

A. Cyrus Warner
98 Olden Lane BB
Princeton, New Jersey

2 January 1966

Mr. William Stern
Post Office Box 2392
Greensboro, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Stern:

I am writing at the suggestion of Mr. Paul Speier, who has turned over to me your correspondence with him.

Professionally, I am an historian, and have taught at several different universities, my field being British history. My home is in Princeton, and I did my undergraduate work here before the war, at which time I lived in northern New Jersey. I am also a lawyer. Although I have never practiced, I do engage in some legal activities.

Legal matters constitute a large share of my work with Mattachine, of which I have been a member since its inception. For the past few years, I have been in charge of the Society's legal committee. Ever since the repeal of the laws against h. in Illinois, our committee has been concerned with the general movement for legal reform which is beginning to develop in several states. Obviously we do nothing directly, for we are only too well aware that any representations directly from us would be a kiss of death. But we are sometimes in a position to initiate matters which will cause other persons to move -- often without their even being aware of the source of the actions that stirred them.

Since an operation which I had about two years ago, I have not been doing any active teaching, and a considerable amount of my time has been spent in travelling. This has permitted me to become sort of a roving unofficial representative for the Society, meeting people in different states where legal reform has begun, or is being talked about, in order to determine whether there is anything we can do to assist. In other instances my contacts are of a more routine character, and consist in discussing the possibility of establishing a local Mattachine Society.

Our former President, Mr. Julian Hodges (a transplanted North Carolinian, and cousin of your former Governor), gave me some cursory information last September about your contact with Mr. Speier. He was supposed to have obtained definite particulars for me, since he knew that I would be in Charlotte during the latter part of October, as, in fact, I was. Unfortunately, he never did follow this up, with the result that I left on that trip without any name or address to go by, and a good opportunity for us to have met was therefore lost.

At the present juncture I expect to be away for the next three months -- I am leaving next week -- hence any idea of our meeting will have to be put off until the spring. However, my present plans do tentatively call for a trip to New Bern and Asheville late in April or in May, and, since I would be driving, I should be passing through Charlotte on my way to Asheville. If necessary, I probably could arrange to go to Greensboro. At any rate, I shall keep this in mind, and, as soon as I know defi-

nitely that I shall be in your area, I shall communicate with you again,
in order that we may plan a meeting, something which I do look forward to.

With all good wishes for the New Year, I am

Very sincerely yours,

A. C. Warner

P. S. In the Society, I use my first name "Arthur", rather than "Cyrus".
Furthermore, where any public announcement is involved, I am known as
"Austin Wade". However, when writing to me in Princeton, you may address
me as on the letter-head above.

A. C. W.