

Drum

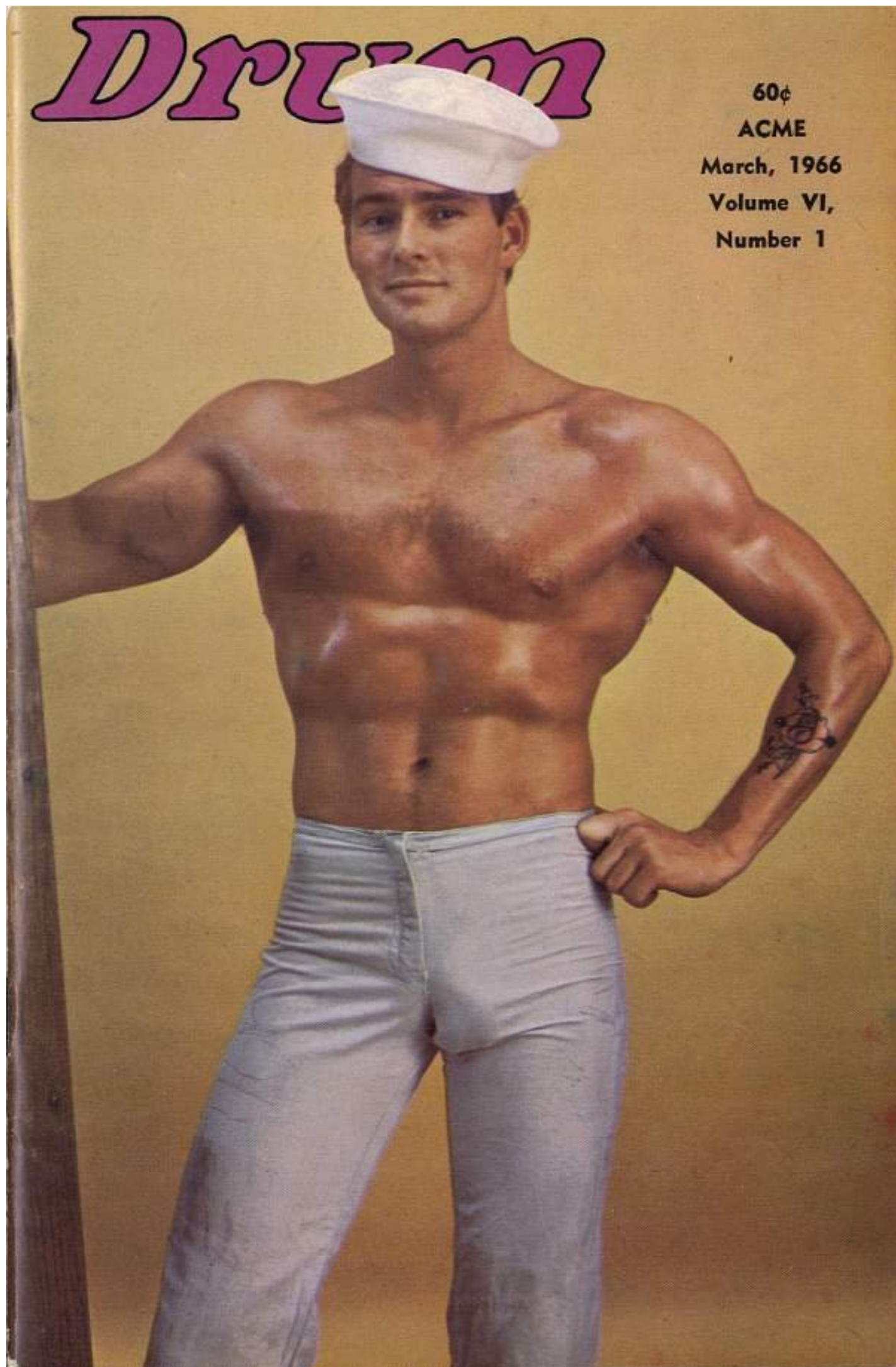
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ACME

March, 1966

Volume VI,

Number 1





Kris Studio

drum

sex in perspective

"If a man does not keep pace with his companions, perhaps it is because he hears a different drummer. Let him step to the music he hears, no matter how measured or far away."

-Henry David Thoreau

March, 1966, Volume VI, Number 1

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Front cover and page 39: Bob Anthony, 155 W. 46th St., New York, NY 10036; Page 2: Kris Studio, P. O. Box 1251, Chicago IL 60690; Page 8: ABC TV; Page 11, Jean-Paul David, 86, Castelnau, Barnes, London, S. W. 13, England; Page 12: *Fact* Magazine; Page 13 and 14: Dolphus Smith, Jr.; Page 27: Models Studio, 14 Park St., Andover MA 01810; Pages 29 - 32: A. Jay; Back cover: Neil Edwards, P. O. Box 153, New York NY 10013.

Photographers generally supply catalogues at \$1.00 each.

DRUM Magazine is published monthly by the Janus Society of America, 34 S. 17th St., Phila. PA 19103. Subscription rate : \$7.00 per year; Membership: \$10.00 per year, includes DRUM and For Members Only; Life Membership: \$100.00. Advertising rates upon request. Manuscripts and photos given the closest possible attention, but DRUM cannot assume liability for their safe return. Entire contents Copyright © by the Janus Society of America -- and Clark P. Polak, 1965.



the issue

Last month we discussed our financial participation in the *Val's Bar* case and this month we feel that we have an equally important, though less dramatic announcement: the Society's Executive Board, acting on a suggestion of Barbara Gittings, editor of America's only lesbian magazine, *The Ladder*, agreed to finance the Homosexuality in Educational Libraries Project (HELP), a plan whereby the Society will donate (or sell at low cost) important volumes on homosexuality to accredited college and university libraries.

An official announcement has been prepared and will be circulated to several hundred libraries before this issue of *Drum* reaches the distribution stage. JSA is offering, free, such titles as *The Homosexual in America*; *The Wolfenden Report*; *White Paper*; *Eros, an Anthology of Male Friendship*; *Towards a Quaker View of Sex* among others.

We hope, through this plan, to stock libraries throughout the country with up-to-date and non-prejudicial material. Contributions to the HELP fund should be made payable to the Janus Society of America, but the cover letter should specify that the money is intended for the HELP fund and not for general use.

Gay Moments

An unexpectedly popular *Drum* feature is our *Gay Moments in Advertising* and this month we feature not one but three gay moments. But, then, we cheated

a bit for one is not an advertisement at all but a news photo that appeared in the *New York Times*. We trust we will be forgiven.

Howard Hemsley (page 14) was one of the respondents to the *Times Classifieds* for writers. His knowledge of prison matters is more than academic having spent a year in a Federal prison on special assignment for the government. He says: "Devising a scheme to slip out of prison cells at unauthorized times is one of the favorite prison games. If Mike had been caught out of his cell, even though the guards would have known that his purpose was to make it with another prisoner, that aspect of his conduct would be ignored and he would have been penalized for the 'break.'"

Batman

"Now is the time for all good men to straighten out *Batman*," Bob Luther complained. "Why don't they just leave him alone with Robin?"

Well, ABC TV hasn't left him alone and, whether the series is a camp delight or an absurd bore, Mr. Luther felt that *Batman* should be able to have his say. (page 8) He claims that *Time* (page 12) interviewed him about his private letter from *Batman*. But, being true to *Drum*, he refused to spill the beans before we were able to publish this exclusive.

But, then, on second thought, after seeing the *Time* essay, perhaps, a *Batman* episode would be closer to reality...

news

RELIGION

Washington: A group of homophile movement leaders and members of the clergy announced the formation of the Washington Area Council on Religion and the Homosexual. The group's goals center on improving homosexual - church relations.

Toronto: *The Rev. Mervyn Dickinson wrote in the United Church's The Observer: "The church could well give its blessing" to homosexual relationships that are "expressions of a deep commitment and abiding love," and Rev. John J. Keating of the Catholic Information Center was quoted as commenting that the idea "was sick."*

One spokesman for the organized homophile movement commented: "We are far more concerned with practical applications of our efforts to improve church ministries to homosexuals than we are in proposing the kind of impractical suggestion made by Rev. Dickinson. Our efforts are directed towards having homosexuals accepted within the church of their choice as valuable human beings. This would be a great enough revolution."

Philadelphia: The United Presbyterian Church, U.S.A. sponsored a day-long panel composed of Church leaders, lawyers, a psychiatrist and representatives of the Janus Society of America. It was titled: *Consultation On Law And Homosexuality*, and the confreres seemed agreed that homosexual acts be-

tween consenting adults in private should not be the concern of the criminal law, but expressed some reservation on how quickly the church, as a unit, could move in issuing a formal statement to this effect.

The panel included lawyers Gilbert M. Cantor from Philadelphia and Donald J. Cantor from Hartford, Conn., Clark P. Polak, Executive Secretary of the Society and Barbara Harris, editor of the Society's newsletter, *For Members Only* and ten others.

New York City: The National Council of Churches of Christ of the U.S.A. held a similar conference as part of a program designed to supply sufficient background for the formulation of an official position. The National Council had held meetings previous to this one, but this was the first to include representatives of the homophile movement.

The panel included the ex-Kinsey associate, Dr. Wardell B. Pomeroy, Warren Adkins and Franklin E. Kameny of the Mattachine Society of Washington, Barbara Gittings, editor of the *Daughters of Bilitis' The Ladder*, and fourteen others.

Pittsburgh: *The Rev. Anthony G. Bosco, vice chancellor of the Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh, said artificial birth control measures divorce sex from reproduction, and permitting their use could lead to man's "moral decay."*

"Once you divorce sex from

procreation," he warned, "we would have to justify homosexuality."

Boulder: A forum dealing with social and legal aspects of homosexuality was sponsored by the Student Religious Liberals of the University of Colorado. The panel included a wide variety of spokesmen, but no representatives of the homosexual community.

BALTIMORE

A 25-year-old man was charged with engaging in "perverted sex acts" with three men.

NEW YORK CITY

The *Good Olde Days* restaurant at 69th St. and Amsterdam Ave. had a sign in the window reading: "Wanted -Appetizing Man."

A multiple part series of articles was published by the *New York Post* under the general title: *Our Penal Code*. The series strongly favored the removal of laws against "social" crimes such as petty gambling, prostitution, drug addiction, and homosexuality.

The fourth in the series featured a photograph of Mattachine of New York President Dick Leitsch with the caption: "The vice squad serves no useful purpose."

The lengthy public transportation strike forced large numbers of persons to share cabs and private cars with strangers and one cabdriver reported that a woman stock broker ordered him to pick up a good-looking young man who was standing in the Wall Street area: "Unfortunately," the driver reported, "he turned out to be a homosexual."

Aroused patrons of a *Hennessey's*

Steak Pub in Brooklyn demanded an investigation of alleged police harassment after a Supreme Court Justice ordered the removal of a "raided premises" sign from its window.

The sign was posted Nov. 12 and a uniformed patrolman was stationed inside the restaurant. Police had classified *Hennessey's* as a "raided premises" after plainclothes patrolmen made a third arrest there of an alleged homosexual.

Artie, one of *Hennessey's* night bartenders, said he saw plainclothesmen "throw their arms around some customers" and try to draw them into conversations.

One patron, said Denis Hennessey, the owner, almost "took a swipe" at the plainclothesman. Hennessey further said that on Nov. 9 - the night of the blackout - one plainclothesman shouted at him: "We're going to haunt you, we're going to live here, we're going to close you down!"

The concern of the *New York Telegram and Sun*, the patrons, and the judge have forced the police to drop all charges against the *Pub*.

WOMEN

San Juan: Students at the Univ. of Puerto Rico claim that the island's women, not its men, now rule the roost. Speaking to a group of freshmen, Chancellor Jaime Benitez proposed a "crusade for the recovery of maleness," and, "Through a series of psychological complications, men in Puerto Rico have been retreating, falling in love with themselves, becoming narcissistic."

Los Angeles: The American Eugenics Party, an organization which proposes that Negroes be resettled in Africa, that in-

ferior people should be prohibited by law from having children, and that schools be operated on the basis of "heredity equality," also announced that women are genetically inferior to men. Not only do they have smaller frontal lobes, according to the AEP, but their average brain weight is only 1,230 grams while the average brain weight for men is 1,390 grams.

London: *Pink is not for girls claims Prof. Max Luscher, who also claims that in six minutes he can perform "an absolute striptease of the personality" through his color-choice personality test. In his theory, dark blue is the "female color" as it shows a need for calm and a striving for satisfaction. On the other hand, red is a masculine color and violet, mixture of the two, denotes the urge to be identified with both sexes and is a favorite with most children before puberty, of pregnant women and of confirmed homosexuals.*

UNIVERSITIES

Tallahassee: Florida State University's dean of students protested the use of students as undercover police informers in a local crackdown on homosexuals.

The attack came after Police Chief Frank Stoutamire and Assistant Chief Robert Maige confirmed reports that several students are paid \$10 each for part-time work as informers against homosexuals. Two or three students at a time have been detailed to loiter in the Greyhound Bus depot, among other places, and await propositions from alleged homosexuals.

Gov. Hayden Burns, who sits as chairman of the cabinet board of education said he did

not condone use of college students as informers, and Chester Ferguson, chairman of the University Board of Regents, said students should not be hired for police work without prior knowledge and approval of the University authorities.

"I don't pay any attention to that crowd," replied Stoutamire.

University spokesmen, obviously concerned over the long range effect such work would have on students, hoped for "an early meeting" with representatives of the Tallahassee police.

The only known expression of concern for the fate of the homosexuals involved was published in the Daytona Beach *Morning Journal* editorial asking for Stoutamire's resignation. Calling his anti-homosexual vendetta a "compulsion," the paper wondered how a student might feel while spending the \$10 he earned in this manner. "In an accusation," continued the paper, "it is the accuser's word against the victim of the accusation. A friendly exchange between an apparent townsman and a man passing through could become a 'pass' - if the student needed \$10 badly enough."

Stanford, Calif.: A number of students at Stanford University have formed a sexual rights forum, dedicated to repealing laws that make sexual practices criminal. The new group favors legalized abortion, prostitution and elimination of job discrimination against homosexuals. It also opposed all laws punishing homosexuality, adultery, sodomy and nonmarital intercourse.

NUDITY

Stockholm: Members of the American workshop Co., including male and (Continued on page 21)

Celebrating the 12th anniversary of the imprisonment of Batman, Superman, Wonder Woman et al, after Dr. Fredric Wertham brought their homosexuality to light in his expose, *The Seduction Of The Innocent*, ABC TV has instituted a twice weekly series of Batman adventures. And Drum is glad of it, for it is about time that the general public began to accept its responsibility towards these hallowed, homosexual martyrs.

In commemoration of ABC's celebration, Drum has taken a page from the Post Office's book and intercepted a private letter to a private citizen and, in good Post Office Tradition, is using it in the manner we deem most appropriate. If Robin is somewhat upset at seeing this personal letter from Batman appear in Drum before he had an opportunity to see it privately - well, Robbie, ole boy, we're sorry, really we are. But you know how it is - we are so used to hearing about the Post Office doing similar things - we figured you wouldn't have too much of a gripe.

Well, anyway, here for everyone to see is a purely private letter from Batman in Gotham City Detention Centre to Robin and...



Ye Gads! -
A Straight Batman?

-Bob Luther

Hi, Dicklepoo-

How's Brucie's favorite ward doing? I suppose the school is getting to be a bit of a headache what with all the new popularity of secret agents these days. That was a clever idea you had opening "Robin's School For Fledgling Spies", after I was sent up here. I still think it would have been a better idea if you had kept the bar open, but if the school is doing well, as it certainly must be, I'm happy. And you must be too...teaching Jimsie Bond and Napol Solo and Illia, Smart and the gang. Do any of them ask for me?

Most everything's fine up here. Captain Marvel and I meet in the library every day or so and pen a few more lines of our autobiographies- (I'm still furious about the way they removed the official biographies from the newsstands)- he's such a camp, sometimes. You know how we used to shout SHAZAM and come out wearing that beautiful off-the-shoulder cape { I wish I had asked Bal-inciaga to design ours, too), well, they've taken his uniform away. Now each time he gets upset with the guards, he hollers SHAZAM and runs around nude. The warden gets furious, but the inmates just love it!

Superman is doing as well as can be expected; under the circumstances. I did tell you, I think, that they padded his tights with Kryptonite, but he sulks most of the time and scratches progaphic messages on the wall. He tells me he's worried about Jimmy and Lois. Is it true they left the Daily Planet and are now on a lecture tour with the Vienna Choir Boys? Supes would love ~~TEXT~~ for you to try to contact them and ask them to drop him a line now and then. Personally, I think it was sweet of them to name their first child after old Supes... especially after what he called Lois when she caught him in a phonebooth with Jimmy.

Holy smokes, ~~dd~~ did we have a commotion in the compound last Friday. It all started when Kayto told Wonder Woman that he found a love letter from that Jackanapes Plasticman to the Green Hornet. Needless to say, WO WO, as she's called here, was furious. They got into an argument and Plas said something nasty to her (something about her bullet proof bracelets not being as campy and Mr. Clean's earring) and a fight be-

gan. Finally, the Warden broke it up and he and Plas made some sort of agreement whereby Plas gets free run of the prison if he makes periodic trips to the Warden's ~~office~~ office. You should hear the gossip!

So what's new on the outside? The grapevine has it that something is going on between Mark Trail and Steve Roper. Fill me in on all the dirt. And is it true that Schroeder's got the hots for Snoopy? Oh, I hope not. It could be a real mess in the courts and Lucy's just the one to take it that far.

Lord only knows what this new musical about Superman is going to be like. Supes feels if they MUST do it, they should get Channing ~~to~~ play his part. She has the voice and with a little padding....

But, as you probably guessed, the real reason for this letter is to get more explanation on the sudden publicity we're all getting now. I just happened to be in the TV room with that sick Sub Mariner (he's still talking about the time he had 16 Navy frogmen at one time - under water) and who should come on the screen but ME!

BUT WHAT'S ALL THIS REFERECNE TO GIRLS? I never had anything to do with girls as you full well know. (Beside the time that prude Blondie when she said I couldn't come around to see Elmer except when Dagwood was home.) And what's this ~~an~~ "Aunt" who's supposed to be keeping house for us? Can you imagine me letting a woman in MY kitchen? I don't like it one little bit and I think you should go to Mike Quill and see if he can arrange a strike. If you can't get any satisfaction from him, complain to the homophile movement. They can picket. (Lord knows they picket for everything else.) But, Robbie, love, do SOMETHING! Our good names and reputations are at stake.

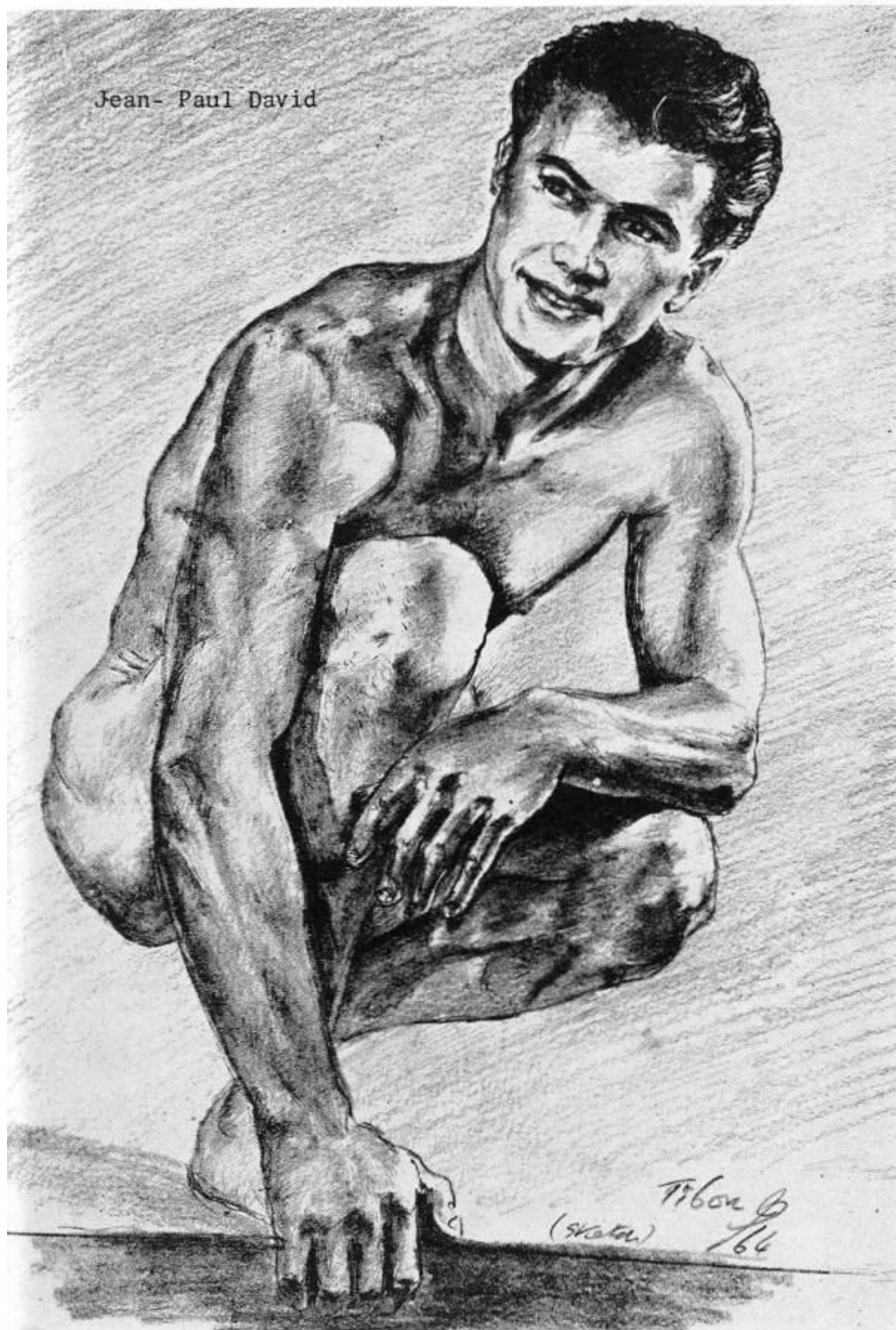
Well, so long for now, sweets. Come up and see me soon. I miss you (ha ha). You could pack a picnic lunch and ride up with Dr. Wert-ham. I hear he's doing a sequel: "The Seduction of the Innocent Strikes Again!"

As ever,



Brucie

Jean- Paul David



TIME

THE WEEKLY FICTION MAGAZINE

The first issue of *Fact* magazine featured a devastating attack on *Time*, calling *Time*, among other things, the weekly fiction magazine. *Fact* was devoted to quotes from Tallulah Bankhead, Bertram Russell and other famous persons from diverse fields who seemed to have only one thing in common— an agreement that *Time* was "slanted, inaccurate, and distorted."

On January 21, *Time* had its fling at homosexuals. As *Sexology* editor, Isadore Rubin, wrote shortly after the "essay" appeared: "It would take a book to answer it," but, for fear that some homosexuals might be so brainwashed by the current heterosexual view that homosexuals are, in fact, "periciously sick" and undesirable as human beings, Drum will attempt to make *Time* timely.

The "Experts"

Time relied on a variety of "experts" to support its outdated conclusions. David (the atrical producer) Merrick is the first. His credentials as a homosexuality expert are dubious enough, but, ironically, he is quoted elsewhere as saying: "There is not a single word of truth in *Time* magazine." That reservation notwithstanding, *Time* finds that he finds "you have to scrape them off the ceiling."

The second witness for the prosecution is Los Angeles psy-

chiatrist, Dr. Edward Stainbrook. He insisted, to a Drum reporter, that he was quoted "incompletely." He claims that his interview with *Time* concerned the myth that homosexuals were more creative than heterosexuals. He answered, accurately, that they were not more creative. Translated into *Timesese*, this became the statement that homosexuals were "artistic failures."

Maugham?

Further along the *Time* "expert" trail, we find, of all people, novelist Somerset Maugham, termed as "no less an authority." *Time* dug up an old Maugham quote holding that homosexuals lacked "strength" which is especially curious for both the now-dead writer's lack of authority and for the fact that Maugham was, himself, a homosexual.

In its effort to convince its readers that homosexuals are, indeed, sick, *Time* ignored studies* which are well-respected in the psychiatric field and resurrected the ghost of Edmund Bergler. Bergler was a "quick-cure" artist whose books are considered, even among those psychiatrists who accept his basic position that homosexuality is a neurosis, as the work

**Time might have discussed, for instance, Irving Bieber's well respected, if unconvincing findings.*

of a publicity seeking monte-bank. Bergler is so outdated, that one homosexual was forced to comment that quoting him was akin to using Edsel advertisements to sell Thunderbirds.

Slithy Toves

It is difficult to read the essay without achieving the impression that the *Time* editors were discussing slithy toves and not human flesh. There was only a passing effort to tell the truth about homosexuals and that was quickly dissipated in discussions of homosexuals as sycophants to dowagers, "conspiring" interior decorators and the like. The "crux," to *Time* is "that most homosexuals apparently do not desire a cure," which barely veils the disdain held for such recalcitrants. The homophile movement is referred to as a "phenomenon" and *Time* notes that "even" the White House was picketed.

In truth, what *Time* has done is to draw a picture of what many of the so-called "enlightened" heterosexuals currently think about homosexuals. In that the essay is virtually faultless. The first paragraph takes note of the uncertainty surrounding the greater visibility and public awareness of homosexuality, but the essay adds no clarity, no information, no insight and no compassion to that uncertainty.

It is speculated that *Time*

overplayed its hand and, in so doing, could have defeated its own purposes. The myths surrounding homosexuals are perpetuated by the dark and the exposure of them in a weekly with almost 3,000,000 circulation accords them more light than they can comfortably withstand. The homosexual has nothing to fear from the truth about homosexuality and not much more from the kind of fiction *Time* reported.

JSA Letter

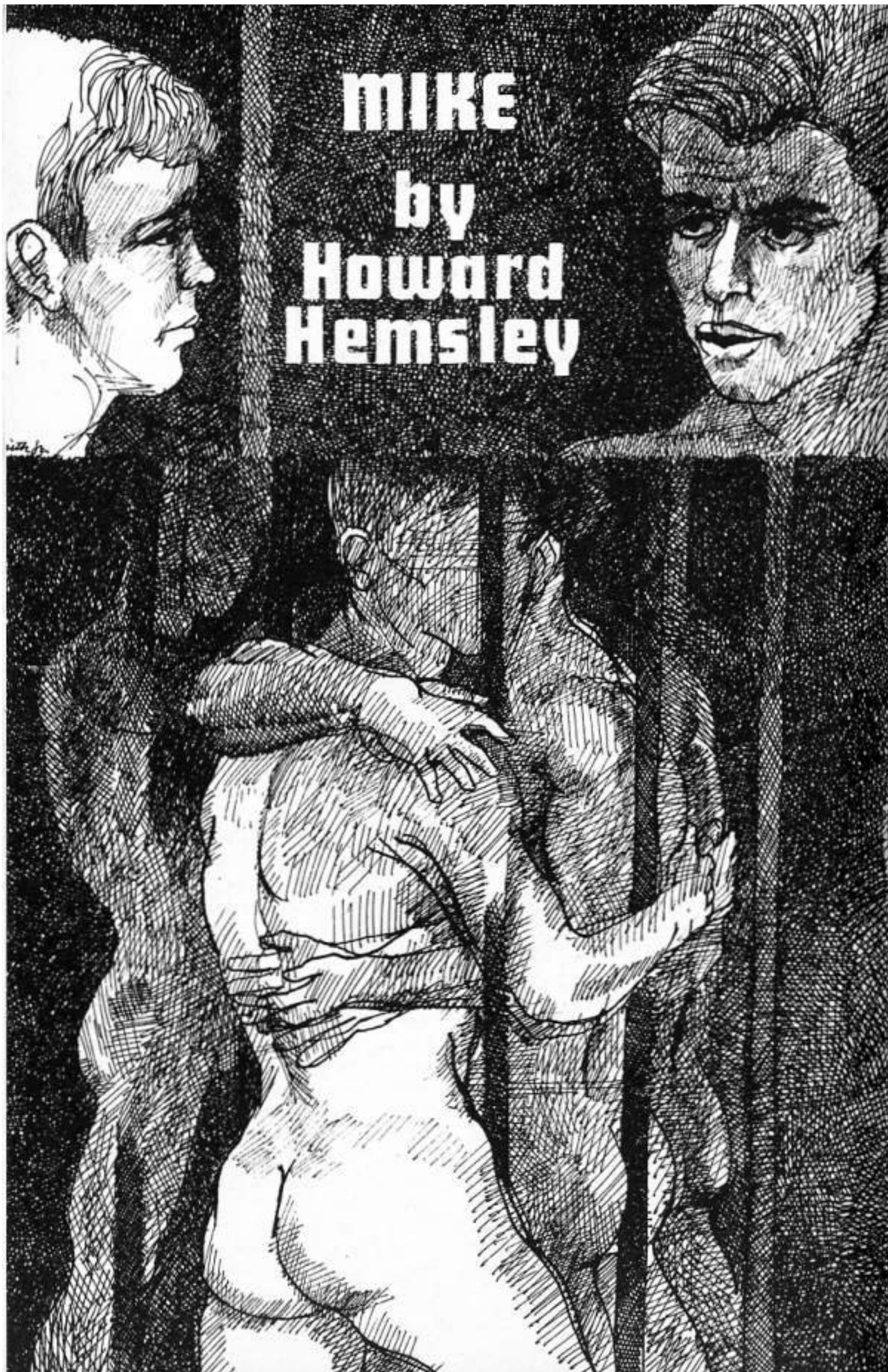
The following letter was addressed to the editor of *Time* though, at Drum presstime, it was not published.

"*Time's* essay on homosexuals is Catholic without being catholic. In casually tossing all homosexuals into the class of the "perniciously sick," and oh-so-dangerous Martians, you pay short shrift to the mounting body of evidence which has found such allegations to be so much 'arm chair theorizing.'" To

draw the psychiatrists argument further, we might come to the unlikely conclusion that heterosexuality is caused by a disabling fear of the same sex. Your widest error, however, lies in failing to echo the enlightened call for legal reform. To paraphrase Voltaire, we must blush for *Time*.



MIKE
by
Howard
Hemsley



The guard checked the door, making sure it was locked. Mike watched, trying not to seem interested. As soon as the guard had completed his cell check, Mike got up from his bed and walked to the cell door. He reached to the top of the bars, where the two doors came together, and removed the metal plate which had held them closed when the guard had pulled on them. Silently, he slid open one door and removed the slug that he had fashioned to fit into the groove of the hasp. He stood in the doorway, pausing before moving quietly down the tier.

Once again, he had outsmarted them. He felt the illusion of being absolutely free and was a bit heady with daring. Every sense was alerted, aware of the myriad sounds and smells and shadows that populated the cellblock. As he walked, he sifted them all - ever watchful for those that meant trouble.

A toilet flushed. He looked; the sound had come from a nearby cell. Its occupant, a sanctimonious prude who had discovered "religion" only after he himself had been discovered at burglary, had just completed masturbating. Mike grinned and resisted the impulse to speak and remembered: "There are only two kinds of liars: those that say they don't and those that say they'll stop."

Mike had never even bothered to lie about it all, he never pretended to be anything more than human, but after the first year in jail, it had gotten to be a bore. Even the erotic stories and pictures that were furtively circulated didn't help much. In time, they, too, lost their ability to arouse. Then Mike discovered boys. He had heard a lot about how good

it was with a queer, how it was almost as good as with a woman, but he had never paid much attention to it. Most skuttlebutt turned out to be untrue. Still, he began to search and to experiment.

Mike was twenty-four, leanly muscular, dark and had handsomely rugged features. In short, he had the merchandise, and there was no lack of customers. In the beginning, he approached only the known homosexuals. They were only too eager to initiate him with all appropriate rites and ceremonies. When he had sampled the best of these, he cast about for likely prospects. In the two years since, Mike had become a veritable expert in boy seduction. Of course, he didn't look at it that way at all. All he was doing was helping them find the rationale to do what they really wanted to do, but couldn't - or wouldn't.

In time, he had become a celebrity, the "booty-bandit" they called him, envying him his conquests. It got to the point where Mike would pick out one lad in a group of newly arrived inmates and announce, "He's mine," and no one would doubt that sooner or later the newcomer would, indeed, be his. Even with boys, though, the excitement was waning. Whatever thrill Mike had gotten from boys or girls came from the playing, not the winning. The sex was just the way to keep score. In net effect, it differed surprisingly little from the solitary sex of the past. So, mainly out of boredom, Mike had embarked on his career of chalking up bodies on an ever-lengthening list, finding temporary release in a new body, a new score.

As he strode silently along

the darkened tier, Mike wondered why he was going to all this trouble just for a score. After all, things never seemed right; something was always missing. Once in a while, he'd meet a kid that he liked and who seemed different from the others, but it all turned out the same in the end. They'd go everywhere together: chow, recreation, movies and even sick-call and everyone - jailers and jailed alike - would watch and wait for the inevitable ending when Mike would score, lose interest and then abandon the boy. Anyway, he was careful not to get too involved with any of them. After all, it was okay to have one of them blow you or let you screw him, but that was as far as it went, unless you were a queer. No emotion, no kissing, no warmth. Only sex. And sex was the reason Mike climbed towards his goal, five tiers up.

2,745 gay bars!

Do you know the gay places to go? With The World Report Travel Guide you'll know for sure...with listings for 2,745 congenial bars, hotels and lively beaches... where the action is, in 654 towns in the U.S. and 82 foreign countries. For a free descriptive brochure write: *Dept. D World Report Travel Guide P.O. Box 231, Grand Central New York, N.Y. 10017*

Tonight he'd win. The kid, Barry, had agreed.

Barry had heard the nearly inaudible sound of Mike's bare feet on the concrete steps. He had tensed and was anxious, expectant and afraid as he waited for Mike to appear. Now Mike was in front of the cell, a few feet from the bars, gazing at him. He was sitting on his cot, a towel wrapped around his middle, and could only smile in answer to Mike's whispered "Hi."

He had been so naive, and Mike remembered how difficult it had been to tell the blonde-haired, blue-eyed, baby-faced kid that he wanted his body; innuendo hadn't worked - he had been forced to spell it out exactly. When Barry finally did understand, he stared into Mike's eyes for a time and replied, simply, "Okay."

Now Barry had the same staring look on his face, camouflaged with a weak smile. But he was glad Mike had been able to come. This would be alright. He could never have submitted in the shower where anyone could come along and see them. This way, everyone else was locked up. Mike had even said the bars wouldn't be that much of a problem. Mike knew. Mike cared. Mike was big and strong and smart and handsome and kind. Mike was the nicest, kindest person Barry had ever met. He had made this nightmare of a prison become bearable and, at times, even fun. Barry didn't care what anyone said about Mike, he knew Mike and Mike liked him - that's all that counted.

Mike moved toward the bars and the boy. Barry got up and faced him. Neither moved. Then Barry flung his arms around Mike's neck and clutched him close. For an instant, Mike

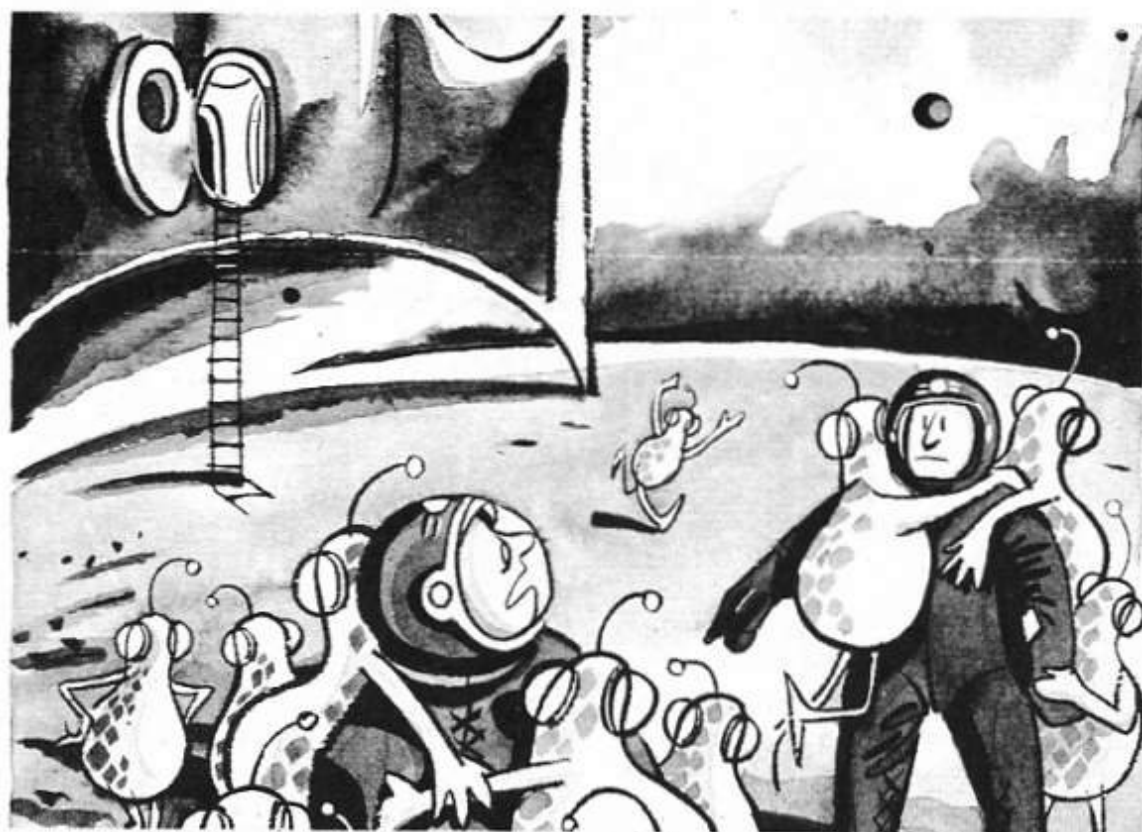
was completely taken aback, then he, too, pulled his partner close, his reservations disappearing under the touch, the smell, the warmth of the boy's body. Barry whispered, his lips brushing on Mike's chest, "I love you, Mike. I love you." Mike started and pulled away, looking quizzically at Barry. This wasn't in the script at all. The boy looked at Mike, but avoided his eyes. "That isn't why you came, is it?" Not waiting for an answer, he loosened the towel and let it fall to the floor. Next, he turned around and stood with his knees trembling slightly and his back and buttocks pressed against the bars. Mike could only stare. He had marvelled at Barry's body at numerous shower calls- now it was his to do with as he liked. Still, he didn't feel like he had accomplished anything.

"What's wrong?" asked Barry.

Mike didn't answer. He reached through the bars slowly and placed a hand on the boy's shoulder, turning him around. Tears had formed at the corners of Barry's eyes.

"Don't cry, Barry. It's...." But he couldn't explain his unwillingness. He looked at the stripped boy in front of him and brushed the tears from his face. "It's just that..." and the boy continued to cry silently.

Mike was walking away when the voice shouted: "Two faggots kissing on Number Eight Tier." He stood for a moment, not comprehending. "Faggot! Queer! Faggot! Queer!" the voice screamed as Mike began to recognize that the words were directed at him. "Queer, queer, queer," the chant continued as he started the run back to his cell and even after he had thrown himself on his bed and pretended to be asleep.



"I just hope they're girls. I'd hate to lose my security clearance."

homosexuals: -1965

Several major changes and attempts at changes in the states' attitude toward the crime of sodomy marked 1965 as the most important legal year for homosexuals. The most clear-cut, at least short term victory, occurred in Ohio (Drum, May). The Ohio Supreme Court declared that state's law penalizing solicitation for "unnatural sex acts" unconstitutional on the grounds of vagueness - it is, in that court's opinion, "totally impossible to define the phrase 'unnatural sex act' in a manner that will accomplish a legitimate legislative purpose." Enlightenment in Ohio ends there, however, for the court quickly added that it was in sympathy with views that homosexual solicitation should be regulated; but, in a constitutional manner.

The most widely noted action occurred in New York where the legislature overwhelmingly approved a variation of the American Law Institute's Model Penal Code which eliminates sodomy as a crime and then passed an amendment reinstituting it as a crime (Drum, Sept.). The overall significance of this burnabout action is that the Catholic Church here reared its ugly, moralistic head and effectively blocked reform. It can be expected, unfortunately, that the Church will continue to call for the maintenance of anti-homosexual laws wherever the liberalizing of them becomes a public issue.

The only reform the West Coast had to contribute was the introduction and passage of a

bill to make homosexual prostitution a crime in California.

North Carolina produced a liberalization which might prove to be a bane rather than a boon. In response to the national publicity surrounding the Max Doyle Perkins case (Drum, April), sodomy penalties were dropped from their 5 to 30 year status to misdemeanors carrying jail sentences of not more than two years. There is considerable speculation that so reducing these jail terms might result in larger numbers of homosexuals being committed for the shorter term.

Similarly, Pennsylvania introduced a penal reform bill that, if for no reason other than its late introduction, never was reported out of committee. This reform, to be reintroduced in 1967, would have reduced the sodomy penalty from a maximum of 10 years and/or a \$5,000 fine to a maximum one year jail sentence.

Homosexuals gained a significant victory on the Federal level. A Federal court of appeals found that non-specific charges of homosexual conduct were insufficient cause to disqualify an applicant for Federal civil service employment. In other words, in order to disqualify an applicant from the Federal service it would first be necessary to prove specific instances of homosexual conduct as opposed to mere allegations of such (Drum, Sept.).

Also in Washington, the police have adopted a policy long advocated by the homophile

movement - the placing of uniformed officers, as opposed to plainclothesmen, in public areas known to be frequented by homosexuals. The dramatic result of this action was the 175 fewer arrests in 1965.

In the theatre, and to a lesser extent, in the movies, homosexuals were depicted in great frequency during calendar 1965. All portrayals, however, are thoroughly devoid of affectional displays.

Internationally, the matter that most focused attention on homosexuals and the law was the British House of Lords' acceptance, in principle, of the Wolfenden Committee's suggestion that private homosexual acts of adults should no longer be considered criminal (Drum, Sept.).

1965 also saw the death of Florida's infamous Johns Committee which was responsible for the production of the so-called *Purple Report* which was banned as obscene shortly after it was released.

The view often expressed that homosexual support would doom any candidate or political issue to a quick death itself was dealt a bit of acid with political candidates in San Francisco addressing a homophile meeting (Drum, Dec.) and local political measures in Miami passing in spite of the vocal efforts of the now disbanded Athenium Society in favor of the bills.

In terms of the homophile movement, plans were laid in 1965 for a meeting of all homophile leaders in the United States to attempt to formulate a better coordinated action program. Each active homophile organization reports increase in membership and strength. Picketing and other peaceful

demonstrations have come to be integral parts of movement strategy. At least one West Coast group has begun to assume its responsibility towards the homosexual public in attempting to continue to fill the homosexual's cultural vacuum.

In summation, it would seem reasonable to mention the phenomenal success Drum Magazine has achieved in the past year in capturing the imagination of the homosexual world. Never before in America has so frank a homosexual magazine, containing so wide a range of material been presented and accepted on the open market. It is doubtful that Drum could have existed a few short years ago when *Fanny Hill* was deemed unfit for American bookshelves.

- Clark P. Polak

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ask drum

I find, to my utter astonishment, the lack of any readily available literature on the prevention and treatment of venereal diseases. What can you supply? W.L.B., Little Rock

Every reasonably promiscuous person should have a blood test at least twice a year and one following any suspected contact, orgy, visit to a turkish bath, etc. This blood test will determine whether or not you have syphilis. Of course, you can sometimes tell that you have syphilis with the appearance of a sore or what is known as a chancre (shank-er). This symptom can appear about three to four weeks after infection. However - and this is the most dangerous aspect of syphilis - it might never appear; it might not show the classical signs; or it might appear on an area of the body not readily visible (for instance, inside the rectum). There is no method short of blood tests to be positive that you are not infected with syphilis.

Gonorrhea is somewhat easier to detect for the simple reason that, unlike syphilis, there is almost always pain and discharge associated with it. If contracted in the penis, there is generally a steady flow of pus-like discharge accompanied by pain, especially during urination, and, often, the head of the penis becomes quite sensitive and inflamed. The symptoms of gonorrhea when contracted anally are not as easy to detect, but are generally the same. Symptoms appear within

two to fourteen days.

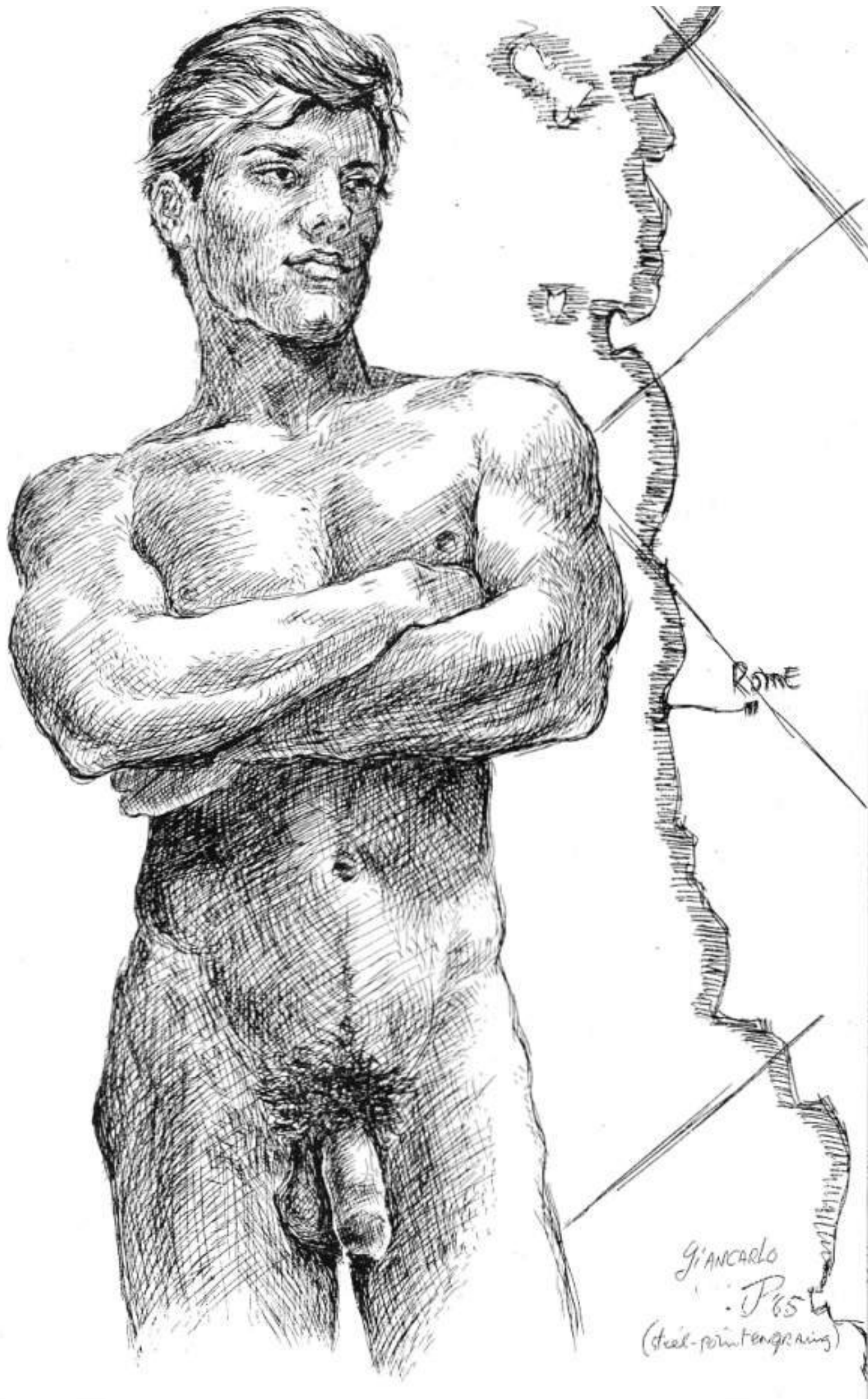
It is possible and even likely that a person infected with gonorrhea also has syphilis.

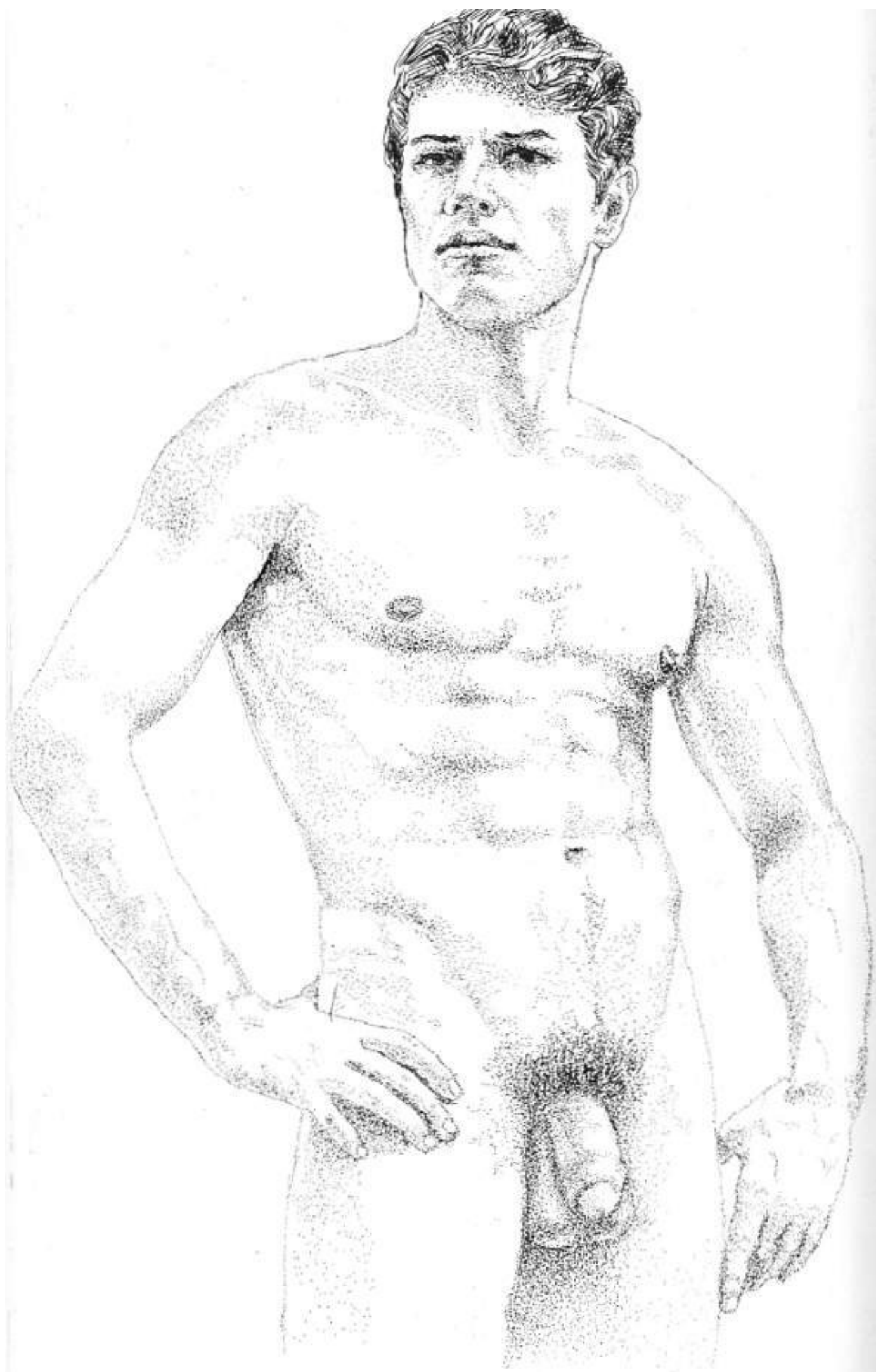
Venereal diseases are contracted through sexual contacts, period. Stories of infection through toilet seats or the like are *false*. It is impossible with any method other than total abstention or limiting sexual contacts to partners within a "closed circle" of persons who *never* go outside of that circle, to be guaranteed of immunity from venereal diseases.

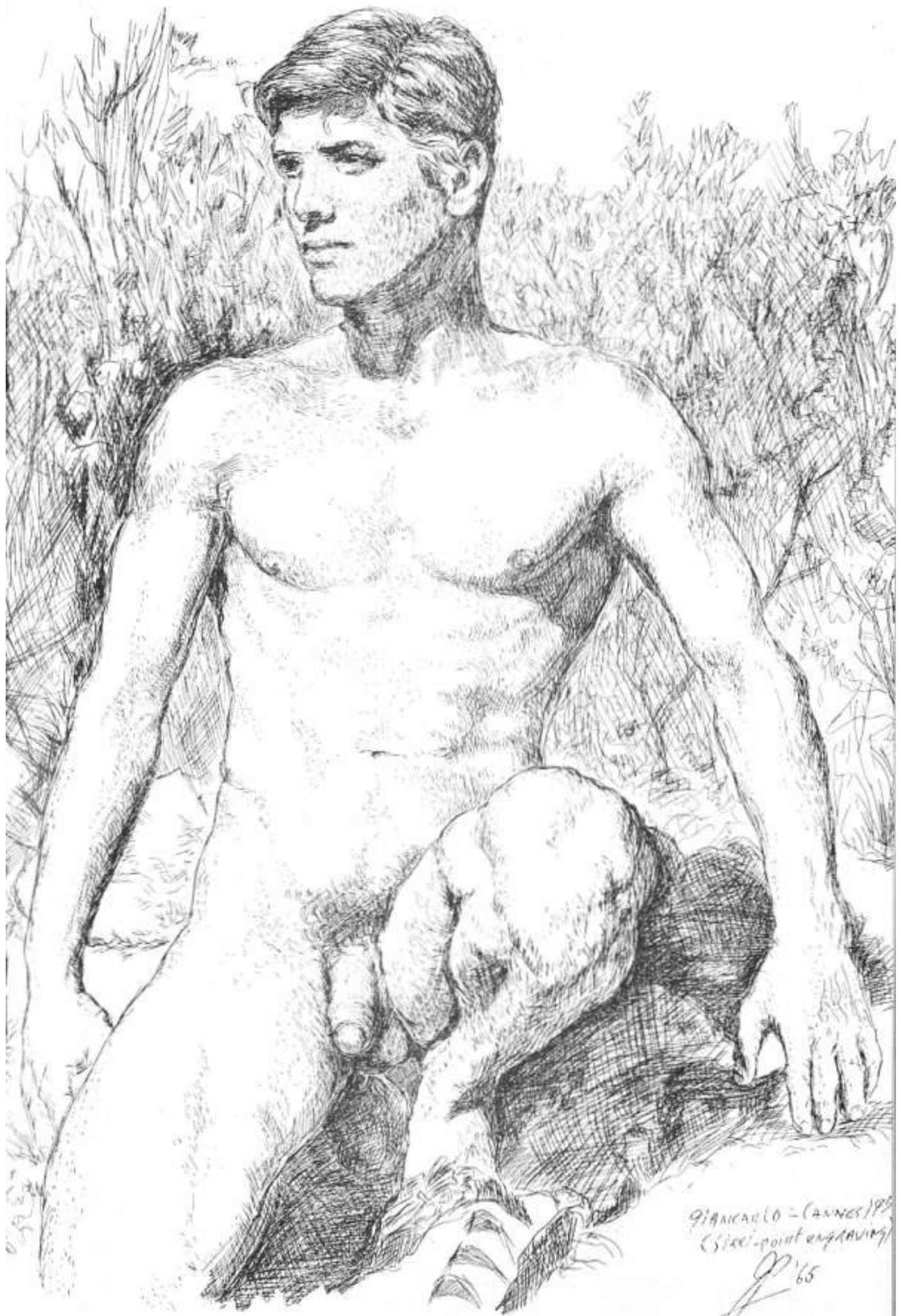
There are no vaccines, though research is currently being conducted and vaccines might be available in the far distant future.

Thorough washing with large amounts of warm, soapy water immediately after sexual relations can help as a preventative - sometimes. So-called "pro-kits" are available in most pharmacies and, if the directions thereon are followed closely, there can be a measure of protection.

It should be remembered that there is no absolute protection. Treatment for both is fast, relatively inexpensive and thoroughly effective. VD is not a homosexual disease - it is common among promiscuous heterosexuals - and, in most cases, it is impossible for a physician to determine whether the disease was contracted through a heterosexual or homosexual contact. Consequently, unless you admit to your homosexual contact, you can hold, virtually (Continued on page 25)









news

(Continued from page 7) female dancers, performed a "modern" ballet in which the dancers stripped naked. The press reported the Swedes were bored.

San Francisco: Jefferson Poland, the founder of the Sexual Freedom League who was arrested last year for his "nude-in" at Aquatic Park, still on probation for the offense, asked a Superior Court Judge for a writ of habeas corpus on the grounds that the city's anti-nude bathing law is "vague in its wording" and pre-empted by existing State laws.

The position taken by the League's counsel, John E. Droeger, is that the city is powerless to legislate in the area of nudity, including against a person's walking down Market Street nude.

The judge asked the District Attorney to offer counter arguments and the D.A. requested and was granted a one-week continuance in order to think some up.

French Riviera: Geoffrey Bocca reports in the Jan., 1966 *Playboy* that the nudists who frequent the Ile du Levant are only "apparently unattached."

"The observer soon notices that the girls are very much attached- to each other, and so are the boys. In the *discotheques* one usually sees only a few couples dancing together, several girls dancing together and a lot of men and boys sitting around a bottle of wine, talking. Both sexes gild the lily by making it a practice of displaying a fringe of pubic

hair around the three sides of the cloth (that they must wear inside the *discotheques*). Formerly the *minimum* had a second string which passed between the legs and was tied to the lateral string at the back. Last year's *minimum* came without the second string. It hung loose and flapped as one moved."

MILWAUKEE

The operator of the *Seaway Inn* was accused of storing a motorcycle in an unauthorized place and with having an obscene statue on top of his refrigerator. Reports did not describe the statue.

ALBERTA, CANADA

Two men, one 16 and one 19, were sentenced to prison after the chief prosecution witness testified: "They took my wallet and I was smashed over the head with a beer bottle."

Defense counsel tried, unsuccessfully to show that the two defendants were picked up at a downtown bar "known to be patronized by homosexuals," and were brought to an all male party with "some dancing." A fight was claimed to have broken out shortly after the two youths arrived and they were merely taking an injured person for medical treatment.

NEWARK

Authorities "exposed a house of torture" which they say catered to a nationwide clientele of masochistic thrill-seekers. Prior to the arrest, a Sheriff's deputy entered the house posing as a customer and was ordered by a "statuesque blonde woman, wearing a leather jacket and boots and brandishing a whip" to strip. He did and as he was about to receive some of the specialty of the house, other

detectives, stationed outside, became impatient and stormed the premises.

Found in the 16-room gabled house were hundreds of whips, racks where customers could be strapped and handcuffed with mirrors nearby so they could "reflect on the punishment."

The majority of the woman's \$50-for-90-minutes-of-"pleasure" customers are presumed heterosexuals.

DALTON, GA.

Two more men, one of them a Baptist minister and the other a lingerie salesman, have been arrested and charged with homosexual acts with teenagers.

This brings to three (DRUM, Feb.) the number of persons so charged in Dalton's recent past.

MIAMI

Two Dade county detectives termed Coconut Grove as being a "hotbed" of homosexual activity and estimated that there are 35,000 to 50,000 homosexuals in the County. "We have arrested seven school teachers as well as some doctors and ministers," bragged the officers.

CALIFORNIA

Laguna Beach: The Alcoholic Beverage Control Board considered suspending or revoking the licenses of *Barefoot Bar* and *Dante's Regents and Surf Room* on the grounds that the bars are part of the "center of homosexual activity in the city." City Manager James Wheaton said: "We hope to prove to the hearing board that there is substantial evidence of immoral activity generating from these two bars, enough to warrant revocation of their licenses."

San Francisco: *Vector* reports that a man was denied automo-

bile insurance on the grounds that he was a suspected homosexual.

PRISONS

Menard, Ill.: An official of a prison guards union said that the transfer of homosexuals out of State Penitentiary could have been one of the causes for a recent prison riot in which several guards were stabbed.

"There's quite a bit of fighting over them," the union official confirmed.

Wichita: An *Eagle* staff reporter has discovered homosexuality in Kansas' penal institutions. Even if there was an almost one - to - one ratio of prisoners to staff and enough individual cells, "there's always a restroom, broom and mop closet, a supply room or a multitude of semi-secluded areas where these individuals can dodge for brief moments," the story ran.

New York City: The grand jury investigating conditions at the Women's House of Detention (DRUM, July) has reported that the institution was not the "snake pit and hell hole" that inmates have called it. The jury contradicted reports that lesbianism was either tolerated or condoned. However, one prostitute just released from the jail looked incredulous and asked: "Are you sure we're talking about the same place? When those girls see someone they want they practically rip the clothes off a girl's back."

NICE, FRANCE

W. Somerset Maugham, writer and homosexual, died in December at the age of 91.



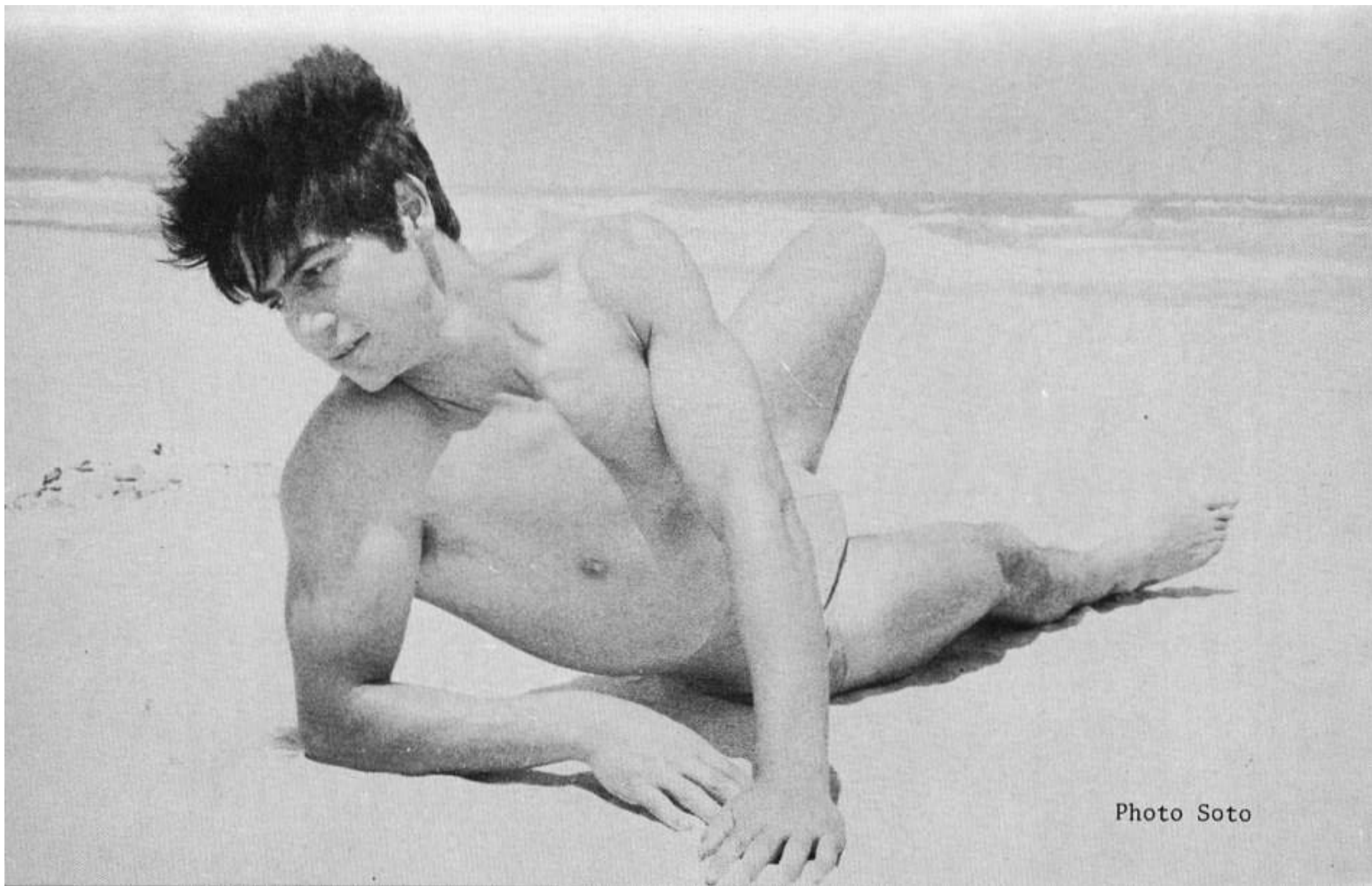


Photo Soto

books

In his *Nicomachean Ethics*, a philosophical treatise of the 4th century B.C., Aristotle offers the view that *philia*(love) cannot exist except between equals. In Greek terms, of course, this meant only between two men, and this view explains the fact that in the warrior societies of Sparta and Thebes, in the international trade center of Corinth, and in the intellectual capital of Athens, men sought and found love with other men, without, as a consequence, having to suffer loss of reputation, status, or respectability.

Although many other Greek writers and poets dealt with this social and emotional theme, its earliest and most influential expression is to be found in Homer's *Iliad*, the epic poem composed around the 8th or 9th century B.C. about an incident that took place during the siege of Troy, a city in what is now western Anatolia, about two hundred years earlier.

The story of the *Iliad* concerns a quarrel between Achilles, the greatest of the Greek warrior-heroes, and Agamemnon, the commander-in-chief of the Greek armies surrounding Troy. As a result of this dispute, Achilles withdraws from the army and sulks in his tent, alone except for his devoted comrade - in - arms and boyhood friend, Patroclus. In the absence of Achilles, the Greeks are severely beaten by the Trojan army. Patroclus, a gentle and loyal young man, is sympathetic to the defeated Greeks and prevails on Achilles to al-

low him to go to their aid. After a pathetic series of courageous exploits, Patroclus is killed by Hector, the Trojan champion. Achilles is overwhelmed by grief and guilt, for he loved Patroclus more than any other human being. He makes up his quarrel with Agamemnon, rejoins the Greek army, and avenges the death of his beloved by killing Hector. The poem ends with Achilles and Priam, the father of Hector, alone together mourning their departed loved ones, a profound closing since, in Greek society, intense emotional relationships were possible only between men, whether lovers, platonic companions, or fathers and sons.

Homer tells the moving story of Achilles and Patroclus with the utmost of delicate reserve and avoids any explicit mention of the carnal, but that the two were lovers is impossible to doubt, for only this can explain the intensity of feeling Achilles has for his friend and the lengths of self-abasement to which he goes in his mourning.

The two young heroes had been companions since boyhood. They had grown up together, sharing all the binding experiences of adolescence, including, as was not uncommon in the bisexual Greek world, occasional interludes with maidens, but these unsatisfying experiments with women only bound them closer to each other. At Troy, Achilles and Patroclus slept in the same tent, they ate the same food, shared the same clothing, weapons, horses and women. They eagerly sought each other's

companionship, whether to talk over the events of the day or their innermost feelings, to sing or play the lyre, or just to sit quietly together in the warm intimacy that only lovers share.

Whenever Achilles speaks to his comrade, he calls him "dear Patroclus," a usage not duplicated elsewhere in the *Iliad* and in itself a sure indication of the nature of their relationship. Moreover, in Book VI, for example, when the sensitive Patroclus bursts into tears and is unable to report the losses suffered by the defeated Greeks, Achilles gently tries to comfort him by saying:

Wherefore weepest thou,
Patroclus, *like a fond little maid*, that runs by her mother's side, and bids her mother take her up, snatching at her gown...like her, dear Patroclus, doest thou let fall soft tears...Speak out, and hide it not within thy spirits, that we may both know all.

The simile chosen by Achilles in the above passage says all that needs to be said.

The decisive duel between Achilles and Hector in Book XXII of the *Iliad* ends with the untimely death of Patroclus avenged. Homer has made this not merely a fight between two champions. It is also an archetypal conflict between two opposed principles of life. Achilles, the virile warrior-hero motivated by male love, symbolizes freedom from artificial restraint and true manhood. Hector, the dull family man with wife and child, is the representative of conventional, puritanical morality. It is typical of the Greek attitude toward sexuality that Homer makes Achilles the victor, and

there is, perhaps, a revealing bit of Freudian symbolism in the mutilation of the corpse of Hector by Achilles, a comment that real manliness lies in the assertion of natural impulse and the courage to give oneself in *philia* to his true equal and soul-mate.

-Bob Milch

ask drum

(Continued from page 20) without fear of contradiction, that you became infected from a female prostitute. Fear that an individual's homosexuality will become an issue when being treated is sometimes a deterrent to seeking proper medical care. It need not be.

VD, as Randolphe Wicker wrote, is no camp and the moral obligation to contact all persons who might have become infected through you is not an easy one to fulfill. With semi-anonymous sexual contacts as the rule rather than the exception, it is not always possible to inform others that you might have infected them. The moral obligation to do so, however, is clear.

The occurrence of venereal disease is no longer confined to lower class, non-whites (though the incidence there remains extraordinarily high) and, indeed, in some larger metropolitan areas, syphilis and gonorrhea have reached epidemic proportions. The only way to stem this rising tide is to make conscientious efforts to contact all persons with whom you have had sexual congress within the period of your infection.



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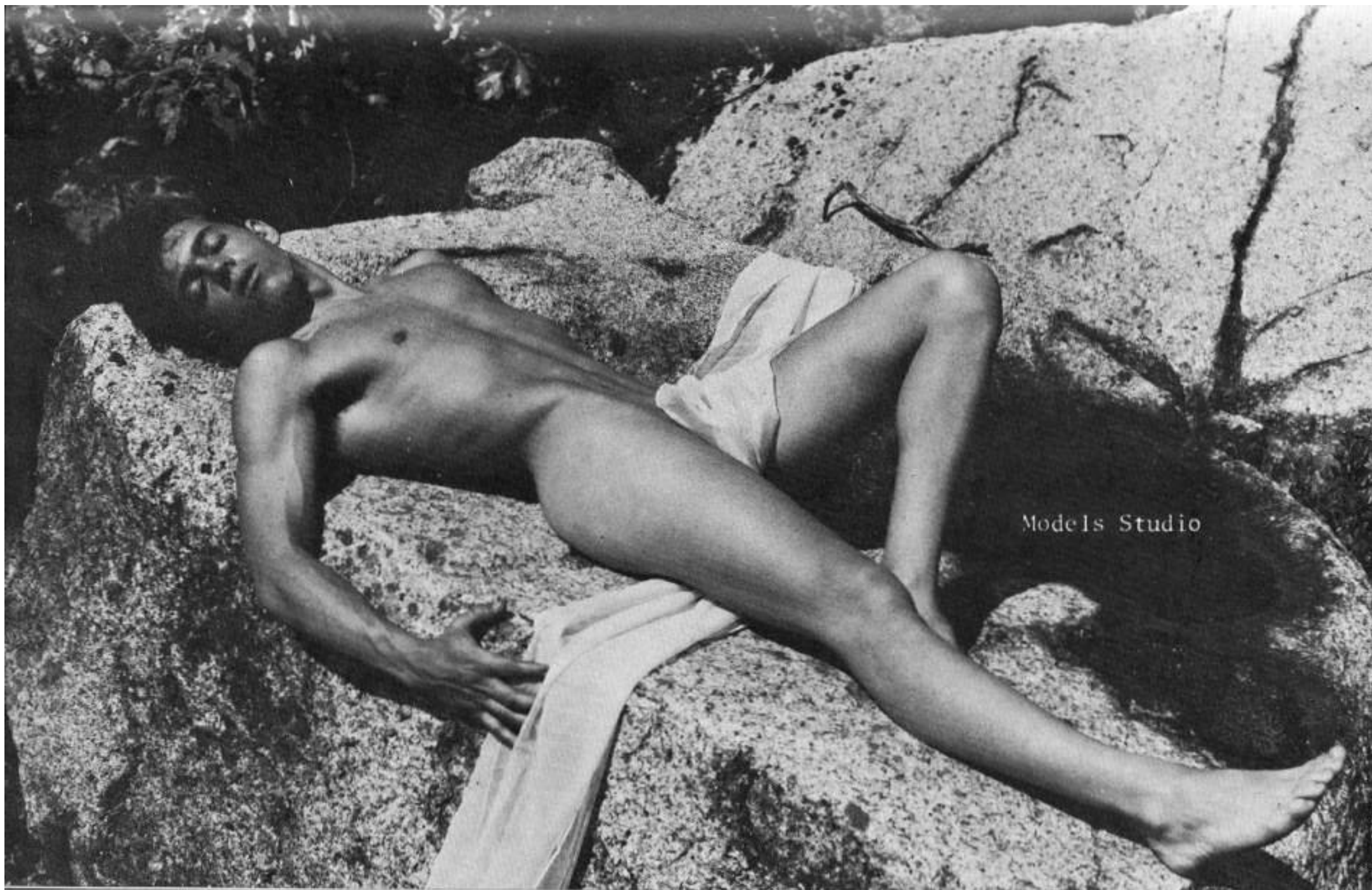
and
wake up
feeling
yourself
again!



-West Virginia Univer-
sity's *The Old Wazoo*



-New York Times



Models Studio

homophile movement

The groups listed below represent what is collectively known as the homophile movement. The purposes of each group and the methods they employ to reach their goals often differ widely, but the paramount objective of all the groups is to improve the social and legal status of homosexuals and others of deviating sexual orientations.

Interested adults wishing information about the specific

goals, services offered and membership requirements should contact the groups directly.

Each state should have at least one homophile organization to help coordinate legal reform and to promote human understanding of homosexuality and homosexuals. The Janus Society of America is prepared to provide details on the qualifications necessary to begin a homophile organization to all wishing them.

Janus Society of America, 34 S. 17th St.
Phila. Pa. 19103
(215) LO 3-9414

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Box 792
San Francisco, Calif.

*Daughters of Bilitis
1232 Market Street
San Francisco, Calif.
441 West 28th St.
New York, N. Y.
Box 4497
Chicago, Illinois

Demophile Center
15 Lindall Place
Boston, Mass. 02114

Dionysus
Post Office Box 804
Huntington Beach, Calif.

Florida Mattachine
Post Office Box 301
Miami, Florida 33101

Mattachine Midwest
4753 Broadway
Chicago, Ill. 60640

Mattachine Society, Inc.
693 Mission Street
San Francisco, Calif.

Mattachine Society, Inc.
of N.Y., 1133 Broadway
New York, N. Y.

Nat'l League for Social
Understanding, 8214 Sunset
Blvd., Los Angeles, Calif.

One, Inc.
2256 Venice Blvd.
Los Angeles, Calif. 90006

Philadelphia Mattachine
Society, Box 804
Philadelphia, Pa.

Society for Individual
Rights, Box 5526
San Francisco, Calif.

Tangents
3473½ Cahuenga Blvd.
Hollywood, Calif. 90028

Washington Mattachine
Society, Box 1032
Washington, D.C. 20013

Albany Trust
32 Shaftesbury Ave.
London W. 1, England

Arcadie
19 Rue Beranger
Paris, France

Assn. for Social Know-
ledge, Box 4277
Vancouver 9, B.C.

C.C.L., 29 Rue Van-Praet
Brussels, Belgium

C.O.C., Post box 542
Amsterdam, Holland

+Der Kreis, Postfach
Fraumunster 547, Zurich
Switzerland

+Der Weg, 211 Buchholz,
Postbox 150, c/o Wolf Prien
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die runde, 741 Reutlingen
Postbox 722, Germany

+EUROMALE, Oude Hoogstraat 11
Amsterdam-C, Netherlands

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Box 1023, Copenhagen
Denmark

+Gay Publishing Co.
980 Queen St., E.
Toronto, Ontario

Griffin-Verband, c/o Fritz
Schenke, 2000 Hamburg 11,
Germany

Homophile International
134 S. Woodside
Glasgow N.W., Scotland

*Minorities Research
Group, 41 Great Russell
London, England

+Tidsskriftet, Box 1840
Copenhagen, Denmark

+Vennen, Box 183
Copenhagen K, Denmark

Verband fuer freie Mutter-
schaft und sexuelle gleich-
berechtigung, Wien VII,
Piaristengasse 56-58 Austria

VhL, 6000 Frankfurt (Main)
Kettenhofweg 46
Germany

Forbundet av 1948
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Oslo, Norway

*Exclusively or primarily
lesbian.

+Publication only or
primarily.

the THUNDER-CLAP AFFAIR!

starring

HARRY Chess
AGENT 0068 1/8

that man From **Auntie**

The Scene: VIC-FRANNIE PRICKWICK, HEAD of the PENTAGON'S POLICE-BRUTALITY-AND-SECURITY FORCE, IS IN HIS PRIVATE OFFICE....

GOODIE!!

ALL ALONE...AT LAST!
NOW I CAN TAKE A
QUICKIE LOOK AT MY
FAVORITE MAG...
"JUSTICE WEAKLY!"



AS HE OPENS HIS SECRET DRAWER...
DEADLY FUMES SUDDENLY ESCAPE



HEE-HEE!! THAT
BLUE BAGEL GAS
NEVER FAILS!

MY NAME IS BLACKIE-BITCHARD VIXAN...
'N I'M M.U.C.K.'S* TOP CAT-BURGLAR!!
THESE SPIT-N-POLISH CREEPS ARE
ABOUT TO LOOSE THEIR
HIGHLY SECRET... AND
DEADLY NUCLEAR ROBOT..
THUNDER-CLAP FROM
RIGHT UNDER STUPID
NOSES! LITTLE DO
THEY KNOW THAT THEIR
PENTAGON-ALL-GAY-
SECURITY-FORCE IS
NO MATCH FOR
ME!!
SO THERE!!



*MANIACAL UNDERWORLD CONTROL KORP.



LAVENDER X SECTION
SHOW PASSES GIRLS... AND REMEMBER: MISS JEWEL-ERMINIA HOOVER IS WATCHING YOU !!!

OOH...IT WAS SO EASY WITH THIS HERE MOCHA-MORPHINE-DART GUN! NOW TO SNATCH THE ROBOT...N SCRAM!

MEAWHILE... BACK AT AUNTIE HQ...

BOYS... EMERGENCY! AS TOP OO AGENTS I'M GIVING YOU THIS HOT COOKIE! WASHINGTON JUST CALLED... OUR FOUR-STAR... MOST SECRET INVENTION HAS JUST BEEN HI-JACKED!!!

YOU DON'T MEAN..

YES... THUNDER-CLAP, OUR NUCLEAR ROBOT !!! HE'S HOT OFF THE DRAWING BOARD... AND HAS THE UNIQUE FEATURE OF BEING ABLE TO REPRODUCE !! JUST THINK OF THE POSSIBILITIES... THE YMCA HAS ALREADY ORDERED 17 DOZ. FOR STEAM-ROOM ATTENDANTS. THEY'RE NON-CORRODING !

NO WONDER THE PENTAGON IS CREAMING!

BUT THIS IS THE WORST PART! THE ROBOT IS EXTREMELY DANGEROUS!! HE HAS SUPER-HUMAN STRENGTH... AND IN THE WRONG HANDS COULD BECOME A NUCLEAR FRANKENSTEIN!

THIS JUST CAME OVER THE RAM-UR-SET, SIR!

GEE!

WOW!

* OO AGENTS: ANYTHING GOES!!

GASP...
A RANSOM
NOTE! LOOK...
0068 1/2!!

**FOOLS: THE ROBOT is in OUR
HIDEOUS HANDS!! UNLESS THE WESTERN-
CAPITALIST-PIG NATIONS (NAMELY YOU)... PAY
ONE DILLION DOLLARS (AND 79¢ TAX) RANSOM-
WE WILL SET THUNDER-CLAP LOOSE IN A
CITY TO BE PICKED AT RANDOM!! ANY
INTERFERENCE BY THE FBI, THE CIA, SCOTLAND-
YARD, THE MOUNTIES, THE SECRET SERVICE,
N.Y.C.'s LICE VICE-SQUAD, THE BROWNIES... OR
AUNTIE* WILL SEAL YOUR DOOM!!!**

DETAILS
WILL
FOLLOW!



DR. COCKODILE
MUCK'S HEAD MAD SCIENTIST



THERE'S ONLY
ONE HOT BODY
THAT CAN HELP
US!

YOU
DON'T
MEAN...

BIG BENNIE!! MY OL' BALLET TEACHER!
SHE HAS HER CAULIFLOWER EARS TO
EVERY UNDERWORLD KEY HOLE IN TOWN...
NOT TO MENTION HER BLOOD-SHOT EYES!!
LUCKILY I REMEMBER HER LATEST HANG-
OUT... NOT A MOMENT
TO SPARE!!



ZOOMM



CIGARS... CIGARETTES... DILDOES!
HARRY! MICKEY! I've BEEN
CALLIN' EVERY FRIGGIN' TURKISH
BATH IN TOWN LOOKIN' FOR YOZ!
IN THE BACK, QUICK! I GOT
MY HANDS ON SOME HOT INFO
THAT IS STRICTLY FOR
AUNTIE'S EARS ONLY!!

* AGENTS UNDERCOVER NETWORK TO
INVESTIGATE EVIL

to be **CONTINUED**



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MALE BRIDE, Jackie is an actor who was attracted more to men than women, became a "male bride!" 75¢, #150

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HALF WORLD, Author began life shocked and repulsed by the very word "homosexual" and ended up as one! 75¢, #149

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dear drum

Congratulations on *The Homophile Puzzle* (DRUM, Dec. and Jan.) It indeed reflects your constructive thinking with respect to a complex, difficult problem. P.J.M., West Point, Pa

Why do gay people spend their hard-earned money in New York where they are told plainly that they are not welcome? A.V., Cape May, N.J.

As a New York City taxpayer, I pay for police protection, not police harassment. Yet, twice in less than one year I was stopped and even pushed around by the NYC cops just because I happen to wear a leather jacket, levies and boots. S.C., Brooklyn Heights, N.Y.

The indictment of New York Mattachine is well founded. As the potential real leadership of the movement, they have almost pathologically substituted petty bitching for constructive action. I find no solace in the recent change of administration either, for I feel it will only prove to be as complacent as those in the past. But in all fairness, just what could MSNY do to encourage the syndicate controlling New York bars to appeal license revocations? L. K., New York City

Drum has committed a major error in airing the Movement's dirty laundry publicly. Comments on internal problems should be left for the organizations to discuss and solve

behind closed doors. H. F., San Francisco.

The movement has too long been isolated from the homosexuals it is supposed to be representing. Potential effective leadership has, often, been discouraged from actively participating in organizational affairs because of miscalculations in strategy or - more often - no strategy planning at all. Responsible commentary on plans and actions seems an indispensable tool in upgrading the representation of America's 15,000,000 homosexuals. -Ed.

The number of hypocrites in the world never fails to astound me, but if you should print this letter, do not use my name and address. J.J., Los Angeles.

In case anyone is interested, my roommate and I have found something we think is better than KY or Vaseline (DRUM, Feb) It is Merrell's Lubricating jelly. With it, we, too, overcome. B. T. H., Oakland, Calif.

Your discussion of KY was amusing and probably represents the first time such a thing has ever been in print. Congratulations for having the guts, but I thought you might also be interested in knowing that the Post Office has invented the zip coding system of assigning each state a two letter abbreviation. New York is "NY," California is "CA," and, of course,

Kentucky is "KY!" T.F. Chicago
 Also, in "KY" you'll find the
 town of Baskett, not to mention
 Fairy in TX, Fruitland in ID,
 IA, MD, MO, NM, TN, UT and WA.
 Then there is Trade in AL and
 TN; Browning in IL, MO, and MT
 and Blowing Rock in NC and VA.
 The old standbys of Intercourse
 and Blue Ball are still in PA
 and, last but not least, there
 is Queenstown in MD. - Ed

I am highly recommending the
 article on gay bars(Drum, Feb.)
 to my friends. It is amazing
 how truly what Polak has to say
 applies to the past and present
 gay bars here in Buffalo, P.Mc
 K., Buffalo, N.Y.

The bar article attempts to
 make pleasant that which is far
 from pleasant. No one ever en-
 ters a bar without thinking of
 making out and, in those many
 cases where people go home

alone, there is often depres-
 sion and not satisfaction over
 being with peers. Of course,
 that also comes about, but
 is a dise issue. I have found
 homosexuals inept at the kind
 of grace that is conducive to
 social intercourse. The main
 reason a large number of per-
 sons make out less than they
 could is that they are so in-
 troverted and scared that they
 fail to even try. H. K., Paris

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 we do try, by careful selection,
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 point of view. Letters most
 apt to appear in print are
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 one subject only, are brightly
 written and refer to subjects
 being discussed in DRUM. We may
 add that very few terse letters
 are rejected, but a great many
 long ones are. -Ed.

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