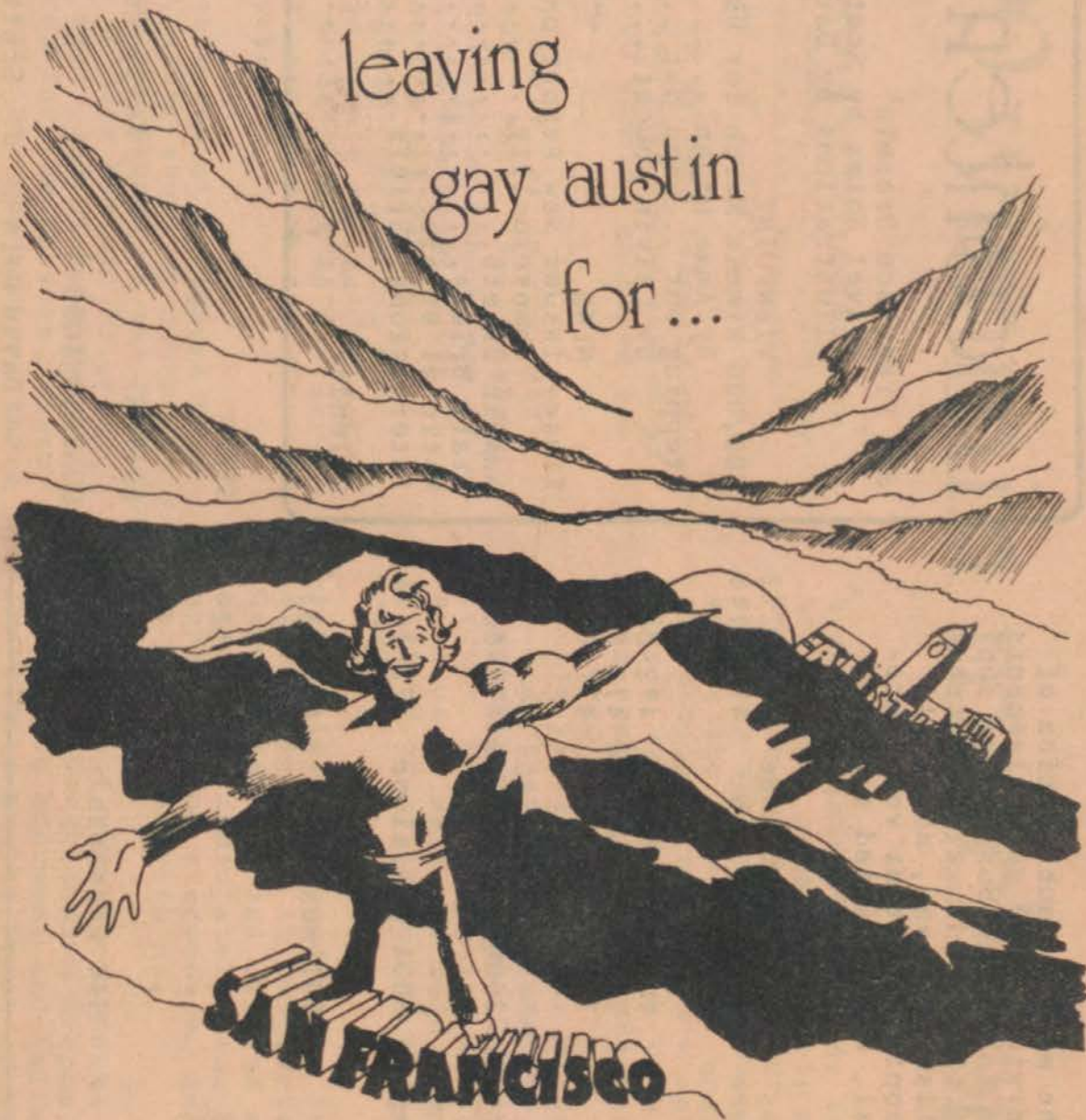


gay austin

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vol. 2, no. 10 august 1978

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contents

San Francisco Dreamin'
 Travel Notes by Scott Lind
 Illustrations by David Dole.....6

VIEWPOINT
 100,000 Wimmin March for ERA in DC
 By Amme Hogan.....3
 Stepping out ... and out ... and out
 By Calvin Doucet.....4

NEWS
 Kinsey Issues New Report on
 Homosexuality.....11
 Austin Briefs.....5
 State Briefs.....5
 National Briefs.....10
 International Briefs.....10

Calendar.....12

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NEWSBRIEFS are taken in part from The Advocate, community news releases and The New York Times.

THE OPINIONS expressed herein are those of the writer or editor, and not necessarily those of Gay Community Services nor the advertisers.

GAY AUSTIN is published by Gay Community Services of the University Y, 2330 Guadalupe, Austin, Tx., 78705. The coordinators of Gay Community Services are:

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100,000 wimmin march for ERA

By AMME HOGAN

From across the nation we descended upon Washington, D.C.; Sunday, July 9, the day before Congress was to meet. Many wimmin would be staying on for lobbying efforts.

But on Sunday few of us were thinking of lobbying. We were too busy being amazed at the power of 100,000 wimmin, gathered together for the ERA.

I say wimmin generically, of course. Men attended. On the bus I rode, the breakdown of who-was-what went: three men -- one of whom was straight, two non-lesbian wimmin, 40 dykes. One woman was not yet out, but neither was I at age 16. Certainly, she got an education in wimmin caring for and about each other; which is not to say anything particularly graphic occurred. Or maybe I wasn't looking.

We rolled into Washington at an absurd hour on Sunday morning, after about 36 hours in transit. Staying at the Church of the Pilgrims, we renamed it "The Waylaid Pilgrims," and marched in to face our rickety bunk beds. Some of us ran for the showers, where we thought, "42 wimmin per one shower, three men per one shower." And was that nice gay man surprised to find several wimmin in the men's room? Only a little; he stripped down and showered just like a real dyke.

When we were awakened too soon the same morning, it was time to go to the Mall and assemble. Texas was toward the back of the line, of course. Some Dallas wimmin had permission to carry a sign that said "Dallas Dykes Demand Democracy," with the letters e-r-a in "democracy" emphasized. A woman who said she was a gay from California came up and asked us if we were going to carry that sign. "Of course," we said. One does not get permission for a sign and then not carry it.

"Everyone from California is upset about it. We're gay and we don't want to march behind a sign that says 'dykes.'"

"Oh," we said. "You don't want us to carry it?"

"Dykes shouldn't be before the ERA. Why, you didn't even write out ERA. This is an ERA march, not a dyke march."

You will immediately note the number of politically incorrect things in this dialogue. Besides the obvious exaggeration of "everyone from California" being upset, notice the woman is gay, not lesbian, identified. Need I say more about the need for wimmin to have a separate identity from men? Perhaps the end of this episode will explain.

"You're gonna carry it anyway?" We nodded. The gay woman jumped the woman who was holding the sign. In the following flurry, our sign was torn. The "gay" looked pleased as tried to hurry away. Always slow, yours

truly was just about ready to get involved and somehow managed to trip on the woman. No matter the slowness; our "gay" was squarely whopped with a pocket instamatic across the brow. She got angry again and tried to jump me (and I'm not even a Dallas dyke), but was led away by a huge Dallas dyke doubling as a parade marshal.

Instincts tell me I was right. Suspecting as I do that she was sent to see who-would-respond-how, certainly I responded correctly. But a lingering doubt that she may have meant what she said, makes my mental picture of how funny we must have looked go away.

A few minutes passed as we stared in dismay at our sign, now in two parts. A woman from Georgia came up and offered a couple of Band-Aids. Immediately, the little stickies appeared from everywhere, and our sign went in the parade with us.

The line of wimmin stretched from the Capitol down Constitution Avenue, back to the Washington Monument and halfway up the Mall. The wimmin at the front of the march could be seen arriving at the Capitol before we started moving. That's almost two miles of wall-to-wall wimmin.

We marched in rows of 24 across (or is that abreast?); chanted up Constitution Avenue; cheered the wimmin speaking at the Capitol. Media reports on numbers varied, but with 24 across no estimate should have been as low as 50,000 (reported in the Statesman). They had only to count rows. Most of the (male) reporters did not want to believe that 100,000 wimmin would leave jobs, homes and travel long distances to march for the ERA. You better believe it.

And when the speakers, to a woman, told of our disenchantment with this system, with this society which will not allow wimmin to be human -- the wimmin spoke of revolution, and the wimmin who were listening agreed. Congress better listen.

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Stepping out ... and out ...

By CALVIN DOUCET

(Editor's note: The following address was given June 24 in Wooldridge Park during Gay Freedom Week.)

While we must never slacken in our efforts to achieve equal justice, equal rights and equal privileges under the Constitution and its ensuing laws -- which as taxpayers, voters, workers, producers, consumers, and citizens of the United States of America we are entitled to -- we must not forget that however much we share in common with every other non-gay citizen we are, nevertheless, different.

And because we are different we have different -- or perhaps additional -- responsibilities.

Our battle is not merely whether or not we have, for instance, the right to teach in schools -- though that is a fierce and primal battle. Having gay people as teachers of the young is a great privilege any society has the honored benefit of; the non-gay majority of our society must be brought to understand our participation in its educational systems affirmatively, that they need not fear or destroy, but should nurture and praise our involvement.

Our battle is not merely whether or not we have, for instance, the right to participate (once appropriately qualified) in any profession, trade, occupation, avocation, art or science that any other citizen has the right and privilege to -- although that is a battle that, as courageous women and men become more and more voluntarily visible as lesbians and gay men in their public life, we will have to fight more strenuously than I suspect any of us now realize.

Our battle is not merely whether or not we have, for instance, the right to live where we wish and with whom we wish; to associate publicly or privately with whomever we wish; to go wherever we wish; and to do all this openly and visibly and as lovingly as we wish; without fear of economic, legal, personal or social reprisal, or religious and political persecution; and without being covered by accusations of "flaunting" behavior -- although this is a battle all of us by being here in this park today acknowledge participation in.

Rather, the fundamental struggle of which all these battles are subsumed is towards an alteration of consciousness which will transform the character and function of our culture.

Indeed, we are a threat to the social, philosophical, theological and cosmic order which Anita Bryant, Phyllis Schafley, Jessie Helms, John Briggs and others tenaciously cling to.

We are participants in a revolution of morals, in perception and behavior which renders them to history the way Copernicus and Galileo rendered flat-earthers and geocentricists to history. And we can expect similar harsh resistance.

In our most radical, in our most significant natures, we are -- and must visibly and vocally be so -- equal companions to the feminist, to the holistic, to the cooperative and to the human rights movements.

We participate in redefining what it is to be a man, what it is to be a woman, what it is to be human in an interdependent and non-exploitative planetary environment.

And our greatest and presently most historical responsibility is in becoming visible: for our own self's sake and dignity, as well as for the greater societal good.

As we have stepped out of our original closets, we step into larger closets which we again must move out of, and stepping, with each opened door, into greater freedom, into greater self-esteem, into greater knowledge of whom we really are collectively and individually: The more visible we are to the world, the more visible we are to ourselves. The more visible we are to ourselves the more visible we are in the world.

And as we see ourselves with greater clarity, the greater clarity we bring to transforming the oppressive and intolerant conditions of our own, and of everyone else's, lives.

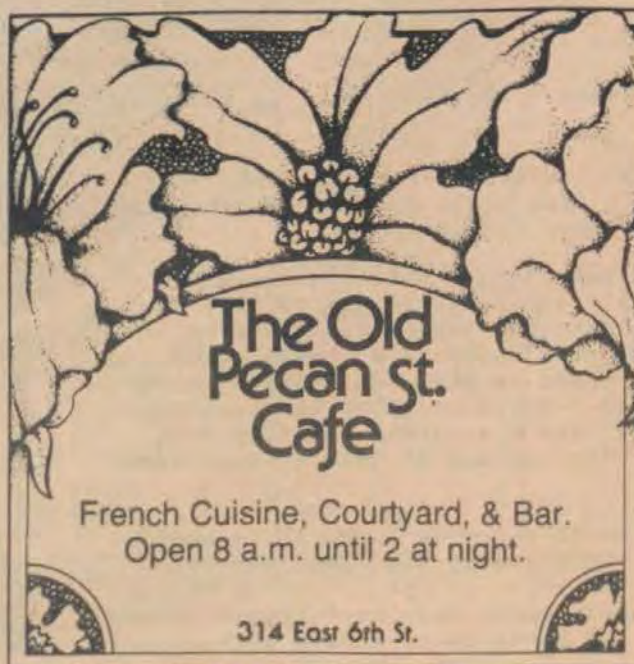
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MCC DEDICATES MISSION CHURCH, INSTALLS INTERIM PASTOR

Metropolitan Community Church of Austin will celebrate a landmark event in its history Aug. 6 when the mission church dedicates its building and installs its interim pastor.

Jeff Bishop, approved for licensing as UFMCC minister by the South-Central District of UFMCC at its meeting in Houston in May, has served as worship coordinator of the Austin congregation since April. Bishop will serve as interim pastor until the congregation is granted chartered church status, at which time the UFMCC bylaws will require a new issuance of a call to ministry, either to Bishop or to another MCC minister.

The Rev. Don Eastman, District assistant co-ordinator and pastor of the Dallas MCC, will officiate at both ceremonies during the regular service of worship beginning at noon. The South-Central District includes congregations in Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma and southern Missouri.

Formal dedication of the building at 614 E. 6th St. is one step in the local congregation's development from study group to mission status. The church plans to submit its application for full charter membership in UFMCC when the national church's Board of Elders meets in Los Angeles in late August or early September.

Since Bishop's arrival at UFMCC Austin, the church has undertaken major expansion of its activity to include a variety of educational and social events. The congregation has also accelerated its efforts to improve its building, which has been renovated completely in the last six months and now is air conditioned in its sanctuary and office area.

MCCA worship services are conducted every Sunday at noon and 7:30 p.m.

Christian education classes now in progress are "Homosexuality and the Bible," Tuesdays; "I am Somebody: a Christian Search for Identity and Self-Acceptance," Wednesdays; and "Survey of the New Testament," Thursdays. All classes meet at 7:30 p.m. MCCA social activities include a 7:30 p.m.-to-midnight Games Night on Fridays (dominoes, cards, board games, movies, refreshments) and pot luck suppers every other Saturday evening.

Bishop indicates the other Saturday nights are currently open but will be filled in the near future.

The Board of Directors of the Austin Church also has approved establishment of a Deacon's fund to be used for human assistance and support programs in Austin.

"MCCA is growing and seeking to expand its activities to our brothers and sisters in Austin," Bishop says. "The doors of this house of the lord are open to all. Those who never have attended or have not attended in some time are particularly invited to worship with us and to join us in our fellowship."

The church also has a small bookstore with a number of items available including many publications of recent authorship concerning homosexuality and American society and homosexuality and the Bible, as well as *Because He Lives*, a musical album of religious songs produced by MCCR, Houston.

texas...

TEXAS WOMEN'S POLITICAL CAUCUS TO MEET

The annual convention of the Texas Women's Political Caucus will be held in Brownsville, August 11-13. The Women's Caucus of the Texas Gay Task Force will sponsor a Hospitality Center in Room 101 of the convention hotel, Ft. Brown. TGTF has taken out an ad in the TWPC Convention program commending the caucus for their past efforts in the legislature on our behalf.

CIVILIAN PREPARING FOR SEX CHANGE SUES KELLY AIR FORCE BASE SUPERIORS

A civilian Kelly Air Force Base worker preparing for a sex-change operation filed a civil-rights suit in San Antonio against his supervisors for refusing to let him dress in women's clothing.

Dorothy J. Parker, who changed his name from Raymond Lloyd Parker, said in the suit that the decision by Kelly officials has caused him severe mental anguish.

national...

GAY PUBLICATION DENIED TRADEMARK

GAYSWEEK, a publication from New York City, in June received word from the Patent and Trademark Office of the U.S. Department of Commerce that they have rejected GAYSWEEK's application to register the proposed trademark because the name is "immoral or scandalous." GAYSWEEK intends to challenge the decision.

more news briefs page 9



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San Francisco dreamin'



By SCOTT LIND

SAN FRANCISCO AND THE GAY DAY PARADE

June 26, circa 8:00 p.m.:

I arrived here the night before the June 25 gay parade going by way of Highway 1 up the coast, meeting along the way two friendly lovers from Ontario.

As I travelled on Highway 280 bordering the city proper, I began to feel a surging exhilaration you cannot imagine unless you, yourself, have also encroached on this world's boundaries. I felt as if I were on the verge of something special, for the meaning of San Francisco I already had internalized long before I left Austin.

My beachbathing in San Diego -- all the many thousands of young people jamming the shoreline, not to mention La Jolla -- and expeditions inside LA were only the prelude to what I expected to be a type of climaxing in San Francisco. The closer I came to seeing, from a distance, downtown, the more meaning and mood inscribed itself in my heart. For, I felt, I was about to enter the land of freedom, limitless possibilities, where any human circumstance can be made or discovered. The Holy Land, this special heaven, just some miles ahead, and with quickening speed I reached the spot where I viewed for the first time the object of my aspirations of months' dreams and plannings. Before stopping, I crossed the Golden Gate Bridge. I had finally arrived.

The next day, Sunday, was the gay parade. If you re-

member, Anita had countered gays' calling for a celebration with her call for prayer and fasting. On this day, thousands of conservative churches preached sermons on homosexual infiltration and the liberal ones, by and large, remained totally silent. So much with dependable allies. We have to do it ourselves.

But in this city, 240,000 strong came out to view the thousands marching, chanting or simply celebrating their presence. Unless you, yourself, have seen this parade or the one the year before, you simply cannot imagine the reality of seeing before your very startled eyes, miles of spectators, a whole downtown area comprised of people like you in one significant respect. And, at the parade's end, after having wended down Market St., at Brooks Hall with its ornate gream dome in the United Nations Plaza, the gathering of all to witness two bands, one of women and the other of men, making music, attractively gay.

July 4, Independence Day:

I stand gazing out a third-story bay window of a house situated on one of this city's highest hills. A stretch of brightening, dawning blue skies contrasts with settled black-gray fog clouds, and first glows bathe houses of hills below and beyond. I could be looking upon some Mediterranean Spanish town, the type favored in tourist pastore, but the view here is real, and not much Spanish and very cosmopolitan and compacted despite the breadth, lend for the viewer at least that particular air.

Danno, a new-found friend from Quebec, his eyes flutter open, then shut close. He arrived at this city some months ago from Montreal, and he has granted me his hospitality and his bed. He recognized me as a traveller, and since I am not unattractive and since I had betrayed some wit and daring, the initial barriers vanished the night of one of my revisits to Black and Blue. Neither he nor I have yet slept. I kiss and caress him, and he responds.

So far, I have spent a week in San Francisco, no, a week and two days, and I am not at all sorry to be here instead of Austin. I face the inevitability of having to leave this heaven, but I push that idea aside and gaze out again at what the rising sun and newly rolling fog clouds, appearing over the western hills and flowing downwards, are doing to this remarkable world. Presently, this luxuriance of sight satiates me. I shall go to the kitchen and write a while.

How nice it is, on Independence Day, not to have to see even one American flag. America is out there, and San Francisco is thankfully here, a world totally apart. To have to return to America, to leave San Francisco, is a paining thought. But meanwhile I shall enjoy and return to Danno and sleep. Here I wish time could last forever. What a strange sight it is to see leather people board buses to Castro Street, a strange but extremely interesting sight. And to see all the other people, strong in their unity of experience, and warm and casual. And the hundreds, nay, the thousands, putting up with high rents and simple food for the pleasure of relating in absolute confidence and assurance in the goodness of life itself.

Say some to me: "Don't overestimate San Francisco. It's Mecca, but different if you live here." Oh, I know that, but would any of those beautiful souls leave in order to live in Houston? I doubt it very seriously.

July 9:

I am taking one last view of San Francisco from Sausalito across the Golden Gate. I confess that I feel an immense sadness upon leaving her. I confess my soul weeps. But I shall return to you, dear city of hills and white-gleaming face. Now I journey upward and hope to make Portland via the Redwood Highway tonight.

ON THE WAY TO VANCOUVER

July 11, 6:00 p.m.:

This morning around 3:00 a.m. I reached Portland. I rapidly met a guy named Jesse C. Scott, a model whose picture has appeared in American Airlines ads. He showed me around town, then took me to the home of one of his three sugar daddies. I don't care what

disparaging remarks people make about hustlers or models gaining their livelihood for their services, but people like Jesse pay and pay for every monetary reward they receive. These people are exceptionally strong and exceptionally weak: strong for enduring whatever slight to their dignity their benefactor throws out in addition to his money; and exceptionally weak for having traded their freedom for this inhibiting security.

Jesse was thrown out of the house by his adoptive parents at the age of 13. He rapidly learned that 'tis better, much better, to hustle than to starve. With his earned money, he went to one of the two best modelling schools in the country and graduated. Though with his early success -- signified by the picture the Airlines ad paid for -- he could certainly have gone farther, made a good living in New York or wherever he has settled for this life. This man has written him into his sizeable will, but he could just as easily write him out once he gets tired of him.

Jesse doesn't seem to care anymore to hold on to that money, for now he snaps back at his primary benefactor, and today will cut his hair in the style shown in his pictures. Perhaps he will return to modelling.

I am at Timberline Lodge at the snowline of Mt. Hood. I shall go onward to Seattle.

Continued on page 8



Illustrations by David Dole

continued from page 7

VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA

July 12:

Today is my birthday. I am 24, a good age to live. I have yet to worry about the possibility of non-existent wrinkles. But how quickly time moves!

July 15:

Ah, Vancouver, how I fold my heart to you. Wreck Beach directly behind the University of B.C., where one may sunbathe nude and venture into the waters and smoke some recreational weed and meet and relate. And all your other beaches. And a few miles north, Highway 1 weaves on the landward side of the forested cliffs and down below the islands and channels of an incredible deep blue offward and rich forested growth to snow-packed summits. Horseshoe Bay and its ferries which lead you through the waters and about the islands to wherever in the late evening fog or day-sun you wish to go.

July 16:

Last night, I sat myself at a picnic table overlooking the waters surrounding Stanley Park. On three sides the harbour waters. The sun at about 10:00 p.m. began its slow descent, that orange gold goblet. Twilight gleams, that intercessory prayer, like sonorous globed goblets. A hue of tan moist orange red keening behind the west-edged mountains, the low mountain hills dropping into the waters, the bay's end. The tanned cool heat of desert sandy sky red contrasting, setting off blue steepness of pin-hills. Twilight, o chant, that gold goblet circuiting the hills and the bay over-reaching it and passenger cruising ships moored amongst the waters, sun long gone, but not that incredible glow slowly dissipating, and moon already risen hours or days or weeks ago...

I watch ship lights promenade. I feel complete. It is 10:45 p.m. The white sheet in front has altered to a pale, now darker blue. I feel at peace. I shall not forget where I am; I thrust myself to feel. I know I shall eventually return to Vancouver to witness this all again and this peace.

I am seated with the blue sheet before me when the two arrive. One asks me what I am doing with that sheet of paper. They are lovers from Montreal who had moved to escape the political dilemmas there. We speak on issues, on American and Soviet propaganda, and I listen attentively as one tells me his experiences in a Montreal that once had included him.

They are waiting for friends to appear and I have no doubt that I shall be included. It is cool, cold, perhaps, the temperature 55° with the ocean wind streaming. We shiver and watch the moving lights on the waters. Their friends, their straight friends, arrive. We all shiver and say we wish to go and have a coffee somewhere, but we remain at the bay, commenting on the lights and the political situation and the moon's full-moon-shine and a harbor-light-house across the sound bleating and deep throaty calls of ships. I mention that all businesses in Canada should be 100 percent Canadian. One of the lovers gives me a suspicious look, then assumes I have not simply parroted the line and the group discusses the Canadian situation.

With his friends seated about his stance he points to the sky. There, above us all, a thin sheer of white like a maple leaf shimmers. He opens his arms and cries, "O Canada...", and again, "O Canada..." and the group basks happily in his words. He turns back at them and says, "Now if the government should start dropping maple leaves over Quebec, you can be sure something is about to happen that might not be very pleasant." He turns his face toward the apparition of the leaf and smiles another, "O Canada..." and rejoins the group. "Besides," his lover informs me, "if Quebec secedes, Canada would lose such beauty." Looking upon the site of the maple leaf and the people, I wish to alter my circumstances immediately. To carry a bottle of wine out and build a fire and watch the sun setting on the beach, ah...

July 17:

A sweltering 25 degrees centigrade (77 degrees) brings everyone out to the beach. And especially with the strikes going on the beaches are packed. At Wrecker Beach, I meet a guy. Tonight, we have gone to see COMING HOME and to hold each other tight with each successive horror. We walk arm-in-arm on the downtown streets and watch liberals avert their eyes. How we enjoy it!

July 18:

This night we see a mediocre (well, alright) comedy after having toasted over steak and wine. How warm we are with each other, and how beautiful.

July 19:

I cross the border and return to a monstrous America. I shall stop in San Francisco before leaving the West Coast entirely. I shall find means to return.



FCC CONSIDERS GAYS A SIGNIFICANT MINORITY TO BE CONSULTED IN LICENSE RENEWALS

The Federal Communications Commission has agreed to propose that leaders of all significant community groups, in a broadcast area, must be interviewed by local broadcasters to meet their community ascertainment requirements ... whether or not such groups appear on the 'checklist' of groups in the Community Ascertainment Primer.

This represents a change from previous policy which required that only those groups on the checklist be contacted, leaving other community leaders to be contacted as an option of the individual broadcasters. It is yet to be decided if the burden of seeking out leaders of the gay community will be placed on broadcasters or whether it will be up to gay organizations to present themselves for ascertainment.

The Federal Communications Commission has agreed to propose that leaders of all significant community groups in a broadcast area, including leaders of the gay community, must be interviewed by local broadcasters to meet their community ascertainment requirements ... whether or not such groups appear on the checklist of groups in the Community Ascertainment Primer.

National Gay Task Force cochairpersons Jean O'Leary and Bruce Voeller said, "It was clear from the discussion by FCC that lesbians and gay men were considered by the Commission to be a significant minority in many American communities. FCC has at last recognized our right of access to the public airways, on a par with all other major segments of American society.

NGTF RECOMMENDED FOR PARTICIPATION IN 1981 WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON FAMILIES

The National Gay Task Force has been recommended for inclusion on the Advisory Council of the upcoming White House Conference on Families scheduled in 1981. The White House Conference has been the subject of considerable political controversy as to whether the conference should reflect "the actual diversity of American family life or confine itself to the concerns of traditional nuclear families."

NGTF has recommended Kerry Woodward of Minneapolis be appointed a member of the conference advisory panel and would welcome support for that nomination from religious and family-service groups around the country. It urges local gay groups to attempt to obtain such support.

Woodward, an administrator of the Minneapolis Committee for Gay Rights, is a former teacher and day-care worker, and has served as a delegate to three Democratic-Farm Labor Conventions, and also served as a delegate to the International Women's Year Conference in Houston. Recommendations should be sent to:

Ms. Joan Rattery
White House Conference on Families
Department of Health, Education, and
Welfare, Room 541F
Hubert Humphrey Building
Washington, D.C.

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS VOTE BRYANT, HITLER "PEOPLE WHO HAVE DONE MOST DAMAGE IN WORLD"

The Ladies Home Journal asked 800 junior and senior high school students to name the man and woman who "have done the most damage in the world." The majority chose Adolf Hitler and Anita Bryant. Bryant, along with Richard Nixon, also won out in response to the question, "Who makes you angriest?" Asked "if you could give a prize for achievement in re-

ligion, to which famous person would you give the prize?", the young people named Billy Graham their first choice, while God was their second. What has been termed "the nation's first in-depth survey of an urban gay population, aimed at finding out more than 'bedroom behavior'" is underway in Seattle. Washington Public Information Research Group (WashPIRG), a university of Washington research group sponsored by the Associated Students of the University, has mailed 10,000 questionnaires containing 100 items asking for information about everything from voting habits to parenting and marital status. WashPIRG is also mailing a different questionnaire to a random sampling of 900 business people, industries, physicians, employment agencies and others who might be dealing with gay people as employees or tenants, in order to find out what the impact of the city's gay rights ordinance is. A third survey is designed to measure gay rights enforcement practices in the approximately 40 cities and counties in the U.S. that have such laws. Responses to the surveys should be available to the media by October.

EARTHA KITT DENOUNCES ANITA

According to United Press International, entertainer Eartha Kitt has denounced Anita Bryant's anti-homosexual crusade as "dangerous to this country."

The news service reported that Kitt told a reporters' conference: "I think that her attitude for America is a very dangerous one. Oppression of any kind is dangerous to this country. As long as we allow this kind of oppression to go on, we are not fulfilling what this country means. That is the main issue: human rights."

The news conference was reportedly sponsored by the Gertrude Stein Democratic Club, for which Miss Kitt gave a benefit performance.

EDITOR IN VIRGINIA PRINTS RAPE VICTIMS' NAMES

One of the more controversial stances in recent times is Herman J. Obermayer's decision, as editor and publisher of the Northern Virginia Sun, to publish names, ages and addresses of women who are rape victims. Obermayer's position, printed in The Bulletin, which is the journal of the American Society of Newspaper Editors, as well as in his own newspaper, is that "protecting the accuser's anonymity, while fully identifying the accused, is tantamount to a pre-trial presumption of guilt." In response to critics who say that it is cruel and harsh to impose additional pains on innocent victims of crimes, Obermayer replies, "Justice is cruel and harsh. A man convicted of rape can go to jail for life."

Obermayer cites the Supreme Court's decision in *Cohn vs. Cox*, which protected the right of the press to print names, even in rape cases. Attorney Alan Schlosser of the San Francisco American Civil Liberties Union acknowledges Obermayer's right under the First Amendment, but adds that having the right to do something and deciding whether or not it should be done are two different things.

more news briefs page 10

WOMEN/SPACE is a counseling and information center for the women of Austin. It provides a variety of services for women such as walk-in counseling, legal and medical and birth-control information, and information about community resources. **WOMEN/SPACE** also coordinates rap groups and consciousness-raising groups. Phone 472-3053.

**PORTLAND TOWN COUNCIL OFFERS GAYS
PROPERTY ARBITRATION SERVICE FOR DISPUTES**

The Portland (Oregon) Town Council, concerned about how gay couples who are splitting up deal with property division, is offering the gay community an arbitration service. In order to use the service, both parties must agree to submit to arbitration as competitors and agree to decide whether the arbitration is to be advisory and non-binding or binding and enforceable in a court of law. The arbitration is done by a panel of three people whose names are submitted in advance and agreed on by the petitioners. One of the arbitrators is an attorney. The fee for the service is based in part on the value of the property in dispute.

NYC GAYS, POLICE CLASH IN BASEBALL GAME

New York's finest, the championship Sixth Precinct squad, met the finest athletes of New York's 12-team Metropolitan Community Athletic Association in the first annual Police vs. Gay softball game on Sunday, June 11. It was a day for symbolic conflicts; an overflow crowd of some 2,000 excited fans cheered the action in Manhattan's Central Park. Despite a suitably macho effort and the energetic cheerleading of four costumed pompom boys, the gay all-stars went down in defeat, 12-4.

The game's spirit of friendly interchange follows eight months of weekly police-gay community dialogues held at the Sixth Precinct station house. Precinct Captain Aron Rosenthal in his printed welcome expressed the hope that "familiarity can breed respect" and said that the goal of the dialogues has been "to help us all see beyond the labels and stereotypes that reduce human beings to one-dimensional characters."

**STATE OFFICIAL IN CALIFORNIA RETRACTS
STATEMENT ON HOMOSEXUAL CHILD ABUSERS**

California's Secretary of State, March Fong Eu, in a speech last March to the state Parent Teacher Association Meeting in Los Angeles, stated, "The police department (of Los Angeles) conservatively estimates that last year alone there were 34,000 cases of child

abuse involving sexual activities, 70 percent of which were homosexual in nature." Her statement, based upon the testimony of LA police Lieutenant Donald LaGuardia before the California Senate Select Committee on Children and Youth last year, horrified gay people in the state. Supervisor Harvey Milk, an elected San Francisco city official, wrote to the Secretary of State to protest the figures. Eu met with Milk and his staff, and as a result of the meeting wrote a retraction and a letter to LA Police Chief Daryl Gates asking for an explanation of the erroneous figures. Gates investigated, and responded in a letter to Eu, that he "has reevaluated the ... figure and concluded that although the estimate was the result of considerable research, it was not based on hard data. Therefore, the estimate is considered speculative in nature and will not be used again."

international...

**EUROPEAN COMMISSION OF HUMAN RIGHTS TAKES
GAY BRITON'S COMPLAINT AGAINST ENGLAND**

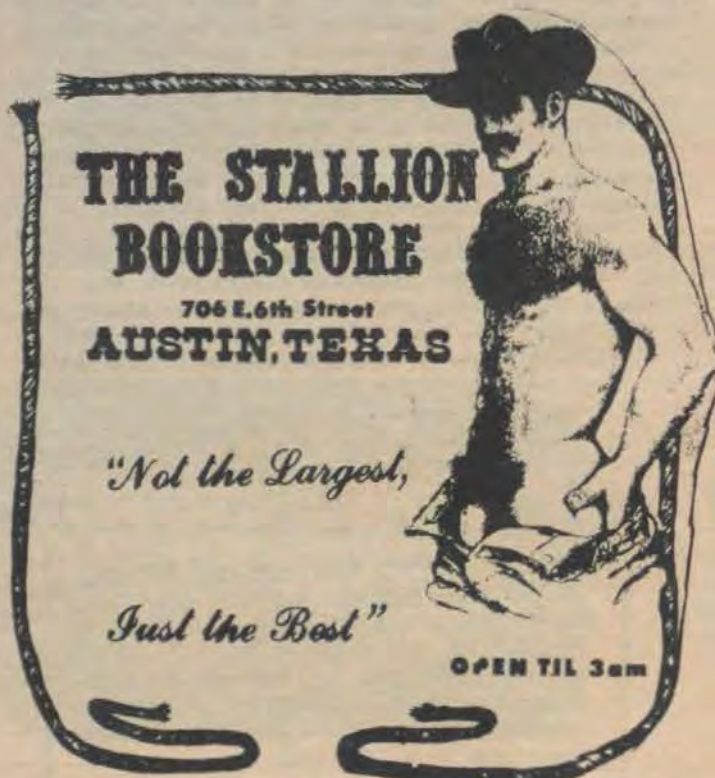
The European Commission of Human Rights, headquartered in Strasbourg, has accepted another case from a man challenging laws on homosexuality in the British Isles. Peter Wells, an English businessman, was sentenced to two and a half years in prison in 1974 for having sex with two 18-year-old men. Wells is claiming that his conviction and imprisonment violate three articles of the European Convention on Human Rights. England has signed the convention, and the government admits that its action against Wells was interference with his private life. But, it claims, it was justified under an article that protects the "health and morals" and "protection of the rights and freedoms of others." The commission has admitted Well's application.

**POLICE IN AUSTRALIA CARRY OUT 'MILITARY'
RAID AGAINST GAYS CELEBRATING SOLIDARITY**

On June 24, during "Mardi Gras" celebration of International Homosexual Solidarity Day, police from the Darlinghurst district of Sydney carried out what an Australian newsletter termed a "military-style attack. Everyone caught in the middle of this operation ... was in danger of being bashed and/or taken ... into custody. Heterosexuals, whether sympathetic or not, were also detained." The public address system and truck carrying it were confiscated. According to witnesses, police made a special point of brutalizing the women in the march. When one woman screamed at a police officer, "Let go of my tit," she was charged with using offensive language. After the arrests of 54 people, lawyers and doctors who tried to enter the police station to see clients and the injured were threatened with charges of trespass. 24 women were confined in a cell designed to be occupied by two people.

The Gay Solidarity Group at Sydney University is urging people to send letters to Neville Wran, Premier of New South Wales to request an inquiry into the police violence.

The Australian newspaper The Age has conducted a poll that reveals that 57 percent of the public believes that gay people should have the same status under the law as heterosexuals for whom the age of consent is 16. Younger people and those with university education indicate even stronger support for gay rights. At present, consensual sex for gay people is permitted in only two states and is illegal in all the rest.



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New report on homosexuality

NEW YORK - A major new study on homosexuality concludes that many homosexual men and women lead stable lives without frenetic sexual activity and that some are considerably happier and better adjusted than heterosexuals as a whole.

According to one of its authors, Dr. Alan Bell of the Institute for Sex Research at Indiana University, the study's findings contradict stereotypes about homosexuals. He said the study shows that "homosexuality is not ipso facto pathological and that all homosexuals cannot be lumped together."

Rather, Bell and his coauthor, Dr. Martin Weisberg, found that there were at least five types of homosexuals, each with a different set of behavioral patterns. While some resemble the popular stereotype of unhappy, unstable and highly promiscuous people, the authors said, others are more like ordinary married heterosexuals.

The new study represents the most comprehensive look at the social and psychological adjustment of homosexuals. It is the first time, Bell said in an interview, that a truly diverse sample of homosexuals has been studied, that homosexuals have been compared with one another and that types of homosexuals have been compared with heterosexuals. Most previous studies focused on special groups of homosexuals, such as those undergoing psychotherapy, men in prisons and members of homophile organizations.

The findings are to be published on Aug. 28 by Simon and Schuster in a book called "Homosexualities," which is the product of a study begun in 1968 with a \$278,000 grant from the National Institute of Mental Health.

The new study focuses not on the incidence of homosexual behavior -- a subject on which Dr. Alfred Kinsey, who founded the Institute for Sex Research, reported 30 years ago -- but rather on the relationship of sexual activity to a wide variety of social and psychological characteristics.

To examine these relationships, 979 homosexual men and women living in the San Francisco Bay area were interviewed. The subjects were culled from among 5,000 people who indicated a willingness to participate in the study. Those interviewed included people recruited in homosexual bars and steam baths, at public and private places where homosexual "pick-ups" were often made and through homosexual organizations, personal contacts, mailing lists and public advertising.

"We did not just draw subjects from the 'lavender ghetto,' where everyone is free and open about his homosexuality. Many of our respondents are highly covert, and it took a long time to convince some of them to participate in the study," Bell said. He added that the sample of homosexuals interviewed could not be said to represent homosexuals generally, but that the study included substantial numbers of all types of homosexuals.

The homosexuals were interviewed in person in 1970. In addition, 477 heterosexuals drawn from a random sample of the San Francisco Bay area residents were questioned.

From the data, the authors categorized homosexuals into the following types:

-- Closed couples, those living in quasi-marriages characterized by self-acceptance, contentment and a

high degree of sexual fidelity. Those relationships tended to be long-standing and to reflect a strong emotional commitment and a stable sharing of household responsibilities. As a group, the closed couples scored higher on happiness measures than the heterosexuals, the researchers said.

-- Open couples, those living as partners but with a fair amount of outside sexual activity. These couples tended to be less emotionally attached and dependent on one another, according to the study.

-- Functionals, those who were sexually highly active and free-wheeling, comparable in behavior to "swinging singles" among heterosexuals. They were more likely to report feelings of exuberance than the heterosexuals interviewed, the researchers said.

-- Dysfunctionals, those who were also highly active sexually but who reported regrets about being homosexual and said that they had sexual problems.

-- Asexuals, those who were more secretive and have more regrets about their homosexuality, were less sexually active and less exclusively homosexual. Together with the dysfunctional group, the researchers said, asexuals reported less self-acceptance and more loneliness than other homosexuals and than heterosexuals.

In general, homosexual men resembled heterosexual men in their reports of good physical health and feelings of happiness at the time of the questioning. However, in response to psychological questions, the homosexual men indicated that they felt "less self-accepting and more lonely, depressed and tense than did the heterosexual men," the authors reported. The homosexual men were also more likely to have considered or attempted suicide and to have sought help for an emotional problem.

The homosexual women, on the other hand, differed little from heterosexual women in many aspects of their psychological adjustment. But as a group they reported less current happiness, less self-esteem and more suicidal thoughts than the heterosexual women.

The authors concluded that "homosexual adults who have come to terms with their homosexuality, who do not regret their sexual orientation, and who can function effectively sexually and socially, are no more distressed psychologically than are heterosexual men and women." They said that it was primarily the dysfunctionals and asexuals who were less well off psychologically than heterosexuals, "but here are certainly equivalent groups among heterosexuals."

Nonetheless, the researchers did report characteristics of some homosexuals that are likely to become subjects of controversy. For example, the authors reported, nearly half of white homosexual males and one-third of the black homosexual males interviewed said that they had had at least 500 different sexual partners. More than half had had more than 20 sexual partners in the year before the interview. About two-thirds of the men had contracted a venereal disease at least once.

Among the homosexual women, most had had fewer than 10 female sexual partners, and more than three-fourths were involved in a relatively stable relationship with another woman at the time of the interview.

However, the majority of homosexual men said that they had never had sex with minors or with prostitutes. The authors contend that heterosexuals are far more likely than homosexuals to seduce minors or to make objectionable sexual advances.

calendar

weekly

- MONDAY-SATURDAY Happy Hour at the New Apartment, 4:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
- MONDAY Lambda AA, 209 West 27th, 8:00p.m.
Free beer, the New Apartment
- TUESDAY Lesbian rap group (open), Womenspace, 7:30 p.m.
- THURSDAY Showtime, Austin, Country, 10:30 p.m.
- FRIDAY Womenspace programs with discussion; coffee at 7:00 p.m., speakers at 8:00 p.m.; see weekly
Rap group, Gay Community Services (open), 8:00 p.m.
- SUNDAY Happy Hour at the New Apartment, noon-8:00 p.m.
Volleyball sponsored by GCS, Ramsey Park, West 44th at Rose-dale, 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Free keg of beer every second and fourth Sunday (donated by the Private Cellar). Come on out!
After Hippy Hollow Hour, free beer and hot dogs, 7:00 p.m., Private Cellar.
Metropolitan Community Church services, noon and 7:30 p.m., 614 East 6th.

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• NAME CHANGE	45
• BANKRUPTCY, INDIVIDUAL	225
• BANKRUPTCY, HUSBAND AND WIFE	275
• SIMPLE WILL, INDIVIDUAL	40
• SIMPLE WILLS, HUSBAND AND WIFE	60

The legal fees quoted above do not include court costs. These fees are for cases filed in Travis County between June 1, 1978 and September 1, 1978. Fees for legal work outside of Travis County will be higher. The Legal Clinic also accepts criminal cases and civil cases not listed above. Please call for an appointment. No legal advice will be given over the telephone.

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Vivian Mahlab

**Legal Clinic at 501 W. 12th St.
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august

- 14 GAY AUSTIN staff meeting. GCS offices, 2330 Guadalupe, 7:30 p.m.
- 16 GAY COMMUNITY SERVICES monthly meeting. 2330 Guadalupe, 8:00 p.m.
- 18 VD CLINIC sponsored by the State Department of Health, Private Cellar, Club Baths and GCS. Free for men and women. Club Austin, 308 W. 16th, 10:00 p.m. to midnight.

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