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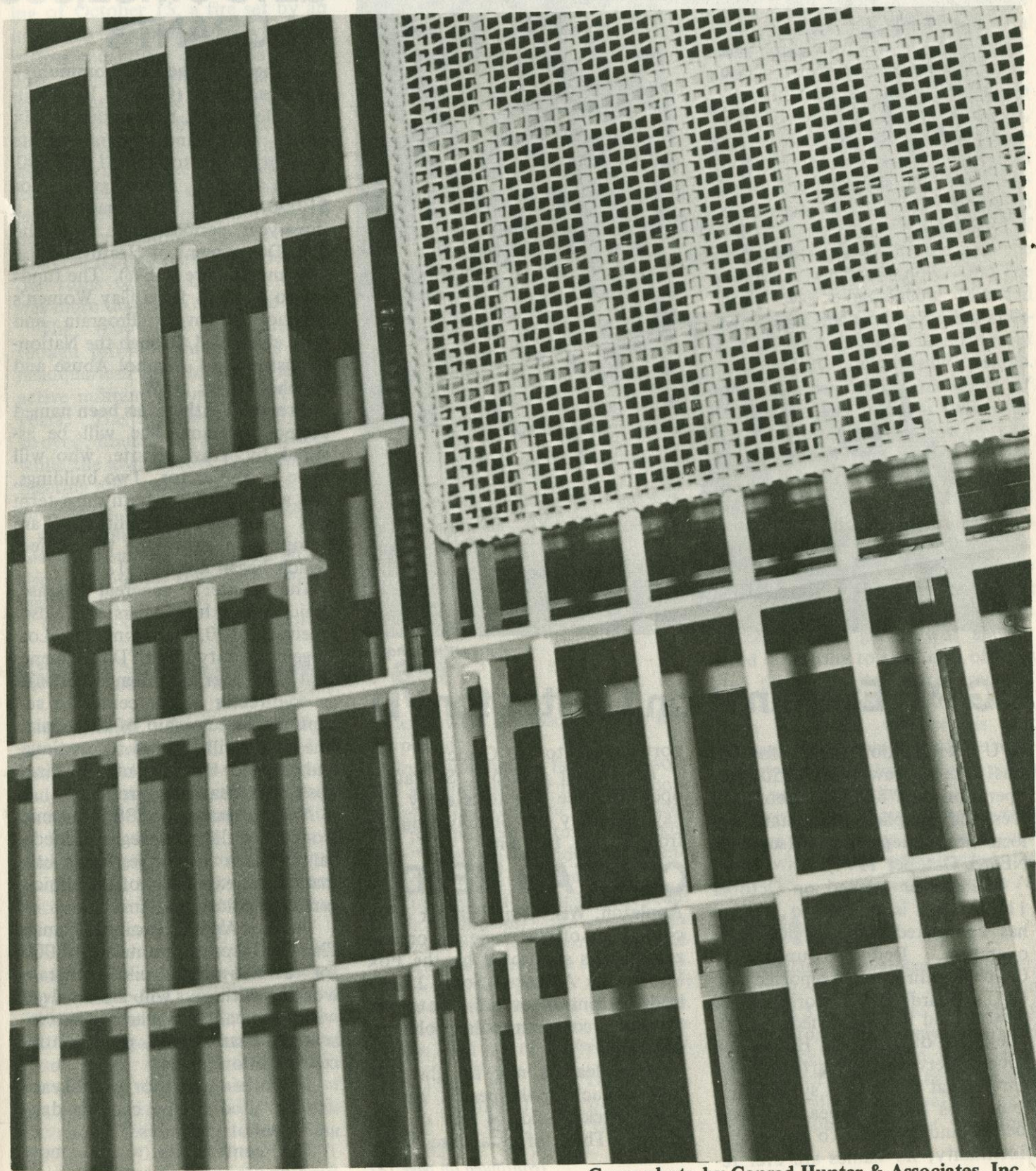
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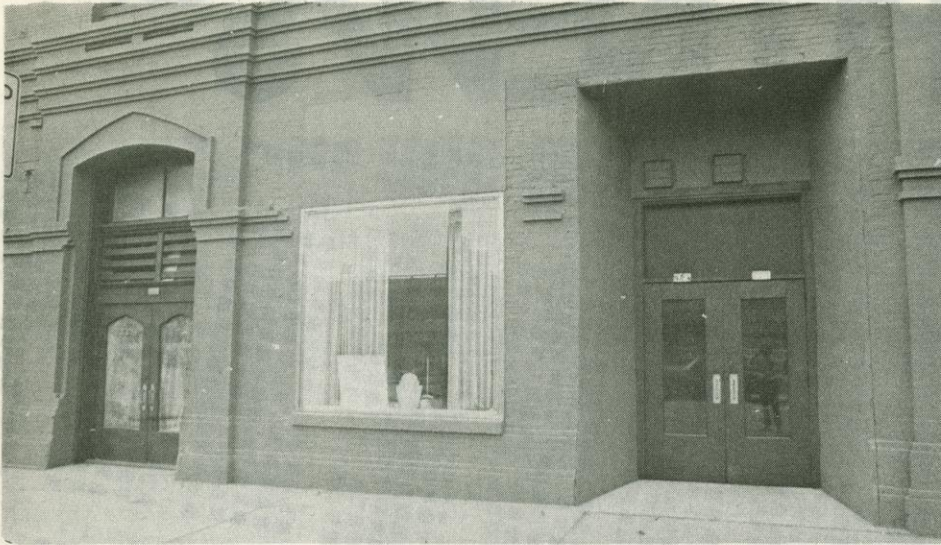
November 1974

# GPU NEWS 50¢



Cover photo by Conrad Hunter & Associates, Inc.





GPU NEWS photos

## GPU Examination Center for VD

GPU Examination Center for VD was recently awarded \$2500 for operations and \$2500 in laboratory fees and supplies from state and local health departments (see GPU NEWS, October 1974).

The Center opened on October 11. As this issue goes to press, it has completed three weekends of operation. Dennis Younger, the Center's director, reported to GPU's Board of Directors that 60 persons had been screened for VD. The State of Wisconsin Health and Social Services Department reported that one case of syphilis and four cases of gonorrhea had been located and treated. To assure confidentiality, no names are ever re-

ported back to the Center.

The Center at 225 E. St. Paul is open for free VD tests every Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings from 10 p.m. to 1 a.m.

## CONFAB HELD

Appleton, Wis. - On October 19, a conference of Wisconsin gay organizations was sponsored by the Fox Valley Gay Alliance. Some 25 gay leaders from all over the state met to discuss common goals, problems, and plans.

Many leaders met for the first time. Each spokesperson gave a short background of his or her group. Then informal discussions

(continued on page 18)

## L A CENTER GETS \$1,182,000 IN GRANTS

Los Angeles - The Gay Community Services Center (GCSC), 1614 Wilshire Boulevard, has announced six local, state and federal grants amounting to a total of \$1,182,000.

The largest single grant, for \$1,000,000 to be spread over a three-year period, came from the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW). The funds are to be used for a Gay Women's Alcohol Recovery Program and were channeled through the National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism by HEW.

Brenda Weathers has been named project director. She will be assisted by Travis Foote, who will serve as co-director. Two buildings, one a residence for both short-term and long-term rehabilitation, are being made ready for the project which began October 1.

The center's venereal disease clinic, now three years old, also received \$130,000 from the Los Angeles County Health Department. Don Kelhefner has resigned his post as co-director of the center to accept the directorship of the clinic. The funds will be used to continue and expand the present VD diagnosis and treatment program.

Another grant for \$30,000 came from the California Regional Medical Program with the funds earmarked for expansion of the clinic's general medical program.

The Los Angeles Regional Family Planning Project granted \$12,000 for a five-month pilot program working with gays who are involved with bisexuality or who are heterosexually married and need contraceptive information.

Two other grants for \$5,000 each will be used in the center's drug and alcohol programs.

The center has several more funding proposals in progress.



# GAA CENTER BURNED AND LOOTED

New York - At 3 a.m. on the morning of October 15, a fire set by an unknown arsonist destroyed the offices and center of the Gay Activists Alliance (GAA). The fire broke out on the third floor of GAA's famed firehouse building at 99 Wooster Street. Chief Fire Marshall Edwin H. Sheppard said that the fire "had been set in at least six places" on the upper floors of the three-story building. Several empty charcoal lighter cans were found in the ruins of the building, which was more than 50% destroyed.

The renovated firehouse, although privately owned, had been headquarters for the city's largest active militant group for over four years. The top floor, totally destroyed, housed the group's offices, while the lower floors, consisting of meeting and counseling rooms, suffered heavy water damage. Dignity, a gay Roman Catholic group, and Lesbian Feminist Liberation group also rented office space in the building from GAA.

Officers of GAA also reported

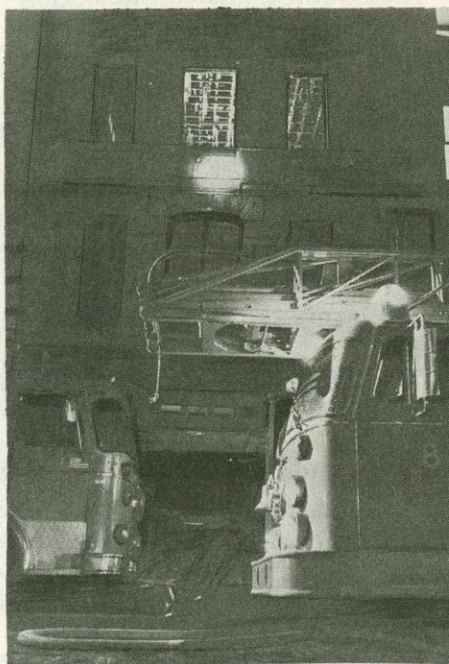


Photo: John Lauritsen

that about \$5,000 worth of electronic, video tape and office equipment was taken from the firehouse, evidently before the fire, causing speculation that the fire had been set to cover up the theft. The

equipment was not insured, according to Ron Di Martini, GAA's office manager. The stereo sound system used for the group's weekly fund-raising dances was also missing.

At the time of the fire, the group was without an active president, their former president Morty Manford having resigned only five days before the fire. Manford's resignation came after the membership had voted to cut off the salaries of all paid persons connected with the group. It was well known that the group was experiencing financial difficulties due to a dwindling membership and smaller attendance at the weekly fund-raising dances. Many former active members of GAA have left to form their own special interest groups or to work in more conservative groups in the last few years.

When contacted by a GPU NEWS reporter, Ron Di Martini, GAA's office manager said that the group had made arrangements to lease the eighth floor of the building housing **Man's Country Bath** at 22 W. 15th Street. The group will shortly hold a meeting to elect new officers and decide on its future direction. Whether they will try to maintain such elaborate quarters is not known at the moment, but he vehemently asserted that the group was "still very much alive."

When asked about the persistent rumors that there is political dissension within the organization, he

(continued on page 18)

## Gay Catholic Ends Fast

Detroit, Mich. - Brian McNaught, a gay activist who is employed by the Detroit archdiocesan newspaper, ended a 24-day protest fast here on October 2 after two Detroit auxiliary Bishops wrote him a letter promising to help sensitize the Church to the pain, suffering and discrimination that is at times inflicted upon the homosexual.

Brian, who was dropped from his position as a columnist of the newspaper (see GPU NEWS, August 1974) due to his public declaration of being a gay man, began fasting from solid food September 9, reduced his liquid intake to water September 16 (see GPU NEWS, October 1974). His fast was in protest of the Catholic Church's atti-

tudes toward homosexuals. He lost 23 pounds.

In beginning his fast, Brian told the archdiocese that he would continue to fast until the church made a "positive commitment to educate" itself to the horrible wound inflicted upon gay people.

The Bishops' letter in part read:

*We (the Bishops) have a serious obligation to root out structures and attitudes that discriminate against the homosexual as a person. We will exert our leadership in behalf of this effort. We hope for your continued cooperation with us to achieve this goal.*

The letter was sent October 2, 1974, addressed to Brian, and signed by Bishop T. Gumbleton and Bishop J. Imesch.

## Obituary

Popular Milwaukee bartender, Edmund C. Dooley, 56, died on October 5 of a stroke. Mr. Dooley worked for the old **Seaway Inn** and more recently at **The Ball Game**. Funeral services were held October 8 at St. John's Cathedral and burial was at Holy Sepulcher Cemetery, Worth, Ill.



# EDITORIAL

There is such a thing as recognition for a job well done. Recognition is hard to get for most gay organizations and publications because the establishment fears that recognition signifies approval of an alternate sexual life-style. However, once a group has operated as long and successfully as Gay Peoples Union and GPU NEWS, recognition cannot easily be withheld.

Recently recognition has been pouring into GPU and GPU NEWS. In spite of the fact that it might sound as if we were beating our own drum, we would like to share with our readers some of these recent experiences.

Of course, the city and state funding for GPU's V.D. Examination Center is recognition of the highest quality. Public funds are not lightly given, particularly to gay

## MEMBER COSMEP

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

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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

groups. They have to prove their abilities and dedication first.

The Southeast Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission recently granted full recognition to GPU when it listed GPU as an official information and referral agency.

Wisconsin Telephone Company, after some effort, now lists Gay Peoples Union under its "Hotlines and Helping Lines" listings, making GPU co-equal with Red Cross, Salvation Army, etc. That's recognition, too.

The Wisconsin College of Medicine and The School of Nursing at UWM are now scheduling speakers from GPU as "resource experts" in their classes on Human Sexuality. This is being done on a very regular basis.

The Wisconsin Information Service now refers people who wish information about homosexuality to GPU. We have several listings in their large cross-index files of services available in Wisconsin.

GPU NEWS is one of the most quoted and reprinted publication in the gay world. Each month about a half-dozen articles, news items, artwork, etc., are reprinted in other publications. That's recognition. The word is out that our material is all original and not under copyright. We are flattered to be so used, since one of our objectives is to get the word out. We do wish that other publications would remember that proper credit is important. It should include the words "reprinted from" and we also like to see our address in the credit. Why? Well, several people have confused our publication with a gay news service, on the order of U.P. and A.P.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank The Erickson Foundation in Baton Rouge, La., who recently sent compliments to GPU NEWS via a Milwaukee person they were helping. Said the Erickson representative, "We think GPU NEWS is the best gay publication in print." That's really recognition.

# FEEDBACK

Dear Sir,

Please print this letter as to give me one more chance to rid myself of this loneliness. I'm a dentist and writer. I'm confined on a 1-2 two year, up January. I also play four instruments.

Mr. Alan Young  
Box 69  
London, Ohio 43140

Dear GPU NEWS:

Alyn W. Hess, in his review of Gordon Merrick's new novel *Forth Into Light* describes *The Lord Won't Mind* and *One For the Gods* as Merrick's first and second novels. In fact, Merrick published four novels previous to *The Lord Won't Mind*, one of them, *The Demon of Noon*, on a gay theme.

Your readers may be interested to know that I'm compiling a bibliography of male gay literature (about 3,000 items of fiction, drama, poetry and autobiography), to be published by Scarecrow Press early in 1975. It should be a useful companion to Gene Damon and Lee Stuart's lesbian bibliography which is soon to be re-issued in an updated form.

Cheers,  
Ian Young  
CATALYST Press

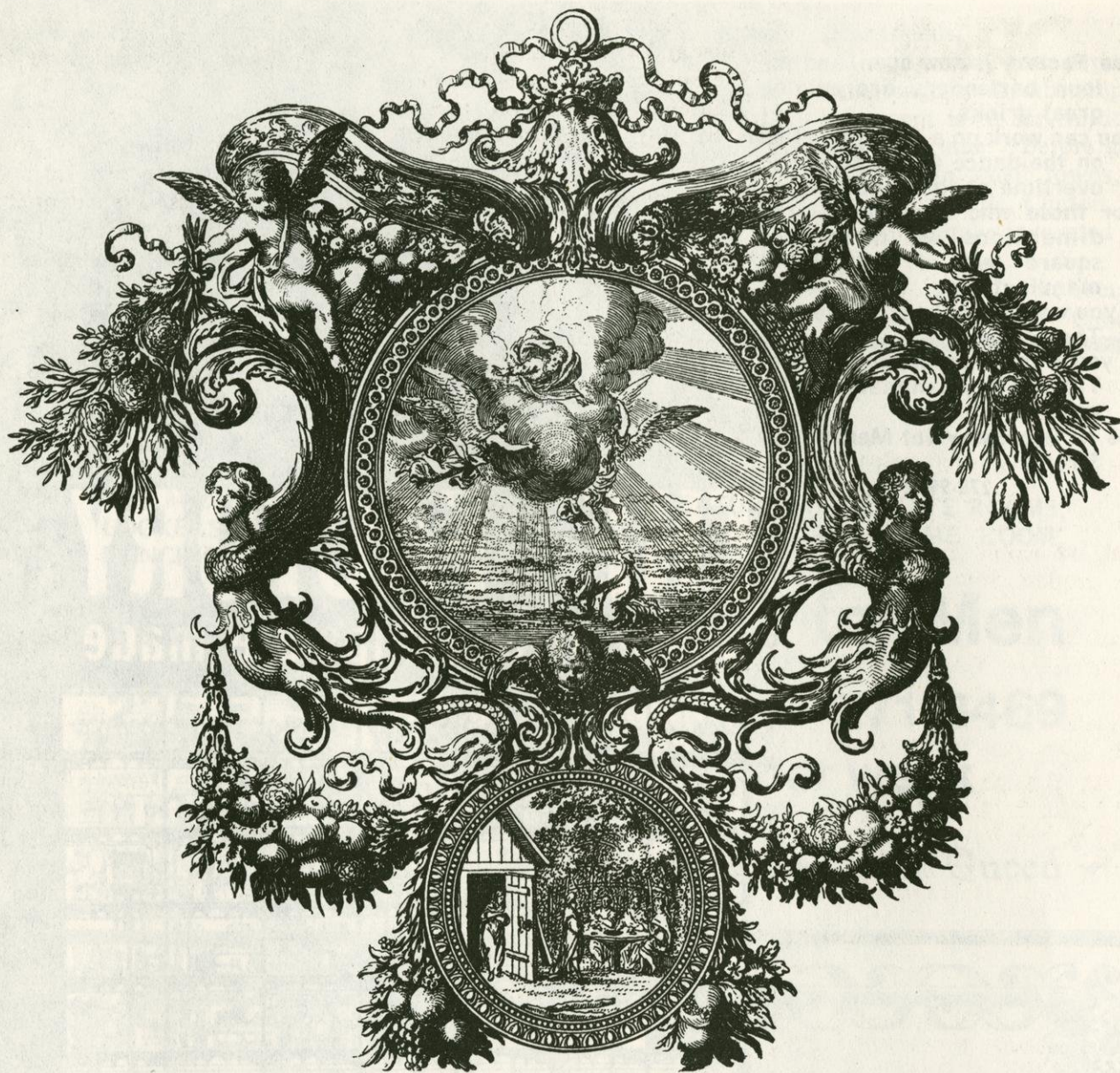
*Editor's note: You are right. Our reviewer simply meant that Forth Into Light was the third novel in a gay trilogy.*

Dear Beautiful People,

My name is Harold Lee Johnson. I'm 28 years old and have been incarcerated for 6 years and now I'm finally scheduled to be released within the next 90 days, and I'm in dear need of help!!! I want to reach out into the world through your paper and establish better communication with my brothers and sisters in the gay community, for this is the world that I'm proud-

*(continued on page 7)*





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# THE FACTORY

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# FEEDBACK

from page 4

ly coming out to!!!

I'm going to need friendship, patience, understanding, love and acceptance from our people so that I can make a satisfactory adjustment and be a useful and productive good citizen.

So please put a request in your paper for me or if possible send me names and addresses of people who might be willing to help me. Mainly I'm in need of a home placement while on parole.

Harold Lee Johnson  
112685  
P. O. Box 779-M.I.P.C.  
Marquette, Michigan  
49855

Dear friends,

I really enjoy your paper and I'm extending my membership. If the movement is to survive, its growth must continue. Before gayness is accepted in small towns, such as uncivilized little Clinton, it must be completely accepted in the cities.

Yours in liberation,  
Mark Peter Burkert Clinton, Iowa

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# Can Gay Lib Help With Prison Reform?

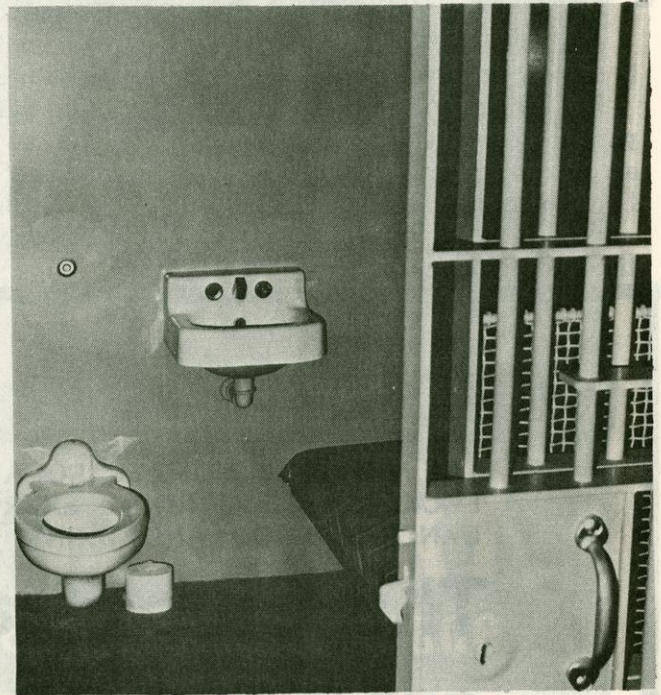
by Guy J. F. Roy

Penitentiaries by any description are dehumanizing factories. That is the best that can be said for them. The worst that can be said is that we own them.

True, most penologists spout the usual liberal-reform rhetoric, but they remain dialectically bankrupt when it comes to revolutionizing the penitentiary's role in contemporary society, and there is no evidence to suggest they are entertaining the thought of ever heading the whole prison system on a course that would eventually abolish these human warehouses. Objectively, crime and its punishment is seen as big business in our society. Prison administrators, like corporation executives elsewhere, are motivated by a desire to expand operations. That this expansion calls for the further alienation of human beings by the tens of thousands is of no consequence - business is business. The rational thinking citizen, however, is awakening to the horror that he is indeed subjective to what prisons are all about, and realizes that he no longer can continue to hide his indifference behind the excuse of ignorance - that puerile attempt to circumvent social responsibility spent itself on Auschwitz.

The present trend in penal reform is not to end what has historically proven to be a complete waste of the taxpayer's money, but to continue the prodigality involved in supporting a penal system that cannot produce any rehabilitative results, and the only concrete promises that penologists make to the financing citizen is that 47% (1) of those they incarcerate will eventually fall into the realm of recidivism. Even in this time of galloping inflation, when priorities should be focused on the astronomical cost of living, the taxpayer is expected to finance the building of more and more prisons, support the same facuious programs and other palliative measures, which only serve to recycle inmates until they accumulate the required number of convictions to certify their classification as habitual criminals.

When Mr. Paul Faguy, Commissioner of Penitentiaries in Canada, was asked on a recent television show Question Period (2) about any changes which may have occurred since he took office four years ago, he was hard pressed for a positive answer. Nevertheless without jabbing his tongue through his cheek, he proceeded to insult the public's intelligence with this reply: "One thing we can say, we are more humane now." That



statement must have eased the conscience of many a viewer - unless, of course, they were reminded of the humaneness exercised in recent history at Attica.

No matter how pragmatic we profess to be in our approach to penal reform, as long as we sidestep thorough-going abolishment as a serious alternative, penitentiaries will remain in the bowels of our social system like a malignant cancer waiting for the cure.

There are many Gay Liberation periodicals whose editors realize the importance of demonstrating a genuine solidarity with incarcerated homosexuals. Beyond the free subscriptions being sent out to the prisons, they offer veritable solace, hope, and vital assistance by keeping inmates in tune with activities developing in the gay communities on the outside. To evaluate the feedback on this endeavor, we need only read the letters prisoners send the various gay publications - they clearly contain the pulse of Gay Pride.

It is incumbent upon us as homosexuals to become seriously concerned with what is happening inside our penitentiaries. It is not a question of condoning the crimes which have been committed, but we surely understand that regardless if we are in chains or not, we are each and every one of us a political prisoner - all victims of a social system that handcuffs us to the frustration of not being able to lead our lives in peace because of our sexuality.





*Photos taken in Milwaukee County Jail by Conrad Hunter & Associates, Inc.*

Our struggle for Gay Liberation has never recognized city limits, state lines or national borders, and it certainly cannot tolerate being on the outside of prison walls when injustices against homosexuality are systematically occurring on the inside. From the moment any of us enter incarceration, the archaic views held by the prison authorities on our sexuality automatically handicap our equal participation in programs such as: job assignments; cell allocations; institutional privileges; and cruelly place our parole opportunities in constant jeopardy.

When homosexuality equates a sentence punishable above and beyond what the courts have handed down, then in our quest for Gay Liberation we must categorically deny prison officialdom from persevering with this atrocious inegalitarianism. To accept inequality in our penitentiaries is tantamount to accepting prison walls around our sexuality.

There are many well-respected organizations from the outside communities who are working within the penitentiary social service programs and are making a meaningful contribution in preparing inmates for the eventual return to society.

Through their labour they have acquired firsthand knowledge of prison conditions, and over the years their influence has been instrumental towards bringing needed changes to a successful fruition.

Alcoholics Anonymous, for example, have a multi-national organization operating in hundreds of institutions. There are numerous religious-oriented groups who enter the penitentiaries on a weekly basis and hold constructive seminars. Also included on the list of concerned citizens are the many cultural groups, such as the National Black Coalition, who realize certain ethnic and indigenous backgrounds demand individual considerations that the penal systems are not prepared to administer.

Except for "Join Hands," a California-based homophile organization who interact with prisoners primarily by mail, and such associations as "Fortune" who assist basically in social reintegration once the sentence has been satisfied, there are too few Gay Liberation groups who deserve any kind of accolade for their contribution in this area. We are told with pride that there are over one thousand Gay Liberation groups in the United States and Canada alone, yet we are shamefully reminded that not one is making a sincere effort at getting involved with the discrimination against our sexuality in prisons. That is a sad commentary on our comportment and determination for total liberation.

If positive changes relating to the treatment of gays in our penitentiaries are to materialize, they will be the direct result of outside pressure. To achieve this, gay publications may well become the roar of prison riots that focus public attention on injustices and demand their rectification. It may require exposing the complete penal system hierarchy, as well as the entire political stratification, to the embarrassment of justifying the rationale for these discriminatory practices, all of which are being financed at the expense of the taxpayer - gay people pay taxes too. By whatever means necessary, prison doors must be opened to the Gay Liberation movements who want to enter and begin working as duly accredited social groups, and to those who are eager to challenge the inegalitarian policies that presently exist.

Once we are established as a recognized agency operating independent of penitentiary funding, but with access to the empirical data and testimony concerning irregularities in the treatment of gay inmates, we will be in a position to demand and receive changes through high-level negotiations. Undoubtedly, the following will rank as some of our top priorities:

Removal of the word "homosexual" or "lesbian" from all inmate institutional files. This identify-



ing by sexual-orientation reprehensibly subjects inmates to the mercy of any prison official who may hold prejudices against homosexuals, and the door to bias and arbitrary decisions that concern every aspect of the inmate's future - both while incarcerated and after release.

The privilege to receive visits and interchange correspondence with homosexuals from the outside community is of quintessential importance and must be instituted. This would end the present necessity of gay lovers exchanging emotionally personal letters by methods of demeaning incognito - "Dear Harry" becomes "Dear Sally" in order for the mail to clear prison censorship.

Homosexuality must be removed from the negative column when assessing the merits of a parole plan application. Repeatedly and unequivocally this becomes the deciding factor that causes denial whereas heterosexuality would have earned freedom. Acceptable parole plans usually require: secured employment; living accommodations compatible to earning power; and a citizen from the community who is willing to undertake the ostensible role of becoming the parolee's sponsor. Though this criteria may be adequately fulfilled, gay inmates are seldom (if ever) granted paroles should investigations or applications document predetermination to share a living unit in a homosexual environment.

In Canada, where homosexuality is covered by the anti-discrimination Omnibus Bill (3), a recent attempt to establish a possible precedent that would have allowed a gay inmate to return to his homosexual lover resulted in contributing to the inmate's parole being denied (4).

On July 31, 1974, the author of this article had a meeting with Miss Inger Hansen, The Correctional Investigator (Ombudsman) for the Canadian Penitentiary Service, to discuss an official grievance personally lodged on April 1, 1974, against Mr. J. P. Dugas, Director of Leclerc Penitentiary, concerning his discriminatory practices when relating to homosexuality. The sixty-page grievance documented gross irregularities in the following areas: established institutional privileges; administrative mishandling of inmate grievance procedure; temporary release considerations; and normal processing of parole application.

Copies of the grievance were presented to (5): top-level prison administrators; a member of the Canadian Senate; Members of Parliament; Canadian Government Cabinet Ministers; and the Prime Minister of Canada.

Here are the more salient results of the meeting with Miss Hansen:

1) On a national level, the word "homosexual"

has been removed from all penitentiary visiting and correspondence cards, therefore classifying of an inmate and his associates by sexual-orientation has ceased in this area; 2) a survey is presently being planned to establish how many homosexual inmates are being denied parole because they made an honest application - in other words, they stated that he (or she) wanted to return to his (or her) lover as part of the parole plan.

As homosexuals, we would be naive in the extreme if we received that action as being great progress, though it does hold the promise of worthwhile achievements to come in our future struggle with the penitentiary policies on homosexuality.

Of prime importance to us all is to understand that penitentiaries by nature alienate human beings. In an environment where inmates must deal with an oppressing administration on one hand, while on the other cope with a vast percentage of heterosexual prisoners who suffer from chronic homophobia, solidarity is in constant danger of degenerating into individualism in its most inauspicious form. Unquestionably, gay inmates need an outlet to discuss problems that are particular to our sexuality. There are no such avenues open within the present institutional structures. Unfortunately, most penal system chaplains are not in harmony with the views of progressive Gay Christian organizations such as "Dignity" or "The Metropolitan Community Church," and therefore are unable to render counseling services that relate to homosexuality. Gay voices must speak into gay ears, otherwise the words are wasted.

Gay Liberation groups everywhere have the activists within their body politic able to mobilize in the struggle against the discriminations homosexuality faces in our penal systems. The challenge is there to be met. Notwithstanding apathy and reaction, success can and will be ours through concrete organization undertaken in our drive to make Gay Power a reality.

1. Mr. P. Faguy, Commissioner of Penitentiaries, Canada. CTV - August 25, 1974. Question Period. "47% return to prison." The Mohr Committee - Punishment or Rehabilitation - 1971. United Church of Canada, Toronto. "80% of the men now in our maximum security penitentiaries are repeaters!"
2. CTV - August 25, 1974.
3. Legislated by Canadian Act of Parliament, 1969. A general anti-discrimination law that covers all citizens. Further it specifies the right for homosexuals to sexual expression between two consenting adults in private.
4. Parole denied April 11, 1974. Inmate G. Roy, No. 9250. Leclerc Penitentiary, Canada. National Parole Board and Leclerc Institution inmate files.
5. Mr. J. P. Dugas, Director Leclerc Institution; Mr. Laferriere, Director Quebec Regional Offices; Mr. P. Faguy, Commissioner of Penitentiaries; Hon. W. Allmand, Solicitor General; Hon. O.L. Lang, Justice Minister; Rt. Hon. P. Trudeau, Prime Minister; Hon. R. Stanfield, M.P.; Hon. D. Lewis, M.P.; Hon. Senator Hastings, Senate of Canada; Hon. A. Bruin, M.P.; Hon. Flora MacDonald, M.P.



# REVIEW

**The Male Machine**, by Marc Feigen Fasteau. McGraw-Hill Book Company, 1974.

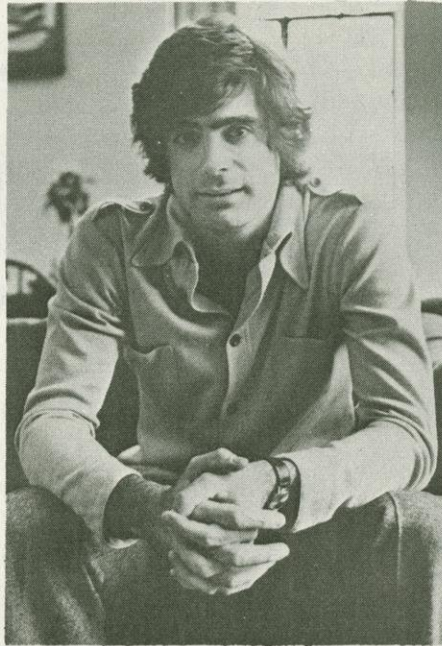
by Bruce Mikel

Marc Feigen Fasteau: Harvard graduate, lawyer, writer, husband, heterosexual, handsome, young, articulate, unhappy-unhappy with the quality of friendships between men, with the way men relate to women, with the too-narrow range of feelings within which most men live, with the results of these states: loneliness; sexual isolation; emotional impotence; even political violence and skulduggery.

In his book *The Male Machine*, he argues cogently for men's liberation as a necessary complement to the freeing of women from the economic, social and personal bonds of our culture. He writes persuasively and with candor. Men have a long way to go and Marc Feigen Fasteau is no exception. He is not casting pearls before pigs, does not pontificate, but offers thoughtful analysis and some suggestions that lead one to believe there may be hope that more men may become more human. It is no surprise that women have had to point the way both collectively and, in his case, individually. His study is dedicated to his law partner, friend, companion, lover and wife, Brenda, who showed him "what it means to love another person."

Though directed at nongay society, most of what Mr. Fasteau says can be applied to relationships within the gay subculture. His observations, based on his own experiences, have interesting implications for gay men.

Gay men should know, if any do, how difficult it is to love and live with men, how inarticulate men often are in expressing tenderness, concern, dependence, how fearful



**MARC FASTEAU**

*Photo: Janie Eisenberg*

men are of appearing vulnerable, how competitive men are in all their relationships. To a large degree, gay men have accused a hostile, nongay society of being primarily responsible for the difficulties found in achieving stable, caring relationships between lovers. *The Male Machine* affixes the responsibility where it also belongs: upon men, gay or nongay.

Are friendships between gay men more complete, more fulfilling than between men fearful of a threat to their masculinity from homosexuality? Probably. Fasteau certainly pinpoints the "spectre of homosexuality" as the greatest obstacle to self-awareness, understanding and acceptance of male-male needs between friends. But he does not stop there. He insists that men "have carried the practice of emotional restraint to a point of paralysis." This restraint and concomitant unwillingness to be open partners paralyzes growth and maturity in individuals and in their relationships with others.

Are gay sexual relations any less exploitive than those between men and women? Probably not. Fasteau maintains that men are

generally fearful of losing control of any situation lest they be forced to deal with feelings they may not be able to handle. As a result, sexual encounters are judged by standards of performance that have little to do with the inner quality of the experience for the man himself, how he actually feels about it. In such encounters, partners are necessarily reduced to objects. Is "trick" any less sexist in intent than "chick"?

Of course it is not only in personal relationships that men operate more like machines than human beings. This kind of functioning is demanded in most areas of life. Our economic system touts aggressive, competitive individualism as the highest virtue, a result of a crude interpretation of Darwin in the last century. There is still much of the Stoic warrior in western man. Even sports, alleged bastion of man-to-man comradery, retain the life-and-death quality of the Roman arena: "to come in second is to lose." The sad result of all these demands for competition and control is that most men not only are unable to express their feelings, they often do not even know what they are feeling.

This state of emotional anesthesia makes successful intimate relationships very difficult. In the predominant heterosexual relationship, women usually bear the brunt of this burden. They are expected to lead emotionally, to be able to express their feelings accurately and to divine whatever their strong, silent partner may be struggling with. Surely a relationship between two men can only compound these difficulties as neither partner has likely been taught, conditioned or prepared for truly intimate sharing.

And this is where the crux of the matter lies: how can men learn to get in touch with and communicate their feelings, "to be gentle as well as strong, assertive and yielding, independent and dependent" as the

*(continued on page 24)*



October is the month for costumes and drags. In Milwaukee The Marquee Room of The Factory Bar was the scene of this year's contests. The annual costume contest and the second annual Milwaukee groovy guy contest took place there on October 20. The Miss Gay Milwaukee contest was not held this year in favor of a Miss Gay Wisconsin contest held there on October 27.

The hard-working committee who put these two contests and shows together consisted of the following five people: Tiger Rose, Mama Rae, Kenisha, P. T. Vail, and Sandi Alexandria, Miss Gay Milwaukee 1973-74.

The costume contest was won by Brad Parks, who came as the god of Mars. The runner-up was Di Di Darnell, who came as Bette Midler.

The Milwaukee Groovy Guy contest attracted 14 handsome entries, who paraded in street costume and again in bathing suits. Kent Olsen and John Murray tied for the runner-up spot and the winner identified himself simply as Bruce.

The Miss Gay Wisconsin contest brought out 20 contestants and the judges had great difficulty in selecting winners from the elaborately coiffed and dressed contestants. They paraded first in a dress design of their own choice and later in another which had to be white.

While the judges were making their difficult decision, a delightful show was presented to entertain the audience. The judges selected Chanel Capri as the runner-up and Andretta was named Miss Gay Wisconsin 1974-75, becoming the first person to hold the new title.

Interviewed by a GPU NEWS reporter after the contest, Andretta said, "It's an honor to hold this title. I wasn't expecting it and it makes me very happy." Chanel Capri said, "Of course I'm glad to be a winner, but I enter these contests because they are fun. You can be sure I'll be going in drag until the day I die."



GPU NEWS photos







The first row of photos show the winners and the others were chosen for their clarity and photo quality.





# Poems by and for Women

## On the Casualty List

*Life is lonely without dreams.  
I wander through the city  
Less careful crossing streets,  
For love has already struck me down  
In a hit-and-run car.*

*Nothing's left of love forever  
Love forever and ever love.  
(A park bench on the square,  
Endless passing of cars before me.)  
Nothing but the casual pickup--  
A ticket to Nowhere,  
"Good only on date stamped."  
(A long time waiting . . . watching  
The hypnotic curve of cars  
Turning the corner and passing me . . .)*

*One must go mad slowly--  
Not quite sure how far you've gone,  
How many invisible lines you've crossed.  
That same car  
Has passed seven times.  
Are they going mad, too?*

Jai Brett

## Bewildered

*I watched you flit from arms  
to lips . . . to other arms.  
A butterfly in black--  
Colors rarely shared.  
I listened to your laughter,  
Pondered the facade  
Beyond the careless kisses,  
Warm embraces scattered freely--  
And I wondered if anyone ever pierced  
the facade, and touched you . . .  
How sad! For if they did,  
how could you ever let them know?*

Patricia Dobbs Merrill

## Discovery

*I took you in my arms  
And the pieces fell away;  
Papier-mache protection  
False first images  
Fell at our feet.*

*Once, your slight form's arrogance  
Frightened my heart.*

*Now, a sensitive soul  
Seeking not just love  
Clung desperately to me  
And touched my heart.*

Patricia Dobbs Merrill



### Veil of Snow

*My naked love recoils in hurt confusion  
From the stinging piercing cold  
Don't Fear  
Don't Cringe behind your veil of snow  
All's well  
You're safe  
My love can never touch you*

NNunn

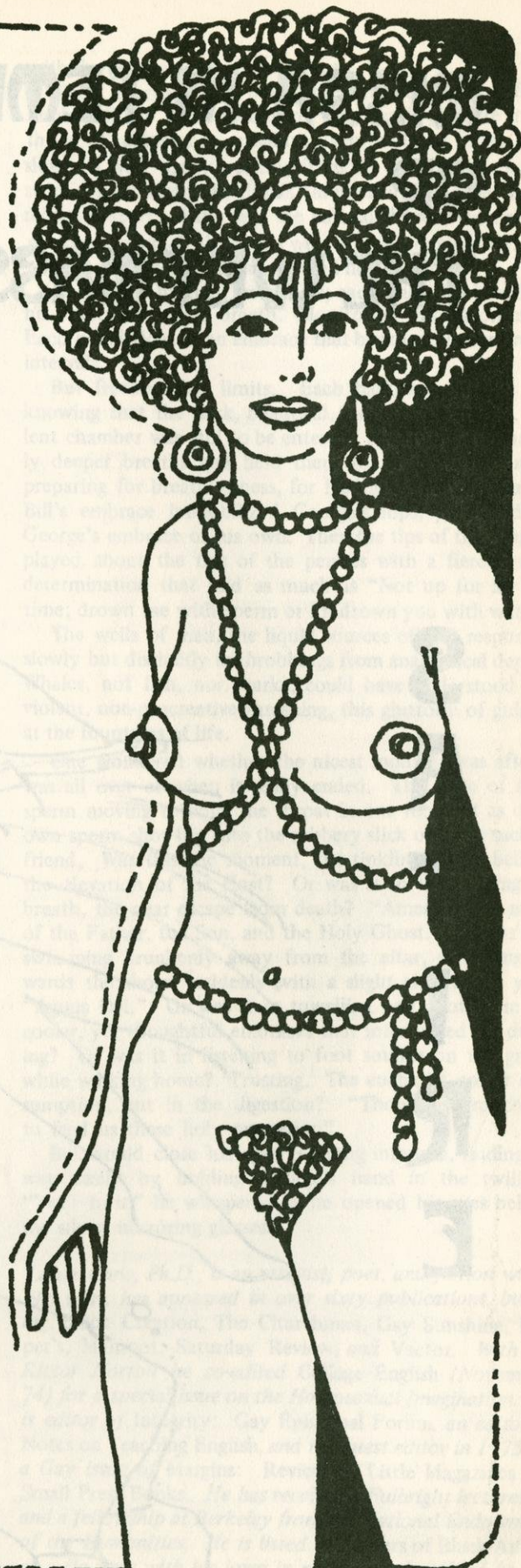
### The Loneliness of Time

*Silent fingers on typewriter keys  
How long . . . how long since  
I walked in late evening  
Looking down at rain-soaked leaves  
In the yellow light of street lamps.*

*Silent fingers brushing through my hair;  
Warm lips, but cool eyes . . .  
How long has it been since  
That impostor lay beside me  
And gave the name of Love?*

*Silent fingers sliding back a curtain . . .  
How long ago it was when  
I watched empty trains on midnight rails  
And let Chopin's nocturnes  
Caress me through the night!*

Jai Brett



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# MISSA IN TEMPORE AMORE: OR THE WET MASS

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A  
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I  
R  
E





by Louie Crew

George watched Bill cross his legs with slow rubbing of oily calf against knee. His balls and stiff prick shifted in his tight trunks like fruit in a simmering pudding. Then the sun caught George's eyes harshly, so that by squinting he could shed prismatic rainbows over Bill's glintingly rippled chest.

"Are you staring at me again?" Bill teased. Very carefully Bill squeezed his forefinger under the scarlet-covered crotch and rearranged the fruit to thrustful perpendicular advantage.

"Does that improve the view?" Bill asked.

"Better than the leaning tower of Pisa," George laughed. Then George lay in the sun, his hair just touching Bill's shoulder, and drugged himself on the scents of lotion and manflesh. Bill, without ever opening his eyes from behind the sleek, silvered mirroring sunglasses, imagined the black sheen of George's long hair, and slowly he fingered it. Both were secure in the affection of each on this lazy beach. No one else was visible from where George lay, and he grabbed Bill's strong hand out of his hair, drew it to his lips, and sucked the wrist, licked the veins and large knuckles, and then shifted to fit Bill's palm against his own chest, now bursting with excitement as if his nipples, tiny pink points, would spurt milk or sperm as hors d'oeuvres, or perhaps just besplatter Bill's glasses, now directly above George, reflecting the gentle ministry. Both lay lengthwise next to each other. The sand and oil on their thighs seemed to move. The waves on the shore matched their breathing. Bill put the tip of his index finger gently in George's navel and slowly rotated it, while with his thumb and other fingers he played with the narrow line of dark hair which gravitated from navel into the brown, writhing bikini. George, sucking Bill's tits, floated in dreams of touch and smell that were at once this moment and also all intense moments that had ever been. This beach became an altar in the Temple of Love, and choirs sang through the ocean spray. The narrow pap at which he sucked dialated, became his mother's; elongated, became his father's raw and salty prick on late summer afternoons when, mother at work, father and son had played nude in the shadows of the blinds; or narrowed, became his sister's virginal cunt, licked slowly, with the tiny hair on Bill's tit bunching up kinky the way her pubic wires had done, teasingly catching between his teeth. It was like getting caught on the trill of one long Paganini cadenza down an interminable flush of sound.

Unprompted, George and Bill broke apart, stood shaking the grit from their bodies and laughing, dashed towards the spray. It was not a chase. Each was already caught. Yet they ran furiously. Even when they hit the water, their strides did not slack, only their legs took higher leaps to pelt over waves. Then they were swimming.

They swam straight from the shore fiercely for at least 500 yards. Then, again unprompted, or as if in a ritual, each caught himself in the other's embrace, and treading gently in the flooding waves, hotly kissed. Long thrusts of the tongue, warm receiving with the throat. Gentle yet fierce. In the easy flood below, hands played about the ribs and thighs. Suits, like most really beautiful offerings to God or man, were allowed to float away, given to the deep.

"Slowly!" each exclaimed simultaneously, as if charged

with the same source of explosions.

Then alternate dips below the brine to suck stiffened pricks, all the while measuring the other's pleasure in the thrust of sphincter recorded on a gently placed finger. And slowly it was. Each breaking from the other for forays of swim sprints whenever climax threatened, but never swimming far apart. Water was the natural element for a sex so personal, in which all thrusts were towards one's lover. The environment stole nothing, offered no resistance.

Both were brilliant swimmers; each knew his breathing, his ability to sustain breath. Monitoring was unconscious. Each could float in an embrace that broke easily for breath intervals.

But freedom has limits. Each basked in sex as play knowing that the dark, beautiful, lonely, threatening, violent chamber was still to be entered. Each took increasingly deeper breaths and held them for longer and longer, preparing for breathlessness, for feeding on more than air. Bill's embrace immobilized George's hips, prompted by George's embrace of his own. Then the tips of the tongues played about the tips of the penises with a fierceness, a determination that said as much as "Not up for air this time; drown me with sperm or I'll drown you with water!"

The wells of man, the liquid sources of life, responded slowly but distinctly in throbbings from anatomical depths. Whales, not fish, nor sharks, could have understood this violent, non-procreative thrashing, this gluttony of gulping at the fountains of life.

One wondered whether the nicest moment was after it was all over or when it really ended. The taste of salty sperm moving through the throat in one moment as one's own sperm shot hot into the rubbery slick of one's sucking friend. Was this the moment, the tinkling of the bells at the elevation of the Host? Or was it in the gasping for breath, the near escape from death? "Amen, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost." Or was it in swimming drunkenly away from the altar, steadying towards the shore, suddenly with a slight chill about you? "Agnus Dei." Or was it in towelling one another in the cooler, yet thoughtful embraces that interrupted the dressing? Or was it in listening to foot sounds on the gravel while walking home? Trusting. The eucharist not at consumption, but in the digestion? "Thou dost vouchsafe to feed us these holy mysteries."

Bill would close his eyes for long intervals, finding his way easily by holding George's hand in the twilight. "Your turn," he whispered as he opened his eyes behind the silver, mirroring glasses.

*Louie Crew, Ph.D., is an essayist, poet, and fiction writer. His work has appeared in over sixty publications, including Black Creation, The Churchman, Gay Sunshine, Harper's, Manroot, Saturday Review, and Vector. With Dr. Rictor Norton he co-edited College English (November, 74) for a special issue on the Homosexual Imagination. He is editor of Integrity: Gay Episcopal Forum, an editor of Notes on Teaching English, and the guest editor in 1975 for a Gay issue of Margins: Review of Little Magazines and Small Press Books. He has received a Fulbright lectureship and a fellowship at Berkeley from the National Endowment of the Humanities. He is listed in Leaders of Black America. He lives with his lover in rural Georgia, where he is a college professor and his lover is a beautician.*



# LaFollette Says "Repeal Sex Laws"

**LaCrosse, Wis.** - The newly-elected state attorney general, Bronson La Follette, a democrat, said on October 4 that he favored repeal of all Wisconsin laws limiting sexual conduct, including prostitution, between consenting adults.

La Follette, who also called for an easing of penalties for marijuana said the state had no business setting moral standards through sex laws.

"All laws pertaining to sexual conduct between consenting adults should be stricken from the book," he said at a news conference. "I don't think the state has any business stepping into a situation that involves private conduct by consenting adults."

Asked if he was for legalized prostitution in the state, La Follette replied, "Well, I think the whole body of laws which are obsolete would include this area, and if we struck them from the books, we'd be better off."

At another press conference on the following day, Wisconsin governor Patrick Lucey said that he disagreed with LaFollette on repealing laws limiting sexual conduct. "Bronson wants to change some laws that I think ought not to be changed," said the governor. "We just plain disagree."

The Wisconsin State Council of the Knights of Columbus held an

executive meeting in Wausau and also denounced La Follette for his stand. Delbert Peterson of Brookfield, Wisconsin, the state deputy of the Catholic group, called upon its 40,000 members to vote for candidates only after evaluating their position on moral standards.

## Fire from page 3

said, "Of course there is dissension. We are an activist and political organization. There is always dissension in such a group, but we have had no more than usual lately."

John Lauritsen, GAA delegate-at-large, said, "GAA is alive and well, despite the impression given in the latest Advocate. In some ways, GAA is more viable politically than it was before the fire when the dances and other 'service' activities took on undue importance." He said that GAA will be playing an active role in the coming New York elections and will take a leading role in a new coalition to get the new NYC gay rights bill, Intro 554, passed.

GAA has supported various versions of a gay rights bill before the city council on several occasions. In each case the bill has failed to pass. Last year the bill's chances of passage were killed when it was opposed by the Catholic Church and the Fire Department.

The group also has started fundraising efforts to get established in new headquarters and ask that contributions be sent to GAA, Box 2, Village Station, New York 10014.

## Confab from page 2

were held about hotlines, VD centers, funding, memberships, and political action, etc.

The group set the following goals:

1. To set up regular communication between organizations,
2. To set up a Wisconsin Dictionary of Information,
3. To discuss the possibility of a statewide Gay Pride Week in June,
4. To consider social events between groups,
5. To help other groups get started.

Another meeting is planned in the spring.



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*If you were born between October 25 and November 24, your zodiac sign is Scorpio. The Scorpion is the eighth sign and corresponds to that period of the span of man's life which lies under the threat of death. It is also related with the sexual function. In the symbolism of megaliths, it is the antithesis of the bee whose honey succours Man. Scorpions are fickle, but fun. Scorpions have fun at This is It!*

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# CROSSWORDS

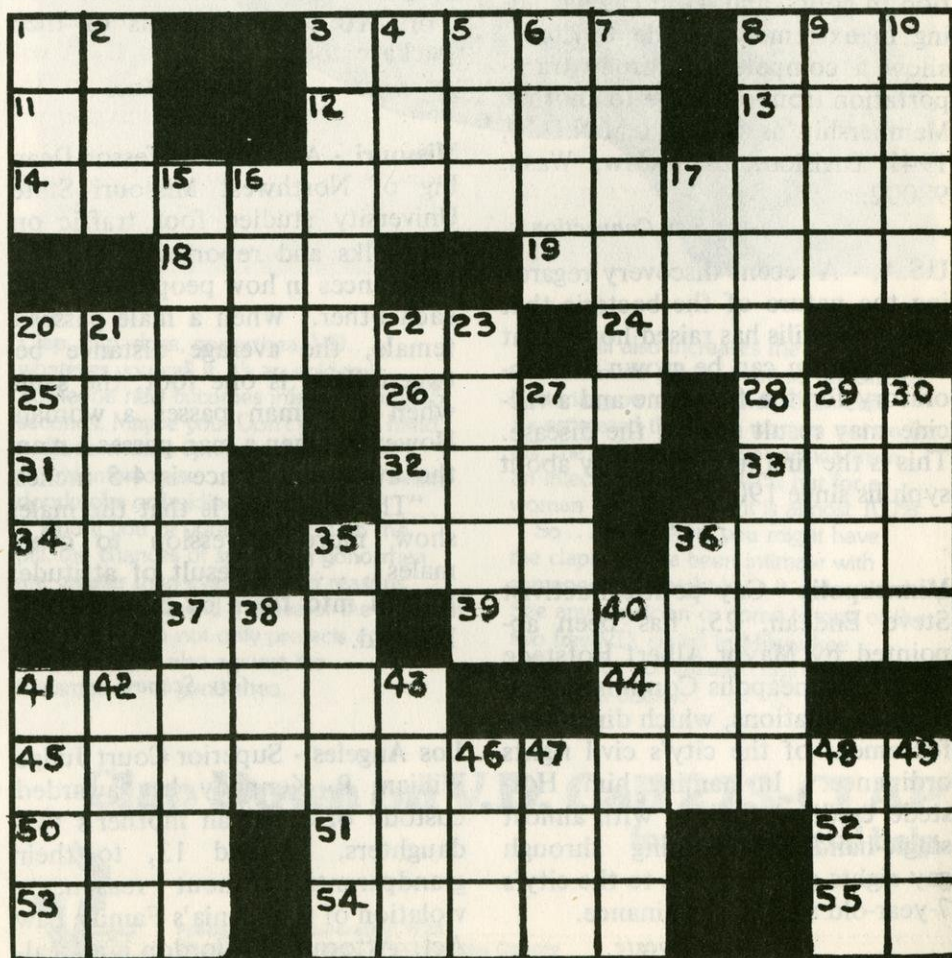
## ACROSS

- 1) Turning point: abbr.
- 3) Associate: abbr.
- 8) Dark and gloomy
- 11) Airman recruit: US Navy abbr.
- 12) S.W. Lebanon seaport: Fr.
- 13) London drink
- 14) Sexy male athlete
- 18) International Automobile Assoc.: abbr.
- 19) Married gays
- 20) Type of bath
- 24) National Cash Register: abbr.
- 25) Spore sac fungus
- 26) Opposite of gain
- 28) Sterling: abbr.
- 31) Roman sun god
- 32) Spirit: French
- 33) Edgar Allan —, 1809-1849
- 34) Direction: abbr.
- 35) Trade off: variation
- 36) For Whom Did the Bell —
- 37) Jehovah: Hebr.
- 39) Performed outstandingly
- 41) They take shorthand
- 44) Ignited
- 45) What the sailors did
- 50) Noah had one
- 51) Master of Ceremonies: abbr.
- 52) Male nickname
- 53) In short supply lately
- 54) Stair part
- 55) Same as 1 Across

- 15) Masturbating groups
- 16) Japanese persimmon: tree
- 17) Service: abbr.
- 20) Russian news service
- 21) Serviceman's place to go (pl.)
- 22) Cabbage salad
- 23) Gay People: slang
- 27) Month: abbr.
- 29) Entice: dialectal
- 30) Castrate a male horse
- 35) Sometimes golden

- 36) Menage a trois
- 38) Reply: abbr.
- 40) Change
- 41) Party for men only
- 42) Scarlett's house
- 43) Half: prefix
- 46) Nurse Corps: abbr. pl.
- 47) Golf device
- 48) Have a repast
- 49) Mountain

(Answer on page 21)



## DOWN

- 1) — Mahal: India
- 2) Prophylactic: med. abbr.
- 3) Tempo direction: music
- 4) Didn't stand
- 5) Title of respect (male)
- 6) Pertaining to land ownership
- 7) Castrated cocks
- 8) Swimming and boating
- 9) Lake Albert: Africa
- 10) Male nickname: pl.



# HERE&THERE

**Britain** - Sixty gay women and men "zapped" the British Medical Association 'Congress on Psycho-Sexual Problems' and, after 40 minutes of discussion between the doctors and the gays as to how the conference was to proceed, only twelve members of the BMA voted against the gays' staying for a dialogue. A 45-minute general debate followed.

--Gay News

**Enumclaw, Wash.** - The newly-formed Lesbian Mothers' National Defense Fund announces it will 1) make possible the printing and distribution of guidelines, previous court cases, and films now being used in court, 2) give help with court costs, child care costs, and attorney's fees, 3) insure lesbian mothers everywhere fair representation in court, and 4) in cases pending in extremely hostile territory, allow a competent attorney transportation from one state to another. Membership is \$2 to L.M.N.D.F., 1941 Division, Enumclaw, Wash. 98002.

--Lesbian Connection

**U.S.A.** - A recent discovery regarding the nature of the bacteria that causes syphilis has raised hopes that the organism can be grown in a laboratory for the first time and a vaccine may result against the disease. This is the first new discovery about syphilis since 1905.

--Gay Scene

**Minneapolis** - Gay political activist Steve Endean, 25, has been appointed by Mayor Albert Hofstede to the Minneapolis Commission on Human Relations, which directs enforcement of the city's civil rights ordinance. In naming him, Hofstede credited Endean with almost single-handedly pushing through gay rights amendments to the city's 7-year-old anti-bias ordinance.

--Advocate

**Michigan** - A gay caucus is being organized for next year's annual meeting of the American Institute of Biological Sciences, to be held in Corvallis, Oregon. It will be organized so you won't have to be "out" with your straight colleagues to attend. Contact Ambitious Amazons, PO Box 811, East Lansing, Mich. 48823, and they'll put you in contact with the man organizing the caucus.

--Lesbian Connection

**Scotland** - The first International Gay Rights Congress will be held December 14-22 at the University of Edinburgh, Scotland. Sponsors include the National Gay Task Force, Christopher Isherwood, Gore Vidal and Robin Maugham. For women and men! Write NGTF, Room 903, 80 Fifth Ave., New York 10011 for details of their package tour.

--News Release

**Missouri** - Assistant Professor Dean Ing of Northwest Missouri State University studied foot traffic on sidewalks and reported sex-related differences in how people walk past each other. When a male passes a female, the average distance between them is one foot, the same when a woman passes a woman. However, when a man passes a man, the average distance is 4-5 inches.

"The suspicion is that the males show more aggression to other males . . . as a result of attitudes trained into them by our culture," Ing said.

--Gay Scene

**Los Angeles** - Superior Court Judge William P. Kennedy has awarded custody of a lesbian mother's two daughters, 11 and 13, to their grandparents without reason, a violation of California's Family Law Act. Attorney Al Gordon is appeal-

ing the decision and a date is expected to be set soon for oral arguments. In the meantime, Lynda Chaffin is in hiding with her children rather than turn them over to her parents.

--Advocate

**London** - The Church of England is to hold an 18-month "enquiry" into homosexuality to assess "the changing attitudes towards homosexual behavior in the community and the proper response of the Church to them." The 12-man working party will consult with homophile organizations during its study.

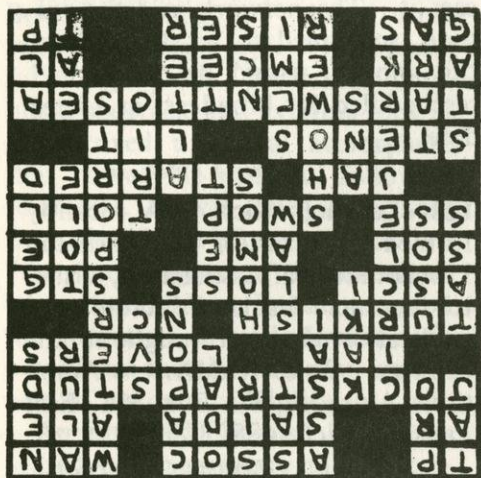
--Gay News

**Washington** - The Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, signed into law by President Ford, adds both marital status and sex (gender) to the existing categories of race, religion and national origin where discrimination is unlawful. Persons who are discriminated against because of their marital status or sex in matters of purchase, rental, or financing of housing or related brokerage service may take their complaints to the local discrimination office of the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development.

--Advocate

**GPU NEWS** has received a press release announcing a new gay Christian publication called **Integrity: Gay Episcopal Forum**. The publication is designed to be the regular voice for gay Episcopalians and their friends. Articles will be written by both the clergy and laypersons and are directed to all factions of the church. The first issue will be out in November and subscriptions at \$5 for 10 issues can be had by writing Louie Crew, Ph.D., Editor, 701 Orange Street, No. 6, Fort Valley, Ga. 31030.





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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.

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# HERE&THERE

**Santa Cruz, Calif.** - Starting October 3, bottomless sunbathing will be outlawed, but topless for both sexes will be allowed here. The county board officially settled the nude sunbathing controversy by adopting this new ordinance.

--Gay Scene

**Seattle** - A study of 150 bisexual men and women completed recently showed that bisexuals are all "well-adjusted, normal people, maybe even a little more healthy because they've really thought about themselves and because they've managed to live with a stress in their lives." The University of Washington researchers, Drs. Pepper Schwartz and Phillip Blumenstein, plan to publish the study in book form soon.

--Advocate

**Canada** - Gay activist John Kyper was denied entrance into Canada because he is homosexual. Canadian law prohibits the immigration of "prostitutes and homosexuals." Although the Canadian Criminal Code now allows homosexual acts between consenting adults, the Immigration Code has not been advanced to this point. The U.S. immigration law also bars gays from other countries from entering the

U.S. The National Gay Task Force, New York Lesbian Feminist Liberation and the Body Politic, a Toronto gay collection, are planning to protest the laws.

--Bugle American

**New York** - Because an episode of "Police Woman" dealt with a lesbian relationship in a "somewhat sensationalized and insensitive"

manner, NBC has refused to broadcast it. The network said the episode, scheduled to be shown later this month, would be edited and rescheduled for broadcast at a later date.

--Bugle American

**East Lansing, Mich.** - A recently formed organization, The American Lesbian Medical Association, wishes to contact lesbian doctors and medical students throughout the country. Write ALMA, c/o Ambitious Amazons, PO Box 811, East Lansing, Mich. 48823.

--Lesbian Connection

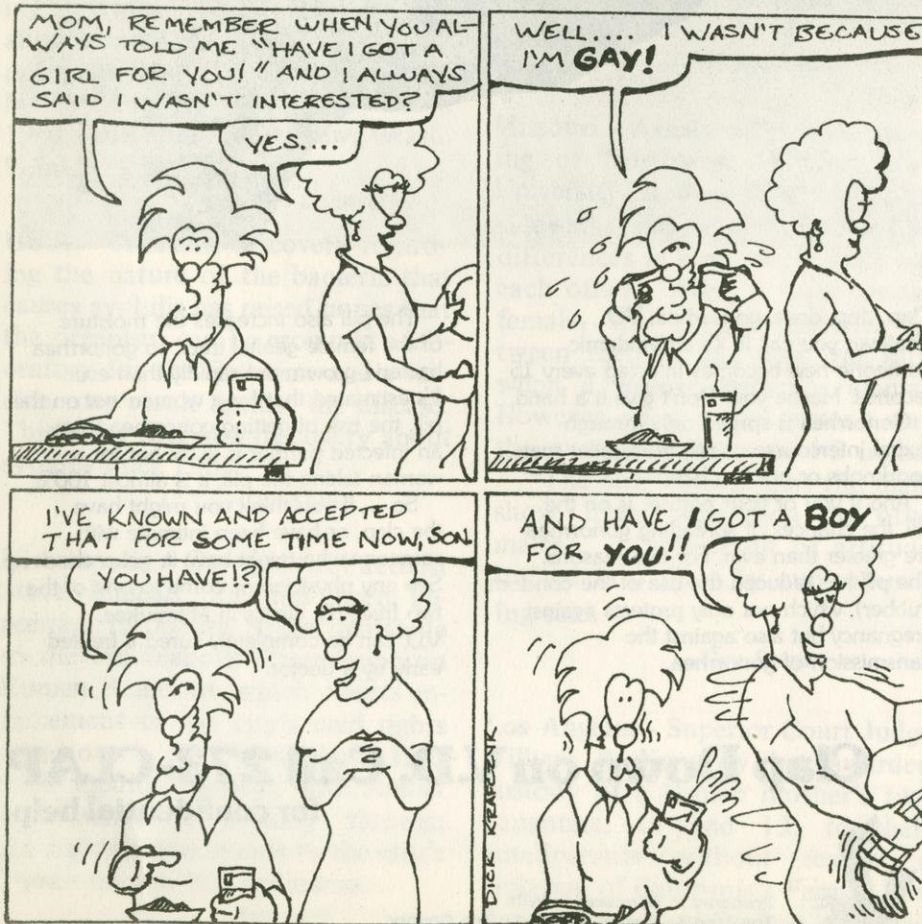
**Chicago** - Two male-to-female transsexuals were arrested here and found guilty of wearing the clothes of another sex with intent to conceal their sex. The arresting officer stated that he had seen one of the defendants in a bar two evenings before and had learned that she was a man there. Judge David Shields fined them each \$100 plus \$5 costs. Defense counsel Dan Swartzman will appeal the verdict in the Illinois Appellate Court.

--Chicago Gay Crusader

**Margins-A Review of Little Mags and Small Press Books** will devote an entire issue to gay writing and publishing in early 1975. The special issue will be co-edited by Dr. Louie Crew, Associate Professor of English at Fort Valley State College, and Beth Hodges, Fort Hays State College, Hays, Kansas 67601. The issue will also feature an article by Eldon E. Murray, Editor of GPU NEWS. Persons wishing to contribute articles for the issue should contact Dr. Crew or Ms. Hodges or Tom Montag, Margins Editor, 2912 N. Hackett, Milwaukee, Wi. 53211.

GPU PHONE

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# REVIEW

A little over a year ago David Bowie's version of glitter rock swept over the world. This beautifully egocentric performer combined spectacle and exciting rock in a contrived unisexual atmosphere that moved his youthful followers to frenzy. He was called everything from the "hope of a generation" to "the Ann Margaret of the seventies" by confused critics, but he accepted the adoration of his followers with a coolness that indicated an awareness of his own capabilities.

An admitted bisexual, Bowie appeared on stage in spectacular costumes and make-up that brilliantly reflected both the male and female aspects of his personality. His pantherlike movements and several unabashed love songs directed to males gave him a quick following in the super-mod gay set, but his appeal also reached the entire youth culture. They bought the Bowie image, boosting him to superstar status and spawning a host of discount imitators. At the peak of the frenzy, Bowie stunned his fans by coolly announcing his "retirement" from the concert circuit.

Bowie's "retirement" was uncommonly active and short-lived. He released an LP album called *Diamond Dogs* which promptly moved to a comfortable spot in the top ten. It is currently number six. Then he recently began another whirlwind "farewell" concert tour, this time covering mostly middle sized and smaller cities. In Wisconsin he played one-night stands in both Madison and Milwaukee during October with, except for one number, identical shows.

Perhaps to forewarn his fans of his new subdued image, the concert was billed simply as "The David Bowie Show." Ignoring the warning, his fans in every city and hamlet rushed for tickets at premium prices and the "sold out" signs went



Photo: copyright MAINMAN

up weeks before each concert. Some fans spent these weeks preparing their own versions of Bowie-style glittering unisex costumes to wear to the important function.

In Milwaukee, in spite of a drizzling rain, every seat in the Arena was filled well before show time. A fragrant blue haze of marijuana vapors hung over the room, seeming to give even the non-smokers a contact high. The fans seemed quite willing to let the excitement mount as they suffered through 45 minutes of a Philadelphia soul group called the Dorsens. Even warmed over, mediocre Motown was OK, because HE would be there soon to transport them to space.

After intermission, the Mike Garson Band, Bowie's back-up group, launched into flourishes and the Dorsens built a fast chorus of "Memory of a Free Festival". The

magic moment had arrived. HE appeareth!

*("But who may abide the day of His coming, and who shall stand when He appeareth? For He is like a refiner's fire." Bass aria: Handel's Messiah.)*

It took a moment to absorb the fact that the old, flamboyant unisex image was gone, being replaced by a "new look." Mr. Bowie wore black and white vertical striped pants cut along the lines of the "zoot suit" of the 40's and held up by white suspenders. A dark navy blue shirt with a wide collar and a wide, mostly white plaid tie completed the new image. The costume effectively set off his softly-shaped, carrot-colored hair; all very pleasing, but far from glitter.

As if to keep the transition from being too jarring, Mr. Bowie jumped right into the numbers that have



# REVIEW from page 11

author wishes. The answers are not forthcoming, nor can one expect that they should be. We are in the process of realizing a fuller humanity for men and women. That process will involve experimentation and change: raising children differently; perhaps major social and economic reforms; certainly it will necessitate the full acceptance of divergent life-styles. An interesting development, postulated by the author, is that as society becomes more androgynous, we will witness a greater prevalence of bisexuality as all people explore their sexuality less compulsively, more honestly. Interestingly, he does not postulate

this for himself.

The sad thing is that women probably must, as they have, show the way. This is sad not from a standpoint of male pride—surely we have had enough of that—but because it only underscores the truth of what women have had to bear for their supposed providers. As gay men who do not relate to women as intimately as to men, this means that the task will be even more difficult. If Mr. Fasteau's premises are correct, we might be well advised to look to our lesbian sisters for some answers, as we should be able to expect to learn from them how to live with and love another person more successfully.

If *The Male Machine* has any significant weakness, it is that it fails to analyze deeply the roots of the dilemma the author outlines or the rationale behind his conclusions. It seems to be that neither

women's or men's liberation writing has explored questions of human integrity, personal worth, individual sacredness if you will—basic ethical issues—very profoundly. Though he does lean toward economic determinism in tracing the origins of the current unhappy state of affairs, he does not conclude that economic change will play the key role in changing this: "socialism is no panacea."

Of course not; there probably is no panacea. But where do we start? Perhaps with consciousness-raising groups using *The Male Machine* and similar thought-provoking studies as a starting point for discussion. Perhaps with honest dialogue with women and those with whom we are intimately concerned. In any case, to judge from Marc Feigen Fasteau's own experience, with ourselves. We've nothing to lose but our own fetters.



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## BOWIE

(from page 23)

made him famous. "Rebel, Rebel," "John, I'm Only Dancing," "Sorrow," "Changes," "1984," and "Moonage Daydream." At the beginning he postured and posed in the old contrived Bowie tradition, but as the concert moved forward he relied less on the mime and more on the music. Perhaps he wanted to remind us that he writes all of his own lyrics and that they are damned good.

Unfortunately, the Bowie voice becomes fuzzy after belting out several non-stop numbers. Seating himself at the front of the stage, he began to move into the new, intimate, soul, "fuck me" image. "When You Rock and Roll With Me," "Love Me, Do," a brilliant harmonica version of "Jean Genie" and "Diamond Dogs" were rendered in the new Bowie style before he announced that he would present four new songs from his upcoming soul music album.

They were "Young Americans," "Lovers" ("I don't write many love songs. Yes, it was written for someone."), "It's Gonna Be Me" and "Somebody Up There Likes Me." There is no question that Bowie as a soul singer/writer works. The question is whether his fans will accept the new image or desert him as they did Steppenwolf when they tried to break out of a locked-in image.

Sensing this, he returned to Bowie favorites to close the show on a high note. The crowd was allowed to rush the stage during "Suffragette City" and when he moved into "Rock and Roll Suicide," the crowd went wild, particularly during the "you're not alone" chorus. The old magic was still there. The lights went up; the announcer said, "Ladies and gentlemen, Mr. Bowie has left the theater, thank you." David Bowie obviously wants to be something more than a bisexual-glitter-theater-magician, but will it click? Time will tell.

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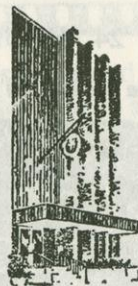
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# REVIEW

**The Sign**, by Robin Maugham  
McGraw-Hill Book Company,  
New York, 1974.

by Sam Edwards

In his historical novels, Robin Maugham is most successful when he takes an actual character from history and invents a "what might have been" to fill a gap in the historical record. **The Last Encounter** is a fine example of this technique. Using the existing record of the life of General Charles "Chinese" Gordon, Maugham was able to offer a plausible theory of "what might have been" covering the last part of his life for which no record exists. (See GPU NEWS, September 1973.)

Maugham's latest historical novel, **The Sign**, offers a theory concerning the death of Jesus Christ. The

fact that the action takes place some years before Christ and has as the "Messiah" a fictional prophet named Caleb does not fool the reader for one moment.

As a source, Mr. Maugham has obviously relied very heavily on a non-fictional work called **The Pass-over Plot** by Dr. Hugh J. Schonfield. This book, published in 1965 by Bernard Geis Associates, created a furor in religious circles because Schonfield theorized that Christ did not intentionally die after crucifixion. According to Schonfield, a political plot was stirring and in order to fulfill prophecies Christ was removed from the cross before death and then made to appear to rise from the dead. Thus, the "new" religion was founded, in part, on deceit.

Whether the reader is willing to accept this controversial theory or not is beside the point as far as the book's merit as a novel is concerned. The idea has been used in fiction before; once by George

Moore in **The Brook Kerith** and once by D. H. Lawrence in **The Man Who Died**. What is important is whether the idea works as a novel for Mr. Maugham and, alas, it does not.

One of the reasons that the idea does not work is because Maugham has chosen a difficult method of telling the story. Each character, speaking in first person, takes a turn at moving the story forward. Thus, each character is seen only through the eyes of the other characters. This method of presentation is difficult to pull off even in a long novel where personality differences can be developed slowly. **The Sign** is a very short novel and although the story does move forward, the characters never really come to life.

Caleb has extra-sensory powers which make him believe that he is a true prophet. He is seen through the eyes of Joseph (of Arimathea?) and Joseph's secretary/lover Raguel. Joseph has been instructed by the

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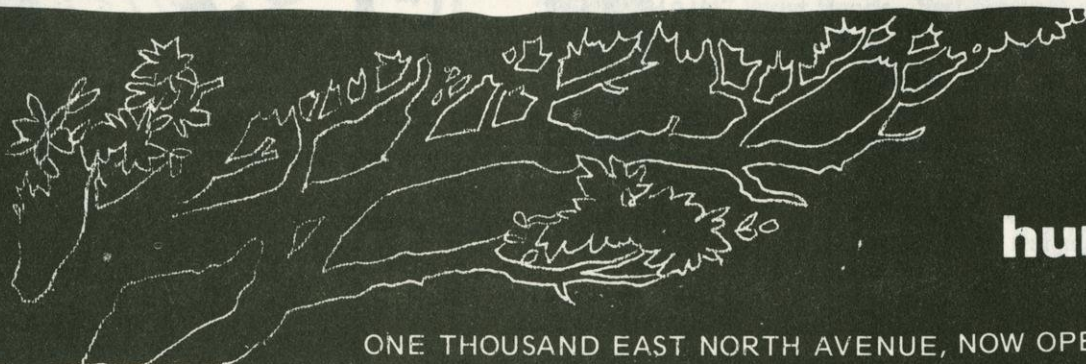
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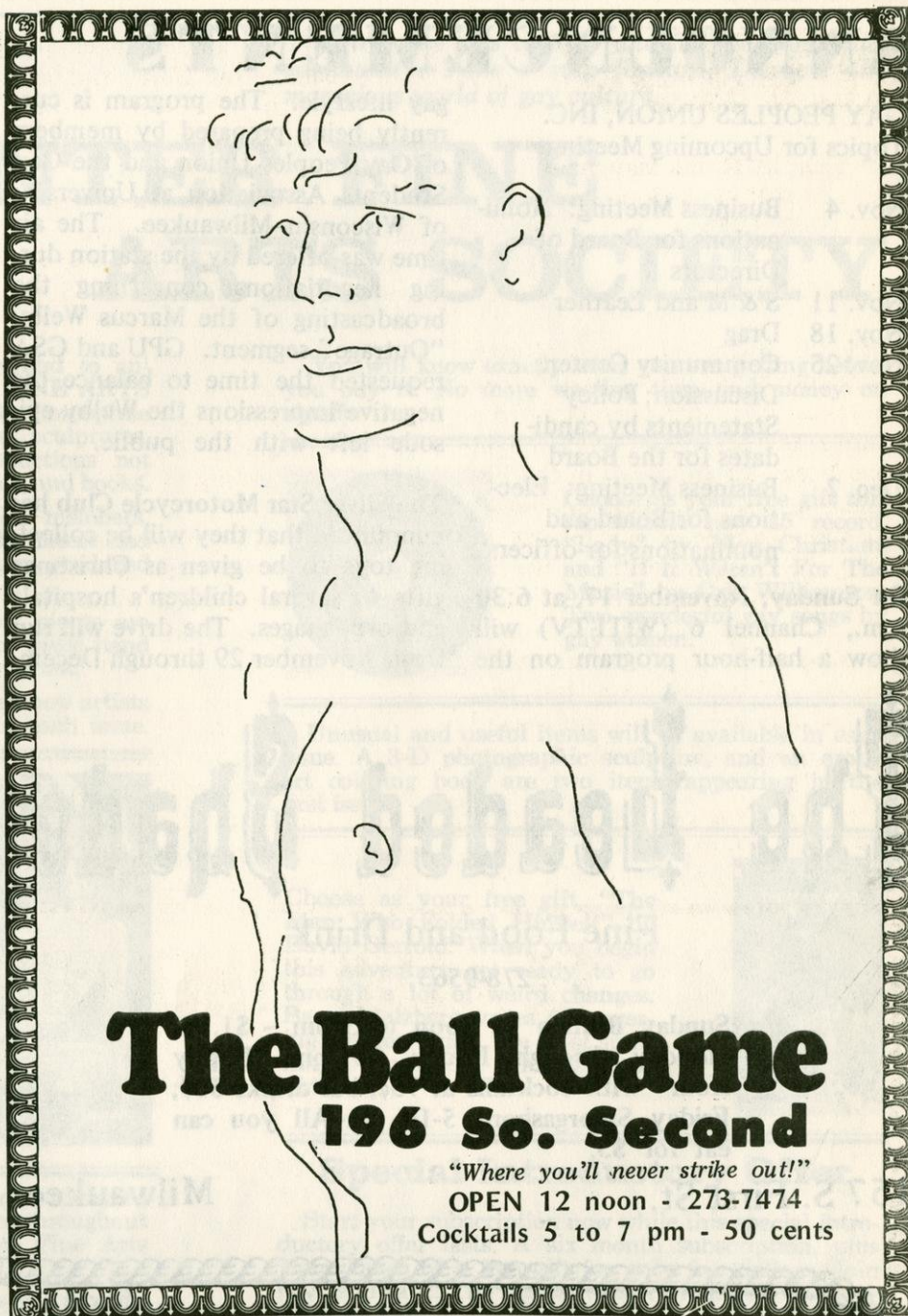
Sanhedrin, the Jewish political body of which he is a member, to find out if Caleb can be used in a plot against the Roman rulers. Caleb has developed a following among the people of Galilee as a prophet, preacher and healer. If he can be trusted, he might be able to lead the people to rise up and overthrow the Romans.

Joseph invites Caleb to his villa for an interview without confiding his reasons to Raguel. Since the love between Joseph and Raguel has not been expressed physically for many years, Raguel sees the prophet as a rival for Joseph's love. During the interview Caleb falls into a trance and receives what he believes is a sign that he is more than just a prophet. He becomes convinced that he is the chosen one, the long awaited Messiah. He decides that he must go to Jerusalem and announce the fact to the entire world.

Such a blasphemous announcement, made in the Holy Temple, would almost certainly cause a riot, giving the Romans an opportunity to impose even stiffer controls. There is little doubt that Caleb will be arrested and crucified. Joseph begs him to gather his strength in Galilee before going to Jerusalem, but Raguel pretends to accept him as the Messiah, hoping to get him out of the way.

Caleb, believing he will be raised from the dead, stubbornly goes to Jerusalem, makes his announcement, is arrested and crucified. Joseph, having been unable to persuade the Sanhedrin to recommend leniency, bribes a guard to give Caleb drugged vinegar while on the cross. The drug gives the appearance of death and Joseph quickly claims the body for supposed entombment. He revives Caleb and tries to persuade him that he has risen from the dead.

However, the crucifixion experience has brought Caleb back to reality and he now knows that he is not divine and did not really die.



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He is disillusioned and broken, but he refuses to found a religion on deceit.

Joseph and Raguel patch up their differences and go back together "for good" . . . "or until another preacher comes along."

In an interview with London's *Gay News*, Maugham said that the idea for *The Sign* "had been generating in my mind for nearly 30 years." In 1944 he presented the idea to his uncle, W. Somerset

Maugham, who liked it. However, Uncle Willie gave it up because he was writing *The Razor's Edge*. Robin should have given it up, too.

*The Sign* has been billed as a "daring" and "controversial" novel. It has been out for about a month in the U.S.A. and hasn't stirred up any controversy yet. It is certainly not one of Maugham's major works, but in spite of its faults it is still worth reading simply for entertainment.



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## GAY PEOPLES UNION, INC.

### Topics for Upcoming Meetings

- Nov. 4 Business Meeting: Nominations for Board of Directors
- Nov. 11 S & M and Leather
- Nov. 18 Drag
- Nov. 25 Community Center Discussion; Policy Statements by candidates for the Board
- Dec. 2 Business Meeting: Elections for Board and nominations for officers

On Sunday, November 17, at 6:30 p.m., Channel 6 (WITI-TV) will show a half-hour program on the

gay lifestyle. The program is currently being prepared by members of Gay Peoples Union and the Gay Students Association at University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. The air time was offered by the station during negotiations concerning the broadcasting of the Marcus Welby "Outrage" segment. GPU and GSA requested the time to balance the negative impressions the Welby episode left with the public.

The Silver Star Motorcycle Club has announced that they will be collecting toys to be given as Christmas gifts to several children's hospitals and orphanages. The drive will run from November 29 through Decem-

ber 8 and will end with a buffet and party open to the public at the Wreck Room 266 E. Erie St. on Sunday afternoon December 8. Arrangements can be made for a tax deduction for cash donations. Gift wrapping is also welcome. Toys can be dropped off any time during the drive at the Wreck Room. For further information, call 344-4883 or write the club at P. O. Box 90878, Milwaukee 53202.

A gay dance sponsored by the UWM Gay Students Association will be held November 23 from 8 to 12 p.m. in Room W151 of the Student Union Building, 2200 E. Kenwood.

Chicago's Up North Restaurant and Bar, 6244 North Western Avenue, will serve a special old-fashioned Thanksgiving Dinner with all the trimmings at very reasonable prices on Thanksgiving Day. Sittings will be 3 p.m. and 6 p.m.

One of Detroit's Annual Banquet will be held November 16 at Giesz Hall, 13303 Gratiot at 8 p.m. Guest Speaker will be Jim Toy, Ann Arbor gay leader. Tickets at \$12 can be purchased at One Center, 742 W. McNichols, Detroit.

Free Spirit Fellowship, 343 S. Dearborn, No. 1719, Chicago, Ill., 60604, has a four-page Chronology of Gay History available. Simply send a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

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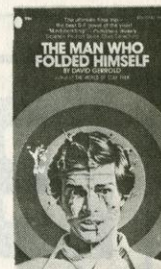
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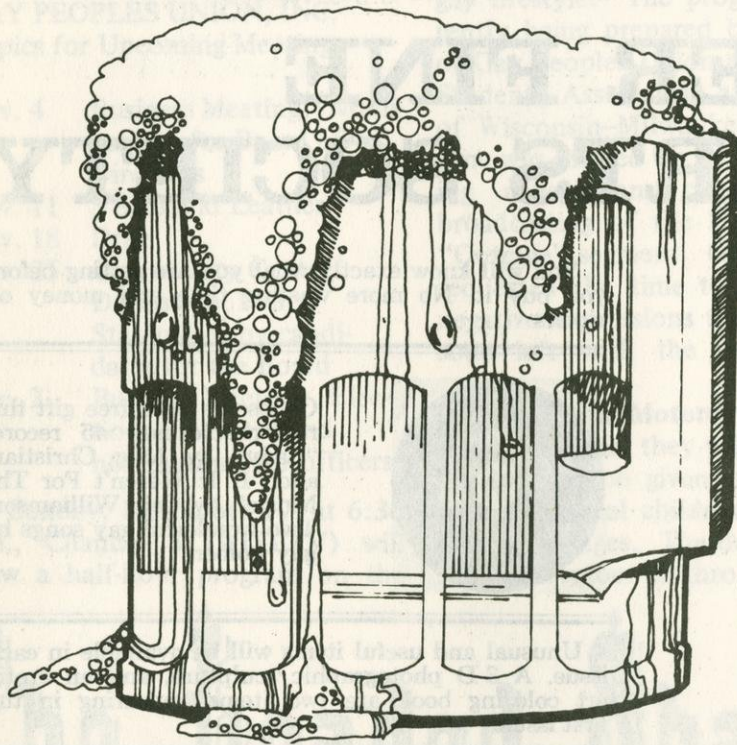
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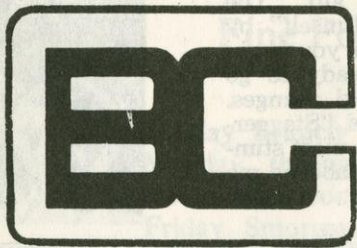


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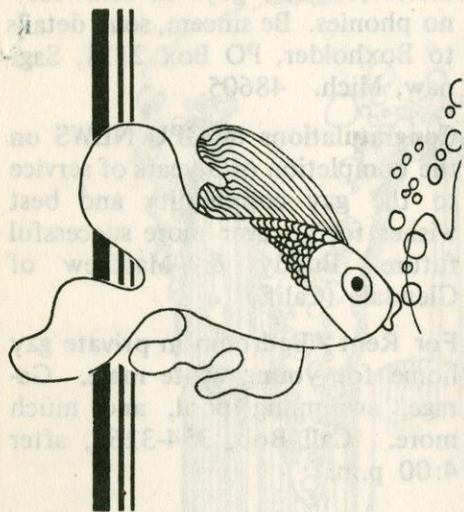
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#### Gay Alcoholics Anonymous

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.

Meetings every Monday at 7:30 pm, 911 E. Ogden. Business meetings the first Monday of each month. Call 271-5273 or write PO Box 90530, Milw. 53202.

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Free V.D. screening. Open Friday, Saturday, Sunday 10 p.m. to 1 a.m., 225 E. St. Paul. Telephone 347-1222. Total confidentiality assured.

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#### Milwaukee Area Gay Youth-MAGY (Formerly Teenage Group)

Meets 8 p.m. Mondays at 911 E. Ogden. Call 273-1105 for more information.

#### Silver Star Motorcycle Club

Business meetings every 2nd Sunday of the month. Affiliated with W.B.C. Write for specifics to PO Box 90878, Milwaukee, Wis. 53202. Club night every 3rd Wednesday at the Wreck Room.

#### UWM Gay Students Association

Look for posters on campus or write Box 10 at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Union and leave your name and phone number. You will be called.

### Milwaukee Health Department Social Hygiene Clinic

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Phone: 278-3631

Clinic hours: Monday & Thursday 11:30 am to 7:15 pm; Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 8:30 am to 11:15 am and 12:45 pm to 4:00 pm.

### WISCONSIN

#### Fox Valley Gay Alliance

Meets alternate Tuesday evenings in members' homes. Write for specific info and directions to PO Box 332, Menasha, Wis. 54952.

#### Gay Activists Alliance

Meetings Wednesday evenings, 8 pm, at the Gay Center, 550 State St., Madison, Wi. 53703. Call for further info and other center events at (608) 257-7575.

#### Lesbian Switchboard

550 State Street  
Madison, Wi. 53703  
(608) 257-7378

#### Ozaukee Humanities Forum

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

### CHICAGO

#### Beckman House Chicago Community Center

3519 N. Halstead St. Open week-ends 1 pm to midnight. Open Wednesday to Friday 7 to 11 pm. Call Gay Switchboard 929-HELP.

#### Chicago Gay News & Events

Dial Operator and ask for the Chicago Enterprise number 5486. Tollfree phone service provided by the Free Spirit Fellowship, 343 S. Dearborn St.

#### Metropolitan Community Church Good Shepherd Parish

Sunday worship 7 pm at 615 W. Wellington. Call new phone (312) 549-3114 or write PO Box 9134, Chicago, Ill. 60690.