

# DAUGHTERS OF BILITIS

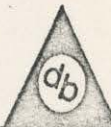
NEWSLETTER.....

JULY, 1968

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SUNDAY SOCIAL

June 23rd, 1968  
4:00 P.M. until ?  
Bring your own bottle  
Setups supplied.  
\$1.00 Donation

## CALENDAR

Sunday, June 23, 4:00 P.M.	-	Sunday Social
Thursday, July 4th	-	Picketing at Independence Hall Office Open All Day
Wednesday, July 10th, 8:30 P.M.	-	Meeting
July 17th	-	Newsletter Deadline
July 24th	-	Newsletter Mailing

Note: The office will be closed on Wednesday, July 3rd.

## EDITORIAL

On Friday morning, May 31st, two representatives of Philadelphia Chapter DOB, along with an observer from the American Civil Liberties Union, met with Staff Inspector Raymond Capper of the Philadelphia Police Department. The chain of events leading to this confrontation began with the police raid on a gay bar in March, reported in this newsletter. It was felt that our Chapter should assume the role of spokesman for those arrested that night and the homosexual community they represent. Therefore, a letter was sent to Police Commissioner Rizzo, protesting the harassment, and requesting a reply. Within a few days we received our response: a request that we contact Inspector Capper to discuss our "complaint".

We found the police official to be a fine public relations man -- always polite, always friendly. always evasive. It became clear at this meeting that the Department's perceptions of its behavior are quite different from our own and that, indeed, their account of the evening of the raid reads like a "fairy tale", quite different from the reports we received. To all of the questions raised-- harassment, violation of rights, verbal abuse, et.al. -- we received simple denials. Our major handicap was that no one present at the meeting had been present at the raid, and so the content of much of the discussion followed this formula:

DOB: The arrested persons were not advised of their rights before being questioned.

Inspector: The police report says (Reading).."The arrested persons were duly advised of their rights before questioning."  
Any other problems?

(continued)

Despite the variations in accounts of the raid; despite the denials and evasions; despite our inability to present conclusive, verifiable data; this meeting did accomplish a few positive objectives. First, we let the police know that we exist, we are aware of our rights, and we are not afraid to protest violations. Second, our being accompanied by a representative of an organization long concerned with civil liberties served notice on the police that we are not alone. Third, we learned that a confrontation like this is a game, and we have begun to learn the rules. Fourth, we affirmed our value as an organization by going to bat for the community we represent. And fifth, we did obtain from Mr. Capper one clear, resounding statement which will perhaps be useful to us in the future. We were told that the Department is impartial in its actions, that homosexuals have been, are now, and will be treated equally with heterosexuals, that there exists neither harassment nor discrimination of any kind. It will be instructive to compare future police actions with this statement of policy.

Police action is, however, but one side of the coin. On the other side is homosexual action -- how we conduct ourselves in future encounters with the authorities. Our recent meeting with Mr. Capper gave us some idea of what can be accomplished after the fact, but another way to combat harassment is to make it more difficult for the police to practice it. It is our responsibility to know our rights, to know the legal limitations on police behavior, and to act on this knowledge.

C.F.

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Quote of the Month

"Commandment Number One of any truly civilized society is this: Let people be different."

..David Grayson, "The Countryman's Year"

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SCANNING THE NEWS

The Washington, D.C. police department bars the following epithets from their officers' vocabulary: ppic, wop, kike, chink, burrhead, dago, nigger, polack, bohunk, limey, frog, and kraut. "Boy" has been added recently to the list and "whitey" and "Honky" are being considered.

"Queer" is no less insulting for not having national or racial connotations. Would it be too much to ask that it also be banned?

A.B.

ACTION

In the April Newsletter it was announced that our Organization was undertaking a project of responding to references to homosexuality in the mass media, and initiating letters to appropriate persons and publications expressing our viewpoint.

Since that time we have:

---Written a letter to the editors of Newsweek magazine in response to a review of "The Boys in the Band". This letter has been published in the June 17th issue.

---Written a letter to The Playboy Forum expressing our conviction that homosexuality is neither a sickness nor an inferior condition, but a preference of equal value with heterosexuality.

---Written a letter to Drs. Masters and Johnson, the sex researchers and authors of "Human Sexual Response", offering our cooperation in their investigations of female homosexuality.

We have received from them a letter expressing their interest in meeting with us at a future date.

---Received from Ralph Collier of WFLN a request for an interview, in response to information about DOB which was sent to him.

---Written letters to the editors of the three leading Philadelphia newspapers protesting the raid on Rusty's.

This is an auspicious beginning. But we need your cooperation in sending to the Editorial Committee articles of interest so that we can continue to express the viewpoints of the homophile community.

C. F.

As we look at the ads that appear in the leading newspapers and magazines (even he-man oriented Playboy), it becomes quite obvious that a great effort is being made to attract the attention of the homosexual sector of the population. A leading cosmetics manufacturer will soon market a new men's line called Xanadu, under the advertising slogan: "In Xanadu, things are ambi-sextrous." Tough looking, gun-toting females make the pitch for a popular refreshment. The examples in the clothing and perfume industries are numerous.

The acquisitive power of homosexuals is one of the few aspects of this minority that has never been in doubt. Will the road to society's recognition go through Madison Avenue?

A.B.

JULY FOURTH DEMONSTRATION

On Thursday, July 4th, from 2:00 to 4:00 P.M., picketing will take place at Independence Hall on behalf of the homophile community, so often denied the blessings of liberty, symbolized in our July Fourth celebration.

Our Office will be open all day and will serve as headquarters for the demonstrators.

Come Support Your Cause On July Fourth!!

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