

# vector

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VOL. 2 - NO. 3

Responsible Action by Responsible People in Responsible Ways

FEB. 1966

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## MARDI GRAS BALL II A SUCCESS

January 1, 1966's Mardi Gras Ball No. II, sponsored by the Privy Council of Empress Jose de San Francisco as a benefit for the various homophile organizations, was a financial and swinging success.

The massive and monstrous police activity of Mardi Gras Ball No. I was not repeated this year, and police surveillance was superficial. No arrests were made and everyone seemed to have a delightful time, including the special police officers who by now seem a standard fixture. The donation made by each guest ensured ample beverages for everyone during the evening.

The large crowd in attendance at the 1965 Ball, however, did not turn out for this Ball, which was designed to achieve more than just entertainment for the homophile community and its friends. Those who attended were exhibiting a vote of confidence in this method of proving that individuals have a right to gather in public regardless of their sexual proclivities, and that one doesn't have to belong to a gathering at the Bohemian or Olympic Club to have this right respected by the police.

But proof aside, it was an opportunity to get together with friends and to have a good time. Moreover, each purchase of a ticket was a contribution to the guest's well-being. For by contributing to the various homophile organizations, and hence making them stronger, one is

(Cont'd on page 11)

## SO. CAL. ACLU POLICY ON SEX

SIR has received a letter from Mr. Vern L. Bullough, chairman of The Sex and Gender Committee of ACLU, stating that on December 14, 1965 the Board of the Southern California ACLU adopted, without a dissenting vote, the following policy statement. On December 15, 1965, the union entered its first case in this area, an attempt to prevent revocation of the state certificate of a teacher accused but not convicted of homosexual conduct.

In conversations at The Sex and Gender Committee

## ELECTION TIME

SIR's annual meeting and its second election will be held at Bethany Center, Capp and 21st Streets on Wednesday, February 2nd. The meeting will be called to order at 8:00 p.m. on the dot.

The election will be under the direction of the Membership Committee. Extensive changes in the Constitution and By-Laws have been proposed. Officers will be elected, and five board positions are to be filled, to wit: Community Services, Publications, Membership, Religious, and Social Activities. Social Activities is for a one year term; the other board positions are for two year terms. The Ways and Means Committee will also be elected and its four members will serve for one year terms.

The board and Ways and Means positions will be filled by nomination and election from the floor at the meeting.

Remember to attend and vote.

meetings, attended by the President of SIR, it was revealed that this statement is to be presented to the national board of ACLU for consideration as national ACLU policy.

SIR congratulates and commends the Southern California ACLU and seriously urges other chapters and the national ACLU to adopt the statement.

### STATEMENT

#### General Statement

The American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California believes that the right to privacy in sexual relations is a basic constitutional right. Each individual has the right to decide what kind of sexual practices he or she will or will not engage in, what techniques will be used, and whether or not a contraceptive should be used. Public regulation of sexual conduct should be concerned only with preventing rape and assault and the protection of minors.

#### Definitions

Rape, gross sexual imposition, corruption of minors, sexual assault, and indecent exposure are clearly and adequately defined by the proposed official draft of the American Law Institute section 213 on sexual offenses. Definition of minor is also set forth in this section.

#### Argument

What the proposed statement does is to make legal any kind of sexual behavior between consenting adults, as long as force or violence is not used. The most controver-

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## President's Corner

by Bill Beardemphl

I was very pleased to be invited to help with an orientation group of homosexuals who talked to a church group in Oakland recently. The ministers and counselors, along with the high school students who comprised the heterosexual part of the gathering, were very impressed with the presentation. These confrontations are of great value to all who participate and it is too bad that all heterosexuals cannot talk openly to homosexuals, on a person to person level, at some time in their lives.

I can remember when the Board of SIR first proposed that our Religious Chairman consider such a program. I am happy to see it in action under the CRH. All members of this particular group are active SIR members.

My only regret is that there are not more homosexuals involved in this or in an equally important program. There is so much to do and far too few who, as yet, have joined in the doing of these self-rewarding tasks.

What thrilled me most was that homosexuals made effective public presentations of rationales that only a short year and a half ago, I felt that I alone was publicly advocating. I must endorse one observation of that evening; "Can you imagine this happening ten years ago? We have come a long way in a short time."

The reason for this astounding progress has been the courage shown by those who have participated in such programs and by the justice of our cause.

But we must also observe that there is much to be done. We have just vitalized a movement to meaningful activity. We must extend these confrontations so that all parts of our local community are affected. We must capitalize on these successful processes so that all across the United States similar presentations can benefit all communities.

Remember that while these contacts are very beneficial in areas of immediate con-

## EDITORIAL

### ANOTHER CHAPTER IN THE DORN AMENDMENT

The Dorn Amendment, which we unalterably oppose on the ground that it is a deceptive and vicious play for power on the part of city governments, has been submitted to the Governor with the expectation that it will be passed on to the Legislature for favorable action either in the Budget Session this year or in the Regular Session of the Legislature in 1967.

Should the Legislature enact the provision into law, it would become a statute and not a constitutional amendment, and, hence, could be modified or repealed by the Legislature at a subsequent time. But the law would, so far as its effect is concerned, achieve the same result for cities and their police departments as would a constitutional amendment, and at the same time it would (1) prevent a vote on the issue by the people, and (2) save Mr. Dorn the task of getting the required number of signatures on his petition.

We believe without reserve that matters of sex and morals are not local in nature but are matters of State-wide concern and that any laws in this area should affect all the people of the State in the same manner and to the same extent. Therefore, any laws on the subject should be State laws. Conversely, we do not believe that any city or cities should have the right to enact more stringent and different laws in this area. Municipal Codes, which are often badly organized and not easily obtainable, could, with the inclusion of innumerable laws on sex and mor-

(Cont'd on page 5)

cern, they are the prelude to a vast reorientation that must be accomplished by societies established educational processes. The sooner we are successful with these first steps, the sooner we will be able to go on to other programs.

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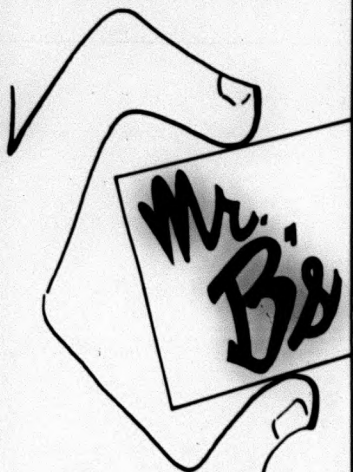
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VECTOR

Issued monthly by the  
SOCIETY FOR INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS  
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San Francisco, California 94101



## YOUR INVITATION



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## LETTERS

(Letters submitted for publication must be directed to Editor, VECTOR. Letters addressed to SIR, its Board of Directors, or individual board members or editors will not be considered. Letters must also contain the name, address, and telephone number of the writer. They may, however, be signed by a fictitious designation if the writer does not wish his own name used. -Ed.)

Comment on VECTOR

"As a new member I...comment on the January VECTOR.

"I am VERY pleased SIR is taking a restrained attitude toward 'Jose' and all this 'empress' stuff. I would actually prefer SIR to stay away from Jose altogether and his Privy council. I am NOT a cynical, stick-in-the-mud! No one likes a good time more than me, but overemphasizing the 'nelly' aspect of gay life and openly catering to it does nothing to aid the homosexual or SIR as an organization. I hope you keep a good distance from this nonsense as it would lower the respect you have obtained ...

"Glad to see your 'SUPPORT A.C.L.U.' and glad to see your LYSISTRATA support....

"Thank you for publishing the long and interesting article by Gary Teller. It presents so many problems and merits so many comments that I could give you a couple of pages of reactions....

"VECTOR is my only contact with SIR at this time and I am continually impressed with your literate approach to everything. There is plenty of room for 'Cruise Report' and 'Citizens News' but there has been a crying need for VECTOR.

"A New Member"

Ed: We appreciate your kind words but are disturbed to read that at this time VECTOR is your only contact with SIR. Open membership meetings are held monthly and we urge you to attend these

(Cont'd on page 10)

## the TENDERLOIN PROJECT

by Reverend Ed Hansen

The "Tenderloin" is in the heart of downtown San Francisco. It is notorious for prostitution, "gay" bars and hotels, drunkenness, sexy news stands, etc. The district includes such key places as the Greyhound Bus Depot, the Y.M.C.A., several blocks of Market Street, hamburger stands, numerous restaurants, bars, hotels, and the Glide Memorial Methodist Church. During the day the streets are jammed with cars, cable cars, trolley cars, and buses; the sidewalks are crowded with people hurrying everywhere. The clamor of so much activity drowns out the distinctive human sounds of individual persons, and one is easily lost into anonymity, into nothingness in the midst of crowds. The daytime clamor is subdued in the evening, and individual sounds begin to take on importance. Slow footsteps on the sidewalk and conversations at street corners mark the beginning of night-life in the Tenderloin.

The "method of response" is a helpful concept for me as I work with the youth and young adults in this area of San Francisco. Simply stated, the "method of response" demands that we be sensitive to the needs of human beings and respond to them with the ways and means that will meet the needs. This is a very basic concept of ministry and yet I'm sure it is often ignored by ministers and congregations alike.

According to the method of response, we don't approach people "program first". We don't impose upon them the ways that have had meaning for us. Instead we associate openly with the people we want to serve; we listen and try to empathize; we involve ourselves in their lives until we come to know their greatest needs. And then in response we search with them,

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## THE JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GOVERNMENT

## WATCHDOG OF LIBERTY

by Evander Smith

Dew vs. Halaby, Administrator, Federal Aviation Agency, et al., 317 F.2d 582 (1963) is an especially interesting case where an employee was discharged for anti-social acts which occurred when he was a teen-ager.

The Central Intelligence Agency gave Mr. Dew a lie detector test. This was done preparatory to promoting him to a security position. During this test he admitted committing at least four unnatural sex acts with males, some of them for pay, when he was 18 or 19 years old. He also admitted having smoked marijuana cigarettes on at least five occasions while in the Air Force. Dew was "allowed" to resign.

He next was employed by the Civil Aeronautics Authority where he worked successfully as an Airways Operations Specialist for some twenty months. Then when that agency came into knowledge of the teen-age episode, it removed him.

The first removal was badly handled administratively; consequently, a suit in the United States District Court asking for reinstatement was ultimately granted. The agency reinstated him, and then proceeded to fire him all over again, this time giving him a pro forma administrative hearing before doing the inevitable. Again, Mr. Dew sued the concerned parties in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, and this time he lost. Judge Alexander Holtzoff granted the government's motion for judgment without giving Mr. Dew any hearing. Mr. Dew then appealed to the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit which affirmed the lower court.

The appellate court stated: "The crucial question is thus whether it is arbitrary and capricious, as appellant [Dew] argues, to base removal for such cause as will promote the efficiency of the service on pre-employment conduct of the employee, under circumstances like those here."

The Court ignored the undisputed, lengthy, and factual evidence of a psychiatrist who testified at the second hearing with the agency. The Court chose to get hung up on technical rules of procedure, made ignorant and prejudicial statements of folklore, and ignored its equitable jurisdiction. It conveniently washed its hands by rationalizing the deed onto others.

A fine dissent by Judge Wright attacked the opinion of the majority. He said it is unfortunate that it is adolescent acts by Dew which are being used as a springboard to attack the protection of the Civil Service worker. "If this ruling remains the law," he said, "no Civil Service job is safe."

Mr. Dew then took his case to the Supreme Court of the United States. The government (the C.A.A. and the Solicitor General for the Justice Department), realizing that its shoddy performance would in all probability be disapproved in a most definitive manner capitulated! The last thing it ever believed could happen had happened - the Supreme Court was going to hear a homosexual case and apply the United States Constitution to the rights of this minority group. The government thereupon reinstated Mr. Dew, gave him promotions he had missed, and compensated him for lost wages. This settlement by agreement of the parties rendered the case moot, and it was therefore dismissed by the Supreme Court.

Mr. Dew's case should do much to give courage to the homosexual community. It shows what belief in one's self and individual action can accomplish --- SUCCESS!



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## HIKING TRIP

Two hiking trips are scheduled for February. They are the Big Basin State Park hike on Sunday, February 13th, and the Kent Lake and Taylor State Park hike on February 26th. For further information, dial MANJADE.

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# CHATTER MATTER

by Anonymous

This is not intended to be a gossip column, BUT...have you noticed how extremely nice certain SIR members have become? I'm sure it's just their true personalities and has NOTHING to do with the upcoming elections. This column makes no predictions, nor will it push any favorites, but you will hear me at the meeting - loud and clear. Seems as if many people are really interested in the elections this time, so watch the campaigning. I wonder if the man who thought up the word campaign intended the pun. Some politicians act as if it was plain camp.

Think this column plugs only our own advertizers in our community? (Yes, but...) Since Herb Caen is always mentioning David's on Geary Street, I heartily recommend Solomon's, just a few doors down - not so fancy, but the sandwiches are bigger, better, and cheaper.

Speaking of cheaper, add to the bars where SIR members get discounts on libations a new place called The Tally Ho on Irving at 10th Avenue.

Seems as if everyone is going to the Valentine's dance - so get your tickets now. It'll be a real ball. I hear a big fun event is also planned for the opening of our long awaited community center. Along the pickled beet -

Mr. B's on 2nd St. has done some extensive remodeling, but the most attractive improvement is the new waiter ...and have you seen the new Selina at the parlour of the same name?? Better than ever ... Big crowds back at the old T.B. on 4th St. again - but I still haven't won a leather jacket. Don't miss the entertainment at the 524 on Sunday afternoon - tremendous!

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## KANSAS CITY CONFERENCE OF HOMOPHILE LEADERS SET

At the 1965 ECHO conference, the President of SIR asked attending leaders of all homophile organizations to meet in the official suite for an informal conversation. At that meeting President Beardemphl presented the idea for a national meeting of

representatives of all homosexual organizations in the United States. An agreement was reached and on February 19-20 in Kansas City the conference will be held. The Liaison Committee of the Mattachine Society, Inc., of New York, under the direction of Dick Lietsch, is in charge of making arrangements. Clark Polak, Janus Society of Philadelphia, is setting up room reservations and meeting facilities.

### EDITORIAL

(Continued from page 2)

als, become traps without compare for the unwary and unsuspecting citizen who tries to conform his sexual conduct within the confines of the law. Instead of guidelines for acceptable social conduct, as State laws are, the municipal ordinances could become tools of oppression and harassment in the hands of the unscrupulous.

We seriously hope that the Legislature will soundly defeat this proposed legislation and we urge our readers to write their State Senators and Assemblymen requesting that they vote against the bill when and if it is introduced.

Comparisons and effects of organizational structures, internal communications, methodologies, and techniques will be discussed. Workshops in many organizational areas are contemplated. Plans for organizations national liaison, cooperation, and communication will be discussed.

Three delegates from each of the 21 invited organizations will be allowed. SIR is sending a delegation. Any financial support or suggestions will be welcome. Contact President Bill Beardemphl who will be in charge of the SIR delegation. This can be an important national step aiding all homosexuals. Lend your support!

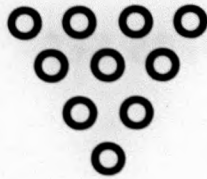
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utilizing all the resources we can muster, to help them find the ways to meet their needs.

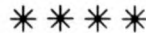
As I began working with the young adults who live in the Tenderloin, I felt some sort of coffee house would be a likely approach for ministry in this area. But this would have been coming at these people "program first". Perhaps a coffee house is needed, but for now this is set aside and I am concentrating on becoming better acquainted with the people themselves, and then as their greatest needs become known, I must work with them in search of the answers.

My work is taking me into the Tenderloin at least two nights weekly, and the days have been filled with coun-

seling and interviews with key persons in San Francisco. To discover existing resources, to counter the problems we have discovered, Mr. Mark Forrester and I have talked with persons in the police department, California Youth Authority, Juvenile Court, Department of Education, counseling centers, hospitals, Traveler's Aid, United Community Fund, and universities. Also we have talked with people in the Jewish, Roman Catholic, and Protestant faiths. As we talked with the "professionals," it became more and more apparent that all of us need to involve ourselves more directly in the lives of those we are trying to serve. We just cannot do it from behind a desk.

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## ACLU ON SEX

(Continued from page 1)

sial aspect of this policy is to legalize homosexual conduct (used in its broadest sense to include transvestism etc.) as long as minors are not involved and force is absent. Since this is the most controversial aspect of the statement, it might be well to give a general synopsis of the legal practices in the several states as far as homosexuality is concerned.

It should be made clear from the first that at present it is not a crime to be a homosexual, but it is to perform a homosexual act. Some states provide separate definitions of and penalties for particular homosexual offenses, others set forth a vaguely phrased, catch-all offense such as unnatural crimes, the infamous crime against nature, any unnatural copulation, the abominable and detestable crime against nature with mankind or beast, any unnatural and lascivious act. Usually these catch-all phrases lack the degree of specificity which is required in the statutory definition of other crimes. Moreover, the penalties at least theoretically impossible for homosexual acts are harsh ones. Several states provide a maximum penalty for some homosexual offenses of ten or more years in prison. In some jurisdictions the homosexual may be subject to long-term incarceration, ostensibly for treatment, under special "sex offender" or "sexual psychopath" laws. These laws which establish an extremely vague "waste basket" category of offenders and allow for commitment with less than the usual criminal safeguards are often applied against minor sex offenders, and not just as a means of isolating dangerous sex criminals. Obviously the statutory regulations do not in themselves provide a realistic picture of the homosexual's legal status since judges and juries vary and there is considerable reluctance to impose stringent sanctions against homosexual defendants in most

cases. Often the great damage is not done through punishment, but through arrest and exposure.

The vagaries of judges, juries, and the difficulty in apprehending the average homosexual means that the problem of police enforcement is difficult. Since there is a willing exchange of services, there is usually no complainant except in those instances where force has been used, a blatant public display has taken place, or where children are involved. When the behavior occurs in relative privacy, as is usually the case, it does not normally become known to law enforcement authorities. Thus the police are placed in a rather difficult if not intolerable position. Under great pressure from some segments of the public to eradicate the offending behavior, and at the same time knowing full well the essential unenforceability of the law, they have fallen back on an amalgam of unsavory vice squad techniques or of "looking the other way." In the larger cities there tends to be a fairly routine patrol of public places frequented by homosexuals, with intermittent arrest. Often the police become agent provocateurs because it is argued that only by such techniques can the existing law be enforced. This sort of argument seems a ground for reversing the law.

Law enforcement activity is also directed at such known homosexual meeting places as "gay" bars. Plainclothesmen are often stationed as decoys in such establishments and legal action is periodically taken against the bars themselves, usually on the basis of "disorderly conduct" or conduct "contrary to public welfare or morals." State liquor authorities have been particularly active in this regard, although the courts in California have not always gone along.

In sum, the enforcement policies affecting sex behavior are at present very confused. This general statement is couched in terms of "constitutional right" because of the recent decision

of Justice Goldberg in *Griswold v. Connecticut*. Judge Goldberg applied the Ninth Amendment to marital privacy and it could just as well be applied to the whole area of sexual conduct. Much of sex is legitimately beyond the interests of the state. In fact much of sex law is taken over from religious law. Whatever moral restraints a church may wish to impose upon its members need not be made legal prohibitions imposed upon all citizens.

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FEB. 12th.

## ANNUAL WINTER CAMPOUT

The annual winter campout will take place the weekend of the 5th and 6th of February. The camping area is located in the Mother Lode country. All winter activities are available, such as tobogganing, skiing, ice skating; and there is a lodge near the camping area where you can have dinner or just go for a cup of coffee. There will be lots of real outdoor fun, so bring lots of Warm Clothing and sleeping bags. We will have cooking utensils available, but each group or individual will have to bring their own food. Maps will be available at the SIR office. The first group will leave Friday night at 7:30 p.m. and the other group will leave on Saturday morning at 9:00 a.m. As on all camping trips, each person must bring \$1.00. So join us in a real fun weekend.

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# February 1966

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1. Tavern Guild Sirporium Trustee Social Committee Bridge N-R-A	2. ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP CLOSED MEETING BETHANY CENTER (FORMERLY GRACE METHODIST CH) @21st Capp St.	3. Model R.R. Club Pinochle	4. Conversation Group Poker	5. Camping trip to Pine Crest. SIR'S Skiers Trip
6.	7. BOWLING	8. Social Committee Sirporium Trustee Bridge N-R-A	9. Swimming Membership Committee	10. Model R.R. Club Picho	11. Conversation Group	12. SIR'S SWEETHEART BALL FUGAZI CASA BLDG. 678 Green Street 8:00 P.M. - 2:00 Live Music(Band)
13. HIKE BIG BASIN STATE PARK	14. BOWLING	15. Tavern Guild Sirporium Trustee Social Committee Bridge N-R-A SIR'S skier meeting	16. OPEN MEMBERSHIP MEETING BETHANY CENTER (FORMERLY GRACE METHODIST CH. 21st & Capp.	17. Model R.R. Club	18. Conversation Group Poker	19.
20.	21. BOWLING	22. Sirporium Trustee Social Committee Bridge N-R-A-	23. Swimming Membership Committee Meeting	24. Model R.R. Club	25. Conversation Group	26. SIR'S Skiers Trip
27. HIKE LENT LAKE AND TAY- LOR STATE PARK.	28. BOWLING	Social Committee (Sir office 7:30) (Bridge 1717 Web- ster Street 7:30 (NRA 1683 Page St. 7:30 P.M. (Sirporium 7:30) Trustee )	Membership Meeting (Call VA 4 7642) Swimming (626-5233) Chinese Y.M.C.A Stockton & Grant on Sacramento St.	Model R.R. Club 520 Clayton St. 7:30 P.M.	Conversation Groups call (Tu 5 3429) Poker call (648-1929)	





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## SWEETHEARTS BALL SCHEDULED

by Gordon Barton

Returns on the "Gold Sheet" overwhelmingly indicate a preference for LARGE dances,

with live bands. SIR's Social Committee has, therefore, planned four LARGE dances for this year. The first of these will be on Saturday, February 12th and will be an annual Sweethearts Ball. Your attendance and opinion will help the committee in organizing and planning major events for 1966. The music will be by The Symbols, currently appearing at the Copper Lantern.

There will also be a small amount of BIG entertainment which will be the highlight of the evening. Beer and mix will be served FREE. There will be no costumes at the event. Any MEMBER under the age of 22 will be admitted free and anyone who becomes a voting member that night will be admitted free. So mark your calendar for the Big Night - Saturday, February 12th, for an evening of fun.

### BOARD APPROVES SIRPORIUM SALARY

SIR's Board of Directors has approved a salary for the manager of the SIRPORIUM. The position will pay \$45.00 per week. Work hours will be 8 hours per day, 5 days a week. Applications should include a resume and be submitted to President Beardemphl prior to February 15, 1966. The President, with the approval of the Board, will select the person to fill the position.

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Note: If a *nom de plume* is used please put that name on your mailbox.

## LETTERS

(continued from page 9)

so that you may become an active participating member in the organization.

## Membership Drive

"Editor: This is the gist of a conversation I overheard between a non-member and a member at the last Open Meeting. The latter was trying to convince the former that he should join SIR.

-Well, are you going to give me that five dollars or not? I need it if I want to stay at the top of the list.

-What list?

-You do n't understand. It's a kind of contest between members. The one who brings in the most members gets a free trip to New Orleans at Mardi Gras time, then to Jamaica and Miami Beach.

-Is that your main concern - to bring in new members? You haven't even told me what SIR is all about yet.

-Well, I've been told that SIR is a kind of an organization of gay boys. We get together once in awhile to discuss our mutual problems and also have a chance to meet new faces.

-Oh, I don't have to belong to an organization to meet new faces. There are plenty of places to meet people in this city. But I want to know more about this SIR business.

-Well, er, frankly, er, I've been a member for almost a year now and I still don't know much about it. I joined because I, er, met a good-looking boy - my type, you know - and when he asked me to become a member I couldn't resist, thinking I would have the chance of seeing him more often.

-You're very honest, I have to admit, but SIR must have a policy, a - a - purpose of some kind. Do you mean to tell me that this is the only reason you became a member?

-Yes, I'm afraid so. And I believe half of the others don't really know why they joined. I'm a follower, you might say, and it's never been properly explained to me what SIR really wants to do.

-Don't they send you any

literature when you became a member?

-I haven't received any yet and, as I told you, I've been a member for nearly a year now.

-Well, if all the members, or at least 50% of them, are like you, and your meetings are like this one, I don't think it's worth the five dollars. It seems to me that the only thing being discussed here tonight is to find out how many are in favor of having one of the members pose as an Empress or an Emperor. Really, I think it's a bit silly and a waste of time.

-There you go again! You still don't understand. She's one of the oldest members of SIR and really did help a lot of us when we first came to this city.

-You mean she found you in a ...

-Aw, come on, don't talk like that. She's very sincere and very helpful at times.

-Good. I believe you. Yes, she looks the motherly type to me. But if SIR's goal is only to approve or disapprove of members getting in drag, I'm on the list of the 75% of this group who seem to be against the idea. So, the organization doesn't make much sense to me.

-Gee, I wish I could introduce you to some people who could tell you the real purpose behind this organization.

-Oh, that would be great. But since I've been in this hall, I've tried to be friendly, but they all think I'm cruising them or something. I believe this outfit is only for a handful of old friends. Newcomers just don't seem to fit into the atmosphere. Why is it that gay boys cannot behave more like other people? This organization lacks the most important element of any group, the feeling of comradeship, of - of extending a helping hand. This is not a gay bar where the atmosphere is most always cold and impersonal, and ....

-Aw, you're getting too serious for me. I only want to go to New Orleans as I heard it was very gay during the Mardi Gras.

-I dig your point of view, chum, but if all the members

of SIR think like you, I don't believe this organization will get very far. And it's not be sending silly little faggots dressed as new-born babies to different bars that you will get better known or attract new members or, what is more important, improve your image in the minds of the straight public! I may be wrong, but I think what should be done first is to instruct the members you already have in the importance of this organization by sending them information telling them what this SIR bit is all about. And then, if you have members who are really convinced of their roles in this group, they would be able to persuade their friends to join.

-Oh, hell, you're too serious for me. I'd never be able to get to New Orleans if all my friends thought like you.

"You know, as a matter of fact, you might be seeing me there, too. If you see a big Duchess riding her own cable car on Bourbon Street asking people to become SIR members, you won't be able to say I'm too serious. But before trying to get new members, I would want to be sure what SIR is about. As you seem to know everybody here, could you ask the membership committee to send me some literature on the subject. If I approve their policy, I would be more than happy to join.

"Prospective Member"

Ed. Did he join? The fee is \$10.00, not five; VECTOR is mailed to all members, so literature is sent out; and packets containing information on SIR, its organization, policies, and goals can be obtained at the SIR office and at many of the bars.

## STELLA'S CIVIC CENTER CLEANERS



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# MARDI GRAS

(continued from page 1)



contributing to one's own welfare. Enlightened self-interest is what it has been called. But enlightened self-interest with a little something special added - a good band, a carefree and jolly crowd, and in general a good time.

Although the Council on Religion and the Homosexual as a group did not back the Ball officially, several hard working ministers and their wives were in attendance. One can usually count on the moral support of such stalwarts as the Rev. Dr. Colwell and the Rev. Mr. Durham, and they were present. Also present were Ed and Ann Hansen and the Rev. Mr. Charles Lewis with his lady. Other ministers also attended, and did so not to be patronizing but because they have become in a relatively short period genuine friends in the true sense of the word.

A highlight of the evening was an impromptu strip number by a lady in red, which was well received by most guests.

Photographers were officially accredited and took pictures of individuals only after consent was obtained.

All in all the evening was gratifying and without unseemly incidents.

Here's to a better attended Ball next year with as much privacy as this one had!





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OUTING**

On January 15th-16th the SIR ski club inaugurated the winter season with a weekend trip to the Dodge Ridge Ski Resort near Sonora, California. Members spent two days snowplowing and traversing on the slopes and a convivial Saturday evening around the fireplace at the nearby lodge. Most members arrived Friday evening or Saturday morning, but a few, who had to work Saturday, arrived at the Lodge that evening.

Advanced skiers instructed the beginners who, by Sunday afternoon, had mastered the basic snowplow and were using the rope tows and poma-lifts on the smaller ski-runs.

Gusty winds Saturday blew off most of the powder snow leaving the slopes too icy for ideal skiing. Sunday, however, the weather was warm and clear, and by noon skiing conditions were considerably improved after the ice had

begun to melt. The group finally left the slopes at 4:00 p.m. for the return trip to San Francisco - about a 3 1/2 hour drive.

A similar trip is planned for the weekend of February 5th. Interested persons may obtain details by calling 673 6390.

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