



An overview of the SFS class on homosexuality.

Switchboard in operation on peninsula

"Dial (415) 851-2605 for information, or just to rap." This is the main message of "Mugs," organizer of the new Peninsula Gay Women's Switchboard.

"We will have 24-hour service, seven days a week," added Ann, another organizer. "We want to help people."

Asked why they began the switchboard, both Mugs and Ann said that they remembered times when they didn't know how to find information or even how to get into contact with other gay women. They feel that the switchboard can be "a way of breaking ice for people."

Mugs added that they would like to reach the more isolated groups of gay women. "We would like to reach out to younger teenagers as well as to older women."

Mugs and Ann are both unemployed, a factor which they say had a great deal of influence in their decision to start the switchboard.

"There is no threat now of losing a job if people find out we're gay," explained Ann. "There's nothing to lose and now we have the time and opportunity to do this."

Mugs, 26, is a graduate of

(Continued on page 3)

This is a free introductory copy. If you like MOTHER, we urge you to subscribe now. In the future there will be only a few introductory copies available through our advertisers. Because of the nature of MOTHER, distribution through sales at 25 cents a copy will be limited. Why not assure yourself of getting MOTHER at the beginning of each month, mailed to your home, in a plain envelope, by subscribing NOW?

Clergy, gays attack stereotypes

Mention "homosexuality" at a gathering of Catholics and icy silence or open hostility will be the predominant response.

More and more, however, Catholic clergy are showing interest in understanding the

Senate act repeals Prohibition ban on women bartenders

Your favorite hard-liquor gay bar may soon be able to hire women bartenders if State Senator Anthony C. Beilenson (D-Beverly Hills) has his way.

A measure introduced by Beilenson early in May cleared the Senate on a 30 - 2 vote with little debate. The Assembly has not yet voted on the bill as of press time.

Beilenson's bill would repeal a 36-year ban against women bartenders in any bar serving hard-liquor unless either the women themselves or their husbands owned the bar. The post-Prohibition ban was adopted in 1936.

"It's the most miserable experience being in a closet. You can't fight back to oppression." That comment came from a gay teenager on a panel addressing 120 people, 77 of whom were elementary and junior high school teachers.

The panel "Coming Out -- the Gay Teenager" was part of a course titled "Homosexuality and Gayness: Freedom or Cure?" presented by the Faculty Program Center and Sociology Department of San Francisco State College on May 21 and 22.

homosexual world as clerical duties force priests to come to grips with the issue, in the confessional if nowhere else.

To facilitate a coming together of the Catholic Church and the San Francisco gay community, one outlaw priest is hosting a series of informal pseudo-encounter meetings with clergy and homosexuals, both male and female.

Conducted by Robert Richards, a Catholic priest on suspension from Rome for his activities (which include two gay marriages) with the San Francisco gay community, the conversational-sized sessions are beginning to break down the stereotypes on both sides.

Since his suspension, Richards has joined with others to form a working commune called The Community of St. John the Beloved, a non-profit organization providing meals, counseling, overnight housing, employment help and religious services, among others, for all members of the gay community.



poster was just part
ene at the April 24
ch in San Francisco.

inar exposes sexual world achers' study

(from page 1)
ne people here are
rested in the program
ved."
elists emphasized
for education about
ity in schools. Ap-
eted Karen Wells'
er and member of the
a Religion and the
() statement that
ation should teach
e is more to sex
oduction -- and make
t all of us, gay or
don't come out of
ation mill feeling
r our eroticism."
estion was raised to
"How did you relate
your teachers spoke
ly about fags, dykes
?"
ew a variety of re-
om the gay teenagers
ldn't have let him
with it. I would
rased him in class,"
t have said any-
ould have tried to
- it's a terrifying
," "I would have
ong with the rest
ass and hated myself
are just three of
s.

Opinion 'Moods' gives a subtle insight

BY SARAH RASPUTINA

Moods of Eros and Other Poems,
Elsa Gidlow, \$2.25, Druid
Heights Press (24 pp.).

It is difficult to clas-
sify Elsa Gidlow's poems.
They strike one's emotional
center--subtly, through their
imagery.

Moods grows on you--like
the delicate unfolding of a
spring morning, or an autumn
evening.

In other verses Elsa Gid-
low speaks of today's social

problems filtered through the
prism of a lesbian poet.

Eyes

*My mother said
Of her mother:
Her eyes are
Gold-brown;
Like bee's backs.*

*My mother's eyes
Speckled pebbles
In swift-running
Water.*

*At the mirror
Observing my own;
Just eyes.*

*Wondering
What my daughter
Would have seen
If I had had one. ©*

One could only wish that
there were more poems in this
collection -- more moods to
probe.

I find a kinship with them,
however. I notice how our
moods have a different sense
and tone from the moods of
other lovers.

I would like to call this

volume "explorati-
it is a book of
people who wish to
special world, th
passions and the
of lesbian emotio



Elsa Gidlow

Switchboard

(Continued from page 1)

Brigham Young University. Ann
is an ex-nun and graduate of
the College of Notre Dame.

Their future plans include
an attempt to unify all bay
area switchboards so that they
can trade information and
"provide a base that will
give switchboards a longer
lifespan and greater stabil-
ity."

Asked how they intend to
finance the switchboard, Mugs
admitted "We need donations
badly to keep us going."

Donations may be sent in
care of MOTHER or left at
the Pax Inn in Redwood City.

Community of St. John the Beloved

A Catholic Ministry
Within the Homophile Community

ROBERT J. RICHARDS
PRIEST
(415) 431-1541



P.O. BOX 386
501 1/2 GROVE STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102

VI'S

THE

Sample copy, \$1.25
\$7.50 per year

THINGS TO DO ON GAY

GOOD IS GAY

CELEBRATE
YOUR
HUMANITY!

26 JUNE

SUBSCRIBE
TO
MOTHER

GAY PRIDE DAY

* ARE YOU ISOLATED
YOUR COMMUNITY
find out
gay world
area and
see org.

* ADVENTURE
wear a "G"
demonstrat

* BEEN WANTING
SOMEONE SOME
take cou

* AFRAID?
take a thoughtful look
at yourself... is it
worth it?

GOOD