

ASK

newsletter

association for social knowledge

p o box 4277

vancouver 9 bc

Aug 67
[9]

A SYMBOL OF ENFORCED ORDER



Procrustes

Tied travelers to his bed and made them fit,

if their legs were too short, he stretched them;

if they were too long, he cut them.

The following lead editorial, appeared in The Vancouver Sun, July 10, 1966.

A CRUCIAL QUESTION

Whether it thinks it's ready for it or not, this country will have to face up to the question of homosexuality and the law before much more time has passed.

The impetus does not stem solely from the new social legislation soon to go on the statute books of England and Wales, although it can hardly be ignored that the Mother of Parliament recognizes the legal persecution of these unfortunate people to be a cruel and useless absurdity.

The fact is that our social climate is changing, as evidenced in the reforms we plan for divorce and birth control and abortion legislation, and we can no longer abide laws and codes of conduct of Victorian origin or earlier which do great harm and precious little good.

All who read the distasteful details of a recent gross indecency case in Vancouver-and who heard the judge say the case could have repercussions on a defendant's social and economic life-must see the pertinence of Home Secretary Roy Jenkins's words at Westminster.

"This is not a vote of confidence in, or congratulations for homosexuality," Mr. Jenkins said after the House gave overwhelming approval to a bill legalizing homosexual acts in private between consenting males.

"Those who suffer from this disability," he went on, "carry a great weight of loneliness, guilt, shame and other difficulties. The crucial question we have to answer is whether, in addition to these other disadvantages, they should also be made subject to the full rigor of the criminal law."

Canada has the same question to answer, and it is equally crucial.

It is not to be expected that we will slavishly follow Britain's lead. It took 10 years after all, for recommendations of the Wolfenden committee to reach the point where, in Mr. Jenkins' words, they are "well on the way" to becoming law. So far in this country, there has been no real discussion in the political forum, of homosexuality and the law. Only recently have the taboos come off this subject as permitted discussion material for the pulpit, or the roundtable, or the mass media.

There is a long enough road to be travelled, obviously, before our conservative professionals will be agitated enough, and courageous enough, to band together to petition for reform, as 500 prominent Britons-church leaders, university professors, doctors-did in England.

Voices for reform have been heard,

yes. Just last year, Sidney Simons and Douglas Sanders, two Vancouver lawyers, tried to talk the criminal justice committee of the B.C. branch of the Canadian Bar Association into supporting reform of our laws governing homosexuals. And failed. The province's Young New Democrats had similar ideas, but backed down from the wrath of their elders. Even John Turner, Canada's youngest cabinet minister, confided on a Pierre Berton television program not too long ago that homosexual acts in private between consenting males-"as long as they do not corrupt minors' morals"-should be allowed in this country.

As in England, the reasoning is so straightforward as to defy anything but moralistic rebuttal.

Homosexuals exist, whether we like it or not. Punishment -our maximum prison sentence for an "act of gross indecency," the general "grab-bag" charge used in homosexuality cases, is five years- has no restraining effect, not could it be expected to have. Put beyond the pale, the homosexual is made a distressed minority, a subject of blackmail; he becomes prone to suicide and, for bad measure, adds to the already difficult problem of controlling venereal disease.

The opposition to homosexual legislation reform in Canada, there can be no doubt, will echo that heard in the Commons in London-that "homosexual acts are a perversion of natural function."

This they are. The issue, however, is the law's role in regulating private morality and in attempting to achieve the impossible.

That police everywhere enforce Section 149 of the Criminal Code reluctantly and with distaste is not remarkable. It has been estimated that homosexuals constitute perhaps as many as one in 10 of our male population. Unless Canadians are radically unlike Britons-and who is to say so?-it can be said of this country, as it is of England, that homosexuals form the largest class of criminal in the land apart from motorists.

What the proposed English legislation should do, is nothing else, is encourage our clergy, and lawyers, and doctors-who should know best-to present a single coherent argument for reform of our law. It was the Church of England which, fearlessly, showed the United Kingdom law to be both unenforceable and unjust. Here too, unless we are to pretend to ignore what cannot be ignored, initiative must come from the church.

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HOMOSEXUAL BILL PASSES COMMONS

In London, the public galleries of the House of Commons, remained full, during an all night debate, of a bill by MP Leo Abse.

By early morning, the Sexual Offences Bill-which permits two consenting homosexuals more than 21 years of age, to practise homosexuality in private-was voted on, and passed by an overwhelming 99 to 14.

The measure now goes to the House of Lords, and when approved, to the statute book.

Thus the efforts of the group of 500, and the Wolfenden Report, after 10 long years, of frustration and prejudice can realize satisfaction in its approval.

Conservative member Rear Admiral Morgan Giles, said 'the people of Britain would react violently when they realized what had been done in their name,' and further stated it would 'encourage our enemies and dismay our friends.' It makes one rather feel he would have vetoed the Magna Charta because of its liberty giving clauses.

The most searing attack came from

Labor member Peter Mahon. He said in part 'it was a bad bill to begin with, it is a bad bill now and it will be a bad bill until the end of time. It will be a bad bill throughout eternity because homosexual acts are a perversion of natural function.'

Perhaps to Mr. Mahon they are perversions, but to an estimated 2 million males you call your countrymen, it depends what side of the fence you are on when described as such.

The homophile community in this country, can now hopefully look to our own Parliament, for similar legislation. By using the Wolfenden Report as a guide, let us hope one of our own MPs will take up the challenge, and rid this country of one of the most unjust laws imposed on Canadians.

British homosexuals can rejoice that soon they can dispel the fear of legal prosecution (persecution?) and emerge from the purgatory into which they found themselves cast.

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CANADIAN HOMOSEXUAL IS DEPORTED
FROM U.S.A.

The U.S. Supreme Court has rejected a Canadian homosexuals appeal that he should not be deported.

Mr. Justice Douglas dissenting from the judgment that he could be deported since, as a homosexual, he was in the prohibited category of psychopathic, said.

"It is common knowledge that in this century homosexuals have risen high in our own public service-both in Congress and in the Executive Branch-and have served with distinction. It is therefore not credible that Congress wanted to deport everyone and anyone who was a sexual deviate, no matter how blameless his social conduct had been nor how creative his work nor how valuable his contribution to society. I agree with Judge Moores' dissent (see ASK Newsletter July), that the legislative history should not be read as imputing to Congress a purpose to classify under the heading "psychopathic personality" every person who had ever had a homosexual experience.

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I believe in you my soul, the other
I am must not abase itself to you,

And you must not be abased to the
other.

--Walt Whitman...

WOULD YOU BELIEVE
LOW DRAG?

Elizabeth Hawes, a fashion designer, who in 1938 included pant suits in her collection, has predicted a new freedom in dress for men--skirts--.

Says Miss Hawes, "Men are responsible creatures, so they wear responsible clothes. But, when he is at his leisure, skirts will enter the scene as leisure wear. If I could send 10,000 men out in kilts for a few weeks, a new style would be launched.

She went on to say, "There's nothing new about skirts for men, matter of fact, trousers are fairly recent. The ancient Greek soldiers wore something like tutus, and all through the East men wore robes.

Miss Hawes who now chuttles between New York and California, showed what she had in mind for men's dress at a recent show at the Fashion Institute of Technology. Men modelled Hawes-designed plaid kilts alongside girls in suits.

Her customers have included-Ingrid Bergman, Mrs. John D. Rockefeller III, Lynn Fontaine, Mrs. L. S. Gimble and many others of the social and entertainment world.

She calls the present day styling in clothes, "the fashion revolution of the 20th century."

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-OPINION-

Today, we live in a highly ideological society, where the individual is sacrificed for welfare states, and socialist systems. Not that the utopian dream of the sociologists is theoretically wrong, but the dictum of what is good for the largest number of people can be taken too far. If everything is reduced to the lowest denominator, for the benefit of the majority, then the minority group, with their own destinies to fulfill, will inevitably be forced from the mainstream of the society in which they live.

This atmosphere of fear and rejection must be experienced at some time or another, by every homosexual, and particularly those that live in this country, where laws deny his existence. In England, the American state Illinois, and the oldest democracy in the world; Denmark, among others, whose laws are made more adult, and civilized, it is considered that the sexual life, in private, of two male adults, is in the main, their own affair. In Canada, where the laws in this respect are medieval in their con-

tent, homosexuality is apt to become a serious social problem. This problem is caused directly by these intolerant laws, which can only lead to people flouting the law. Man-made laws, that deny homosexuality, will always cause unhappiness, and trouble, both for the people who try to uphold them, and the people who, consequently have to disregard them.

There is a body of opinion, in this country, that if the laws were changed, homosexuality would increase out of all proportions, and so society would be endangered. This body of opinion, can only base their opinion, on old-wives tales, and total ignorance. The increasing number of plays, movies, and novels being produced today, are showing an important awareness regarding homosexuality. Psychologists, Psychiatrists, Medical Men, Sociologists, and many Clergymen, acknowledge the presence of the ever growing numbers of homosexuals in the world, and agree, that the only recourse society has, is to remove the legal stigma, and bring homosexuality into the open.

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AT THE CENTER

ITS HAPPENING

1929 KINGSWAY

SATURDAY, AUGUST 12th

Saturday, August 12th--ASK's ever popular 'dollar party' The biggest bash on the coast. Admission is .50¢ for members and \$1.00 for guests. byob,.....Come early and dance the night away!

SATURDAY, AUGUST 26th

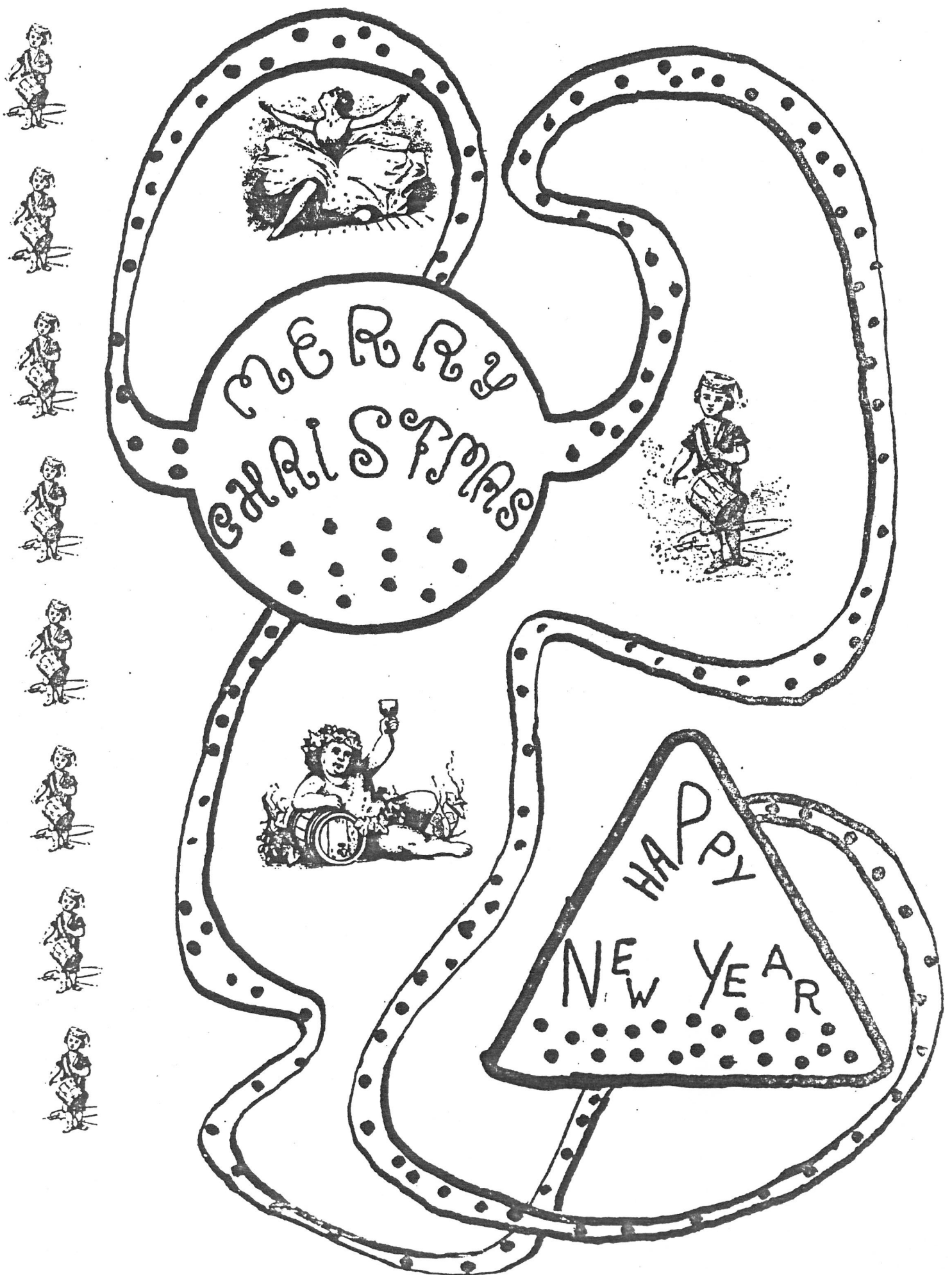
Saturday, August 26th--Now is the time for all good men--and girls--to come to the party....A Pyjama Party. This should be a marvey-poo event, and you can wear your baby-doll pyjamas to this one. You girls can wear yours also....Admission is \$1.00 for members and \$1.50 for guests...byob.

The Art Club hopes to make some field trips this summer for sketching etc., and anyone who is interested in joining the group, should contact Dorothy at the club, or one of the Executive members who will put you in contact with her. The club has some great plans for the fall, and hopes to build up its representation so it can plan a full schedule for the coming fall and winter program. Cummon you art buffs, lets get together on this, and participate in one of the services the club has to offer. Some very fine instruction is offered, and it is hoped for guest instructors to lecture in the fall program.

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The Library has received a bunch of new mags and books, and would like to remind members, they must sign the books out, if they plan to take them from the center.

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OTTAWA--NOVEMBER 7, 1967. - "I would dismiss the appeal...."

These words, spoken by The Honourable Mr. Justice Fauteux and concurred by the Honourable Messrs Judson and Spence, means that Everett George Klippert will spend the rest of his life in prison, under section 661 of the Canada Criminal Code which declares him a Dangerous Sexual Offender, within the meaning of S 659 (b) of the Criminal Code.

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Everett George Klippert, Canadian, Citizen, Homosexual, was described by psychiatrist F. G. McKerrocher as: "co-operative, restraint and frank. There was no suggestion whatsoever of any violence at any time . . . I did not feel the accused showed any evidence that he would behave in a violent fashion."

Dr. I. McLarent McDonald testified "I felt that this man was not the type who would physically injure or coerce people to take part in these (homosexual) activities."

Section 659 (b), defines DANGEROUS SEXUAL OFFENDER as follows:

"dangerous sexual offender" means a person who, (i) by his conduct in any sexual matter, has shown a failure to control his sexual impulses, and (ii) who (a) is likely to cause injury, pain or other evil to any person, through failure to control his sexual impulses or (b) is likely to commit a further sexual offence, and....

Justice Fauteux in his reasoning, has laid much stress on the words "has shown a failure to control", and "likely to commit a further sexual offence." He fails to take into consideration the word "and", which precedes (ii) in the section. Although going into much detail in the interpretation of the act, he failed to consider this one word, which I feel is the true meaning of the section, "and is likely to cause injury, etc...."

Very condescendingly, he concludes, "whether the criminal law, with respect to sexual misconduct in which appellant has indulged for nearly twenty-five years, should be changed to the extent to which it has been recently in England, by the Sexual Offences Act 1967 (c.60) is obviously not for us to day; our

jurisdiction is to interpret and apply laws validly enacted".

How gracious, how sweet, how so very narrowminded of him.

I have no doubt Mr. Fauteux is an honourable and just man. Let us hope so, considering the position he occupies, but where is his understanding, his far-sightedness, and indeed, his righteousness, which is also a prerequisite of his job. Shouldn't he have looked more far-afield and seen what other countries, governments, and members of his own fraternity are doing and saying about homosexuality, should he have not seen that this law should not apply to homosexuals, or if it does, shouldn't part (ii) (violence etc.) been the section applicable. Doing one's job is one thing, persecution, (too strong a word? I think not), is another.

Mr. Justice Cartwright, in dissenting, stated "...If the law on this subject matter is interpreted by the courts below (Mr. Fauteux's reasoning) it means that every man in Canada who indulges in sexual misconduct of the sort forbidden in S. 149 of the Criminal Code with another consenting adult male and who appears likely, if at liberty, to continue such misconduct should be sentenced to preventive detention, that is to incarcerate for life. However loathsome conduct of this sort mentioned may appear to all normal persons, I think it improbable that Parliament should have intended such a result..."

Well Canadians, well two million homosexuals, well second class citizens. How does the thought of spending the rest of your life in prison appeal to you???

Oh Canada...

OH!!! Canada-----

Would you speak up?

Picture a modern hospital in Vancouver--a Doctor, a Nursing Supervisor and a stenographer in an office.

The Doctor and Nurse are discussing a difficult patient and reading her file.

The Nurse says, "Well, what else can you expect, she's a prostitute, a drug addict and a homosexual."

The stenographer, a Lesbian, wonders if she should say something. Suddenly she decides to and addresses the Doctor, "I don't see where a homosexual is as bad as a drug addict or prostitute". The Doctor shrugs, "They all belong together, one thing goes with another."

Perhaps this mild defence of homosexuals left no mark on either

Doctor or Nurse but just perhaps it might give them pause to reconsider their views. The point is that being a member of ASK had helped to give this woman enough self respect and courage to speak up.

Something to keep in mind is that homosexuality is still listed in the official Diagnostic handbook of the American Psychiatric Association as a disease. To quote from the handbook which is used throughout every hospital in North America "Sexual deviation includes most of the cases formerly classed as "psychopathic personality with pathologic sexuality." The diagnosis will specify the type of pathologic behaviour, such as homosexuality, transvestism, pedophilia, fetishism and sexual sadism. (including rape, sexual assault, mutilation).

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"LAST EXIT" is doomed in Blighty....

Poor Georgette, a hip queer, Vinnie her butch lover; Camille, Goldie, Tralala, Harry, Ginger, and other characters, who live so vividly in Hubert Selby Jr.'s novel "Last Exit to Brooklyn", will never be able to let their English friends, of the true plight of so many citizens who do live the life Mr. Selby portrays in his socio-critical book.

The publishers of Last Exit, were fined \$240. and ordered to pay \$1,200. towards the cost of the prosecution.

The all-male jury, specifically found that the book was an obscene article, and that the book was

without the usual socially redeeming value.

This excellent novel, tells the story of homosexuality, drugs and violence, in a way never presented before to the public. Whether it was the way the story was presented or the story itself, that was in the opinion of one of the witnesses opinion, "If there is such a thing as obscenity, then this book is obscene", was not specified. If it is the story itself that has caused the cry, then it is time these learned gentlemen stopped living in their closed world, and had a look around them, and the world.

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POETS CORNER

O
E MY BITTERNESS TOWARD HUMANITY? THE MASSES WHO DARE TO STAND
T IN JUDGEMENT OF SOMETHING THEY KNOW NOTHING ABOUT,
S TO DICTATE WHOM I SHALL LOVE AND WHOM I SHALL NOT.
PIOUSLY, THEY CAST THEIR BENEVOLENCE SO CALLED,
C TO THE FOUR WINDS,
O AND WONDER AT MY INGRATITUDE TO CRAWL ON MY BELLY
R LIKE A WHIPPED DOG, TO LAP UP THE CRUMBS OF THEIR PITY.
N THEY, THE RIGHTIOUS, WHO RIGHT OR WRONG,
E GOOD OR BAD, HAVE THE AUDACITY TO EXPECT ME
R TO CONFORM TO THEIR SET OF STANDARDS.
CARING NOTHING OF MY FEELINGS, MY DESIRES,
I MUST FOLLOW SHEEP-LIKE.
FOR SOCIETY COMMANDS, AS WELL AS CONDEMNS, MY WAY OF LIFE.

-Marty.

AN ASK INTERVIEW WITH "MISS LOLLIE TuTuMUCH."

Your ASK reporter, this week interviewed "Miss Lollie TuTuMUCH, familiar to many ASK readers as the onetime Prima Ballerina, of a very famous group; until one eventful evening, while performing on the Sullivan Show, with "Rudi", 'her' transition tapes broke during a very difficult lift, and several million people witnessed Rudi, left holding the bag, among other thing.

We interviewed her in the palatial "Queen" suite of the New Fountain Hotel. Also present; was someone whom she happened to grab at a party she attended while in California. The party was called 'Presidential Primary', and the persons name is Ronald Ragin.

ASK: Miss TuTuMUCH, could you tell our ASK readers if....

Miss TuTuMUCH: Oh, call me Lollie dear.

ASK: Tes, well Lollie dear, I won..

Ragin: Watch it buddy, you get too friendly, and it will take a 20 mule team to haul you out of here.

Lollie: Oh for goodness sake Ronie, you're always trying to govern everyone, go take a shower or something. Use that new Boraxo soap I bought for you. Now what was it you want to know sweetie.

ASK: Miss TuTuMUCH...Lollie, I know many ASK readers are extremely interested in knowing what your plans are now that you have hung up your shoes.

Lollie: Oh, I have just oodles of plans. This week for instance, I open in an out of town show for trials before we take it to the C.E.

ASK: Portland, Seattle, San Francisco?

Lollie: Moosamin.....Saskatchewan.

ASK: We have heard you also plan an advice column and will be carried by the 'Queen Syndicate'.

Lollie: Yaaas, I do plan to write a column. With so many problems around these days, I feel it my duty to assist my fellow man, girl, boy, you name it, I've got the answer. Now,, Ronnie, there, boy did he have a problem. Before I met him, he thought he was God. Can you imagine it? Him, GOD!! Well anyway, I met him at a party in L.A., and then when we woke up the next morning he told me he had a big problem.. Well, I thought at the time, it certainly is big, but it wasn't a problem, although I will admit sitting was a pain in the ass for awhile; but anyway, he said that

wasn't his problem, it was mine. ASK: And so..

Lollie: Well, then he told me about this God idea of his. Actually, it was a simple problem to cure, really it was.

ASK: What advice did you give him?

Lollie: Well, it wasn't advice really, it was more what you might call making him face the facts.

ASK: What facts?

Lollie: Well, I showed him some copies of the Vancouver papers, and after reading them, he came to the conclusion that he couldn't be God, after all, since he already lives here in Van in Silly Hall, Anyway, Ronnie has a Death Valley fear of Rats.

ASK: A female ASK reader of mine, gave me a problem she has, and hopefully would like you to solve it for her.

Lollie: Why I'd love to.

ASK: The problem is "I am a stomping butch, who has been married to a sweet little fem named Terry. Now Terry and May have asked June if she would like to move in with them so Alice will stay away from Jackie who saw Carol and I together at Mabels, the day Peggy and May met Connie. Now, Suzie says she won't have anything to do with me anymore. What will I do?"

Lollie: Oh this one's too easy, my answer is. . . . 'yes'.

ASK: Thank you Lollie, I can see you really have a good perception of other persons problems. We wish you all the best of luck in your new venture and career.

Lollie: Why thank you dahling, now if you'd like to come back later, I'll send Ronnie out to practice his walking on water, and we can....

-Mel.

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Quick Canadian Facts:.....

In Canada, you may: Rape a 70 year old woman, and get 10 years,
Gang rape a 13 year old girl and get 3 years,
Murder a homosexual you are robbing and get 15 years,
Throw acid in the face of your wifes lover, 5 years,
Get drunk and cause your children to die in a blazing house, 1 year,
Be a Homosexual, and get life imprisonment.

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Feb 67

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MATTACHINE ONE DRUM

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ROAMINGS AND RAMBLINGS

The Homophile clearinghouse in Kansas City has prepared a list of homophile organizations throughout the U.S. and Canada. Thirty-four organizations are listed.

The two Canadian listings are A.S.K. and the Canadian Council on Religion and the Homosexual, P.O. Box 741, Station B, Ottawa Ontario. The founding of the C.C.R.H. was largely the work of the first president of A.S.K., who moved to Ottawa about eight months after ASK's formation.

The newest homophile group listed is the Student Homophile League of Columbia University. They write to us:

"As far as we have been able to ascertain, there has never been a student homophile organization in this country. There has never been an organization specifically equipped to approach the problems of the student homosexual, and bring the academic community itself face-to-face with the problems inherent in its own and society's treatment of the homosexual minority."

They report active help by a Chaplain and they have applied to the University for recognition as an official student organization of Columbia University.

News comes from California about the continuing work towards the establishment of a National Legal Defense Fund. The need for such a fund is emphasized in recent news from Los Angeles. Sixteen individuals were arrested in a raid on a bar at 3909 Sunset Blvd.. The Tavern Guild of Southern California reports on the incidents; the first report relates to New Years Eve.

"About 12 vice-squad officers (plainclothesmen) started beating patrons to the floor about 5 minutes after midnight. They did not identify themselves except by their weapons. After beating the patrons, the 16 to be arrested were laid face down on the sidewalk outside the bar. Five patrol cars, containing 2 uniformed officers each, were brought from a near-by side street where they had been parked for sometime and the individuals arrested were taken to the newly opened Rampart Street Police Station. Three bartenders were among those arrested. "Officers then went to a second bar, at 4001 Sunset Blvd., attacked the lady bar owner and the bar's manager and bartender, who came to her aid. The owner and manager were not arrested, although the manager was left on the sidewalk bleeding. The bartender was so badly beaten that he is still in County General Hospital, where he has undergone an operation to remove his ruptured spleen. He had gone 22 hours before being sent to the hospital. He was finally booked on a felony charge of assaulting an officer."

And more recent news indicates the harassment is continuing:

"Another raid, the most recent, occurred on January 7, 1967 at the "Ram's Head" - 16 people were arrested under Penal Code 647a. The same officers participating in the beatings on January 1, 1967 were involved in this raid. No acts of brutality were reported on January 7th....

"One of the bars raided on January 1, 1967 was the "New Faces." The raids occurred at 12:10 a.m. and correspond with Mr. Reagan taking office. Raids have continued nightly ever since. "

ASK held a special general meeting on Thursday, January 26th at the Center at 1929 Kingsway. The Constitution, previously circulated, was approved with minor changes, and a new executive elected. Dance and booze policy was discussed and the pattern to be established in February will be two liquor parties a month, and dry social evenings on other weekend nights. Discussion gab-n-javas will continue on Thursday.

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ASSOCIATION FOR SOCIAL KNOWLEDGE COMMUNITY CENTER
1929 KINGSWAY, VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4 Social evening at the center - TV,
cards, dancing, conversation.
Center open from 9:30 on.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9 Gab-n- iava discussion on
OBSCENITY AND CENSORSHIP
8 p.m.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10th VALENTINE BIRTHDAY DANCE
Celebrating seven birthdays and
beloved cupid - byob - food and
birthday cake elegantly supplied.
a sumptuous red-lavender ball.
9 p.m. at the center.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16th Gab-n-java discussion on
"THE EROTIC MINORITIES"
This book, by a Swedish doctor,
created great controversy in
Sweden - compared to it the proposals
of the Wolfenden Report are
completely non-controversial.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18 Social evening at the center - TV,
cards, dancing, conversation. Center
open from 9:30 on.

*****WEEKEND OF
*****FEBRUARY 24th, 25th and 26th

OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE ASK COMMUNITY CENTER

FRIDAY EVENING: dance, reception of foreign
dignitaries, awards and decorations presented,
knightings, byob.

SATURDAY - afternoon - open house and seminar
evening - reception, open house for
guests and prospective members.
Refreshments and food served.

SUNDAY Brandy Brunch 12:15 to 2:30

WATCH FOR SPECIAL PROGRAM FOR THE OFFICIAL OPENING.

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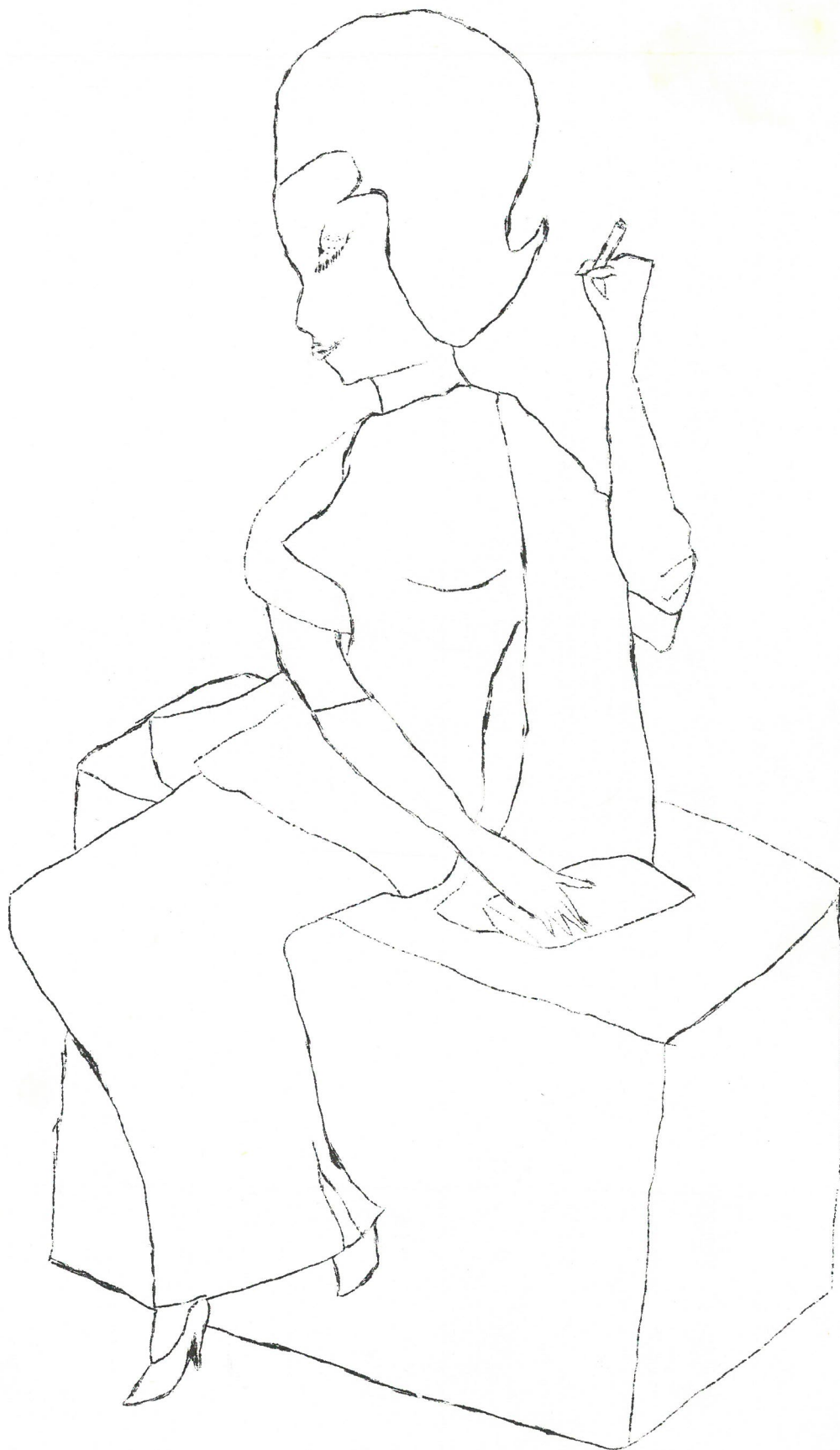
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Jan 67

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Queen of the Ball

New Year's Eve 1967

ROAMINGS AND RAMBLINGS

The ASK Center opened with a Centennial New Year's Eve Ball. The Ball marks the opening of the first community social center in Canada run by a homophile organization. With this newsletter is a schedule of events at the center. The newsletter is being mailed to quite a number of people who are not members of the Association. Subsequent monthly newsletters will go only to members. Membership is \$5.00 per year. The ASK Community Center will accomodate many meetings which will be open to members, guests and interested people, but the social events will be confined to members and their guests. For the regular dances there will be a charge of \$1.00 for members and \$2.00 for each of their guests. A member can bring no more than three guests.

The New Year's Ball was a delightful success. Two members installed black lighting producing an exotic and seductive effect. The Queen of the Ball was a stately brunette, dressed elegantly in green velvet. The Center had been transformed in the two weeks since the Association took it over. Partitions divided the front area into an entrance-office area. A bead-curtained doorway led into the area where the buffet lunch was served. A bar was built and installed in the main assembly area. On the wall behind the bar is a collage of posters, pictures, cartoons and slogans.

Look magazine has finally come through with it's article on homosexuality. Material was gathered over six months ago in San Francisco for the story. The article is better than it's title, "The Sad Gay Life" implies. The article concludes as follows:

"Dr. Marmor, noting that the vast majority of homosexuals do not seek psychiatric treatment, says: 'Clearly, society must ultimately learn to live with them and to accept them as long as they maintain common standards of public decency. Punishment of the homosexual is clearly no solution.' Perhaps better understanding is."

The article makes it clear that homosexuals are no more prone to child molestation than heterosexuals and that homosexuality is not spreading like an infectious disease. The author of the article, Look senior editor Jack Star, was in Vancouver about a month ago - but he was looking for draft-dodgers, not homosexuals.

ASK decided months ago not to attempt to print a full newsletter. We feel that our efforts are best spent in other ways. Therefore we will simply be publishing this type of slim newsletter which is for members only and is designed to keep you informed about current happenings and the events at the ASK center. We suggest that members subscribe to a homophile magazine from the U.S.. We recommend highly DRUM magazine with its lovely pictures and good reporting. A subscription for one year is \$7.00 from Janus Society of America, 34 S. 17th Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Zip Code 19103. For the girls there is the D.O.B. magazine The Ladder. The Ladder costs \$5.00 a year and comes from the Daughters of Bilitis office at 3470 Mission Street, San Francisco.

News of two new groups. One in the U.S. Midwest is called SAME: Society Advocating Mutual Equality. A new group is definitely in formation in Seattle and has asked us for the use of our name. They will be the Association for Social Knowledge in the United States (A.S.K. U.S.). We look forward to a fruitful affiliation. A full report on the Seattle gay bar crisis will come soon - Seattle City Council has extended the licenses of the four bars for another year.

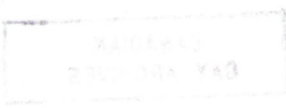
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JANUARY 1967

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|--------------------------------|--|
| SATURDAY, JANUARY 7th | dancing at the center beginning
at 9 p.m. |
| THURSDAY, JANUARY 12th | gab-n-java discussion at 8 p.m.
newcomers welcome, discussion of
future programs for the center. |
| SATURDAY, JANUARY 14th | dancing at the center beginning
at 9 p.m. |
| THURSDAY, JANUARY 19th | gab-n-java at 8 p.m. Discussion
of the attitudes and actions of
the Vancouver police. |
| Saturday, JANUARY 21st | dancing at the center beginning
at 9 p.m. |
| **** THURSDAY,
JANUARY 26th | SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING
Voting on the new constitution.
Election of new executive.
All members are urged to attend. |
| SATURDAY, JANUARY 28th | dancing at the center beginning
at 9 p.m. |
| SUNDAY, JANUARY 29th | Brandy Brunch at the center,
12 noon until 2: a lunch time
breakfast with brandy enriched
coffee. |

IN FEBRUARY WILL COME
THE OFFICIAL OPENING
OF THE ASK CENTER.....

WATCH FOR IT.



ASK

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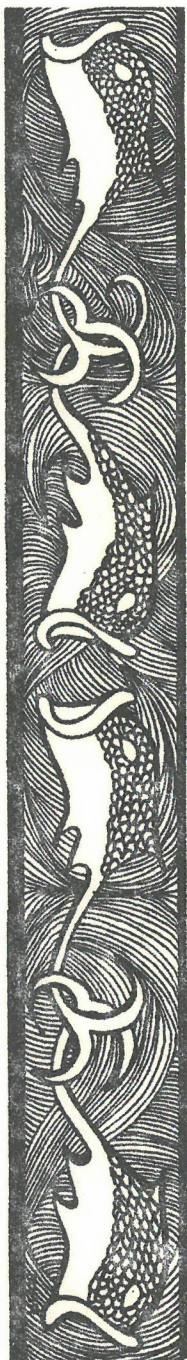
knowledge

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July 67

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THE CHURCH AND HOMOSEXUALITY

Can God condemn a person for being a homosexual? Maybe we should ask would God condemn a homosexual?

How do you think you stand in His eyes? Can you accept the majority of the churches' views, that being a homosexual is not necessarily sinful, but rather the homosexual act that is the sin. To me, that is akin to saying to a tubercular, yes, you may be one, but you may not cough.

What follows are some prominent church leaders feelings on homosexuality.

Rabbi Richard L. Rubenstein,
Director of B'nai B'rith,
Hillel Foundation.

One of the reasons why a homosexual finds such tremendous hostility against him is that practically every human being alive has some latent homosexual feelings. Most people do not want to recognize it in themselves. Instead, they turn against the homosexual with a great deal of anger that is really a defence against their own temptations all of us, to some extent are latently homosexual. The minute a person realizes this about himself, he is much less likely to be hostile to the homosexual.

Rev. Howard Moody,
United Church of Christ.

One reason for our uneasiness with homosexuality, is that it touches many people too closely. When I was in the Marine Corps, the guys who were really the hardest on homosexuals, who beat them physically, were the guys whose own sexuality was in question. A strong heterosexual will have no fear of the homosexual; it is the ambivalent man who seems afraid.

Father Herbert Rogers, S.J.,
New York Fordham University.

We may have been less than kind, and at best often merely condescending in our treatment of the homosexual. This is a severe problem, and we don't help matters by using terms such as "unnatural". We must remember that such words, are understood by people in terms of their own experience and they intensify guilt needlessly. I don't think we should discriminate against the homosexual; we should treat him the way we treat the heterosexual. In both cases, the seduction of the young, violence and public indecency should be forbidden. These anti homosexual laws encourage a much worse evil: blackmail and police entrapment.

Rt. Rev. James A. Pike,
former Bishop,
Episcopal Diocese of Calif.

Freely consulting homosexuality should not be a criminal offence. Even if it is to be conceived as a sin, it should not be a crime. Not all sins are crimes--nor should they be, when they don't affect outside persons.

Dr. William MacNicol,
Presbyterian Church of Scotland.
Whatever the law of the land might be or other churches might decide, the Church of Scotland makes clear that such practices were a grave and growing evil which had incurred God's wrath in the past and would do so again if persisted in.

Salt anyone?

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The Children of The Flowers

The members of ASK, and indeed, the whole of the homophile community should do a little rational thinking before blasting off on the "hippies".

One so often hears, 'but look at the way they dress, and those beards, well.....' and, smoking pot, and they don't work, and, and, and..... So what?

There are the fringes in the hippy world, the same as in the gay life. They have their ideals and ideas of conduct the same as do homosexuals.

They are a minority group, whom society does not want to accept. They are purged by the police. They ask only to be left alone, to live their lives they choose. Sound familiar?

We in the homophile community, ask the heterosexuals for understanding, and not to judge us on the actions of the fringe. We say, talk to us, and find out what we think, what we feel, and what we really are. Shouldn't we also give the same consideration to the hippies?

::::::::::::::::::

Camerado, I give you my hand!

I give you my love more precious
than money,

I give you myself before preach-
ing or law;

Will you give me yourself? will you
come travel with me?

Shall we stick by each other as
long as we live?

-Walt Whitman

::::::::::::::::::

CANADIAN HOMOSEXUAL TO BE DEPORTED
FROM U.S.A.

The Immigration Service in the U.S. is attempting to deport a Canadian homosexual on the grounds that a 1952 law excludes anyone with a 'psychopathic personality.' The Service argues that a homosexual is automatically psychopathic.

The U.S. Court of appeals upheld the Immigration Service's ruling, and the case now awaits a Supreme Court decision.

Judge Leonard Moore, in his dissent from the appeals court decision, opines:

"I cannot impute to Congress an intention that the term 'psychopathic personality' in the 1952 amendments of the Immigration and Nationality Act be construed to cover anyone who had ever had a homosexual experience, Professor

Kinsey estimated that 'at least 37 percent' of the American male population has at least one homosexual experience, defined in terms of physical contact to the point of orgasm, between the beginning of adolescence and old age. Earlier estimates had ranged from one percent to 100 percent. The sponsors of Britain's current reform bill on homosexuality have indicated that one male in 25 is a homosexual in Britain. To label a group so large 'excludable aliens' would be tantamount to saying that Sappho, Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo, Andre Gide and, perhaps even Shakespeare, were they to come to life again, would be deemed unfit to visit our shores. Indeed, so broad a definition might well comprise more than a few members of legislative bodies."

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ITS HAPPENING
AT THE CENTER 1929 KINGSWAY

SATURDAY, JULY 8th

Saturday, July 8th—Another Mad Mod 'dollar party'. Judging from the crowd, at the June dollar party, it indicates this has to be the best /and cheapest/ dance on the Coast. Come early—bring a friend.

SATURDAY JULY 22nd

Saturday, July 22nd—THIS IS IT, are you ready? A Beach Dance right here at the Centre. Bathing suits should-be-a-must. LIFE GUARD on duty.

Coming
SUNDAY AUGUST 6th

A Mystery Trip—We won't say where yet, but we can tell you it is on a lovely little uninhabited Island... Tickets will be sold in advance only. More information can be obtained at the Center.

Go to a Fairy Queen



For one of lifes' little pleasures

BOOK REVIEW

Don Rico explores the gay—drag scene in his book "The Man From Pansy". Set in the L.A. area, the story tells us of Buzz Cardigan, fantastically handsome, tough, brainy, deft, agile and hip. This very butch 'ex' C.I.D. agent, cruises the gay bars in search of a ring of blackmailers who ship their marks off to Cuba, for the wildest orgy of all time. Since the book was obviously written for the gay scene Mr. Rico, does not need to tell us 'some ~~men~~ like to dress in womens clothes. His cliches of 'I don't care how they have sex, that's their business,' becomes a little boring, after the umteenth time.

All in all though, the book is enjoyable, and much better than the junk-pulp available lately.

This book and others are available in the ASK Library. The Library is always looking for more books — all donations gratefully accepted.

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Ask your friends to become
an ASK member now.

Remember, it's a members club in
the Fall.

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ASK

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June 67

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*NEWS FROM SEATTLE AND VANCOUVER

*DOLLAR PARTY JUNE 10th

*RITES OF SPRING PAGAN COSTUME
BALL AND CAMP MEETING JUNE 24th

ROAMINGS AND RAMBLINGS

At least six members of ASK were in Seattle over the long weekend in May. It is a lively town. The submarine room, which had been the major girl's bar, is loosing ground to the Stage Door. For the fellows the Golden Horseshoe continues to pack them in with dancing. The 611 is quiet and nicely appointed. After hours the Caper Club in the Hotel Morrison draws everyone.

On Sunday four ASK members met with the executive of F.E.M. (Female Educational Movement). The latest word from their lawyer is that they will have to change there name to get incorporated. Pity, it's a great name. They are a lively and concerned group of girls. It was suggested that F.E.M. and A.S.K. recognize each others memberships ³/₄ so that members of ASK could attend FEM functions at a members rate and vice versa. So that shall be done.

Later on the Sunday, Doug met with the President of the Dorion Society, the male group. A member of the Dorion Society had spoken at a public panel on Sexual Privacy (part of a series of meetings sponsored by the American Civil Liberties Association on the various aspects of privacy as a legal right). The Dorion group is small and has not, to date, sponsored any social events. We will keep in touch with both FEM and Dorion. We will recognize memberships in both. They are always welcome at the center.

Many changes at ASK. A new light was donated for the front office. A mural is just completed on the north wall of the back room. It is a delightful mural with exotic flowers and petaled faces....elegantly appropriate for the RIGHTS OF SPRING PAGAN DANCE AND CAMP MEETING, June 24th. Do not miss the RIGHTS OF SPRING PAGAN DANCE AND CAMP MEETING or you will be socially shamed.

New Policies:*free music - coins for the jute box will be available from the bar

*mix obtainable by donation

*chips and cheezies will be provided

*entrance fee for members will be \$1.00, for non-members \$1.50 (exception for the dollar party on June 10th, which is being held to celebrate the success of the May dollar party - for dollar parties, members pay 50¢ non-members pay \$1.00).

*during the months of June, July and August the center will be open for dancing on Saturday nights only.

The Klippert case was argued before the Supreme Court of Canada in the last full week in May. This case was mentioned in the last newsletter. If the conviction is upheld it means that any practicing homosexual in Canada can be convicted of being a "dangerous sexual offender" and sentenced to an indefinite sentence. It would not matter that the sexual activity was private, with consent and with adult persons. Klippert was convicted in the Northwest territories and his conviction (strictly speaking a finding of status) was upheld by the Alberta Court of Appeal acting as the Court of Appeal for the Northwest Territories. Now the Supreme Court will judge.

[illegible]

Saturday June 24th - THE event of the season,
ASKS RITES OF SPRING PAGAN DANCE AND CAMP MEETING.
This is an art celebration, occuring at the gay
equinox. This is a costume ball and liberties must
be taken with your clothing.

THE SENTENCING OF HOMOSEXUAL OFFENDERS

Section 149 of the Criminal Code of Canada states:

"Everyone who commits an act of gross indecency with another person is guilty of an indictable offence and is liable to imprisonment for five years."

There are also sections prohibiting indecent assault (10 years), buggery (14 years) and indecent acts (6 months). Normally, prosecution of homosexual activity will involve use of section 149. The term "gross indecency" is not defined by the criminal law.

It is unusual for a case involving consenting homosexual activity between adults to come before the courts. No police force in Canada appears to be making an effort to detect homosexual activity. The cases which come to light usually involve some public element. The parties may be in a public washroom or be in a parked car in a public park. In two recent cases in Vancouver one party was dressed in female clothing. In each case the police stated that they followed the couple thinking it was a situation of female prostitution.

"Gross Indecency" is an "indictable offence" and the accused person will have a choice of trial by magistrate, trial by judge alone, or trial by judge and jury. The great majority of homosexual cases are heard by a magistrate in "police court." Because they are dealt with at the lowest court level, the cases are not generally reported in the law reports and it is difficult for lawyers to locate precedents for sentences. This article will summarize all the cases known to the writer.

(1) Regina v five accused persons, July 12, 1961, Magistrate Rice, Winnipeg, Manitoba (4 Criminal Law Quarterly, p. 124) No facts are available relating to this case. All five accused persons pleaded guilty. Magistrate Rice stated:

"Although none of the accused has any previous convictions for similar offences, all admit to being confirmed homosexuals and it would appear that none has any thought of mending his ways. The ages of the accused vary from 22 years to 37 years of age. They all have different educations and backgrounds. One accused completed second year University; another completed Grade 12; two others Grade 10; another Grade 7. All are of practically different religion and race.... Although the maximum punishment is five years I can, as the law now stands, do any of the following, in addition:

- (1) Place the accused on suspended sentence;
- (2) Place the accused on probation;
- (3) Levy a fine;

I can see no purpose in suspending sentence. The accused are confirmed homosexuals and have not indicated that they intend to fight off this disease. Even if they did, I doubt whether they could. I do not know how far a successful medical treatment has progressed in this field.

"I doubt whether the probation officers can help. While I have the greatest respect for them and they do an excellent job and are trained in their fields, one cannot expect them, without the help of science, to work with these accused.

"Considering then the question of punishment from all angles I have come to the conclusion that until some other mode of punishment is devised a fine with the alternative of a gaol sentence should be imposed on first offenders - and all the accused are such. There is no need for me to deal with second offenders at this stage.

"As long as this revolting and sickening offence is a crime, the law can only punish; it is not for courts to prescribe treatment; this is a matter for medical science. It is also not a matter for the courts to say how and where these unfortunates should be incarcerated. There are experts in that field.

"The accused charged with one offence are fined \$200 and costs or 2 months. The accused charged with two offences are fined \$100 and costs on the first offence, or one month, and \$200 and costs on the second charge, or two months consecutive."

(2) In 1963 police surveillance in a washroom in Stanley Park in Vancouver resulted in 8 men being charged with acts of gross indecency. There were suicides as a result of this police surveillance.

(a) Regina v Holte and Landry, July 13, 1963, Magistrate Reid, Vancouver, British Columbia. Both accused were sentenced to a suspended sentence for a period of two years with a bond in the amount of \$500. The terms of the bond required the accused persons to report to a probation officer at least monthly, to consult a medical doctor for psychiatric help or aid about their condition and not to loiter or be found in any public park during the two year term of the bond.

(b) Regina v LaChance and Bliss, July 31, 1963, Magistrate Reid, Vancouver, British Columbia. Same sentence as (a).

(c) Regina v Desjarlais and Ferguson, July 30, 1963, Magistrate Reid, Vancouver, British Columbia. Same sentence as (a). (d) Regina v Herrmann and Singer, August 20, 1963, Magistrate Bartman. Each accused was sentenced to three months incarceration. An appeal was taken to the British Columbia Court of Appeal. The sentence was reduced to a suspended sentence for a period of two years with a bond in the amount of \$500, with the condition that the accused persons stay away from all public parks.

(3) Regina v Marshall and Regina v Turpin, May 4, 1966 and June 2, 1966, Magistrate White, Vancouver, British Columbia. The alleged homosexual activity occurred in a car parked in a public park. Turpin was imprisoned for one month and placed on a recognizance for one year in the amount of \$200. Marshall was sentenced to one day and fined \$100.

(4) Regina v DelVecchio, 1966, Magistrate Mulligan, Vancouver British Columbia. The accused was dressed in female clothing. The other party, a sailor, stated he did not know the accused was a male until they entered the room. Both parties were found in a state of undress. No charge was laid against the sailor. A suspended sentence for 18 months was imposed, the bond in the amount of \$500., with the stipulation that the accused make an appointment with a mental health clinic and have an assessment done there and take any treatment provided.

(5) Regina v Wemp and Regina v Pillard, June 28, 1964, July 23, 1964, Magistrate Watts, West Vancouver, British Columbia. The alleged homosexual activity occurred in a car parked in a public park. Both accused were fined \$250. and placed on a bond for two years in the amount of \$1.00.

(6) Regina v DeSeve, June 9, 1966, Magistrate White, Vancouver British Columbia. The accused was in female clothing and received \$10.00 for an act of oral copulation. The other person stated he did not know the accused was a man and no charge was laid against him. A sentence of three months imprisonment was imposed.

(7) Regina v Wallace and Gaudet, May 5, 1967, Magistrate Hume, Vancouver, British Columbia. It was argued in this case that the private, homosexual act (fellatio) between the consenting parties did not constitute an act of gross indecency. Magistrate Hume stated:

"Moral standards are changing and will continue to change and what society will accept today, society in twenty years will not accept; and conversely, what they will not accept today, in twenty years they will accept, and this will change continuously. The question of homosexuality, which this case is about, is a perplexing problem and there are many theories as to its cause and many explanations given for it. There are many words spoken about whether or not it should be accepted or should be recognized, not only for itself, but for the benefit of those who the majority of us think are unfortunately trapped in this situation: and there's no doubt that, while it is not being accepted as proper or normal behavior or necessarily acceptable behavior, that society is generally, as it is in so many other things today, adopting a more broadminded attitude a more condoning or accepting attitude towards these devious behaviors. But, the law is definitely laid down to try to retain our moral revolutions within reasonable bounds, and I'm satisfied that at today's level of thinking, the basis of today's mores and the mores in this particular area, that the act committed in this case must of necessity fall within the definition of gross indecency, otherwise the prohibition can have really no meaning.

"...while I personally could really care less what two persons, male or female, do together, I feel that I do not have the right to find the accused not guilty because of my personal feelings. Neither is it my function to determine or to make a decision on the case on the basis of whether I think the statute is just or up to moral standards. I have only to interpret it as I think society would want it interpreted and as I think the legislature intended it to be interpreted. So that this perhaps has been my conflict, in knowing what I would perhaps like to do as opposed to what I feel I must do in properly interpreting the law."

A suspended sentence for a period of two years was imposed with a bond in the amount of \$1000.

(8) Regina v Klippert, Northwest Territories Magistrates Court, The accused plead guilty to three counts of gross indecency and was sentenced to three years. Subsequently the crown made an application to have Klippert declared a dangerous sexual offender and sentenced to preventive detention. The Crown was successful in that application, and the finding was upheld by the court of appeal for the Northwest territories. The appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada has been argued, but no decision has been handed down to date.

(9) Regina v Boisvert and Lupien, June 27, 1967, County Court Judge Schultz, Vancouver, British Columbia. Boisvert had been in female clothing. He was fined \$100. Lupien, a senior civil servant with the federal government, was fined \$750.

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KINGSWAY

ROAMINGS AND RAMBLINGS

When this newsletter is being mailed we will also be mailing invitations to many prominent citizens to come to an open house at 1929 Kingsway, the ASK center. Formal printed invitations will go to clergy, psychiatrists, professors, lawyers, social workers and police officials. They will be invited to an open house at the center on the afternoon of Saturday, February 25th, from 1:30 to 5:00 in the afternoon. They will not be invited to any of the other functions over the opening weekend. BE SURE YOU'RE THERE.

Friday, February 24th: wild, camp, mad, gay ball - grand opening - reception of foreign dignitaries, awards and decorations, knightings, Queenings, byob, 9:30

Saturday, February 25th

1:30 to 5:00 open house for outside guests.

9:00 beer and pizza - dancing and cavorting.

Sunday, Brandy Brunch 12:15 to 2:30 at the center.

The Valentines Dance was very successful - luxurious quantities of food - lovely decorations. A beautiful mirror has been donated and was installed behind the bar before the dance. The new jute box, owned by the association, is now in place. The new ceiling is installed, making the dance room much smarter. A bulletin board will be up in the lounge before the opening. We are making progress.

Seattle held a Canadian weekend on February 17th and 18th. People with Canadian I.D. got free admittance to the Caper Club on Friday night, half price on Saturday. The Pike Street Tavern served up 15 cent schooners of beer. Two representatives of the new girls group in Seattle were up and spread the word of the Canadian weekend. The group, originally called the Gay Society, held a Valentine's Dance and are now in the process of incorporating as a society. We welcomed the two representatives: they met with three of the executive at the center and we discussed the Seattle bar situation and liason between our groups.

Word from Los Angeles indicates that the defendants in the New Year's gay bar raid were convicted in January. Word indicates they are appealing. Members interested should look up the article in the current issue of Concern, the publication of the Southern California Council on Religion and the Homosexual. Copies of Concern are in the ASK library.

Look forward to the auction in March. We want to plan a picnic or two in the summer - anyone any suggestions where?

The Executive have decided that, after two months of operation, the Association must start strictly enforcing the rule that on social evenings entry is restricted to members and guests. Guests are to accompany members, as that is the only way a check is possible. Our membership is increasing steadily and we want to develop a feeling of friendship among our members. ASK is not a commercial club and we don't want to ever seen commercial. Over the opening weekend there will be no charge for mix, an experiment that might be continued. Be sure to bring interested friends over the opening weekend - it will be a great splash.

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THURSDAY, March 2nd 8 p.m. gab-n-java discussion on
Skid-road lesbians

SATURDAY, March 4th 9:30 social evening, t.v., dancing, coffee

THURSDAY, March 9th, 8 p.m. gab-n-java discussion on
Obscenity and censorship

SATURDAY, March 11th, 9:30 social evening, t.v. dancing, coffee

FRIDAY, March 17th ST PATRICK's Green-gala Dance byob

THURSDAY, March 23rd, 8 p.m. gab-n-java discussion on
Why don't lesbians and
male homosexuals work
together more/

SATURDAY MARCH 25th, 9:30 p.m. social evening, t.v. dancing,

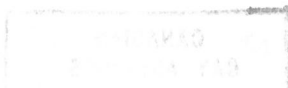
FRIDAY, March 31st, 9:30 PSYCHAEDELIC TRIPSVILLE DANCE

SUNDAY, MARCH 19th, ASK AUCTION

at the center, Sunday afternoon,

starting at 2 p.m.. Bring donations

to the center.



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* NEWS FROM TORONTO, OTTAWA,
MONTREAL AND VANCOUVER.

* "DOLLAR PARTY" MAY 6TH.

* GENERAL MEETING/FREE DANCE,
MAY 12TH.

ROAMINGS AND RAMBLINGS

TORONTO: Since the death of Two Magazine, there are no publications in Toronto. There are a number of gay spots. Letro's in the financial district may be the most genteel gay bar in Canada. The 511 runs an almost all-male dance after hours - no liquor and no necking. They have a good drag show - the only big drag show in Canada.

OTTAWA: A quiet city. One gay beer parlour. A couple of spots across the river in Hull, Quebec attract the crowd after the Ottawa place closes (in sinful Quebec you can drink later). The Canadian Council on Religion and the Homosexual terminated last fall (or failed to revive after last summer). The Federal Government is planning to drop the express prohibition of homosexuals entering the country - along with the prohibition against chronic alcoholics and professional vagrants. The Supreme Court of Canada will hear the Klippert case in May or June - Klippert confessed to homosexual relations with three men and was sentenced to three years by a magistrate in Pine Point, Northwest territories. Then the crown brought an application to have him declared a dangerous sexual offender. He was held to fall in that class, which means an indefinite sentence. If he is ever released from prison it would be on a lifetime parole, revocable at any time. Yet the acts apparently were with adults, by consent and in private.

MONTREAL: No gay dancing in this glorious city. The marble reproduction of David (without fig leaf) which caused such a controversy a couple of years ago was removed from the shopping center where it had been installed (along with a non-controversial Moses). Where is it now? Still without a fig leaf it stands in one of the buildings of the Jesuit Loyola College.

VANCOUVER: Five hippies were enjoying the centennial fountain the other day (in it). Promptly three police cars converged on the scene and the police (to fight sin, or uphold morality, or suppress hippies, or keep the fountain clean) hauled the hippies away. And the police want more powers....

Members please remember the General Meeting on Friday, May 12th at 8 p.m.. Following the meeting will be a byob dance (with permit) - free for members who have attended the meeting (if you come later you pay !!!) There will be election of officers and discussion of the summer program.

On Monday, May 1st a monthly art group is starting to meet. Turn up and muck around.

A big bust on Saturday, May 6th. A dollar party at the center. At the start of something new ASK has always held dollar parties - it was true in 1964 and it was true in 1966. Invite guests and friends - celebrate the rites of spring.

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~. The Weatherwane. ~.

To each man and woman, the roads of life
take each in their own direction. And as
individual as the thumb-print, let each-
step to the tune of the drummer he
hears best.....

--EDITORIAL--

Shall We Awaken The Sleeping Giant?

Sheridan stated, that if all the fleas in his bed were of one mind they could push him out of bed. If we in A.S.K. had the unity of Sheridan's fleas, we should long since have been pushed from the bed of complacency in which so many members sleep. It's obvious all members are not of one mind.--nor should we be, on everything--Unity and consensus are not synonyms, nor should they be thought of as such.

The magnitude of the task facing those of us who do care, on behalf of all of us has a significance that staggers description. Many of us need help... To those among us who don't, turn on your lights so that we who work in ignorance may seek you out.

There is a sleeping giant in this country, but what of the sores on this giant, are they minor blemishes which will heal rapidly when exposed to the air? Even exposing them to the air would be a major task; bureaucratic giants are difficult to move. Or are they deeper than that . . . pus filled perhaps? Perhaps beyond the scope of modern medicine to treat? Is his sleep a healthy one--the nap of the ignorant; or does it have an element of the coma to it that is unhealthy. A.S.K. members, as well as the whole of the homosexual community,

We cannot make this assessment, if we have our dialog in a vacuum. But we can start and have started the discussion and already it is a healthy one.

We must find facts in our society to awaken this giant, or his slumber will have implications on our whole organization.

Unless we create a compulsory bureaucracy which is not responsive to our needs as homosexuals, we have created a monster, in A.S.K., and should disband the Association under such circumstances.

I commend to all members their responsibility, as human beings, citizens, and homosexuals, to assist our Association in its work.

--Mel..

WILL YOU HELP?

Sunday, August 17th, ASK sponsored a Hay Ride at Burke Mountain Riding Stable, and judging from the exuberance of those present, it was a great success. The proprietors of the Stable, thanked us for our patronage, and invited us to return at an early date, either for a Hay Ride, or Horseback Riding. This spoke well for those present.

This has been the second outing of our Club, the first, being the ASK Island Picnic, and after this event, at the suggestion of members, the Hay Ride was held. Here, I would like to make an interjection. The Club, is yours, it is operated solely for the benefit of the members. Your executive is there, as leaders and guideposts only. It is impossible for them to run the Club alone. We desperately need members to get out and chair committees. The executive will give you their whole-hearted support.

These are some of the committees, we need leaders for: Art, Drama,

Music, Sports and Discussion Groups. Also, persons to take charge of the Bar, and see that there is always a responsible person present. A group to visit sick members at home or in the Hospital. We all realize that all are not leaders, so even if you do not want to take charge of a committee, but might be interested in being a member of one, give your name, and the activity you are interested in, to one of the executive members, and let's start moving forward.

With the help of members, and their inherent talents, we can make the ASK Club the talk of Canada, and set an example for other homosexual groups to get organized.

The suggestions for committees, and activities listed, is only a small one. Please contact me, or any other members of the executive, if you have any activity you would like to see the Club sponsor, and we will give you all the help we can.--Norma..

IN CASE YOU'VE WONDERED...

MOSCOW...The head of the Red Army recently decided it would boost morale if officers ate in the enlisted men's mess halls. A Moscow newspaper headlined the military decision this way: "Soviet Officers Told to Eat with Their Privates."

: : : : : : : : :

NEW YORK CITY...One Village boutique has had to pass a rule that males can try on dresses only during a special hour shortly after the store opens on weekday mornings. Female customers found the male trade a drag.

: : : : : : : : :

CHICAGO...An instructor for the Park District play program was told to rewrite the "Death of a Salesman" scene where Willy Loman is found in bed with a woman because it was "offensive." The instructor rewrote the scene but it failed to please his supervisors. In the new version Willy is found in bed with a man....You can't win can you!...

HEAR 'N THAR.

One comment heard from ARENA THREE, on the U.S. Supreme Court decision that deported a Canadian homosexual, because a homosexual is a psychopath,....'deportable psychopaths ought logically to lead a mass exodus of money-spinners from Hollywood, Broadway, and Madison Avenue, (for a start).....

: : : : :

and,
Thoughts on reflection of the closing of the 'hippie' newspaper 'Georgia Straight'.
--God is not dead!!!.....
He has changed his name to Campbell and is living in Silly Hall.

TEE-HEE.....

Overheard at the YORK...If there is reincarnation, I would like to come back as a firehouse sliding post... or, as a bar of soap at Naden Naval Station in Victoria.

: : : : :

GABRIEL BLOWS.....

GAY MOMENTS IN ADVERTISING....

Find out
if you're man enough
for the Peace Corps.

Even if your name
is Mary.

: : : : :

Take

HOMO-
SELTZER

and
wake up
feeling;
yourself
again!

SADO-MASOCHISM IN PHYSIQUE ART.

Sadism and Masochism are very often given as running mates to homosexuality by psychiatrists. The number of cases where homosexuality has overtones of either sadism or masochism is apparently quite high.

Most physique magazines, have a high percentage of boys in chains, boys tied up, boys being strapped, boys being whipped, boys being punched, and so on. Since the physique magazines serve as a mirror to a certain extent, showing the desire objects of many homosexuals, one is forced to search for some reason for the presence of so much violence. Is it the expression of a rebellion on the part of the homosexual against the restrictions of a heterosexual world, or a desire to express virility and power which the world automatically denies homosexuals?

Most homosexuals, agree that while they do like looking at physique magazines, and find them stimulating, few are willing to agree that sadism or masochism are part and parcel of homosexuality. One psychiatrist, concludes that the sado-masochistic thoughts of homosexuals are in most cases subdued, and probably unknown to the individual, it does affect his sex drive to a certain extent, but did not feel that the violence portrayed in physique art, would stimulate the homosexual to violence, but, rather that it helped release any pent up emotion in that direction.

--Mel..

THE POET'S

THE POET'S

C
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RSo Proud, So Free

You are so very proud, so free,
 And yet, all's not as it should be;
 The one thing you don't wish to find
 Could help you leave your fears behind.
 Your fight for freedom, more each day,
 Won't let you give your heart away.
 You fear that love would make you slave,
 And so, from this, yourself to save,
 A prisoner of yourself you've made.
 Imprisoned by your fears you've laid
 A path that leads to loneliness,
 To disbelieve in love's caress.
 To sleep with someone else each night
 Leaves you still free at dawn's light;
 Each one night stand is sent away,
 And you're alone to face the day.
 You are so very proud, so free,
 And I stand here and pity thee.

--Robbie..

The NEWSLETTER will publish all original poetry submitted--

Changing your address?

Please let us know before the 20th of the month. Several issues of last months NEWSLETTER were returned with no forwarding address marked.

If you have 'borrowed' a book from the library, and have finished it please return it so other members can read it.

AT THE CENTER

IT'S HAPPENING

1929 KINGSWAY

OCTOBER 7th.

Saturday, October 7th--is this months night for ASK's famous
 \$\$\$\$\$\$ PARTY. The theme for this
 (Come early) dance is Camp Drag, to celebrate the
~~WITCHES~~ witches month. It's goblin'
 time you know, but watch out for those
 vampires--they suck you know.

OCTOBER 14th.

Saturday, October 14th--Convention Dinner at The Grosvenor
 Hotel. Speakers, Dinner, and danc-
 ing at the Center afterwards.

SUNDAY 15th.--Election of officers at the Center.

OCTOBER 21st.

Saturday, October 21st--The Center is open for dancing and
 cavorting, etc.....Drop in tonight
 and then you can go home and get
 your costume ready for the big event
 which will be held on.....

OCTOBER 28th.

Saturday, October 28th--This is it dears, the biggest brassiest,
 ballingiest, bitchiest, opps sorry about
 that witchiest, event ever to be held in
 Van...ASK's HALLOWEEN BALL. Come and meet
 Peter the Pumpkin eater...--Pumpkin who?

ASK

newsletter

association for social knowledge

p o box 4277

vancouver 9 bc

Sep 67
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Comus

Roman god of revelry, feasting and drinking.

mirth and nocturnal entertainments.

A MAJOR VICTORY

DSI Sales of Minneapolis, who distribute and sell materials dealing with the nude male figure, were, on July 26th, 1967, found not guilty on 29 charges brought by the federal government.

The U.S. Federal Court for the District of Minnesota found that "the materials have no appeal to the purient interests of the intended recipient deviant group; do not exceed the limits of candor tolerated by the contemporary national community; and are not utterly without redeeming social value. Furthermore, the Court concludes that the evidence does not suggest pondering within the meaning of the Ginzburg case."

With regard to the issue of homosexuality, the Court stated in its memorandum: "The rights of minorities expressed individually in sexual groups or otherwise must be re-

spected. With increasing research and study we will in the future come to a better understanding of ourselves, sexual deviants, and others"

The Mattachine Society of San Francisco, provided much help to DSI, in providing them with advice and information. Testifying on behalf of DSI, was Dr. Walter C. Alvarez, senior consultant at the Mayo Clinic, and presently writer of a daily medical column which appears in many newspapers.

ASK, congratulates DSI in its victory, and applauds the U.S. Federal Court System for its understanding and justice.

NEWS OF THE
HOMOPHILE MOVEMENT

A new DOB chapter was recently established in Philadelphia and has been provided with a temporary office and printing services. The chapter's mailing address is: P.O. Box 14383, Bustleton Station, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.

The group formerly known as ONE in New York has disaffiliated from ONE Inc, and has formed a new organiza-

tion known as the Council on Equality for Homosexuals. This group will be attempting to change public attitudes toward homosexuality through publications, speakers, etc.

The former Janus Society of Philadelphia, publishers of DRUM, has changed its name to the Homosexual Law Reform Society. The address of this organization is: 34 S 17 St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19203, U.S.A.

SFU-UBC-U Vic
NOTE!!!

The Student Homophile League (SHL) at Columbia University, announces a second chapter formed at the University of Hartford, headed by David Cramer. SHL has also appointed a campus representative at Central Connecticut State College. Any student members of ASK, are invited to contact the SHL national headquarters at 202 Earl, Columbia University, NY City, if they are interested in setting up campus representatives at their school. SFU, UBC and U Vic members and friends are urged to contact this group and give them moral support.

NEWS OF THE
C.C.R.H.

The Canadian Council on Religion and the Homosexual, in Ottawa, has been disbanded, but there are several clergy still interested in the group, and wish to hear from anyone in that area who might be interested in reforming CCRH, send inquiries and information to: Garrfield D. Nichol, % of St. George's Anglican Church, 152 Metcalfe St., Ottawa 4, Ontario. ASK sincerely hopes that CCRH will once again become active, and urges all our members and friends to give support to this fine organization.

Overheard at the 614 in Seattle:--'Yeh, I spent my vacation in L.A., and there was this big crowd, and Ronald Reagan was in the middle of it, so I copped a feel.

--Did you know, Dracula sucks?

LXIX

Very little research has been done on the subject of female homosexuality. The Victorian era when England enacted its law on male homosexuality did not include a reference to lesbianism, as in their puritanical minds no such act could exist. This article and the ones to follow shall attempt a layman's point of view on the reasons, types, future and cure if any.

Until a decade ago little was done to try and understand the sex drive, the least recognized, studied or understood; was without a doubt female homosexuality, despite the fact that it's manifest expression is far more common than the male verility.

The Lesbian:-are we born with these tendencies or are we a product of our environment? It is indeed a topic on which much more research must be done. It is my belief, both are possible. We shall deal in this first article with transvestism.

The child in it's mothers' womb is both male and female at conception. As the child develops, one becomes more predominant than the other. There have been cases where at birth, the hormones are approximately the same even though to all outward appearances the child is female. When this type of person reaches puberty, they develop a boyish or masculine physique, that is to say; broad shoulders, tapered hips and a tendency to be flat chested and have excessive hair growth. This group usually develops a very aggressive personality and are of the firm belief that they are men. They account for a large segment of the transvestite group. Their clothing consist entirely of male attire. A number of them who have a developed breast, bind themselves to hide this evidence of their female makeup. This binding is known as transition.

Into the category of transvestites, we must also include those who are a product of their environment. There is the possibility where a father so desires a son that at birth of a girl, treats her as a male. Usually in these circumstances he will give her a nickname like Sonny or Sam. This child is brought up in a man's world, going everywhere with her father, dressed in many cases as a little boy. This tends her to become aggressive and dominating and in most cases, is excellent at verile sports. When she forms an attachment to her parents, it is the father to whom she attaches herself, and as she grows, physically and emotionally, it is the male image that she projects. When the sex drive appears she competes with her father, feeling that she can also compete with his drive toward the female.

Another situation that could occur, is when in a family setting the young girl is excluded or feels excluded from the mothers' love when she sees it lavished on her brother. In the girls' mind, she reasons that she must be a boy to attain this love and security she so strongly desires. As she matures, she becomes more and more aggressive and strives harder and harder for the mothers' love. Not having found this love, she turns to the love of another woman as a substitute. She develops crushes on her female teacher, seniors at school, an Aunt, etc.

Most transvestites tend in their search for love and companionship, the very female looking mate. The transvestite, or 'Dyke', as she is so often called, is extremely aggressive in her love making. Their inward belief, is that they are men. In her love making, she will many times use artificial apparatus to penetrate her lover. During their lovemaking, the Dyke, will refer to making her partner pregnant. Rarely, will the transvestite disrobe to her girl friend, for if she does, she will expose herself for what she is physically, but does not desire to be: a woman. She obtains her sexual pleasure solely from the satisfaction and climax of her partner. She refuses her mate the same pleasure that she has, as she refuses her mate to touch her. There have been cases in history where they have completely fooled a female and gone so far as to go through a marriage ceremony.

The availability of work for the transvestite is very limited due to her make-up and attire. Many of them work in garages or factories, have jobs such as truck drivers. They seek this type of work, because here at least they are accepted for what they want to be:-Men.

(continued on page 3/)

FEMALE HOMOSEXUALITY--(cont'd from page 2)

The Dyke competes in a male world and gets great pleasure from showing up men. They flaunt their beautiful mate in front of the world, almost wearing a sign that reads 'See, I am as good or maybe better than you.' There is a certain percentage of the transvestite group who live off the avails of their 'wife' or 'old lady' as she is so often called, by asking her to prostitute herself, and the transvestite will pimp for her. The transvestite will tell her 'wife', that if she does this, it will be an expression of love for her.

This group of lesbians, have the highest rate of suicide. A great many of them drink to excess and some turn to narcotics to cope with their fight against the world. This group lives in a society all their own, and refer to other members of their community as their 'Father', 'Mother', 'Aunt', etc.

You may or may not agree with the opinions expressed in this article. In any event, you are invited to write in and express your comments. As many as possible will be published in the Newsletter.

If you have any questions regarding this article, or have a problem that has to do with homosexuality, be it legal, moral or otherwise, please write to ASK, at Box 4277, Vancouver 9, B.C., and they will be referred to competent persons for answers. Any that cannot be published in the Newsletter, will receive private replies.

CAN YOU HELP?

ASK is asking for support from members and friends, in finding more suitable and larger headquarters.

Due to the wonderful response from homosexuals and friends in this area, we have suddenly become very crowded at our social evenings. The attendance at the Center has been beyond our wildest expectations, and we now feel, this support will continue, and we would like to find a headquarters that will allow us more room.

Financially, ASK is getting on its feet, and hopes that the present trend will continue, and will consider any reasonable rent.

The Center has a new Juke Box, and requests all members and their guests of the Center, to respect it in its care and use. It has cost the club much money,--remember, it's your money also--

The old Juke Box is for sale--anyone interested in a good machine for their rumpus room, should contact one of the executive members.

.....

ASK Island Picnic Report

On August 12th, ASK held its first annual picnic.

Site for this years frolic, was a lovely little island in Harrison Lake, occupied solely by ASK, and dubbed 'ASK Island.'

Members and guests were requested to meet at the embarkation point by 9:30, and by 10:30, some very groggy people started showing up. Many trips were made in the shuttle by two good friends of ASK, and we would like to thank them very kindly for their patience.

Hot-dogs, and all the condiments, beans, and wine spiked watermelon, were in copious abundance, and, together with the liquid refreshment brought by the individual, the singing and frolics--would you believe nude swimming--everyone pronounced the dig a wild success.

.....

The NEWSLETTER, will be happy to publish all original poetry, submitted.

REPORT OF THE THIRD CONFERENCE OF HOMOPHILE ORGANIZATIONS

The Third Conference of Homophile Organizations took a number of steps to strengthen the conference itself. The organization is now officially a continuing organization with a continuing Credentials Committee, Chairman (Rev. Robert Cromie, San Francisco) and Secretary (Doug Sanders), A committee has been established to study greater unity for the homophile

(Continued on page 4)

REPORT -(continued)

The conference, now called the North American Homophile Conference, took place in Washington, D.C., sponsored by the Mattachine Society of Washington. The meetings were in a room at George Washington University. On Friday morning, U.S. delegates visited their Senators and Congressmen.

The next conference is scheduled for Chicago in August, 1968, together with the biennial D.O.B. Convention.

The conference had the usual frustrating quota of procedural haggling and inter-group bitching. These were largely worked out in the first two days and on the final day there was an exhilarating feeling of accomplishment. The accomplishment may be real or illusionary. After the 1966 Conference in San Francisco only one of the proposed committees ever actually met. Now we have a new set of committees. Hopefully they will meet and the new strength of the conference will be realized.

ASK is sponsoring the Western Regional Conference of Homophile organizations, Nov. 4th & 5th in Seattle. This will provide an excellent opportunity to meet with representatives of the San Francisco & Los Angeles groups.

ITS HAPPENING

AT THE CENTER

1929 KINGSWAY

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 9th

Saturday September 9th--The now famous 'DOLLAR PARTY'. This dance has proved so successful, that we advise members and their guests to arrive early. We had to turn some people away at our last bash...byob.. Admission is .50¢ for members and \$1.00 for guests.

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 17th

Sunday, September 17th--In response to the wonderful ASK Picnic, your executive have organized a 'HAY RIDE, and Feast'. Coquitlam is the site of this bash,...This is a very heavily populated area, and members and their guests are requested not to camp it up...booze will not be allowed --openly-- at this event,..Included in this event, will be a Dance at the Center following the Hay Ride. There will be One admission prive for these two events, and tickets must be bought in advance at the Center.

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 23rd

Saturday, September 23rd--LOVE LOVE LOVE LOVE LOVE LOVE LOVE LOVE LOVE--Beads, Togas, Flowers, and zany attire will be in profusion, as ASK honors the Children of The Flowers, at this nights' HIPPIY DANCE..... We Love you come to this LoVeLy dance at our LOVeLy Centre, and to LOVE ---no, no, Dance; to the LoVeLy music, and inbibe the LOVeLy liquid we love you to take,....The LOVE person at the door, will Love you to pay him, just One Lovely Dollar if --LOVE--you are a LOVeLy Ask member, and LOVE, just \$1. and .50 Lovely cents if you are not. The most LOVeLy people will arrive at the LOVE hour of 10:00 p. love m. LOVE.....

The 614 Club, at 614 First Ave., in Seattle, features a Sunday Brunch to its patrons....ASK members and their friends are invited to spend their evenings at the 614, when they are in Seattle....Drop in and say HI to Larry--your very friendly bartender, and dance to the music, accompanied by a psychedelic light effect.

: : : : : : : :

The CALHOUN HOTEL, in Seattle, conveniently located at Second and Virginia, invite you to stay with them when you are visiting Seattle. With very reasonable rates, and located right downtown, it makes a wonderful place to stay when in the Queen City.

newsletter

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vancouver 9 bc

April 67
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- * NEWS FROM SEATTLE, TORONTO,
MONTREAL AND VANCOUVER.
- * EVENTS IN APRIL
- * NEW ORGANIZATION IN SEATTLE

ROAMINGS AND RAMBLINGS

NEWS FROM SEATTLE: F.E.M. Incorporated, 1700½ 25th Avenue South, Seattle, Washington, 98144, the new girls group in Seattle, writes:

"We have been organized for one month and our membership is growing by leaps and bounds.

"Our first function as an organization was a twenty-four hour steam bath for the girls which was held on the fifth of March. It proved such a success that we plan another one on March 25th.

"On Sunday, March 19th, F.E.M. is sponsoring a St. Patty's Day Dance and all Canadians are cordially invited. It should be a lot of fun and F.E.M. are sure accommodations could be made for those wishing to spend the entire week-end."

Our thanks to F.E.M. for their invitation. Our regrets that we didn't pick up our mail in time to spread the word around to our members (we pick up our mail once a week).

NEWS FROM LOS ANGELES: The Western Regional Conference of Homophile Organizations will be held in Los Angeles on April 21st to 23rd. ASK can send voting delegates to the Conference. Prospective delegates should contact either David or Doug. The topic of the conference is "The goals, the strategy and tactics of the homophile movement."

ASK gets letters at a fairly regular rate. The current mail brings in letters of inquiry from Montreal, Toronto, Windsor and smaller centers. Our new leaflet "So You've Heard About ASK!" will be sent to all interested people. We had a thousand printed. If you want extras for friends pick them up at the center.

A letter from one of the founding members of ASK, currently in Toronto, reports that there are about six gay places in Toronto - one for the girls which she describes as a "smaller and rougher version of the New Fountain."

A current letter from Montreal describes the scene there:

"For two centuries now the city has been divided into two parts: East and West. When you know that the East is French and the West is English, you understand pretty well why. It is very unfortunate because the two don't mix very well as a rule.

"Thus, your visit to Montreal will show two different types of gay places: the ones in the West and the ones in the East. ...the Americans prefer the French part of the city: when they go home they love to boast that they have slept with a French lad!...

"You will love Montreal! Just imagine the activity here just before the opening of EXPO 67! It will be the capital of the world for six months and it thrills everybody. The gay set is all ready to welcome the universe."

ASK held a benefit dance on Saturday March 11th for two girls who were burned out. There was a lively crowd and 2/3rds of the door went to the two girls. They were given a check for seventy dollars the next week.

New Policies: The center at 1929 Kingsway will be open each Friday and Saturday night in April. Two licenced dances will be held - on Friday April 14th and on Friday April 28th.

Open discussion gab-n-java evenings will be discontinued in favour of discussion groups. A group of between five and ten will form a discussion group and meet together for a series of informal discussions on a particular topic. Initially we propose a discussion group on lesbianism (the group would not be restricted to the girls). If five to ten people are interested the group will be established soon. Contact Doug. Other groups will be established in response to interest.

EVENTS IN APRIL:

THE CENTER, 1929 Kingsway, will be open every friday and Saturday night in April.

Saturday, April 1sta foolish dance.

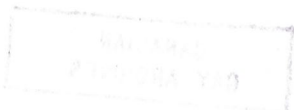
Friday, April 7tha dance 6 days later.
Saturday, April 8thand dancing

Friday, April 14th.....dance with permit - byob
Saturday, April 15thand come back the next night.

Friday, April 21stat it again
Saturday, April 22ndand again.

Friday, April 28thth ...permit-ed again, byob
Saturday, April 29tha recovery dance.

ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN DISCUSSION GROUPS SEE DOUG. THE
DISCUSSION GROUP ON LESBIANISM WILL BEGIN IN APRIL AT A TIME
CONVENIENT TO THE PARTICIPANTS.



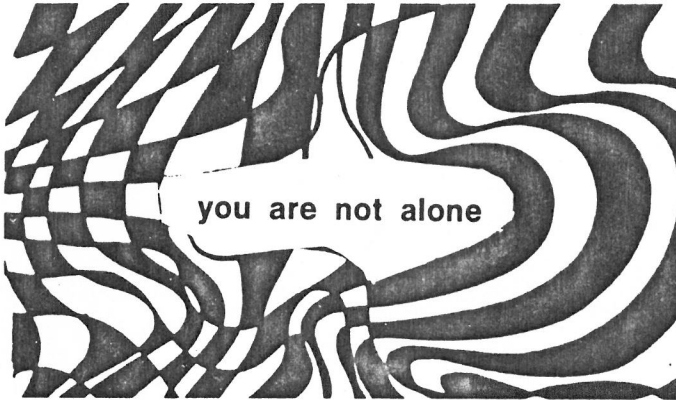
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Copy

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From the President's Desk

January has for the club been quite a month. We hosted the Dorion Society (Seattle) and the Third Name (F.E.M., Seattle) at a joint Seminar. Supper was served by the ASK on Saturday night and breakfast on Sunday morning. We were unaware that there were so many chefs among the membership.

The Seminar itself seems to have been a success. Father Roberts (Roman Catholic Priest) gave a very enlightening talk. He assured that all people of good faith are welcomed by his church and that he is available anytime we need him. Doug gave a report on the changing laws in Canada, and also of his interview with Everett George Klippert in the Prince Albert Penitentiary.

Your President, Editor and Legal Advisor had a preliminary talk with the August Club. This is the club that was mentioned in our last news bulletin. Mr. R. K..... seemed very polite and cooperative, and we shared comments.

He explained his club and said that we would be put on their mailing list so the association can keep abreast of their activities. He also showed us around their premises and advised us that should we ever want to use their printing press to feel free to contact him. Both our association and the August club agreed--that we should at all times--play our cards from the top of the deck. They agreed and it has been done that in a notice in both our publications it be noted we are in no way affiliated. There were no other firm decisions made but we agreed to meet at a later date.

THERE WILL BE A GENERAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR SOCIAL KNOWLEDGE ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY

28, 1968 AT 8 P.M. AT THE CENTRE THIS WILL BE THE REGULAR GENERAL MEETING AND A FINANCIAL STATEMENT SHALL BE GIVEN. IT IS STRONGLY URGED THAT EACH AND EVERY MEMBER ATTEND. AT THIS MEETING WE SHOULD COME PREPARED TO ASK ALL THE QUESTIONS WE DESIRE, AND IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF EACH AND EVERY-EXECUTIVE TO HAVE A FULL REPORT PREPARED. YOUR PRESIDENT SHALL ALSO BE REQUESTED THAT VARIOUS COMMITTEES BE FORMED TO TAKE SOME OF THE WORK LOAD OFF THE EXECUTIVE. PLEASE COME PREPARED TO ASK YOUR QUESTIONS, EACH AND EVERY-PERSON SHALL BE HEARD. IF YOU HAVE A BEEF AGAINST EITHER MYSELF OR ANY OTHER EXECUTIVE SAY SO.

SOMETIMES WE STUMBLE A LONG BLINDLY, NOT BECAUSE WE WANT TO, BUT BECAUSE WE ARE UNVERSED UPON THE MATTER. HOPING TO SEE YOU ALL ON THE 28TH.

--NORMA K. MITCHELL

Editorial

Volume 5, No. 2.
February, 1968.

At present a Bill awaits action from the House of Commons. This Bill dealing with the changes in Sexual Laws is of great interest to all of us. Following are the sections due for change as they stand today:

Section 147 - makes Suggery and Bestiality a crime. (14 years imprisonment.)

Section 149 - makes acts of gross indecency a crime. (5 years imprisonment.)

Following are the proposed amendments, which will, if accepted by parliament, become the new law of Canada:

149a (1) Sections 147 and 149 do not apply to any act committed in private between

- (a) a husband and his wife, or
- (b) any two persons, each of whom is twenty-one years or more of age, both of whom consent to the commission of the act.

149a (2) For the purpose of subsection (1).

- (a) an act shall be deemed not to have been committed in private if it is committed in a public place, or if more than two persons take part or are present; and
- (b) a person shall be deemed not to consent to the commission of an act

- (i) if the consent is extorted by threats or fear of bodily harm or is obtained by false and fraudulent misrepresentations as to the nature and quality of the act, or

- (ii) if that person is, and the other party to the commission of the act knows or has good reason to believe that that person is feeble-minded, insane, or an idiot or imbecile.

We congratulate the Justice Minister on his far sighted Bill, however we deem to call it not enough. Why, can a person of eighteen be old enough to en-

list and fight for his country; yet not be considered old enough to choose the nature of his or her own sexual habits?

Eighteen is a far cry from twenty-one and for three years after having reached full puberty, a person must then resist his sexual impulses, unless married, for fear of causing another person future trouble with the law enforcement of Canadian Society.

It is though, our sincere hope that unless sex with those over eighteen and under twentvone is contracted by financial arrangment, the law enforcement of Canada will turn a blind eye to those who choose the path they rightly consider their own.

Recently, a good example of the various forms of Blackmail in the Homosexual way of life was expounded on a TV program, under the title of 'Wojeck'.

We need this change in law to avoid cheap forms of blackmail. One would be surprised at the number of people who do not gain assistance from either legal advisors or the police when they are threatened with exposure, to their wife, family, or employment.

We at ASK are astounded at the obvious refusal to accept such a Bill as stated by the Right Honourable John Diefenbaker (ex-Leader of Her Majesty's Opposition), on a television interview recently.

Of all the M.P.'s in Parliament today, he as the ex-Leader of the Nation, and a former Saskatchewan lawyer, should be more aware of the injustices of the original Bill as it stands today, than many other M.P.'s.

However, we feel his will be one of the few dissenting votes in the House of Commons, which would be nothing new for our former Prime Minister, ex-Opposition leader.

Homosexuality we believe, will outlive you -- legally -- John!

-Hunter.

4

Editorial

Our next general meeting is to be held Feb. 28, 1968, and what a full meeting it will be. By the sound of the drums, there are a lot of people, problems, grips, and, most important, business factors to be dealt with. An excellent and orderly attendance is hoped for.

Maybe to assist people to come to some faster, more accurate conclusions I will state here just a few thoughts to ponder that will, I hope, be in discussion that evening.

First off- The persons in charge of the club on our social evenings, (Fri. - Sat.) be required to dress neatly, carry identification of club authority, stay sober, and behave in a respectable manner in order to maintain a respectable evening and club. This should be classified as a position of honour.

Second- Any persons, executive member, member, or non member, purposely ignoring or refusing to obey club rules, to their fullest, be severely dealt with.

Third- Any persons committing an act warranting an appearance before the executive must be duly warned and advised as to what time and date, (or set upon a time and date) they are to appear, thus allowing them to appeal their situation and thereby extinguishing any possibility of a blind vote by anyone on the voting panel (the executive).

tions beyond their personal control, should be withheld pending careful examination. Example, persons showing or threatening violent actions through obvious signs of hysteria, state of shock etc. This being upheld by their previous and continual show of excellent behaviour and assistance to humanity.

Character reference reports as well as witness reports should be acceptable as defence arguments.

Fifth- Any derogatory remarks voiced towards the chair should be subject to rebremand. No action should be taken by

the chair in response to any derogatory remarks voiced to the President while not occupying the chair.

Finally, and most important- A book should be drawn up for guidance of members in upholding their duties and clarifying the rules of our club. Said book should have continual suppliments, showing any changes or additions brought about by the majority vote of the membership, and or executive.

In conclusion- a line of moral support to our executive; Injust and irresponsible rulings draw no respect for the laws preceeding them. Just and responsible rulings draw respect and support from all.

- Gaylo

ABRAHAM LINCOLN:

Quarrel not at all. No man resolved to make the most of himself can spare time for personal contention. Better give your path to a dog than be bitten by him.

- Tracey

Due to an unfortunate mixup in the mailing list and the mailing charges, several of our members were left gritting their teeth, after delivery or non-delivery of last month's publication.

To those who found they were recipients of an unwanted publication, we apologize. To those who missed out we also apologize.

Last month your Editorial staff were in such a hurry to get a somewhat late edition into the mail, we completely forgot to check the mailing charges.

If you receive an unwanted copy, or do not receive your copy, please leave your mailing address at the club's office, stating clearly whether you are to be ON or OFF the mailing list.

We wish to announce the
NEW CENTRE
(as of Feb. 17th)

The Old
KITSILANO THEATRE

FOURTH AVENUE at ARBUTUS,
#2114 - West 4th.

Just what we've been looking for, this building contains:

$\frac{3}{4}$ " oak tounge dance floor - 200 seat balcony for our film evenings - stage area, containing full lighting and - male & female dressing rooms - double sets of toilet facilities for both of the sexes - excellent kitchen - coat room - special powder room for those ladies who really aren't - and cabaret style single and double tables.

opening for
Valentine's Dance
11 p.m., February 17th

Around The Round Table

At this month's executive meetings, the following motions were passed:

1. JANUARY 2, -- Minutes at present unavailable.
2. JANUARY 16 -- The following motions were passed:
 - (a) We look into estimate for means of waste disposal, other than the city. Club's garbage can have disappeared.
3. President advised she had recently looked into subject of motion 1. Moved by Norma seconded by Jean we accept private means of waste disposal, club had received a large can for the purpose. Bottles to be broken.
4. Letter received from Carol was discussed, Editor requested to answer this.
5. Motion by Norma seconded by Arnie, club by dispensers for toilet use, -- paper, garbage, soap, etc.
6. Moved by Ken, seconded by Robbie, Club request Woodwards allow \$20 on their bill, as return for goodwill lost over the poor arrangements for New Year supper.
7. It was moved by Doug seconded by Norma, Club look into arrangements for alternative premises.
8. Moved by Hunter, seconded by Arnie club paint and sand tables if we decided to stay on the premises now occupied. - \$100.
9. Moved by Ken, seconded Hunter, brandy brunch be held, admission by Chair only.
10. Moved Norma, seconded Hunter that general meeting be held, February 28th.

SPECIAL MEETING -- Sunday, Feb. 21

- (a) It was decided to make ASK a profit club, IT SHALL BE NOW KNOWN AS ASK CO. LTD. It was formed as a Co. at the cost of \$60.00, and carries two or more non-partial trustees, who have control of all finances. Moved by Hunter, seconded by Dorothy. Co. to be formed on or about Feb. 15, this will assist in operations, and hold no one person responsible for future club leases or finances in case of Bankruptcy.
 - (b) Doug and Norma selected as to be the two executive representatives from ASK. Moved JEAN, seconded Dorothy.
 - (c) Banks and Large Companys to act as Trustees. Norma, seconded Gayle.
 - (d) Moved and seconded by Norma-Gayle, we attempt to secure Kitsiano Hall as future club centre.
 - (e) Trustees to be left in Doug's hands, moved Norma, sec. Gayle.
- TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 30th--Doug presents amendments to our constitution as listed on next page.
1. Motion made that Lea be given full control of bar, Moved Ken, seconded Dorothy.
 2. Because of an incorrect method of a certain member gain membership, and future trouble occurring in club, it was moved by Norma, sec. Jean that a certain party have their membership money refunded.
 3. \$50 be allowed for Skating Party.
 4. Arm bands be made for Exec. and those working at the club for identification purposes.
 5. Secretary announced he wished to forward his resignation, at the President's request.

(1) The fee for membership in the Association is \$5.00 per year.

(2) Residents of Victoria or any other community on Vancouver Island may become associate members of the Association on payment of a yearly fee of \$2.00.

This entitles the person to receive the ASK newsletter and to be admitted to the center as a member.

(3) Members of homophile organizations affiliated with the North American Homophile Conference will be treated as members of the Association.

(4) Any member may have his membership suspended or revoked for disruptive behavior. The action can be taken after a hearing at an open meeting of the executive, giving the member an opportunity to speak or call witnesses. The President may suspend a member's membership at the time of any disruptive behavior, but the matter must come before the next meeting of the executive for a hearing.

(5) The ASK center will be open during the hours of ten p.m. to three a.m. on regular social evenings.

(6) Admission to regular social evenings will be \$1.50 for members, \$2.00 for guests.

(7) Members may bring two guests with them, who must accompany the member.

(8) Members may be requested to produce their membership cards at the door and may be refused entry if they do not have their card or proof of membership.

(9) Closed private parties at the center may be permitted when the center is available or after regular social evenings if there is a special reason for the social gathering and if approval is obtained from a regular meeting of the executive.

"PSST, MONSIEUR."

By FRANK S. CAPIRO, M.D.

In France in the Eighteenth Century there existed an institution of Lesbians who assumed the name of "The Vestals of Venus" and conducted their homosexual relationships in the Temple of Vesta. Branches of the society existed in all parts of France, being especially numerous among the higher strata of society.

From manuscripts of the period and from Mairobert's contemporary book, "Confessions of a Young Girl", there have been accounts come to us of the operations of these extraordinary lesbian clubs. Not every woman was admitted. There were examinations for those who desired entrance which was especially severe for married women since they already enjoyed intercourse with men.

The candidate was required to disrobe before the members of the club and then put through examination to discover how many of the thirty charms of women, described in an old French poem, she possessed. This poem read aloud to the candidate by one of the members of the club, went as follows:

"Let her who claims the honor of
being beautiful,
Of reproducing in herself the
superb model
Of Helen who once set the universe
afire
Spread in her favor thirty
diverse charms!
That covering her thrice each
in turn,
White, and black, and red
intermingled
Offer as many times to the
marvelling eyes
The changeful hues of a single
color.
Since nine times to this
masterpiece of love
Nature, prodigal and miserly
turn by turn,
In opposed extremes, with an
over-sure hand
Traces for her the measure of
her dimensions:
Three little trifles still, she
will have in her features
The perfect contrasts of a
divine combination.
Let her hair be blond, her teeth
like ivory,
Let her skin surpass the fresh-
ness of a pure lily,
So that the eye, the eyebrows,
but of a blacker shade,

That the lashes emphasize its
whiteness.
Let her nail, her cheek, her
lip be vermillion;
"Her hair, her waist, her hand
long;
Her teeth, her feet short and
also her ears.
Let her brow be high, and her
breast broad;
Let the nymph above all, with
rounded buttocks
Present well-rounded forms to
her lovers;
Let her be so at the waist that
her lover without hurting her
Can firmly encircle her with two
hands;
Let her sweet mouth with
infallible augury
Announce the narrow painful
access to pleasure.
Let the anus, the vulva and
the belly
Be gently swelled and never
flat.
A little nose pleases greatly,
also a little head.
A teat which resists the kiss
that invites;
Fine hair, thin lips, and
very delicate fingers
Complete this beautiful whole
which one never meets."

-Con't. over

"Psst, Con't.

Of the thirty charms recited, at least sixteen were needed for admittance. Each pair of lesbians decided separately and whispered their opinion into the ear of the Lady President, who counted the charms and announced the result.

If accepted, the candidate had to swear an oath never to have intercourse with men or to betray the secret of the order. She had to repeat the following precepts, as they were recited by the Lady President:

"A Lesbian is a young maiden who, having had no intercourse with men, is convinced of the excellence of her own sex, finds in it a true and pure kind of love, pledges herself to it completely and renounces the other sex as wicked and perfidious. It is also a woman of any age who, having complied with the laws of Nature and the State for the propagation of the human race, is now her regretful mistake (or regretful of) her mistake, and now despises and abjures those hateful pleasures and surrenders herself to become one of the pupils of the true Goddess of Love."

The precepts contrast the pain involved in heterosexual relations with the joy of homosexuality. The former are characterized by grief, blood and wounds, and is soon followed with anxiety, disgust, inconvenience, a hideousness for nine months which finally ends in trouble - some confinement which threatens one with the danger of death for six weeks and sometimes is followed by cruel and incurable diseases all one's life long.

"Is this true joy? On the other hand in the intimacy of women with women, there are no painful and frightening preliminaries, and all is joy. Each day, each hour, each minute, this attachment is renewed without inconvenience. Here are waves of love which follow each other like those of the sea without ever growing boring."

PUBLICATIONS almost went into the printing business on the first month of this year 1968 and we attempted to produce a magazine-type format. We've had our growing pains as was expected; but due to the use of a very old, and a somewhat tired Gestetner and staff, we hope our members were pleased with the results. Though some parts of the content were extremely illegible, we hope we can depend on our members' fertile imaginations to figure out the missing links for themselves. In time it is hoped with perhaps a new process to be able to make new advances in this your magazine. *Edna*

Membership

Cards Due

\$5

JANUARY:

THIS IS THE FINAL CALL FOR JANUARY MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS. Those who do not renew their Memberships will have their names removed from the register until they once again make application.

I; 2; 4; 5; 6; 10; 9; 11;
12; 13; 14; 15; 16; 18; 20;
21; 22; 23; 27; 32; 36; 39;
40; 41; 42; 43; 44; 66; 88;
133; 214;

FEBRUARY:

47; 49;

MARCH:

62.

The August Club... Just What Are They?

The Editor, ASK-- The August Club is another Gay Club for Vancouver. We hope that we can take this opportunity to explain to you our principals so that the differences and similarities can be understood. We are all Gay, and operate by the basic idea that Gay places must be operated by understanding Gay people, for the comfort and security of all.

We have five basic restrictions and I hope that I can explain these as positive values. We are an all male organization catering to our own sex. The laws of B.C. demand that in the future of our club we cater to people who are over 21. The important concern for the comfort and convenience of our patrons led us to bar female impersonators. We don't want a Zoo, so straight people won't come to our place. I don't have to explain "No Hustling".

The August Club is being incorporated as a Society under the Societies Act of British Columbia. We are a social club only, with no political or philosophical ambitions. The only psychological implication we are concerned with is the wish and desire of everyone to have a nice place to go.

We know now how much work is involved in this kind of operation and how far we have to go. Everyone of us who has been involved is proud and happy to have done it, and to continue the work.

-Murray Ritchie,
Editor,
August Club.

If you are receiving ASK by mail Notification of any change in address should be given to the Publications Committee prior to the 20th day of the month.

Wednesday

7:30 P.M.

Shuffleboard

VANPORT HOTEL...

If you have not registered
please do so now;

Either put your name on
the board at the Club,
or

SEE JEAN.

ASK

Valentine's Day Dance

SATURDAY, FEB. 17th 1968
11 p.m. - 7 a.m.

\$4.00

per person

Door Prizes
Buffet

Costume Prizes
Floor Show

1268 EAST HASTINGS

Member ☐
Guest ☐

HELP! HELP! HELP!

Dere's nuttin' to it!

If you can type with one
finger or all eight and
your two thumbs. We can
use you to help produce
our monthly publication.

SEE THE EDITOR'S -
at the club today.

frankly speaking

By ROBBIE TODRICK

Item number two of the goals of ASK includes: "a full and varied program of social events, discussions, and educational meetings".

As most members are aware, the social activities of our organization have been sufficiently plentiful to meet almost all demands (requests for orgies etc. not having been taken as seriously advisable). Unfortunately, due to a distinct lack of support by a very small membership, past executives have found it necessary to discontinue their discussion and educational programs.

Once again the ASK executive is attempting to set up such a program, in the hope that, with our greatly increased membership, sufficient support will be found to make, what should be one of the primary programs of our organization successful.

Perhaps, not so surprising as unfortunate, I find that the majority of members who are definitely interested in such a program are those who have basically come to terms with their homosexuality, and not those who such a program would benefit most.

By himself, only the unusually intelligent and self-perceptive homosexual, after a great deal of time and study, can even begin to truly understand what it is that causes him to act as he does, sexually or otherwise. The homosexuals with the greatest conflicts, however, are not the ones who are reading books or carrying on discussions of the subject, but rather, the ones who don't appear to care whether they are achieving any goal at all.

I cannot, unfortunately, count the number of members who have informed me that they consider educational and discussion meetings to be of no value to themselves. These people generally fall into one of several general categories, all of which are all too common in the homosexual community due to an almost complete inability of the invert to adjust to his deviation and realize that his sexuality must play only a small part in the overall makeup of his daily life.


The most obvious examples of the maladjusted homosexual are, of course, the two extremes of general conduct; the sloppily dressed, unwashed, stomping dyke, and intentionally obviously overly nelly screaming faggot, both of which have become the prototypes which ruin so much of the work done by the homophile movement.

Many less obvious manifestations of the homosexual's problems are equally common among heterosexuals, but in such cases, sexuality is less often such an obvious factor. Excellent examples of such activities are: use of alcohol or drugs, often to the point of addiction, instability of relationships (sexual or otherwise), allowing sexual drives to control all activities, complete segregation from society because of exaggerated fears and jealousies. Such a list could be carried on ad infinitum, which would serve little, if any purpose. The point to be made is that every homosexual can, in some way, benefit from, and contribute to a full discussion, if only by gaining a better understanding of others. Only after the homosexual understands and accepts himself, can he expect society to understand and accept him. This then must be the prime objective of ASK; without such a program, ASK would have no need for existence, and, without doubt, be deserted by the majority of its working members.

This Month's

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
4. No schedule.	5. Broomball, Centre, 7:30 p.m. (Jean)	6. Cribbage Group folded until further notice. Discussion Group 8 p. (Norma-Robbie)	7. Shuffleboard, Hotel, 7:30 p. (Jean)
11. Brandy Brunch, 1 p.m. Practice, Show Kids.	12. Floor Hockey, 7:30 p. (Norma)	13. Executive Meeting 8 p.m. (Open).	14. Shuffleboard, Hotel, 7:30 p. (Jean)
18. No Schedule. Clean up Offers Will Be Welcomed.	19. Floor Hockey, 7:30 p. (Jean)	20. Discussion Group. 8 p.m. (Robbie)	21. Shuffleboard, Hotel, 7:30 p. (Jean)
25. Brandy Brunch, 1 p.m. (Norma)	26. Shuffleboard, Vanport Hotel, 7:30 p.m. (Jean)	27. Discussion Group, 8 p. (Robbie)	28. GENERAL ME. We call for ance from al

Activities

DAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1. Floor Hockey, Center. (Ken or Norma)	2. Dance, 10 p.m.-3 p.m. Hootenany, 8 p.m.	3. Dance, 10 p.m.-3 p.m.
anpert 8.	8. Dance, 10 p.m.-3 p.m. (Norma-Ken)	9. Dance, 10 p.m.-3 p.m. (Ken-Robbie)	10. Dance, 10 p.m.-3 p.m. (Doug-Jean)
anpert 15.	15. Dance, 10 p.m.-3 p.m. (Norma)	16. Dance, 10 p.m.-3 p.m. Ken-Hunter	 17. Dance, 11 p.m.-1 a.m. (All Executive)
anpert 22.	22. Dance, 10 p.m.-3 p.m. (Norma)	23. Dance, 10 p.m.-3 p.m. Ken-Derothy	24. Dance, 10 p.m.-3 p.m. (Gayle-Hunter)
attent 29.	29. Dance, 10 p.m.-3 a.m. (Norma)		

No Sympathy

From Us Either!

The following article appeared in a weekly Tabloid, published in Toronto, and sold throughout Canada:—

PANSIES PLUCKED AT

SUBWAY WASHROOM!

It's one thing to legislate for queers and give them the right to pleasure each other ---- provided they are old enough and willing. But the Law will never permit this kind of activity to take place in public, or where the public has easy access, a Toronto Magistrate said last week.

Magistrate Hugh Foster, after making note of the movement afoot to legalize homosexuality between consenting adults, convicted a couple of pansies of committing acts of gross indecency in the washroom at the Bloor - Yonge Subway Station.

There is no excuse for such acts in public, said the Magistrate.

He fined Maurice C. Dickson 37 and William R. Needham 36, after expressing his repugnance at such grossly indecent acts in public.

Dickson, as a first offender in the courts, was fined \$100. His sex-mate was hit with a \$250 fine because he had a previous record for a similar offence.

--TAB, Jan. 6, 1968.

While we have absolutely no sympathy for the parties concerned, we strongly object to the form of publication used by the Court reporter concerned.

We feel homosexuals throughout Canada should make themselves

heard, and by the use of letters-to-the-editor, reprimand the paper concerned.

Please write to them today.

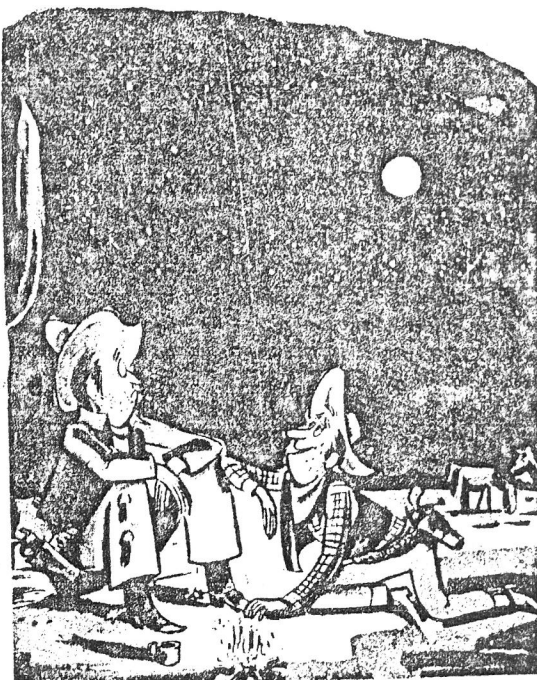
How, we ask, can homosexuals be accepted in this country when a biggoted reporter is allowed to publish garbage-like reports such as this?

Sex in a public washroom is without doubt, the lowest form of homosexuality in existence.

We wonder though, how one man who was never caught in Homosexual practice, in either public or private, can be serving a life sentence; and two men actually caught in the act -- IN PUBLIC -- one with a previous record for a similar offence; can walk out of Court with just a fine?

Ugh! Justice...

-Editor



*"It sure gets lonesome out here
on the prairie, don't it?"*

Sport - Social

We have reserved a rink for an ice party. This will be held on Thursday, Feb. 8th from 8:30 to 10:30 pm at the rear rink attached directly to the back of the forum on the P.N.E. grounds. This event is open to all members and guests. Tickets are now available at a cost of \$1.00 per person and can be purchased at the centre from myself, or Norma. Skates can be rented at the rink and there will be a concession stand open. I appeal to all members, male and female to attend this event. The centre will be open after skating and your ticket stub plus .50¢ gets you in.

We are now playing floor hockey at the centre every Monday night and I'm happy to say we have had a very good turnout of both players and spectators. This is a very enthusiastic group who put a lot into the game, so if you would care to join us drop in any Monday night. Everyone welcome.

The Shuffleboard tournaments held on Wed. night at the V.P. Hotel are now in full swing. We have 8 teams of 2, playing from 7:30 pm on. The top team as of Jan. 17th was team #8, with a record of 4 wins, no losses. However with 10 games still to play, anything could happen.

Unfortunately the Tuesday evening cribbage games have drawn very few participants and we will be dropping this at the end of January.

I am unable to confirm the date of the trip to Whistler Mountain, as to this date I have had no reply to either of the two letters I have written this resort.

In conclusion I would like to make mention of a few of the club members who have made a special effort to make our activities successful. Jo & Jean for their diligence in setting up the cribbage tournament. Carol and Penny who not only refereed and coached our floor hockey games, but have both played and encouraged those of us who had no experience.

-Jean

I would like to thank everyone who has helped to make our three shows a success. It has been hard work, but it has been enjoyed. Because of audience reaction, we have been asked, not only to do floor shows elsewhere in the city, but also in Seattle. Plans for both are now underway. This, I think, is a tremendous compliment. A complement not only to the people in the show, but also to those who have helped backstage, direct, etc.

There have also been complaints. Some about the shows, some about the people in the shows, and some about the sound system. For the first two, all I can say is that you can't please all of the people all of the time. The sound system will be improved, but it takes time and plenty of money. At present we can only do the best we can with what we have.

One other complaint, not mentioned before, is, "Why can't everyone be in the show?" There are several good reasons, but first let me explain the New Years show. Much of what was rehearsed for the show was not shown on stage. Not numbers were done to fill in numbers that were pulled out a week before New Years eve. This was done because people were late for rehearsals, or did not come to rehearsals. Nine times out of ten it was always the same people who were late or did not show up. It brought uneasiness to those who were on time and always there. This led to people being asked to leave the show, and hence, this answers the question; "Why can't everyone be in the shows?" Also it should be mentioned that many of the complaints have been by those who were late etc.

But all is not grim. Another group is being set up for people interested in learning basic theatre techniques. Also we have some ideas for plays, folk dancing, and maybe some modern jazz dancing. If you are interested, either get in touch with Robbie or myself. The dates for these will be posted at the club. With that I hope there will be a good turnout, which will lead to better and better shows.

-Ann

An Exclusive Interview...

Until the case of Everett George Klippert, a 40-year-old mechanic's helper, no one realized that Canada had the most severe laws on homosexuality in the world. Klippert was sentenced to "preventative detention" as a "dangerous sexual offender." If he is ever released it will be on a lifetime parole, revocable at any time. Klippert, by his own admission, has been a practising homosexual for 25 years.

Chief Justice Cartwright of our Supreme Court concluded from the psychiatric evidence that Klippert would not be a danger to any person. The Chief Justice refused to hold that the words "dangerous sexual offender" included "a sexual offender who is not dangerous."

The majority of the Supreme Court did not agree. Everett Klippert remains in the fortress-like penitentiary at Prince Albert Saskatchewan.

I met Everett Klippert in December, shortly before Christmas, to try to get some answers as to why this absurd case had occurred.

The story begins with a complaint being laid against him by the father of one of his partners in Calgary in 1960. When questioned by the police Klippert readily confessed to homosexual activity with 18 people, whose names the police read out from Klippert's own address book. As far as Klippert knows, the police never investigated the incidents. He was from a large Baptist family and cooperated blindly with the police in the naive hope of avoiding scandal. He at no time consulted a lawyer. He pled guilty and served four years in the Penitentiary.

After his release he left Calgary, feeling that he was an embarrassment to his relatives who lived there. He should have moved

to a larger center where he could easily make homosexual contacts. Instead he went to Pine Point, a company town with a population of 400. The RCMP in Pine Point knew about his record and when three incidents of arson occurred they called him in for questioning.

The following article was obtained through an interview with Everett George Klippert, in The Prince Albert Penitentiary by our Legal Advisor, Douglas Sanders.

Klippert recounts that he was told that unless he pled guilty to homosexual activity he would be charged with arson. For the second time without legal advice, he told the police all that was needed to convict him. Again there was no evidence of any investigation by the RCMP. He pled guilty to four counts of acts of gross indecency and was sentenced to three years.

Three months later an RCMP officer visited Klippert in the Penitentiary. He handed Klippert official notice that the Crown was proceeding with a hearing to have him declared a "dangerous sexual offender". Klippert was stunned. He went back to his cell and turned to his Bible. While looking for the 23rd Psalm he noticed yet another passage: "For He has not hid His face from him but has heard when he cried to Him". Psalm 22, Verse 24.

The hearing was held in Yellowknife in March, 1966, before Mr. Justice Sissons (famous for his decisions on Indian and Eskimo rights.). The psychiatrists who gave evidence for the Crown described Klippert as timid and quiet, but Klippert has changed. He will no longer cooperate blindly with the authorities. He told me in December "If I meet someone on the outside now and he -con't. over

An Exclusive (Cont.)

asks me I'll say sure I'm a homosexual, what are you? I'm not going to be ashamed of it any more." He is sharply aware that he has been treated unjustly.

Two convicts in the Prince Albert Penitentiary were caught in a cell engaged in homosexual activities. They got ten days in the hole. Klippert, who had never been caught in sexual activity, is serving life.

Newspapers from Coast to Coast gave the Supreme Court decision good coverage. The TORONTO DAILY STAR editorialized that the decision represented "a return to the middle ages." The WINNIPEG FREE PRESS commented: "It is possible to deplore such activity without treating its practitioners as if they were Monsters." The CALGARY ALBERTAN modestly suggested: "The spectre of a possible life sentence seems to us to be a little severe..." A featured story in The MONTREAL GAZETTE described Klippert "as the most publicized homosexual in Canadian history."

The Klippert case, absurd as it is, paved the way for homosexual law reforms in this country. Late in December Justice Minister Trudeau introduced a Bill modelled on the English Reform of last summer.

Homosexual acts in private (no third parties) between consenting adults (21 or over) would be legalized. The Bill is obviously unsatisfactory. Illinois has 18 as the age of consent. The sensible thing would be to make the ages of consent identical for homosexual or heterosexual offences. But the Bill is so much better than the law as it stands that we must cheer this step ahead.

(Contents of Bill on another
Page -- Editor.)

tickets available for

Valentines Dance

February 17th.

4.00

per person

- Door Prizes.
- Costume Prizes.
- Floor Show.
- Supper.

Members and their guests are
invited to attend.

1268 East Hastings

Poet's Corner

THE INVERTS PRAYER

Who is the God of such as we?
To which dogma do we hold the key?
Which figurehead is the outcast's own,
Gautahma, Mohammed, or the Christ alone?

You say when the will grows weak and frail,
And dying beats living in our kind of hell;
Then turn to the only thing left to man,
Throw yourself on God's mercy, if you can.

But who is the God of the in-between
Who chase all their lives for what might have been.
Who've know not the simple comfort of faith,
Spent their lives pursuing that elusive wrath.

Will Your God understand our special needs?
He who planted within, these deadly seeds.
Will Jehovah, or Allah, to the cursed be kind?
Can He purge our souls, or scour our minds?

Can Your God a miracle create?
Blast from the normal, all its hate?
For we who are branded, by birth, or life,
Neither man, nor woman, husband, nor wife?

Who is the God who walks our rail?
If not one of us, he is bound to fail.
How can you feel the weight of a cross
You never have worn, or morn its loss.

If we are not human, then how can we find
He who is God of our special kind?
You say we are not of the race of men.
To which God do we turn? You tell us, then!

Pat

Letters To The Editor

The following letter was tabled at the Club Executive meeting on Tuesday, February 16. The reply from the Executive appears below.

Editor, ASK- I attended your New Years Eve party and have a few comments to make.

1. The hall itself was a far cry from adequate, it was dirty, had little or no ventilation, the fumes from the furnace was sickening and the washroom facilities deplorable.
2. The band I thought was terribly loud, especially the drummer and chose a poor selection of music in that there was little or no variety.
3. Some of the executive were quite presumptuous, barging in on a group, helping themselves to others liquor especially when introductions had not been made. Also just ignoring some members of the party completely.
4. I feel the aims and objectives of this group are good, but socials in halls such as this ridiculous. For reasonably intelligent and well behaved adults the whole thing was quite disappointing.
5. The food was appreciated but many would have liked a cup of coffee. If possible it would be nice for your members if this could be served in the future.
6. The speaker and subject on the changing of the homosexual laws were good, well delivered and appreciated.
7. I have talked with others who also attended your New Years Eve do and most expressed the same feelings written down in this letter. We feel that you are on the right track but lets not treat homosexuals as if they belong in the gutter and maybe they will be able to get out of same.

Con't. over

-Letters To Ed.(Cont.)

I sincerely hope you will discuss these comments in this letter at your next executive meeting, and perhaps parties in the future could have a little better atmosphere.

Vancouver, B.C.

-Carol.

Dear Carol-- Oh, we did discuss your comments, and at length. Following is my reply:

1. At the time washrooms were in a deplorable state; plumbers had been to repair same the previous day. However, apparently someone earlier in the evening had used the toilet bowl as a disposal can for her unwanted Kotex. We sincerely hope the person responsible will in future make use of proper receptacle supplied for this unfortunate necessity. We apologize for the fumes from the kerosene blower, however it was necessary to use this as alternative heating.
2. The band chose their own selection of music; no one hires a band and then has the audacity to tell them what they may or may not play. The band was considered good by most in attendance.
3. Next time we shall make sure we introduce ourselves to all members of any party we are invited to join. Your accusations of executive members helping themselves to others liquor when not even invited to the table, hits the dust Dearie, as it was known that no executive member drank on the premises until the evening was almost over, and then only when invited to do so! ARE YOU SURE YOU KNOW THE EXECUTIVE MEMBERS?
4. We also feel the hall was quite inadequate for people as intelligent and understandably, as well behaved as yourself. We had only been in the premises 15 days, and considered we had done quite well under the

circumstances.

5. Coffee was available at the bar, free of charge. It has always been the policy of this executive to have free coffee available on the evenings liquor is on the premises.
6. Well Gee thanks! Glad you agree with something. (Next time we'll give him a set of beads to wear, he'd love too!)
7. We thought we were on the right track too. We were unaware though that homosexuals were ever in the gutter, so we fail to see how we maybe able to get out of same.

-Editor.

'It's nice to know no one will sneer'

Recently, in a Vancouver Apartment House, a somewhat distressed caretaker, approached a member of our club to request if she knew any quiet, refined Gay girl to fill a coming vacancy in an across the passage apartment.

Knowing the apartment was occupied at the time by one of the local Gay boys, the girl naturally enquired of the caretaker why he (the boy), was suddenly departing from the building.

"Well,, it's like this," said the caretaker, "Yesterday, I stepped into the laundry room, and lo and behold here is this fellow in the process of doing his laundry, wearing nothing else but a sheer nylon negligee."

"I immediately requested he return to his apartment and don a housecoat." He ignored my request, and informed me that "he would wear anything he damn well pleased, in and around his apartment."

-East Vancouver.

Parental Misgivings . . . ?

By DUKE GAYLORD

A letter from Mrs. C. M. reflects a concern which many parents felt if they faced a similar situation. She writes:

"Our thirteen-year-old son has been friendly with a boy whom both my husband and I regard as effeminate. Both boys would like occasionally to spend the night in the other's home, but we have refused. Our fear is that our son may become involved in homosexual experiences. Are we justified in our refusal?"

Effeminate behavior is not an accurate indication of homosexuality. -- Serious misjudgements may be made when parents use this standard. -- Some homosexuals do have effeminate mannerisms; others do not. A thoroughly heterosexual man may have a high voice of effeminate mannerisms.

Mrs. C.M. does not define "effeminate". How does she form her judgement? What one person thinks effeminate others may not think so at all.

A good many boys experience homosexual plays in late childhood or the early teens. Kinsey found that 37.5 per cent of his male subjects had had homosexual plays by the time they were twenty. I have intentionally used the phrase "homosexual plays", for these figures do not mean that this many young men are becoming homosexual.

Between ten and fifteen-sixteen (or even later ages for slow developers) boys go through a period in which they are much more interested in, and attached to and affectionate with other boys than they are with girls.

In fact most boys of that age regard girls as nuisances and are unable to imagine they will ever be attracted by a girl. They are like the twelve-year-old at the movie who said when the hero embraced the heroine, "I closed my eyes and made believe he was strangling her."

Male-male (and female-female) attachments during this period may be very strong. Watch a group of children at this age, and you are likely to see the same-sex pairs with arms around each other holding hands.

Touching one another and being physically close is quite important at this age. So it is no wonder that some adolescents in their touching-embracing experiences find each other's genital organs. Boys in particular are curious about sexual parts, and receive keenly pleasurable sensations from touching them.

If two boys have engaged in fondling or handling each other's genitals this does not mean they will continue the practise. Neither will they continue as adults to walk down the street embracing or holding hands with other men. In adolescence these actions are a part of normal development and normally are outgrown.

Parents can be, and often are frightened by what they see, or imagine, that they disturb their children too. Emotional upsets, punishments, or vague, veiled threats and warnings may lead a growing boy to feel he is somehow displeasing his parents, or is developing abnormally. These fears rather than the experiences themselves, may warp attitudes and block normal development.

Mr. and Mrs. C.M. are probably needlessly anxious. Certainly they are focusing their attention at the wrong point. Rather than worrying about the possibility of their son becoming homosexual because he is friendly with an "effeminate" boy, or engages in genital play, they can help him most by providing a relaxed and happy home atmosphere.

A boy, or girl, who has reasonably happy and successful friendships with other children gets along satisfactorily in his general relationships, and

-Con't over

Parental Con't.

feels accepted by his parents will not become a homosexual.

Parent's first concern should be for the general emotional development of their children. If their own relationship with their child is poor, or the child is unhappy or a lone wolf, then it is time to be concerned. But attention should be on overall adjustment, for the sexual development will almost certainly be satisfactory if the total emotional atmosphere is good.

If parents are uncertain as to whether a child is getting along well in his general relationships, his teachers can often give helpful information. They see him working and playing with other children. They will know whether he is happy, an accepted child, or whether he is an unhappy, lonely and defeated child.

If a child needs help in improving his relationships, the school authorities can usually suggest available sources. Another helpful person--should be your family doctor. Many communities now have clinics or professional counsellors who can give assistance to worried parent.

Sound Off Here

We welcome Readers' views and questions for publication. While all letters must be signed, only the writer's initials or Nom De Plume and locale of origin (e.g. A.B., Vancouver, B.C.) will be published. Views expressed in letters published here do not necessarily reflect those of the Editorial staff of this magazine, or of the Association. Requests for the exchange of correspondents' names will be strictly denied.

--Editor

ICE SKATING PARTY!!
ICE SKATING PARTY!!

Thursday, February 8th.

8:30 - 10:30 p.m.

Near Rink, directly attached to
the Forum, P.N.E. Grounds.

\$1.00 per person

Skates available for rent

Tickets available at Center or
at door on the Thursday night.

Classified

WANTED MISCELLANEOUS

TRUNK, 3'x2'. Any reasonable offer accepted. Reply 102.

DINING room table and chairs. Preferably Danish or Swedish. Reply 104.

TYPEWRITER

HEALIC typewriter. Anything over \$50 will not be considered. Reply 104.

FURNITURE

Two or four basket chairs, preferably with foam coverings. Reply 105.

CHEST of drawers with 3 or 4 drawers. Reply 106.

LOST

LOST, one navy pea jacket. Presumed taken by mistake, Saturday, January 20 Sentimental value. Please return -- unless you're cold and treadbareh.-- No questions asked, if turned into bar, otherwise action will be taken. (Club not responsible for articles lost or stolen.--Editor.)

WE ARE TOO
HACKED



to HAGGLE!

Your attendance would be appreciated at our General Meeting. Show us that

We have your support. Bring other club members with you. That one vote from you can mean a

for your club, without hearing your ideas and suggestions, gripes or good comments. Come!!!!

However We Expect To See You
At The

GENERAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY. February 28th.

-8 p.m.-

At The Center

great deal to the future of the club as a whole. We cannot do the best

The Executive

President NORMA MITCHELL
Vice-President ROBBIE
Secretary LARRY
Treasurer KEN
Program Director ARNIE
Assistant JEAN
Editor HUNTER MURPHY
Assistant GAIL
Membership Convenor DOROTHY
Legal Advisor DOUG



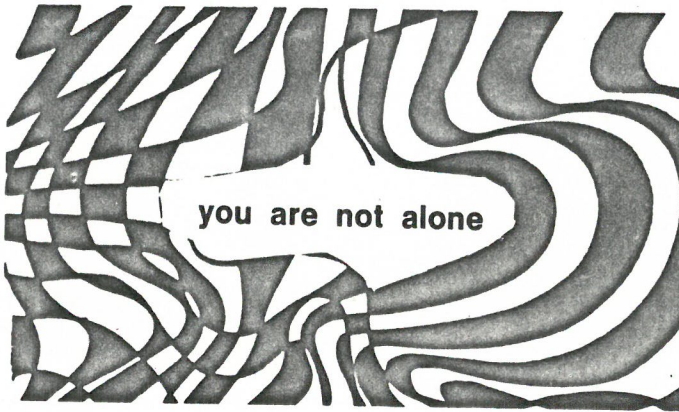
CLUB CENTRE: 1268 EAST HASTINGS

ask

Jan '68

[v. 5, no 1]

association
for social
knowledge



po box 4277

vancouver 9 bc

From the President's Desk

The Association for Social Knowledge has occupied the premises at 1929 Kingsway, Vancouver, B.C. for the past year. We have outgrown these premises and now have made our move to new quarters. With this move let us sit and ponder for a moment. It is at times, very easy to be critical of other's actions; especially if we ourselves are not involved. To be critical in a constructive manner is good, but to be critical in a destructive manner is not only detrimental to ourselves, but also to our association.

This is my first article as your new President, so, let it be understood that I am open for suggestions and assistance from both the executive and the members. Our Association is on the move--there is much to be done.

May I digress here for a moment and state what no doubt many of you are thinking. What are the goals of A.S.K.; why have they not been fulfilled; or raised off the ground? Let it be stated here, as your past treasurer that nothing--no nothing-- can be done without money. This is not a problem peculiar only to our Association, but also to many other homophile groups.

A.S.K. had to get out of the red and begin to see in its place, black ink on the ledgers.

It is agreed that we did stress the social activities, but this was done to enable us to have a centre. The social activities will still have to be stressed, as our expenses are multiplying so rapidly. This, however cannot be our sole function, nor will it be.

The time has come to get down to the fundamentals of the Association. This can be done only with your own full support.

We not only call upon our own members, but every homosexual in Canada, and every Association in the U.S. to give us their constructive criticism. It is not enough to say

something is wrong, if we as homosexuals are not willing to do anything about it.

Let us all get together with the movement. I guarantee to each and every one of you that the executive meetings are open to all interested members. Also, all motions passed shall be published in your magazine. This will keep you abreast of the various activities. This brings up another point. The format of the newsletter has been changed to a small magazine. This is to enable us to get more and controversial articles to you. Use your rights to get your opinion printed.

Beginning in January, the centre shall be opened seven nights a week, and all day Sundays. Your president shall host the brunches on Sundays. So, join in and give to the round table discussions. This event shall be from 11 a.m. on. Take a close look at the activities section, and support the projects that are of the greatest of interest to you. We want to see to it that the club has something to offer to each and everyone, no matter what their interests are.

With the centre open so often, we are in desperate need of volunteers to work. Please leave your name at the centre.

By the way, there is a new Gay Club open. It is called the August Society, and is strictly for the men. This is a profit organization. It has been rumoured that they are affiliated with A.S.K.--they are not.

Hoping to see you all at the new centre--1268 E. Hastings St.

--Norma K. Mitchell

Editorial

ASK, though a comparatively new group is slowly becoming another force in the homophile world to be reckoned with. Our only viable position--both for ourselves and other groups--lies in a relegation of natural resources, both in the field of knowledge of why we are homophile and how we may help other people understand our position in the world of today. We do not have the means within our organization to settle our most important problems. We must get out of it and build from scratch policies which come from us which are meant for us.

Only when the community can no longer tolerate a readily visible situation, is rescue work assigned to surrogate members who can improve the situations as they then exist.

This then is the job you as a member have assigned for your executive.

Be it noted our main aim is to work toward the changing of the Canadian laws with regard to Homosexuality.

Our next aim is to provide a home for our members to turn to when in need.

Perhaps we can do this with your help.

Committee members and colleagues on the executive came to office with high ideals and ambitious objectives. In the intervening month, their earnest endeavours must not become obscured by mismanagement, internal disagreement and a failure to realize the limits of the economic capacity, materials, manpower and money; therefore we hereby make a plea for sensible "restraint" on all fronts.

Uneven growth has resulted in tight money, rising costs, shortage of adequate supplies, labour from members, and supervisory personnel.

Unless some stimulants are speedily made available to our financial resources, sizable cutbacks may have to be made.

I refer to the move we made from Kingsway to Hastings St.

Time would have solved some of the most pressing problems, but in the interim, a great deal of damage could have been done to the fabric of both the executive and membership already tattered and rent during the crisis of finding a new center and appointing a new executive in so much dissension.

They would lean, hopefully, towards modern and intelligent decision-making, giving us a chance for improved membership attitude toward our club.

Future discussions must take place in a calm and serious atmosphere, devoid of the kind of hostility and excitement which tends to characterize unions of various organized groups.

--Hunter.

PUBLIC LIBRARY



ONE: Which do you like better, Browning or Kipling?

OTHER: I don't know. I've never heard

"RE TIRE"

We Elect A Woman

Editorial

In a cavernous ex-bowling alley-warehouse, there was an air of frenzied confusion throughout December to meet a New Year's Eve deadline.

Areas were piled high with boxes and packing cases, and all the paraphernalia necessary to a club and production.

The central figure in all this confusion was our Madam President, who ran from one end of the building to the other, giving advice, answering questions and solving the latest in a series of delimas.

"There just isn't enough time," she said. "We've got to be ready on time."

Tables built for the opening of the club the first night, collapsed one after the other--one was then to find Madam President often all alone, sawing, and nailing--stopping to straighten out their newest problem, then back to work, many days even without supper.

First of all, I must confess that I am not the greatest writer of all times: a fact of which you all shall soon be very apparent. I will however, do my utmost to bring to our magazine a few lines to think upon, digest, laugh at, or whatever, in the best possible manner I can muster.

I have great confidence in our editor that he will give all a good magazine. He believes as I do, that a job isn't worth doing unless it is done well. We shall endeavour to be the toughest critics of all. Where we fail in this, we appeal to our readers for responsible criticism. Our goal is to edit a paper in the good interests of our club. Any challenge that may appear on these humble pages will be gratefully accepted in writing by the editor.

In this manner, I feel, we, as the magazine staff shall do our part in raising the healthy interest of our club members to act in support of our club and our motto.

---Gayle.



HOMOSEXUAL

TRENDS IN

JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

T. C. N. GIBBENS

*Senior Lecturer in Forensic Psychiatry,
Institute of Psychiatry, University of London*

Consultant to the World Health Organization

Sexual offences by juveniles do not appear to have increased to any important extent in many countries. In England, however, there has been some increase (Radzinowicz, 1957). Among persons of all ages, for every 100 indictable sexual offences recorded by the police before the war, 352 were recorded in recent years, though this only represents a change from 1.3% of all indictable offences to 3.6%. Some 9% of these offences are committed by those under 17 and 16% by those under 21. But whereas there has been a great relative increase in homosexual offences, which have risen from 27% to 41% of all indictable sex offences for all age-groups, young offenders of under 21 commit 35% of the heterosexual offences but only 9% of the homosexual offences, no doubt because the latter are not often reported to the police when occurring between boys.

It is hardly necessary to stress the very large volume of undetected sex offences. According to Kinsey (1944), in a town of 100 000 inhabitants, contacts with prostitutes (which is sometimes an offence in itself) reached 3190 in a week, though this is less than 10% of all extra-marital contacts; according to the same author, 20%-30% of the unmarried males in a town could have been charged with homosexual behaviour in any one year.

Kinsey's data upon trends are much more relevant from the present point of view. Comparing two generations (the reported behaviour of those with an average age 22 in 1945 with the histories of those who were then on average 42 years old, i.e., who had been 22 in 1910-25), he found very little difference. "The only instance in which a larger number of the younger generation is involved at an earlier age applies to such activities (masturbation, nocturnal emissions and petting) as are not ordinarily considered when the charge is made that the younger generation is becoming increasingly immoral. The charge more often concerns pre-marital intercourse with companions or with prostitutes and homosexual contacts. But on all of these latter points, however, the records of the older and the younger generation are, by the admission of the older generation ... so nearly identical that no difference can be found in the accumulative incidence curves. And as for the homosexual, if a larger number of the younger generation is becoming involved, we have failed to find any evidence of it." It is significant especially that in the instance where the younger generation does seem to become involved at an earlier age, it is the lower educational level that is concerned, which may be a consequence of better nutrition and medical care, etc. Kinsey confirms that adolescence is occurring a year or so earlier in the lower social levels. One of the few differences between the generations is that the total amount of contact with prostitutes, especially in the lower educational levels, has fallen to a half or two-thirds, but has been replaced by contacts with ordinary girl-friends.

It can hardly be doubted that these data are the best available on which to found any hypotheses about the causes of change in the incidence of sex offences, which, of course, often involve the added elements of force or seduction. If the change is not entirely due to alteration in social attitudes to case-reporting, the change among the lower educational levels from contact with prostitutes to voluntary contacts with girl-friends may introduce a wider scope for false hope.

Whoopee...

What's Doing

Wednesday

7:30 P.M.

Shuffleboard

VANPORT HOTEL...

★ ★ ★

DON'T WATCH
OTHERS. DO IT
YOURSELF

★ ★ ★

If you have not registered
please do so now;

Either put your name on
the board at the Club,
or

SEE JEAN.

and sudden frustrations; and parental opposition to the girls' behaviour may introduce an added element to investigation and case-reporting.

Homosexual offences by juveniles or young adults, especially the occurrence of homosexual prostitution among juveniles, is a matter of concern in many countries, even though there is rarely any indication of any increase. If one accepts Kinsey's data, it may be that the increased frankness with which the existence of homosexuality is recognized today has led to more detailed observations. In some countries, the rapid extension of social work has brought workers into contact with cases which are felt to be baffling and perhaps more exceptional and pathological than they are because they are unlikely to be touched upon in the course of training. However, to be told by a police officer that most of the dozen or so ordinary-looking youths in a public square are male prostitutes might well surprise most people. Among 100 Borstal lads (Gibbens, 1957), one-third remembered being approached by adult homosexuals at some time, nearly always without response: the proportion was the same in those who were normally heterosexual and in those who had conflict about homosexuality. Though much of the homosexual behaviour of adolescents is transitory, the homosexual prostitutes present a special problem; they are said to find it difficult to avoid ordinary criminality when they become too old to make a living by prostituting themselves.

From a wider viewpoint, the relation between property delinquency and sexual maladjustment, especially in late adolescence, becomes increasingly important. In social classes in which apprenticeship or occupational training are exceptional, the main normal interests must be in sport, hobbies and social life with girl-friends; and in practice the late adolescent gang is usually composed of the residuum of a group of socially active youths, the majority of the other members of this initial group having left to take up individual relationships with girl-friends. Kinsey used to stress that too little attention was paid to the effect of the traditional residential training of delinquents upon their sexual development. In later adolescence, this tends, perhaps inevitably, to cut them off from one of the most powerful forces of rehabilitation. This is a particular problem with the institutional training of adolescent girls, and with boys who have never known a normal family life.

One of the few irrefutable facts about delinquency is that it is mainly the activity of boys; and there seems no change in this situation. Since the work of Mead and other anthropologists, this is less often regarded as a natural biological fact which need arouse no curiosity. Girls are less frequently seen in child guidance clinics or in court, but more frequently enter mental hospital in adult life. There is no reason to suppose that they suffer less than boys from the effects of family tensions and as Adelaide Johnson (1959) says, they appear to steal from their parents in childhood as frequently as boys. But the girls tend to nurse their grievances and anxieties until adolescence, when they emerge suddenly in wayward or sexually promiscuous behaviour. One of the many problems in prevention is that, whatever is done for the boys, there will continue to be a number of girls who draw little attention to themselves until they emerge in adult life as the rejecting or unstable mothers of the next generation's delinquents. Although puberty is occurring at an earlier average age, there is nothing to indicate that physical precocity plays any important part in their behaviour, nor, indeed, that the specifically sexual component is paramount. Puberty supplies them with a social asset, which can be used to satisfy their need for affection as well as for the things which money can buy.

No serious increase in waywardness is reported, but as with homosexuality, a growing concern is felt in many countries about the problem. There is no reported increase in prostitution, but the near-prostitution of young girls causes concern. The proportion of girls who are seriously disturbed is generally reported to be higher than that of boys, and institutional training raises more difficult problems (Glover, 1960).

next week

tickets available for

Valentines Dance

February 17th.

4.00

per person

- Door Prizes.
- Costume Prizes.
- Floor Show.
- Supper.

Members and their guests are
invited to attend.

1268 East Hastings

A Dominican Speaks Out...

My brothers, I want to thank you for inviting me to this convention. My first inclination, when asked to attend, was to accept. However, I took council of my elders, my superiors at my parish church, which is here in the district.

They were happy that this confidence should be shown us, and that you should give us this opportunity to better serve the community. When I asked the pastor of my church about coming to this convention, he said, "By all means you may go. Let it be known that the Catholic Church is a church for all men."

I did not ask for permission to attend from any other authorities than the prior and pastor of my parish. I belong to an ancient monastic clerical order called the Dominican Order or the Order of Preschers. We enjoy a certain amount of autonomy. When our immediate superiors--such as the prior and pastor--give their permission for a good activity, and when there is no conflict with the wishes or regulations of other authorities, we are free to act.

I feel sure, however, if I had approached the authorities of this archdiocese, I would have their blessings for being here. They are known to be reasonable, gentle and compassionate men.

I must be honest, however, and say that many would be shocked by my presence here--many of whom are my own brothers in the clergy. Well, so be it. I think that the time has come when we had better be a little less shocked, and start listening to others. Apparently, we don't have all the answers. I think our record of failure in many areas has proved that. One area where we have noticeably failed is in this problem of homosexuality.

We don't understand it--from my studies apparently few really understand it. And, in not understanding homosexuality we have committed some pretty heinous crimes, mainly in judging. Our tendency has been

to judge. And in our judging we have used every weapon at our disposal from the use (or misuse) of Sacred Scripture to ad hominem arguments of men of great influence. At any rate, we have judged. And our judgment consists mainly in rejection. Our crime is to reject some of our brothers whom we can't or refuse to try to understand.

For our unchristian behavior I beg forgiveness. May you be merciful and forgive us even though we have not, as a rule, shown mercy to you.

And, unfortunately, I don't expect this tendency to reject--this un-Christlike attitude--to change for a long time to come. Nevertheless, let it be known there are a few islands of rest in this city. I think the presence of the various ministers here today proves that.

For ourselves, I want you to know that my parish will always be an island of rest for all men of good will. There we offer the mercy of Jesus Christ to all sincere men. There one can truly find peace and rest for his soul.

(From the Seattle Convention)

Membership

Cards Due

JANUARY

27, 7, 12, 43, 40, 10, 14, 2,
9, 36, 11, 21, 29, 39, 5,
88, 214, 25, 28, 20, 44, 15,
16, 23, 42, 19, 22, 6, 8, 32,
13, 1, 4, 18.

FEBRUARY

46, 47, 48, 49, 41.

THIS MONTH'S ACTIVITIES

- FRI. 5th: American Weekend
Get acquainted meeting at ASK Centre.
Guided tour of gay bars for visitors from Seattle and other Centres.
Dance 10 p.m.
- SAT. 6th: 12 noon seminar convenes at ASK Centre.
6 p.m. supper for all attending ASK seminar.
8 p.m. - 10 p.m. free time for all.
10 p.m. Dance and Floor Show at 1 a.m. Dancing till 4 a.m. (Drag permitted)
- SUN. 7th: 10:30 - noon BRANDY BRUNCH
12 noon Round Table Discussion (speakers)
4 p.m. Close of Seminar.
- MON. 8th: 8 p.m. Floor Hockey (Jean)
- TUES. 9th: 8 p.m. Cribbage
8 p.m. Discussion
(GOV'T. Stand On Homosexuals) (Exec.)
- WED. 10th: 8 p.m. Centre open for reading and relaxation.
(Ken)
- MON. 22nd: Floor Hockey (Jean)
- TUES. 23rd: 8 p.m. Cribbage
8 p.m. Discussion
- Report on West Regional Conference.
(Norma)
- WED. 24th: 7:30 Shuffleboard
(Vanport)
8 p.m. Centre open for reading and relaxation. (Ken)
- THUR. 25th: 8 pm Folk Dance Lessons.
10 p.m. Dance
- FRI. 26th: Dance 10 p.m. (Dot)
- SAT. 27th: 10 p.m. Dance (Jean))
- SUN. 28th: 11 a.m. Brandy Brunch
Round Table Discussion
(Robbie)
- MON. 29th: 8 p.m. Floor Hockey
(norma)
- TUES. #30th. 8 p.m. Cribbage
8 p.m. Executive Meeting.

(Vanport Hotel -- Jean)

religion and the
Homosexual.

THURS. 11th: 8 p.m. Folk Dance Lessons
10 p.m. Dance (Norma)

FRI. 12th: 10 p.m. Dance
(Jean and Josie)

SAT. 13th: 10 p.m. Dance (Larry)

SUN. 14th: 11 a.m. Brandy Brunch
Round Table Discussion
(Robbie)
3 p.m. Drama Club (Arnie)

MON. 15th: 8 p.m. Floor Hockey (Norma)

TUES. 16th: 8 p.m. Cribbage
8 p.m. Executive Meeting
8 p.m. General Discussion
on new projects for
Club (Robbie)

WED. 17th: 7:30 p.m. Shuffleboard
(Vanport)
Centre open for reading
and relation. (Hunter)

THUR. 18th: Dance (Norma) 10 p.m.
8 p.m. Folk dance Lessons

FRI. 19th: 10 p.m. Dance (Hunter)

SAT. 20th: 10 p.m. Dance (Arnie)

SUN. 21st: 11 a.m. Brandy Brunch
Round Table Discussion
(Norma)
3 p.m. Drama Club (Arnie)

WED. 31st: Shuffleboard (Van.)
Centre open for
Reading & Relaxation

Please note: parentheses
indicate personnel in charge
of activities at Centre.

STOP PRESS!

STOP PRESS!

STOP PRESS!

At the executive meeting on
Jan. 3, 1968; it was requested
that members Nps. 7, 38, 200,
201, appear before the table.
It was ruled that the following
action be taken against said
members, due to prior disturb-
ance in the ASKC Centre, during
social activities.

BARRED

for 1 month.....200

SEVERE REPRIMAND

from Executive.....7, 201

NO ACTION

TAKEN.....38

I must, for example, assume that you have some familiarity with 'PSYCHEDELIC THERAPY' and that you will concede its legitimate role in medical practice. In fact, you may have very limited knowledge at the psychedelic rationale and procedures, and it is entirely possible that 'LSD' evokes an impression of 'HIPPIEDOM' if not outright charlatanism!

May I first state my firm conviction that psychedelics - LSD, mescaline, and similar acting materials - skillfully applied under medical supervision - do have a place in therapy.

This claim will not likely go unchallenged, so to those with differing opinions I would suggest:

- (1) That the facts and implications of the extensive international literature are unknown or have been disregarded.
- (2) That uncritical acceptance has been accorded to adverse reports of dubious origin and relevance.
- (3) That I have noted an inverse relationship between first hand knowledge of the subject, and the tendency to adopt rigid negative attitudes.

(I might add that the latter observation applies equally to all manner of subjects, including homosexuality).

The rationale of 'PSYCHEDELIC THERAPY' as we apply it is - perhaps surprisingly - not all radical. We attribute no mystical or miraculous powers to the drug; there is no mumbo-jumbo ritual, and anyone expecting instant rehabilitation to descend upon them like manna from heaven will be sorely disappointed. The 'experience' induced by LSD under medical supervision is highly variable and uniquely individual. We often observe age regression, recall, abreaction and catharsis of dramatic proportions; new frames of reference and insights are commonplace, and the net effect of the total therapeutic process is beneficial in a significant proportion of cases.

The procedure we follow varies somewhat depending upon the particular goal of therapy, but the critical element is the psychedelic experience. The experience is undertaken in a highly supportive, comfortable and secure room. For a period of eight or more hours the 'EXPERIENCE' is allowed to follow its natural course without chemical interruption. Although the patient is constantly supervised by a therapist and other members of the treatment team, the approach is essentially non-directive. We encourage each person to re-examine their life experience, attitudes, goals and relationship with others, but this is done in a highly permissive, open ended fashion.

I suspect that the invitation to address you stems in part from mention of our work in a recent internationally distributed magazine. The sub title of this article referred to LSD as a 'cure' for alcoholism and homosexuality. I regret to say that such a claim or expectation is entirely premature.

The critical term is, of course, 'cure'.

(Continued Over)

(USD cont.)

As far as can be presently determined, alcoholism can be 'arrested' but not reversed or cured. The short aim benefit among alcoholics - meaning sustained abstinence and improvement in all areas of social adjustment - is achieved in over fifty percent of cases. The longer term record found over a mean follow up period of about six years declines to about one third 'recovery', but this is a highly significant accomplishment when one considers the severity of problems confronting us.

For the full range of emotional and behavioural disorders not complicated by alcoholism a considerably higher rate of success may be reported. As would be expected, essentially hysterical problems respond very well; in cases where there is a high psychopathic (sociopathic) liability, the prognosis is less favourable, and we have had very limited success in treating those afflicted with narcotic addiction.

The problem of major interest to you is homosexuality and related disorders.

I do not want to be led into the cul de sac of what constitutes deviant behaviour in sociological terms. I am quite prepared to concede that sexually deviant behaviour is defined as much by cultural whim as by logic. More directly stated, I am concerned more with the mental and social adjustment of the sexually 'handicapped' than with the presumed advantages of conformity per se.

Among the over 800 cases we have treated with the psychedelic adjuvant, a very small proportion - about 5% - have presented a primary complaint of overt homosexuality. A very much larger proportion exhibit marked problems of 'sexual identity' and inadequate social functioning related to their indeterminate role.

It is quite unnecessary for me to discuss with you the immense anxiety, guilt, conflict and tension that accrues among those whose sexual development is arrested at the homosexual level. Even among the few ostensibly resigned and 'comfortable' homosexuals, there is a practical, if unjust, social ostracism or risk that must inevitably work to the detriment of normal adjustment. The latter problem - that of public misunderstanding and bias - is one largely beyond the sphere of applied therapy. Our concern is basically that of accelerating sexual 'maturity' where possible, and at all times to relieve the associated functional liabilities.

To be entirely frank and realistic, we seldom undertake therapy with the specific goal of reversing sexual inversion. There have been some notable shifts to a fully successful heterosexual adjustment, but this has been the deliberate aim of treatment.

To offer you a neat statistical table purporting to reflect therapeutic success would be a mammoth deceit. It is extremely difficult to set forth objective criteria for 'progress'. I do not see the goal of therapy as 'conformity' but rather 'self acceptance' and the relief of manifold psychological liabilities. To quantify such movement may give the impression of scientific precision, but I would much prefer that you simply accept my conservative clinical impression that therapy is substantially beneficial among homosexual patients.

In the absence of 'statistics' the alternate method of establishing the validity of my experience would be to offer a series of case summaries

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I even hesitate to do this since it is quite clear that such vignettes would be deliberately selected to illustrate success! You are all familiar with the case study examples that form a large part of the technical literature.

We receive a social developmental history; extended discussion (often highly speculative) on the dynamics of the case in the jargon of various schools of psychiatric theorizing; and there is usually sufficient detail on behavioral deviation to assure the type of 'interest' typical of today's pocket novel. I can see little to be gained in regaling you with such cases in point, although I suppose it is expected.

A single case of particular interest to me involves the successful treatment, not of a homosexual, but a male transvestite.

This patient was referred to me in an extreme depression with a high probability of suicide. Physically he was short, muscular and totally masculine. Occupationally it would be difficult to find more masculine pursuits - he was heavy equipment operator, licensed blaster and a skilled diver. His sexual identity once away from work was totally inverted. He shaved his arms, legs and chest; his eyebrows were plucked, he had attempted self medication with female hormones, and had attempted to emasculate himself. His wardrobe of feminine attire was quite fantastic and he was quite successful in adopting the female role.

As is so often the case, he was quite ambivalent concerning treatment. At first his sole plan was for surgery that would alter all vestiges of male physique. As the result of prolonged counselling, the possibility of psychedelic therapy to a more 'normal' end was contemplated, although not without reservations on his part. "I want to get well, and I don't want to get well - in fact I don't know what I want".

The patient underwent two psychedelic sessions and remained in psycho therapy for three months. I can not offer the story book ending by stating that he is now happily married and a father - but when I last interviewed him there was what must be the ultimate on refection of his feminine identity - he was wearing a full beard!

In this case the patient relived immense amount of repressed material. It appears that his father was totally lacking in warmth and understanding. There was no opportunity for the child to make a healthy male identification. The father wanted a daughter and he constantly referred to the patient as 'my little girl'. He was encouraged to dress as a girl, and it is clear that the mother was completely passive. The patient was almost completely oblivious to the early influences upon his personality development. No doubt much of the material could have been elicited under narco analysis or with the aid of hypnosis, but one of the marked advantages to the use of LSD is that it does not release a mere academic emotionless recall. Not only are critical influences consciously relived, but problems of interpretation and tergration of events are unnormal.

Wheater equally successful therapy could have been undertaken by other means is a moot question. Nor is it possible to completely separate the benefits derived from the experience and from the associated counselling. In my own view, the psychedelic adjuvant must at least be credited with vastly accelerating treatment, and the total impact of the

(LSD cont.)

experience must surely have added a new dimension to the patients overall readjustment.

In summary, I suggest that psychedelic therapy has well documented record in the treatment of many psychiatric disorders. The potential of this approach to homosexual problems has not been fully explored, but in my view it deserves wider acceptance than that which has been accorded in the wake of illicit abuses.

-- J. Ross Maclean, M.D.

'Frontier Night'

On December 31st., 1967 we all attended the A.S.K.'s annual New Year's Eve Dance. The main theme was to be "Frontier Night". IT WAS! Complete with dance-hall girls, fire-water and saloon-like brawls. Ma rehal Norma and her deputies tried to control the lynch mobs, but I'm sure a few people will have life-long rope burns around their necks! The attendance at the Saloon was beyond all expectations, which added to some of the evening's chaos. We all wish that the evening had been better organized. The band was very good even though they were from the East and wore fancy duds.

The long-awaited floor show left something to be desired! The vintage sound system impaired the talent of the show girls. Stars will be stars! And within every Galaxy there are a few falling stars---One in particular and we don't have to elaborate!

We all hope that from now on everyone will have more time, and better cooperation from all, for future events.

An Apology

Due to the hectic holiday season our editorial staff, typists pool wishes to apologize for the delay of this month's publication.

We also apologize for the error made on the "Frontier Night" flyer.

Around the Round Table

LIST OF MOTIONS - Dec. 12, 1967

1. The balance sheet from the old executive, to be published in a future month of 1968.
2. For a tentative budget of \$30. to be set aside each month for the club monthly publication.
3. For our legal advisor to take part in on behalf of the club the National Defense Fund if feasible.
4. New Years Eve Party--
 - a) that \$75 be allotted for costumes;
 - b) that \$55 be allotted for lighting.
 - c) that \$25-30. be allotted for door prizes.
 - d) an amendment that \$75 for decorations and miscellaneous items.
5. That the party should be catered for--\$275--not carried.
6. Request that Woodwards cater for party.--carried.
7. For a new filing system--Member Membership.
8. That guest articles and all Editorials be signed by those responsible.
9. That if the President gets ill or is absent at anytime, that the vice-president has full authority at all times.

No Place To Go?

I stand with trembling heart, heaving breast and tear-filled eye. Crying out into a cold uncaring night for justice. I scream to the winds, and beg to the trees for mercy, is there none? Then in a moment of regression I wander to a habit from the past; and turn my eyes and thoughts to the sky. A sky filled with the silent beauty of bright stars and utter, "Our Father who art in Heaven," but I halt. Why do I do this? I am Gay! Religion tells me that God doesn't care about me. Tears fill my momentarily brightened eyes, my heart falls, and once more I walk 2 "alone" down the street. Cold and even more empty.

To how many has this scene brought a moment of reflection, a pang of thought? How many have said it's true, but ask why? No matter what faith we are, what God, what hope, we feel this, the greatest alienation of "our" society. Here we are separated from the tie that binds our history, something that has built Empires and destroyed others, influenced much of the world thought, since time recorded, something that has been taught and held as a help and refuge. TMM

The "Defenders of the Faith" tell us that we are not accepted, we are "IN SIN". We as homosexuals are judged, found guilty, and socially hanged in an arrogant ignorance and morality, which is not founded upon any solid logic or reason. We are taught God is love, we are his children, and we may come to him with our fears, hopes, and problems, and he will help us, regardless of our crime, or creed of life or sex.

Your friendly neighbourhood purveyor tells you to come for help anytime. "But Come o' Come o' Lambs, to be ridiculed, chided, threatened and disgraced, mowed down like so many sheep in a

These basic laws and edicts that govern homosexuality that have crept into our religions, are the product of an age of hysteria and superstition. Where even sex between husband and wife was considered immoral, abnormal and "sinful". The sum total of the condemnation of homosexuals is based upon the weakest of arguments, one passage from the Bible, taken from full context and misinterpreted to whatever advantage one may make of it. This is, of course, the story of Sodom and Gomorrah in the Book of Genises.

God is free, not the possession of anyone person or organization. Faith is not the property of anyone but the individual. One prayer many times has helped in "our" lives. Lonely and empty as it can be. Within the "gay" life there is a great faith and dishonest hope and belief even though we have been scorned--WHY? Perhaps it is that God is a little bit closer because we need him to stand up to the damnation of men and this hell we call life. Are we to listen to the medieval period, or to our hearts; the Bible is full of things favourable and unfavourable. Religion has failed to grasp God, and so has failed us. Men are a community, regardless of the sexual preference they have. We are a race of animals who need emotion, love, divinity and faith and hope. Perhaps as we move ahead in the 20th century, Religion will become the thing it is upposed to be, but only time will tell. We need a God and a God needs us. We need a silent peace, so believe what you will, but remember religion is man, God is whatever faith you have and passes beyond the judgement of this earth. Religion has failed God, and us. Let us not fail ourselves, or that faith and peace we have, pray on and love.

The dawn came up and it rose like thunder and I saw a dove-wings flashing in the sunlight-fly across the morning sky. There in this moment, I found the truth of peace and came to love my God. For he has not forsaken men, nor given me to mine enemies.

Sport - Social

All members interested in any of the activities being offered should show up on the opening night, so that we can determine whether or not we will have enough participants to support the various activities offered. We hope to have a good turnout for all activities.

The Bowling league mentioned in a previous article will have to be postponed until Spring as most alleys are booked full for winter leagues.

I have written to Whistler Mountain for information as to prices on various winter sports and we hope to charter a bus later in January for a days outing in that area.

Plans will be finalized and members advised as soon as we have a reply from them.

Some members have expressed interest in horseback riding, so if you happen to be interested, would you let me know and we will try to get a group together -- weather permitting.

ADMISSION PRICES

FLOOR HOCKEY -- Supply own stick
--2 5¢

CRIBBAGE -- 25¢

SHUFFLEBOARD -- Vancouver Hotel--
prices to be announced.

SOCIAL -- Brandy Brunch--\$1.00

DRAMA CLUB -- 25¢

DANCES -- Thursday \$1.00
Friday and Saturday
\$1.50 memb.
\$2.00 guest

-- Jean

Sound Off Here

15

If you have something on your mind you want to sound off on -- something good, or if you want to tell us off -- write to us and we'll publish your praise or gripe with our reply in this get-at-the-truth column. So sit down now and send in your thoughts.

Poet's Corner

Awful cursing in the nite,
Self-cursing no one ever hears,
And there are dreams & longings,
For that peace of death.
We are thrown out, condemned, given
only hate....
One's self is such a lonely place
to be.
Let us have one nite when someone
understands.

--THE GRAPEVINE

Oh No!

The Vancouver Little Theatre News Bulletin carries four pages boosting the annual Christmas party planned for Cecil Green Park December 15th. Under the heading "Dress" the instruction reads; "Semi-Formal. This apparently means long or short evening dress, mini-skirts, mini-frocks for the females, for the men a tie is de rigueur. Beards must be combed. Members of third sex are asked to choose attire entirely from either one or the other of the first two sexes mentioned above." We're getting so sophisticated I can hardly stand it.

--Vancouver Sun.

The Executive

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Vice-President ROBBIE
Secretary LARRY
Treasurer KEN
Program Director ARNIE
Assistant JEAN
Editor HUNTER MURPHY
Assistant GAIL
Membership Convenor DOROTHY
Legal Advisor DOUG



CLUB CENTRE: 1268 EAST HASTINGS

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CLUB CENTRE: 1268 EAST HASTINGS

ASK

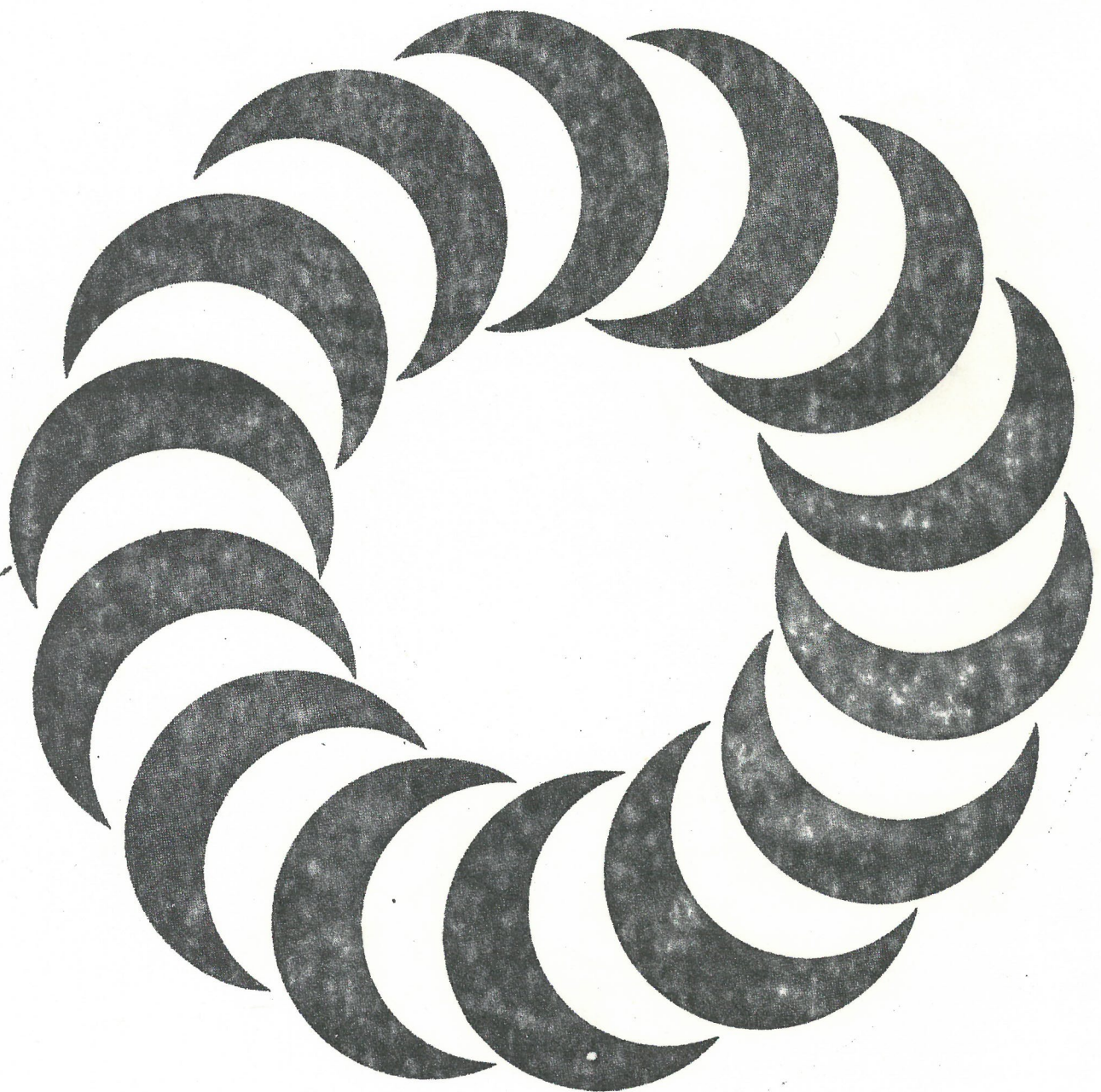
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p o box 4277

vancouver 9 bc

Dec. 66



ROAMINGS AND RAMBLINGS

It has been a jovial season. ASK's three dances in August and September were great successes = booze, profits and interesting people. On September 31st CBC broadcast a documentary on the Homosexual civilrights movement. Meetings have been held between ASK's legal adviser and various officials of the Vancouver City Police. ASK continues to search for premises, having looked at at least a dozen places in the last three months. It hasn't proved as easy as we thought to find an ideal place - but we shall (overcome?).

Big news was the ten days of conferences in San Francisco in August with two ASK representatives much in evidence. Extensive reports have already been given about the Tavern Guild picnic, the Schlitz brewery reception, the Golden Cask cocktail party, the Almaden wine tasting hour, the SIR "Gay 90's" night and the gay bar tour. In addition there were seminars and conferences. A regional conference is scheduled for probably February in L.A. Next National Planning Conference will be August, 67 in Washington, D.C..

Inquiries have been received from both Toronto and Seattle about the founding of new organizations. Since 37% of our membership commute to Seattle bars, we should have no shortage of people to turn up to a Seattle weekend meeting or party or party-meeting. it would be delightful to have another homophile organization closer than the current 1000 mile limit.

No the Wolfenden Report has not yet been passed in England. The English are muddling through with more and lengthier muddleishness. The bill was first passed in Lords almost a year ago. The major recent development in the U.S. has been the button revolution - recent buttons seen include:

Male Lesbians Unite

More Deviation, Less Population

Pray for Sex

To go together is blessed, to come
together divine.

Ronald Reagan is a Lesbian.
Seattle's Sexual Freedom League has published a leaflet entitled "Support Your Local Pornographer" We quote from the leaflet: after outlining U.S. obscenity laws, the leaflet states:

"Could there possibly be a more ridiculous and anti-sexual law in existence? Why should books with sexual themes be singled out for suppression. Must literature have "redeeming social importance" to be enjoyable? And whose definition of "social importance" is to be our guidepost? As to "prurient interests" they differ in individuals. For instance, some people have their prurient interests aroused simply by reading a telephone book. But that is not the point - do we or do we not have the right to have our prurient interests aroused when and if we desire? Current community standards? They're pretty lousy! The forces of anti-sex prevail. Almost any subject may be discussed in literature which is much less desirable than literature with sexual themes. Killing, hate, and bigotry permeate current community literature. Movies, books and magazines are filled with violence. But what is singled out for suppression? Why, (of course) sex! Should our community standards be the guideposts to what is to be published? Do you remember the knifing of Kitty Genovese on the streets of New York, when no one would even raise a receiver to phone the Fuzz? What if Kitty and her assailant had been screwing? Perfect example of Current Community Standards. Ralph Ginsberg got thrown in the can because he used "titilating advertising" to sell his books. It is ironic that sex may be used to sell anything but sex. Broads may be pictured spewing forth from hair-creme tubes, laying all over cars, and used in other such ways to arouse you enough to buy whatever it is Madison Ave is pushing these days. But Ginsberg used sex to sell books about sex and he got a five year jail sentence for his efforts. Consistency, thou art a jewel...

"To hell with the obscenity laws! Let's establish a more rational basis to what is to be read. Let individuals decide that which they should or should not read. Flagrant violation of all censorship laws is a very desirable means of crushing all effectiveness of those laws, SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL PORNOGRAPHER!"

Another quotation, this time from the Vancouver Sun of Tuesday, November 1st, 1966. An article on skid road by Thomas Cocking contained the following observations:

"Where but on skid road can homosexuals and lesbians feel secure? In the open world disgust and rejection threaten but on Cordova street a sense of belonging does exist among fellow perverts.

"Gay in his Saturday night attire of sheath dress, black girdle, net stockings, high heels, wig and make-up, the homosexual acts out a part soothing to his ego. Mincing between beer parlor tables he limply waves to his friends who compliment his dress.

"At nearby tables sit the aggressive short-haired lesbians dressed in men's clothes, holding hands under the table and jealously protecting their partners from interlopers."

This, of course, is not even an accurate picture of skid road homosexuals, much less of all homosexuals as Cocking seems to imply in the article. Such ignorance, I suppose, proves that Cocking is straight - and points out the need for an intelligent homosexual voice in Vancouver such as ASK can provide.

Another quotation, this time from a description of the New York newspaper, the Village Voice:

"The Voice, alas, is respectable in a pleasant and bumptious way. Its ads are as entrancing as ever. A quarter-page ad a few weeks ago announced a special computer service to match up lonely guys and dolls under the bold headline "We'd Like to Say a few words about Heterosexuality. It's Coming Back,""

News over the last few months includes news of new organizations and new publications. Vanguard, an organization based in the tenderloin area of San Francisco with its heavy population of male hustlers has sent us the first issue of their newsletter. The ASK representatives at the conferences in August reported Vanguard weekly dances in the basement of Glide Memorial Methodist Church. PRIDE, a new organization in Los Angeles (Personal Rights In Defense and Education) sent us the sixth number of their newsletter, the first one we have seen.

The current mail indicates that One has solemnly decided no longer to support the National Planning Conferences. They give no reason in their letter. Though they gave leadership at one time, they are no longer in the avant garde.

Current mail also brings a notice from the Tavern Guild of Southern California. The S.F. Tavern Guild plays an important role in the movement there, and we trust the Southern California Guild can organize a suitably wild picnic to enliven the L.A. regional meeting that should be coming up in the new year.

LAST ASK MEETING: FIVE
NEW
MEMBERS