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Political Chairman Foster Becomes First Up-Front Gay at National Convention

By Lawrence Spears

Several million homosexuals (and others) stayed up during last week's Democratic Party's convention to see and hear aHomosexual's view of the convention as supporters of a minority plank or not. Both Foster and Davis attended as such, I am here tonight, not only represented the 1,200 members of the Society or the New Jersey delegation and red women who live in the Fifth Congressional District, but the twenty million gay women and men who are looking for a political party that is responsive to their needs.

Due in large part to the reform of the Democratic Party, I and other members of the minority plank are participating in the process of choosing those who will represent us all. But the issues associated with gay liberation are not partisan issues. They are not Democracy or Republican issues. They are not conservative issues or radical issues. They are HUMAN issues. As such they deserve support from all people, regardless of their religious or political philosophy.

We, the representatives of the national gay community, are here to present the majority plank that says the rights of America's gay citizens...a statement, which if you affirm and include in the platform, will help to bring an end to the oppression that gay people have lived with for centuries.

We do not come here pleading for your understanding or begging for your tolerance. We come in affirming our pride in our lifestyle, affirming our right to experience our gayness without fear of self-acceptance.

It is a basic assumption of many Americans that no one should have to fear oppression from society because he or she does not share the opinion of the minority. There is no minority in America today that has this problem to a greater extent than the gay community. We have suffered more fear of rejection, fear of rejection, fear of group association, fear of the active gay community, fear of police, fear of family, fear of forming friendships, fear of loneliness, fear of losing one's job or career, fear of loss of respect, fear of displaying affection and, perhaps most devastating of all, fear of self-acceptance.

Most of these fears are well founded, for as members of an "out" group, gay people are subject to reprisals from all corners of society — friends, family, employers, police, government and the church — which has made of homosexual behavior a special kind of "sin" and of knowledge that for a person to love another of the same sex is at variance with society's expectation.

The society's expectation that a person cannot love another of the same sex stems from the fear of display, the fear of being different. It is a basic fear that many, many Americans have and it is a fear that many, many Americans do not want to share.

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Editor, Vector,

I cannot accept the occasional letter in Vector that goes like this: "Dear Editor; Now is the time for all gays to stand up and be counted. We must face the enemy like men. Signed, Anonymous."

Dr. Paul Roberts
Monterey, California

G. F. Schott
Columbia, South Carolina

Your editing of my essay-report last month is hardly forgivable. I gave you a rough, preliminary draft with the understanding at least on my part that together we would perfect it. Instead it appeared without consultation with me and with a major perversion of a conclusion I had suggested. In addition there were errors of fact and omissions, which I considered valid observations. And lack of time wasn't an essential consideration. Of course I shouldn't have let you have it at the state it was then. It's easier to forgive ourselves than others and yet we are all others as well as ourselves.

The perversion seconded in the first paragraph in which you inserted a prognosis that almost complete absence at this year's annual meeting of any papers or exhibits dealing with homosexuality... I use the adjective immoral advisedly as that which hurts or deceives another particularly as that which hurts or deceives another. Particularly as it appears without consultation at least on my part.

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The Editor Comments

Vector is in the process of analyzing an in-depth survey of 400 of its readers to determine (1) who reads this magazine (2) how do they think it should be improved. Most of the replies that we have received back are complimentary but the excelling thing is that the many specific creative comments were made that will assist us in changing and improving Vector. . . .

Vector has one thing in common with all gay publications: It is directed to the bargoing, drag, old faggot types. They are your supporters. I don't associate being feminine with being gay. This emphasis by SIR and Vector hurts us politically... Vector serves a purpose. The writers are often very, very concise. Review more movies and theatre, not necessarily homo-oriented... Vector is readable but leftward politically; I equate this with collectivism, not liberalism. Stick to lighter subjects as there is enough serious discussion of our sex lives among straights; we don't need to indulge ourselves in self-pity... Vector is a great source of information although I would like to see more color but feel you do not utilize the one color elsewhere. (Editor's comment: The color is added by the printer as a courtesy, without additional cost. It must appear on specific pages because of the nature of the press run) . . . Not enough nude... Enlarge and broaden your scope, consider younger and older readers with new views. Tell us about domestic living - shopping, restaurants, rental problems, etc...

Vector is becoming polished and is now more attractively laid out. You need more serious content, however... A superb magazine for a gay organization... Cover men are better now that you are not using the modeling agencies... Don't like pictures and articles about drag shows, drag queens, gossip columns but if it is necessary to sell Vector then I'll tolerate it... Vector is under the control of too few people so it reflects that many of the ideas and personality of one average gay person... We have the same hopes, desires and ambitions as all people so why make us appear to be so special... You need more true-life personal experience stories or personal observations on just plain, ordinary gay people. More nude - less drag. More poems, essays... I really look forward to the arrival of Vector. I wish I could do more to thank you for your effort... Vector is too repetitious and too boring and too one-sided... Let BAR and Gayzette run gossip. Vector should not be traded... Vector finally is reaching toward professional status with its present president editor, but you could try to get it out on time... Vector is excellent and does not compete with Gentlemen's Quarterly. Although it is a better publication, Vector gives us more perspective, which is lacking in GQ. Vector's news coverage of the quality of the nudes has improved. They now look more real and no phone... Too much trivia and old-hat stuff, also sloppyfines in putting it together... You should be more concerned with what I consider subject and status... You need to cover more varied gay life styles to give us a broader perspective on how homosexuals live and adjust to life. Of course I shouldn't resist becoming a "body" magazine, "drug" is O.K. but what about groovy guys with streets clothes on? I eagerly await my Vector. Cut out the gossip as it makes Vector look like a high school newspaper. Be more sophisticated... How Vector has been improving, coming of age. We don't really need all that flighty camp so avoid it. I have such hopes for Vector and SIR's future.

We put together and highly professional on the surface, shows us that SIR is well organized... Better cover boys new and less old men... Add full color and raise the price of the magazine, if necessary, to cover it... To many of us Vector can be a financial success if more subscriptions are only $10 for 12 issues. All Vector records are confidential and are used for no other purpose than official Vector mailings.

May we hear from you?

George Mendenhall
Editor, Vector

Important Notice

All Vector subscribers and SIR members will receive 12 issues of Vector, although the July issue was not published.

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FREE BUNDLE OF NICKELS

(Continued on Page 16)
Gay Porn Movie Houses

By Noel Hernandez

The Gay pornography situation in San Francisco is at best bleak. There are three theaters, the Nob Hill, Tom Kat, and Laurel, which are exclusively Gay, and the film fare offered is consistently uneven or of inferior quality. This, compounded with an excessively-priced box office, makes it a foregone conclusion that Gays are paying for more than what they are actually getting.

The Tom Kat, with its garish, 1950's decor and 5oleomargarine and just as distasteful. Models are often unattractive, and rarely do they or their partners "get it on" consistently. Needless to say, at $5 the Tom Kat is not a prime bargain, although they can boast offering two hours of films (which the other two theaters cannot).

The Laurel, a small clean theater on Polk, reopened several months ago. Prior to that, the Laurel had opened for several weeks, offering some of the finest Gay porno S.F. has ever seen. J. Brian's films, Seven in a Barn and 5 Cards in Hand, while having no artistic or intellectual pretensions, were efficiently filmed, with attractive, responsive performers, good lighting and adequate sound. They were a complete antithesis to the Tom Kat films, and at the opposite pole of the films the Nob Hill was then showing. Brian's films were openly and honestly sensual and erotic. They were quite beautiful, as hard-core goes.

This time around, the Laurel advertised, prior to opening, that admission would be $3 so as not to "rip off" the customer. It opened charging $4 and showing A Night of Submission, a disastrously inept, amateurish film which left you wondering on and on. The film's lighting was so dim that 90% of the film consisted of shadows, hazy figures moving on the screen. An inquiry was made of the management whether the projecter needed a new projection lamp, or whether it was the film. The blame was placed on the latter. Evidently the management did not bother to pre-screen the film before booking it, or if it did, just did not care. This S&M epic was supplemented by Tom Kat feature-shorts rejects.

The various Laurel programs have impressed somewhat; however, the theater generally has not lived up to its initial commitment to the Gay Community: Not to "take" the customer.

The Nob Hill is aesthetically the most attractive of the three theaters. It is clean, pleasantly furnished, and every effort has been made to duplicate the environment of a regular theater, complete with popcorn machine and candy counter. It is part of the Park-Miller theater circuit, and thus has professional circuit standards to maintain. In the past, their fare has consisted of semi-hardcore flicks, ably filmed, but basically boring. Recently they have shifted into hardcore. Wakefield Poole's ambitious and highly-noted (and overrated, I feel) Boys in the Sand played there, but generally it is films produced in the same tried-and-proven fuck-suck mold which fill the bill. That is not to say, however, that these films are not superior to the Tom Kat's or on the whole the Laurel's. They are. Actually the theater is a fine showcase theater for prestigious or innovational gay films.

Unfortunately the Nob Hill charges $5 admission, with an initial $1 membership fee ( Ridiculous: What is this, a business membership fee, or if that same audience indicates their dissatisfaction where it most hurts: At the box office.

The Mitchell Brothers' Theatre.

The only way the gay porno market is going to develop, grow, and offer audiences professional and satisfactory film products is if that same audience indicates their dissatisfaction where it most hurts: At the box office.

There is another story to tell, re: the uplifting of porno gay films into the realm of art. This article has deliberately bypassed that issue. It will come up, ad infinitum, ad nauseam, appear to be the work of amateurs or anyone who enjoys and appreciates good pornography, and there are plenty who do (and they come in all sizes, shapes, and ages). The Gay porno scene in S.F. hard-presses them to find worthwhile entertainment for the unrealistically high admission fee. A good possible alternative would be to look into the straight porno scene. Sex is sex, and once freeing your mind from self-imposed preconceptions and ideas, you realize just how beautiful and intoxicating it is, whether it is straight or gay. Even if you analyze, "Oh, I would never want to do it that way," still love-making between two people who are attractive and groove on each other is stimulating and exciting. It is impossible not to react.

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Dateline: CHICAGO
A Univ. of Chicago law study reveals that about 1500 people a month have sex each month on gay-related offenses. About all of the arrests are by police officers in plain clothes (entrangment methods). Homosexual acts between consenting adults has been legal in Illinois since 1961.

Dateline: EAST LANSING, MICHIGAN
The city council here vote 3/2 to bar homo- sexual activities on the job but this job with this non-discrimination rule against banning homosexuality, which the present police chief Brook over insisted that heterosexual workers be protected from discrimination but the City Com- mision George Griffiths said that the law should have also stated clearly that the reverse should also be stated then. What about homosexuals who are "proportionately larger in num- bers?" About the same time as the East Lansing vote, San Francisco's Board of Super- intendent passed a county non-discrimination clause which, affects all contractors and sub- contractors with the city.

Dateline: BERKELEY
The secessionists/poisoning Psychi- delic Venus Church has been battling the East Bay Sexual Freedom League. It claims the SFL treated a recent ne'er-do-well in a Peeples Park. SFL is accused of being "middle class sexist and closet christian"... SFL then 20 people around a gay church to Miami began July 6 in Seattle and is due to reach San Francisco for its gay pride parade... Glamorous of Los Angeles (213-2477-7181). The goal is a "gay book" and to have some 10,000 gays in Miami ... PVC telephone number: 415-929-5200.

Dateline: COLORADO
The Roman Catholic National Federation of Parish Councils recently met here and called for the creation of a ministry to homosexuals in urban parishes. The spokesman said that 10% of the population in San Francisco are gay... That would be 80,000. Based on Kinsey studies

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Dateline: AMSTERDAM
The Dutch Society for the Integration of Homosexuals (COC) continues at Frederik- sund 14, telephone 020-344536, COC is known for its many clubs throughout Europe and the three bar-dance clubs it op- erates in Amsterdam, The Hague, and Rotterdam. Taking a lead from SIR, COC is forming a "gay man's married group."

Dateline: GLOUCESTERSHIRE, ENGLAND
"Angel^ Morly" following a sex change opera- tion. Scott, 48, will continue to live with his wife of 30 years. They have a grown son and daughter. His son, 28, said, "We feel happy about his operation." Scott explained that he has had this problem and now I hope to be able to live a happy and dignified life — as a woman.

Dateline: LONDON, ENGLAND
The Board of Education has approved the creation of a ministry to homosexuals and to work for sexual law reform. The Board of Education has approved a gay pride parade & dance . . .

Dateline: BOSTON
Richard Ross, President of HUB, has protested the gay meeting tack there (2 miles south of Fresno on Highway 99) may have less competition for the affection of the 500-2,000 drivers, the job shop here every 24 hours. Protestors who frequent the area have both been regularly turned away and have brought their prices to $15 to $20. Some truck drivers, the SF Chronicle has been reported drivers, the SF Chronicle has been reported.

WASHINGTON, AUGUST 1972

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Dateline: TORONTO, CANADA
The First Congress of Education and Cul- ture (COC) has been battling the East Bay Sex Freedom League. It claims the SFL treated a recent ne'er-do-well in a Peeples Park. SFL is accused of being "middle class sexist and closet christian"... SFL then 20 people around a gay church to Miami began July 6 in Seattle and is due to reach San Francisco for its gay pride parade... Glamorous of Los Angeles (213-2477-7181). The goal is a "gay book" and to have some 10,000 gays in Miami ... PVC telephone number: 415-929-5200.

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Dateline: PORTLAND, OREGON
Psychologist Edward Scott testified at a public hearing that promiscuous sex and worry permitted to read Playboy because this could lead to increased homosexual activity in the cells.

Dateline: CUBA
The Gay Pride Week

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August 1972

Exploring Books

This is PART ONE of a two-part analysis of Lesbian/Woman, the first book by Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon. Next month, Vector will present a woman’s view of Lesbian/Woman.

A legendary tale of Queen Victoria reveals her curious innocence. Historians have yet to verify the incident. Certain members of parliament were attempting to convince her that anti-sodomy laws should incorporate members of the fair sex. Victoria replied, with disdain, that women were incapable of committing such a vice.

The Victorian attitude demonstrates the inconsistent feelings which males have held toward the female in Western culture. At one point she is portrayed as a begging Jezabel and at other times society has placed her on an ivory pedestal and declared her to be an empty-headed creature who needs protection.

The black lesbian is another woman who catches the brunt of triple prejudice: black, female, and gay.

The male homosexual will soon be unhorsed. The lesbian — the forgotten liberation and lavender rights long before such activities were even acknowledged. These women helped found The Daughters of Bilitis in 1955 and in 1964 they were among the first to assist the Council on Religion and the Homosexual.

Lesbians will rejoice at the publication of a book which details their daily problems for the first time — the way they would want the story told.

The dilemma confronting gay mothers is especially harrowing. Juvenile authorities frequently take custody of their children. Ex-husbands can threaten exposure.

The black lesbian is another woman who catches the brunt of triple prejudice: black, female, and gay.

The Well of Loneliness

Del Martin & Phyllis Lyon

Glide Publications — 1972 — $2.96

Gay — is on our tail. Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon are leading the pack with the first positive lesbian book written on the non-fiction level. An implicit guilt has always lingered in previous efforts. But the aura of the Well of Loneliness may soon begin to lift. Recognition for women gays has truly been slow.

Phyllis and Del require little introduction to those who follow gay affairs in the San Francisco Bay Area. They pioneered on the outer fringes of women’s liberation and lavender rights long before such activities were even acknowledged. These women helped found The Daughters of Bilitis in 1955 and in 1964 they were among the first to assist the Council on Religion and the Homosexual.

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My male reaction to Lesbian/Woman is generally favorable, but I feel bothered. Granted, the case against masculine oppression is well documented. Women are entitled to vent their anger and aggression, but let us hope the rebellion does not turn into self-deceiving negativism. We all remember when Del Martin declared that women should leave the homosexual rights movement and join the women’s liberation. For a time this strategy will have sound effect. I hope, however, that our female counterparts do not cut off their noses to spite their faces. A rewarding chance for male-female communication could well be lost. Meanwhile, male gays can learn a great deal from writers as capable as Phyllis and Del.

The struggles of our sisters for fulfillment stirs sensations about our sex roles and how they affected us in our teen years and later. How the sexes experience each other is influenced by rigid traditional molds. I think one reason males (gay or straight) find it painful to intimately encounter the opposite sex, is the holism games that pressurize us into building false fronts. Remember the "dating" we experienced in high school and college? Girls seemed difficult to explore as persons. The system required them to behave toward us in a way that denied any unique female personality. The sex differences were not the problem. Social expectation tied our hands. Girls were hard to get to. Boys were so available. Boys and men really knew each other (forget the Sodom and Gomorrah routine). Girls were mysterious creatures we speculated about. Males were every­where. The arrangement was considered strictly proper.

The counter-culture is attacking the dating mystique and causing it to take on a fluid character. This is partly what liberation is all about.

In the future sex roles will flex. Men and women gays will get together for a big blast and have the last laugh on a society which insists that males and females refrain from learning the truth about each other.
Fire swept through the auditorium and some adjoining areas of The Society for Individual Rights downtown SIR Community Center in San Francisco in July. The Sunday morning blaze was set by an arsonist who confessed to setting the fire with duplicating fluid because he was angry at the way he was treated by someone at the previous night’s SIR dance.

The charcoal walls are being cleaned and the salvaged office supplies and machinery have been removed. Only water damage was done in the office area. Firemen are to be congratulated on saving many thousands of dollars of equipment and supplies that belonged to SIR. The organization lost approximately $10,000 and the building owner estimates major building damage at $25,000.

Ironically, SIR’s Board of Directors had just appropriated $1,000 from a special “remodeling fund” to begin painting the second-floor center. It had also leased space downstairs for office space. This is now the SIR headquarters while reconstruction is underway upstairs. Occupancy in the upstairs Center should be in October, according to the building owner.

In its eight years at SIR Center, serving thousands of people and presenting endless social events, there had never been a fire. Considering the volume it is remarkable that there had not been one previously.

Seventy members and friends of SIR have cleaned up the burned-out Center. Volunteers included Tavern Guild of San Francisco and Metropolitan Community Church members. TGSF shares facilities with SIR and MCC has its own headquarters in the next block. A more complete listing of organizations and firms who assisted SIR will be printed in next month’s Vector.

The principal loss to SIR was its stage, scores of tables and chairs, a portable bar area, an expensive stage lighting arrangement and paper office supplies.

The large windows of the Center were blown out during the blaze. Since the fire was at 8 a.m. on a Sunday, no one was injured.

The 25-year-old male who is in police custody was immediately offered legal help by SIR officials but he refuses legal counsel. Previously, he had been a volunteer worker in the SIR office and was one of those who assisted with setting up the dance on the Saturday night before the fire. Attorney Earl "Rick" Stokes spoke with the man, with the hope that he might then gain access to police records and assist him. Unfortunately the man is non-communicative. It is the SIR organization’s viewpoint that everyone should have legal counsel.
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I enclose a deposit of $10.00 per person.

Name __________________________ Phone __________
Address __________________________
City, State, & Zip __________

(Continued from Page 6)

is confused and confusing but this is authen-
ticity today. Psychiatry along with other social
sciences is presently concerned with issues such
as love and its relation to sex or violence's cor-
relation with sex. The vast subjects of fear or
An editor edits. Editing involves "amend-
ing, cutting and rearranging" (Webster). It is
ever our intent to change the writer's meaning
in this process ... Our sincere apology to Dr.
Elias and we appreciate his clarifying the matter
for us.

We hope that he will develop a deleted section on Love and Homosexuality into a sepa-
rate article, as we have requested.

Dear Sir:
First, let me say that your June 6 issue of
VECTOR was one of the most informative pub-
lications regarding the political Gay, that I have
ever read.

It now looks like Los Angeles is getting it
together politically for a change. This is what I
would like to address myself to at this time.

We look at the primary results and we
find, first of all, that a man who didn't have a
case to make himself, a man who was not
that important, but who was a man of con-

sideration, a man who was not afraid of a
man with a name, got behind Vincent Bugliosi, along
with every other minority, to see that Busch
didn't disturb the establishment's favorite
Attorney of Los Angeles County.

Many black Democrats got caught in the
trap of endorsing Busch before they
realized that the citizens of LA County, both
Gay and Straight, are fed up with the type of
law enforcement they experience every day.
The Gay community of LA, with the exception
of a few, got behind Vincent Bugliosi, along
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Many big named Democrats got caught in the
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by hannibal l. the vector editor

waterfalls tumbled discreetly in the crevices of the mountainside. a phalanx of redwood and pine trees marched across the valley and up the cliffs. boisterous streams thrust their fingers into the air above the empty places. rustic cabins stand as the sentry to the valley and up the cliffs. if you're one of your own and prefer something baronial with mammoth stone fireplaces, sumptuous meals in a dining room worthy of the early english monarchs, you're ripe for the $38.00 a day ahwahnee lodge, which is located near the "village." it caters mostly to an older crowd that dresses for dinner. it's rustic elegance at its most superb.

you have to remember that this is a family resort area and, however liberated you may feel, good manners require that you consider the feelings of the majority of visitors. there is no reason why all californians and their guests from eastern states cannot enjoy this remarkable haven in harmony.

the young people who work in the food and gift shop concessions are especially attractive. pay it cool, however. remember, they have to work there all summer or all year, so they won't be favorable to extroverted behavior. a sincere smile shows your interest. if they don't pick it up, move on to the next quarter. don't get caught with your tongue or wrist in overdrive.

the shower/lavatory huts can get a little crowded. (peek-a-boo! now you see it, now you don't.) you can juggle the soap-up symphony just about any time of the day. there are a lot of squeaky-clean guys, particularly just before bedtime. don't want to go to bed with dirty feet, do we? your time might be better spent etroating the paths of righteousness in the adjacent woods.

one of the pamphlets you get when you arrive at yosemite urges that you do not wander off along the trails alone. what better approach to a likely camera click? "that area could look nice for a stroll, but they seem to stress here that it isn't safe to explore without a companion. do you feel adventurous?" with a little luck he'll keep his pants up until you're well within the secret underworld of forest trails.

the tent-cabin is $6.30 each night whether there's one or two of you. a cabin with a bath is $15.75. a hotel room is $25.20.

hannibal, our traveling editor, visits the monterrey-carmel, california area in a photo-story in next month's vector. this august trip was requested by a vector reader. where would you like hannibal to visit next? write: hannibal, vector, 83 sixth street, san francisco, 94103.
Dr. Interhaus, M.D.

SODOMY

I was screwed in a park when I was 14 years old. The experience was so painful that I refused all advances that came my way for the next three years! Eventually I learned, of course, that it doesn’t have to be that way. In talking to my gay friends I have heard many horror stories similar to mine. I hope in some future column you will discuss this problem and try to prevent such unnecessary bad beginnings.

As sodomy, that “crime against nature,” is probably the most common and most well known of all homosexual acts. Interestingly enough, anal intercourse is frequently indulged in by heterosexuals and is one of the earliest forms of “birth control.” Recent studies indicate that the frequency of anal intercourse among heterosexuals may be far greater than heretofore expected as indicated by the very high incidence of rectal gonorrhea in asymptomatic women. Properly performed, anal intercourse causes little damage and much enjoyment when the act is solicited; improperly performed it has caused many homosexuals of my acquaintance as well as our good friend above to have serious misgivings at the time of their “coming out party.” Aside from mutual masturbation, anal intercourse is probably the most frequent homosexual act indulged in by the budding gay blade. An understanding of the problems involved should make the experience more rewarding.

There are two complete muscle groups which form the anal sphincter (the structure which opens and closes the anus). One of these groups, the externae (“voluntary”) sphincter, may be opened and closed at will. It is a simple matter to learn how to control that sphincter (simply note the first act performed when attempting to defecate). The second (internal) sphincter is under the control of the “automatic” (involuntary) nervous system. This sphincter cannot be voluntarily opened and must be given time to relax, which it will, once the external sphincter is relaxed. Thus the active partner in anal intercourse must be aware that time is needed and slow steady pressure is the proper technique. Forced rapid entry can cause severe discomfort (and even a bruised penis!). Indeed the most common problem due to anal intercourse is due to too rapid penetration of the un-relaxed anal orifice: tears or rips in the skin about the anus. These tears can be quite extensive, causing bleeding, pain, and infection. Called “fissure-in-ano,” these tears are common in non-sexual anal problems since they can be caused by the passage of an unusually bulky or hard stool or by explosive diarrhea.

The judicious use of a lubricant is almost always necessary to help slide the penis into the anal opening. It is wise for the novice to use a very thick substance such as petroleum jelly (Vaseline) which affords more protection. Inserting objects into the rectum other than a penis accounts for the vast majority of the more severe physical problems in ano-rectal disease. Sharp objects have obvious harmful potential, but the “vibrators” that don’t turn off readily have just as harmful but not so obvious potential. Hard objects of any kind (i.e., wood or metal) can be quite dangerous. Every physician has his collection of stories concerning the huge potato, carrot, beer bottle, or whatnot, that was somehow shoved up but couldn’t be pulled down.

Whereas the anus is supplied with pain fibers (nerves), the rectum is not. Thus major discomfort is felt only for the distance of about one and a half inches and any further discomfort is of a very different nature. The danger of perforating a hole through the bowel wall requires a penetration of more than eleven inches. I have never observed a penis longer than that, but I have observed objects used for anal masturbation long enough to do the job, e.g., a fist and arm!

Most other problems encountered in anal intercourse have been dealt with in depth in past articles of this series. However, a reminder or two and a new note are in order; Hemorrhoid problems (piles) are not caused by anal intercourse but can certainly be made worse by it. Prostate difficulties can make anal intercourse painful (or pleasurable, depending on your “bag”), and prostatitis is never helped by getting screwed and can be made much worse! Venereal warts (a virus disease) can be spread by anal intercourse. Syphilis and gonorrhea are, of course, primarily spread by anal intercourse in the gay community. And don’t forget that these diseases may have no symptoms at all! Although I have made this statement many times, only recently has medical research begun to verify this finding. The June, 1972, issue of the AMA Journal had a noted article discussing rectal gonorrhea and disclosed that nineteen percent of a group of homosexuals presenting for routine examination and having no symptoms whatever of rectal problems had a positive culture for gonorrhea. In San Francisco a young physician researcher discovered that ten percent of a gay population had been treated for hepatitis and having no rectal symptoms had positive cultures for gonorrhea!

So it is time again . . . and again and again for your VD checkup! Love needs care. Come clean; 250 Fourth Street in San Francisco, or check with your local city health department.
We wish to thank Attorney Vance Gary Pruntsman of the H.E.L.P. organization in Los Angeles for the following summary of current California sex laws which are applicable to the homosexual:

1. Penal Code Section 288a: This statute makes it a crime to engage in what is commonly referred to as oral copulation. Within the scope of this law, "copulating" means the coupling of the mouth of one person with the sexual organ of the other. Whether the two parties are of the opposite sex or the same sex is inconsequential, it is still a criminal violation.

2. Penal Code Section 286: P.C. 286 makes it a crime to engage in what is commonly known as sodomy. Sodomy is most easily defined as "anal intercourse." Again the law does not differentiate here between heterosexual and homosexual conduct. This law also covers sexual intercourse between a human being and an animal. The law says it is a crime to engage in intercourse with an animal, whether anal or vaginal.

3. Penal Code Section 314: P.C. 314 makes it a crime to engage in or assist another to engage in indecent exposure. According to the statute, indecent exposure means to display one's private parts in public or in a place where other people are present who might be offended by a display of one's private parts. This law applies to both men and women.

4. Penal Code Section 647(a): P.C. 647(a) makes it a crime to engage in or encourage another to engage in lewd conduct in a public place or a place open to public view. The courts have always held that any homosexual conduct of a physical nature is lewd conduct within the meaning of this statute. In addition, although the statute is unclear, the courts have held that it is also a violation of the statute to solicit for a homosexual act, whether or not the act is to take place in a public place. Thus, if one were to solicit another in a bar to go to one's residence to engage in a homosexual act, this would be a crime, even though the act itself is to be in private.
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When you stay with An Old Friend, there's a comfortable western atmosphere in a secluded location, a pool to skinny dip in and a bunkhouse to sleep in. Brown your body on the outdoor water beds, play a game of pool, or trip out to the country and rock music. We'll give you hot buns and coffee on Sunday morning, and stay the whole day, checkout isn't until 7 P.M. It's time to get away from it all, come stay with...

AN OLD FRIEND

1830 Racquet Club Road • Palm Springs, Ca.
FOR RESERVATIONS 714 327 1812
The social force known as the homosexual movement in the United States has existed for a little more than twenty years. It is composed of a loosely con­

rected and separately run organizations with no set tactics or ideology. The common objective has been to establish equal rights for persons who perform homo­

sexual acts. The Center has an extensive li­

brary of research papers, books, etc., and

speaking appearances. Several years ago

he published and distributed a widely re­

ceived book called "Gay Liberation," in which he explored the concept of what "gay liberation" is by Aus­

tralian writer-educator Dennis Altman. Readers will discover that Slater differs greatly with Altman.

By Don Slater

In June of 1969, there occurred the event of the Stonewall Uprising. It was a defiant reaction by a group of jaded, devil's instruments, inhibiting their total, reason and logic have always been the primary bar queers who had rejected society in favor of their own private gay world. The struggle at the Stonewall was a confrontation between the emotionally immature, self-identified psychos of gay society and a larger world of New York, City and the police. For those homosex­

uals, the police functioned as sign posts, reason and logic have always been the devil's instruments, inhibiting their total, spontaneous, reaction to what is happening. The action of this powerless society, that has no voice and no power, was an attempt to escape the anti-homosexual perse­

uation of Fascist North America joined the Gay Committee of Returned Brigadistas as the sponsors unequivocally stated, these events were designed to put the homosexual movement on record against U.S. imperialism, repression, etc. Groups or individuals who resisted the program or criticized the rigid ideology of the party line were branded as traitors to the cause of gay liberation.

The gay Liberation Front, consid­

ered as an organization or as a group of organizations, has virtually collapsed in the last few months. Splinter groups have reformed and continue on the order of the day.

Now the one question to ask must be: Is it the purpose of the movement to try to assert sexual rights for everyone or is it an anti-ideological and anti-culture of homosexuals? If homosexual persons have to create a "gay consciousness" that rival a "heterosexual consciousness" in order to assert their sexual rights then nothing is gained. The result is a sexist society. The most compelling argument in favor of homosexual acts and relation­

ships (outside the pleasure of their perfor­

mance) is not necessarily the foundation for a culture or style of life. Persons who make normal sexual actions for whom do not participate in the general liberation of sexual expression, and who do not support the homosexual movement if anything is gained. The result is a sexist society.

The one fighting reaction to partisan pressure. There are plenty of sexual revisions (the majority who) firmly believe that the United States is one of the least repressive societies in human history, that the war in Indochina is not immoral and imperialistic, and that war related research is not necessarily wicked. Different views on these ques­

tions need no quarrel with each other, as far as the homosexual movement is concerned. They are issues utterly irrelevant to sexual freedom. What is important is that the individual should be able to survive in the movement, and retain his own mind, manners, and political beliefs and not be drawn into the visionary gay world of the "Children of Christopher Street."
Cruising Polk Street

Something for Everyone

By Barry Ralston

There is no question about it. Polk Street is San Francisco's most interesting business section. Famed in the Gay community for its late-hour cruising and joked about by newspaper columnists because of its large gay colony, many outsiders are not really aware of how exciting Polk Street can be— in broad daylight.

One evening I decided to take Frank Fitch, SIP's activist Public Relations Director, toured Polk Street with me recently and he is pictured here visiting some of the local businesses. I then returned alone, and with the risk of being baring, began a slower, more detailed description of what it is that makes Polk Street a "must" for tourists and local residents.

Our adventure began at Powell and Market streets where I boarded the "Maritime Museum" cable car for a ride over Nob Hill to the end of the line. Here is where you discover world famous Fisherman's Wharf, Ramos Fizz at the Buena Vista Cafe, the multi-storyed shopping complexes called Ghirardelli Square and The Cannery (both with small movie houses), the lifesize maritime museum, and a bustling Senior Citizens Center. This is at the foot of Polk Street and the bus takes us through a residential area where Polk really begins at Union Street.

Most of interesting places I shall be mentioning are gay-owned and gay-operated—not because that is my intent but because they happen to be the most interesting places!

The Pavilion is the Union/Polk omelette house that is almost always crowded because its reputation for quality is known throughout the city. Lunches & dinners, Sunday brunches... On the other corner is Cloud 7 for the cocktail hour. The Butcher Shop, next door, has an "old world" atmosphere and a gay-straight clientele (try the $5 "Butcher" Steak). Further down the street is the first-run Alkamba Theater and the spacious Gazebo indoor-outdoor garden cafe (plant and shrub lovers will go wild!).

All along Polk Street are conventional and unconventional clothing and boot stores, too numerous to mention. Several small "home-made" bakeries line the street, Waterbed show rooms and many small book stores can also be discovered. But let me continue my walk.

Oriental food is available at The Manchurian and The Cordon Bleu—Vietnamese restaurants in the 2200 block. A large corner antique store, Grandma's House (also the name of an Oakland gay bar) has qualitative merchandise and a well stocked Alkamba Candy store is nearby if you have a sweet tooth.

Ivan's flowers burst forth on the sidewalk at the intersection, giving out an enchanting aroma. The $1.50 mixed bouquet is a bargain... Down the street is the intimate gay dinner-bar, The Yacht Club. While coming into view is The Laurel, a hard-core movie house (see article elsewhere in this issue on gay movies).

Next door, Wong Imports has varied household accessories. At Broadway & Polk you could take a short walk through the Broadway turn-a-round, which would open up another aspect of San Francisco... Chinatown, the Italian section, Dave's Baths! (100 Broadway) and the night club section called North Beach (Carol Doda, on display nightly). But I continue up Polk, passing a Karate School to the 1800 block where Ernie's is a well known Chinese restaurant and the Mosaic Shop tempts me to start a new hobby. Close by is a franchised Bank-in-Robins with its 31 flavors and the grooviest Third World clerks you ever viewed. Across the street, astrology freaks never ends. From American Hamburgers & French omelettes you can go to Chop Suey and Fish & Chips. One of the better "chips" places in the city is Piccadilly, at Pine/Polk. Near Austin alley, down the street, is Bath Bazaar with its plentiful collection of soaps, towels & bath accessories. Small, friendly Johnson's Saloon is next door and nearby is a San Francisco landmark—Freed, Teller & Freed, where coffee beans from around the world are mixed and ground to your satisfaction. Pass by this business (slowly) for an intoxicating smell... Town Square is the most successful Polk Street clothing firm and its extensive stock, reasonably priced, explains why. (Ask for a Town Square Catalogue — Photography by Vector's John David Hough).

Near Bush & Polk is the busy House of Harmony bar, as we continue our stroll. At the corner is the Delicatessen for quick sandwiches and further up the street is an oyster house and a Mexican restaurant. If you need a chiropractor at this point drop in on Dr. Richard Fletcher in the 1300 block.

Sutter & Polk is a focal point because Foster's restaurant is there with its giant windows, where customers can view the strollers outside. Across the street at the popular New Bell Saloon and around the corner, if you are in a hurry, is a modern hot dog place, Lumpy's. Also at the corner is the fine silverware and antique shop, Ronald James.

Polk Street does not end here as we venture down to the large "P.S." bar-restaurant-with-entertainment and Le Saloon, the city's most popular porno shop (open daily 8 a.m. to 2 a.m.). At Post & Polk is the final gay bar on the street, Polk Gulch. Record House and P.I.P. printers at the same intersection. Up Post, toward Van Ness, is the end of our gay tour... Jack's Baths.
Sunday Services at 11 am
M.C.C. East Bay (Oakland)
101 Gold Mine Road
___________
M.C.C. Fremont
190 - 6th Street - Phone 864-3576
Sunday Services at 7:30 pm
Contact:
902 J Street - Phone 444-9136
Santa Rosa Rw Group
Contact:
M.C.C. San Jose
440 Santa Gara Ave. — Phone 839-2646
Sunday Services at 5 pm
THE LANCERS
San Francisco
DINNER COCKTAILS SUNDAY BRUNCH
1250 Market St. - Phone 884-3576
Sunday Services at 11 am
Seniors' Services at 11 a.m.
M.C.C. Community Center
Contact: 1125 Market St. - Phone 884-3576
San Francisco Gay Pride Week
Chairman, announces that every 3rd Monday
committee chairmen and anyone else is urged
funds for SIR in the future. Schoel Blum is the
Sunday, August 6 at 3 pm at SIR Center. AU

One hundred gay roller skate revelers
skated across town to Jackson's has in the
Annual Gay Roller Derby. It was billed as a
benefit for the local VD clinic so gay skaters
sharpened "No one was seriously bruised
4% mile route.

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The Big Parade

By Ron Bossamer

The Christopher Street parade spread across the country this year with celebrants marching in several major cities. There was no significant harassment by the police, who generally helped move traffic and seemed amused. Families could be seen enjoying the marchers and the floats, but most of the sidewalk observers appeared to be homosexuals.

News media coverage of the parades varied from San Francisco and New York City where there was extensive TV and newspaper reporting to Los Angeles which had its usual news blackout. In Dallas, one newspaper concentrated instead on a woman who followed the parade with admonitions about "homosexual sins.

Most of the gay organizations in the San Francisco Bay Area marched or entered floats in the four-block-long event. Over 1,000 marched and 2,000 gathered on the steps of City Hall after the parade. Unfortunately, a small hand microphone was used by the speakers so the crowd could not hear the program. Prizes were given to parade winners and Parade Marshal Rev. Ray Broshears proudly announced that this was the first public gay event in which almost all gay groups had participated.

Vector came under attack before the parade as its editor was chided by the gay and underground press for his comments about the parade in a June Vector editorial. Specifically, the editorial questioned (Continued on Page 33) •
people. They do not send undercover agents into gay bars and businesses to arrest offenses. If they were uniformly enforced, there would not be jails large enough to hold all the offenses. It is a fact that gay people are persecuted because of their own sexual identity and a testimony to the justice of the case.

On April 27, 1953, President Eisenhower signed Executive Order 10450 which effectively deflected the real issue - discrimination against gay people in the federal government.

Many people believe that the order applies only to jobs in sensitive areas. The truth is that a gay person may not push a broom down the hall of the Smithsonian Institute or hang a picture on the wall of the National Gallery. In practically all parts of the government, the gay person is excluded from the call of duty because of his or her sexual identity.

It is ironic, in view of it all, that the efforts of the gay community are often focused on the prevention and alleviation of the abuses in the areas of race, creed and color that the government has itself been a source of and an active promoter of prejudice, discrimination and abuse that our society directs against gay people, jobs, and society.

It should be of interest to all citizens to realize that the Civil Service Commission is conducting a report of every job applicant's private sex life. These investigations, conducted at the cost of some $12,000,000 a year, do not include any examination of arrestable offenses. Persons have been followed, their neighbors and fellow employees interviewed, and their mail intercepted. "We should be emphatically made clear that these investigations are never related to any question of fitness, but only to one's sexual preference.

In no area is federal employment carried out in a more brutal and ruthless manner than in the armed forces. For example, for all of us, gay people, we are no longer willing to accept such punitively foolish and immoral prejudice. We are citizens not only of the country but also of the federal system to the limit of our capabilities.

To this end we urge the Democratic Party to enact this gay rights plank. But, if the question is whether this plank or not, to our millions of gay brothers and sisters as well as to the public at large, the Democratic Party, we say: "We will not be stilled. We will not go away until the ultimate goal of gay liberation is realized. That goal being that all people can live in peace, the freedom, and the dignity of what they are." Thank you.

Madeline Davis
An Address By Madeline Davis
I am a woman and a lesbian, a minor-ity of minorities. . . Thank you for the opportunity to address you. Twenty years ago, the anti-gays and we homosexuals are grateful and proud of the Demo­cratic Party. We are the minority of minorities. We belong to every race and creed, both in the economic and social, every nationality and religion. We live in large cities and in small towns. But we are the most unteachable in American society. We have suffered from oppression — from being totally ignored or ridiculed to the point of our heads smashed and our blood spilled in the streets.

Now we are coming out of our closets and onto the community to tell you, the delegates, and to tell all gay people throughout America that we are here to put an end to our fears. Our fears that people will know us for who we are, that they will shun and revile us, fire us from our jobs, reject our families, evict us from our homes, beat us and jail us. For what? Because we have chosen to love each other.

I am asking that you vote YES for the inclusion of this minority report into the Democratic platform for two major reasons:

First, we must speak to the basic civil rights of all human beings. It is inherent in the American tradition that the private sacrament of love and lives and styles of citizens should be allowed to live and love and do what they wish. A government that interferes with the pri­vate lives of its people is a government that looks like Fascist America and the American dream. You have before you a chance to re­flect that tradition, that dream. As a matter of practicality you also have the opportunity to gain the vote of the 20,000,000 Americans that would help in November to elect a Democrat in the White House. I say to you: I am some­one's neighbor, someone's sister, some­one's daughter. A vote for this plank may not appear to be a vote for yourself but it is a vote for all homosexuals women and men across the country to peacefully live their own lives.

I wish to remind you that a vote for this plank may now or someday be a vote for your daughter, your sister, your daughter or your son. We ask for your vote and we ask because it is a matter of life and death. It is too costly for some $12,000,000 a year, do not include any examination of arrestable offenses. Persons have been followed, their neighbors and fellow employees interviewed, and their mail intercepted. "We should be emphatically made clear that these investigations are never related to any question of fitness, but only to one's sexual preference.

In no area is federal employment carried out in a more brutal and ruthless manner than in the armed forces. For example, for all of us, gay people, we are no longer willing to accept such punitively foolish and immoral prejudice. We are citizens not only of the country but also of the federal system to the limit of our capabilities.

To this end we urge the Democratic Party to enact this gay rights plank. But, if the question is whether this plank or not, to our millions of gay brothers and sisters as well as to the public at large, the Democratic Party, we say: "We will not be stilled. We will not go away until the ultimate goal of gay liberation is realized. That goal being that all people can live in peace, the freedom, and the dignity of what they are." Thank you.

Dr. Joyce Brothers syndicated columnist, advised a young woman that she might be "homosexual" because sex with men bored her: "Sex comes as a result of a feeling of emotional closeness and it is the climax of a love relationship. To achieve the maximum of sexual enjoyment there must be some emotional involvement... You may feel pulled about sex: that you have carried over from childhood. Don't worry about being homos­exual - you haven't done anything in that direction." Dr. Joyce Brothers syndicated columnist, advised a young woman that she might be "homosexual" because sex with men bored her: "Sex comes as a result of a feeling of emotional closeness and it is the climax of a love relationship. To achieve the maximum of sexual enjoyment there must be some emotional involvement... You may feel pulled about sex: that you have carried over from childhood. Don't worry about being homos­exual - you haven't done anything in that direction.

Charles Manor is the new Legal Director of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund. Manor is a 29 year old single resident of Berkeley. He was formerly a Sacramento ACLU lobbyist.

Tullah Hailey, madcap world-traveling sexual figure who was featured in two Vector articles in 1971, announces that she has opened a Young Club (17) in her hometown - Bradley, Pennsylvania. Her note to the gay press readers: "Bradford is split over the Club. They don't want to trade their young to Tullah. When you are in the East End drop by and visit the Club (for ages 7 to 24) at 24 Main Street."

Sergeant Tom Findley of the Vancouver, BC, police department told the local Gay Activists Alliance group that (1) legal G.A.A. picket lines would be protected by the police against harassment (2) "zap" in gay clubs & businesses would be legal if participants were G.A.A. members. However, a sale of the business could cause the loss of their license and their employment.

Non-gay friends of mine are amazed to find that the Civil Service Commission (CSC) now enforces this plank. If they were uniformly enforced, there would not be jails large enough to hold all the offenses. It is a fact that gay people are persecuted because of their own sexual identity and a testimony to the justice of the case.

In a recent national poll, Walter Cronkite of CBS-TV was the run-away leader in the public's answer to the question, "What public figure do you trust the most?" For this reason his commentary is interpreted as an indication of the gay liberation issue, Cronkite has been outspoken in support of this plank.

"If a gay liberation plank is written into the platform that will certainly be the first time in his­tory. But, of course, that is what platforms are for. They move the pace."

In 1948 Henry Wallace came in with some platforms for his Independent Progressive Party, after he bolted the Democrats. The platforms were considered "radical" but most of the things we have for decades been adopted in our national life since then.

"So as 'far out' as this homo-sexual plank may appear to some tonight, it is obviously a serious step in our direction."

Matthews of Glendale, has written to Fervor to congratulate the "DOLLY" SIR cabaret for its fine show and what all of Fervor's readers still learn more about this exciting gay person in a coming interview.

Professor Irwin Coty says, "I'm too wise now why people shouldn't marry if they love each other."

Sheffid Richard Hungstef was featured in June, Playboy as a young playboy and progressive reformer. The magazine said that he had the support of minorities in his election and that he was as comfortable with transvestites as with anyone else.

Frank Kennedy, Washington D.C. gay activist, has a letter in June, Playboy, protesting its reporting that a study reveals that homo­sexuality results from hormone deficiency. Actually Kennedy states that he has read the original study cited and that all the study says is that hormones appear to be "different" between heterosexuals and homosexuals... Playboy defended the researchers in its reply.

Budwey Nuremy, internationally known buffer, performer, will dance and do choreography for the National Ballet of Canada for its fall season. He will tour 34 cities in North America.

Martin Hoffman, staff psychiatrist at the Center for Special Problems, introduced a gay candidate for the Democratic Action convention last year and is an opponent of Democratic Action resolution calling for the repeal of homosexuality. The resolution is being considered by the ADA national legisla­tive body for a national ADA position."

Christopher Iberheordor's Berlin Stories, written in the 1930's, became the stage play and movie, I Am A Camera. A more modernized adaptation in musical-comedy format continues to help pay Iberheordor's rent: Cabaret with Lila Minnelli and Joel Gray.

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"Dolly"

What We Can Learn From A Hit Show

By Noel Hernandez

Entertainment Editor

May was the month of several outstanding firsts in the Gay Community in S.F. S.I.R. and its Productions Committee gave the community its first genuinely outstanding box office hit, the world premiere of Dolly — a distinctly Gay contribution. The show featured a star-studded cast, with an all-male lineup. The cast, show, and box office budgeted at $4,500 and scheduled for six performances, was first planned in November. The opening was set for September, but due to the intense West Coast Gay scene, the show was pushed back to May, with an additional three performances scheduled. The delay occurred because the producers had to find a suitable venue that could accommodate the production, and the Gay community had high expectations for the show.

The show was promoted by the Cramer-George-Rozak team as if it were going to be a flop. They believed that the show would not be able to attract the crowds they wanted, and they were not sure if it would be a success. However, they continued to promote the show, and it eventually sold out, making it a huge success.

The show was promoted as a special Gay production, and it was advertised as such. The producers decided to promote it as if it were going to be a flop, and they were able to attract a large audience.

The show was the first Gay production in San Francisco to attract a large audience, and it was a huge success. The show was a huge hit, and it made a huge impact on the Gay community.

In conclusion, the show was a huge success, and it taught us some valuable lessons about promoting a show. It showed us that if we believe in a show, it is possible to attract a large audience, even if it is a Gay production. It also showed us that if we promote a show as if it were going to be a flop, it is possible to attract a large audience. It was a great lesson in promoting a show, and it taught us some valuable lessons about promoting a show.
there is sexual activity on the premises and
Selma Street. HELP recommends attorneys and
assist in bailing people out who do not take its
warnings seriously: HELP, 463-3146. Member-
ship, $15: Box 3007, Hollywood, Calif., 90028.

Dateline: SACRAMENTO, CALIF.
An Assembly committee has sent to the
floor a bill by Walter Karabian that would
permit unmarried convicts to be allowed to
have overnight visits from members of the
opposite sex. The committee did not debate the
master and same-sex visits were not considered
as part of the proposed legislation.

Dateline: ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI
Masters & Johnson are interested in finding
gay people to participate in a study of bio-
chemical measurements of serum testosterone
and semen analysis. Dr. Robert C. Kolodny is
conducting the study and may be reached Days
at the Masters & Johnson center,
314-361-2377. Address: 4910 Forest Park Blvd,
St. Louis, 63108. They are having difficulty
getting homosexuals who will participate.

Dateline: CARMEL, CALIFORNIA
Saul Alinsky died suddenly at age 63. One
of the important statements he made during his
lifetime to the various minorities that he fought
for is repeated here: "People don't get oppor-
tunity or freedom or equality or dignity as an
act of charity - you need organizations to
make the other side deliver."

Dateline: TOLEDO, OHIO
Section 17: 1-2 of the city municipal code is
being challenged by the PRO/Toledo gay group.
One of its members was arrested under this
code for "molesting a male." Attorney fees are
running $1,000 so assistance is needed: PRO/
Toledo, Box 4642, Old West End Station,
Toledo, Ohio, 43620 (419-243-9351).

Dateline: SEATTLE
William DuBay, Stonewall, blasted the
Seattle Times Religion Editor who quoted a
"sickness theory" psychiatrist in an article on
homosexuality. DuBay said the article ignored
the modern statements of many church de-
nominations which accept the gay life style.
MCC-Seattle has been denied an ad in the Times
because "homosexual" appeared in the ad so
MCC and Stonewall are demonstrating against
that newspaper.

Dateline: LAGUNA BEACH
Dr. David Mitchell of the Orange County
Mental Health Dept, has spoken out in this
conservative community against the very con-
cept of "mental health" vs. "mental illness." At
a ONE lecture, he urged gays to become part of
the mainstream and not to overstate their
homosexuality which separates them. Mitchell
helps direct the Free Clinic here . . . He said he
couldn't see any special reason for "gay pride"
any more than he could "straight pride." Instead, he stated gays should be saying,
"Look, I'm part of you!" Mitchell believes gays
should get out of the bars and into life; be
concerned "with human rights, not 'gay'
rights."

Dateline: DAVID FROST TV-REVUE
Two prisoners in a skit on this show are
talking. One says, "How I miss the flush of a
skirt, the touch of a hand, a sensitive smile -
Too bad that they paroled Lefty."
DISCUSSION GROUP
ARTS & CRAFTS CLASS
ART CLASS - LIVE MODEL
MARRIED MEN'S GROUP
PSYCHOLOGY RAP

... Those wishing to be placed on a list of volunteers may contact George Coffman, Office Manager, at 781-1570.

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Informal sharing with an instructor. Thursdays, B.P.M., SIR Center. No charge.

DEAF GAY

DISCUSSION GROUP
Informal discussion of a different topic each week. For this week's topic, see SIR Center. No charge. Call 781-1570 for details. No charge. (April: Political Meeting; May: Oakland Meeting: June: Psychological Problems — Martin Stow.)

LUNCHES — FOR SENIOR CITIZENS
Free lunch and entertainment for senior citizens. Wednesdays, 7 p.m., SIR Center. No charge.

MARRIED MEN'S GROUP
Discussion between married men (only) who also have homosexual relationships. Meetings: Tuesdays, 8:30 p.m., SIR Center. No charge.

OPEN HOUSE PROGRAMS
Formal lectures, films... a different program every month. Seventh year of monthly programs. Every third Wednesday, 8 p.m., SIR Center. Call 781-1570 for details. No charge. (April: Political Meeting; May: Oakland Meeting; June: Psychological Problems — Martin Stow.)

PSYCHOLOGY RAP
Real lectures about psychology with Martin Stow. Mondays, 1 p.m., SIR Center. Call 190 19th St. — Wednesdays, 3-3 p.m., SIR Center. No charge.

SIGN LANGUAGE CLASS
Learn sign language — join class at any time. Sponsored by the Silent Society of SIR, Mondays, 8 p.m., SIR Center. No charge.

SMOKE WATCHERS
Learn how to stop smoking. Tuesdays, 7 p.m., SIR Center. Charge, 50 cents.

WOMEN'S SELF-DEFENSE CLASS
An opportunity for women to learn how to defend themselves. Mondays, 7 p.m., SIR Center. Minimum charge.

SIR BUSINESS MEETINGS
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP
Business of S.I.R., reports, plus social hour. S.I.R. members only. First Tuesday of each month.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Meetings of the Board members meet to receive important business. Meetings are open to the public. Attend. Second & Fourth Wednesdays, 7 p.m., SIR Center.

WAYS AND MEANS
Recommends financial matters to the Board. Second and Fourth Tuesdays, 7 p.m., SIR Center. Members may attend.

SIR COMMITTEES
Readers may participate on many of S.I.R.'s committees by contacting S.I.R. at 781-1570 or by visiting the S.I.R. Center and getting the chairman's name and phone number. The regular standing committees of S.I.R. are: Membership, General, Education, Art, Public Relations, Religious, Small Activities, Social, Vector and Membership. Those wishing to be placed on a list of volunteers may contact George Coffman, Office Manager, at 781-1570.
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MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

Exploring Books

"I Am Dying, Egypt"

By Richard Amory

Peter Tuesday Hughes has long been one of my two or three favorite gay authors ever since Come with Me fell into my hands a few years ago, a book which surely contains the best-written description of an act of "oral sex" in every human language (to quote the California Penal Code) I've ever read. Hughes has turned out a great deal since then, most of it on the same level and all of it as far as I know, through Greenleaf Classics, a company with which I have had my difficulties in the past. I Am Dying, Egypt, marks, one hopes, a new beginning for GC — none of the gross typographical errors that were their speciality in the past, with an attractive cover, and a turning away from hot-sex-on-every-page. They are to be congratulated.

The take-off point and leitmotif of Hughes' book is a scene from an old 1930's DeMille flick in which Henry Wilkenson as Antony falls on his sword and signs to Claudette Colbert, as Cleopatra, "I am dying, Egypt." An electric moment for the 30's, possibly even a moment of genuine emotion, and Hughes does his best to translate it into the gay consciousness of the 70's. The plot centers around the search of one Sam Corrigan, an alcoholic beach bum and ex stunt man, for the first person who manages to stimulate something resembling loving warmth in his chest — an elusive figure sometimes called Johnny Gray. It moves rapidly from south of Malibu to Cairo to the Pyramid of Kufu to the Lybian desert — a kaleidoscope of drugs, sex, and international intrigue — a point where almost every human reaction is structured as a rape, and rape there is in the book, plenty of it, of the most degrading sort. Hughes doesn't like rape, mind you — he simply sees it as a fast of life, it's a dog-eat-dog world. I can only call it "escalation" — the most degrading sort. Hughes doesn't like rape, mind you — he simply sees it as a fast of life, it's a dog-eat-dog world, he says, in which ordinary human sensibilitie

 теки have no more chance of survival than a rabbit in a wolf pack, and, as a matter of fact, who is to doubt his statement if he reads the news from An Loc, Harlem, and ITT? Hughes puts a rather buzzy plot down on paper, but as far as I am concerned it is altogether congruent with reality.

Slytically, Hughes occasionally falls into a trap shared with several other gay authors that I neither like nor understand. I can only call it "escalation" — that is, if the hero gets copulated in Chapter One, he has to commit the infamous act (thank you, California Penal Code) in Chapter Two, and by Chapter Nine there isn't much left beyond, say, incest or outright emasculation to top off. I don't know who to blame for all this, whether the author or the editor, but in any event the climax of Chapter Eight in Egypt is certainly an example of escalation, and I thought it wholly unnecessary.

In the end, Hughes holds out a slender ray of hope — love, perhaps, and though it may be a bit tarry and slightly redolent of Rudolph Valentino, it beats joining the CIA.

A taut, fast, slender book with some dazzlingly beautiful passages, rewarding and thought-provoking if one read it carefully.

(But oh, where have all the flowers gone? Is this pessimism going to be the mood of the Nixon seventies?)
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