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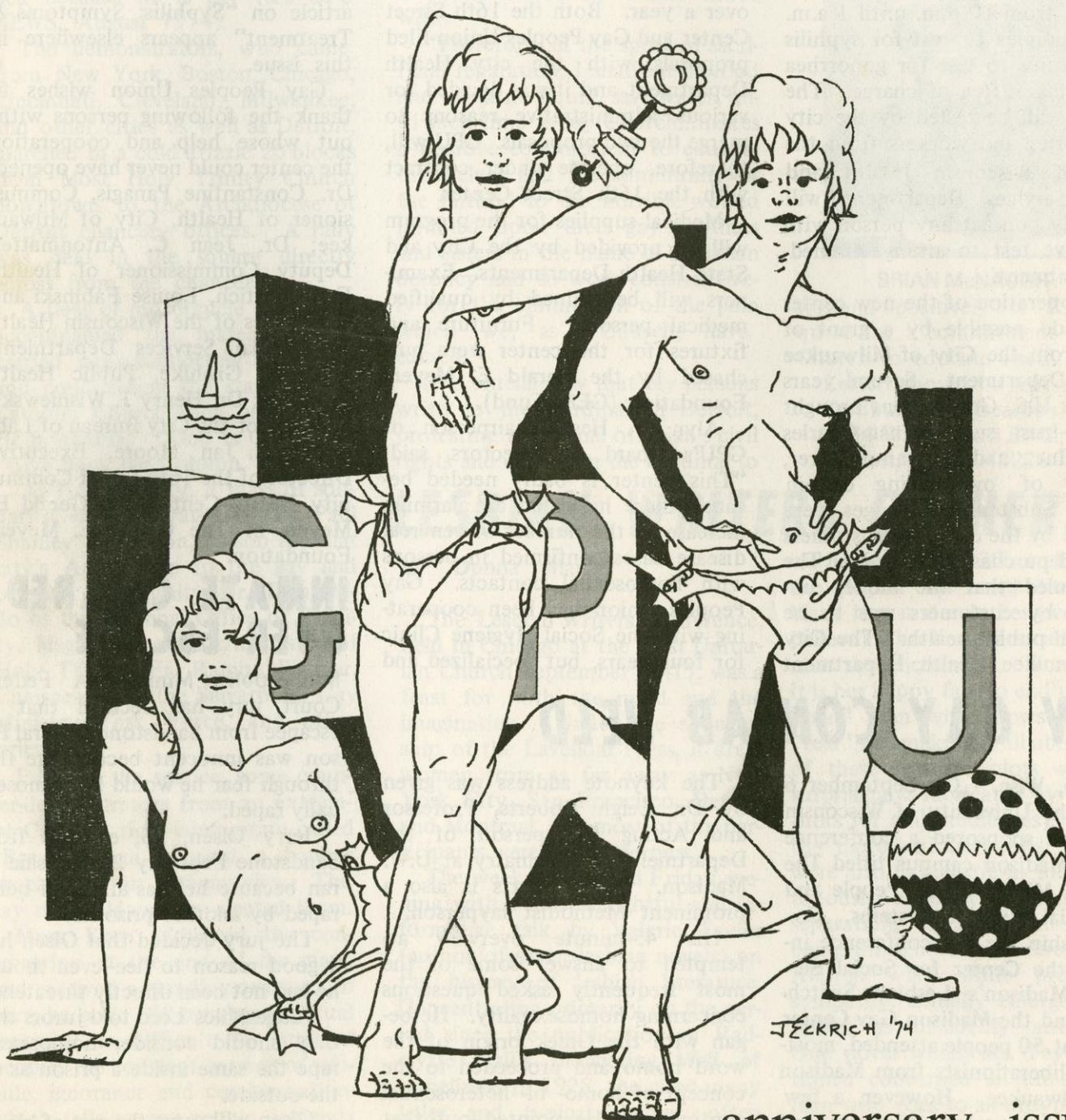
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October 1974
GPU NEWS 50¢

WE'RE THREE - GOING ON FOUR!



anniversary issue

GPU OPENS V D CENTER

The Board of Directors of Gay Peoples Union, Inc. has announced the opening of the GPU EXAMINATION CENTER FOR V.D. The center will be located at 225 E. St. Paul and will open on October 4.

Initially the center will be open every Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings from 10 p.m. until 1 a.m. Blood samples to test for syphilis and cultures to test for gonorrhea will be taken free of charge. The samples will be tested by the city laboratories and workers from the State of Wisconsin Health and Social Services Department will discreetly contact any person with a positive test to arrange immediate treatment.

The operation of the new center was made possible by a grant of funds from the City of Milwaukee Health Department. Several years ago, the U.S. Government brought an anti-trust suit against Charles Pfizer, Inc., a drug manufacturer, because of over-pricing certain drugs. Substantial damages were awarded by the courts to customers who had purchased the drugs. The court ruled that the money unclaimed by customers was to be used for public health. The City of Milwaukee Health Department

filed a proposal asking for part of the unclaimed funds. Included in the accepted proposal were funds for "street" V.D. screening centers.

The 16th Street Community Health Center, 1036 S. 16th St., sponsored by Hope, Inc. has been operating a free street clinic for over a year. Both the 16th Street Center and Gay Peoples Union filed proposals with the city Health Department and it was decided for various administrative reasons to merge the two proposals. GPU will, therefore, operate under contract with the 16th Street Center.

Medical supplies for the program will be provided by the City and State Health Departments. Examiners will be trained by qualified medical persons. Furniture and fixtures for the center were purchased by the Gerald E. Meyers Foundation (GEM Fund).

Alyn W. Hess, chairperson of GPU's Board of Directors, said, "This center is badly needed because there has been an alarming increase in the number of venereal disease cases confirmed in persons with homosexual contacts. Gay Peoples Union has been cooperating with the Social Hygiene Clinic for four years, but specialized and

separate facilities are needed because many gays still do not use the city facilities."

To be effective, the program will need widespread publicity in the gay community. GPU NEWS has agreed to help with the publicity program soon to be launched. An article on "Syphilis: Symptoms & Treatment" appears elsewhere in this issue.

Gay Peoples Union wishes to thank the following persons without whose help and cooperation the center could never have opened: Dr. Constantine Panagis, Commissioner of Health, City of Milwaukee; Dr. Jean C. Antonmattei, Deputy Commissioner of Health; Fred Martich, Louise Fabinski and Ken Jones of the Wisconsin Health and Social Services Department; John H. Gruhlke, Public Health Educator; Dr. Henry J. Wisniewski, Director of the City Bureau of Laboratories; Jan Moore, Executive Director of the 16th Street Community Health Center; and Gerald E. Meyers of The Gerald E. Meyers Foundation.

INMATE CLEARED OVER ESCAPE

Minneapolis, Minn. - A Federal Court jury has decided that an escapee from Sandstone Federal Prison was innocent because he fled through fear he would be homosexually raped.

Jerry Olsen, 26, escaped from Sandstone February 20. He said he ran because he was afraid of being raped by another prisoner.

The jury decided that Olsen had a good reason to flee—even though he had not been directly threatened.

Judge Miles Lord told jurors that they should consider homosexual rape the same inside a prison as on the outside.

Olsen will serve the rest of his 10 year sentence at Oxford, Wis.

U W GAY CONFAB HELD

Madison, Wisc. - On September 6 and 7 the University of Wisconsin Extension sponsored a conference on the Madison campus titled *The Invisible Minority—Gay People and the Social Support Systems*. Co-sponsorship for the conference included the Center for Social Services, Madison's Lesbian Switchboard and the Madison Gay Center.

About 50 people attended, mostly gay liberationists from Madison and Milwaukee. However, a few nongays (counselors, ministers, and a few police persons) were present.

The keynote address was given by Dr. Leigh Roberts, Professor and Acting Chairperson of the Department of Psychiatry at U.W. Madison. Dr. Roberts is also a prominent Methodist layperson.

His 45-minute overview attempted to answer some of the most frequently asked questions concerning homosexuality. He began with the Greek origin of the word *homo* and proceeded to the concept of homo-bi-heterosexual continuum. He pointed out that

(continued on page 10)

GAY CATHOLIC BEGINS FAST

Detroit, Mich. - More than 200 gay people and supporters of the Gay Liberation Movement gathered in Detroit and demonstrated peacefully on Labor Day, September 2, in support of Brian McNaught, a writer whose column in the Michigan Catholic newspaper was dropped because he is gay (see GPU NEWS, August 1974).

The demonstrators, who came from New York, Boston, Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Milwaukee, and other cities as well as Detroit, marched in a cold drizzle 20 blocks from Most Holy Trinity Church downtown to the Archdiocese of Detroit chancery offices. A rally was held in the square directly across from the chancery.

A fleet of motorcycle policemen accompanied the marchers, who carried signs supporting McNaught and condemning the stand of the Catholic Church—such as: "Holy Homophobia," "God is Gay," and "Give Back the Column."

At Holy Trinity, a mass of solidarity was celebrated by Fr. Paul Shanley of Boston, liaison for that city's Archbishop to the gay and bisexual community, Fr. Tom Odo of the National Office of Dignity, Msgr. Clement Kern, pastor of Holy Trinity, Fr. Ramon Wagner, Chairperson of the Salvatorian Gay Ministry Task Force, and other priests.

Early in the service, some counter-demonstrators from an extremist Catholic right-wing group called "Breakthrough," raised a banner proclaiming an anti-gay view. The gay marshals quickly ejected them.

Msgr. Kern addressed the congregation at the end of the mass, and received a standing ovation. In part, he said: "If growing to sexual maturity is difficult for straight people, the constant barrage of ridicule, ignorance and condemnation which falls on gay people demands that their efforts at growth be al-

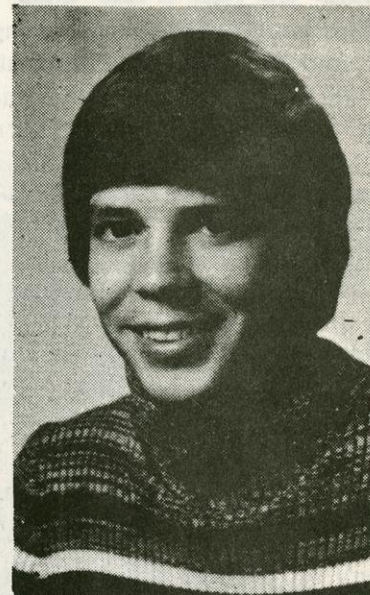
most superhuman."

McNaught's lawyers continue to work on fighting through the maze of legal strictures of the Archdiocese, discriminately enforced to block gay civil rights.

On September 16, Brian McNaught initiated a fast and issued a public statement which ended with:

"Therefore, in the spirit of sacrificial reparation, I shall eat no food and drink no liquid, save water, until such time as my Church...makes a positive commitment to educate themselves and the community of the faithful to the horrible wound inflicted upon their gay brothers and sisters in the name of Christian decency and to work constructively for the elimination of the pain which we, as a Church, have caused."

It is crucial now that gay persons write to the Cardinal in Detroit, protesting the denial of Brian's civil rights and calling on the Cardinal to



BRIAN McNAUGHT

respond positively to Brian's request for a commitment from the Church to educate itself.

Letters should be sent to:
Cardinal John Dearden
1234 Washington Blvd.
Detroit, Mich. 48226

LESBIAN WRITERS GATHER

by Donna Martin

The Lesbian Writers Conference, held in Chicago at the First Unitarian Church September 13-15, was a feast for both the mind and the imagination. Under the sponsorship of the Lavendar Press, it drew women from as far away as New York City, San Francisco, Denver and Montreal, but most of the participants were Midwesterners.

The weekend opened Friday evening with a most delightful and informative talk by Valerie Taylor (author of seven lesbian novels) on the history of lesbian literature. Concentrating primarily on the period since the publication of Radclyffe Hall's pioneering *Well of Loneliness* in 1928, she cited many titles and typical themes, often with humor. For example, the typi-

cal heroine of the 30's and 40's was the elegant but tough butch with black lace underclothes (would you believe) who devastates all the women she encounters. Nonetheless, it is her happy fate to end up with a "real" man who shows her what "real" lovemaking is all about (most of these formula plots were, not surprisingly, fabricated by male authors for male audiences). Many of the more serious books, however, were also unrealistic in their monotonously unhappy endings (death, separation, suicide), among them being those much read ones by Ann Aldrich who, while proclaiming sympathy, actually emerged in her books as decidedly anti-lesbian. One novel which Ms. Taylor mentioned concerned an unhappy lesbian who goes to an unsympathetic

(continued on page 24)

EDITORIAL

This issue marks the beginning of the fourth year of the publication of GPU NEWS. We have decided that it is high time that we carry a volume and issue number on our masthead. We have earned it.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our readers and advertisers for their support during the past three years.

Instead of self congratulations in the form of a recital of our growing pains and publication problems, we would like to make only a few points.

First of all, we would remind you that GPU NEWS is non-profit. Every bit of work is on a volunteer, no pay basis. Our advertising rates are kept low, just enough to cover costs, for two reasons. We are providing a service to our advertisers and to our readers. We are not out to make money, but to pass on the

MEMBER COSMOPOLIS

COMMITTEE OF SMALL MAGAZINE
EDITORS AND PUBLISHERS
BOX 703 SAN FRANCISCO, CA. 94101

GPU NEWS, a non-profit publication, is published by the GAY PEOPLES UNION of Milwaukee, P. O. Box 90530, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202.

All material in the paper is original and is not copyrighted. If you wish to reproduce any part of this paper, please note GPU NEWS as the source, listing our address.

If you wish to place an ad in future issues, write to us at the above address for rates and information.

If you want counseling about a homosexual problem or would like to have a speaker on the subject for your group, contact us at the above address or telephone 271-5273.

Yours in Liberation,
THE PUBLICATION
COMMITTEE

messages of gay liberation.

HELP KEEP US STRONG

GPU NEWS is now emerging as a strong national voice in the gay community. There are many things that you, our readers, can do to help keep us strong. We have never made an open appeal for your support, feeling that we had to prove that we were worthy of that support first. We are not appealing to you now in a moment of crisis, but rather in a moment of confidence. We feel that the publication is getting better all the time, and with your support will get even better. Here are some of the things you can do to help.

You can send us clippings from your local newspapers and from periodicals that you read. If there is a good photo, try to get a glossy print from the newspaper's photo department. Date and identify all clippings.

You can submit your own materials—articles, essays, book reviews, editorials, letters, poems, photos, art work, news items, etc. All can be returned upon request. Please do not submit material that is also being submitted to other publications at the same time.

You can take the responsibility of covering an event in your area for GPU NEWS, sending us a completed article or simply information and taped interviews.

You can send us mailing lists of your friends or members of your organization who might be interested in subscribing. We will send them a free copy, with your compliments if you so desire. Show GPU NEWS to your friends and urge them to subscribe.

You can help locate advertisers for us. We will send rate sheets and information if you indicate that you have talked to a potential advertiser who is interested.

You can check your local city, county, community, university, and high school libraries to see if they have a paid subscription. If they

(continued on page 7)

FEEDBACK

Dear GPU NEWS:

I have lived in the Fox Valley for nine years (as a student and then in my work) and only wish that I had heard of GPU NEWS then. It's great!

I am moving to LaFayette, Indiana (Purdue U.). Do you have any info about that area's gay lib movement at school, etc. Any help would be much appreciated.

Peace to all and keep up the efforts of extending the helping hand.

J. B.

Niles, Mich.

Dear Friends,

Your August issue is very good. I especially liked the article titled "A Family Affair—A Case for Three-Way Sex."

I think that professional sociologists would appreciate the article so I'll send my copy to one at Albany, N.Y.

Keep up the good work.

R. P.

Burlington, Vt.

GPU NEWS Editor:

I wish to thank everyone who attended the showing of Art by WILTON DAVID, September 14 at the Zelda Gooch Studio. It was a most successful and enjoyable evening and I plan to host another showing of his new works this spring.

Thank you,

Zaziel McRoberts

(The present exhibit is on display until November 14 by Appointment only, 249-9587.)

Dear GPU NEWS:

Your September centerspread was one of the most beautiful non-exploitative nudes that I have ever seen in a gay publication. And I'm not a male chauvinist pig. You may quote me.

Ron Norman

Folkway Records, N.Y.



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**The Factory's Marquee Room
presents
Halloween 1974-75**

On Sunday, October 20, 1974 at 8 p.m., the Marquee Room along with the Miss Gay Milwaukee Committee will present **The Annual Mr. Groovy Guy Contest and Best Costume Contest.**

Requirements for **Mr. Groovy Guy** are: 1) A dress suit (excluding levis, jeans and the like); 2) a swim suit; 3) all contestants must be there before 7:30 p.m.; and, 4) no entry fee required.

Requirements for **Best Costume** are: 1) Costume only (such as Marie Antoinette, Henry VIII); 2) all contestants must be there before 7:30 p.m.; and 3) no entry fee required.

Also announcing the **Miss Gay Wisconsin Pageant** on Sunday, October 27, 1974.

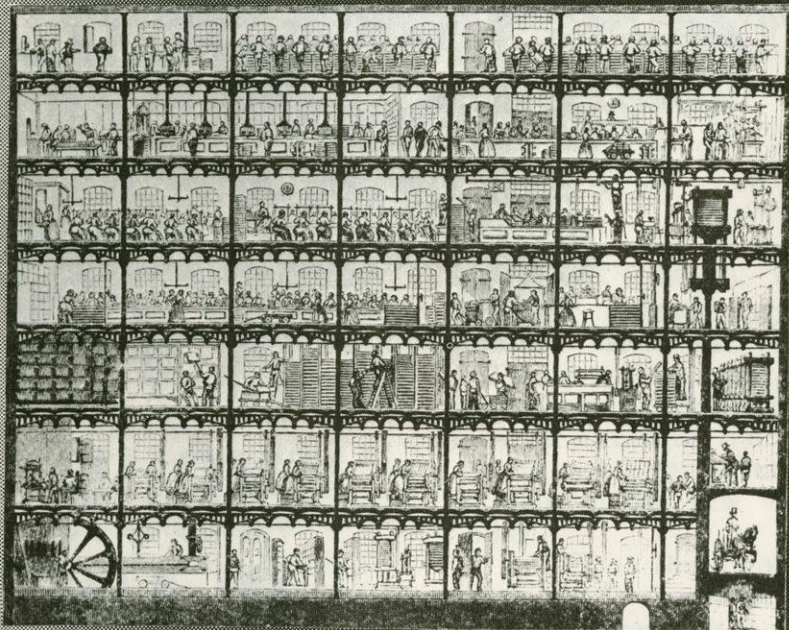
Requirements for **Miss Gay Wisconsin** are: 1) A ten dollar (\$10) entry fee must be paid on or before October 25 and can be paid to MaMa Rae or Tiger Rose, or mailed to the Miss Gay Milwaukee Committee, 2015 N. 27th Street, Milwaukee, Wisc. 53208; 2) all contestants must be at the Marquee for a brief rehearsal on Sunday, October 27, at 2 p.m.; 3) all contestants will have two (2) gowns. One of their own choice for competition, and the other a white one for the Finale and Crowning; 4) escorts will be provided on stage; and 5) all contestants must be there before 7:30 p.m.

There are over \$1,000 in prize monies and trophies this year. A \$200 prize for Mr. Groovy Guy and a \$500 prize for Miss Wisconsin.

**REMEMBER THE DATES
OCTOBER 20th AND 27th!!**

THE FACTORY

where friendships are made



**work the nightshift during
the week. starting time 7pm
get in overtime Sundays
punch in at 3 pm**

EDITORIAL

(from page 4)

don't, talk to the person in charge and suggest that they subscribe. Show them the publication.

You can check bookstores on and off campus, shops, gay groups, and churches who might be willing to sell GPU NEWS for a small profit per copy. Have them contact us

after talking to you.

You can give gift subscriptions to your friends for birthdays, anniversaries, Christmas, etc. A subscription makes a fine gift because it keeps coming in month after month.

Finally, dare we say that we also accept cash contributions? We do and are inspired to work harder every time one comes our way, no

matter how small or large.

These are some of the ways you can help keep us strong. To conclude, we would hope that you will act on what you read in our pages. Write letters, think, give support to the movement, and change yourself by keeping an open mind. The human dignity of the gay liberation movement will not only survive, but prevail.

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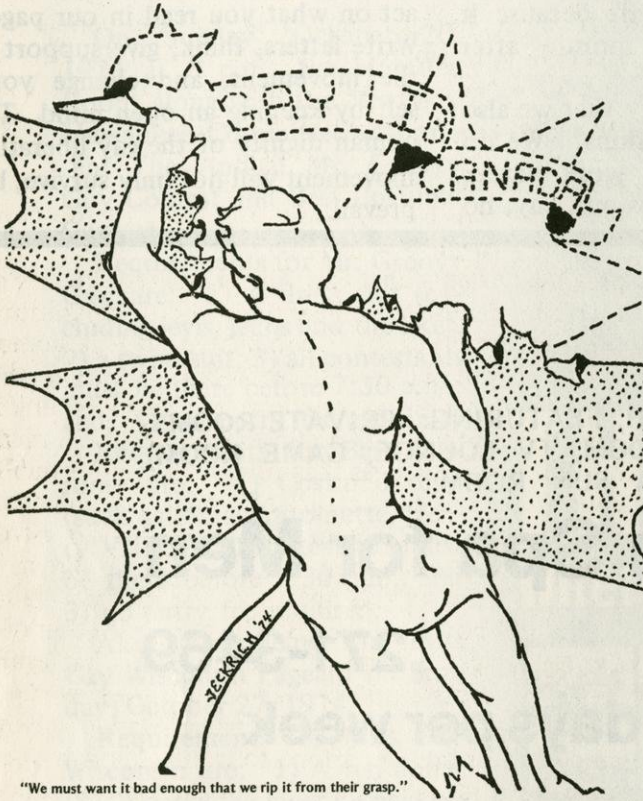
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BEER BUST TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS

A Canadian Views Gay Liberation



by Guy J. F. Roy

Canada, like the United States, England and many other Western countries, professes ownership of a liberal democracy within the borders of its social system - albeit that everywhere is heard the cry for justice, liberty, and equality. In addition to the consistent protest of oppressed classes, we are currently witnessing an awakening of previously passive minorities seeking change, including the Gay Liberation and Women's Liberation movements, along with the many ethnic groups still in search of the ever elusive dream of egalitarianism and brotherhood so eloquently advocated by the ruling class and their functionaries.

If, as is often postulated from the "official" Canadian standpoint, liberty begins at the point where unorthodox opinions may be freely presented, without legal, social, or economic penalties, then there is absolute irrationalism built in. If, then there is absolute irrationalism being exercised by public institutions and officials in this country, who continue to limit free expression to only those who uphold orthodox views of thought and action.

There is no such thing as a wishy-washy libera-

tion, anymore than there is room for intellectual dishonesty in trying to justify liberation by saying that in our society we are "freer" than in most other countries. Liberation is as cleanly defined as virginity - either you have it or you do not.

Though many of us are still asleep from the barbiturate Canada's Parliament handed us in the name of the Omnibus Bill, it is time to reawaken our awareness to the realities of our society and come to grips with the necessary action to overcome the oppression that too many of us have accepted as a way of life.

With the arrival of the Omnibus Bill in 1969, it was certainly not beyond reason to expect at least the acceptance of the spirit of that law by society as a whole. Yet, even today, most media outlets, be it radio, television, or the responsible journalism claimed in this country, refuse to accept our ads advertising Gay social activities; notwithstanding the fact they are quick to erroneously report a "pedophilic crime" as being a "homosexual crime."

The very government who produced this anti-discrimination Omnibus Bill have seen it fit to leave discriminatory laws in the books - laws that prescribe double the penalties for what is called a homosexual offense over a (heterosexual) crime of equal circumstances and seriousness.

Apart from the Establishment, a vast majority of heterosexuals are yet to awaken to the twentieth century and, as a result, are still in their inherited misconceptions about homosexuality, passing on their residual stereotyped taboos whenever the subject of sexuality is spoken within their family or social groups. The result of our allowing this ignorance of homosexuality to continue through our remaining socially "invisible" is reflected when the homosexual comes out into the open - be it by accident or choice - and he suddenly finds himself looking for a new job and, perhaps, a new apartment to live in as well.

Even when an injustice is committed against a homosexual, and this injustice is a glaring violation of the Omnibus Bill, it is almost impossible to gain any public sympathy, and when one turns to the instituted framework seeking justice, all that is apt to happen is a frustrating erosion of his confidence in our social system, caused by the flagrant ignoring of the rule of law by public officials.

As long as the homosexual society as a whole is prepared to accept these things, nothing will change. Certainly it is being naive in the extreme

to believe that total liberation will come as a natural phenomenon, and that all we need do is sit around and anticipate its arrival, conveniently armed with the same kind of patience required by those who are waiting for the Second Coming of Christ. Liberation is not something an oppressing society hands over just for the asking; it is something we must want bad enough that we rip it from their grasp.

Gay activists are revolutionising the homosexual's role in today's society - and we are all activists whether we realize it or not. The question is are we activists on the negative side, who through silence and passive "invisibleness" help perpetuate the wrongs committed against all gays, or are we "visible" and each in our own way active in finding the solution and demanding its implementation.

When certain restaurants, apartment monopoly landlords, media, etc., openly declare hostile views on homosexuals, it is high time we counteracted with the same vigor against these oppressors of liberty and democracy. As a homosexual community we are an economic bloc large enough in solidaristic force to demand and receive through boycotting what is morally and legally right.

When an injustice is being committed upon a member of our fraternity, it is our duty not to remain silent but to voice our position loud and proud - with authority and with clarity. Beyond this, it is a universally accepted dictum that "injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." To remain silent in the knowledge of injustices can hardly be made compatible with the thirst for liberation.

For its own health, homosexuality needs to be fully, frequently, and fearlessly discussed. If we believe that different persons should be permitted to lead different lives, unhindered by oppression that retards our natural creative development, then we must discuss this everywhere, not only among our fraternal brothers and sisters, but with anyone who will listen. We quite realize the damage being caused by incorrect concepts of homosexuality, and the fact that these false accounts are being spread by those who (in most cases) know very little about our way of life. The only way we can create propaganda on the positive side is to produce it with factual accounts and make ourselves heard at every possible opportunity available to us. As long as the majority of people in our society only have a one-dimensional view of gays, we remain out of reach of total liberation.

The strength of a democracy and the liberation of its oppressed is only as great as the will of the people to uphold it. The movement for full equality for all oppressed reflects not only the creed of

the oppressed who wish to assert their equality, but also the feeling of democratically inclined men and women who resent the treatment of any other human being as an inferior, on the basis that this inequality coupled with unfair and arrogant prejudices, is harmful not only to the person so treated, but also to the person who metes it out.

Ever since the American Psychiatric Association achieved an instantaneous mass cure of America's homosexuals in December 1973 by removing homosexuality from their "sickie" list, there has been a trend to pay more attention to the continuing struggle for gay liberation by those who previously had a deaf ear. Unfortunately, the APA themselves refuse to hear talk about reparations for the atrocities they committed against homosexuals over the years; let alone entertain the thought of entering a serious campaign to eradicate the myth about homosexuality being a mental illness - an analysis that filled voluminous publications on the subject; all of which has added up to the homosexual being the victim of an astronomical socioeconomic rip off caused directly, and indirectly, by this unfathomable medical fraud.

We all know how long Blacks have waited in our society to get a taste of freedom and what egalitarian concepts could be like should they ever get them. How long has gay liberation waited? How much longer can we afford to wait? Though open dialogue is ideal, it must lead to the kind of action that will produce the required change of the social relations which exist today, or else it will degenerate into nothing more than a tension-releasing device, and consequently, maintain the status quo that renders a homosexual a second class citizen in his own country.

Beyond the limited rights which ostensibly were documented in the Omnibus Bill, we have got to realize that our struggle for liberation cannot be seen in isolation from the dynamic struggle against scarcity and oppression taking place nationally and internationally. Everywhere the constant quest is for a new social order that will be based on greater opportunity and equality. It is incumbent upon us as homosexuals that we become "visible" co-architects in the design of our country's future, and supply the empirical evidence of our efforts in the continuous struggle to improve the quality of life for everyone. Until we make our contribution known by "visible" activity, and therefore be in a position allowing us to demand equal recognition in return for our acknowledged labour in developing society, we will have little meaningful say in determining our destiny as homosexuals and at any given time during the evolution of social change, we will remain "odd" man out.

REVIEW

by Robert Stocki

The Zelda Gooch Gallery in Madison is continuing a private showing through November 14 of the work of artist Wilton David. The gallery-home, a large third floor apartment at 2011 Atwood, is located just a few minutes northeast of the Capitol. Ms. Gooch previously operated a gallery in the city's downtown area, but because gay erotic art was displayed there, the gallery was forced to 'close. She now plans to hold private showings in her home until a suitable new location can be found.

On September 14, the gallery had its first invitational showing of Mr. David's erotic art. After viewing the four rooms of art, the guests spent the remainder of the evening socializing around an impressive buffet supper and several punch bowls (one containing a mixture of champagne and sloe gin, this particular bowl seeming to always be near empty despite the hostess's continuing efforts to keep it filled). The crowd was a mixture of gay and straight in harmony with the gay-straight themes in the David drawings.

You may remember some of Mr. David's work from several past issues of GPU NEWS. His black outlined, white figures in front of intricately patterned backgrounds are reminiscent of Aubrey Beardsley's. The anatomy is consistently flawless, which makes me think the poses were taken from photographs out of hard-core magazines. The sex organs are delightfully large and purposely out of proportion with the rest of the body, reminding me of Beardsley's drawings from *The Lysistrata of Aristophanes* (see *The Collected Drawings of Aubrey Beardsley*, Crescent Books).

David's bold lines are like those in a child's coloring book though much more detailed. This

prompted the gallery to assemble a handful of his drawings into a printed 'coloring book' which they offer in a limited, signed edition for \$10.00. They also offer a wide range of stationery and cards with David's drawings on them at varying prices. Included in the selections are some interesting erotic Christmas cards to sent to your gay friends.

Some color pieces by David were also featured in this show. The simplest were his black and white drawings partially colored in with felt-tipped pens. He limited himself to orange, purple and yellow, coloring in backgrounds in some, but in others he colored only nipples and heads of penises in a bright orange. I found this somewhat disturbing because it gives them an air of non-seriousness, almost a graffiti-like quality. Some of his more successful color works were done in water color, using a full palette, but again in some of these he arbitrarily colors sections of the anatomies in unnatural colors. This abstraction fights with the realism of his line. However, there are some very fine color pieces in which he leaves the body alone and concentrates on the background for his color experimenting. This way it works since the background is often an intricate pattern. All the pieces were near the same size: 8 1/2 x 11 or smaller. A few rather intriguing pieces were done on embossed aluminum with painted backgrounds and a few other semi-abstract works using what looked like xerography and colored dyes.

The prices of Wilton David's work ranges from \$10.00 for the black and white pieces to \$125.00 for some of the color pieces. I would consider the lower cost B&W pieces an art collector's bargain since the higher priced color pieces were sometimes flawed by the artist's experimenting with his colored pens. An inexpensive Wilton David drawing would make a very nice gift and, for the art collector, it may be

a good investment in the increasingly popular world of gay erotic art.

Wilton David is becoming a known name in gay art circles and he plans a trip to Madison next spring for a show being organized by Ms. Zelda Gooch.

U W CONFAB

(from page 2)

homosexuals are given a social definition by the ruling class based not on objective facts, but on Jewish-Talmudic-Christian laws.

In explaining the difficulty in defining the term homosexual, he cited Kinsey studies' 37% of all males interviewed admitted to at least one orgasm with another male, 25% of those over 18 had exclusive homosexual contacts for at least 3 years, and 3 to 4% claimed to be exclusively homosexual.

In trying to tackle the even more difficult question of cause, he simply stated that even biologists and psychiatrists cannot offer simple explanations. Homosexuality is also found, he said, throughout the animal world. He concluded that the facts tend to show that homosexual behavior is a natural variant in the spectrum of sexuality.

After the address, a panel of gay women and men presented their personal views and feelings about living as homosexuals in a non-gay and sometimes hostile world. Personal experiences were stressed.

The second day of the conference featured 12 panel discussions covering such topics as oppression, civil rights, religion, lesbian counseling, married bisexuals, lesbian mothers, etc. It appeared that most panelists had little, if anything, prepared to present and the panel discussions became little more than loose rap sessions.

Movement people found little that was new or stimulating, but the few nongays who stuck it out seemed to have their minds opened and expanded.

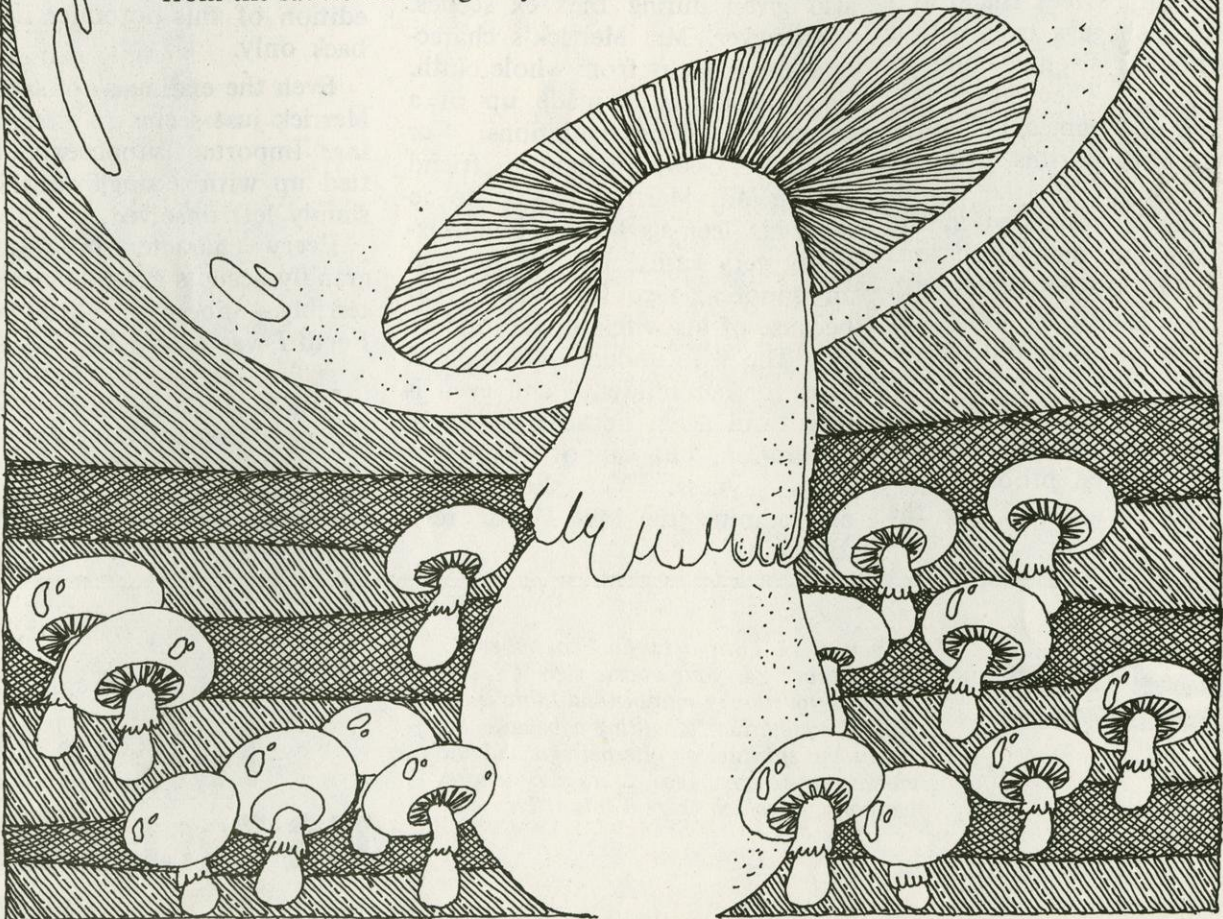
THE GAY GOURMET

Mushrooms Mae West

This recipe honors one of the gay world's favorite actresses.

Trim, wash, and remove the stems carefully from some fresh mushrooms, chosen for their size and firmness. Season with salt and pepper and saute the large caps in a little butter. Drain on a paper towel.

Arrange them in a fireproof dish which has been buttered, caps downward. Put onto each cap a good tablespoon of stuffing prepared as follows: Chop the stems finely, saute in butter with finely chopped onion and parsley, adding garlic salt and other seasonings if desired. Drain on a paper towel. Press the stuffing into the caps so that it adheres properly; sprinkle with grated dried bread crumbs and pour over each cap a little of the butter left from the saute. Brown gently in the oven. Serve hot.



REVIEW

Forth Into Light
by Gordon Merrick
Avon Books, New York (paper)

by Alyn W. Hess

Gordon Merrick's third gay novel, *Forth Into Light*, continues the love story of Peter and Charlie that began in his first novel *The Lord Won't Mind* and continued in his second novel *One For The Gods*. The first novel, a national bestseller, described the meeting of the two men and their difficulties in accepting their love for one another. In the second they sailed through the Mediterranean experimenting with bisexuality along the way.

In *Forth Into Light*, Peter and Charlie, now in their early forties, have settled on a Greek island in a comfortable menage a trois with a woman who has given a child to each of them. They have now merged their last names, becoming the famous Mills-Martins, pride of the foreign colony on the island. They are highly respected in the world of art and their open love relationship is looked upon with awe and acceptance by everyone.

The plot revolves around two of their nongay friends who have had money stolen or lost. Peter and Charlie help solve the who-done-it. Everybody's marital problems, including their own, spice up the story.

All told, this over long novel is not satisfying. As usual Mr. Merrick throws in everything but the kitchen sink to keep his reader plowing along. In this book, believe it or not, there is even an earthquake which has nothing to do with the plot other than provide a hot "sex-during-an-earthquake" scene.

Merrick's violent sex scenes sometimes run to twenty or twenty-five pages leaving the reader more exhausted and mixed up than the participants. In real life, long violent sex sessions are not usually accompanied by intellectual conversations, but this is the author's device for exploring the hidden meanings often put on sex. Indeed, it is in some of these passages that his most thoughtful observations about the nature of human relationships and sexuality are found. His best insights into his characters are also given during the sex scenes.

However, Mr. Merrick's characters are not cut from whole cloth. Each character is made up of a patchwork of contradictions. For example, George Leighton, friend of the Mills-Martins, is able to accept his teen-aged son's homosexuality very easily, but has been in an impotent rage for over a year because of his wife's single infidelity. The wife understands the reasons for her infidelity and even is unfaithful again because of sexual frustration, but cannot accept her son's gayness. Yet...she respects and admires the Mills-Martin relationship.

Peter and Charlie are simply bigger than life. They are like overgrown boy scouts—loyal, faithful, true, etc. Peter refuses to be unfaithful to Charlie with the boy, but merrily hops into twenty-four hours of sex with a beautiful lesbian.

Male chauvinism is rampant in this book. Phallic worship also rears its bell-shaped head. Men, women, and even little children worship Charlie's "monumental" phallus, but Charlie doesn't use it anymore. Finally, because he is afraid he will lose Peter to the lesbian, he uses it again. Peter instantly forgets that the lesbian even exists. Within an hour, even faithful Charlie is carrying on like mad with the boy. Such contradictions are not satisfying to the reader.

Apparently Merrick's publishers were not satisfied with this book either. They published the first edition of this potboiler in paperback only.

Even the ending is not satisfying. Merrick just seems to tire of writing. Important subplots are hastily tied up with a single sentence or simply left unsolved.

Every character in this book grandly accepts gay life, but all are terribly unliberated. After reading *Forth I* was tempted to buy a fifth.

Alyn W. Hess is the Chairperson of the Board of Directors of Gay Peoples Union, Inc. and also is a past president of the organization. He heads the Telephone Committee and is currently working on several major funding projects for GPU.

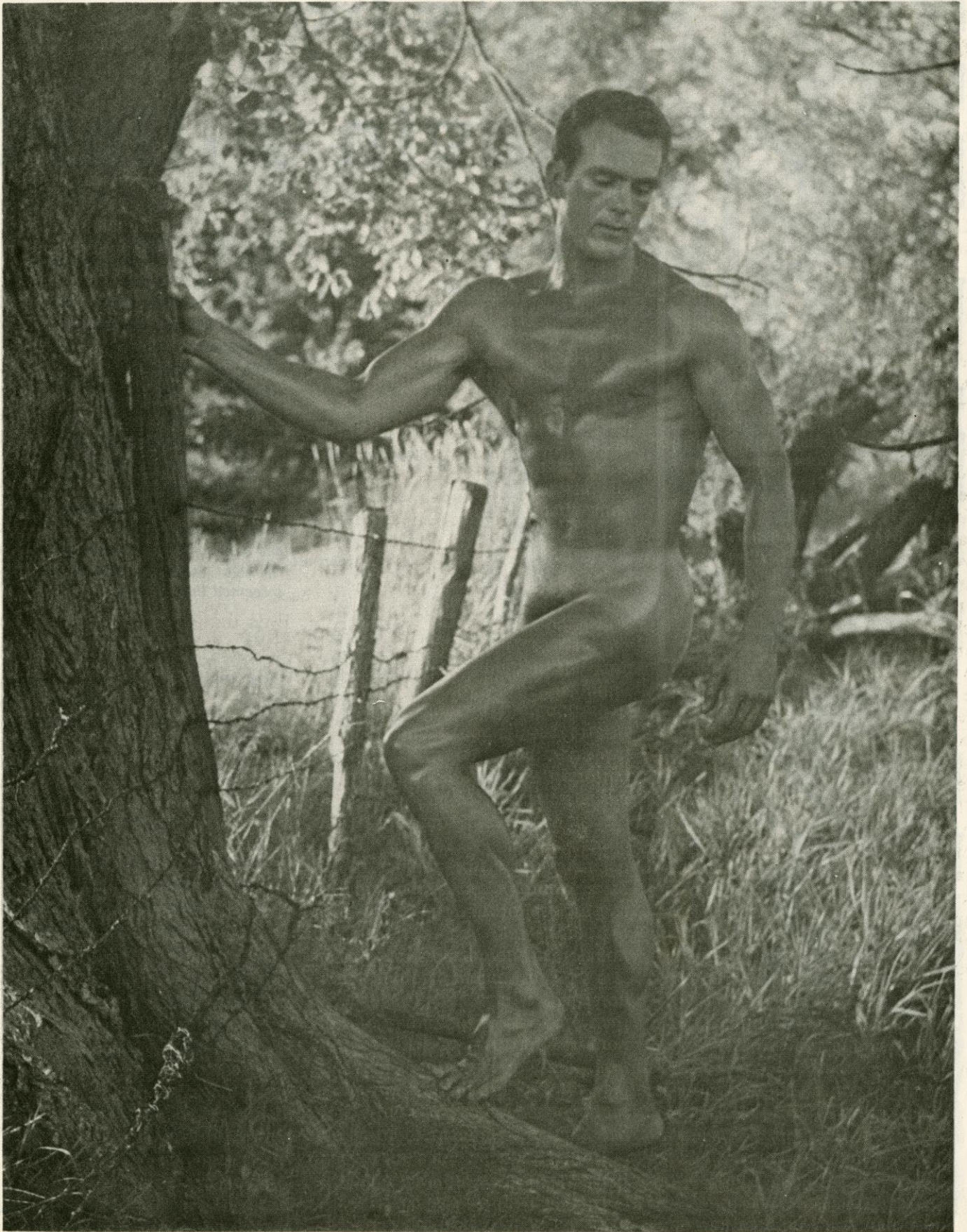


Zodiacal sign of Libra.

If you were born between September 25 and October 24, your zodiac sign is Libra. Seven is your lucky number and Libra is the sign of equilibrium, denoting a balance between the spiritual or internal ego and the worldly or external ego. Libra also denotes harmony, of which there is lots at This is It!

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Poems by Gavin Dillard

i could never kiss a carnivore

*the meat-eaters no longer wait
for a knife in aim
silent steel
triggered claws
they dagger with lust
and stab
and stab
again*

*the carnivores snap
their teeth in their palms
striking
an animal falters
unwilling*

*there is nothing to eat
untainted with cries
life cannot end so swift
it goes on
suffers
and on*

*yellow carcasses heave and die
fatted cupids burst
an arrow shot
gritted teeth
lungs cough with the lust
teeth grin
flesh cancers
and waits
for silence to set in*

*i could never kiss a carnivore
sliding tongues on bitter steel
razor knives in the dust
lay hidden
traps
in the darkness
and softness
only redder
than berries crushed between the teeth*

*you lit three candles
one for each pass you would make
i held a glass of water
to douse you with when coming too fast
the night held out a solemn air
laughing at our bubbling words
you lit three candles
and stared in one to see my face
i held up a glass of water
and tried to focus on your eyes
the night held out a solemn air
to mimic what was never said
you lit three candles
to see if i might burn in them
i held a glass of water
and wondered if you might drown
the night put forth a solemn air
it seemed that we might suffocate*

the night

*your eyes fell upon my skin
embarrassed
delighted
you were clothed
i was naked
an intimacy new to us
i was young
cradled soft in your palms
i was your master
you were drawn to me
i held your eyes
you held mine
smiles
trembling lips
we were young
intimacy new to us
embarrassed
excited
the night was young
we cradled soft in its hours
it was our master
we were drawn into the night*

softly
from tightly pulled-back hair
loose curls
in my breath.
a shiny cross
dangled
on the night
around your neck
against the fur of your chest
in my eye.
body hairs
erect
along our bodies
twined
as wool into yarn.
your feet brushed me gently.
hands
reflected in eyes
gently
strongly
embraced
two smiles.
your feet brushed me gently.
curls
dangled
in my breath
softly
around your neck.

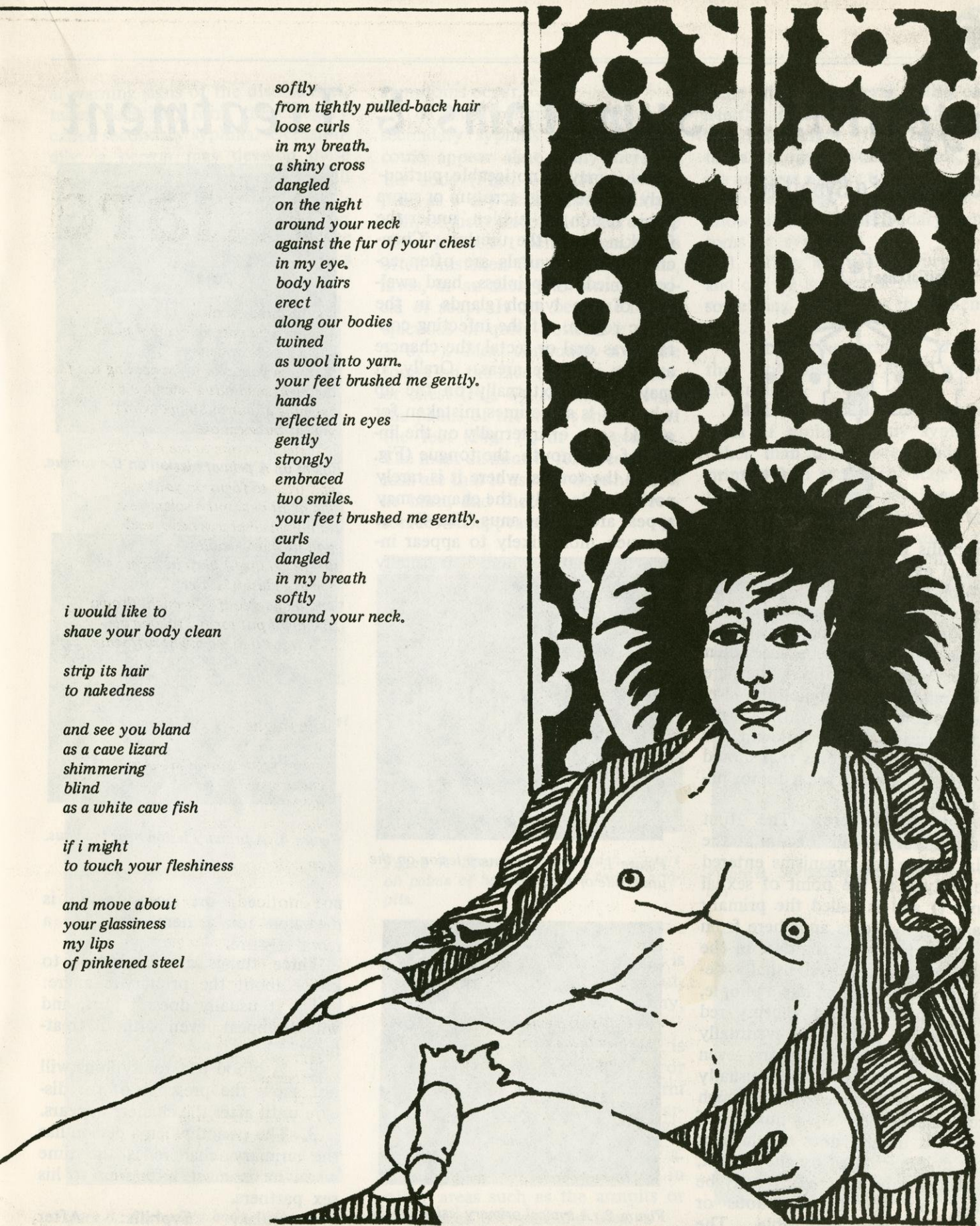
i would like to
shave your body clean

strip its hair
to nakedness

and see you bland
as a cave lizard
shimmering
blind
as a white cave fish

if i might
to touch your fleshiness

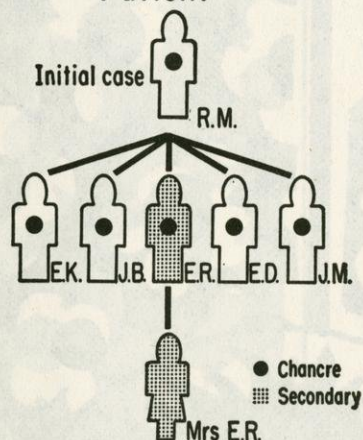
and move about
your glassiness
my lips
of pinkened steel



Art by Wilton David. Do not reproduce
all or in part without permission.

Syphilis ...Symptoms & Treatment

Contacts of a Syphilitic Patient



Syphilis is often referred to by medical experts as "the silent menace" or "the great imitator." The former, because many people do not notice any warning signs of the disease, and the latter because when warning signs are noticed, they are often mistaken for something else. There are no sure-fire warning signs of the disease, but the following are some typical symptoms that should prompt a person to see a doctor immediately:

Primary Chancre: The first symptom of syphilis occurs at the point where the organisms entered the body (i.e., the point of sexual contact) and is called the primary chancre. It occurs anywhere from 10 to 90 days after the date of the infecting contact, and usually begins as a raised bump, like a pimple, which opens up into a beefy red moist lesion, and which eventually scabs over and disappears, even without treatment. There is usually only one of these lesions, although occasionally there are a number of them. It usually does not hurt or itch, unless irritated by the patient, or secondarily infected. It may be quite tiny and inconspicuous or quite large and noticeable. The most common place for the chancre to occur in males is the genitalia,

where it may be noticeable, particularly on the penis, scrotum or supra pubic region, or hidden, under the foreskin, or in the urethra. Chancres of the genitals are often accompanied by painless, hard swelling of the lymph glands in the pubic region. If the infecting contact was oral or rectal, the chancre appears in these areas. Orally, it may appear externally on the lip where it is sometimes mistaken for a cold sore, or internally on the lining of the mouth, the tongue (Fig. 3), or the tonsils, where it is rarely noticed. Rectally, the chancre may appear around the anus (Fig. 4), but is much more likely to appear inside the rectum where it is usually



Figure 1. A typical primary lesion on the underside of the penis.

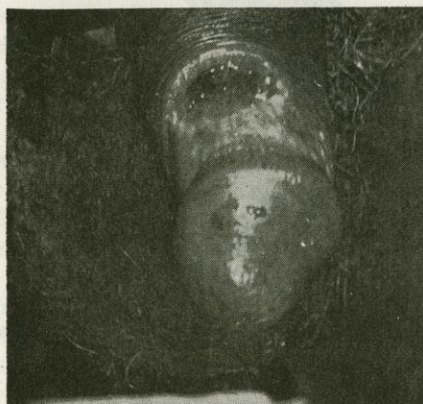


Figure 2. A typical primary lesion on the penis, ulcerated with discharge.

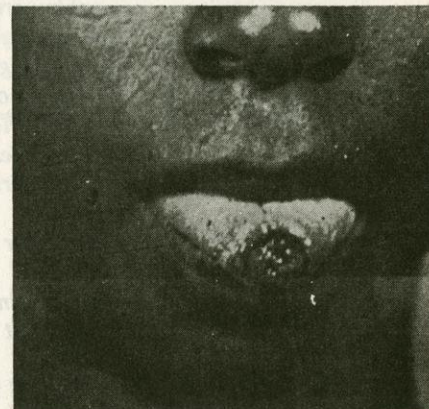


Figure 3. A primary lesion on the tongue.

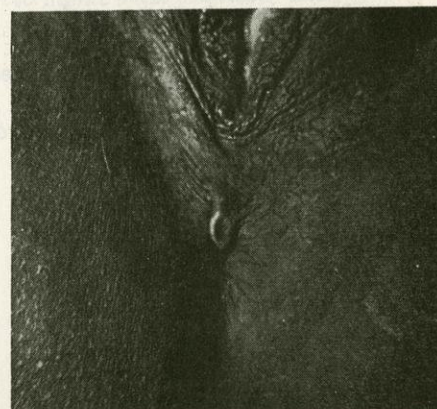


Figure 4. A primary lesion near the anus.

not noticed, or, occasionally, is mistaken for a hemorrhoid or a rectal fissure.

Three things are important to know about the primary chancre:

1. It usually doesn't hurt, and will disappear, even without treatment.

2. A blood test for syphilis will not show the presence of the disease until after the chancre appears.

3. The period when a person has the primary chancre is the time when he is most infectious to his sex partners.

Secondary Syphilis: After the primary chancre heals, most patients have one or more addition-

al warning signs of the disease that, taken together, form the category called secondary syphilis. Occasionally, a person may develop these secondary symptoms while he still has the primary chancre, or immediately after it disappears, but most people will have a symptom-free period ranging from a few weeks to several months before secondary

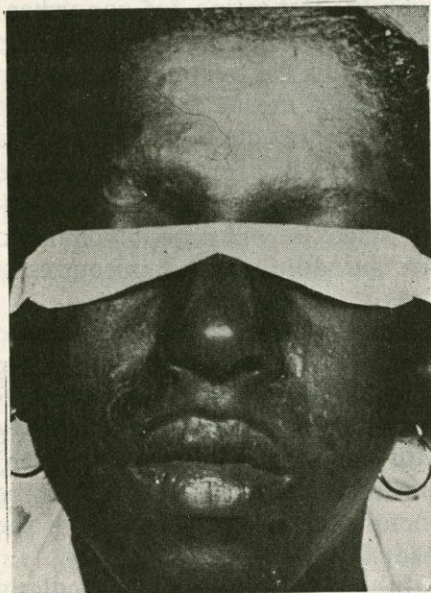


Figure 5. Secondary facial lesion. Most frequently seen in black race.

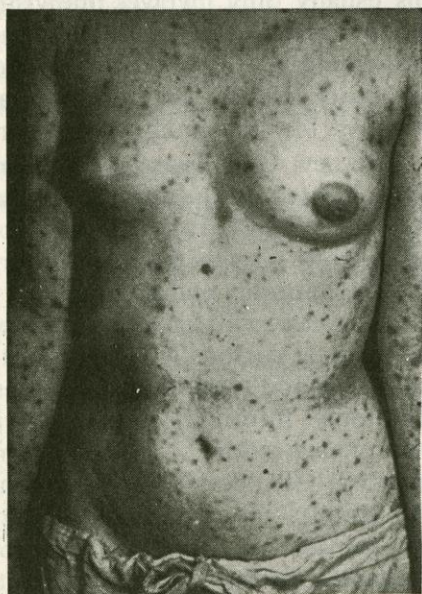


Figure 6. Secondary body rash.

symptoms occur.

The most common symptom of secondary syphilis is a rash, that could appear almost anywhere on the body (Figs. 5-9). It could appear as a dry scaly rash, a pimply rash, or just colored blotches on the skin. It doesn't itch or burn, and is often mistaken for heat rash, acne, hives, or an allergy to some chemical or soap. It can be quite inconspicuous or quite noticeable (Figs. 5, 6, 7). Most commonly it will be found on the face (Fig. 5), the back or chest (Fig. 6), the arms or legs, the palms of the hands and soles of the feet (Fig. 7), or the genitals. The most distinctive features of this rash are that it usually does not itch or burn, and there is no good reason for its appearance.



Figure 7. Secondary rash which appears on palms of hands, soles of feet or armpits.

Another possible warning sign is hair and/or eyebrows falling out, leaving the scalp with a patchy, moth-eaten appearance.

A third possible warning sign is the appearance of mucoid, warty or yeasty looking growths in the warm moist parts of the body, particularly the mouth and tongue (Fig. 8), the anal area, or the genitals (Fig. 9), but occasionally occurring in other areas such as the armpits or the spaces between the toes.

Often accompanying one of these symptoms, and occasionally, alone,

there will be a general feeling of ill health, including one or more of the following: low fever, sore throat, fatigue, swollen glands, nausea and loss of appetite.

Three things are important to know about the secondary symptoms of syphilis:

1. They are usually very vague and can be ignored or mistaken for something else, unless the patient is alert.

2. Like the primary chancre, they will disappear even without treatment.

3. They are the last warning signs of syphilis. Any symptoms other than those listed under the primary and secondary stages (i.e., blindness, paralysis, psychoses, cardiovascular trouble, etc.) are signs of damage, usually permanent, that has already been done to the body.

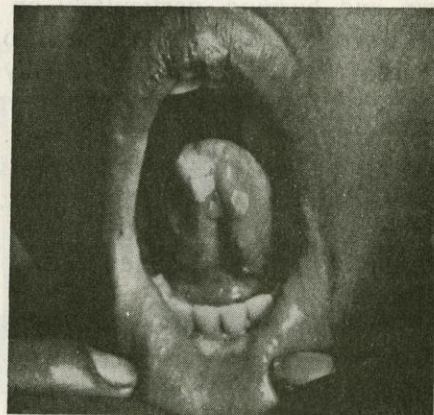


Figure 8. Secondary lesion on tongue and lip.

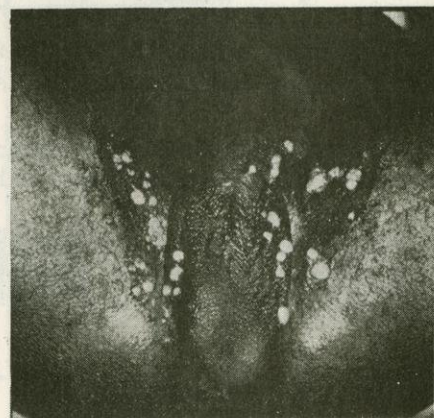


Figure 9. Noticeable mucous patches in genital area.

A Word About Gonorrhea

Gonorrhea and syphilis are different diseases. They are caused by different germs, they harm the body in different ways. The only thing they have in common is that they are transmitted in the same way—by sexual contact. You can have both gonorrhea and syphilis at the same time, and you can transmit both diseases to another person at the same time.

It's sometimes even more difficult to tell whether you have gonorrhea than it is with syphilis. A man who is infected through penile contact will usually develop a discharge of thick, creamy, whitish, yellowish or greenish fluid accumulating in drops at the tip of the penis or staining his underwear. This discharge is usually accompanied by pain and burning, particularly on urination, and an increased urge to urinate. These symptoms usually develop 3-8 days after infection, but may take a month or more. Sometimes the discharge may be very slight, and the accompanying sensation may be no more than a mild tingling and some men have no symptoms.

Gonorrhea can also readily infect the throat or rectum, occasionally causing a sore throat, or rectal burning and itching, but a gonorrhea infection of these sites most often gives no warning.

There are three things it is important to know about gonorrhea:

1. Gonorrhea often gives no warning signs that can be seen or felt.
2. Laboratory tests for gonorrhea will not detect syphilis (and vice versa).
3. Treatment given for gonorrhea will not cure clinical syphilis (and vice versa).

Tests

There are several tests used commonly to diagnose syphilis and gonorrhea.

It is in the best interest of the person suspecting either or both of these diseases to know the appropriate tests and ask for them on examination.

Syphilis:

1. **Darkfield Microscopic Exam**—Can be done only when a patient has a primary chancre, or other moist lesion, on fluid from the lesion.
2. **VDRL and FTA-abs**—Blood tests that become reactive after the primary chancre appears and remain reactive through the course of the disease.
3. **Spinal fluid exam**—A test the physician may want to take when he wants to rule out the possibility of syphilis of the central nervous system.

Gonorrhea:

1. **Gram Stained Smear**—A simple and accurate test that should be done only when a patient has a visible discharge of fluid from the penis.
2. **Thayer-Martin Culture**—The recommended test for suspected infections of the throat, rectum, and of the penis where there is no discharge of fluid.

Medical History:

The doctor who examines a person for syphilis or gonorrhea will want certain information from the patient, so it is important to have this information (written down if possible) at the time of the first visit:

1. What makes you think you have the disease? Symptoms now? Symptoms in the past? A sex partner who was treated or has symptoms?
2. Have you ever had the disease before? When? Where? Treated by who? Test results and treatment given, if known.
3. When was the last negative test for the disease? Blood donor? Admitted to hospital? Pre-employment, pre-school or military physical exam? Suspected disease and saw doctor, but tests negative?
4. Are you now, or have you

recently taken any antibiotics?—May mask symptoms.

Treatment

Effective treatments for syphilis and gonorrhea are not available without a doctor's prescription. The best available treatments are injectable penicillins (long-acting for syphilis, fast-acting for gonorrhea), given in a clinic or doctor's office. In most cases, treatment can be accomplished in one visit, although if a doctor suspects that a person has had syphilis for more than 6 months and has passed the secondary stage, he will probably want to give an additional 1-2 injections at weekly intervals.

For the patient who is allergic to penicillin, other antibiotics are available, but as these are not as effective, it is important (particularly with any drug taken by mouth) that the patient carefully follow the doctor's orders and take all of the medication.

In most cases, and particularly where a treatment other than penicillin injections is used, the doctor will want the patient to return to make sure of cure. With gonorrhea, this usually only involves one visit, about a week after treatment, but with syphilis, it can involve a blood test every month, or every several months, for as much as a year.

The new **GPU Examination Center** is located on the ground floor at 225 E. St. Paul. It will initially be open from 10 p.m. to 1 a.m. every Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Examiners who have been trained by medical persons will be on duty to take blood samples and cultures. The only information required is your name, address and telephone number. GPU people will then send the samples and cultures to the city lab for testing. You will not be contacted further unless your tests show positive and then you will be discreetly contacted by a worker from the Wisconsin Health and Social Services to arrange treatment.

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS

1. Synchro— (slick shift gears)
5. Bayerische Motoren Werke (abbr. pl.) (Rolls Royce of Motorcycles)
9. Knock outs (abbr.)
12. Venezuela copper center
13. Vegetable
14. American Motorcycle Association (abbr.)
15. Powerful light weight bike by Harley Davidson
17. Intellectual power
18. Los Angeles (abbr.)
19. Not a well-known motorcycle
21. Vermont (abbr.)
23. Engrave by corrosive process
26. Back (French)
27. — Rider
29. Cavity
31. Supplement
34. Slides on snow
35. Pertaining to tone
36. Cycle locking device
37. Male nickname
38. Red eyed carp
39. Fine fabric
40. Biblical high priest
42. Wind god (Babylonian)
44. Electrical engineer (abbr.)
45. Spark advance & negative pressure
48. Ounce (abbr.)
49. Motorcycle by British Small Arms Corp. (abbr.)
50. Shaft driven Italian motorcycle
56. Air (combining form)
57. Turn the sod
58. On an even — (balance)
59. Short nap fabric or cape
60. Part of boot
61. Low rpm

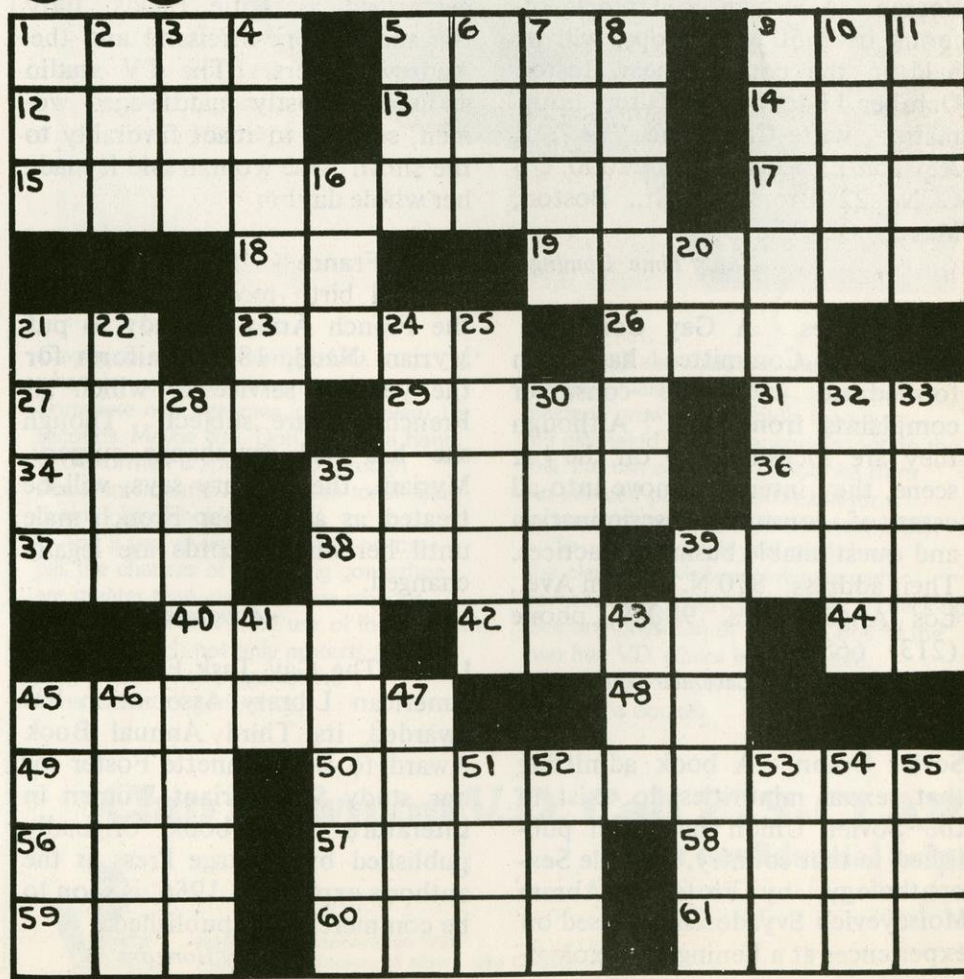
DOWN

1. Masculine (abbr.)
2. European Recovery Program (abbr.)
3. — line R. R.
4. Sometimes called a "hawg"

5. Bike boys sport (abbr.)
6. Had a meeting
7. Obnoxious plant
8. Apple — (pastry)
9. 900 cc. 4-cyl. bike
10. Leave out
11. Queen of Gods (Egypt)
16. Make lace
20. Commanding officer (abbr.)
21. Riders wear a leather —
22. Seize
24. Cabbage (French)
25. You meet the nicest people on a —
28. Devices for third passenger
30. Actor Alan —
32. Remove (print)
33. Female homosexual (slang)
35. TR-6 English bike
39. You get more nooki on a —
41. Louisville University (abbr.)
43. Canine
45. Type of handle bar
46. On the ocean
47. Body mark or spot
51. Boots with steel —
52. Nocturnal bird
53. The letter "z"
54. Cymbal (Oriental)
55. Island (French)



(Answer on page 21)



HERE&THERE

New York - The newly formed Lesbian Herstory Archives are in the process of collecting memorabilia (writings, photos, poetry, etc.) and obscure references to the lesbian past. Send them to Lesbian Herstory Archives, PO Box 1258, New York, NY 10001.

-Amazon

Puerto Rico - The government here is acting on plans to criminalize lesbianism for the first time ever in that US colony. Already passed by the Puerto Rican House, the new penal code outlaws prostitution, male homosexual and lesbian acts. Previous laws applied only to gay males. Gay bars will be open to loss of license under the new law.

-Gay Liberator

Boston - A lesbian conference, offering over 50 workshops, will be held in the country near Boston October 11 to 14. For more information, write Conference '74 - An Amazon Expedition, Box 2000, c/o GCN, 22 Bromfield St., Boston, Mass. 02108.

-Long Time Coming

Los Angeles - A Gay Consumer Protection Committee has been formed to investigate consumer complaints from gays. Although they are focusing now on the bar scene, they intend to move into all cases of consumer discrimination and questionable business practices. Their address: 870 N. Sanban Ave., Los Angeles, Ca. 90029, phone (213) 665-9519.

-Lavendar Opinion

Soviet Union - A book admitting that sexual minorities do exist in the Soviet Union has been published in that country. **Female Sexopathology**, by Professor Abram Moiseyevich Svyadosch, is based on experiences at a Leningrad sexologi-

cal laboratory, the only one of its kind in the USSR. The author says that nearly 20% of homosexuals attempt suicide, but that 60% do not want to be treated in any way as they consider their condition to be normal. The recommended treatment for gays is a combination of hypnosis and aversion therapy, but the professor notes this produces only a temporary "cure" at best. The book is a long way from accepting homosexuality as a normal state, but its very publication indicates some liberalization in the Soviet Union.

-Gay News

USA - A recent Phil Donahue Show on ABC-TV featured three female impersonators from the Frisco Follies. The impersonators performed as Totie Fields, Judy Garland, Barbra Streisand and the Andrew Sisters. The TV studio audience, mostly middle-aged women, seemed to react favorably to the show. One woman said it made her whole day!

Niort, France - "She" is listed in national birth records as male, so the French Army is ready to put Myriam Naud, 18, in uniform for the year of service to which all Frenchmen are subject. Though she has had sex-change surgery, Myriam, the military says, will be treated as any other French male until her birth records are legally changed.

-Advocate

USA - The Gay Task Force of the American Library Association has awarded its Third Annual Book Award to Dr. Jeannette Foster for her study **Sex Variant Women in Literature**. The book, originally published by Vantage Press at the author's expense in 1956, is soon to be commercially republished.

-Gay Horizons

Baton Rouge, La. - The Erickson Educational Foundation is offering a practical handbook of advice and information covering most situations—medical, legal, personal—that the pre- and post-operative transsexual is likely to encounter. **Guidelines for Transexuals** can be obtained for \$1.00 from EEF, 1627 Moreland Ave., Baton Rouge, La. 70808.

-EEF Newsletter

New York - Last Christmas, a Gay Caucus of the Modern Language Association was formed. The MLA Program has accepted "The Homosexual and Literature" as a topic for a Forum at the MLA Convention in New York this Christmas. Workshops will be held in conjunction with the Forum. The Caucus needs volunteers to lead workshops or to read papers. Write Prof. Dolores Noll, Dept. of English, Kent State University, Kent, Ohio 44240.

-GAU Newsletter

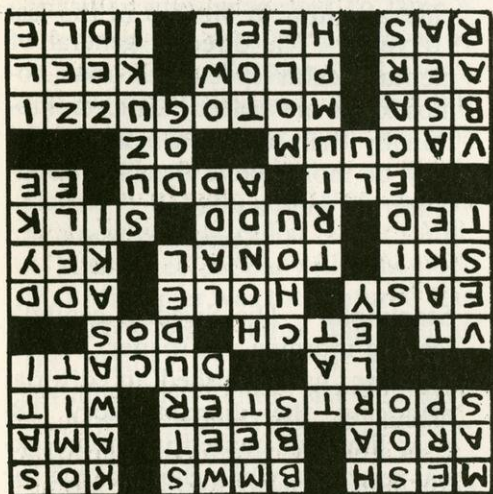
Boston - An openly running lesbian-feminist, Elaine Noble, won a precedent-making victory in the Sept. 10 Democratic primary election here and seems assured of assuming her seat in the next session of the Massachusetts House of Representatives. Noble got 597 votes to her closest opponent's 428. Republican opposition is not active in the district and Noble's election seems a foregone conclusion.

-Advocate

Mexico City - "Gay Slang/Gay Culture: How Are They Related?" is a paper being presented by Julia Stanley, a member of the Gay Academic Union, at the meeting of the American Anthropological Association here in November.

-GAU Newsletter

SOLUTION
TO
CROSSWORDS
PAGE 19



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**CLAP.
Don't give it
a hand.**



Clap, drip, dose, gonorrhea, V.D. . . . whatever you call it, it's an epidemic. Someone new becomes infected every 15 seconds. Maybe you. Don't give it a hand.

Gonorrhea is spread only through sexual intercourse . . . not from toilet seats, doorknobs or holding hands.

And if you or your partner is on the pill, the chances of spreading gonorrhea are greater than ever. For two reasons. The pill has reduced the use of the condom (rubber), which not only protects against pregnancy but also against the transmission of gonorrhea.

The pill also increases the moisture of the female genital tract, so gonorrhea bacteria grow more rapidly than ever. It's estimated that for a woman *not* on the pill, the risk of getting gonorrhea from an infected partner is 40%; but for a woman taking the pill, it is almost 100%.

So . . . if you think you might have the clap, or have been intimate with someone who might have it, get a check-up. See any physician or come to one of the two free V.D. clinics in Milwaukee. V.D. can be completely cured if treated early by a doctor.

Clap Down on V.D. Call 273-CLAP
for confidential help.



Prepared in Cooperation With
The Medical Society of Milwaukee County

HERE&THERE

New York - The National Gay Task Force has initiated an experimental program, in cooperation with several New York social service agencies, to place gay young people with gay adults in foster home situations. "Our objective, of course," reads NGTF's newsletter, "is the integration of gay adults into the whole spectrum of foster care...."

-Sisters

California - And elsewhere, openly gay adoptions are taking place in the State of California under the single parent adoption program. A social worker noted, however, that the children adopted would probably be young teenagers who are known to be sexually active homosexuals. The idea of gay adoptive parents for infants or toddlers is still far from being accepted.

-Advocate

Boston - The National Educational Television network has released results of a poll of its viewers of "The Advocates" debate program on the question "Should same sex marriages be allowed?" Those opposed to the question won with 436 votes, or 68%. The pro-marriage votes were 206, or 32%.

-Advocate

Portland, Ore. - Portland State University became Oregon's first public institution to officially ban discrimination against gays. The PSU policy now prohibits discrimination in employment and other university activities with respect to race, age, creed, national origin, sex and sexual orientation.

-Advocate

Boston - The city that once made "banned in Boston" a household phrase is zoning a district, to be called the Combat Zone, that will be the exclusive domain of porno

shops, sex films and stripper shows. The two-block long strip in downtown Boston, zoned as an "adult entertainment district," will include two area parks and a shuttle bus service. Anything legal will be welcome, a spokesman announced.

-Milwaukee Journal

New York - Violet Press, a lesbian/feminist press in NYC, is looking for manuscripts and prayers, chants and holiday services for a prayer-book of the new goddess religion. Anyone interested can contact them at PO Box 398, NYC 10009.

-Lavendar Opinion

Mexico City - Homosexuals are less suicide-prone than heterosexuals, a Mexican government inquiry concluded. The study examined the

details in all the 8439 known suicide attempts in Mexico in the last 10 years. The director general of mental health speculated that homosexuals are better balanced emotionally than has been believed and may be more stable than the population taken as a whole.

-Advocate

Stockholm - The Swedish capital's leading morning newspaper, *Dagens Nyheter*, has published an editorial attacking the discriminatory 18-year limit for consenting homosexual relations, while the legal age for nongays is 15. "The homosexual has it hard enough as it is, deeply rooted as the sexual prejudices are in today's liberated Sweden," the editorial concluded.

-Advocate



IF YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING TO
HATE YOURSELF IN THE MORNING—
WE COULD JUST SLEEP UNTIL NOON!

INTERVIEW

Michael Greer, an actor and entertainer who catapulted to fame a few years ago with his portrayal of "Queenie" in *Fortune and Men's Eyes*, recently spent a week in Chicago. His night club act was presented three nights at *Man's Country*, a bath, and three nights at a new gay bar called *Sutter's Mill*.

Milwaukee people will remember that Mr. Greer was the featured star of GPU's Mardi Gras Ball held at the Bradley Pavillion of the Performing Arts Center last February (see GPU NEWS, January and February/March 1974).

The highlight of Mr. Greer's hour long night club act is his appearance behind a large picture frame as Mona Lisa. Lisa is portrayed as a shop-worn, worldly-wise woman of the streets and she shares some of her experiences over the years with the audience. Portraits of the Blue Boy and Whistler's Mother are on either side of her and she tells you about them, too.

Q. Mr. Greer, you were on four segments of the Bobby Gentry Show this summer. How did this come about?

A. CBS was looking for someone to replace Sonny and Cher and Bobby Gentry was selected. One of the dancers who worked with her brought her to *The After Dark Club* in Las Vegas where I was playing. She went back to Hollywood and had her agent get in touch with mine.

Q. Any new films or TV shows we should watch for?

A. I've completed a film called "The Messiah of Evil" in which I have the lead. It's a straight role. I play the devil's son. Then I have a guest spot on a show called "Sunshine" which should be on TV in October. It is also a straight role, but I'm more interested in content than in subject.

Q. Nightclub engagements?



A. I open October 15 at New York's hottest supper club—Reno Sweeney—in the village. I'll be sharing the bill with Joan Hackett who will be making her debut as a singer.

Q. I know you have played the Continental Baths in New York and just finished an engagement at *Man's Country* here in Chicago. What is it like, performing in a bath?

A. What can I say? It's great to have 1500 men in towels cheering you...sort of like when Marilyn Monroe played Korea, if you know what I mean. It's the only place I ever got a seven-minute standing ovation. I prefer *Man's Country*. It is cleaner and cozier. I felt as though I had seen my audience before, although I had not.

Q. *Sutter's Mill* is a small room. How about working in such close quarters?

A. I had no idea the room would be so small. The place was supposed to be called the Wild Onion, but they had to change the name at the last minute because Regency Hyatt House already had the name. Well, it's like a living room or you could say a bedroom. You know that I've often likened my act to making love to my audience. I open with some amusing foreplay getting ready for a strategic move. Then after about fifteen minutes, things get a little more exciting and finally everyone reaches a climax at the same time.

Q. Your thoughts about Chicago?

A. I'm from Galesburg, Illinois, so

(continued on page 25)

LESBIANS *(from page 3)*

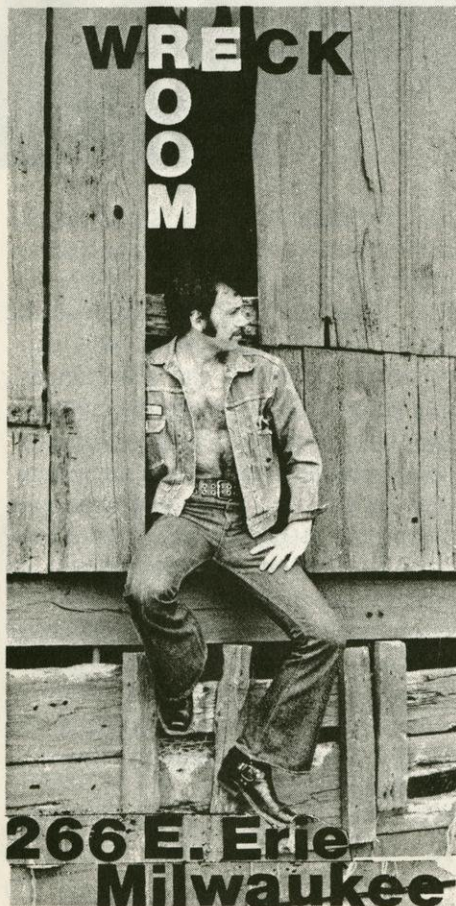
but beautiful female psychiatrist for help; the lovely twist to the tale is that Miss Cold Professional ends up seducing her adoring but inhibited patient. Ms. Taylor's comment was that she knows many lesbians still searching for that converted psychiatrist.

She concluded her remarks by speaking to the important question of the future direction of lesbian fiction. Should a wave of homosexual backlash wash over our society, it could well mean a return to the depressing formula fiction of the past. But if the gains of gay liberation continue in the direction of incorporating gays more and more into the mainstream of society, it could mean a fictional representation of lesbians as relating to the more general human problems and concerns (thereby also making it more accessible to a wider audience).

Saturday the rest of the women at the Conference had a chance to get into the act. The day was spent in workshops exchanging ideas about the mechanics and themes involved in the writing of poetry, fiction, and prose articles, as well as in learning about the procedures and pitfalls of trying to get your masterpiece published. An issue of much controversy centered around the importance of the traditional formalistic criteria of poetry and their relation to the new things women are attempting to express today. Many women felt these standards to be inhibiting, while others felt that they constitute no necessary barrier to expression, and in fact contribute to the creation of a satisfying, coherent work of art. Another idea of interest was the possibilities for collective composition, that is, the creation of a poem or piece of fiction by a small group

of women. Some women reported having been part of such group efforts which proved surprisingly successful in many cases.

The final day of the weekend began with some beautiful musical offerings by a number of women. This was followed by a "read-in": about ten women read from their poetry and prose. A wide variety of styles and themes was in evidence. Lesbian writers, clearly, are neither slavish imitators of one another, nor compelled by their common lifestyle to manufacture a homogenous product. On the contrary, it was obvious not only that much talent was in evidence, but that creative lesbians respond to their own lifestyle and to life in general with a stimulating variety of style and outlook. This truth proved, finally, to be the most exhilarating and significant fact of a truly wonderful weekend.



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GREER (from page 23)

Chicago is like coming home for me.

Q. Milwaukee?

A. I've told everyone around the country that Milwaukee is the friendliest city I've ever played. I'll admit that I came there with preconceived notions, but I loved it. I had a ball at your Mardi Gras Ball. I want to play Milwaukee again. I still correspond with several people there.

Q. May we have your frank opinion of gay liberation?

A. Gay liberation is like a growing child that occasionally gets into trouble and yet you know in your heart that someday it will grow into something strong and beautiful. It is much needed.

Q. I understand that you did a gay benefit in Los Angeles recently.

A. Yes, it was for gay alcoholics. I happened to be at home in L.A. when Morris Kight called and asked me to do the benefit. I was glad to help and I enjoyed it.

Q. You are rapidly becoming an idol in the gay world. How do you feel about that?

A. I never planned it, but I understand it and am also aware of the responsibility it entails.

Q. Do you have any unfulfilled ambitions in your work?

A. I've always wanted to do a gay western. I can see myself as the west's first gay hairdresser with tons of old-fashioned hairdressing equipment. On the serious side, I've always wanted to do a film about Richard Speck who killed the nurses here in Chicago.

Q. Fun? Hobbies?

A. I bitch a lot and curse my face. I really do not have any hobbies. I love to write and work on my show constantly. I have lots of plants, but no pets because I'm on the road so much and it wouldn't be fair to them.

Q. Would you consider yourself masculine or feminine?

A. Yes.

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REVIEW

Sexual Identity Conflict in Children and Adults
by Richard Green, M.D.
Foreword by R. J. Stoller, M.D.
Basic Books, Inc., New York,
1974. 327 pp. \$15.00.

by Sheila Sullivan

"The purpose of this book is to give a comprehensive description of what is comparatively rare behavior. It describes children and adults who clearly prefer living the sex role opposite to that expected by nature of their anatomy." So says Dr. Green in his "Preface" to the most recently published text on transsexualism.

Unlike the sex-change bibles of the past (Harry Benjamin's *The Transsexual Phenomenon*, Richard Green's *Transsexualism and Sex Re-assignment*, etc.), Dr. Green's latest book concentrates on transsexuals

themselves, rather than on the event and particulars of transsexualism. The bulk of the volume records excerpts of interviews in chapters by such titles as "Men Who Want to Become Women," "Women Who Want to Become Men," "Boyfriends and Husbands of Male-To-Female Transsexuals," "Girlfriends and Wives of Female-to-Male Transsexuals," and others equally interesting.

Green starts out by briefing us in the first three chapters on historical and cross-cultural surveys, psychologic theories and biologic studies of transsexualism. Then he begins introducing us, through interviews, to adult transsexuals and how they are treated for their condition. We listen in on a 57-year-old male-to-female transsexual who, for the first 30 years of his life, recalls no interest whatsoever in femininity; a male who decides to abandon the idea of sex-change surgery to instead marry a male-to-female postoperative; and a female-

to-male transsexual who has married a woman who nearly forty years before had been his grade-school teacher.

What struck me most about this study was its human-ness:

Dr: Most people before surgery try living as a woman, first, just to see what it's like, before going ahead with an irreversible step.

M-F TS: Living as a woman? How can you do that?

Dr: Just by dressing as one and working as one. To see what it's like.

M-F TS: But that wouldn't make you a woman.

Dr: No. Neither does cutting off your penis. It can make you a man without a penis.

The next seven chapters deal with feminine boys, aged 3½ to 11 years. Interviews with the parents and the boys themselves give insight into the development of pretranssexuals:

Dr: Do you think your daddy ever wanted you to be born a girl?

Boy: No.

Dr: Just your mommy?

Boy: Yeah.

Dr: How about now? Do you think

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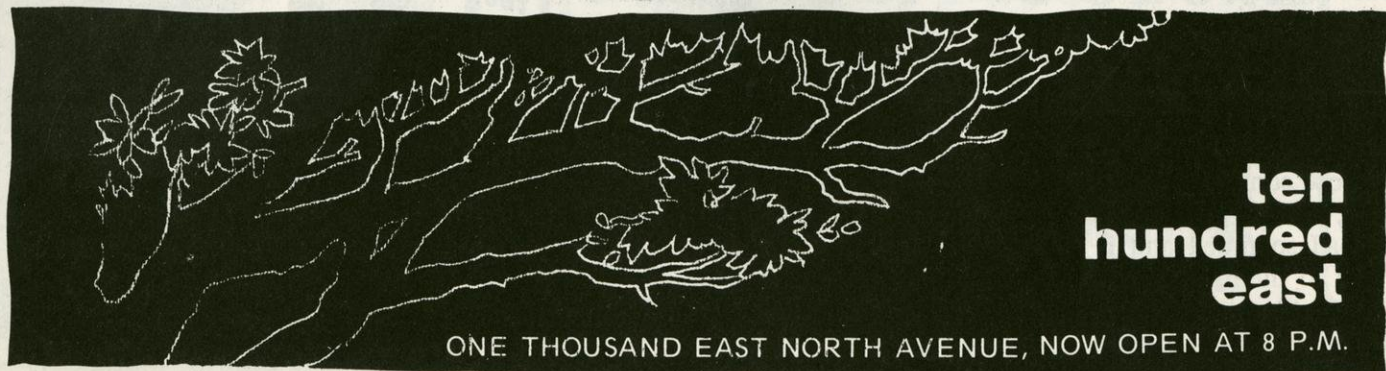
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your mommy still wants you to be a girl?

Boy: No,

Dr: What makes you think she's changed her mind?

Boy: Because she really just likes me to be a boy. So, it can be very hard to keep concentrating. I stopped being a girl, but, like, once you do something, you feel like doing it. I keep on doing it.

Green enumerates ten factors found in the emergence of boyhood femininity, but is very blunt about his uncertainty: "This chapter's cat will now be let out of its bag: I do not have a simple explanation of what causes boyhood femininity."

While various approaches to treatment are used, each are based on 1) developing trust and affection between a male therapist and the feminine boy; 2) educating the child as to the impossibility of his changing sex (Green notes there are added problems if the child finds out that for most practical purposes, he can); 3) stressing the advantages of participating in some activities enjoyed by other boys, and promoting greater comfort in such activity; 4) educating the parents as to how they may be fostering sexual identity conflict in their child; 5) advising the parents of the need to consistently disapprove of very feminine behavior, and consistently encourage masculine behavior, if they desire change in their sons; and 6) enhancing the father's or father-substitute's involvement in the feminine boy's life.

Green realizes the need to defend the treatment of these pretranssexuals, and so explains:

Opponents of treatment aver that intervention will stamp out esthetic, sensitive qualities in the child and crudely press him into the stereotyped mold demanded by a sexist society. Proponents of treatment disagree. When consulted by the family of a boy whose atypical behavior causes him current hardship and portends increased distress, our goal is to reduce that social hardship. The aim is not to suppress sensitivity and compassion, nor to promote a thirst for aggression and violence. Rather, it is to impart greater balance where a radically skewed development has precluded a comfortable range of social integration.

We believe that by so doing, the child may suffer less immediate distress and may subsequently have available to him a wider range of social and sexual options.

In the brief 16-page chapter on "Masculine Girls," Green explains that because tomboyishness usually arouses no concern in society, very few of these girls are brought for evaluation. Thus an understanding of the development of enduring masculine identity in young girls is at a primitive level.

Finally, Green ends his book with a series of questions yet to be answered in the study of pretranssexual children.

This book, along with Benjamin's and Green's earlier publications, form the picture of what has been, is being and will be done in the field of transsexualism. Must reading!

Sheila Sullivan, a female transvestite, is Secretary of Gay Peoples Union, Inc., and helps in the preparation of GPU NEWS.



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

GAY PEOPLES UNION, INC.

Topics for Upcoming Meetings

- Oct. 7 Regular business meeting
- Oct. 14 Pot luck supper and talent show. Starts at 7 p.m.
- Oct. 21 Parent's night. Bring your relatives!
- Oct. 28 Bisexual marriage

The National Gay Task Force has announced that the Marcus Welby, M.D. segment entitled "The Outrage" has been cancelled on ABC's local affiliate in Philadelphia. The segment is centered around a 14-year-old boy who is raped by his male science teacher. NGTF asks

all gays to contact their local ABC affiliate station to protest the showing of the program and demand its cancellation.

One of Chicago is sponsoring an Octoberfest on October 19 at Odd Fellow's Hall in Chicago. For more information, contact One of Chicago, P. O. Box 537, Chicago, Ill.

The Tulane University-Gay Students' Union has just compiled a Gay Bibliography listing over 150 books and pamphlets, 56 magazines and newspapers, and 7 noteworthy or local organizations. Copies of this free bibliography can be obtained from the GSU by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to

the Gay Students' Union, ASB Office, Tulane University Center, New Orleans, Louisiana, 70118.

Up North Restaurant and Bar in Chicago, 6244 N. Western, announces that on Saturday, October 26, they will have an old-fashioned Halloween Party and a drag and costume contest. They will also select a Mr. Up North.

The Gay Students' Association (GSA) of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee held its first meeting of the new semester in Room 307E of the Students' Union on Wednesday, September 25.

About 20 people attended and the discussion included strategy for promoting the organization and the movement on campus. In particular it was felt that such publicity should be directed to Sandburg Dorms. The planning session also touched on setting up a speaker's committee and a social events committee.

This year's advisor is Professor Doar of the Philosophy Department.

Meetings will be held every Wednesday at 8 p.m., but a permanent room location has not yet been arranged. A spokesperson for GSA suggested that students or faculty who were interested in attending meetings should watch for posters or announcements in the UWM Post. GSA can also be contacted by writing Box 10 UWM Union.

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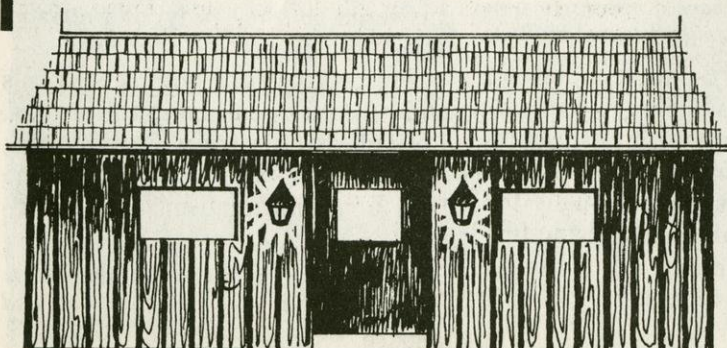
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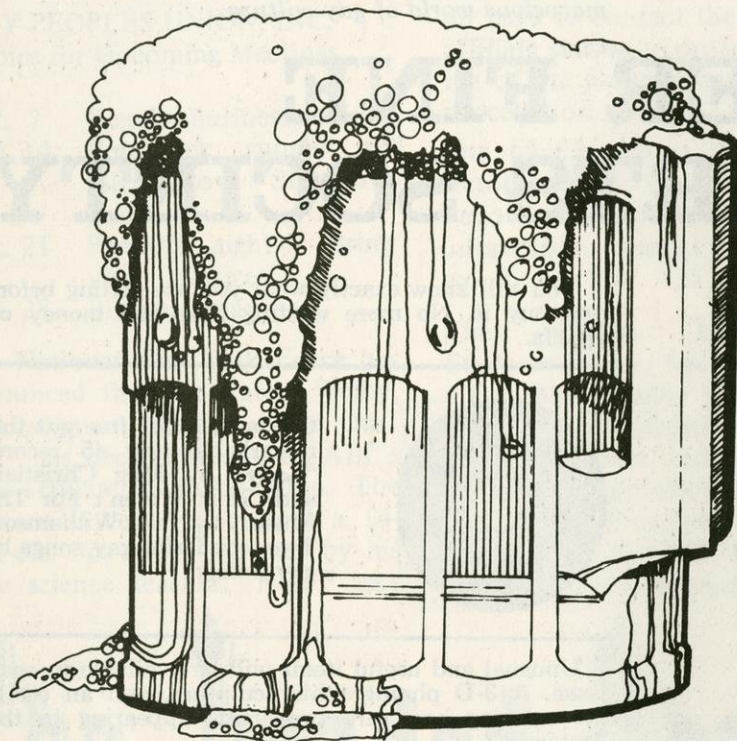
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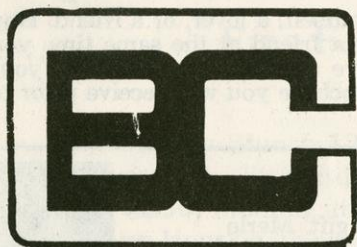
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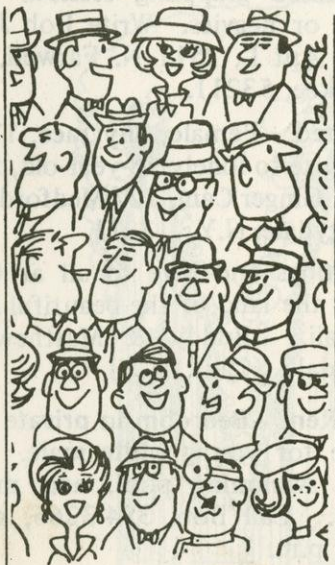
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Gay Alcoholics Anonymous

Meetings Sundays at 5 pm and Wednesdays at 7 pm in the social hall of the Newman Center, 2528 E. Linnwood. Call 271-5273 and ask for Group 94.

Gay Peoples Union, Inc.

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Meetings every Wednesday evening in southern part of the county. Reorganizing this fall. Watch for announcements of meetings.

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