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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.

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The National Convention of the American Medical Association was held in San Francisco June 14 through the 21st. One of the highlights widely covered in the press was the presentation of a paper on homosexuality by Dr. Charles W. Socarides. This haphazard, A.M.A. party line, "mentally ill" and, therefore, not rehabilitable homosexuals and to say that homosexuality is a mental illness by Dr. Charles W. Socarides. The National Convention of the A.M.A. was held in San Francisco June 14 through the 21st. At that time VECTOR questioned his confused and confusing statements that served the journalistic sensationalism of Mike Wallace. This Dr. Socarides' statement from that program clearly demonstrates his scientific clairvoyance. "One cannot be seduced into becoming a homosexual...and it is those individuals who, when they're seduced can become homosexuals." With such a perceptive approach, it became natural for the A.M.A. to invite Dr. Socarides to be their spokesman on the "psychopathology" of homosexuality.

Dr. Charles W. Socarides' suggestion for a "national center for sexual rehabilitation" of homosexuals and to say that some homosexuals are mentally disturbed is not to say that homosexuality is a mental disturbance. Dr. Socarides expresses alarm that homosexuals "do not cry out and demand medical attention." Perhaps it is because homosexuals have not yet been medical sophists who "treat", a hypothetical illness. These millions of American men and women are NOT "mentally ill" and, therefore, not "potentially curable," as Dr. Socarides would hope. They are useful, functioning, productive, tax-paying citizens of this country. There is no more known on the cause and cure of homosexuality than there is on the cause and cure of heterosexuality.

No longer will homosexuals be defined and "analyzed" by purported medical experts whose subject material consists of the unrepresentative few who are led to their couches. One cannot help but question the validity of a doctor's comments when, in fact, his very livelihood depends on fees collected for "curing" the homosexual illness; which he first must create...then define.

Dr. Socarides affronts the medical profession by suggesting that "biological evolution" has in some way bypassed the homosexual. His arguments conjure up memories of those used against other minority group—notably the Black Man in America and the Jew in Hitler's Germany. Luckily for the homosexual, however, Dr. Socarides assures us that his "final solution", will be "effective," "humane."

Dr. Socarides' case is a subjective moral evaluation and an archaic and discredited one at that. It is not a contemporary, scientific, objective consideration of human sexuality. Dr. Socarides presented a slanted one-sided approach to homosexuality.

There are members of his profession who would radically disagree with Dr. Socarides, and it would be hoped that the A.M.A. will hear them out in the scientific spirit of objectivity which would become their profession and prepare our nation's doctors for the kind of leadership they hope to provide troubled homosexuals.

There are many competent scientific refutations of Dr. Socarides. Following are just three of Dr. Socarides statements as contrasted with the statements from eminent authorities in scientific fields:

"From every standpoint—of personality, social adjustment, and even biological evolution—homosexuality must be considered mentally ill and potentially curable..."—Dr. Socarides.

"Homosexual activity is found in animals among primates (e.g., monkeys, chimpanzees, and baboons) and among lower mammals (e.g., porpoises and rats). Among both humans and animals homosexuality is more common in males than in females. This study suggests that a biological tendency for inversion is inherent in most if not all mammals including the human species. However, homosexual behavior is never the predominant type of sexual activity for adults in any society or in any animal species."—Ford, Clennan S. and Beach, Frank A. "Homosexual Behavior," Patterns of Sexual Behavior, pp. 125-43 (chap. 7). Harper, 1951. Paperback: Ace Star K1285.

"...man's heterosexuality has been anatomically outlined through a half-billion years of evolution as a male female pair, a biologically emergent entity."—Dr. Socarides.

"The 'severe pathology' of homosexuality was discussed before the American Medical Association here yesterday by Rev. Charles W. Socarides."

"Homosexuality per se is no evidence of psychopathology...To relegate by definition homosexuality into the category of 'psychopathic personality' has been for years a convenient dispositional device by armed services, courts and diagnostic centers. This practice is falling away by all scientifically-minded workers in the field as evasive, unscientific and discriminating."—Dr. Norman Reider in a Supreme Court brief re Clive Michael Boutilier. Dr. Reider is former head of the Mt. Zion Psychiatric Center. October term, 1966.

Subsequently a press conference was called where Dr. Joel Fort, outspoken medical leader. Rev. Charles Lewis, President of the C.R.H., Shirley Willer, National President of the D.O.B., Jim Bradford, President of Mattachine Midwest of Chicago, Jim Skaggs, President of S.I.R., Larry Littlejohn, Vice President of S.I.R., and myself, addressed a gathering of the press, radio and T.V. The unscientific, irreligious, subjective position of Dr. Socarides was laid out and the group called upon the A.M.A. for objectivity in their future presentations. On this subject the following statement was printed and distributed to the A.M.A. convention to 2,500 delegates.

The Society for Individual Rights, the Council on Religion and the Homosexual, the Daughters of Bilitis and the National Legal Defense Fund, call upon the American Medical Association:

1) To present at its next National Convention an interdisciplinary seminar on homosexuality at which anthropologists, sociologists, psychologists, zoologists and psychiatrists of the non-sickness, as well as the sickness school, participate. Representatives of the homophile movement should also be invited.

2) To undertake to educate the medical profession by opening the pages of its...
journal to the subject of homosexuality. (The AMA Journal has had only a handful of articles on homosexuality in the last decade. By contrast, in England, The Lancet and the British Medical Journal have had many articles and letters.)

3) To promote the better educational of future doctors by strengthening and expanding medical school courses on sexuality (including homosexuality).

4) To help educate the general public on the subject of homosexuality by speaking out informatively and acting responsibly on both the national and local levels.

5) To join with the homophile organizations and many others in:
   a. Supporting the legal changes proposed by the American Law Institute;
   b. Calling for an end to present federal policies which exclude homosexuals from the draft, which results in the undesirable discharge of homosexual servicemen followed by denial of veterans' benefits, which deny employment to homosexuals wholly because of their sexual orientation and which arbitrarily label all homosexuals sex psychopaths;
   c. Criticizing the harrassment of homosexuals by police and liquor authorities, the exploitation of them by unscrupulous persons, utilization of arrest procedures which involve such unsavory tactics as clandestine observation, enticement and entrapment by vice squad decoys, and the use of homosexuality as a political weapon or as the basis for witch-hunts;
   d. Requesting responsible treatment of the subject of homosexuality by all news media, all public officials and all professional persons.

6. To encourage our institutions of higher education and our professional groups to undertake an extensive program of research on the subject of homosexuality in order to replace theories and opinions with facts.

It has long been a common joke among homosexuals about members of the medical profession asking question after question on homosexuality to homosexual patients. Now, the very profession which is the least educated on the subject, pro-ports to try to lead our society to a "humane" approach to homosexuality by claiming it as a disease to be cured by them. What a lucrative disease for doctors to discover.

Let us not be fooled by such a strange concern. The times are such that we, as individual homosexuals, can give the lie to such quackery, even when the A.M.A. gives it sanction.

Further pursuit of our objective of homosexual law reform awaits implementation today upon the necessary funds to pursue this vital goal.

The original concept of funding all of S.I.R.'s social, social action and services to members activities was that the respective committees responsible for such activities would themselves generate and carry out the fund raising functions that would finance the desired activity.

However, this concept has been only partially successful in practice; for the Saturday night dances, periodic dinners, auctions and various other fund-raising events together with stage productions such as the recent and very successful "Little Mary Sunshine" have not produced enough income to allow any but a spartan scale of activity.

(S.I.R.'s basic operations, affording little in public education and law reform and far less in public relations than that necessary to attain goals in a reasonable time require $27,000 per year.)

It has thus become apparent that S.I.R. will have to do two things if acceptable progress towards our goals is to be attained. First, additional, more frequent, fund-raising events will have to be staged which appeal to a broader scope of our membership. An example is the weekly Bingo game to be played at the Center in conjunction with other events; this to commence in July.

Secondly, we shall have to appeal to those in the homophile community who enjoy a relatively better than average financial position, but for reasons best known to themselves are now doing nothing to assist the homophile movement. This is the rationale for the newly formed Funding Committee. It is also one of the reasons for incorporation of a tax-exempt foundation which will be able to carry on the educational work and spearhead research into many areas important to the attainment of our objectives.

Those who are seriously interested in seeing the homophile movement advance; those who realize that the status of each homosexual is improved in direct relation to the amount of effective public education which is done; those who are seriously interested in homosexual law reform—those of you who share these convictions—must come forward now and assist the rest of us so that this important work will continue.

Your ideas, your work on committees, your aiding us with those who can help us financially is all necessary to our further progress. Won't you please write or call us to offer your help?

Herb W.
SAN FRANCISCO: Four days of public forum has been supplied to S.I.R. and the homophile community by San Francisco's T.V., press and radio to answer Dr. Sociades AMA statements. The President of S.I.R. appeared two days running on prime time T.V. news programs on Channels 5 & 7. Our answer was front page news in the Chronicle. I even had another appearance on Jim Dunbar's A.M. Show. All the bay news and feature programs covered our position as well, if not better than, the Sociades' position.

A big thank you to our area journalists and broadcasters.

And a great big hand to S.I.R., Dr. Joel Forte, C.R.H. & Rev. Chuck Lewis, Glide and D.O.B. for a two-drawer professionally handled Public Relations job.

S.I.R., in cooperation with station WBAI, is engaged in putting together a radio series for and from the homosexual community.

In July, WBAI-FM will begin broadcasting this weekly series of 26 programs that will reflect the viewpoint of the homosexual community, and particularly that segment which feels its voice should be heard honestly and without dissimulation. The programs will be aimed at the homosexual listener, and will be concerned with discussions, interviews, and news from a subjective point of view; the aim will be to inspire a sense of social identification within a group of individuals with related problems and a common subculture, while not neglecting the varied aspects of the whole question.

The series will aim, also, at a relaxed atmosphere, without the "educational" or sensationalist approach that other radio-TV treatments of the subject have taken. Each single program will consist of an opening segment of pertinent news and reviews, followed by a discussion or interview on one of the many facets of the homosexual world. The personnel will be a basic group of ten people who will participate under their own names.

The first program of The New Symposium will be devoted to: introduction of the people taking part and a discussion of the reasons for doing the series. The second will be a discussion of the language of the subculture, sources and usage. (Is faggot equivalent to "nigger", for instance?)

Information on following programs will be forthcoming as they are scheduled.

The series will be heard on Monday nights at 11 p.m. beginning on Monday, July 22. As is customary with WBAI programming, a rebroadcast will be heard the next day (Tuesday) at 1:45 p.m.

SAN GREGORIO—Wasn't there a song that went, "She hung her clothes on a hickory limb but didn't go near the water"? Well, the San Mateo Times confirmed what we reported on the police surveillance at San Gregorio beach just south of San Francisco. We quote:

"Reports of homosexual activity at the nudist beach near San Gregorio were confirmed yesterday by sheriff's deputies, who have the film to prove it.

Three San Francisco men—a snake dancer, an unemployed welfare social worker and a salesman—were arrested after deputies photographed their activities in a cave at the north end of the so-called "free beach."

Sheriff's Capt. Eugene E. Steward said he dispatched three plainclothes deputies to the beach to investigate reports that homosexual acts were being performed in public view. The complaints, Steward said, came from legitimate nudists who feared the beach would get a bad name.

"They strongly objected to this type of conduct," the captain said.

The reports, which were relayed by a woman who charges $5 a head for crossing her property to get to the beach, were that the acts of perversion were being performed in a cove at the north end of the private beach and that efforts were made to gather crowds before the "shows" went on.

Deputies Al Schrier, Dave Jenkins and Robert Swenson said they were at the beach for about three hours, seeing nothing amiss but the usual nudity, before they discovered some unusual activity around the cave, four of them participating in homosexual acts.

While the deputies were getting their camera set up, one of the men left. Six photographs were taken of the other three, however.

The names of the persons were also printed, but that isn't necessary for our purpose of warning you about public exhibitions. The part that galls us is the complaints were made by "legitimate nudists" who didn't want a bad name.

RELIGION: Homosexuals as Ministers—Homosexuals should be permitted to be ministers, wrote Dr. Lewis Maddocks, director of the council for Christian social action of the United Church of Christ. Writing in Social Action, he said, "The church has failed at the most basic level in its dealings with the homosexual by failing to recognize him as a human being who is sacred in the sight of God."

Dr. Maddocks pointed out that there are millions of homosexuals in the U.S. "and the church cannot ignore the problem raised by this large minority." He urged that the church stop discriminating against them in hiring at all levels, including admittance to seminaries and ordination. (Sexology, June, 1968, p. 734)

SACRAMENTO: We take the following from Frontier News, June 1968. This is an area where we all should show great concern: "Assembly Bill 598, now pending before the State Legislature, in substance would permit a warrant to be issued for the purpose of using modern surveillance instruments in misdemeanor as well as felony cases, and such evidence would be admissible evidence in court against the defendant.

The court would issue such a warrant if the law enforcement agency presented what has been called "reasonable grounds" to believe that certain illegal activity is going on. Such grounds are easily enough established by having informers or even having one's enemy provide such information to the police. This bill would permit what is known as a "fishing expedition" on the part of law enforcement agencies. No man could feel secure in the privacy of his home or office!

Little publicity has been given to this matter and there is no expression of public concern about it. There should be not only concern but alarm, for this is a measure of far-reaching implications. In effect, the proposed bill would wipe out about 30 years of Supreme Court decisions designed to protect the privacy of the individual and his home.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS: Coronet, June 1968 has an article "When Love Is Not According to the Rules," by Dr. Eustad Chesser. The article is excellent. We quote in part: "The rigidity of these mores makes no allowance for the complex relationships that develop in real life. Sex is regarded as simple and straightforward. A married couple either love each other or they do not. There is no room for ambiguity. Similarly, one is either wholly heterosexual or wholly homosexual."

"The sadist must be restrained, but the homosexual, the masochist, and the victims of countless minor aberrations do no social harm provided their partners are willing. We may regret that they have such unusual inclinations. We may condemn them as immature, but it is dangerous to glamorize their practices as sins. It was because Wilde thought he was committing some strange and terrible sin that homosexuality acquired a deadly fascination."

Pageant Magazine for July 1968 has an article titled "Before Sending Them to Summer Camp, Here's How to Warn Your Kids About Homosexuality," by Dr. Frank S. Caprio. This is a sick, sick article by a money grubbing quack. The article is loaded with baloney as the following: "As for the teen-age side of the picture, either you are or you aren't."

There is more of the same stupidity. What great harm these kinds of articles do can never be estimated. This is very irresponsible on the part of the editors of Pageant.
A direct confrontation between our vice-president and Governor Nelson Rockefeller provides an interesting prelude to homosexual involvement in this year's political arena. The following is a transcription of their dialogue on the PAT MICHELS SHOW last Friday evening at 10:30 on KUTV Channel 2.

Larry: I am Larry Littlejohn, vice-president of the Society for Individual Rights, and I speak for 13,000,000 homosexual Americans. Do you think homosexual acts between consenting individuals should be criminal offenses? In addition, how do you feel about homosexuals in the civil service and in the armed forces of our country?

Gov. Rockefeller: There are two things I'd like to say. First, this is a common situation in many of our large cities and in large numbers. Second, the homosexual is often the subject of blackmail.

Larry: If the crime were removed, then there would be no blackmail, is that not correct?

Gov. Rockefeller: That is not quite true; particularly in the international field. Historically, blackmail has always existed in cases of this type. The possibility of information being revealed, or leaking out, is always there. Also there is the question of protection from danger. OTHERWISE, I SEE NO REASON FOR DISCRIMINATION AGAINST HOMOSEXUALS.

Although Gov. Rockefeller in the beginning voiced the usual stereotyped correlations (such as homosexual often equals blackmail) there are at least two positive aspects to the Governor's statements. First, he admitted to the presence of the homosexual as a large segment of society. Secondly, he concluded his rather evasive general response with the final statement: "Otherwise, I see no reason for discrimination against homosexuals." In other words, if the problem of blackmail always an exaggerated issue, could be eliminated and if the element of danger could be minimized, then, if the man means what he says, the homosexual would have the right and the privilege of serving in the armed services or being employed by his government. His only argument against homosexuality was directed toward those in heterosexual society who, in some way, take advantage of the homosexual. Oh, as we have been stressing for so very long, the basic problems which homosexuals face are those caused by a frustrated, challenged heterosexual society and are not a result of one's sexual orientation.

As the year progresses, let us be political participants, not just spectators, in shaping the future of our community, our nation, and our world.

Happy Birthday to US! It isn't often that we get to wish ourselves congratulations, but the champagne and caviar certainly are in order for S.I.R. as we celebrate our 4th birthday this month. Even though we're still flexing our young muscles, we have begun to take some giant steps toward growth and maturity.

With an expanding membership, increased activities, and greater emphasis on legal, political, religious, and social reform, it is indeed a happy birthday. However, while we are counting our candles, let us also take stock of our weaknesses and problems and pose a few constructive suggestions that could assist each of us in making S.I.R.'s fifth year an influential, meaningful experience for more people.

Financial crises have garnered the bulk of membership and board time for the past year and a half. On our fourth birthday we can say that, although we have not overcome all our pecuniary difficulties, we are on firmer ground financially than we have been during the past year. With the excellent efforts of the new Funding Committee and with the continued counsel of the Ways and Means Committee, we would be able to replace the emergency fund and resume regular contributions to the Building Fund.

Membership involvement is at an all-time high with the S.I.R. calendar listing several events sponsored by one of the standing committees each day. Want to meet new friends and influence (hmmm...) people? Then, consult the calendar or call the S.I.R. office (781-1570) for information about times, places, and happenings.

Again, "What can I do?" Why not help S.I.R. by helping someone else to better understand himself and his basic orientation to life? Perhaps loneliness is only a superficial manifestation of selfishness.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE: JULY 21-28 PLEASE BRING A FRIEND!

DR. MARSH
FAMED SEX LECTURER
S.I.R. July 24th

Dr. Earle Marsh, popular lecturer at the U.C. Medical Center will speak at the Center on Wednesday, July 24. The public Open House will be at 8 p.m. and is co-sponsored by S.I.R. and the transexual group, C.O.G. There is no charge.

The gynecologist, a Kinsey Foundation and Johnson-Masters, consultant, will lead a discussion of "Self-Acceptance in Sex." A capacity house of over 250 attended the June film program and a turn-away crowd is expected for the July 24 session.

A dinner ($1.50) will be served at 7 p.m. with a limit of fifty dinners.
functions of the

LEGAL COMMITTEE

The S.I.R. Legal Committee comprises three sub-committees: The Legal Advisory Council, composed solely of lawyers; the Law Reform Council, which follows activities in Sacramento and promotes education of the general public regarding sex laws; and the Fair Employment Practices Council, which gathers cases of job discrimination and refers then to the C.R.H.

Most business of late has involved advice from the LAC. Bingo at the Center, as a supplement to films and food, was approved by this council. At the request of the Funding Committee, this council is studying two approaches to a tax-exempt status: for S.I.R. itself or for a newly created trust or foundation strongly tied to S.I.R. Of more imminent importance is the problem of ensuring the availability of liquor at S.I.R. functions. Should it become impossible to obtain a caterer, the LAC is re-investigating the possibilities of obtaining a club liquor license, a beer and wine license, or of setting up a bottle club. This requires a thorough study of A.B.C. regulations.

The Law Reform Council is presently pressing Pacific Telephone for policy reform: the acceptance of the S.I.R. Yellow Pages ad under the heading "Homosexual Organizations." A complaint has been filed with the P.U.C. and their (administrative) action is pending. Should they find for S.I.R., they would direct Pacific Telephone to print the ad; a finding for P.T.T. would require us to file suit if we decide (read: have enough money) to pursue the matter any further.

To educate the public on the status of sex laws and on prevailing governmental anti-homosexual policies, members of the Legal Committee have taped three half-hour programs for the North American Broadcasting Company, which has several hundred outlets for its tapes throughout the U.S. and Canada. We compared reform via the legislatures with reform thru court decisions. The National Legal Defense Fund was described as the organization seeking significant cases to support, using funds donated for this purpose.

Do you know of anyone who was refused a job or fired from one because of homosexual orientation or practice? Does he wish to protest this discrimination, or even discuss it? If so, suggest that he meet with the Fair Employment Practices Council at some mutually convenient time. Where possible, representatives from the C.R.H. will confront the accused employers.

These are some of the past and continuing activities of the Legal Committee. Last Monday's meeting ended with a vigorous discussion of sex in public places and the police practice of using plain clothesmen to arrest those involved. What position do you think S.I.R. should take? Ought we suggest that the police station uniformed officers at popular glory holes and public parks to discourage this type of sex?

Come to Legal Committee meetings every second and fourth Monday, at 8 p.m. at the Center, to make yourself heard on this and other issues vital to all homosexuals.

LAW REFORM...AVAILABLE

Now available to those who are concerned about the course and future of legal reform, as it relates to sexual activity (and we all should be!), is Essay No. 2, a 72-page document titled, The Challenge and Progress of Homosexual Law Reform.

This essay, published jointly by S.I.R., the Council on Religion and the Homosexual, the S.F. Tavern Guild and the Daughters of Bilitis, traces the course of legal status and action regarding homosexuality in various countries in modern times, with valuable summaries of the statutes and penalties existing in these United States, as well as reform progress in the various States.

In addition to the presentation of law reform status described above, this Essay thoroughly discusses various theories and arguments commonly presented for and against changing existing laws.

Included in the extensive notes to this Essay are references to other literature and legal decisions, which make this booklet perhaps THE primary source document for future serious research in Sexual Law Reform efforts.

Over 2,000 copies of Essay No. 2 have been mailed to:

ACADEMIC GROUPS: Law Schools, Departments of Criminology and Political Science, Departments of Sociology.

GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS: Federal: President, V.P., Attorney-General, Sec'y of Health, Welfare & Education, Chairman of the Civil Service Commission. State: Governors and Attorney Generals of all 50 states, Presiding Officers of both Houses of all State Legislatures, Chief Justices of every State Supreme Court. Local: Mayors and Chiefs of Police of 100 largest cities in the nation.

PRESS: Editors of 150 newspapers and 50 national magazines.

PROFESSIONAL GROUPS: American Bar Ass'n, A.C.L.U., American Law Institute, American Medical Ass'n... and others we do not have the space to print.

Copies of The Challenge and Progress of Homosexual Law Reform may be purchased for $1.00 (quantity rates for organizations available).
SPY vs. SPY vs. YOURSELF

While we are all laughing about the “Closet Queens” gaily described by our male counterparts in the gay world, let us give equal time to our “lace curtains.” No, Virginia, that is not the name of that cute little plant you just added to the garden...it is directed at those couples who are living under the illusion that they are “different.”

We have a close friend who cornered such a twosome and asked (not too diplomatically) if they were or were not gay. Of course they said they were not. (And the sky is not blue). Now they live their lives just like the rest of us so we are somewhat confused as to what goodie makes the big difference. It may be the sneaking home thirty minutes apart (so as not to alarm the neighbors), bolting the doors, drawing the drapes, and commencing with their own version of WHAT’S MY LINE? Which is a good question.

We are not putting the L.C. group down per se; knowing a rare few hold top security jobs etc. and feel the admittal even to a peer group is not worth the risk. But, to those of you who belong in this group because you think you are alone...the days of THE WELL OF LONLINESS are over! Come out, come out wherever you are...preferably to the open door of the S.I.R. Center.

Ah...S.I.R. and the women of the homophile community: WHERE ARE YOU? We have dropped into many a bar and asked the regulars why they don’t join the Society. The results of which (a 50% to each answer) bring out one of two responses. First, and the biggest adrenaline starter is: “What’s in it for me?” Second: “What’s S.I.R.?”

Our first reaction was to stand stunned for a few seconds and then run home and wring our hands, and ask each other: “Did you hear THAT?” After clutching our Linus blankets for strength and security, we come up with some thoughts to toss out on the waters of oblivion; curious to see if they sink or float.

It is fairly difficult to reach people who never venture out; as a result it is even more difficult to explain to them what S.I.R. is. We have mailed several of the “EVER THOUGHT OF S.I.R.?" pamphlets to our overly-shy friends, and this may be something worth trying for others as well. Perhaps over a half of VECTOR’S circulation is found in the bar readers; who, just in reading this magazine, get a fairly good hint as to what is going on. Better yet, take a look at the calendar and drop in for an open meeting or to the dance on Saturday nights. If you are at a loss for a member to take you to the dance or a member’s name to be the guest of...use ours and we’ll see you there!

Now we ask you: What is NOT in S.I.R. for you? We feel that those of you who are sitting in bars and home within the loving arms of bourbon are needed to work for the betterment of YOUR status quo. We are not asking you to join so we alone can reap the benefits of the work you do. On a purely personal basis, we joined because we were sick and tired of being second-class citizens...because we believe in the “impossible dream” of changing the laws which make us so...because we believe only in a united, organized effort we CAN accomplish this; to the end that we can live, love and walk in the sun and no longer wait for the dark to shield us. What about you?
Political Policy Statement

A year ago the political committee presented to the general membership a political policy statement for SIR. The membership unanimously accepted that policy. It is printed here in full:

SIR, though it primarily is not a political organization, must have a political aspect for the effective accomplishment of its goals.

SIR, believing in our democratic heritage, affirms the rights of the individual. To reaffirm individual pride and dignity, to eliminate the public stigma attached to human self-expression, to accomplish effective changes in unjust laws concerning private relationships among consenting adults, SIR declares publicly and affirmatively a policy to support candidates, propose laws or the abolishment of laws, campaign actively, and work in various ways to accomplish these goals.

SIR shall not give of its support to any individual, group, organization, or political party for any purpose other than those purposes which work to the furtherance of SIR's goals.

SIR shall not affiliate with any political party or political front organization, nor shall SIR integrate into its organizational structure any political faction.

SIR shall remain autonomously politically involved, such involvement being to further the goals of SIR.

This political policy statement is in no way meant to conflict with Section 9, Article I of the Constitution of the Society for Individual Rights which states, “There shall be clear, concise provisions for representation of all points of view.”

Organization

The Pol. Com. is headed by a chairman elected to a two year term by the general membership. Dottie Weathers has just commenced her term as Chairwoman of the Pol. Com., in Feb., 1968. (See next issue of VECTOR for a profile of this outstanding woman, Chairwoman of SIR’s Pol. Com.)

George Coffman is sub-Chairman of the Pol. Com., appointed by the past chairman. Jim Burge was chairman of Pol. Com. and succeeded in developing an active committee. Burge continues active in the committee and his singular contributions are a great part of the success of SIR. His political knowledge, direct approach, and sustained ideals are major factors of his contribution. The Sub-Chairman of Pol. Com. is appointed by the chairman and approved by the board of directors.

Secretary, Librarian, and Reporter are appointed by the Chairman. The present Secretary is Ramon Contreras who maintains the committee records: correspondence, minutes and files on elected officials. The Pol. Com.'s records are kept under lock and key and are available to members only by permission of the president of SIR.

Jerry Hoynes, Librarian, maintains the many books which are a necessary part of Pol. Com.'s activities. Jerry has organized special sections of the Library that aid us in certain projects. These sections include, “Candidates Night,” Special Elections, Political Figures, etc. We urge all members to continue to send in clippings, stories, et. al., that pertain to political figures and homosexual issues for our library.

The Pol. Com. reporter is Howard C. The monthly report in VECTOR is written by Howard, who also aids in the writing of other reports. “Profile of a Woman,” in the next issue of VECTOR is one of Howard's reports.

The Pol. Com. presently has no sub-committees for membership in this committee is limited, and each member commits himself to the totality of the committee program.
The Political Library


The Sacramento Newsletter

Recently the Political Committee found a publication that could provide it with up-to-date legislative information. The Sacramento Newsletter, published weekly, reports on legislation before the California legislature, the stands of the legislators, and how each votes. The Board of SIR, at the Pol. Com.'s request, approved subscription to this magazine at its May Budget Meeting. The Executive Board of SIR, in making this provision to the Pol. Com. has demonstrated its commitment to social action for the furtherance of political gains for the homosexual.

Voter Registration

Last year the Pol. Com. arranged with San Francisco City Hall to provide a one-hour class for voter registrars. The Pol. Com. presented 18 SIR members at this meeting and these qualified registrars registered approximately 279 voters for the election held in the fall of '67. Again this year, the Pol. Com. will provide registrars to register gay voters. Tables will be set up in Tavern Guild Bars and other gay establishments, as well as SIR dances.

A voter registration table will be located wherever we congregate. We urge all readers to register to vote. The Pol. Com.'s posters—"Vote or Perish" are more than a slogan. We have a power in the democratic process called a "vote". USE IT. If you are willing to be a voter registrar send a note to SIR Center addressed to the Pol. Com.

The Mayor's Crime Commission

Mayor Alioto, a man who seems to respect the rights of the individual, has created a crime commission to investigate present laws, crime problems, injustices to individuals and minority groups and possible changes in present laws and the processing of justice.

Mr. Alioto has communicated with the Pol Com. in respect to the establishment of his Crime Commission. (See letter, this issue of VECTOR). The Pol. Com. intends to send a representative to these meetings.

The Radio Program

SIR, having been approached to present a thirteen week series on the homosexual for a major radio corporation, invited the Pol. Com. to prepare one half hour program. After a series of weekly meetings, the Pol. Com. produced an excellent program that will be taped by this printing. We in the Pol. Com. considered this to be an excellent opportunity to inform the public of the homosexuals' inequitable treatment and presented a dialogue on SIR's political policy. Much time and thought went into the making of the program and a special thanks must go to Kevin McAre, former president of SIR, who as a committee member worked specially hard and volunteered as commentator for the program.

Sir Member Political Poll

The Pol. Com. polled the members of SIR last year to determine what was the political thoughts of those who make up this many-membered organization. Results indicated that here are members of SIR from every political party, but each consider Law Reform one of the most important issues of the day.

How do they Stand?

The Pol. Com. recently queried bay area elected officials on—"How do you stand on consenting adult sexual behavior in private?" Some replies have been returned to the Pol. Com., and a special report will be made in the future to SIR members.

How do they Stand?

Last year, the Pol. Com. sent to each candidate for local office a "standard questionnaire" relating to the rights of the homosexual. Many favorable reports were returned and communication channels with elected officials were opened. A similar questionnaire, which will be prepared by a former political candidate. will be sent out again this year.

ACLU Reprint

The American Civil Liberties Union recently took a stand for the repeal of unjust laws against homosexuals. The Pol. Com. had previously requested this organization to take such a stand. The Political Committee of SIR reprinted thousands of copies of this statement and mailed it to all California elected representatives, and to members of the United States Congress. Also, we sent copies to other homophile organizations as a guide for their political activity.

When Mr. Reagan, governor of California, made some derogatory remarks about the homosexual, the president of SIR wrote to the Governor for further comment. His reply was no more than that he would stand by the statements that he has made on homosexuals. Copies of his statement and his letter were then mailed to all Homophile Organizations in the state of California by the political committee.

Candidates Night

Candidates Night, 1967 was a tremendous success for the Pol. Com. members who worked on it. Posters were placed in the bars, baths, and gay retail outlets, circulars were distributed by pol. com. members, letters of invitation were sent to interested organizations. Twenty-eight candidates appeared before a full auditorium, and speakers for two different propositions on the ballot appeared.

This year Candidates Night will again be held at SIR, on Wednesday, September 18. CRH and Citizens Alert will co-host. We urge all members of the entire homophile community to be sure and attend this most important meeting. The Pol. Com. wants you to be informed on those candidates who will work for our minority rights.

Public Poll

Pol. Com. members, at a recent meeting, raised the question as to what does the average man on the street think about the homosexual. In response to these thoughts, the Pol. Com. contacted a national Public Opinion Survey Organization for the question. Preliminary contacts seem to indicate that they have asked this question and will report to us on their findings in the near future. The Pol. Com. will report to the readers of VECTOR as soon as that information is made available.

POLITICAL COMMITTEE

Annual Report

(Pol Com, SIR is an Action Committee, engaged in the staff work of the Society. Its work of influencing legislation, educating legislators, coordinating with other social, political and religious organizations, and informing the general homophile community is seldom advertised or made public.

Many who look on SIR see it as a social, Wnoodle oo organization; this is but a part of the workings of SIR. The activities of the Action Committees are usually an engagement behind the scenes, accomplished in silence and filed away. This the first Annual Report of Pol. Com. to give to the general Homophile Community an understanding of our activities during the year. We encourage members to participate in the Pol. Com. and non-members to contribute, as they can, for its continuing success. The Pol. Com. is an Act. Com.: our commitment is to SIR; our dedication is to the rights of the Homosexual citizen.

VECTOR—JULY 1968
Dear Mme. Soto-Voce,

My problem is not so much with the heart as it is with the stomach. My lover insists on doing all the cooking in our house and he must be the world’s worst cook. I'm afraid to have friends over for dinner as I don’t think they would exercise the same restraint that I do in commenting about his cooking. It wouldn’t be so bad if he didn’t think he was the greatest thing in the kitchen since Julia Child. He will slave for hours over a meal that neither our cat or dog will touch the left overs of.

Madam, how can I convince him his cooking is awful without hurting his feelings. He refuses to even let me help in the kitchen as he feels his “masterworks” must be entirely his own.

Help!

Gastronomic Victim

Dear Mr. Victim,

I, myself, have quite a reputation for appreciating a good meal, and I know of few of my operatic colleagues who don’t, and I can truly sympathize and appreciate how truly grateful I would be if I remember a baritone friend of mine named Ricardo Alaska who was playing Falstaff opposite my Nanetta in Verdi’s, Falstaff on tour with the Inter-Dakotas and International Opera Touring Series (or I.D.I.O.T.S. as it was abbreviated).

Throughout the tour I had noticed Signor Alaska was getting thinner and thinner, which was unfortunate as Falstaff is one of the few operatic parts where you are supposed to be fat. Finally, when we were playing our home base, Deadwood, South Dakota, Signor Alaska collapsed on stage just as I finished singing my big aria as the queen of faries. As this was fairly close to where the chorus rolls him all over the stage anyway, we just sped up the opera to reach that point and the citizenry of Deadwood seemed none the wiser.

After the performance I had Signor Alaska sent to my suite at the old Sitting Bull—Plaza Hotel where I had him propped up slightly on a charming Eastlake Gothic horseshoe covered Victorian fainting couch we all ended up. I asked him what happened.

He told me of his new love affair with the Cuban contralto named Adriana Beati-Querque, who was playing the part of a crotchety old mistress Quickly in Falstaff. He told me of meals she insisted he eat that almost defied the imagination.

He told me of spaghetti sauces with garbanzo beans, a dish called “the Pollyana Hominy Surprise” with a peanut butter and tuna fish base, a “consume Birdhimmel” which is a chicken marshmallow soup with a nutmeg garni. He went on and on about one dreadful dish after another until he fainted again. I called room service and had them send up a double order of lasagna to revive him and then I told him how to cure this problem and keep his lover. I told him that he would have to shatter her confidence in her own cooking. That is to say, sabotage a few meals with a tablespoon of tobasco sauce or a half can of sage or something else that will convince even her taste buds that the meals are vile. Then suggest trying some new recipes and make sure you have the recipes and the ingredients handy and help her with these new things. Chances are she won’t balk at your helping her if the meal she just prepared is a disaster. Then you’ve won and with new recipes and your supervision there will soon be no problem. When she has a few good recipes “under her belt” invite company over. They will be so surprised at the improvement in her cooking they will rave like it was a meal prepared by Chief Escoffier himself.

Well, Gastronomic, Signor Alaska did as I told him and in no time he was well on his way to becoming a very convincing Falstaff. Mme. Beati—Querque still hasn’t figured out what happened to the old “prized” recipes but she is so pleased with the reception her “new” cooking is getting she doesn’t care.

Mme. Aida Soto-Voce is now a semi-retired star of the opera and concert stage who, during the apex of her career was the romantic toast of three continents. VECTOR is honored to have her on our staff to answer your questions on “Matters of the Heart.” Address all correspondence to Mme. Aida Soto-Voce, 83 Sixth Street, San Francisco, California 94103

RAMRODS TAKE WEDNESDAY CHAMPIONSHIP!!

One of the newest teams entering the Community League Bowling Team on Wednesday nights—THE RAMRODS—took first place championship for the season and the captain was presented with a trophy while the sponsor was presented with a Sponsor’s plaque.

When the team arrived at the Bar after gaining top spot in the league and advised the sponsor of their success, Paul and George bought drinks for the entire house which was packed to capacity.

Congratulations are offered to the RAMRODS and to the RAMROD BAR for sponsoring such a skillful team to have brought this distinction to that Folsom Street Bar.

S.I.R. commenced the Bowling League several years ago as a small activity, and it has grown to become the largest bowling league west of the Mississippi and requires two nights each week taking over an entire bowling alley to fit in all its teams...

CRH THE COUNCIL ON RELIGION AND THE HOMOSEXUAL

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Meet "THE DETECTIVE"
An Unusual Policeman

"I felt more guilty about being a homosexual than about being a murderer"—so states one of the characters in what is one of the most ambitious and jolting films to come out of Hollywood—"The Detective." One of the realizations of this film is that in truth the homosexual is treated worse than a murderer by society. This extraordinary film stars Frank Sinatra in his most unSinatraish performance since "Manchurian Candidate." The picture is set to open this summer at the Warfield and is a definite "must see" for all filmgoers, straight or gay.

The main themes of this Aaron Rosenberg production, directed excellently by Gordon Douglas, are homosexuality, police brutality, and corruption, as well as nymphomania. It is hard to believe that this same team could present such a vivid film after they brought us the slick and plastic world of "Tony Rome." Included in the first rate cast are Lee Remick, as Sinatra's nympho ex-wife, Ralph Meeker and Robert Duvall, as policemen who seem to get their kicks busting "queers," and newcomer Jacqueline Bisset as the sensitive wife of a latent homosexual.

Based on the best seller by Roderick Thorp, this film pulls no punches in dialogue or plot action. The story kicks off with the brutal murder and mutilation of known homosexual Teddy Leikman (James Inman.) While the body is hidden behind an aptly placed potted palm, (again and again) the verbal graphics are enough to turn a sensitive stomach. From there, Sinatra is told by his superior Horace McMahon to bring in the killer fast so that his promotion will be assured. Tracking down Leikman's last known "roommate," played frantically by Tony Musante, the police raid what appears to be an orgy in the back of parked moving vans, and proceed to bully the "fags" until Sinatra steps in to give Duvall a taste of his own methods. After extracting a confession from the psychotic Musante, we are shown quite vividly his execution in the electric chair. Following this is an apparent passing of time in which Sinatra does get his promotion but not without a sense of guilt about pressuring Musante. Into the scene now comes Miss Bisset who wants Sinatra to find out why or if her husband committed suicide for no apparent reason. In finding the answer to this, he finds out too much for his own good regarding the Leikman case and the corruption of many officials in the city. Now comes the time that he must fact up to his convictions or give in to the pressures of his ambitions.

Included in the film are glimpses of his personal life with Miss Remick that show much about why he must do what he must.

There seems to be an understanding toward the homosexual by Sinatra, a "live and let live" attitude not shared by his fellow officers. The plot is heavily set against the police but yet does not condone the homosexual. The fact that most of the homosexuals pictured, especially in the gay bar sequence, seem to be the stereotype in dress and manner is a sharp contrast to the portrayal of William Windom as the "closet queen" who, for all outward appearances, is a happily married man. But this is the first major feature since "Advise and Consent" (with the exception of "The Fox") that endeavors to treat the subject at least with some amount of truth and understanding. As I stated at the beginning, this is one to see to be believed.
S.I.R. is an organization formed from within the Community working for the Community. By trying to give the individual a sense of dignity before himself and within his Society, it answers the question of how we can maintain our self-respect. S.I.R. is dedicated to belief in the worth of the homosexual and adheres to the principle that the individual has the right to his own sexual orientation so long as the practice of the belief does not interfere with the rights of others.

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

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

This month commemorates the fourth anniversary of the beginning of S.I.R. Many of us are concerned about S.I.R. and its future, but we are not all concerned in the same way. The one thing which ties our interests together is that there must be some vehicle for the organized and concerted efforts of concerned homosexuals when timely issues arise and where prompt response is required if the opportunity thus presented is to be turned to our advantage, or at least to blunt or defeat a new hostile attack.

The troubles of S.I.R. were built into the structure by the attitude out of which it grew. It is to the credit of the numerous dedicated individuals in the San Francisco Bay Area that S.I.R. was able to grow and attract members for all sorts of reasons, social as well as social action.

Here are some of the responses of the readers.

C'MON DOWN AND PITCH IN!

When we are being very critical of S.I.R. I wonder if we consider these major factors:

S.I.R. has greater problems than ANY other gay organization in the country because (1), it offers more services and activities than any group, (2), it maintains a 5,000 sq. ft. building and a full-time paid secretary—a very big expense; (3), with a $60,000 income last year expenditures were made by a democratically elected board of volunteer amateurs who work part-time.

S.I.R. remains the most respected, the largest, and the most successful gay organization in this country... even with its problems.

On July 20-21 the Board will meet for a long weekend of meetings at a retreat in another county. This is done periodically so that the Board can openly re-hash our problems and, from a fresh perspective, plan the organization's future. This is done at the Board members' expense because of their devotion to the purposes of S.I.R.

One thing for sure... the effect of S.I.R. is constantly being felt. Our extensive flood of mail, phone calls, and personal visits to the Center indicate INCREASED interest... So let's not sit back and be cynical.

I am proud to be associated with S.I.R. and urge those who enjoy writing long critical letters to come down and "pitch in!" There is lots of work to be done.

George Mendenhall

THANKS FOR FRIENDSHIP

When I lived in Chicago I was a member of a group that was made up for the most part of professional people, the group entertained often and frequently quite lavishly, and coming out here meant leaving behind a well organized social life. It was not easy to make new friends, tricks yes, friends no. However, that is in the past, today when I entertain for visiting firemen I hear without exception the comment, "Well, you've certainly surrounded yourself with a lot of nice people." It is then that I have to say a polite "thank you" to S.I.R. because it was through S.I.R. that I was able to develop such friendships.

F. Lehman

FUTURE HOPES AND ASPIRATIONS

Through only three short months of association and active participation, S.I.R. and I have established a mutually meaningful rapport, mainly arrived at by give-and-takes and a deep personal involvement with VECTOR. S.I.R. has given me an unmistakable and undeniable sense of direction—like a beacon light to a floundering sailor at sea, or like a welcome oasis to a wayward wanderer in a desert.

Needless to say, S.I.R.'s ideas and ideals are high-sounding—on paper, at least. Yet, like most homophile fraternities, it is NOT
above bitchy pettiness sometimes. But it is also in such a dissident atmosphere that many a new bold concept is born and nurtured. That S.I.R. has recently accepted more female members indicates its progress towards a more universal and integrated democracy. And thus united and strengthened, it can and will become an effective voice in our cultural wilderness. Indeed, we need both sexes to present to the society an overall picture of our all-together oneness—a oneness is soul as well as in purpose.

There are a few areas S.I.R. can stand improvements:

1) We should align ourselves more with the Church, particularly the ones of more liberal Protestant faith like the local Glide Foundation Methodist Church, which are sympathetic to our cause. One need not to be even a devout Christian to accept this kind of God’s fellowship which is given us by grace already. After all, the Church still represents some form of religious respectability in our society and hence we need their alliance more than they do us. Such can often better provide us with more wholesome social recreation as well as promote deeper and more meaningful social understanding.

2) Politically speaking, we can and must be more constructively active: we can not just ONLY support candidates of our own choice, but we can and must nominate and elect our own candidates as well. In our American system where money bespeaks power—yea, my friends, and it’s spelt with a capital (or capitalistic) “P”; and politics denotes this power—influence and influence in their full senses of the meaning. What must we need to array impressively “Gay Power?” We, like all others, must play this “dirty” politicking game. And to win? We certainly don’t lack talents! Or don’t we? Well, if Ronnie R. could make the state level, can one(s) of us make it to the national level? Let’s say: how about seats in the Senate and the Congress to begin with.

3) Last and not least, we certainly can use more “police cooperation,” and I’m NOT speaking of the S.F. Police only, but nation-wide. It follows that we must unite and coordinate better with our ‘sister’ organizations throughout the nation. (I actually hope for international alliance someday; and this I sincerely believe we shall also realize with concerted efforts and long patience eventually). Can we therefore successfully organize more regional meetings? Also, we should definitely not neglect our female counterparts like the Daughters of Bilitis, etc. Can we honestly, if we try hard enough, gain profitably from this kind of encounters? The answer lies with and within YOU along.

Nelson S. Chuang

TO FEEL AT EASE

I first read about S.I.R. in Look Magazine before I even came to San Francisco. When I first came to San Francisco, S.I.R. was the first place I went to. It happened to be on Saturday afternoon, and there was only one person there. The person seemed to be very busy, so I didn’t bother him too much, but he did invite me to come to the dance that night as his guest. I was so enthused by what was going on there that I decided to come back the next week. I went back the following Thursday and that is when I met my first roommate and was asked to help the Social Committee get ready for the Spring Dance. They were making all kinds of decorations for the dance and I was glad to help. Everybody to me.

Well, this is how I got started in S.I.R. It might not be that easy for everyone, but it is something that every homosexual should do. For S.I.R. is the hope of the homosexual community. It has done more for me personally than I had hoped any organization could do.

I have made more friends in the year I have been a member of S.I.R. than I did in my twenty-four years before. S.I.R. has given me a place to go and become acquainted with people without them thinking I am only interested in having sex or without being looked upon as a sex object. It is a place I can go and feel at ease at all times. It is an organization where I can help others and feel that I am truly doing something for a noble cause. I wish more people would become involved in the works of S.I.R. so that they can also have that wonderful feeling of accomplishment and self-respect.

J.B.

DANKE SCHON!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY S.I.R. while I have only been with you half your life, I sincerely regret you were not born many years ago... the need of you is great... you have given me VECTOR... informative, interesting, amusing; discussion groups that make one realize just what we face in this life; productions enjoyable as I did not attend expecting a New York show (and being an old theatre man realize the work behind these events) frankly there was considerable talent on the stage; social dances not my bag but dash up after work for a quick drink and enjoy seeing the youths of today being able to relax and enjoy themselves... visits from the sick comm. to the hospital and their willingness to help when needed; also the strangers who took time out of their busy days to make a phone call and wish me recovery as a result of being given an opportunity to a private interview in the Gold Sheet (was left out this month) had calls from out of towners, local chaps, others enjoying the big parties and card games, and only one sex card that terminated quick when the chap (21) found out I was 60, rapidly said get well quick and hung up fast... Sonny, we’re not all dirty old men looking for zippers... frankly working hours (when I was employed kept me away from the center more then I would have liked) however S.I.R. to me my membership had many other returns and when my condition permits and I can do something for S.I.R. then I’ll express my gripes... until then best of luck and a good year ahead. As ever...

Chet

EH???

The best way to solve S.I.R.’s problems would be to raise the dues to $50.00 per year. This would immediately reduce the membership to a few dedicated people, who would have no difficulty in maintaining communication amongst themselves. They could meet for tea parties, plan weekend trips to the country, and at the first business meeting, vote to change the name to “The Mattachine Society.”

H.C.

LET’S NOT LIVE ON LAURELS!

The strongest aspect of S.I.R. is that it offers to many the opportunity to do their thing—whether public service, self-expression, or just to have a sense of participation in something bigger than themselves.

It’s weakness is the weakness of individual members; petty jealousies, inefficiency, dilettantism, destructive rather than constructive criticism. There’s too much “I’m going to pick up my marbles and go home” kind of attitude, and a lack of respect and consideration for other points of view. This, in the “Society for INDIVIDUAL Rights!”

It seems that for everyone who finds an outlet within S.I.R. for his own expression, ten others are driven out. Everyone who joins must do so for reasons of personal need, but, with rare exception, I have noticed no concern on the part of the active members with individual needs of others. The homosexual (perhaps no more than his straight brother) has enough frustrations in his public and private life—he joins S.I.R. seeking new avenues of fulfillment, but regardless of the degree to which he is willing to contribute to the cause, he comes face-to-face with a brick wall of indifference in respect to his own problems.

On the other hand, too many come to S.I.R. with palms outstretched, expecting their problems to be solved overnight, without any contribution on their part. Needless to say, they are quickly disillusioned.

S.I.R. needs honest appraisal and acknowledgement of its present limitations. In attracting membership, we should place more stress on the many things which we have yet to do, rather than the glorious things we have done in the past. We should be attracting the people willing and able to help, but in turn we must be more sensitive to their own needs and motives. I would suggest that every new member, (and present and former members who may so desire), be given an opportunity to a private interview before a competent person or committee, for a mutual exchange on how the organization and the member may aid each other.

Sesto Chiarello
I AM NOT ALONE

I have found in the past that most homosexual organizations, in general those which publish papers and magazines on what is happening in the homosexual community, to be of great help in informing people that the homosexual is not some gruesome ogre that is ever on the make for some child. Also I find that the organizations such as the Mattachine Society and the Society for Individual Rights to be of great help in realizing the fact that one is not alone in a world of straight people. I find it a great help in times of stress to be able to hold my head up and say, "I am not alone."

Jay

WHO’D A’ THOT IT?

In the hills of Tennessee, there’s a little town. You are driving along, suddenly you climb this high hill, and at the top you look down into the valley below and here is this little hamlet, snuggling among all the hills in quiet beauty; and you say, “Who’d a thought it?” They named the town that, “Who’d A’ Thot It?”

Coming from that area, where your sex life was under the constant surveillance of nigh everybody, from police to neighbors, I came to the meetings at S.I.R., looked around at a meeting attended not only by people of my like interests, but even supported and graced by members of the local police force, and I think of that phrase, “Who’d a thought it?” That in this country which I have always associated with bedrock puritanism, there has emerged enough strength among us that we can and do command the respect and merit the consideration of even the police, it defies imagination.

And what has made such possible? Numbers may be a part of it, but the greater credit must be given to the fact that there exists now among us in San Francisco an organization which is determined to be heard. I mean S.I.R.

This is written during the meeting in the city of The American Medical Association. Fifty thousand strong. Now there is a number. Don’t think they don’t command lobby power, that when they speak they aren’t heard. And why? Because they’re organized.

Go to the history of any movement in this country’s past. When they really got going was when they got organized. The AMA, and ADA (dental), the various political parties, the labor unions, the secret organizations—all have in common the fact that one of the sine qua non of their being accepted as an entity was their organization, having a publication, a voice, an official organ, by which they spelled out their aims and purposes. Without such they have been mere weak-bodied cowering out at distant intervals of space, with good purposes, but lacking that which would make them appreciated, respected, yes, even feared by the community in which they lived.

S.I.R. is a great step in this direction. It exists in a liberal city, in a place where the philosophy seems to be. You got your bag . . . I got mine! Would that more of us in the homophile community would see the great need of such an organization. Those who seem to see no need to join in an organization of this kind may one day feel the need of its service. Too bad they didn’t feel the urge to contribute of their time, talents and voice before that. The help will doubtless be given. But how much better if they as a member could avail themselves of that which is their by right of membership.

Yes, I appreciate the existence of an organization. Those who have lived in the “provinces” where such an organization would not be countenance for a moment know whereof I speak. The natives here don’t know how lucky they are.

K.J.

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

One of the chief problems of S.I.R. is the failure to successfully spread the burden of leadership among more individuals, and resulting from this failure the inadequate development and training of individuals capable of assuming office and leadership at a future date.

We must learn from the experiences of other organizations, their successes and failures, adding to their efforts S.I.R.’s specific dedication to the democratic process. Rejecting inwardness, the strife of many worthwhile projects which occupy the efforts of S.I.R.

While S.I.R. is still dedicated to a spirit of free competition, eventually it hopes to achieve the coordination of all organizations working on behalf of the homosexual. Recognizing that we live with an urgency of need, in a time when change is constant and often dramatic, S.I.R. responds to the call to service where service is due.

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

The topic for the OPEN FORUM in the August VECTOR will be: "The Aging Homosexual and Rejection." What problems does a homosexual face after forty with respect to still being accepted socially and sexually? Deadline for copy for the August issue is July 15, 1968. Send your comments to Larry Carlson: VECTOR, S.I.R. Community Center, 83 Sixth Street, San Francisco, California.


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J U S T O F F
T H E
P R E S S

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PAGE 20
In this year of political surprise—pleasant, brutal and disappointing—every homosexual in America owes it to himself, to his brethren, and to his nation of tortured and bewildered people to exercise his vote with utmost care.

Here are my thoughts on what that assertion implies. Had they been written prior to the assassin's bullet in Los Angeles, they would, perhaps, be less strident.

Now, there seems no reason to mitigate my distress. My distress is heightened and accentuated by what we witness here in Washington, where a recalcitrant and repressive faction wills its way.

Speaking as a political scientist and as a concerned liberal Democrat, I cannot help feeling that notion. And, I must add, it is an argument that garners votes and sympathy.

In passing the Omnibus Crime Control Act, the intention of the authors of those pernicious provisions, to which I refer, is to reverse the Court rulings guaranteeing the individual's rights in police and criminal proceedings. While I cannot accuse them of bad faith in their contention, I do accuse these public officials of misconception, misperception and mild stupidity. They know not the evil which they have wrought.

With the lone exception of those provisions of the crime act allocating funds to train our police in the more efficient detection and prevention of crime, I urge none of you to be deluded into supposing that this legislation will curtail crime in this country.

The gun control features in the bill are pathetically inadequate, thanks to the powerful lobbying of the National Rifle Association and like groups. They only apply to the interstate shipment of handguns and their sale over the counter to non-residents of a state and to minors. This token gesture will probably prevent few if any murders or attempted murders because it excludes from its purview rifles and shotguns.

Meanwhile Senator Robert Byrd of West Virginia, representative of the ignorant enthusiasts who threaten to assume control in this country, prats on daily against the poor people's campaign, against the Supreme Court, against, if you please, the impulse toward justice, equality and freedom, which is sorely tried these days. He has joined in urging the probable Republican nominee for President, the honorable Richard Nixon, from California we hear the mellifluous voice of Mr. Reagan, burping out the cliches which should have expired with Joe McCarthy, and that period of abundant ignorance which he epitomized. Mr. Reagan postulates the ridiculous notion that he can govern this country, but we know him for his mediocre performance in California. The true-believers, the so-called right-thinkers, undoubtedly find comfort in him. Given his past performance, I cannot see how any homosexual could.

I am pessimistic. I see and hear the bewildered and frightened voice of middle class America—White America. It implores: "Protect my property. Protect my position. Protect my insularity and uninvolvment!"

It is the voice which has not read or understood the poet Donne. It does not realize the penalty of dominishment, nor its ontology. But—it is the voice which will determine the course of this country during the next four years.

In the face of the bleak retrenchment that I fear, it is incumbent upon every homosexual to examine rationally each candidate for every office at all levels of government. Each homosexual must judge each candidate according to this criterion: "Will this candidate, once in office, permit us to continue the path of reform so vital to this nation's well being, and so vital to the homophile aspiration, or, will this candidate be the instrument of repressiveness and vindictiveness?" AND I WILL PREDICT THAT IF THIS COUNTRY TURNS TO THE REPRESSIVE RIGHT WE SHALL ALL BE VICTIMS OF THE IRRATIONAL IMPULSE WHICH NURTURES THAT MOVEMENT.

In California you will be faced with the choice between the Enthusiast Rafferty and the Enlightened Cranston. How will you choose? And, how do you choose will be a measure of what we can anticipate in this country during the ensuing four years; for, if a Rafferty can be elected, then so can a Nixon and we shall find ourselves up the proverbial creek.

The homosexual vote in this country is large; it could be significant. I urge all reading this message to reflect on the future, and to vote for those men, be they Republican or Democrat, who will permit us to continue the humanizing process in democracy. Compassion must be our key for survival.

Attention to the ills in our cities. Senator Kennedy, did, and Senator McCarthy does bespeak the truth about Vietnam, the truth about racial prejudice, the truth about disintegration and alienation in our land.

Meanwhile Senator Robert Byrd of West Virginia, representative of the ignorant enthusiasts who threaten to assume control in this country, prats on daily against the poor people's campaign, against the Supreme Court, against, if you please, the impulse toward justice, equality and freedom, which is sorely tried these days. He has joined in urging the probable Republican nominee for President, the honorable Richard Nixon, from California we hear the mellifluous voice of Mr. Reagan, burping out the cliches which should have expired with Joe McCarthy, and that period of abundant ignorance which he epitomized. Mr. Reagan postulates the ridiculous notion that he can govern this country, but we know him for his mediocre performance in California. The true-believers, the so-called right-thinkers, undoubtedly find comfort in him. Given his past performance, I cannot see how any homosexual could.

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Legal committee
--A REPORT

In a recent letter to the editor, a reader praised the "honest picture" of a "natural male penis" which VECTOR had published in its January edition to illustrate an article on pornography. The reader concluded that, "The Supreme Court would do well to venture where you have successfully tread."

The reader was obviously unaware that the United States Supreme Court has already trodden in this extremely difficult and emotion-ridden area of the law. The far-reaching decisions of the Court now permit the lawful publication of pictures, in which male and female nudes prominently and promiscuously exhibit their sexual organs in enticing and often flagrant poses. Thus the photographs used to introduce the article on pornography was clearly non-pornographic in the constitutional sense.

One of the chief criticisms made by both detractors and supporters of the U.S. Supreme Court is the difficulty in predicting whether a particular magazine or photograph will pass the constitutional test. In a recent decision, however, the California Supreme Court has set out what appears to be a workable and useful yardstick in determining where the censor's line will be drawn. Thus in People v. Noroff, 67 A.C. 814, defendants were charged in Los Angeles with distribution of "International Nudist Sun," a so-called nudist "educational" publication containing colored photographs of men and women gamboling in the green. The Court commented that, "The publication admittedly makes no effort to conceal either male or female genitals, and several of the poses seem contrived to preserve genital exposure at the expense of aesthetic considerations." The Court, however, concluded that, "viewed as a whole... the work is in no sense calculated to stimulate a predominately sexual response." Hence, it was not obscene by constitutional standards.

In reaching this decision, the California Supreme Court pointed out that "none of the photographs displays any form of sexual activity." Absent such activity, the Court said, the judiciary will not "engage in the task of placing legal fig leaves upon variegated presentations of the human figure." Thus the graphic depiction of "sexual activity" now marks the judicial distinction between proscribed obscenity and protected tawdriness.

Applying this new guideline to earlier decisions of the U.S. Supreme Court, the following are examples of protected matter which did not involve "sexual activity": (1) Photographs of naked men, women and children "clearly revealing genitals, breasts and other portions of the body normally covered in public;" (2) A magazine "almost entirely of photographs of young men in nude or practically nude poses handled in such manner as to focus attention on their genitals or buttocks," including a photo of "what appeared to be a semi-erect penis;" (3) A nudist magazine showing an "exceedingly obese" woman with "large elephantine breasts that hang from her shoulders to her waist." Her pubic hair extends outwardly virtually to the hip bone and the hair line instead in being straight is... scalloped or in a half-moon shape... which makes the woman grotesque, vile, filthy.

On the other hand, sexual activity, which is not protected by the Constitution, has been found in magazines portraying "sexuality in many guises," including "such deviations as sado-masochism, fetishism, and homosexuality." The covers of these magazines show "scantily clad women being whipped, beaten, tortured or abused." Also excluded from protection by the U.S. Supreme Court was the film, "Un Chant D'Amour," which "explicitly and vividly revealed acts of masturbation, oral copulation, sadism, masochism and sex." (Of course, if the portrayal of sexual activity also has "redeeming social value," such as a scientific study or perhaps a literary or theatrical work, the matter would be protected under this additional test.)

The Noroff decision noted that the U.S. Supreme Court has unfastened the purveyors of nudity from legal restraints because it believes that the State has no business regulating public tastes, except perhaps in the more extreme instances mentioned above. Needless to say, the Justices do not necessarily give their personal approval to the material that they have protected. As Justice Harlan recently lamented, pornography litigation "has required us to spend an inordinate amount of time in the absurd business of pursuing and viewing the miserable stuff that pours into the Court..."

The Noroff opinion was written by Justice Tobriner, whom many attorneys regard as one of the outstanding jurists in the nation. The decision, by limiting and re-defining legal obscenity with respect to "still-life" nude displays, may well sound the knell to harassing arrests and prosecutions in this area of so-called pornography and at the same time will provide sellers (and editors) with a workable guideline for determining when they are approaching the danger zone of obscenity.

MEMBERSHIP

A dream of SIR for sometime has been to have 1,000 members. This appears to be a modest goal to hope for, but we seem to be getting a bit farther away from the mark. A membership of a little better than 850 (plus about 380 VECTOR subscribers) isn't what it should be for a homophile community the size of San Francisco. About 500 members live in San Francisco, the remainder live in the immediate bay area with a few scattered all the way east to New York and Florida. There are 23 life memberships.

SIR has a splendid program of social cause activities that are worthy of a larger audience. Have you thought of bringing a friend to the next function at the Center? You just might be doing someone a great favor by introducing him to SIR.


A frequently made statement is, "I would like to belong to SIR but I don't want my name used." No problem, we have many members who belong, are active and who have devised ways not to use proper names. Some join, asking that no mail be sent to their homes, this is perfectly acceptable, VECTORS for such members may be picked up at the Center around the 10th of each month. Others prefer to use names other than their own, just make sure the mail box is marked so that the mailman can make proper delivery. If you want to be Opal or Hazel Schultz it is just a matter of telling the Membership Chairman what you want.

When you move, let us know. If you fail to advise us, the loss to SIR is 54 cents for the VECTOR that is returned. Keep us advised of your address, it is a small thing that means a lot to us. First, we want to cut down on the returned VECTORs and secondly, of course, we want you to remain a part of SIR, so don't get lost! When that gypsy spirit takes hold, let us be the first to know.

NEW DATES!!!
CLOSED MEETING
Elections!!—July 2, Tuesday

OPEN HOUSE
Dr. Earle Marsh, Lecturer
July 24, Wednesday

About 500 members live in San Francisco, the community the size of San Francisco.

Names other than their own, just make sure the mail box is marked so that the mailman can make proper delivery...

Sorry to inform our readers that Tequila Mockingbird is in the hospital with pneumonia. The popular BAR TOUR will run next month as usual.

380 VECTOR subscribers
by ANGELA LANSMAN

Ticket holders to S.I.R.'s production of LITTLE MARY SUNSHINE might have thought they were attending a major network telecast when they entered the S.I.R. Center on Flag Day 1968 for the opening of a dual week-end run of Rick Besoyan's musical spoof. Cables and lights were everywhere. One got the feeling of attending a situation comedy on a Hollywood sound stage, which was not too far away from this unadulterated adulteration.

LITTLE MARY SUNSHINE has finally been presented in its ultimate atmosphere of a cast made up of 99% mates and attended by an audience of--shall we say a more than liberal outlook--who managed to catch the many, many inuendos that were thrown to them by the cast throughout the production.

If there is any person who gained stardom from LITTLE MARY SUNSHINE, it is the writer who wrote the liner notes in the ornate and delightful program... Vector's own "Magda" who also writes a cinema column for our glorious rag. Each member of the cast was limelighted by a satirical biography in perfect keeping with the spoof theme of the show. The imagination and generosity in perfect keeping with the spoof the cast was timedighted by a satiricat column for our glorious rag. Each member of the cast made up of 99% mates and attended by an audience of--shall we say a more than liberal outlook--who managed to catch the many, many inuendos that were thrown to them by the cast throughout the production.

One found Gene Pelligrini's name in many departments, as director, scenic designer, chief garbage collector and also as the bombastic, bumptious, conniving General Oscar Fairfax, Ret. in the cast. His performance was as usual, professional. Many of you probably remember Gene's performing ability in the sparkling production of "Big Me" last year.

Grandmother's sewing box must have been extremely busy for the many threads that clung to the members of the cast. The chorus was elaborately "decked-out to the teeth", which might have been grandmother's too. Their collective performances were the hit of the production in the inumerable vaudeville choreographic monologues.

Excerpts from the program notes include that Ken Fantastic (Little Mary Sunshine) plans to tour East Asia with the bus and truck company of "Once Upon A Cross," a musical version of the New Testament, playing the role of the Virgin Mary, whereas Bob Paulsen (Capt. "Big Jim" Warington) is credited with many interests such as bird watching, leathercraft and Ma Jong. Bob "Pussy" plans to record an album later this summer titled, "A Tribute To Kate Smith."

Chuck Zinn (Cpl. Billy Jester) played his role quite well with sparkle and zip. He is credited in the program with many roles in the past such as understudy for Barbara Streisand in, "I Can Get It For You Retail." and as title role in the all-white production of "Hallelujah Baby."

Nancy, as Nancy Twinkle is program noted as a student of the Vera Hruba Ralston School of Drama and Tap. Her long list of credits are enumerated including the fifteen minute underwater ballet she performed while singing "Zip" in PAL JOEY. The program let us in on the spoof that Nancy has already recorded her first all-singing, all-dancing album, curiously titled: "Nancy Sings Nellie, and other Family Favorites."

Mme. Ernestine Von Liebedich played by our own Mme. Aida Soto-Voce is program noted as having completed her latest recording--"Madame Aida Sings Variations on the Themes of the Jefferson Airplane." Her performance was one of the best she has done yet on the stage.

Pete Brandt who went through his lines as Chief Brown Bear, gave a good performance but could have been pushed further, toward optimum injun.

It might be added here that Fleetfoot (Kevin Macre) was the first Indian I ever saw on stage with heavy New York accent. I surmise he was probably in the original pack which sold Manhattan.

Denny Leone (Yellow Feather) was credited with roles in "St. Joan," "Lysistrata" and "Auntie Mame" and is concluded when Magda tells that Denny's performance in the exciting rape scene in Act II during rehearsals, prompted the producer of the upcoming film version of "Song of the Loon", to cast the amazing Mr. Leone in the title role. However the program did not note that Denny used his own shoulder length hair in his role as Yellow Feather as did Little Mary Sunshine...isn't San Francisco Grand!

A welcome member to the chorus line was a real live girl -- Ruth Robertson as Gwendolyn, who came off as one of the most exciting female impersonators on stage. Hope to see more of the same in upcoming productions.

Mabel played by Gil Lopez was the highlight of the chorus. Having one of the smallest parts and no lines, she captured the audience with her nervous finger twisting.

The first act should have been cut in many areas. As a result it dragged and rusted the musical score.

The cast and crew should be commended for their perseverance in beginning the show, building the stage, sets, constructing costumes and for the other necessities of legitimate theatre. LITTLE MARY SUNSHINE was for the most part a delightful experience in whimsical camp.
SUPPLICATION

“Sisters, since you find yourselves in a worldly place
Eating ice-cream sundaes—”

(Paasahaoaaaaowwww—-Flash Bulb!)
I shall read to you from Jeremy Taylor who lived in
the 17th century, his 'The Rule and Exercises of Holy
Dying'.

"Let the sick persons do frequent actions of Repentance by
way of Prayer for all those sins which are spiritual, and in which
no restitution or satisfaction material can be made, and whose
contrary acts cannot in kind be exercised."

Realizes he is tipsy. Must stop talking, causing
scandal.

direct enemies to sin few little habits
state of the man suppletory imperfections
clinic or death-bed penitent
No efficacy whatsoever?

“Oh, I wouldn’t come to that conclusion.”

---------------------------

At exactly 5 o’clock in the afternoon on
Easter Wednesday...as they say in tauromachy
I was shot to death in a guilt-area of Buena Vista
Park, and walked away from my own corpse.
The crime had sixty-five witnesses who stepped
out of a hundred convertibles, and marched single
File to the corner of Haight Street & Baker
where they set fire to a Victorian telephone booth,
But managed to give an alarm. Hardly noticing that
I was a ghost myself I fled down Beaver street
Past a Swedish delicatessen (famous) and raced up
Market to Civic Center where I intended to prostrate
Myself before the equestrian statue of De Anza.

But just before I reached the scene the intent failed.
Gold corduryon on a lithe young buck parodying the robin’s
egg blue of the one who preceded me out of Buena Vista,
Caused me to burst into tears.
The mob I discovered in the Plaza were also weeping
for Me!—-My middle-aged, peaceful though by now
“Indian” form had been translated to the square in
advance, and people were standing around in knots
Trying to surmise What Could Have Happened.

G. Lansont Fabian
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BOYS AND SEX
Dr. Wardell Pomeroy, Delacorte Press—$4.00

Whenever my mind harkens back to the high school days of the old home town, I remember the principle solemnly announcing an afternoon of sex education for us ignorant and bewildered boys. This earthshaking event was to be held in the school gym. Naturally the girls were spared such a mind bending exposure. They were to receive similar enlightenment in the main auditorium at the hands of a respectable woman doctor.

On the appointed day our eager hearts beheld the hoary spectacle of a panel of well meaning local patriarchs thumbing home the lessons of old testament morality. The doctor informed us bluntly that masturbation was a leading cause of “emotional fatigue” and the YMCA leader intoned that “Homosexuality is a terrible thing, just terrible.”

Any facts gleaned from this self-sterilizing WASP style, Kama Sutra have long since faded from memory. The atmosphere of repression and implicit anti-eroticism have lingered.

Perhaps the teenager of today can be spared such an ordeal by reading the revelations of Dr. Wardell Pomeroy, formerly of the Kinsey Institute.

The sublime attribute which runs throughout Boys and Sex is the conviction that sex is positive and that males of ALL ages are going to pursue a sex life of some sort. Dr. Pomeroy demolishes the old saw about whether growing lads should have any sex life. We all know that hormones will eventually have their day. Thus, he feels the core issue revolves around the quality of the sex life that a boy is developing.

He believes masturbation, for example, is worthy and serves a definite social biological purpose.

When considering the bulk of the usual topics the reader expects, the author imparts a definite stand on the issues. But in the chapter on homosexuality, Dr. Pomeroy plays it on the coy side. Although a tolerant attitude comes across, he appears unwilling to commit himself to a pro or con side. Since professionals are caught in such a crossfire over taboo areas, perhaps such a move is the better part of valor.

One genuinely enlightening section contains forty-six questions and answers on a number of sexual phenomena. Here any curious fella will find himself in the middle of a refreshing, down to earth bull session. For example, he really learns about “What is Spanish Fly” and “What is a Cherry?”

Pomeroy’s late colleague, Dr. Alfred Kinsey would probably have felt Boys and Sex justified all his efforts.

If a complete history of sex guides for the young is ever compiled, this volume will stand at the top of the heap.

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Growing Up Straight: What Every Thoughtful Parent Should Know About Homosexuality by Peter and Barbara Wyden, Stein and Day, $6.98—will be published July 26th—first printing, 60,000

The above volume has been selected as an alternate selection of the Literary Guild Book Club and will also be a selection of the Pastoral Psychology Book Club.

The play about two aging homosexuals entitled Staircase is now available in an Evergreen paperback.

Peter Wyden is executive editor of the Ladies Home Journal and Barbara Wyden is editor of the Woman’s Section of the New York Times Magazine.

WAITING FOR WINTER
Bantam, 1967—95 Cents

A retired general in the privacy of his small town Pennsylvania bed chamber, slips into a frothy negligee purchased for him by his wife. In the same town, a genteel maiden lady is accused of making passes at a small girl in the loo of the local cinema. A jet setting heiress finds finally the one person she can let her hair down to in the swish milliner, who sleeps with the town constable. A Hollywood starlet gets the last word by announcing her marriage to a well-known fag.

If you or I had written these stories, they’d call us queer, but would you believe John O’Hara? And you HAVE to believe him; the authority of his writing is not to be denied. No apologies, no tears, no special emphasis on “perversion,” it’s just there all around us all the time, interwoven through the lives of average people, and you can thank Mr. O’Hara for putting it in it’s proper perspective.

Anyone who reads the collection of short stories, “Waiting for Winter” (Bantam paperback, 1967, 95 cents), understands people a little better, and is better prepared to accept them in toto.

Unlike O’Hara, James Purdy doesn’t seem to write about “real” people. His first novel, “Malcolm” was allegorical, a parable in which the basic truth is revealed only upon reflection. His latest, “Eustance Chisholm and the Works,” (Bantam paperback, 1967, 95 cents), will be taken by many readers to be a realistic, if far-out story, a moral essay on the evils of homosexuality, complete with tragic ending. Squares won’t believe a word of it, and the sensation-seekers will find enough of that to keep them from thinking. (The reviewers say “nightmare extremes of the homosexual experience . . . fully exposed,” “brilliant flashes of the lives of desperate and crazed people,” “a purple feast of sadomasochism,” but nevertheless, they liked it.) If others get the point, if any of the deeper morality rubs off on the squares, I cannot say, but for all its brutality, pain and squalor, it is as beautifully eloquent and tender a plea for the acceptance of homosexual love as you could wish for, (and the cover alone is worth your 95 cents.)

O’Hara and Purdy are two of the most competent writers in America today; it is good that as well as knowing how to turn a phrase they see and can tell it the way it is.
LE BOEUF is not an ordinary restaurant... here you belly up to a regular butcher's cutting block and there select the piece of meat you want, and the butcher, clad in an immaculate white uniform will place his razor sharp knife just where you tell him to. He will then identify your selection with your initials and the way you tell him to prepare it, from blood red to well done....

You will select from the choicest pieces of aged New York, top sirloin, or filet mignon and once your own brand (initials) is put on your selection, you are escorted to your table where an experience in fine eating is about to begin.

LE BOEUF is where Kino used to operate the once popular “Red Lizard.” If you were around San Francisco in the early fifties you knew this place well. After a deserved success as the “Red Lizard,” Kino called in San Francisco’s top restaurant designer and converted the place into LE BOEUF, which has been the talk of the gourmet world ever since.

Kino recognized that San Francisco was world famous for its Fisherman’s Wharf, but he recognized too that not everyone who visited our city, liked to eat fish. He thought it was a shame that San Francisco didn’t offer a choice for those who enjoyed fine dining and wanted it in a typically San Francisco atmosphere, but preferred top quality steaks instead of fish...thus he established LE BOEUF and after twelve years it still enjoys the undisputed reputation of being San Francisco’s finest steak house.

When first you are seated at your table and have sunk deep down into the luxurious red leather cushions, your waiter will bring you a cozy-covered basket of oven-fresh, sour dough French bread; we warn you to resist the temptation of eating more than one piece of this manna from heaven, because to eat more will tax your capacity for what is to follow.

We suggest you pass up the soup as delicious as it always is, in favor of the oversized garden fresh salad with your choice of several exotic dressings; again we warn you to “cool it” because next you’ll be offered the “piece de resistance”—your own cut of steak, prepared in exactly the manner in which you ordered it—and with this will be LE BOEUF’S own re-stuffed baked potato which will be served with gobs of sour cream, crisp fat-free morsels of bacon, and chopped chives, and mountains of dairy fresh golden butter, all steaming hot, ready for you to ‘dig in’ and enjoy what nationally famous gourmet magazines have reported is an “experience in fine dining.”

For years to come, your visiting firemen will remember the day, you took them to LE BOEUF’S in Washington Street in San Francisco.

The only trouble here is that your reputation may become too popular and you will be deluged with more and more visiting firemen, until you’ll have to make yourself unavailable.

Now let’s get down to the real nitty-gritty...

It is not unusual to expect that you would pay a pretty penny to enjoy an exquisite steak dinner at LE BOEUF... but actually, that is not the case.

At LE BOEUF you pay only for what you order. For instance, if you tell the butcher to make you a not-too-thick steak, you will pay the minimum of only $4.95 and that will be as much or more meat than you would get in any top restaurant which lists steaks on its menu which you never see until it reaches your table. At LE BOEUF each steak is weighed at the time of cutting and is priced accordingly. The price of the steak includes a soup or salad, and the delicious LE BOEUF potato.

One of the main reasons for the success of LE BOEUF is that it is constantly under the supervision of its owners. The immaculately white clad butcher, as well as the meticulous chef, and maître d’ all are owners of LE BOEUF and they are right there to see that your every whim is catered to, and that you are completely pleased and delighted with your dinner at LE BOEUF. In that way, they are assured that you will be back, and that you will tell your friends about LE BOEUF, and do you know that so many have done just this. If there are six or more in your party, it is suggested that you phone for reservations, if you want to enjoy this experience in fine eating on a weekend. It will be that busy.

Incidentally, you will spot many of San Francisco’s leading personalities at tables near you, because LE BOEUF has long been the leading contender for patronage from stars from the theatre and sport world, as well as from outstanding politicos and industrial giants, who invariably bring their out-of-town guests to LE BOEUF for this experience in fine eating.

Of course, there is a well stocked bar at LE BOEUF in case you are required to wait a short time for a table, but even here you will probably be served by someone who has a financial interest in LE BOEUF and will make sure that you are treated like a king.

There is a lot to be said about an establishment that is operated by working members of its ownership. Too often it is recognized that employees just do not take the same interest in a business and its patrons, as do its owners. At LE BOEUF, management is the owners and no detail is left unnoticed or ignored where quality of product and service is concerned.

Don Rodgers, one of the partners and manager of LEBOEUF is well known in San Francisco as a top restaurateur. Don will welcome you to LE BOEUF and make you feel right at home, despite the severe elegance and comfortable grandeur of its decor.

Should you be thinking of a private party for your group or club, there is the quiet and privacy of the Filet Room, which can be reserved with appropriate notice.

No matter if you dine alone, or with friends or relatives, we promise you that you will forever remember favorably your dining experience at LE BOEUF, especially if you tell Don you read about it all in VECTO...
CRH picnic

Swimming, volleyball, scenic trails for walking, beer, cocktails, food and a speaker, Paul Gebhard from the Kinsey Institute will be features of the July 21 Summer Celebration of The Council on Religion and the Homosexual.

The gathering is FREE to members of CRH, and open only to members of CRH. However, if you are not yet a member you can join at the door—dues are $5 per year.

This is quite a departure for CRH in terms of activities and should be a time to remember. It will be held at White Memorial Center in Mill Valley—the site of the original confrontation between clergy and homosexuals out of which CRH was born.

The celebration will begin at 2 p.m., Sunday, July 21. Guests may swim, walk, talk, play volleyball, or just admire the beautiful old mansion and grounds. Cocktails will be served from 5–6 p.m. followed by dinner.

Further information, including directions to the Center, can be obtained by calling Phyllis Lyon, CRH, 771-6300. The Council on Religion and the Homosexual, Inc. 330 Ellis Street, San Francisco 94102.

The ARTS

Beginning July first, an exciting exhibit of paintings, drawings and acrylics will be held at the Opera Club, 621 Gough St., near Fulton. This is the first show by local artist Ron Adams. In various media, it shows exceptionally fine facility.

Several of the works deal with operatic subjects. One large work in ink and watercolor is of the Princess Amneris, from the opera “Aida”. Another shows “The Presentation of the Silver Rose” from “Der Rosenkavalier”.

One of the most impressive works, is in line. It is of the plumed serpent Kukulkan, a Maya priest. Another is of a Lotus having its roots delicately entrenched in a strata of color.

The exhibit will run until August first.

Harriette Frances, nationally known artist who lives in Mill Valley, has a fantastic showing of her recent work now at the Legion of Honor Museum. The exhibit runs to July 21 and features large, colorful oils of what she calls “the beautiful people.”

Included is a guru, flower girl, peace marcher, and one double-sided oil that depicts a male in swim trunks on one side and the same male “in drag” on the other side.

Miss. Frances’ rare one-woman show is bringing favorable critical reviews. Museum hours are from 10 to 5 daily.

George Mendenhall


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VECTOR Classified Advertising Rates $1.00 per line. Call SU 1-1570.
Dear Sir:

Recently I spent an evening with good friends, discussing the forthcoming production of “Little Mary” at SIR, the new Czech films, Pat Michaels, acid and the rest of it. When I got home, it gradually registered that the conversation had been insulated from any real concern with others than ourselves—and that all the conversations recently had been much the same.

In your last issue, a young Tenderloin resident indicated that he felt the virtue of the Tenderloin lay in its honest acceptance of the inclinations of others. This may hold a germinal implication. I live in white, middle-class suburbia and from observation, do not doubt that the antipathy minorities feel to “the establishment” is well founded. I see little acceptance, understanding, or knowledge of variant or deviant behavior, and find this lack of involvement equally evident in the social intercourse within my own sub-culture. Be it Little League or Little Mary, there seems little evidence that there can be expected any sort of dialogue between “the establishment” and the minorities.

Can't those of us who have some security and concern doff our placidity, and attempt some intense communication with the other minority groups? Anything from picket-signs, scholarships, tutoring, or just “grooving” might make this world a little easier for someone. Those of us who are not adept at conforming to the demands of the square majority know what job, social and housing discrimination is. Perhaps a real effort to help others with more severe problems than our own would create reciprocal understanding and approval. If some of us do not attempt dialogue, our summer may be longer and hotter than we think.

I would appreciate comment and constructive planning in VECTOR from your readers.

Sincerely, Page Calennder
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