

National News

census bureau recruits gays

The Bureau of the Census is recruiting lesbians and gay men for the approximately 275,000 temporary employment positions for the census in April 1980.

Census results will determine reapportionment of the Congress and state legislatures as well as allocation formulas for more than 100 federally funded programs.

Census Bureau recruiting director Mikel Miller said he wants the names of people interested in this work, as well as organizations that would recommend people.

The positions range from Crew Leader (paying \$4.50 per hour) to Enumerator (paying \$4.20 per hour) to Clerical (\$4.00 per hour or depending on task.) Detailed job descriptions are available at local Census District offices or from Miller. Letters can be sent to:

Mikel Miller
Bureau of the Census
U.S. Dept. of Commerce
Washington, DC 20233

lesbians make pen-pals

A new alternate communication network for lesbians in the U.S. and Canada has been established.

"Writesisters," a non-profit corporation, is based on the pen-pal concept. Interested lesbians are invited to send in general information about themselves and to request the states or provinces to which they would like to write.

Information should be sent with \$1.00 for postage and handling to:

Writesisters
P.O. Box 8824
Minneapolis, MN 55408

judge rules marriage invalid

A federal judge in Los Angeles has ruled that two men who received a marriage license from a Colorado county clerk do not have a legally valid relationship.

U.S. District Judge Irving Hill ruled that Anthony Sullivan, an Australian citizen seeking to stay in the United States as the spouse of Richard Adams, is not legally Adams' spouse. "The word 'spouse' means a relationship between a man and a woman," Hill said.

Sullivan had tried to qualify for permanent immigrant status as early as 1975. A letter from the Immigration and Naturalization Service at that time said, "You have failed to establish that a bona fide relationship can exist between faggots."

The INS said it would retract the offensive language, but not grant Sullivan permanent immigration status.

(From the Advocate)

gay volunteers test vaccine

Hepatitis B. is a viral disease which attacks the liver. It often debilitates its victim for years, and has been implicated in cancer of the liver. It is not technically a venereal disease, but it can be transmitted through any form of sexual contact.

An experiment is currently being conducted in New York City on a new vaccine which might provide immunity to Hepatitis B. The researchers said they decided to study the gay community because of the high risk of hepatitis inherent in many gay male lifestyles.

The test subjects are volunteers from the gay community. They were interviewed at cooperating gay clinics about their medical histories and sex habits. Anyone with hepatitis or who had had it before was excluded from the study.

Vaccines and placebos were coded and then divided equally among the test subjects. The code will be broken at the end of two years to determine the effectiveness of the vaccine.

gau awards scholarships

Information and applications for Gay Academic Union scholarships for 1981 will be available beginning in February.

GAU recently announced the six recipients of its 1980 scholarships. The six \$1000 scholarships were awarded for work on gay topics.

Topics include: "The Gay Movement in the United States Before Stone-Wall"; "A Different Coming of Age: A Cultural Account of Religion and Identity in the Gay World"; "Homophobia: Why People Hate Gay People."

(story cont. p. 15)