judge. And in our judging we have used every weapon at our disposal from the use (or mis-use) of Sacred Scripture to ad hominem arguments of men of great influence. At any rate, we have judged. And our judgment consists mainly in rejection. Our crime is to reject some of our brothers whom we can't or refuse to try to understand.

"For our unchristian behavior I beg your forgiveness. May you be merciful and forgive us even though we have not, as a rule, shown mercy to you. And, unfortunately, I don't expect this tendency to reject—this unchristlike attitude— to change for a long time to come."

The Rev. Charles Lewis spoke on the sexual act as being amoral, and that it is how it is used that connotes sin. Methods of approaches, such as confrontation programs, Church (lay and professional) discussion groups, visitation programs, seminary presentations, etc., that would effectively change organized religious attitudes were discussed at length and recommended to all homophile groups.

A penal code reform study was recommended and shall be begun under the direction of the Homophile League. A resolution affirming that we endorse and work through groups outside the Homophile Movement to bring about law changes was passed.

A public meeting was held at the Friends Meeting Hall and chaired by the Rev. Karigiri on Saturday, Dec. 2.

A review of and information of the Seattle homophile scene was very encouraging. The conference was a decisive factor in promoting a favorable climate for sound organizational developments.

A.S.K. reported on its fantastic development since its change to a membership controlled and involvement organization after the August, 1966, conference in San Francisco. They have gone from two members to over 260 at present. They have a community center and regular social functions.

It was decided that the next Western Regional Conference will be held in Salt Lake City, Utah, in February, 1969. Rev. Alex Smith was elected the Interim Chairman.

The conference can best be described as constructive. The impact on the Northwest will be beneficial for some time to come.
Police Community Relations Public Forum

"Walking George," a member of the police department and former patrolman in the Skid Row District, gave a description of the arrest procedures with several examples.

Lt. Brunerman, Director of Police Community Relations, San Francisco Police Department, said that of the arrests in Skid Row, 75.5% were for drunkenness, pointing out the huge expense of this legal policy to the citizens of San Francisco.

John Barrett, a supervisor for single men, indigent aid, Department of Social Services spoke about some of the services provided by L.S.S. He talked about the cyclical syndrome--arrest, jail, hospitalization, public assistance, and the problem of how to break up this vicious cycle.

Marshall Krause of the A.C.L.U., spoke compassionately and objectively against a system which punishes people for being ill, (e.g. chronic alcoholics), an approach which does not do any good but which does much harm to the individuals concerned. He explained that the Supreme Court is now considering a case in which the decision and as a symptom of a societal illness, in terms of the extent of the problem and of the damage done to the individual and society, alcoholism is the most important form of drug abuse in spite of the fact that it may possibly define chronic alcoholism as a disease entity and thus not subject to criminal procedures. He then remarked that the City of San Francisco is almost totally unprepared in terms of providing services for this possible decision.

Dr. Joel Fort, educator, social phsiatrist, and renowned authority on drug use and abuse arrived late (he just flew in from Los Angeles appearing on the "Joe Pyne" show), but quickly became the focus of the questions. He is knowledgeable, forthright and dynamic in his approach. Some of the main points stressed by Dr. Fort were:

(1) Drug abuse must be seen in the total context of the society in which it occurs.

(2) In spite of the high rate of alcoholism in San Francisco, there are no adequate facilities for the treatment of acute problems such as withdrawal plus inadequate hospital facilities, half-way houses and outpatient treatment facilities.

(3) The major hospital inpatient program for the treatment of alcoholics is at Mendocino State Hospital. The major outpatient facility is the Center For Special Problems, 2107 Van Ness Avenue.

(4) It decreed the neglect by city officials of controversial social problems and suggested they didn't want to aggregate the Alcohol Beverage Control Board (A. B. C.), pointing out that 40% of alcohol sales occurs during the Christmas season.

(5) Dr. Fort stated that alcoholics should be seen as sick people and as such the problems should be dealt with by public health departments, not police departments whoare needed to control the 30% increase in crimes such as murder, rape, and other crimes of violence.

(6) Dr. Fort stated that redevelopment was not the answer--we need social development, not more buildings.

In spite of the unenthusiastic talks by some of the speaker, the program was a success (the biggest turn-out yet in the Community Relation programs). It is hoped that Lt. Brunerman will, as he said, communicate the concerns of the citizens, who participated in this public forum, to the Department of Public Health and urge them to act--NOW.

S.I.R. feels privileged to have been the host for this meeting and hopes that it is only the first of many programs in which we can express our interest in the many problems facing our city.
The effectiveness of such a Commission in the control of obscenity depends entirely on the ability and dedication of the individual members appointed.

With regards to its definition, one commentator has put it: "Pornography is whatever five members of the Supreme Court consider pornographic." And this, it would seem, changes almost monthly. I suspect that the addition or replacement of even one justice on the court could conceivably tip the balance in generating different kinds of decisions in this area. One of the justices, Brennan, has stated that sex and obscenity are not synonymous. "Obscene material is material which deals with sex in a manner appealing to prurient interests."

Some literary critics, lawyers, artists, and other professional people who claim they cannot make the distinction between art and pornography actually do not wish to because they regard pornography as legitimate, or fear that censorship of pornography may be extended to art or literature.

In a recent issue of THE NATIONAL DEENCY REPORTER, the findings of a recent national survey was published.

Question: Do you think that the mass of homosexual printed matter is one cause of increased homosexual activity? Of the per cent answering "yes," the largest number came from law enforcement officials, and the largest per cent answering "no" came from psychiatrists and physicians.

Question: Do you think that homosexual printed matter triggers latent homosexual tendencies? Again the largest per cent "yes" came from the law group and "no's" from the medical group.

Question: Do you think homosexual activity between consenting adults should be taken out of the realm of illegality? The medical group voted "yes" for this, and the law enforcement officials were the largest percentage of "no's."

VECTOR put before its readers the problem of pornography, and following are some of the opinions received.

Heterosexual pornography
exists. Homosexual pornography exists. The relative importance of pornography connected with homosexuality is minor. Pornography is a subject separate from homosexuality just as suicide is a separate subject. A connection can be rationalized in both cases. If pornography is your bag, I could care less one way or the other because you have to carry your bag, but it is not a homosexual bag.

Any connection that is established between the homosexual movement and pornography is a disservice to the movement and an affront to the majority of homosexuals who are not interested in homosexuality is a disservice to the homosexual movement and pornography. Xude pictures are available in every low "toilet" selling junk literature along Market Street; S.I.R. doesn't need to do this.

In our organization we have a hundred and one worthwhile, necessary things to accomplish. I have always felt that any organization or publication that has to rely on frontal nudes or pornography or that takes up the gauntlet for such relatively minor cases as defense of the right to send pornography, nudes, and electric "dildos" through the mail, is a bankrupt organization, both morally and mentally. When there are so many important things that organized homosexuals must do, let's not cheapen ourselves and waste our time by printing pornography-written or pictorial. Let those who have nothing better to do, or who can't think of anything useful in their lives, be concerned with such things.

When needed, a good affair is enough. Sex should be placed on as high a plane as possible with respect for ourselves and others. Let's not degrade but upgrade the meanings in all of our lives. . . . B. B.

Give Me My Dirty Pictures!

For a person with a reputation for promiscuity, I must admit about 80% of my sex life is derived from pornography, either printed or fantasied in my mind.

For a person with some imagination, the use of printed matter, text or photography, can be far more fulfilling than an actual encounter with another individual. For instance, with a "trick," the first encounter is a vying of personalities, bodies, orientations. The newness of the other person is exciting, but also fraught with pitfalls. "Oh, I don't like to do that!" Frequently, that exciting number on the street or in the bar is really not what you expected once the wrappings are off the package.

With pornography, however, there is no such disappointment. The scene is there, raw and naked, and the activities are just as you want them. Blow by blow, the whole scene is a unilateral fulfillment, no problems with what he wants, because with pornography, it's what you want, and it's all there.

Now there are those who say, "What about feelings, touch, warmth..." Well, to these, I say that a piece of paper shouldn't replace a lover, but if you're cheap, or don't want to walk in the rain, it makes a suitable substitute. . . . Roberta K.

Pornography, A Substitute?

What is hard core pornography? A true definition should concern itself with violence rather than sex. Hate is pornographic but easily tolerated in our society. When the individual partner is humiliated or made to suffer, we have dirt for dirt's sake.

Literature that appears behind a shabby but respectable facade, for example, VALLEY OF THE DOLLS fits snugly into this classification of soft core pornography. Melodrama and soap opera are not far behind. Hard core pornography is in the popular and legal mind, this form of diversion which shades into questionable areas when the sexual content reveals highly specific details better left for the medical profession. The cheap paperbacks sold on Market Street belong here. Violence bothers the persons in Europe, not us. Love is the crime. As one producer of T.V. horror shows defended a film sequence, "What's wrong with my film? The monster doesn't rape the girl or make love. All he does is carry her off to the jungle and kill her."

A few authorities in the psychiatric field would contend that obscene material is beneficial to patients who have repressed their sexual feelings. It is a safer outlet than rape. No reliable evidence exists that such material causes harm to the mind. A cause and effect relationship does not appear to function here. (J. Edgar Hoover and his crime statistics are not reliable. He reasons by emotion.) Sex in this country is emphasized to an extent that cannot be overlooked. The gay world is often the straight world in an enlarged form. The concern with biological endowment is in large part a reflection of male psychology per se, and not strictly the homosexual mind. (Do you ever see lesbians with pornography collections?) Pornography is a luxury that helps enhance external male characteristics that are easier to manipulate than the female equipment.

It would be suspected pornography is more widely employed in the gay world. But this conclusion cannot be validated because of the secret arrangements that are necessary to protect private collections.

Pornography is not always a sign of emotional ill health. This depends on the extent to which the user is dependent
upon such material for gratification. Too much of anything is bad.

Use of "obscene" writings or pictures will usually be considered as a symptom of personality disorder. This is where the popular press goes off the beam. The underlying problem must be dealt with, not the materials. The true sexual deviate desires the real thing, not a substitute. Millions of dollars are wasted chasing the pornographer. The book, PORNOGRAPHY AND THE LAW, by Eberhard and Phyllis Kronhausen is highly recommended in this area.

**It's My Own Business.**

Pornography should be my own business and not that of the police or courts, certainly. If I wish to buy, sell, or show stories or photos, that depict the sex act it's my own affair. Any moral or religious judgement that this is harmful to society has the preconceived idea that sex itself is "dirty" and must not be shown or written about.

"Pornography" is only a word and even the United States Supreme Court has been unable to define it. A limp penis is okay, but a half-hard penis is okay, but a fully erect penis becomes "pornography." Such nonsense!

Children seek out sex photos and sex stories when they are at the age and curiosity level that such things are desired, and, believe me, with or without laws, they find it when they want it. That such children become mad sex fiends as a result is a stupid lie. J. Edgar Hoover says that this is so, but only the puritan moralists and John Birchers believe him anymore.

The Editor of VECTOR, Bill Beardemphl, asked the Board of S.I.R. twice if they approved of the photo of a penis in this issue of the magazine. Only two of the 16 members opposed it. VECTOR is the number one homosexual publication in America today. It is proper, in the context of this particular Open Forum that such a photo be shown. . . . A Board Member

**Gay Erotica.**

Hard core pornography to me not legally speaking, is anything in literature that is excessively, bloodily violent in detail. Some with pictures or movies. There is no sexual literature or pictures that are pornographic in my opinion. The line between soft core and hard core pornography is, in the final analysis, a personal opinion. I defy anyone, including the Supreme Court, to decide that for me.

Pornography is not detrimental. The "average" adult, if he were going to do something anti-social, would do it without being influenced by written words. Many gay people, far more than care to admit it, are sexually aroused by erotica, particularly, as an inducement to masturbation. This is not restricted to homosexuals, however.

Pornography can cause psychiatric harm to persons only if the harm is there in the first place. A sexually repressive person will often fantasize with pornography. However, pornography cannot cause this repression to begin. It must already have been there. . . . Larry Brinkin

**Being Naughty Is Infantile.**

Eroticism pervades virtually in every human activity. Technically, any sort of dancing, social or otherwise, is erotic in content. Likewise, a mother suckling her child is an erotic act. When the eroticism is an end in itself, it becomes pornography.

There is a strong infantile element in consciously pornographic material. Dispassionately examined, most of it is simply a few basic acts either narrated or shown over and over plus certain commonly tabooed words repeated endlessly. Genuinely creative work commonly has overtones of eroticism, but it is an incidental by-product rather than a deliberate aim. A certain amount of pornography can be titillating, but beyond that it is boring because of its repetitiveness. Also, interestingly enough, there is very little genuine wit or humor in consciously pornographic material. Offhand, it seems as if the only thing that makes pornography enticing to most persons is the child's thrill of doing something "naughty" and forbidden. . . . Xerxes.

In summary, I think that ultimately some of the problems of pornography and its controls comes down to an issue of values. Those individuals in our culture who identify with the Judeo-Christian tradition do have concerns over the control of the sexual impulse with fidelity in marriage and chastity before, seen by most as valued behavior. Pornography or gray area type of obscenity is often seen as a threat to these controls, especially for youth.

**NEXT MONTH'S OPEN FORUM.**

Constant homosexually directed brutality and murders shock our community. During December, an unwary member of the VECTOR staff was mercilessly beaten, strangled and knocked unconscious seven times, and left for dead in his apartment. A member of S.I.R. was beaten to death with chains by a homosexual hunting "rat pack" at the beach this year. The admitted killers boasted of helping the police.

What are your views on "Homosexual Homocide" and brutality that is directed towards homosexuals? See your GOLD SHEET for next month's Open Forum discussion.
Dear Mme. Soto-Voce:

My problem is that I am beginning to lose faith in my friends. Whenever I ask their opinion or advice on anything from what clothes to wear to some cruel sport, I feel I'd have done better blindly.

Madame, are they stupid, am I dense or could they be deliberate in misleading me for some cruel sport.

Flub Stub

---

Dear Mr. Stub:

This problem reminds me of a similar situation that arose when I wasn't even looking for an answer to this type of question, but as the situation developed, it proved a valuable lesson for me (or anybody).

It all started with the first of our wind up meetings for the Pan-Ozark Opera Association (P.O.O.A.), in Bald Knob, Arkansas.

There were four final board of directors meetings: first to plan the repertoire, second to plan the tour, third to give board endorsement for the president, and fourth to elect a new president. Hearing in mind we were only supposed to be there to discuss repertoire, we were all gathered at the table in a forced jolly mood.

First to speak was Carlotta Ryder, a brassy new arrival to the P.O.O.A. who was formerly with a much smaller group called the Mezzanine Opera Company. "If we do a little touch up on the sets this year's "Aida," we can tour "Nabucco"--have a little sherry, dearie?" Whereupon she instantly produced an enormous jug of cheap sherry from under her chair and quickly poured several glasses.

I then noticed Mavis Mahaffey, the current president, take umbrage to liquor and, with a large clang, placed a can of milk on the table saying, "Why, yes, and at least most of the soldier costumes can be used in "Nabucco" also!"

Lawrence Pettit-Bidet, an avant garde dry-goods merchant, who was sitting next to me instantly produced a large tin of odd looking cookies and said to Mavis Mahaffey, "If we do "Lakme" next year, we can use the old costumes from "The Pearl Fishers"... have a cookie, Miss Mahaffey, my own recipe."

I noticed the cookies were covered and ingrained with a strange flaky substance and said to Mr. Pettit-Bidet, "Don't tell me you use oregano in cookies!" He chuckled nervously and said, "No, my dear, it's a wonderful new spice from Mexico, go ahead, have one." I, of course, declined, explaining I must always be watchful of my re­nowned hour-glass figure.

At that moment Jimminy Gramm, Boca-Chica, Mississipi's renowned modern composer burst in (late and drunk) saying, "I loved her, and she left me... left me..." Then he poured a quart of vodka into Miss Mahaffey's milk can when she wasn't looking and started to drown his sorrows in milk (?!), sherry and cookies.

On the other side of me sat Portly Birdie Billhelpie, who used to be the president and is now in charge of cooking and printing libretti. After she sat and fidgeted awhile, she leaned over to me and said, "All anyone is talking about is opera repertoire, but I can't help but think it is the farthest thing from their minds."

This was punctuated by a crash of glassware as Mr. Gramm slid to the floor. Miss Mahaffey has suddenly acquired quite a taste for milk and was now absolutely hogging the container. Then the facade of joviality started to crack as Carlotta Ryder handed Birdie Billhelpie a note saying she was "the best rootin' tootin' president the P.O.O.A. ever had." Birdie was so amused that she laughed and laughed so hard until the plaster cherries started to fall off her hat. Then it all came to me these people were planning ahead, trying to swing the board into their favor with the briberies of booze and goodies and all the time never talking about a thing other than repertoire. And this is where the lesson is to be learned. As the liquor took effect, the truth came out. In vino veritas.

As you can well imagine the meeting ended in chaos, crumbs and broken glasses and an occasional cry from under the table of "I loved her and she left me." A pitched battle ensued between all possible president candidates and ended with claims of "I bet you 3 to 1!" and "Impossible, everybody loves me, I'll get elected," etc.
HAPPY NEW INVOLVEMENT YEAR

By Jim Skaggs

Do any of the following projects interest you?

* CHURCH VISITATION PROGRAM
* HOST CORPS
* SUNDAY BRUNCHES
* PUBLICATION OF A PAMPHLET ON RELIGION AND THE HOMOSEXUAL
* LIVELY DIALOGUE CONCERNING TOPICS OF A RELIGIOUS-SOCIAL ACTION NATURE.

If you want to help S.I.R. in any one of these areas, you are invited to join the bandwagon to the January 17th Religious Committee meeting at 7:00 P.M. in the conference room at the S.I.R. Center.

The month of January is membership involvement month for the Religious Committee. Our goal is to recruit 20 active new members who are an integral, functioning part of the committee's structure and not just a superficial "mailing list." We need your help if you are willing to work.

Donned in gaily colored vests and stunning bow ties, the Host Corps hosted the 1967 Sirlebrity Capades December 9th and 10th; Host Corp members served as waiters, ushers, ticket-sellers, barboys and in various other essential capacities, performing magnificently during both performances.

Sunday, January 14th at 1:00 P.M., the Host Corps will be hosting its first brunch of the New Year. Bring a covered dish (or uncovered one, though modest) and join the crowd for an afternoon of discussion, fellowship, and epicurian (in the culinary sense) delight.

Membership Committee

By Jim Graham

The Membership Committee has received the following letter:

"Re: my letter of April 5, 1966, in which I requested that you cease mailing to me at my former address of 57 Queen St., San Francisco, or any forwarding address thereof.

"Re: my letter of January 28, 1967, in which I requested that you cease mailing to me at my former address of 57 Queen St., San Francisco, or any forwarding address thereof."

"Aw, come on fellas! Give me a break, PLEASE! I have enough trouble passing off my hair spray to dear ol' Mom. What in the world would she say if she thought that some old conspiracy of fairies was trying to corrupt her dear little son?

"If you don't get rid of my address, I'm gonna give her yours, and I might warn you that she swings a mighty mean purse. Have you ever seen king kong in drag?

"So please, guys, get rid of my address. I don't want Mama to swing that purse. Her purse, I don't mind so much, but she might decide to use mine.

"Please reply, and only once."

Well, once in awhile we goof. But your Membership Committee is working tirelessly to give you prompt, efficient service. We still need your help: managing the office, typing, filing, mailing, or just keeping the gorillas away.

Currently the manpower subcommittee is seeking volunteers to work at the center. If interested, please call or write. The Membership Committee hopes to contact every member by phone during Jan. to discuss your participation in S.I.R. activities. We also have been working on a new S.I.R. brochure and need help with layout and content. Why don't you become personally involved in one of S.I.R.'s most vital committees right now?

*NOTE: letter's real address has been changed.
By Larry Carlson

The term "venereal" derived from Venus, the Roman goddess of love, is applied to the diseases which are contracted primarily through sexual relationships. Syphilis and gonorrhea are the two important diseases included under this term, although there are several others, e.g. chancroid, lymphogranuloma venereum, and granuloma inguinale, which belong in the same group. Both syphilis and gonorrhea have caused untold illnesses and deaths for hundreds of years; however, only in this generation has the taboo against discussing these diseases in the public press been lifted.

Syphilis is a contagious disease caused by a germ called "Treponema pallidum." Infection is almost always acquired through direct contact with the moist surfaces of the body of a person in an infectious stage. It is usually transmissible, then, through sexual relations or kissing. Sometimes syphilis is passed on to an unborn baby by a mother who has syphilis during her pregnancy, (congenital syphilis). It is also possible for contaminated objects to be a means of transmission; however, since the germ of syphilis is destroyed very quickly outside the body by drying, sunlight, or soap and water, such indirect infections are rare.

Acquired syphilis may be divided into three stages. The primary stage is characterized by the appearance of a pimple or sore on the surface of the sexual organ, lips, or mouth not usually earlier than two, nor later than five to seven, weeks after sexual relations. The first sore of "chancre" is characteristically a single, more or less circumscribed, superficial ulcer which is always painless (unless secondarily infected), and is always accompanied by enlargement of the adjoining glands of the groin. The ulcer presents a moist worm-eaten base, occasionally crusted, (see diagram) with a hardened border which feels like a rubber button when touched with the gloved finger. Rather characteristic is the painlessness of the enlarged glands.

The appearance of this first sore is subject to such variations that it is, on rare occasions, impossible for even a skillful physician to determine positively at first glance the presence of syphilis in any person. The chancre contains the germs which may be detected by a microscopic examination of material from the lesion. This test is referred to as the "dark-field examination" because of the method used in performing the test; at this communicable. A blood examination is also made, and the report given of a "positive Wassermann test" or a "positive Kahn test" are indicative of syphilis. It is to be noted that there are a number of other kinds of sores which have no connection with syphilis, and yet may resemble the syphilitic sore so closely that it becomes impossible to distinguish between them except by the later symptoms to be described.

The secondary stage appears in from six to seven weeks after the initial sore, and is characterized by the occurrence of a copper-colored rash over the body which resembles measles considerably, but appears less often on the face. Sometimes a pimply or scaly eruption is seen following, or in place of, the red rash. At about, or preceding, this period other symptoms may develop, such as fever, headache, nausea, loss of appetite, and sleeplessness, but these may not be prominent. Moist patches may appear on the skin, in the armpits, between the toes, and about the rectum. There is sore throat, with frequent grayish patches on the inside of the cheeks, mouth, lips, and tongue. The hair may fall out in patches. Inflammation of the eye is a frequent sign; these signs and symptoms do not always occur at the same time, and some may be absent or less noticeable than others.

The tertiary stage comes on after months or years; in those subjected to treatment, it may not occur at all. This stage is characterized by sores and ulcerations of the skin and deeper tissues, and disease of different organs of the body, including the muscles, bones, nervous system, and blood vessels. Every internal organ is susceptible to syphilitic change.

In untreated patients many disorders of the internal organs—the heart, lungs, liver, kidneys, brain and spinal cord—are directly caused by syphilis. The central nervous system is peculiarly susceptible to the various stages of the syphilitic poison, and when affected may show the fact through paralysis, crippling, disabling, and ultimately, death—(the notorious Chicago gangster, Al Capone, died from syphilis of the nervous system while serving time in Joliet State Penitentiary).

The prompt diagnosis of early syphilis is of extreme importance. It is a matter of record that the earlier treatment is begun after diagnosis, the earlier the condition is arrested and cured. In the past years the treatment of syphilis in all its forms has undergone a radical change. The latest directives from the United States Department of Public Health discard all forms of mercury, bismuth, and arsenic derivatives. In their place, penicillin is now the major drug used, except in special cases where the drug is not well tolerated, such as syphilis.

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| 7    | Bridge Group  
      | 3156 Clay  
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      | 5:00 pm |
| 8    | Legal Committee  
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      | 8:00 pm |
| 14   | Host Corps  
      | Brunch  
      | 1:00 pm  
      | Bridge Group  
      | 5:00 pm |
| 15   | Legal Committee  
      | S.I.R. Center  
      | 8:00 pm |
| 21   | Legal Committee  
      | S.I.R. Center  
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<td>Membership Comm. 7:00 pm</td>
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<td>Discussion Group 1256 Page St. 8:00 pm</td>
<td>S.I.R. Skiers at Sugar Bowl Social Dance 9-2</td>
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FEBRUARY 1968
We see that René Verdon, the Kennedy's White House Chef, is publishing. Will any administration in U.S. history have more words published on all its aspects than President Kennedy's all too short one?

Among the usual recipes from French commercial haute cuisine contained in "The White House Chef Cookbook," we noticed a variation on "Breast of Chicken Kiev" titled "Breast of Chicken à la Reine Elisabeth," that seems strange. It is a long and complicated recipe that has one making peanut butter in a blender out of salted peanuts and then mixing it with unsalted butter for the filling of the chicken breasts. I do suppose one could use unsalted peanuts and salted butter, but since I don't expect to experiment with this recipe, I must leave it to a more courageous cook to try that innovation. Besides, I know only one "Reine" named, "Elisabeth," and he hates peanut butter, cold or hot.

Cookbooks are such fun reading. Even the best books have moments like the following:

TURKEY IN THE ITALIAN WAY

Having minced the liver of a young turkey very fine with some chopped parsley and some fresh mushrooms, some pepper, salt, and more than an ounce of butter, mix them well together, and put them into the body of the turkey. Put a piece of butter into a stew-pan, some shallots, and pepper and salt. When it is hot, put in the turkey, turn it often, that it may be of a fine brown, and lay it to cool. Then lay over it some slices of bacon, and cover it all over with paper; put it upon a spit, and lay it down to roast.

In the meantime, cut some large mushrooms fine, with a good quantity of parsley, and a few green onions cut small. Pour half a pint of white wine into a saucepan, and, as soon as it is hot, put in these ingredients; add some pepper and salt, the juice of a lemon, and cloves of garlic. Let them boil, and then put in a quarter of a pint of rich gravy, and a small teacupful of oil. Let all boil up once or twice, then take out the garlic, and put in a piece of butter rolled in flour. Lay the turkey in the dish, and pour the sauce over it.

Much ado about nothing. And since turkeys are so inexpensive at this time of year, we thought you might appreciate:

TURKEY WITH PICKLED PORK AND ONIONS

Take twenty-four small white onions and boil them in broth, with half a pound of pickled pork cut into thin slices, a bundle of parsley, some green shalloys, some thyme, two cloves, and a little whole pepper and salt. As soon as they are done, drain them, put them into the turkey, and wrap it in slices of bacon, and paper over it, and then roast it.

Make a sauce with a piece of butter, a slice of ham, two shallots, and a few mushrooms. Let them soak a little and then add two spoonfuls of broth, and as much coulis. Simmer it about an hour, skim it, and drain it. When the whole is ready, add a small spoonful of mustard, a little pepper and salt, and serve it up.

Jews of a certain age could profit by this, if it were not for the pork.

Now that I think about it, I never have met a pig that was bigoted about eating Jewish persons.

The holy days are over again; the abundance of claustrophobic-inducing decors are down; the punch bowls are washed and away for a year's wait before they again contain their strange elixirs; and we are still craving a little over sweets. Now is the time to try some plain food.

When one uses care in preparation, nothing is more satisfying than "Boiled Beef" with whole vegetables (onions, carrots, potatoes, turnips, cabbage, etc.) cooked slowly in the broth. Add a slight amount of 'Maggi Beef Base' along with the salt and pepper when you start the meat. Skim the foam and fat as these come to the top. Beef shanks or lean short ribs are excellent meat to use for this dish. The meat should take an overall time of approximately two hours cooking; add the vegetables during the cooking time so that all will be done together. One hour from the time the dish is removed from the stove for carrots, 45 minutes for small potatoes, etc.

When you serve this dish, place the meat in the center of a wide deep serving dish that is heat resistant so you may heat it. Place the vegetables in "bouquets" around the meat. Cover all with the broth and serve with lots of French bread and butter, horseradish sauce, and Pouilly Fuisse, well chilled. I'll be over for dinner.
To The Editor: VECTOR'S 1st column of "Lafayette Square" is a perfect example of the kind of "petty infighting... hair-pulling and jostling" which the writer criticized, and which should not appear in publications directed to the public.

Why, instead of concentrating on our common problems caused by society's discrimination against homosexuals, does VECTOR drag a Washingtonian off the streets and give extensive space to a report on the North American Homophile Conference written by a man who had no previous experience with either the movement or the national conferences, and whose report is riddled with inaccuracy, omission and subjective reporting purporting to be objective? Can VECTOR, one of the most important homophile publications in North America not serve its readers better with an informed, factual report of the decisions reached and the reasons behind them?

If "Piaf's" criticisms of the Conference were constructive, he could have addressed them to the leaders of the N.A.H.C.'s constituent organizations through the N. A. H. C. clearinghouse. By misrepresenting the Conference in public media, he is doing a great disservice to the entire homophile cause.

The entire article is studded with accusations and bold statements which the author obviously never bothered to check out for accuracy. This is plain and simple bad journalism, and certainly not what we have come to expect from VECTOR.

VECTOR's editors should not seek to escape responsibility by claiming that the column was completely "Piaf's" responsibility, and he alone is responsible for what went into it. VECTOR does not open its pages to every would-be writer who comes along, and must bear responsibility for the trustworthiness of those whom they select for that honor.

Stephen Donaldson, Chairman, S.H.L.

Dear Mr. Donaldson: We feel that "Piaf's" column speaks for itself and is a very worthy addition to VECTOR. We also have great respect for your own work within the movement. The criticisms both by "Piaf" and yourself deserve public scrutiny.

Editor

Editor: Larry Alexander expressed in a letter in the last VECTOR the frustration that comes from those who do not realize that S.I.R. is a VOLUNTEER organization run by AMATEURS. It would be great to have a professional staff, for then there would be fewer chances of error. I am not sure we want that, and we cannot afford it.

That too few people are running S.I.R. is not very shocking if you could see the MUCH SMALLER turn-outs at the N.A.A.C.P. and various union meetings in this area. S.I.R. is still run by the "membership," and the day it is not, I will resign.

S.I.R. is not anything like I would like it to be...that is true of all of the active members. We all have big hopes for S.I.R., but we realize that S.I.R. is like the construction of a skyscraper; we have to be patient while the foundation is being laid and first floors are built. Those who lack this patience withdraw but those who stay are convinced that S.I.R. is a sleeping giant. I am 100% convinced that S.I.R. is not only the leading homosexual organization in the United States but has great potentials—no matter what obstacles we now face.

The NEW YORK TIMES newspaper recently took note of S.I.R. and VECTOR MAGAZINE and LOOK magazine has called this the most successful of the homophile organizations. Local police, clergymen, attorneys, and educators have been in consistent praise of our extensive program. We have a great deal to live up to, and we should be aspiring to greater activity and membership involvement. But today, there is no homosexual organi-

ization in the United States that involves so many people in such a variety of activities as S.I.R.

Let us make 1968 the year that S.I.R.'s 1,000 membership is doubled, as it was in 1967. Let us get into the middle of the problems that S.I.R. has and solve them one by one; let us NOT sit on the outside and criticize.

George Mendenhall

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Let's Eat
By Julius

If you are one of the legion who believes there is no bargain like the Golden Cask special steak, then this review will have little or no appeal to you. In fact, you need not bother to read farther, because in this first of a new series of restaurant reviews, we are going to introduce you to all of the places where your dining dollar is appreciated and where every effort is made to merit your frequent patronage.

Since this is a new department in VECTOR, we have chosen for our very first review, San Francisco's newest dining room, THE MINT, where there is always plenty of parking space next door in the filling station.

So much has already been said about the management's policy on dress, that I need only reiterate here that when you spend a real bundle on designing a place which is a compliment to the community, it seems only right and fitting that the community responds by wearing a jacket and tie as they would at Ernie's, or Alexis Tangeirs. Surely, THE MINT is equally desirable. I might add, that the management has an emergency supply of neckties, for those who come casually to have dinner in the dining room.

The theme of Uncle Sam's Mint, which overlooks THE MINT, has been cleverly carried out by the decorator who laminated newly minted coins in various denominations, in decorative plastic sheets, which are used as wall sections. The lush, thick carpet and walls are done in a Gainborough Blue, while quiet and good taste pervades the entire place.

Apart from the fact that here at last is a restaurant, the superb menu of which features Chateau Briand, Frog legs, and Filet Steaks, THE MINT bakes individual miniature loaves of bread which are served piping hot to each table.

Unusually fine salads are expertly prepared and mixed at your table by the maître d'salon, whose training equals any at Canlis or the Blue Fox. A wide variety of dressings are available and their making is like a prologue to the fine show which follows.

When we dined at THE MINT, there were four in our party, and as you may have suspected each of us ordered something different. One chose Oysters Rockefeller ($4.95) while another Crab Legs au Gratin ($4.25) and our third member selected the Medallion de Veal a la Creme en Casserole ($4.50) while we could not resist the taste tempting Prime Rib of Beef au Jus ($4.95), which turned out to be a thick, pink, juicy cut which was more than we could handle at the moment.

We left the selection of wine to the steward who selected and served a superb Bordeaux 1961, which was deliciously dry and red, with an exquisite bouquet, and complimented our respective dinners beautifully.

Those of you who travel in the exclusive club set in Marin County will know THE MINT's executive chef, Mr. Wallace Shepard. For several years he was chef of the exclusive Marin Meadow Club. Before that, he was Chef de Cuisine for the fine Hans Danish Farm, which is situated high on a hill top in Escondido.

Mr. Shepard personally prepares all of the food served at THE MINT, and boasts of the fact that no commercial pre-frozen prepared foods are used at THE MINT.

Mr. Shepard also points out that no potatoes are served with his culinary masterpieces.

Everyone in our party was generously complimentary about their dinner, which was served on fine china rather than the usual restaurant ware. The entire atmosphere of THE MINT was so happy that at long last, someone in San Francisco has given us a dinner house where we can be proud to take our most discriminating gourmet friends.

If the final check is a few cents more than you ordinarily spend, you can rest assured that you will have received so many "extra" goodies during the course of your dinner, that you will actually realize that your dinner was a real bargain after all.

Over coffee and after-dinner drinks, we talked with friends who dined at a nearby table. One was a down-easterner who was thrilled to know that his lobster was a whole meaty fresh Maine Lobster ($6.95) and not the frozen Australian tails usually served in restaurants of less repute.

His table-mate had ordered a specialty of the house, Le Truitte Farcie La Mint ($4.25) which is fresh mountain brook trout, stuffed with specially seasoned crab leg meat, and served looking like a work of art, garnished with watercress and fresh thyme.

The management has knocked herself out to bring the San Francisco community a dinner house equal to any fine restaurant in the west. You'll be glad she did when you want to spread your wings and take that special friend to a dinner he will remember for a long time.

When you first go to THE MINT, tell the maître'd we suggested his special continental salad dressing.

We don't intend to award stars or bells or knives and forks, like some restaurant guides do, but if we did THE MINT would warrant a sky full of stars, with dinner bells and knives and forks dangling in garish profusion from each one of them.

We'll be reviewing another fine San Francisco restaurant in next month's VECTOR.
TREPONEMA, con't. from page 21 of the heart and circulatory system.

For practical purposes the treatment is divided into 3 classifications: (1) the contagious stages, i.e. the primary stage or the chancre; and secondary stage or the eruptive stage, i.e. when there is a breaking out of the skin and the mucous membranes. (2) The late stages, when the only finding is the positive blood test (Wassermann reaction or Kahn test). (3) The prevention of hereditary infection. This is the treatment of the pregnant woman who has syphilis, which also may be only determined by the blood reaction.

The treatment for the primary and secondary stages is by the injection into the buttocks of large doses of penicillin for eight consecutive days, then taking a blood test once every month for a year. The treatment of the late stages is also with the muscular injections of penicillin, but the doses are not so large. Here again, the blood is watched for one year.

Officials of the U.S. Public Health Service estimate that there are today more than 60,000 new cases of syphilis each year in the United States. It has been reported recently that there is an alarming increase in the incidence of syphilis in the San Francisco Bay Area in the past few months. Information to this writer was not immediately available at press time as to what percentage of this local report was contracted by the homosexual community in this area, but I would venture to surmise a considerable number. It is most imperative to be cognizant of the above-mentioned symptoms, and in recognizing them, to immediately seek the professional aid of medical facilities. The San Francisco Health Department operates a City Clinic for Venereal Diseases at 33 Hunt Street, which is available to all persons who desire treatment; there is no charge for the service or medications. The phone number is: 558-3804 and all histories are kept in strict confidence. LET'S TERMINATE THE TERRORIZING TREPONEMA TODAY WITH A CHECK-UP NOW!

Soto-Voce: Continued from page 19

In closing, Flub, realize people don't always talk about things they think are most important. Get your friends tipsy, start quizzing them, then see if you get the same answers. With a way of getting the real truth from people. If their advice is wrong and they are sincere in their best interests for you, you just have friends that make lots of mistakes. Instead, go ahead on your own, and you can then blame or acclaim only yourself.

SURVEY

The survey which was recently conducted by the staff of VECTOR has been analyzed, and the results appear in the Gold Sheet which accompanies this issue. We wish to thank all those persons who sent in these surveys to VECTOR.

WRITE LETTERS

The recent statements made by Governor Ronald Reagan of California with respect to homosexuals has created alarm and uneasiness among the homophile community. (See page 6: "President's Corner").

It is most important that the homophile community speak out in protest against this attitude taken by Reagan and inform him of the antiquity of his ideas. We are certainly not "tragically ill" as he proposes.

The VECTOR staff encourages all concerned individuals to immediately write letters of protest to the governor's office. We can express our collective forces by writing en masse and letting Mr. Reagan know how WE feel on this subject. Let's get those letters out today!
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