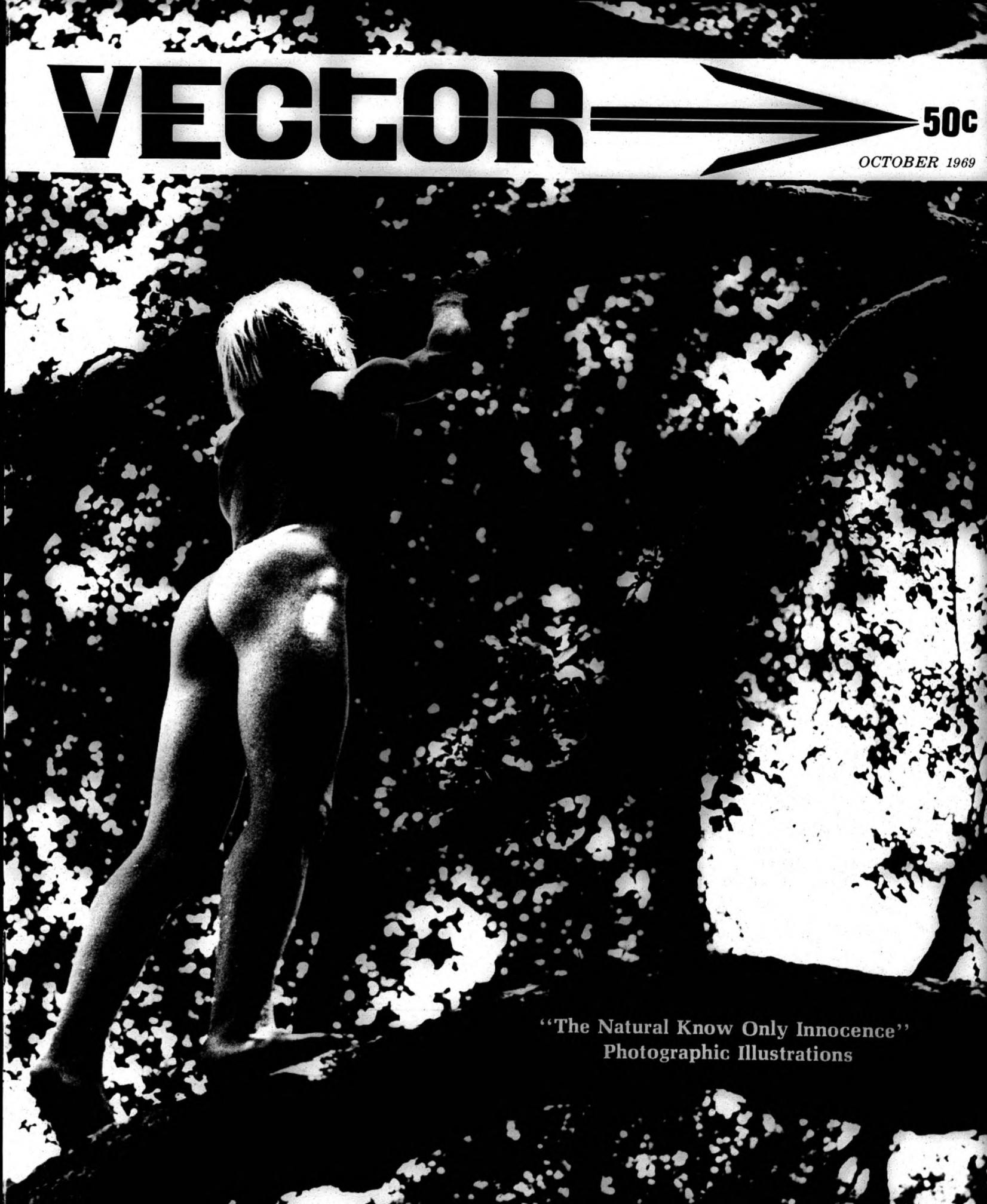


VECTOR

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OCTOBER 1969



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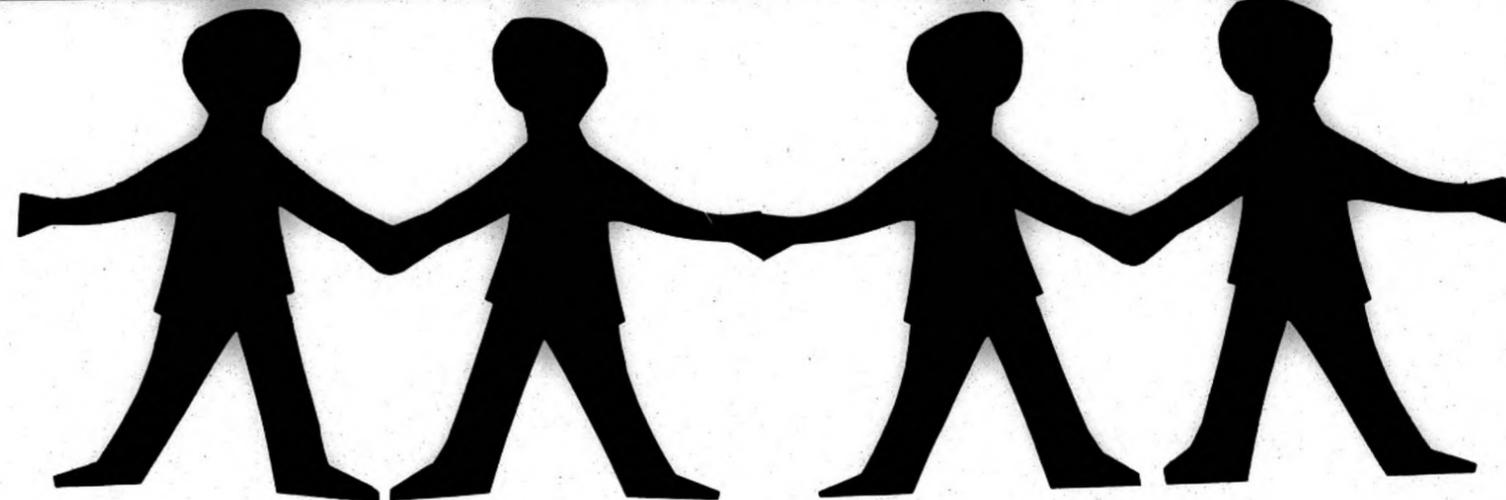
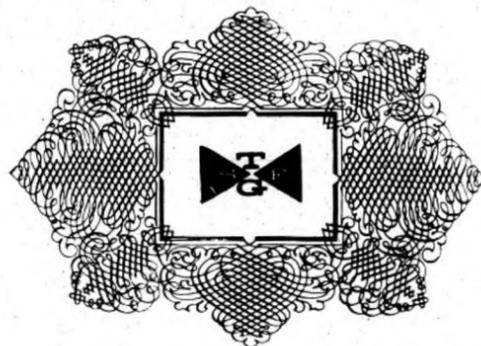
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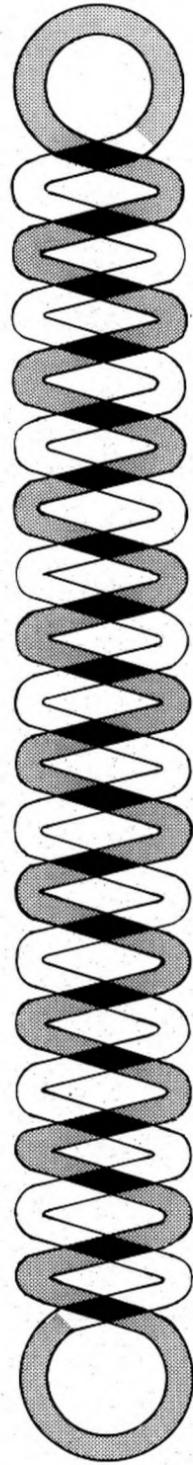
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Homophile News Fronts

ISREAL

The homophile community lost an understanding person when Dr. James A. Pike (formerly Rt. Rev., Bishop of the Episcopal Church) died on a mission in the Holy Land. Dr. Pike was a religious leader who was willing to take controversial stands on issues relevant to contemporary life. It was under his term as Bishop that many favorable stands were taken with regard to the church's view of homosexuality. An ironic note is that on the day that the news of his death near the Dead Sea reached San Francisco, Vector received a note from Dr. Pike requesting a change of address on his subscription.

MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA

Some of the boys in "Boys in the Band," became the boys in the court of Magistrate R. J. Kelly. Charges of using "obscene language in a public place" were brought against four of the actors when members of Melbourne's Vice Squad attended the play.

Kelly deferred his decision until seeing the production for himself. He was quoted as saying that it was a "well-produced, well-acted play on a theme not normally brought before the public so openly."... Although, Kelly found the charges "proved," no convictions were recorded because he considered the offenses "trifling."

USA

In the September issue of Esquire, Gore Vidal commented, "But regardless of tribal taboos, homosexuality is a constant fact of the human condition and it is not a sickness, not a sin, not a crime... despite the best efforts of our puritan tribe to make it all three. Homosexuality is as natural as heterosexuality. Notice I used the word "natural," not "normal!"

USA

Random House has announced a new book entitled, "The Feminized Male." Written by Patricia Sexton, a Professor of Sociology and Education at NYU, an ad for the book explains that it (the book), "tells how she (Patricia Sexton) penetrated the mystery of the man who's less than a man—the good boy, the "nice guy" (like Sirhan and Oswald), the sissy, and the homosexual."

One interesting comment made with regard to the advertisement for this book has been, "One wonders, if anything but frustration has penetrated Patricia Sexton."

OKLAHOMA CITY

Foundations for a Homophile Organization are being laid in that Southwestern City. Former residents of Oklahoma City, now living in San Francisco, feel that there is no place in the United States which needs such an organization more desperately.

CINCINNATI, OHIO

Vector's correspondent in Cincinnati reports that a river cruise can be most enjoyable. The Ohio riverboat, "Chaperon," has been making weekend late night cruises (we presume that these are extending into the fall). The boat is equipped with a bar and dance floor and has wide decks suitable for "walking."

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

The Gay scene in Indianapolis has been marred by some "unfortunate happenings." There have been some assaults on homosexuals in that area. It is reported that police protection is poor due to "Indiana being one of the backward states. In such an area, it is explained, all a "hood" needs to do is claim he was defending himself against the advances of a "pervert."

NEW YORK CITY

"A Patriot For Me," the John Osborne drama about homosexuality in the Austrian Army in the 1890's will arrive in the United States this fall. It will open at the Barrymore Theatre in New York City, October 2.

One of the major scenes features a "drag ball" in which several of the Army officers arrive in female attire.

GREENWICH VILLAGE

Reactions are still being felt over the "homosexual riots" that occurred in New York City's "Village" in June & July. The outbreaks were triggered by police raids on the Stonewall Inn, a Gay bar in that area.

The police raids were to gather "evidence of illegal sale of alcohol." The Club had no license to sell alcoholic beverages to the public. After several arrests were made on the various occasions, the patrons became involved in a "protest." The scene resulted in several arrests and injuries, and a great deal of publicity in the New York papers.

Continued on page 6



Photograph by Walter Rinder, San Francisco.



San Diego

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NEWS NOTES

Continued from page 4

HOLLYWOOD

"A Breath of Love," a twenty-five minute color film which features a nude ballet, is the latest Pat Rocco attempt to demonstrate the natural beauty of the male form. The film represents a theme of lost innocence in which a young nude male wanders through the city of Los Angeles. In one startling sequence, he is seen running down the Hollywood Freeway in the early morning.

Rocco plans to enter this latest effort in the San Francisco Film Festival this fall. A preview showing was scheduled for New York in early August. One, Inc. has shown "A Breath of Love" to homophobic groups in both Europe and the United States.

In the near future, Rocco plans to enter the field of full length motion pictures using Homosexual themes. One of these productions is reported to be a musical.

SAN FRANCISCO

Shed a tear, all you Brooks Brothers, early evening cocktail drinkers. Herb Caen in his Chronicle column has reported the early demise of the Oak Room in the St. Francis Hotel. He intimated that the management was surprised and concerned to see it listed as a Gay bar . . . after twenty years, they found out!

SAN FRANCISCO

The September issue of *San Francisco Magazine* carried an extensive story entitled, "Memoirs of the Empress of San Francisco." As the story explains, Empress Reba, who rules over San Francisco's estimated 90,000 homophiles, currently holds "one of the most coveted titles a San Francisco man can aspire to: the Empress of San Francisco."

The article explains the history of the title and the personal story of Reba, who will relinquish her title to a new Empress on Halloween night.

SAN FRANCISCO

The Weekly Bulletin from the City and County of San Francisco Department of Public Health lists 310 cases of Gonorrhea reported for the week ending September 5, 1969 (which is the most recent bulletin before this Vector's copy deadline). There were 10 cases of Syphilis reported.

These figures become more significant when compared with the figures listed for other communicable diseases, which were all 11 or below. Such statistics make the phrase, "Love needs Care," more meaningful.

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ED MILLER
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DANCING *
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President's Column —

Support is Needed

—by Larry Littlejohn

Many persons outside of S.I.R., as well as many S.I.R. members, think of S.I.R. as a well financed organization that can easily handle the many requests for services (speakers, information referrals), which are made daily, and also effectively engage in the continuous drive for equal treatment before the law and equal employment policies for homosexual citizens. The fact of the matter is that it is a major effort for S.I.R. to provide the daily services that are demanded by the homosexual community and the interested general public. The resources of S.I.R. to engage in major undertakings, such as important publications, are severely limited. We have just barely begun to be able to attack the injustices and discrimination that the homosexual faces in our society today. The Public Utilities Commission cases and the Oakland-Berkeley suits have required enormous effort. Yet there are at least a dozen other legal actions that we should be involved in.

All the work in S.I.R. (with the exception of the Secretary to the Board and the VECTOR Business Manager) is performed by non-paid volunteers. All of the money required for our day to day operational expenses and any special projects expenses comes from membership dues, social and production events, VECTOR profits, special fund raising efforts, such as the benefit auctions, and gifts. The amount of money received as gifts has been modest. S.I.R. has received one, and only one, bequest from a will. (Jim Ramp very thoughtfully left S.I.R. \$1815.00). Outside of this bequest, the largest gift S.I.R. has received has been \$100.00. Our S.I.R. ANGELS program brought in \$699 last year and \$395 this year to date. Not one penny has ever been received from any foundation sources or any public agencies.

Minority groups in this country get attention and respect when they are well organized and effectively represented. If the homosexual wants to improve his status in society and assure the gains he has already made, then we had all better "get with it". We desperately need strong organizations and good leadership. Strong organizations require

Continued on page 38

this is a round (you know, like "Row Row Row your Boat") to sing at Halloween. It goes like this... 1st verse: Happy happy Halloween, happy Halloween.

Once upon a time there were nine (9) little devils. Last Halloween they were a gay little bunch who roamed devilishly about, looking for something hauntingly enchanting to wear for Halloween. They cruised about from shop to shop until at last they discovered Bob MANDELL'S COSTUME SHOP where they, each and every one found the perfect thing to bring-out, the best of the devil in them. If you're a little of the devil in you, Bob MANDELL can help you.

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Editorial

Society is often, very often, condemned for segregating homosexuals from the mainstream of living in America. The harsh and unjust laws, the ignorance and fear that provides a fertile breeding ground for discrimination and cruelty are carried, banner fashion, as a self-pitying excuse to retire to narrow horizons and limited living. Isn't this segregation often imposed by homosexuals themselves?

Much of what makes a life full and rich is not found within the confines of Gay gathering places. Society does not, and cannot be expected to solicit the involvement of homosexuals or of any individual or group. The responsibility to become involved rests with the individual or the group.

The myth of total homosexual alienation in American society has become a convenient excuse for irresponsibility, laziness, narrow horizons and limited living. A "full life" does not take form and come beating down doors asking individuals to come forth and be a part — it takes individual effort. The stigma against homosexuals will be much more quickly erased as more homosexuals involve themselves with society-at-large.

"Straight" people, meaning heterosexuals, are not all, that biased and opposed to association with homosexuals. It is more a situation of heterosexuals in our society being ignorant about homosexuals.

It is not necessary to carry a banner proclaiming one's sexual orientation. And certainly, it is absurd for anyone to feel obliged to describe the nature or fullness of their sexual maneuvers to anyone. However, there is no reason to subvert one's life style or create elaborate facades attempting to disguise an individual life style. A person who feels guilt can quickly and unnecessarily transfer that disposition to others with whom he comes into contact. A homosexual is a human being and it is not so difficult to be accepted as such.

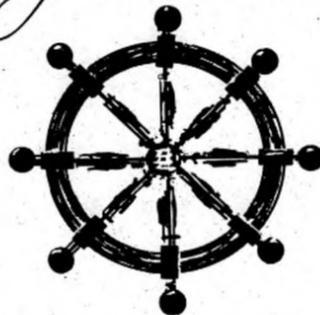
It is not necessary to alienate one's self from Gay life to participate more fully in American society. A full Gay life can be incorporated with full living. A bar, beach, or whatever, can be much more enjoyable when there are other experiences with which to contrast the activity. I would certainly never suggest that anyone not frequent any Gay establishment, if they so desire. My not so infrequent attendance will attest to my approval.

There is time in life to participate in a multitude of capacities and activities. In a country which is so endlessly rich in new, exciting and fulfilling experiences, how sad it is to find people who think that the sole purpose of life can be found between the sheets.

by Don Collins

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VECTOR

VOLUME FIVE NUMBER TEN

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WHAT IS S.I.R.?

SIR is nearly five years old and already the largest active homosexual organization in the United States. SIR is dedicated to giving freedom to the homosexual male and female, freedom from guilt, harassment, and social injustice.

"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

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Jack Morrison

by George Mendenhall

NOVEMBER-VECTOR is the Election issue. It will include an analysis of the candidates and ballot measures—plus an interview with Supervisor Roger Boas.

"We must be guided by the vision of what this City might be, the vision of a just society where every person will be empowered to develop his humanity and his talents to their highest potential," Jack Morrison, of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, declares.

VECTOR interviewed the candidate in his City Hall office on a broad range of subjects. He never hesitated to react directly and his honesty and warmth turned an "interview" into a friendly chat.

Jack is both humane and compassionate. His appreciation of the impatience of youth is illustrated in his observation that "young people are rebelling, — largely out of their reaction against this immoral war in Vietnam." Is the answer a radical turn to another form of government? He continues, "I haven't given up on the Establishment. It must, however, be more flexible—with a more rational foreign policy, and it must exert concrete efforts to eliminate racism in this country."

Earlier in his life, the candidate took an active part in founding the Americans for Democratic Action and California Democratic Council chapters here. Has he given up on the major parties? No, but he believes that political action is coming about through "new coalitions" of liberal and conservative groups. This happened, he stresses, in the McCarthy for President effort (Morrison was the local chairman) and in the Bob Kennedy campaign. "Change will come through this effort rather than from the traditional parties," Jack emphasizes. Locally, he sees neighborhood groups getting stronger and significantly less influence on the Board by downtown interests.

The November election will be a test somewhat of whether a liberal like Morrison can survive in the political shift to the Right in this country. Already, another candidate is trying to build himself by putting Jack in the "leftist" bag. Morrison is a channel by which progressives can get important social measures before the Board. For this reason, his defeat would be a serious

loss to the community.

Ed Nevin, new head of the city's vice squad, has stated that times have changed and that San Franciscans will no longer tolerate a sexual permissiveness. Morrison disagrees and states: "San Francisco is still very sophisticated. We must move slowly in the area of First Amendment liberties. Arresting movie theater patrons is clearly not the answer. There is a new permissiveness and much of it offends me personally. Sex is a private matter. But things such as stage nudity are a fad. A general "sex crack down" does not have general public support. This community should be able to set its own standards."

Morrison openly supported Assemblyman Willie Brown's consensual sex law and he believes that a general statement supporting consensual sex among adults in private might be passed by the Board in the future. (The S.I.R. Political Committee has been working on this local project. Brown's "AB-743" bill did not get out of the Criminal Procedures Committee for lack of one vote).

What about "law and order" and using more police force? Morrison concludes that most people still want reason and that the extremes do not control policies. However, he says, "when pressed hard by some actions by the Left, many are not yet reacting as a massive repressive force in San Francisco and that the concept of expanded police-community relations "is becoming a saleable item."

Jack Morrison was born in Colorado and received his B.A. from Cornell, his M.A. at Stanford. After serving in the Navy in World War II, he became a city hall reporter for the San Francisco Chronicle. He admits that his interest in achieving social progress through legislation, took him so deep into politics that it interfered with his Chronicle position. It is well known that his humane interest in child care, mental retardation, and civil liberties motivated him to seek public office. He is now in the community as a "full time" supervisor and his office desk is stacked high with reports, studies, "please call" phone slips, and memos as he struggles to help many neighborhood groups and individuals in their problems of relating to a metropolitan city.



Jack Morrison and his charming wife

Some other Jack Morrison observations: "The public has lost confidence in the State Division of Highways. We must move in favor of extensive public transportation systems...A modern ferry system would divert 26% of the traffic from the bridges...We must support the Charter changes on the November ballot. This will allow the Board and the Mayor to act on matters of public concern...The Police Officers Association has badly misjudged things in their refusal to support the police measures on the ballot."

As Dorothy Cox, the supervisor's personal secretary, ushered your Vector reporter from the City Hall office, the phone was ringing as it had been throughout the interview. The community was calling ... for Jack Morrison.

* * * * *

Political Notes:

As we go to Press, ten of the thirteen candidates for Supervisor have accepted the invitation to S.I.R.'s Candidates Night...four of them are incumbent Board members. Also appearing will be Officer Dick Hongisto to speak on the police measures.

A "gay" community party for Jack Morrison is set for Sunday, October 12, at the Bar Association Lounge, Mills Tower Penthouse, 220 Bush. Dale Switzer, S.I.R. treasurer, will act as host. Steve Mathews, active in the Morrison campaign, has been in charge of arrangements. The \$5 donation at the door includes cocktails. The homophile community is expected to turn out in force for this event that is scheduled from 7 to 11 pm.

FASHIONS REVISITED

As Vector promised in the August issue, the fashion show, "Threads for Heads," or as it was more popularly known, "What to put on your ass, while smoking grass," was indeed the social event of the season. S.I.R. Center was filled beyond capacity (which means that there were those that had to stand, but felt it was worth it — and it was).

A normally drab hall was ablaze with glamour that Sunday afternoon, August 26. Before the show got underway, there was some concern that members of the audience (which was uniquely attired) might offer very stiff competition. But as the show progressed, such ridiculous forebodings drifted off to where they belonged.

As was promised, the first part of the show featured UNordinary street dress. There was some concern, as you may recall, that it would be difficult to create UNordinary street dress in San Francisco. Well, it can be done!

A favorite outfit was modeled by none other than Charles Pierce. There were some gasps as this tall, trim, moustached

figure strode on stage in something resembling a riding outfit. And carrying a whip—oh my. In a quick and sudden swish, however, one of the beautiful legs of Charles Pierce was revealed (in other than pants) as the below-the-knee coat was opened.

Although Charles nearly stole the show, Mavis, the full-time emcee carried on. Oh my, carry on isn't the word for it. Mavis provided the audience with fantastic descriptions of the garments modeled, and quite often went beyond that into describing the models. Mavis was even thorough enough to point out some of the more outstanding features of both which might have otherwise gone without the audience's notice.

Although the guys that modeled the clothes were really groovy, the chicks (that's girls for those not attuned) in the show could hardly go without notice. One rather demure looking female in the audience was observed gasping for breath-along with a few guys-over more than one of the talented and well developed and sometimes well exposed young ladies.

Mavis relinquished the platform occasionally to the other talented persons in the show, such as Pierce and Michelle, while he made numerous changes. After all, at a fashion show, the emcee can't get to looking stale.

The show proceeded as so many gasps and oohs and ahs as the parade of fashions continued. Unlike most shows, it just kept getting better. Each fashion seemed more fantastic than the one before — until twelve fashions depicting the twelve signs of the zodiac were brought on stage together. They were all just simply too much.

A single article simply couldn't begin to describe all the fashions adequately, or the atmosphere — where there was something like a contact high. To say that the models, performers, various workers, and designer Scott Robert and his partner Smitty did an utterly fantastic job doesn't even begin to say enough.

If you missed it all — I'm sorry, there is no way it can be adequately described to you. And if you were there — I wouldn't dare try. But maybe if you were to go to the Raza Power Company at 3698-18th Street at Dolores, where the clothes originated, you can begin to get an idea, or refresh your memory.

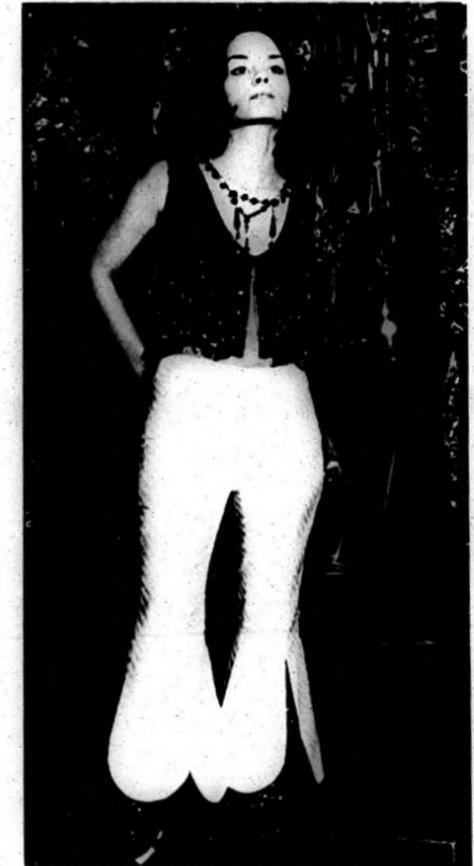
It was like — WOW!



Charles Pierce, caught with his whip down.



Mavis being thorough



See why the lady gasped?

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Public Services to Singles

by R. Mullins

While singles are required to pay a disproportionate share of the income tax bill, welfare services to those in need of such are practically non-existent. Those which are available are usually obtained from private agencies, such as the Salvation Army whose programs are so woefully underfunded that they are little better than Jane Addam's Hull House of the 19th century.

An area of major concern here is the lack of Medi-Cal coverage for singles (or married people without children) who are not age 65, totally disabled, or blind. The ATD program which used to be referred to by social workers as Aid To The Totally And Permanently Dead has been liberalized somewhat over the last few years. It excludes those stricken with temporary illnesses such as meningitis, hepatitis, etc., which all require extensive and expensive hospitalization. The program also specifically excludes those who have what are referred to as sociopathic diseases such as homosexuality, narcotics addiction, alcoholism, etc. unless they have an accompanying disabling condition.

There was an interesting case recently in Indiana in which a man and his wife were virtually driven to bankruptcy by the wife's extended illness. As she was not eligible for any of the categories of aid, her application for Medicaid (Medi-Cal in California) was disapproved. The man and his wife felt that they had a right to this service and took the matter to court. The judge agreed and ordered the State to pay the bill.

Though many have private medical insurance, few bother to read the exclusions and other limitations. Many are unable to obtain such insurance because of poor health and the likelihood they may use it. Thus it is that many, if they are lucky enough to get into a hospital at all, are stuck with impossible debts which can run into the tens of thousands of dollars.

It is not necessary to have a total welfare state or socialized medicine, but merely reforms in the present system to provide equal services to all, on the basis of their need.

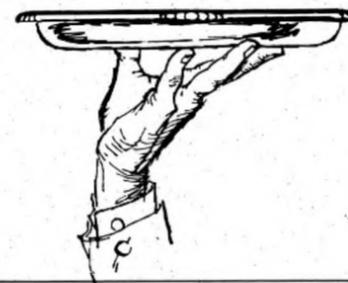


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The World of Mr. Madam

Learn About Vitamin "E"

by Ken Marlowe

A Few Tips on What To Do When You Get Flagged Down by a Cop: or Gay Cops and How to Cruise and Be Cruised. 1) Whip out your false eyelashes. 2) Suck in your gut (when WILL you go on that diet?) 3) Pinch your cheeks. 4) Moue like crazy. 5) Lookbutch at the same time and let your voice drop about three octaves. 6) Smell like leather. Good luck!

On MIDNIGHT COWBOY: Thought it was DEVOON! Although this flick will turn on so many queens to hustling, beware, lady! Most of you will wind up looking like Dustin Hoffman and not like that GORGEous Jon Voight. Remember: when you get down to the nitty-gritty, experience counts!

Here's a thought: Maxine Weldon at the Paper Doll is a yes-yes (My dears: that is the opposite of a no-no!)

Michael Greer called me on his way to New York to do the stage version of FORTUNE AND MEN'S EYES. Michael is also going to do the film versions —



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rape scene and all—in Canada. Do you think this will cement U.S.-Canadian relations. Poor Mona, who I thought was absolutely marvelous in the L.A. version, is going to be replaced in the film translation.

Mae West is in the orgy scene of MYRA BRECKENRIDGE! Mae West IS an orgy scene! Honey, could she give us lessons! No, she has, she has! When will she write us a handbook?

Capper Gallery on lower Mission has had some WILD art shows of late—one of their latest had all kinds of phallic (you know what THAT means) children's toys. What EVER could be on children's minds these days...?

Sally Stanford, the famous personality, has been feeling ill. Many of you know her; now is the time to let her know that your thoughts are with her. Be a Good Fairy and send her a get-well card. Let's not forget that she's stood up many, many times

Have you heard about Vitamin E? And it's legal, too! I bet Robert Cummings takes tons of it (I wonder if Mae West does. Honey, she probably invented it!) You can get it at most Health Food Stores, but I especially like Natural Health Foods on 9th between Irving and Judah. And also browse around a little: all those healthy, bearded *au-naturel* types...

By the way, vitamin fiends are onto Ginseng, a Korean herbal compound (very legal). It does PERK YOU UP. Am advised that where it's at is GINROY, a combination (are you READY?) of Vitamin E, Ginseng — and Queen Bee's Jelly. I figure if it's good enough for one, it's good enough for me!

Do you think *W.C. Fields* is really alive and well in the Sea of Tranquility? Would you believe that somebody has already copyrighted the title, "The Sea of Tranquility"? They beat me to it by only 20 minutes!

I first want to tell everyone that I would like to have news about any happenings, bar owners; things they're doing, bartenders; and entertainers all over the United States. Feel free to write me, care of S.I.R.

Though I've been dishing gay life, don't get me wrong. I love San Francisco.

REVIEW

STAIRCASE -- A Gay But Sad Movie

by John Ferguson

"Whoops! Can this marriage last?" That's what the ads say. And while Rex Harrison and Richard Burton are feebly grinding out a jitterbug, who gives a damn? This combo is not enough to salvage a boring, insipid movie. *Staircase*, directed by Sidney Lumet, is further proof that the motion picture industry has not advanced beyond puberty in its attitudes towards sex.

The story is about two aging homosexuals whose marriage is seriously threatened by outside forces. Charlie (Rex Harrison) is to be tried in court on a morals charge for cavorting in public in drag; while Harry (Richard Burton) feels increasingly paranoid about his loss of hair. Both characters remain static because they are incapable of doing anything about their situation. When they walk hand in hand down the street at the end of the film, one does not know if Harry will ever find a satisfac-

tory hair piece, or if Charlie will be convicted, or if their marriage will last. Charles Pyers screenplay (based on the play of the same name) lacks focus and what remains should be contained in private chambers and not exploited on a technicolor-splashed cinemascope screen (though I must give the producers credit for sparing us a bedroom scene like that in *Sister George*).

Though Burton and Harrison are competent actors, this is a waste of their talents. Their gay characterizations are the projected stereotypes of the straight community. In this case the cliché does not work. The first part of the film is embarrassing, but this eventually lapses into boredom. There is no action to sustain one's interest.

The idea is interesting. There is a great deal that can be said for, or about, gay marriages — but in the media of the drama there must be an ingredient of action. All that *Staircase* presents is

Continued on page 34

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Dickman's Back and Sirlebrity Got Him

—by Magdalena Montezuma

Hello....hello....hello.... greetings from Lotusland-on-the-Bay, so to speak. While having a bit of brunch with Turhan Bey and Bella Darvi at the chic Bonjour Tristress Tea and Tart Shoppe (their special Seeds and Stems scones are divine!), ran into the energetic Ken Dickman (nee "Ken Fantastic" as he was known to millions before Vera shut down Republic) and was pleased and amazed to know that he had once again taken the directorial reins for this year's annual Sirlebrity Capades.

After setting most of the gay community on it's ear with last years production (really, my dear, who had heard of "Hair" at that time except a few producer/barbers?) Ken is determined to go it one better and put on areal splashy show this time. Ken stated that a press conference would take place in the near future with Producer Bob Cramer giving out the full details to the news media (see separate story in this issue). But, being the nosy reporter that I am, I pushed the Arian director a little for some inside dope on the show. Ken (who will ever forget his ten minute monologue in the R.K.O. gem "Chatty"

co-starring Conrad Veidt and Mala Powers) let it be known that the key word for this years extravaganza would be "LIFE" (no relation to the magazine of similar title). "Now that's a rather limiting theme, don't you think", I asked, rather demurely. "Not really", he smiled with his now-famous cinemascope grin, "this will give us much leeway in expanding thru various aspects of life and how we live it. For instance, we will show the life of a showgirl, the life of a "tenderloin tart", life of an astronaut, etc. etc. etc. All will fit into the main theme and yet allow us to do numbers which have seldom if ever been done in San Francisco productions before. Setting the pace of the show will be "Life Is" (from the musical "Zorba"), sandwiched between this opening and closing number will be such things as: "Life is Just a Bowl of Cherries", "Flings", "Jenny", "Fixin' To Die Rag", "Oh, What a Lovely War", "Beautiful Lady", "You Stepped Out of a Dream" (a Lana Turner Tribute, I'm sure) and "Rhythm of Life". There are almost 30 musical numbers in the show, not counting the various blackouts and skits which in-

Life Is Coming To S.I.R. In November

"Life" is coming to S.I.R. in the form of Sirlebrity's '69. The fifth edition of this annual show biz event will take place on November 8, 14, 15, 16 & 22nd, with a Special Prevue Night for S.I.R. members on November 7th. This year the Capades will be held on the S.I.R. stage, as once again S.I.R. Center will be transformed into an "Off-Broadway" theatre for an evening's entertainment for the homophile community. The theme of this year's show will be "Life Is What You Make It." It will present various aspects and ideas spinning-off from this central theme.

Guiding the talent will be Ken Dickman. Repeating his chore as director of last year's show, Ken will be joined by Larry Canaga, who will also repeat with his musical direction of the cast. Producer Bob Cramer plans to use experience gained from producing the successful "Funny Thing....Forum" show of this Spring. And also broaden the scope of many of his ideas, including the Gala

Opening Night festivities, which make an Opening Night at S.I.R. Center one of the "must" social events on the Gay social calendar.

Many of the favorite performers from past shows, "Nancy", "Melanie", Mdm. Aida Soto-Vocce, "Faye", and Charly Davis, will join the newcomers to the S.I.R. stage. Although not confirmed at this writing, two of San Francisco's favorite stars may appear in special "cameo" numbers. This year's show will also highlight many new faces in stellar spots. Included among these will be the former "Jacks", Richard James and Stephan Matthews who wowed the audiences at the Fantasy earlier this year.

On the production staff for this year's event is Gil Lopez choreographing the show, which gives us a different glimpse of the talent he has shown in his appearances in "Little Mary Sunshine", "Funny Thing Happened....Forum" and Capades of '68. Once again whipping the costumes into shape with his dash and

clude a couple of old burlesque routines lifted intact from the golden days of show biz! After an hour or two of chatting with the dashing Mr. D., I am really looking forward to seeing the show.

Later that day I was on Upper Grant Ave. doing a little pre-Halloween shopping when I ran into one of the Capade's stars. In order to avoid any professional jealousy or bitchiness I will only refer to the lady as "Madame X". Miss "X" was very high on the show and said that rehearsals were going great as part of them were the various exercises in sensory awareness which Ken is a great believer in. "X" went on to state that although many of the cast were a little "uptight" about the exercises at first, the results were showing in that the cast was becoming a closer knit family and helping one another in their respective numbers.

Well, the results will soon be known of all these marvelous plans and schemes of the multi-talented hands that are pulling it all into shape. Next month I plan to write a short column on one of these interesting rehearsals which I must attend, once I purchase a mad new gym outfit since I wouldn't want to be out of place. Till that time keep your eyes to the stars... and purchase your Gala Opening Night ticket soon as they do sell out rather fast, dahlings....Ta, ta.... Luv, Magda

creative flare is Kam Devereux. Kam's handiwork on "Forum" helped to create the flashy, burlesques romp.

The production, conceived by Ken Dickman, will include seldom presented numbers ranging from "Life Is", "Triplets", "You Stepped Out of a Dream" to "Life Is Just a Bowl of Cherries", "Would You Rather Be A Colonel", "Isn't She Lovely", "Big Spender/Belly Up To The Bar, Boys", and "Rhythm of Life". Among the many production specialties will be skits and blackouts to round out the evening's entertainment to make this a Sirlebrity's to add to the growing popularity and artistic endeavors of the past four editions.

Tickets will be available at the S.I.R. office during business hours and mail orders will be filled promptly. Donations for Opening Night will be \$8 and \$10, with a champagne cast party and dance following. Subsequent performances are priced at \$8, \$5 and \$3.



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The Natural Know Only Innocence

by Don Collins
Photographic illustrations by
Walter Rinder

I had arranged to spend a week by myself in a place that I used to go. It was quiet and very far from the competitive and highly mechanized world of the twentieth century. I had enjoyed it there as a kid.

Five days of my week had gone. I had failed to recapture the peace that I had enjoyed there in earlier years. On the afternoon of the fifth day in the wilderness, I was dragging my fishing rod, net, tackle and a chair through the brush to do a little fishing in a small lake nearby. I had just caught sight of the lake when I saw a young boy, completely naked, sitting on a high bank over-looking the water.

I was startled to discover anyone in an area that I had thought totally uninhabited. I started to leave silently, embarrassed at having discovered him; however, I was drawn for some imperceptible reason to learn why a kid would be sitting naked in such a place looking into the water.

As I drew closer he apparently heard my footfalls. He turned to look at me. I felt the need to say something. Feebly, I said, "Hi."

He put one finger to his lips in a signal of silence and whispered, "Want to see something?" He motioned me closer.

As I squatted down beside him he pointed into the water. There were two small otters playing a game similar to a kids game of tag.

We sat there for some time before he spoke, "Pretty ain't they."

I only nodded.

"You come here often?" He inquired.

I was transfixed watching the graceful sweeps of the otters and seemingly, automatically answered, "Hadn't been here since I was a kid."

"Too bad." His brevity expressed a sentiment more eloquently than an infinite amount of words could have.

"And you?" I asked.

"You might say that I live here." He smiled broadly, as if I should understand an 'inside' confidence.

"I came down here to do some fishing," I said, letting his answer drop.

"Come on, I'll show you a place." He got up and extended his hand to pull me up.

"Sure," I started to go back and get my tackle.

"Where you going?"

"To get my equipment."

"You ever speared?"

"Yea."

"I got the stuff." He lithely moved through the brush without waiting for an answer. I followed. His movements fascinated me; they were free, friendly with trees, almost a ballet.

Suddenly we broke through the brush and there was a "hidden" neck of the lake. He produced two spears he had apparently stored there. They had been hand-made in Indian fashion. Taking one of the crude instruments, I felt awkward, but soon I had regained my



expertise at using the fishing spear. It wasn't long until we had made our "quota."

I hadn't noticed it, but he had gathered firewood. It was a silent invitation for me to have dinner with him. While he built the fire, I cleaned the fish.

By the time I came up from the bank, he had the fire going and had produced two potatoes from somewhere. He had sticks arranged to cook with, "You really have this cooking Indian style down pat." I commented.

"It comes naturally," he looked up and smiled, "to everyone."

"I got all kinds of stuff to cook with back at my camp."

"I like this better," he answered. There was a pause, "The Indians say that White men couldn't make it in the woods because they killed themselves trying to carry too much crap."

"Yea, I've heard that—hadn't thought about it in years." He had jogged my memory back to when I had spent a great deal of time being in the woods. "We say it now, "He who travels the lightest, travels the fastest."

He looked down, "Yea, we always take what the Indian says, and then we don't understand it."

I wonder if we even understand what

we say ourselves? I thought to myself. "Yes," I said aloud.

"I understand one thing," he said loudly, "I'm hungry." With that he busied himself and stirred the coals that had been produced. "Won't take too long."

The time it took the fish to broil over the coals seemed to pass quickly. Watching him was an unforgettable experience. His movements were sure, and knowledgeable. It seemed like only an instant until he said, "Here you go," and handed me a cooked fish, on its cooking spit.

I started eating. I hadn't noticed how hungry I was. "Not bad," I commented. "It's okay," he answered.

We ate in silence, but it didn't seem like silence. After we had finished, I laid back on the grass.

"There's a bear down by the water." His voice had broken the silence.

"How do you know?"

"I don't know—the birds I guess."

"You know a lot about the woods, don't you?"

"You don't have to know much, you just got to be yourself, be part of it."

"Yea, but you've learned a lot from somewhere. An old Indian?"

His voice sounded very patient, like an old man, "You don't learn to live in

the woods, it's more a matter of forgetting what you have learned. You can carry too much in other ways than on your back."

He was silent. I recalled that I was much like him when I was a kid. I had been as deft in the woods and I had forgotten it — or leaned above it.

"You're right," I paused, "I'm going down to get a drink."

"Get one for me too." We laughed. I had nothing to carry water in.

I felt different somehow, as I moved through the trees toward the bank. The water tasted better. When I approached the fire again he was gone. There was no trace that he had been there.

I knew that he wouldn't be back. I sat down by the fire to enjoy the company of what he'd taught me. He was too young, too innocent to know much, to know too much, and that was his greatest wisdom.

I spent the night by the fire, without going back to my tent. I wasn't cold or lonely. I had the warm knowledge of knowing that the twentieth century wouldn't seem so hard and mechanized now—for I wouldn't be, wouldn't have to be, to operate in it. I had the lingering truth to keep me company, The Natural know only innocence and beauty.



The Boys in the Band

by John Ferguson

The Boys in the Band is a play based on homosexuality which has enjoyed great popularity and attention. Due to be made into a movie, it is the first homosexual play to be recorded on a record. The following review is based on that record.

The major flaw in this work is that it obviously falls into the Virginia Wolfe category (that is if one considers that to be a flaw.) Nonetheless, this recording on AM Records #SP 6001 is compellingly honest. Mart Crowley, the playwright, manages to show compassion for the lonely and the lost members of the homosexual society i.e., "show me a happy homosexual and I'll show you a gay corpse." Behind the facade of camp humor there lurks a despondency which eventually absorbs all of the guests at Harold's gay birthday party, even Allen

who is straight. The intensity of this dramatic situation may leave the playgoer limp with exhaustion, but definitely not wiser. Before I make specific remarks about the recording or its cast, I should like to focus on the strengths and weaknesses of this play.

Michael, a writer living on unemployment checks, and Don, a confirmed failure undergoing psychiatric analysis, are throwing a birthday party for Harold, a "thirty-two year old, ugly, pock marked Jew fairy." The festivities are interrupted by Allen, an old college friend of Michael's, supposedly straight, but who is having marital difficulties with his wife. The other boys are Emory, the effeminate type, and his black lover, Bernard; Larry, a promiscuous man about town and his lover, Hank, a school teacher who gave up a happy straight marriage for a gay one and the Cowboy, a hustler bought as a present for Harold.

With such characters assembled, what appears as congeniality becomes frustration and loneliness. Once the facade of flippant dialogue is removed, the boys emerge as neurotic Peter Pans who can not accept life on their own or anyone else's terms. A simple party game brings the situation to a climax. The members of the party are to call the one person

that they have ever loved to say, "I love you." The result left me with the feeling that Crowley knows his characters even if he does not understand them.

There is a basic cruelty in all of the characters which becomes frightening. The irony of the situation is that the persecutors become the persecuted. I found sympathy for these men, but I could not understand their motives. I could not believe that they had come to grips with reality, nor that they could adjust to any society, including their own. And here, as I see it, is the problem of this play.

This is a homosexual play about homosexuals. Is it a play about people? Is a man a homosexual because he is afraid of women? What causes fear? Is a man a homosexual because he is a failure as a man? Why is he a failure? Is a man a homosexual because constant pampering by his parents forces him to run? What is he running away from? Is a man a homosexual because he discovers another man's love more important than that of his wife's? What is the root of his love? Crowley's attempt to write a homosexual play is like other attempts to write problem plays about alcoholism, divorce, suicide, dope addiction and pro-

Continued on page 38

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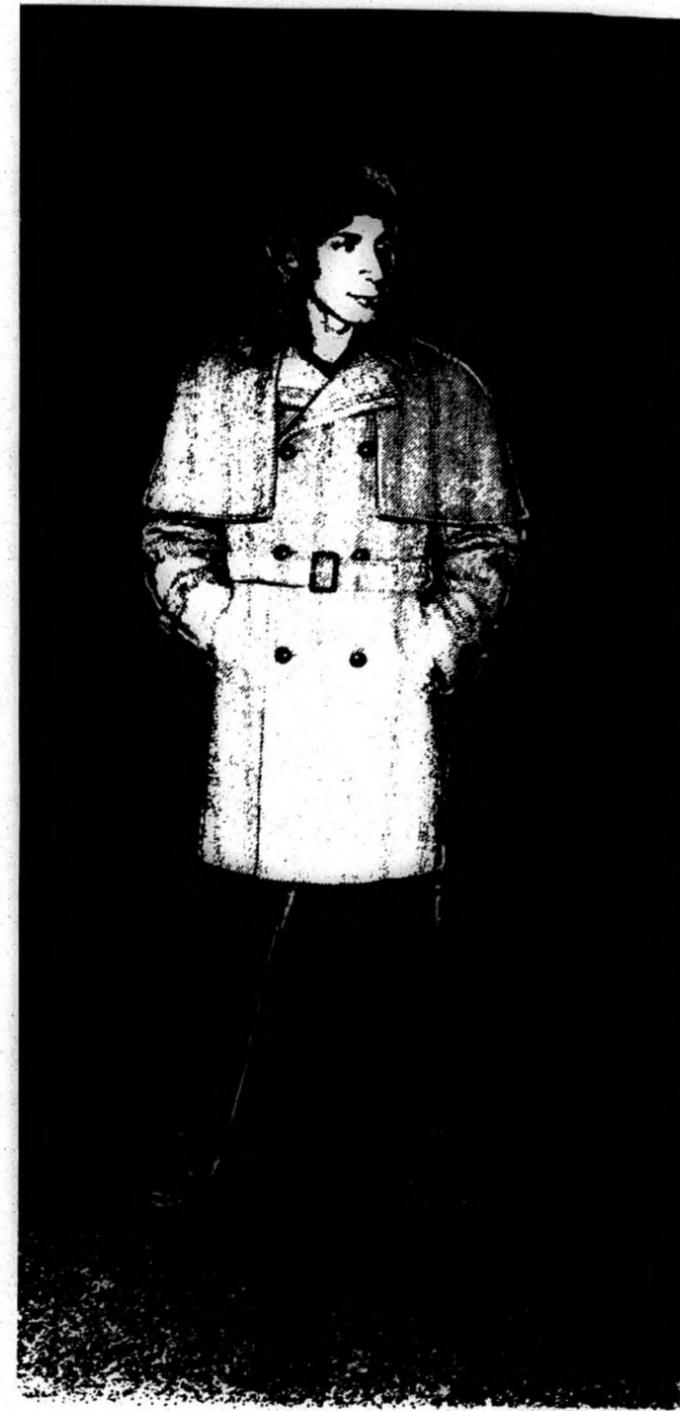
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Crime in the Streets

by Del Martin

Police policy is one of the chief issues in the forthcoming city election. Virtually all of the candidates for supervisor have voiced concern over mounting "crime in the streets" and have promised to try to increase the number of policemen.

At a recent meeting of AFL-CIO leaders, Supervisor William Blake favored doubling the police force. Supervisors Roger Boas and Peter Tamaras agreed that more policemen are needed.

But Supervisor Jack Morrison and challengers Diane Feinstein and Gordon Lau urged that this should be coupled with such reforms as requiring policemen to walk beats. They feel that this would enable policemen to become better acquainted with citizens they serve, provide better screening and training of recruits, and generally attack the root causes of crime. The police, Morrison declared, must "protect the right of non-violent dissent" and use "modernized law enforcement procedures." Mrs.

Feinstein additionally called for streamlined court procedures that would result in swifter trials for those accused of violent crimes.

Candidate James Rourke, of the Teamsters Union, called for extreme "law and order" measures and pleaded, "Do not turn in your guns." He was hooted off the platform by his fellow labor leaders, who apparently agreed with the other candidates that the issue is far more complex and requires alternate techniques as well as that of force when necessary.

Dick Meister, labor correspondent for the *San Francisco Chronicle*, noted in his report of the labor meeting, "Also up for re-election is Supervisor Dorothy von Beroldingen."

* * * * *

Warring factions within the police department were reflected in about six separate Charter revision amendments submitted by the Police Commission, the Police Officers Association and Officers for Justice. The proposals were heatedly

debated before the Legislative and Personnel Committee of the Board of Supervisors. The chief bone of contention was the future status of the Police-Community Relations Unit. There were distinct racial overtones in the arguments between the rival police associations.

A broad cross-section of community leaders (including the homophile community) all testified in behalf of the proposal to upgrade the P-CR Unit to the status of a full bureau, with its director elevated to the rank of deputy chief. (The Board of Directors of S.I.R. also passed a resolution to that effect and submitted it to the Supervisors.)

However, when the Police Officers Association, on the basis of "protecting the taxpayer from further burden" declared opposition to all proposals (including their own), after being assured a 12% pay raise, the committee referred the entire matter to the full Board without recommendation.

Although Jack Morrison, Bob Gonzales and Terry Francois supported the community position, there was not enough support from other supervisors. Four of them tried to kill the police changes altogether by sending them back to committee, which would have carried them

Continued on page 37

- Original Daumier Prints - 1840
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19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

OCTOBER



1 OCTOBER / WEDNESDAY

- 8 pm SPECIAL "MEMBERS ONLY" MEETING — Voting: Election of Secretary, Activities Chairman; Selection of City Candidates for approval.
- 7 pm Public Relations Committee.
- 8 pm Bowling League, Park Bowl.

2 OCTOBER / THURSDAY

- 8 pm Social Committee

3 OCTOBER / FRIDAY

- 8 pm INFORMAL DISCUSSION Refreshments, S.I.R. Center

4 OCTOBER / SATURDAY

- 9 pm DANCE TONIGHT, Lights, Drawings, \$1 Members, \$1.50 Guests.

5 OCTOBER / SUNDAY

- 7 pm CHURCH SERVICE, Guest Minister, Baldwin Electric organ.

6 OCTOBER / MONDAY

- 8 pm Bowling League, Park Bowl.
- 8 pm Community Service Committee
- 8 pm Legal Committee
- 7 pm Membership Committee Workshop

8 OCTOBER / WEDNESDAY

- 8 pm BINGO NIGHT . . . \$150 CASH PRIZES — Special cards, refreshments.
- 8 pm Bowling League, Park Bowl.

9 OCTOBER / THURSDAY

- 8 pm Political Committee.

10 OCTOBER / FRIDAY

- 8 pm INFORMAL DISCUSSION Refreshments, S.I.R. Center.

11 OCTOBER / SATURDAY

- 9 pm "GLASS THUNDER" PLAYS, LIVE ROCK BAND Dance Tonight! Lights, Drawings, \$2.50.

12 OCTOBER / SUNDAY

- 3 pm "COVERED WAGON" AUCTION — All new merchandise (See Ad) 3 to 8 pm, 278 11th Street. Benefit for S.I.R. Building Fund.
- 7 pm CHURCH SERVICE, Guest Minister, Baldwin Electric Organ.

13 OCTOBER / MONDAY

- 8 pm Bowling League, Park Bowl.
- 8 pm Publications Committee — Planning the December VECTOR.

14 OCTOBER / TUESDAY

- 8 pm BOARD OF S.I.R. meets. Members may attend.

15 OCTOBER / WEDNESDAY

- 7 pm Dinner by Chef Perry, \$1.50.
- 8 pm FUN NIGHT . . . A FREE OPEN HOUSE LIVE: SIRlebrities '69 Cast Don Burton returns, folk songs. FILM: W. C. Fields, Charlie Chaplain SIRlebrities of the past.
- 8 pm Bowling League, Park Bowl.

16 OCTOBER / THURSDAY

- 8 pm Social Committee.

17 OCTOBER / FRIDAY

- 8 pm INFORMAL DISCUSSION Refreshments, S.I.R. Center.

18 OCTOBER / SATURDAY

- 11 am PICNIC, Tavern Guild (11 am to 9 pm), Food, dancing, beer, sports! \$5 includes everything. Location, Tickets: Guild bars, S.I.R. Center.
- 9 pm DANCE TONIGHT! . . . S.I.R. Night Club. Drawings, Lights! \$1.00 Members, \$1.50 Guests.

19 OCTOBER / SUNDAY

- 7 pm CHURCH SERVICE, Guest Minister, Baldwin Electric Organ.

20 OCTOBER / MONDAY

- 8 pm Bowling League, Park Bowl.
- 8 pm Community Service Committee.
- 8 pm Legal Committee.

21 OCTOBER / TUESDAY

- 7 pm Ways and Means Committee; budgets for November presented.
- 8 pm Religious Committee; 1256 Page Street, Apt. 1.

22 OCTOBER / WEDNESDAY

- 8 pm BINGO NIGHT! . . . \$150 Cash Prizes!
- 8 pm Bowling League, Park Bowl.

23 OCTOBER / THURSDAY

- 8 pm Political Committee.

24 OCTOBER / FRIDAY

- 8 pm INFORMAL DISCUSSION Refreshments, S.I.R. Center.

25 OCTOBER / SATURDAY

- 9 pm BEAUX ARTS BALL, 6th Annual Tavern Guild affair (See Ad). Fern Court, atop Merchandise Mart. \$10.00. Tickets, Tavern Guild bars, S.I.R. Center.
- 9 pm DANCE TONIGHT AT S.I.R. — Drawings, Lights! Costumes welcome. \$1 Members, \$1.50 Guests.

26 OCTOBER / SUNDAY

- 7 pm CHURCH SERVICE, Guest Minister, Baldwin Electric Organ.

27 OCTOBER / MONDAY

- 8 pm Bowling League, Park Bowl.

28 OCTOBER / TUESDAY

- 8 pm BOARD OF S.I.R. meets. Members may attend.
- 8 pm Chess Group; Call 282-9534.

29 OCTOBER / WEDNESDAY

- 8 pm Bowling League, Park Bowl.

30 OCTOBER / THURSDAY

- 8 pm Social Committee

31 OCTOBER / FRIDAY . . . HALLOWEEN—Go out tonight!

- 9 pm FREE — FREE — HALLOWEEN DANCE, S.I.R. Drawings! Lights! Costumes!
- 9 pm RAMROD COSTUME PARTY, FABULOUS PRIZES. BENEFIT: S.I.R. BUILDING FUND. Ramrod, 1225 Folsom Street . . . \$2.00
- 7 pm FIRST ANNUAL "EAST BAY" BALL, 7 pm to 1 am. Live Band, "Hawaii Trip" prize, Cash "drag" awards, Complimentary food. \$4.00 or 2 for \$7.50. Tickets: S.I.R. Center, East Bay bars (See Ad). 1527 E. 14th St., Oakland.

Sociologists Favor Homosexual Rights

At 7:15 p.m. September 3, history was made in the annals of American scholarly and professional societies. An annual business meeting of the American Sociological Association Convention at the Hilton Hotel in San Francisco adopted the first resolution on the rights of Homosexuals and other Sexual Minorities ever adopted by such a body. The resolution, which was presented to the business meeting for a vote was presented by the Right Reverend Michael A.F. Itkin, Ph.D., Bishop of the Evangelical Catholic Communion.

In presenting the resolution to the business meeting, Dr. Itkin described homosexuals as "The invisible minority... pretending to be heterosexual because of the fear of economic reprisals, social sanctions and harassment at the hands of the establishment." He went on to state that "the question of homosexuality cannot, for social scientists, be divorced from the multi-valenced questions of human sexuality in general and the oppression of other minority groups."

Dr. Itkin made general and specific references to instances of mis-treatment of homosexuals by society, educational institutions and police. Making reference to homosexual organizations, he stated that homosexuals are "demanding an end to repressive laws and to the bourgeois-liberal establishment pseudo-scholarship of sociologists and other social-scientists."

After attacking "poorly authenticated studies and misdirected inquiries...that argue that homosexual and other sexual minorities are...by implication, sick, weak or evil," Dr. Itkin called for the Convention to "own up to (their) irresponsibility

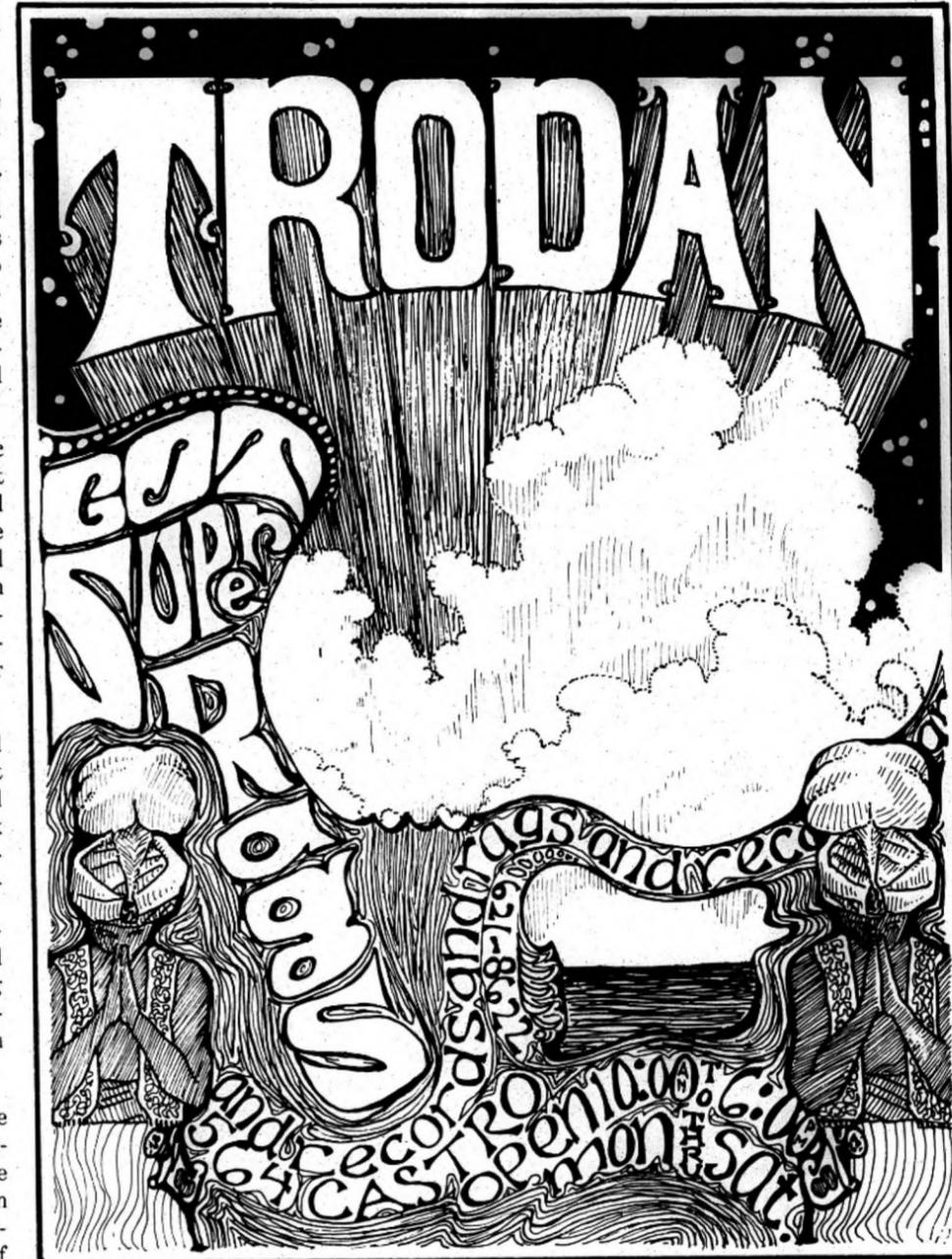
neglect as social scientists and attempt to understand the homosexual and other sexual minorities...." In his closing he summarized the situation of the homosexual in the category of "the freedom and rights of all persons."

After presentation to the body, the resolution was passed by an overwhelming majority. The action constituted the first time in the history of American scholarship that such a professional association has taken a stand in favour of the freedom of choice in sexual matters.

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MOON, JULY, 1969

werewolves when
their hour comes now
will go about wearing
black arm bands,
will go about
apologizing
to their victims
for the anachronism
of death.
will go about
begging their cause
— the smallest
contribution
will get you
a yellow plastic flower
of wolfsbane
for your buttonhole.

— Cheri Abot

POETRY

FROM
THE S.I.R.
POETRY
WORKSHOP



HE'S STRAIGHT

I drove him home,
then came back here
and kissed my couch
where he had lounged
an hour or so.

"Don't stare," I'd thought
while he was there.
"Or, if you stare,
then not at where
his sock and cuff
are parted so
a desert warm
of sun-tanned skin
is seen, from where
your soul, once there,
could not return."
Instead I'd met
his every gaze
unflinching, and
with metal logic
turned aside
his every say
on things today
we'd read in Time.
Treading water
meanwhile, I
fought against
the whirlpool that
would pull me down
into his eyes:
which are, though brown,
not brown as mine,
nor quite so heavy
with stockade of lashes;
but which, since they
have no wish to attack
and never need defend
can never be
defeated.

— Frederick Joseph Thompson

MY BODY, THE CHRIST

It is I who am
your christ not the door
knocking salesman:
I who sleep at your side
I who feel and touch you
I who sup with you
I who watch you shave—
I am your christ.

My body
has been wrapped in sheets
and the stone has been rolled
from my door.

The stigmata
is regular:
with the full moon.

Take my blood
and the crackers of my body.
Come, take these again
in communion of me
and you shall know your christ,
your phallic christ.

Be patient, Love,
Be ever so patient, Love,
For the Second Coming.

— Paul Mariah

EVEN IF IT ISN'T SPRING

For NASA
Formalize April/August
For NASA/ Form Alice-Eyes/August
Formal Ice-Eyes April/August
For Malice, Ice April

Judy Garland died too soon
to watch the landing on the Moon.
Pills had made the lady sick;
Flesh had proved a heretic.
Ladies who are strung too thin
quaver like a violin;
soothing syrups in a spoon
send them further than the Moon.

Sussurez, souris, si sur,
Douce sa tete est sur ton coeur
Sleep doth send us leaden things
to weigh down dark imaginings.

"Miss Garland, what is your opinion of the momentous
victory of American technology in propelling these brave
men to the Moon?"

"Well, I was just a child, really, and they kept filling
me with these pills. At the commissary all they would
ever feed me was cottage cheese."

"Has modern science expanded our frontiers beyond
your previous expectations?"

"I never could get enough sleep. There was always someone
plucking my eyebrows or zipping my dress."

"Thank you. Now a word from our sponsor."

THE LANDING ON THE MOON IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY
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THE GULF COMPANY.

Naught. Zero. Ground Zero. Astronaut.
Astra per aspera. Aspirin. Ought to aspirate.
Astra Not. As pirate. Zero. Ground.
Zero.

Black is beautiful
Red is reserved
Gay is good
Bourgeois is basic
Schizophrenia is satisfying.

NOW THERE ARE FOOTPRINTS ON THE MOON

"Are there really?"

It depends on the degree CBS or NBC
will lie to keep you alive.

Do you see the footprints, Judy?
They go from behind to in front
and here we are in the middle.

"Welcome to the Princess Theatre."

Do you remember the La Brea Tarpits?"

"I think I saw them once when we were
stalled in traffic. Maybe it was a set
for a movie. Nothing was ever real.

Nothing ever is. Is it?

If I could only be sure . . ."

"Hold on."
"I can't feel anything."
"You aren't holding on."

"I can't feel anything."

"I can't go on singing."

"Are you sure?"

"Yes."

"That's it, Miss Garland.

Wrap her up." | End. Title.

— Jay Johnson

Jason

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WE SEE YOU!

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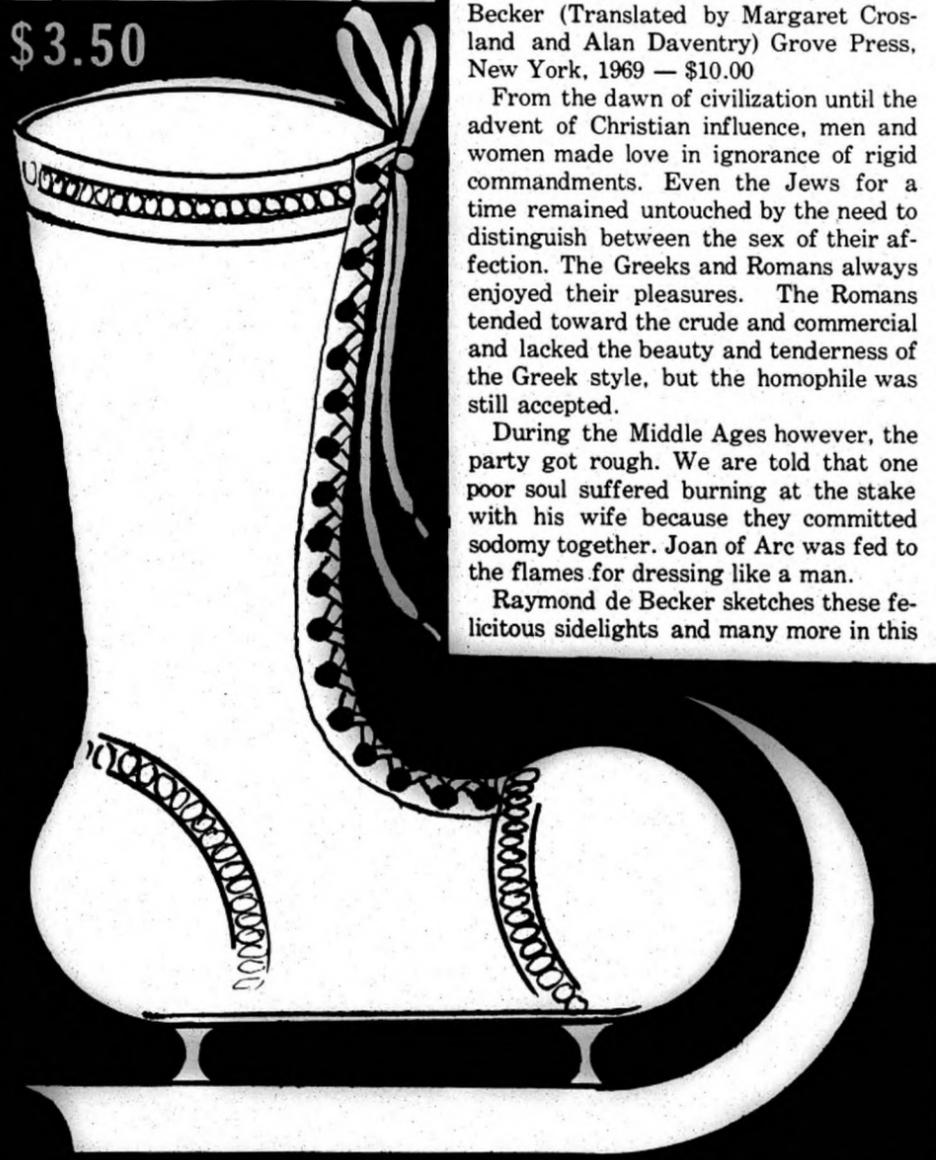
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**SIR's 2nd Annual
Ice Holiday**

Books

The Other Face of Love

—by Frank J. Howell

The Other Face of Love, Raymond de Becker (Translated by Margaret Crossland and Alan Daventry) Grove Press, New York, 1969 — \$10.00

From the dawn of civilization until the advent of Christian influence, men and women made love in ignorance of rigid commandments. Even the Jews for a time remained untouched by the need to distinguish between the sex of their affection. The Greeks and Romans always enjoyed their pleasures. The Romans tended toward the crude and commercial and lacked the beauty and tenderness of the Greek style, but the homophile was still accepted.

During the Middle Ages however, the party got rough. We are told that one poor soul suffered burning at the stake with his wife because they committed sodomy together. Joan of Arc was fed to the flames for dressing like a man.

Raymond de Becker sketches these felicitous sidelights and many more in this

concise, informal survey of the third sex throughout history and in various cultural climates. From the tender and striking Japanese folk tale, *The Love of the Two Enemies*, to behind the scenes details of the Wolfenden Report, the reader is offered a refreshing narrative.

Over one hundred provocative illustrations dot the landscape as we take de Beckers French tour, which was originally published as *L'Erotisme de'en Face* in 1964. This causes some of the factual data to be slightly out of date. It might also be added the book seems rather over priced for two hundred pages.

The text proceeds as straight chronology until our own century. Then history takes a back seat as de Becker traces the current influence of psychoanalysis and the arts.

Clara Thompson and Dr. Hans Giese are quoted as believing the homophile life style possesses the ingredients for mature and creative living. Dr. Giese, director of the Institute of Sexological Research at the University of Hamburg, deplores the lack of a total, unifying view of the homosexual among the social and biological sciences. He labels the invert "the Achilles heel of the sexological sciences."

The volume is filled with brief glimpses of noteworthy personages. Savor this amorous tidbit from the *Private Journal* (June 5, 1924) of Rudolf Valentino, "A very good looking boy followed me for a quarter of an hour, and in the end he came up to me outside the opera . . . I went back with him to his home and he kissed me with a frenzy even on the staircase . . . I was wildly passionate . . . we made love like tigers until dawn . . ."

In the discussion of science and the homosexual, the readers breath is caught by the following paragraph:

This discovery was made in 1935 by the French biologist, Albert Peyron, and confirmed by R.W. Evans in 1957 and L.C. Stevens in 1960. It refers to the existence of a male parthenogenesis which could be the counterpart of the female parthenogenesis discovered by Loeb in 1911 . . . the male can produce germ cells comparable to those of the female and capable

Continued on page 34

The Portland Forum

by Neil Hutchins

The Portland Forum, a social, cultural and recreational association, was formed four months ago with 50 charter members. The non-profit organization, incorporated through the state of Oregon, to provide activities for Portland's homophile community. In less than four months, the association's membership has grown to nearly 150.

Aside from sponsoring Broadway '69, a halloween ball and show featuring the

"par excellence" of the Portland entertainment community, the Forum also sponsors an annual picnic open to the entire homophile community and the Holiday Party, for Forum members and their guests. Following a previous example, set by the Dorian Society of Seattle, admittance to this function is obtained by presentation of a toy to be donated to various charities.

The outstanding feature of a picnic held August 10th, was an exciting auction. Everything from a life size ceramic

tiger, to a "real tiger (human) stud" was sold to the highest bidder, with the proceeds going to the Forum Production Fund.

The Forum is presently engaged in preparing Broadway '69. It is reported that, "enthusiasm is running wild and rehearsals are in full swing." The show this year will be held on November 2, in the Northwest's famous nightclub, THE ROARING TWENTIES.

Halloween Dance

The elegant paneled doors of S.I.R. Center will once again be thrown open to accommodate the needs and desires of San Francisco's more discriminating social set. On Halloween night, Friday, October 31st, the social committee of S.I.R. will be sponsoring a F R E E DANCE, with a catered bar, from 9p.m. until 2 a.m. Members and non-members are invited to attend. Guests will be free to come and go as they swish, which will allow them the mobility to keep up with the fast moving action on that

night.

Drags and costumes are invited—yea, encouraged. To keep the action colorful and moving, different groups will make appearances. The Universe Group, which has been making an annual appearance for five years, will arrive on the scene at the bewitching hour of 12 midnight. The group has been described by an aging, but well preserved, theatrical producer (who is a member of the entourage) as "a group of divine, gorgeous drags."

The social committee of S.I.R. invites "any blatant, latent, or semi-latent drag queens; harlots or starlets of the stage or silver screen, to mount the Florenz Ziegfeld S.I.R. Center Stairway to the stardom which will be waiting to greet them." Interested parties are further advised, "that patterns and furs and shoes in the larger sizes should be purchased immediately, as a last-minute rush — reminiscent of Christmas at Macy's — is to be anticipated."

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* HAWAII

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by Aida Soto-Voce

On Sunday, September 28, S.I.R. will provide you a chance to fulfill a childhood dream...to skate over a large romantically lighted indoor ice rink with bright spot lights following you...and you costumed up like Sonja Henie; Well maybe not Sonja Henie, maybe a Persian prince or a flapper, or just everyday street clothes surrounded by people in wild and bazaar attire.

S.I.R.'s Second Annual Ice Holiday will be the answer to several fantasies. There will be a catered bar, and lovely silver prizes for best male and best female costumes. The whole affair promises to be tons of fun. A quick question to anyone who attended the previous Ice Holiday will give you some preparation as to what to expect. This year's event has every indication of being even bigger and better.

Movies — Continued from page 17

two old faggots, flamboyantly mugging, appropriately flipping wrists, and for an intermission doing a tired song and dance routine. The void between these vicissitudes is talk, talk, talk. It would be appropriate to end this movie with the closing lines from Bernard Shaw's *Misalliance* — "well that's all there is to say. / Thank Goodness."

Books — Continued from page 32

of giving spontaneous birth to embryos... embryos discovered in malign tumors of testicles can be cultivated in vitro (test tubes, ed.) with the result that Jean Rostand has pointed to the possibility of one man having some thousands of offspring without a mother, who would be identical in all respects to the original progenitor.

In the concluding chapter the author draws his material together and provides a thoughtful defense of the non-heterosexual love.

In summing up the homosexual and his place in the scheme of life, de Becker states, "If he is justified in demanding his rights, it is important that he should also think of his duties... The essential thing is that he should not use his homosexuality merely to escape from the world, but as a means of chosen self-definition and self-affirmation in the world."

Who could demand more than that from anyone?



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L.A. '69

New Businesses

by Jeff Buckley

The summer saw the arrival of many new bars, baths and businesses on the Southern California scene. Pasadena will have its own bar soon. Garden Grove—down near Long Beach has five bars all doing well and even competitive Hollywood got another beer bar and semi-private club, The Sewers of Paris, which opened just before Labor Day on Ivar St. near Sunset. After eleven each night it is for members only and stays open until six a.m.

Another oddly named newcomer is a late night cafe-type place on Ventura Boulevard called Mona's Purple Hag. It is almost across the street from The Valli Haus, a dinner and entertainment spot that has been popular for years with the more elegant crowd. And not far away is yet another place to groove—Oil Can Harry's on the same street.

The private club with psychedelic decor and clients to match is all the rage. The latest is Everybody's. Open all night it offers dancing, strobe lights, slides and the music that is a part of the younger generation's effort to drown out the noise of the guns of Vietnam. Everybody's is located on Ventura Boulevard. Once known as Ciro's, the famous postwar night club, The Patch II is open only on weekends and it does not require membership. The clientele is on the younger side and exotic; some of the outfits worn would draw attention even on Halloween.

Not far away is that part of Hollywood best avoided by the visitor or newcomer when out cruising — that is the part of Hollywood Boulevard between Highland and Wilcox and south of the boulevard to Selma Street. Hustlers, servicemen seeking sugar daddies, rough trade and sometimes an indiscreet actor or singer may all be seen around there, especially on weekends. Like the sleazy downtown part of Los Angeles, this area of Hollywood is avoided by the wise gay guy. And if you arrive in Los Angeles without a car the two streets with the greatest concentration of bars and dancehalls are Melrose Avenue, south of Hollywood Blvd. and Ventura Blvd. which I mentioned above.

During the summer some life was put into the San Diego bar scene with the opening of The Fickle Fox, a dinner and

entertainment bar affiliated with its namesake in San Francisco. In a few weeks this new bar became the most popular place in town. Other bars in San Diego are: The Show Biz, Bradley's, The Swing, The Club (a good girls' bar) and Bee-Jay's (for the bike crowd when in town). The Doll Room over in Mission Beach is recommended on weekends.

Back in Los Angeles yet another health club — steam baths to add to your list has just opened. This one on Ventura Blvd. is called The Roman Spa. Most luxurious it is also more expensive but unlike most of the new places it is not a private club.

And remember, though Los Angeles may be groovy, with it and wild at the moment it is always wise to take no chances. It will never have the repression-free atmosphere of San Francisco though it does have its moments. The new police chief, Edward Davis, is an unknown factor on the gay scene but so far so good.

Fickle Fox

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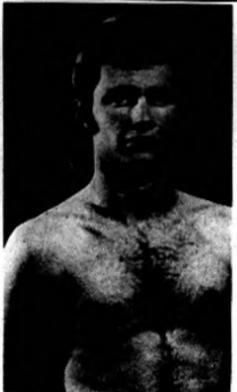
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World Travel Guide, 191 pgs., 12 city maps descriptive, detailed & pocket-sized; bars, hotels, beaches, baths, etc. 67 countries (excpt. U.S.) Address: **Le Guide Gris**, Box 801, % VECTOR, 83-Sixth St., San Francisco, CA 94103 \$5.00

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POLICE BEAT
Continued from page 22

beyond the deadline for action by the Board. After that effort failed, Supervisors Dorothy von Beroldingen and William Pelosi joined with the rest of the Board on a compromise measure. After four hours of haggling and 20 separate roll call votes, the amendment was finally passed unanimously.

The resultant measure, which will appear on the November ballot, is a mixed bag. All factions can claim both victory and defeat. The Police Officers Association successfully blocked the promotion of the director of Police-Community Relations to deputy chief; although the Unit will become a bureau. Terry Francois has "faith in the present Police Commission to give the man (Rodney Williams) the tools to carry out the delicate duties" of director of P-CR. This is small consolation to those who agreed with the President's Crime Commission, "If community relations units are to be successful, they must clearly have prestige and authority. Consequently, responsibility for community relations must be placed at the highest possible level."

The POA proposal to prevent the police chief from appointing inspectors from the rank of patrolmen, at his discretion, was also accepted. A regular Civil Service procedure, including written and oral examination, to draw up a list of qualified candidates for him to choose from will be substituted. This provision is clearly designed to favor White over Black officers, according to Len Holt of the Hunters Point Neighborhood Legal Assistance Foundation office.

On the other hand, the Officers for Justice won a victory for rank-and-file policemen by acceptance of their proposal for premium pay for overtime, holidays, night duty and educational incentive programs.

In the upper echelons of the department, the accepted Police Commission proposal would create new directors of legal affairs, special services, intelligence, planning and development as well as community relations.

A second charter amendment will also be placed before the voters to eliminate the present numerical limitation of the police force to one for every 500 residents of the city.

* * * * *

This is where it's at. There are no further options — this year anyway. It is a breakthrough. And it is imperative that the homophile community and the heterophile community vote "YES" on both of these Charter amendments.



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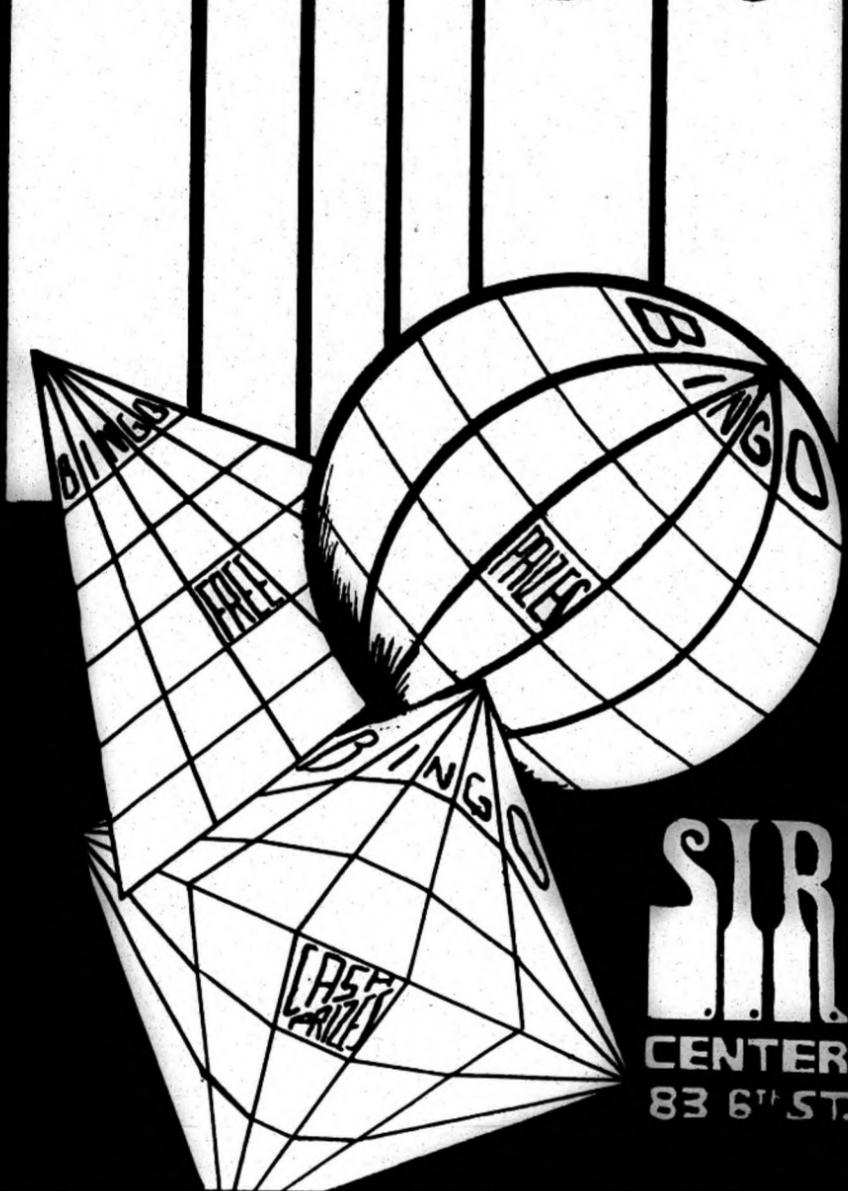
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President *Continued from page 8*
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S.I.R. exists for one purpose and one purpose only — TO SERVE THE INTEREST OF THE HOMOSEXUAL. Think about your OWN self-interest, and then think about supporting an organization that is WORKING FOR YOU. What are YOU contributing toward YOUR OWN future welfare? Are you a S.I.R. member (\$10.00 a year)? Are you a S.I.R. Angel (\$3.00 a month, \$30.00 a year)? Do you participate in membership meetings? Are you active in committee work?

The organization is here. (83 Sixth Street, Phone 781-1570) Where are you?

The Boys in the Band

Continued from page 22

stitution. No questions are answered, no problems are resolved; the issue is only confused.

The reality that the audience is expected to accept by the end of the play is not clearly defined, but instead remains as an open question mark. One will be seriously disillusioned if he takes *The Boys in the Band* as a serious attempt to explain how the homosexual relates to contemporary society or the real nature of his problems. This play does add a certain insight into the neuroses of some homosexuals, but at best, this is only a piece of the pie.

The performance level is high. The characters are believable and the ensemble of actors is well maintained throughout the entire work. The characterizations lack that stereotyped commodity so common in vulgar jokes and sentimental Hollywood movies. The interplay is effective on records, and if one is left with any regrets, that would be the added factor of not seeing this on stage.

The technical level of this recording is commendable. The balancing of the voices of the cast is so clear that it is easy to follow the play without a script. The sound effects are an asset, e.g. when a bell rings, a door slams, or a plate is dropped, the drama and not the recording is embellished.

The Boys in the Band is a worthy asset to any play collectors list. One may not agree with this play on certain thematic grounds, but I can personally guarantee there is enough in the recording to provoke stimulating conversation at your next cocktail party.



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