

## Tax bill would aid singles

WASHINGTON—Sen. Abraham Ribicoff (D-Conn.) has introduced a bill which would equalize tax rates for single persons and married couples.

Under present law, a single person may be liable for up to 20 per cent more in federal income taxes than a married couple with the same income.

"Many people attempt to explain the present system by saying that single persons do not bear the cost and responsibilities of raising children," Ribicoff said in a Senate speech.

"But income splitting under the present law does not differentiate among taxpayers in this respect, since the benefit is the same whether they have children or not."

## GAA suing to reverse incorporation turndown

NEW YORK CITY—The Gay Activists Alliance has asked the Supreme Court to compel Secretary of State John P. Lomenzo to grant the organization a certificate of incorporation.

The GAA's request to be certified as a non-profit corporation was rejected Nov. 5 by Deputy Secretary of State John J. Ghezzi, acting for Lomenzo.

In a letter returning the application papers, Ghezzi said, "The name of the corporation is not acceptable since it is not an appropriate name for a corporation when one considers the connotation in which the words are being used."

The letter also said, "The purposes of the corporation also raise a serious question whether a corporation may be formed to promote activities which are contrary

to the avowed public policy of the State of New York and are in fact contrary to the penal laws of the State of New York."

"While individuals or groups have every right to seek changes in the laws and public policies of our state, the filing of the certificate which you submitted would be tantamount to a public sanction of the activities which are presently in violation of our public policy and penal statute."

GAA President Jim Owles said in the Supreme Court suit that the organization "has not been convicted of any crime, or any violation of any local, state, or administrative ordinances, in the conduct of its affairs as a homosexual civil rights organization and unincorporated association of the State of New York."

He said Ghezzi's action was "arbitrary and capricious," and "works a chilling effect on the organization's efforts on behalf of its members, civil rights" in violation of the First, Fourth, and Ninth Amendments to the U.S. Constitution and the "equal protection" guarantees of the state constitution.

It also violated, Owles said, "the concept of the pursuit of happiness implicit in the founding of the United States." Submitted with the petition to the court was a letter to Lomenzo from U.S. Rep. Bella Abzug (D-Manhattan) saying GAA was involved in a peaceful effort to change state laws and "as far as the right of the 'gay' group to use that term in its name, there is no case on record pointed to by your assistant for the authority this term is improper."

Owles said Lomenzo's office had failed to reply to letters from Reps. Abzug and Edward Koch and Assemblymen Antonio Olivieri (D-Manhattan) and Franz Leichter (D-Manhattan).

## No policy on gay bars, Garden Grove chief says

GARDEN GROVE, Calif.—The Garden Grove Police Department has no policy "specifically on the gay bars," Chief Laurence Marshal has told the ADVOCATE.

Asked about complaint from Gays of police harassment, centering around a bar called the Knotty Keg, earlier this year, Marshal said, "None of this has been brought to my attention by the people involved."

Asked if his department opposed the establishment or operation of gay bars in Garden Grove, he said, "I don't recall action that we've taken that has been in opposition to the establishment of any bar in Garden Grove on the basis of its going to be a gay bar."

There have been no further reports of harassment since publication of the situation at the Knotty Keg in late January and early February. Stories in the AD-

VOCATE brought the Orange Coast Chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union into the picture, and ACLU attorneys have talked to a number of people involved in various incidents about possible legal action.

The situation also brought about the organization of the Gay Liberation Front of Orange County, and indirectly, with ACLU aid, the establishment of a new monthly newspaper, *Focus*.

Harassment complaints began to rise in Garden Grove after Marshal took over as police chief last October from George Tielsch, who became police chief in Seattle, Wash. Most of the complaints, however, centered around the actions of two individual officers.

Marshal at first told *Focus* that the department did not have a policy of harassment of gay bars. Then in a brief interview with the ADVOCATE, he seemed to shift emphasis slightly.

Asked if he favored establishing a good rapport with the gay community in Orange County, he said, "I don't know. I've never considered the need to have a good or bad rapport with them as a group. I'm kind of vague on what you mean by your question."

"Now individuals, individual people, we have good and poor relationships with them, but as a group, I've never really considered, because I don't know what their points of view on police problems are."

He was guarded but good-humored in his replies, and volunteered this comment at the close of the interview:

"I know it's a knotty—not to coin a phrase—but a knotty situation. Apparently people who have chosen to come together in a Gay Lib organization feel uptight about their relationship with the police department."

"But as I say, we have no relationship that I know of with the organization. Now we deal with bars, and like I told the fellow from *Focus*, we regulate conduct in all the bars, not just the gay bars. And as a matter of fact—I think it was the very weekend he called me—our department, the very same people you're talking about, made arrests in other bars, straight bars, for prostitution, and a straight bar for, I think, gambling."

"So it's just that we have an enforcement policy with regard to specific type crimes, but with regard to specific establishments, we have no formal policy."

## College head bans seminar at Fullerton

FULLERTON, Calif.—The president of California State College at Fullerton has pulled the rug out from under a scheduled March 27 seminar on homosexuality, which was to be presented by the Gay Life and Lib class in the Experimental College.

Dr. L. Donald Shields told Steve Egan, one of the instructors of the class and a principal organizer of the seminar, at a meeting March 5 that he would be unable to authorize use of college facilities for the seminar.

Speaking for Dr. Shields, his executive assistant, Dr. George Enell, told the ADVOCATE later that it isn't that "the college is taking a repressive attitude toward homosexuality and making a judgment on the validity of that lifestyle or the investigation of it. It's that not only the Gay Life and Lib class but the whole Experimental College structure would be endangered... if we authorized the conference."

Replying to charges that the turndown was of a political nature, he said this might be so "only in the sense of economic prudence. If we were to permit the conference this year, and to allow college facilities to be used for this purpose, inevitably, the people in the community who are suspicious of all that we do that is not traditional and orthodox would make an issue of it to the point that there would be inevitable reverberations from the trustees and the legislature."

He said he understood that questions had already been raised "by both the chancellor's staff and the trustees about the validity of the continuance of the Experimental College."

The Experimental College is sponsored by the Associated Students. It uses college facilities, but receives no money from the college.

Dr. Shields, said Dr. Enell, "has not in any way interfered with the Gay Lib course, and sees that it is indeed appropriate for members of the college community to investigate this social phenomena."

Egan said that no immediate attempt would be made to salvage the Cal State Fullerton seminar. That instead, those interested would be urged to take part in a much larger symposium of "The Gay Scene" planned at Sacramento State College April 19-23.

However, he said, he would be writing campus gay organizations all over the state urging that as many of them as possible ask for seminars on their own campuses, in order to put pressure on the state college system.

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