

Behind The Closed Doors of the Vanderbilt-Stokie Hearings

ON THE

OUT



The day they ruled INGO WAS TOO YELLOW TO FIGHT



Elvis's ARMY JUNKET



The Day LEE Struck A BLOW FOR CREAM-PUFFS



The Story about FRANKIE NO ONE WOULD BELIEVE



WAS EARL LONG BUGGED?

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GIRL TROUBLE
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Lee's Mom fixes his tie before Las Vegas performance. It was for small boy attitudes such as this that London press berated Liberace, caused suit.

The Day Lee

STRUCK A BLOW FOR CREAM PUFFS



by Sylvester Ryan

HHEY, girls, our Liberace showed those British blokes a thing or two, didn't he? Stood up in court like a man, he did, and struck a blow for sissies everywhere. He won his libel case, too, and we say it will be a long time before any smart-alecky Englishman likens our hero to a homo again.

The Britisher adjudged guilty of this libel was London Daily Mirror columnist William N. Connor, a free-wheeling, sharp-toothed character who signs his stuff Cassandra. Back in 1956, fed up with our boy, Cassandra wrote:

"This deadly, winking, sniggering, snuggling, chromium-plated, scent-impregnated, luminous, quivering, giggling, fruit-flavored, mincing, ice-cream covered heap of mother love has had the biggest reception and impact on London since Charlie Chaplin arrived . . . Sept. 21, 1921."

The columnist went on: "He is the summit of

Lee leaves court after the second day of his suit against London columnist Bill Connor.

From Coast to Coast
Gay Boys Are Saying
That Lee is a Hero for
Winning his Suit Against
The Nasty Newspapers
Who said he was Queer

sex, the pinnacle of masculine, feminine and neuter, and everything that he, she and it can ever want." In another article Cassandra described Liberace as "this appalling man . . . the biggest sentimental vomit of all time."

Naturally, these cracks made Liberace, who was appearing in England at the time, very sore. He filed suit against both Cassandra and the Mirror and when the case came to trial last summer Liberace was the first witness called.

"Are you a homosexual?" he was asked by his barrister, Gilbert Beyfus.

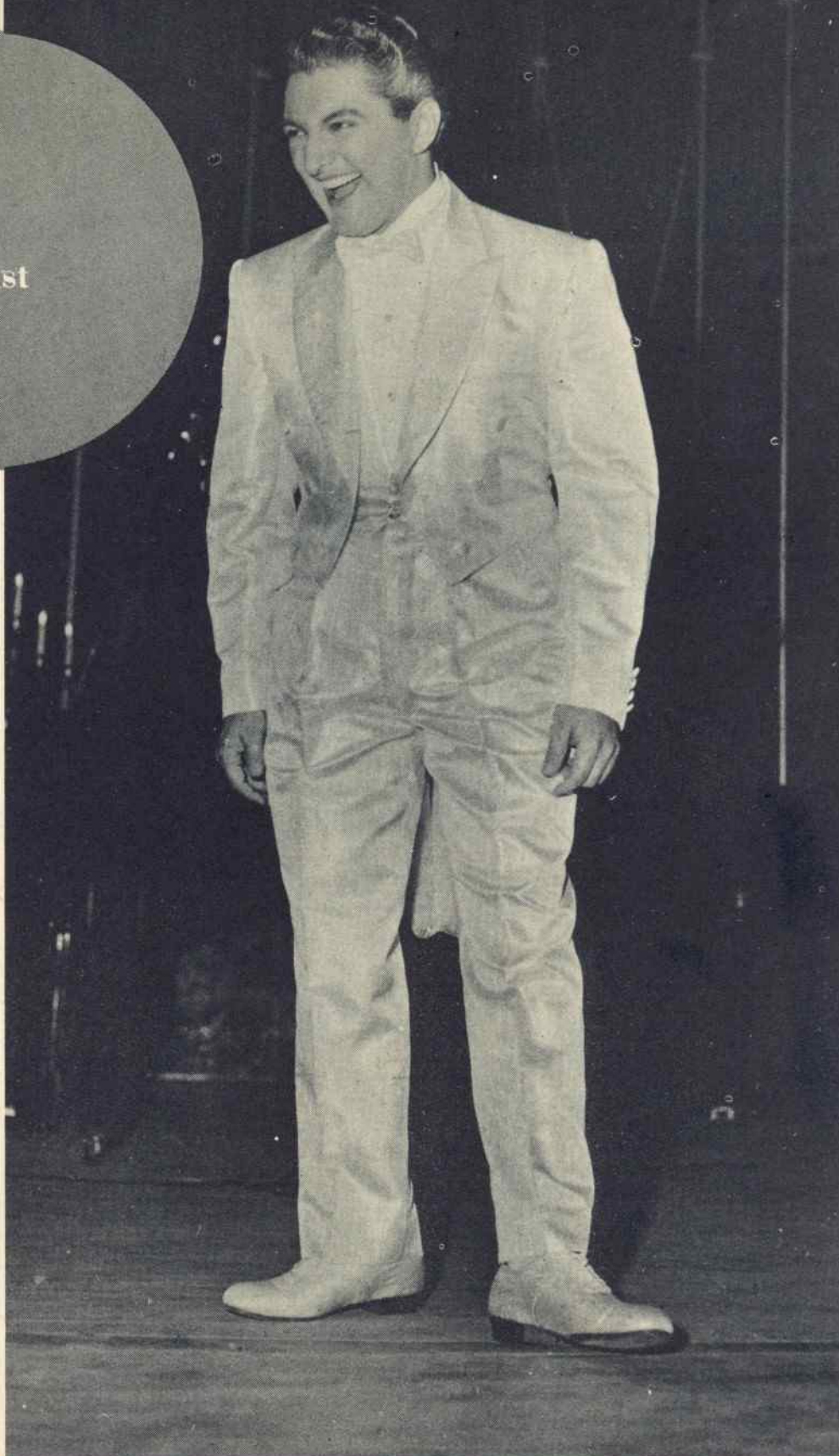
"No, sir," the pianist replied.

"Have you ever indulged in homosexual practices?"

"No, sir, never in my life. I am against the practice because it offends convention and offends society."

Under further direct examination Liberace told the jury of 10 men and two women that Cassandra's alleged aspersions had damaged his reputation with the public and made his mother ill. He volunteered that he grossed \$1 million a year and received 10,000 fan letters a week, including a dozen or so proposals of marriage.

Then the fun began. Attorney Gerald Gardiner, representing Cas-
(Continued on page 52)



Lee, supported by his brother George, raked in \$50,000 for a week's run entertaining guests at Hotel Riviera. Show was held over for six weeks.



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CREAM-PUFFS AND LEE

(Continued from page 9)



sandra and the Mirror, took over and asked: "Do you suggest that your publicity has nothing to do with sex appeal?"

"I have never considered myself a sex appeal artist," Liberace replied.

Gardiner cited one fan's ticket request which stated: "We want to be so close that we can feel the breeze from your eyelashes when they flutter."

"This has nothing to do with sex appeal?" the lawyer pressed.

"I do not consider that a man's eyelashes could be considered sexy," Liberace answered.

The attorney quoted from a book in which Liberace was described as "the hottest personality ever to melt the TV waves."

"Still no sex appeal?" Gardiner asked.

"No," Liberace replied, "I consider sex appeal as something possessed by Marilyn Monroe and Brigitte Bardot. I certainly would not put myself in their class."

Justice Sir Cyril Salmon suppressed a smile while bailiffs quieted the guffawing spectators.

Gardiner produced a copy of an interview with Liberace as reported by Donald Zee, another Mirror journalist. During the course of his visit with the entertainer, Zee wrote, Liberace "did a sprightly little walk around the piano."

Liberace said this couldn't have been true on account of the piano was backed up against one wall. He also said it wasn't so that he "imitated a showgirl lifting her skirt coyly." He said he wasn't mad at Zee, though, because Zee didn't use any of those suggestive adjectives employed by Cassandra.

Attorney Gardiner took up the subject of perfumes. "Do you use scent or scented lotions?" he asked.

"I use after-shaving lotions and under-arm deodorants."

"And are they scented?"

"Yes."

"When you come into a room at a press conference, does a noticeable odor come with you?"

"I would say that it is a scent of good grooming, that I smell fresh

and clean. I always smell fresh and clean. I have noticed the smell of the press many times."

This broke up the court again and it was several seconds before order was restored.

Gardiner then introduced some opinions of Liberace by other London newspapermen: Orle, representing the Evening News, had written of a Liberace movie: "It delighted his fans and sickened the critics."

A daily Herald reviewer complained that Liberace's "leers and dimples make me heave." Another wrote that "his smile has a mildly emetic (vomiting-causing) effect on me."

"This emetic language is all new to me," Liberace commented. "All I can say is that they sure have a lot of people here who want to throw up."

This sent the court to yukking once again and the jurors beamed as our boy stepped down from the stand. While the trial was going on in Queens Bench Court, Liberace was working nights on TV, at the Paladium and other spots.

For his court appearances he dressed conservatively, but for his stints at the candelabra he trotted out the duds to which his fans are accustomed.

One night, following three hours in the witness box, he did a show in suburban Finsbury Park. Liberace was fresh and in fine spirits.

He spotted a matron in one of the boxes with opera glasses trained on him. He leaned forward and called out: "How do I look, dear?"

"Lovely," the matron replied, and the house rocked.

When Cassandra, pudgy, balding and fiftyish, took the stand in his own defense he said he had not meant to imply that Liberace was homosexual. He said he merely wanted to "reduce him to his correct proportions—as a preposterous clown."

"You wrote the columns to express your detestation of Liberace?" attorney Beyfus asked.

"Dislike," Cassandra corrected. "I do not detest Mr. Liberace, but I strongly dislike what he does on the

stage, in the concert hall and on television."

Cassandra admitted he had never seen our boy on stage. He said he had watched him on TV twice, turning off the set half way through the second show. He objected in particular to an "Ave Maria" bit in which "an actress garbed as a nun writhed in front of a figure of the Madonna" while Liberace sang.

"I felt a sacred occasion was being misused," Cassandra said. Beyfus didn't think much of this observation and he pointed out to the jury that Cassandra was an agnostic and scarcely could be offended on matters of religion.

The case went to the jury after five full days of testimony. In charging the arbiters, Justice Sir Salmon was as confusing as most judges.

He told the jury it must decide whether Cassandra "genuinely held" the views he expressed in the two columns and whether these views could be interpreted as meaning that Liberace was a homo.

(This is the way it works in England. You sue without asking a specified amount. The jury always decides what you'll get.)

The jury was out three hours and 22 minutes. As they filed back to their seats one member of the panel, Mrs. Jean Friend, 49, obliged Liberace with a smile and broad wink.

Everyone saw the signal and a gasp of delight was heard in the room. Liberace had won.

The verdict, read three minutes later, found Cassandra guilty of libel in one column (the one in which "fruit-flavored" appeared) and not guilty of libel in the second article.

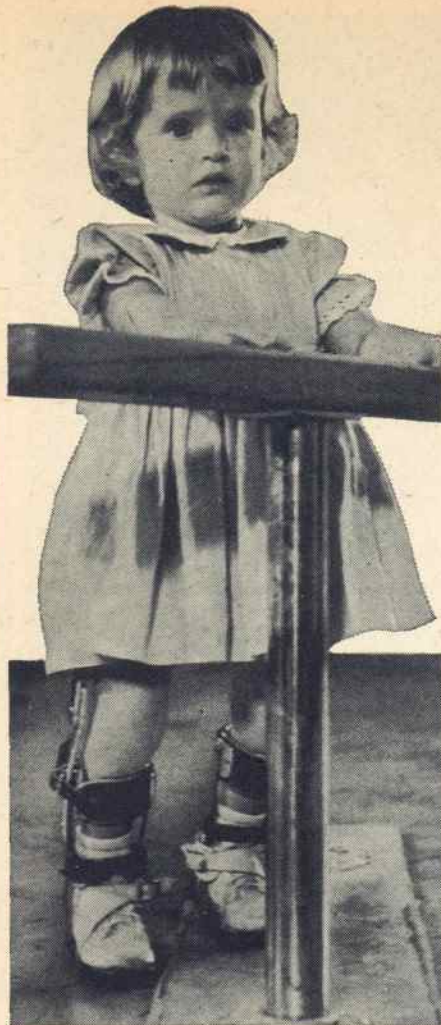
The jurors decided that \$22,400 should be paid to Liberace, the damage being split by Cassandra and the Mirror.

The court costs of \$39,000 were ordered shared by Liberace and the Mirror. This means that the entertainer will come off \$2,800 to the good.

In any event, Liberace walked out a happy man. As he made his way through a crowd of shouting, waving women, his lawyer announced: "We are delighted to be vindicated."

Okay, we're delighted, too, and we admire our boy for standing up to be counted. Just because a guy is a cream-puff it doesn't follow that he's queer, and he shouldn't be tagged as one.

The world is full of gentle types who think and act in womanly ways, yet live their lives without ever having a homosexual relationship. Sis-sies? Sure. But homos? No.



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Posed by Professional Model

Unlike male homo, aggressive "Butch" can wear masculine clothes, yet usually pass unnoticed if she wears a piece or two of feminine finery.

LESBIANS ARE NOT LEGALLY LIABLE

When It Comes to Off-Beat Love-Making, the Ladies, Bless 'Em, Are Getting Away with Murder— All Because We Men Are Too Conceited to Admit Any Gal Can Get Her Kicks Without a Guy

By THOMAS FRANCIS

STRICT laws on the "abominable and detestable crimes against nature" are on the statute books of each of our forty-eight states. Yet it's a fact that these codes are enforced only against male, not female homosexuals. In these chivalrous United States it's apparent that Lesbians are not legally liable. In fact, only California and Arizona have any provisions in their lewdness laws that could be applicable to Lesbianism.

As an example of this one-sided partiality, from 1930 to the end of 1939 only one woman was convicted in New York for sodomy. In contrast, in the same city during the same period there were seven hundred convictions against males for this crime. And in states like Ohio, Mississippi, Illinois and Georgia a husband and wife or two men can be convicted for crimes



Frede (above l., with secretary Michele Berger) runs Paris night club. All women who frequent place wear masculine coats, wide trouser skirts.

against nature, but nothing in the statutes can be construed as criminal when a Lesbian couple is picked up for abnormal relations.

How do women, who have campaigned for and won equal rights, rate this leniency?

Various explanations have been offered by authorities—legal, police, medical, sociological. The most probable one involves the ego of the male, who, in his conceit, refuses to believe that any female could derive satisfaction and pleasure in sex unless induced by masculine effort.

A study into the background of Lesbianism, its possible causes, the extent of its prevalence in both the United States and the rest of the world, will give us a better understanding of this subject, long hidden under Victorian prudishness.

Lesbianism, the unnatural love of one female for another, gets its name from the Aegean Sea island of Lesbos. Here lived the immortal Sappho, high priestess

of this cult, whose poems and writing glorified this type of sexual abnormality.

In ancient times, when the male was really the cock of the walk, the average woman's place was strictly in the home, serving her husband. In a society where men were occupied during the day with business and politics and at night with wine and courtesans, it was only natural that women should go to one another for consolation and affection.

Gradually the males began to recognize these bizarre friendships. And as time passed, in certain areas of the ancient world, this attraction of woman for woman attained in some measure protection under the law.

In his well-researched book "Aphrodite," Pierre Louys has the Lesbian Myrtocleia explain: "In our country when two girls, marriageable and virgin, love each other, the law permits them to marry. They both go to the temple of (Continued on page 56)

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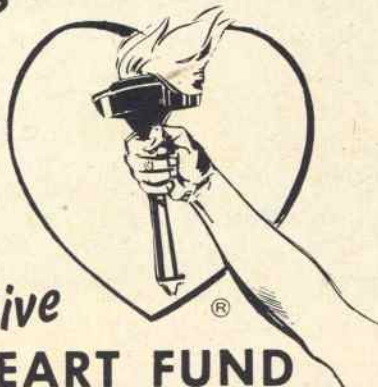
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ligious sects that are death on drinking.

On the other hand, the South, especially parts of it, seems to like its politicians a little bit on the eccentric side. So charging a man with excessive elbow bending can be much more damaging than suggesting that he's a little bit twisted upstairs.

The theory that spirits are responsible for Ol' Earl's high spirited behavior is borne out by other evidence besides his wife's supposed motives in having him sent to the home for the bewildered.

His appearance is one important consideration. In his recent pictures Earl has the haggard, shaky look of the morning after a profound contrast to the handsome, smooth features he displayed not too many years ago when he first entered the political arena. The years take their toll on everybody, of course, but in Earl's case they seem to be charging twice the normal rate. Is it with the help of John Barleycorn?

It was one of Earl's thirst-quenching expeditions, incidentally, that got him involved with Blaze Starr, the fiery flame of New Orleans' red hot French Quarter.

After watching Blaze doff her duds and display her decorations at a Bourbon Street watering spot, Earl invited her to come over to his table. After their conversation she signed a photograph of her charms with a tender sentiment, and Ol' Earl imprudently took it home with him.

What ensued was explained by Blaze this way:

"You know what happened? Mrs. Long found the picture. It was all perfectly innocent, but she didn't like it."

Later on, when Earl had made his way out of the crank camp and was established at New Orleans' fashionable Roosevelt Hotel, one of his first visitors was the bountiful Blaze, who slipped in a side door with one of the Governor's henchmen.

She declared herself honored to be admitted to the Governor's presence from time to time, and announced, "I think he is one of the finest men alive."

Apparently Mrs. Long no longer entertained that sentiment, because she was trying to get a divorce. And other troubles were plaguing Ol' Earl from all sides. There were the charges of corruption by political lobbyists, and an investigation of his federal income tax returns.

Meanwhile, Earl went his merry way, stumping the state for political support and continuing to lubricate



his tonsils with the fluid that is poison to ten million American alcoholics.

And the headlines piled up. They piled up for his brother Huey, too, reaching a climax just before an assassin's bullet felled him outside the state capitol he had built.

Nobody expects Earl to go out that way, but his friends fear that he, too, may depart at the height of his publicity whirl unless he gives up the grape—and soon. But he will always be remembered like his famous brother, as a really good governor who gave his states poor a great many advantages they never had before. An intelligent human and one who fought evil and corruption.

THE END

LESBIANS AND THE LAW

(Continued from page 35)

Athena to consecrate their double girdle, then to the sanctuary of Iphinoe to offer a lock of their mingled hair and finally under the Peristyle of Dionysos where, to the more male of the two is given a little whetted golden knife and a white linen cloth to staunch the blood. In the evening she of the two who is bride is brought to her new dwelling, seated upon a flower-decked car between her 'husband' and a paranymph (bridesmaid), surrounded by torches and flute players. Thenceforward they have all the rights of those who are married; they may adopt little girls and make them part of their intimate life. They are respected."

Just what causes this strange love between women? Countless authorities on sexual inversion have attributed it to a myriad of reasons. Lesbians are born that way, glandular unbalance is the causitive factor, nature has mixed up the sexual nerve centers etc.

Kraft-Ebing blamed homosexuality on hereditary factors. Hirschfeld concurred in this opinion. Havelock Ellis was joined by Moll

in trying to prove that many homos believed theirs is the normal way of life, not the heterosexual. Freud, the father of psychoanalysis, claimed this aberration develops from the Oedipus complex—that is, a son's strong attachment for his mother, a daughter's for her father.

Modern research is best expressed by Dr. Frank S. Caprio, a recognized specialist in sexual deviations. "Homosexuality," explains Dr. Caprio, "is nothing more than a symptom of some deep-seated nervous disorder that can be traced to certain members of the family (or early educators such as servants, nurses etc.) who were neurotic. It is neither an inherited condition nor a disease. Medical evidence has disproved the existence of any glandular cause of homosexuality. It is a form of sex behavior resulting from psychological rather than physical causes."

Seeming proof of Dr. Caprio's contention that homosexuality, at least in the female, is of psychological origin and may be traced to early associates is the prevalence of Lesbianism in girls' boarding schools. Shut off from all normal contact with boys, constantly warned of the dangers of becoming pregnant and suffering the consequent social ostracism, a male becomes a sort of ogre to a young girl. With the craving for companionship and affection basic needs in human nature, Lesbianism becomes almost inevitable under the circumstances.

JUST how widespread has Lesbianism been? This inversion has probably existed since the beginning of time. Through the lyrical prose of the poetess Sappho and the Songs of Bilitis we definitely know it was common before the birth of Christ. It flourished openly in 18-century France and Italy, according to historians. And today newspapermen, detectives, men-(or women) about-town could, if they wished, lead you to dozens of hotbeds of Lesbianism—cafes, bars, hotels, massage parlors—in towns and cities throughout the world.

In the Greenwich Villages of cities all over the United States a knowing observer can easily spot the aggressive "Butch" and her more feminine mate. But a Lesbian hangout could exist right under the noses of average people without arousing a single suspicion. Differing from the male homo, the female of this type has a multitude of protective colorations that make it easy for her to lead her peculiar way of life.

In the first place, there is no stereotype Lesbian. She may come from the slums or from the wealthiest of homes. She may work in a factory or study at an exclusive

finishing school. Mentally she may be a moron or a genius. She may be pretty or ugly, coarse or refined, aggressive or timid.

Unlike their male counterparts, Lesbians can easily camouflage their inversion. If two males were seen walking arm in arm on the street it would call for sneers, insults and even worse by observers. Two females can do the same thing without a soul noticing anything wrong. If two men should greet each other in public with the open affection that women often display, it might even start a riot.

A "Butch" can dress herself in masculine clothes, especially if she wears one or two pieces of feminine finery like a hair ribbon or high-heeled shoes, and she's not given a second glance. But let a man publicly masquerade in women's clothes and he's roughly ticketed for a ride to the hoosegow.

Also, when gathered in gangs or "nests" in bars, cafes, parks, the females don't make themselves conspicuous by their exaggerated postures, mannerisms and speech, as male homosexuals so often do.

Now and then, of course, under the influence of liquor or narcotics, a lovers' quarrel or a too exuberant party, the mask of anonymity is torn asunder. But even then, with the evidence staring them right in the eyes, the police are reluctant to acknowledge or prosecute the behavior of a Lesbian. She is generally given a scolding and mildly admonished that she is a lady and to act accordingly.

On the whole, women homos are less likely to give the police cause to arrest them than do the males. They're quieter in their conduct and have reasonable fidelity to each other. As a rule they do not make themselves obnoxious in the streets or public places in pursuit of a "straight" person.

As the late Dr. Kinsey summed it up, most people associate male inversion with other acts repugnant to them. Yet the average person pictures the Lesbian relationship as merely a display of affection by hugging and kissing, a passion more emotional than physical in concept.

From the religious angle there is no waste of fertility as in all unnatural male activities, hence not the same sense of sin.

And as Dr. Caprio puts it in his book, "Female Homosexuality": "The tendency for judges not to prosecute female homosexuals perhaps is an unconscious expression denying its existence."

But fat or thin, blonde or brunette, stupid or smart, ugly but preferably beautiful, normal or abnormal, here's to those fascinating creatures we can't do without—the ladies, God bless 'em!

THE END

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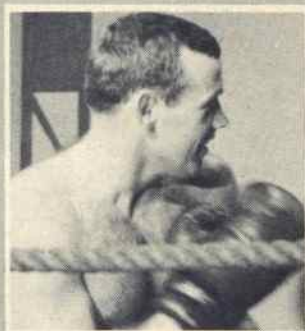
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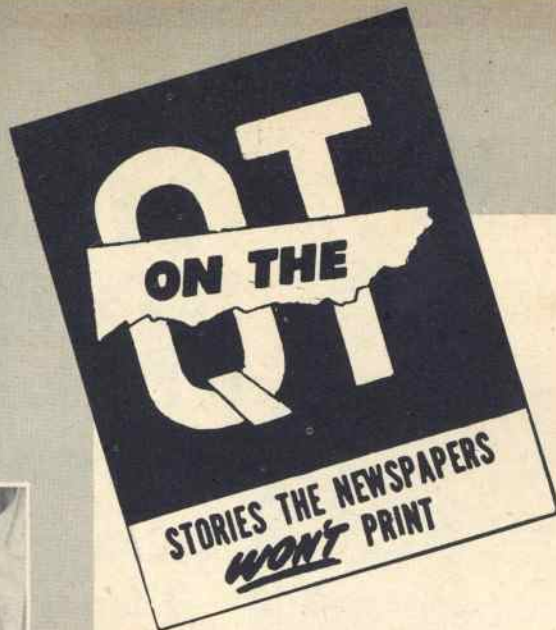


Palaverer



Puncher

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