

International News Summary

ARGENTINA: 1991 has been declared the Year of International Solidarity with the Gay and Lesbian Liberation Movement of Latin America by activists in Spain, Mexico, Chile, Argentina and Peru. Details will be presented at the 1990 International Lesbian and Gay Association [ILGA] conference in Stockholm. Interested parties should contact: Emmanuel Valido, Delegación CHA, ILGA, c/o RFSL, Box 350, S-10124 Stockholm, Sweden; or phone 011-46-8-488751.

AUSTRALIA: The Tasmanian Gay & Lesbian Gay Rights Group is planning an international day of protest against the state's sodomy law October 22. The emergence of gay activism on this remote island has startled Australia and observers of the gay movement worldwide. It began last October 22 when authorities attempted to ban a TGLRG booth at the weekend market in the capital city of Hobart. Over the next eight weeks, 130 TGLRG members were arrested at the market before the city council backed down. The anniversary protest day will include pro-gay statements by local, state and national legislators; protest letters delivered to Australian embassies; and street actions targeting symbols of Australian authority, according to TGLRG spokesperson Rodney Croome. For information, write: TGLRG; GPO 1733; Hobart, Tasmania 7001; Australia; or phone 011-61-2-349-395.

AUSTRIA: Among the U.S. representatives at July's ILGA conference in Vienna were officers of the Paramus, NJ group Project Truth, which advocates sex between adults and children. The organization publishes a newsletter called the KRP2 REPORT, which stands for "Kids Are People Too." "There is something 'father-like' about a mentor," according to the newsletter. "He is the adult you can CHOOSE to love. (The boy's power is choice!) He is the adult you



FRANCE: ACT UP/Paris at a June 24 die-in.

bare-chested models. We will zealously scrutinize for naked flesh," wrote Gabriella Goliger in the paper's June issue. Gays of

raid was carried out solely on the authority of the local police commissioner.

ENGLAND: Five hundred lesbians and gay men marched through the streets of Brighton in late May to mark the first anniversary of Section 28 [formerly "Clause 28"], an anti-gay law which bans the intentional promotion of homosexuality by local government bodies nationwide. According to THE PINK PAPER, "marchers...sang old gay favourites such as 'Glad to be Gay' as well as more recent Tracy Chapman songs." "If they thought Section 28 would make us go away they should take another look," shouted one protestor. At a rally outside Brighton Town Hall, activist Linda Pointing, who had just returned from a nationwide anti-Section 28 tour, told the crowd that she "found incidents throughout the country where the local council has tried to use the Section to ban gay societies from college campuses or stop gay and lesbian cultural events."

An article in THE SUNDAY TIMES later provided some specific examples: "Essex county council prohibited all lesbian and gay societies in sixth forms and colleges," the paper wrote. "Hull city council refused to allow the screening of a Jean Genet film, which depicted homosexuality, at a local arts festival. East Sussex county council banned a Home Office-backed guide to voluntary work opportunities for young people, because it contained an advertisement for the London Lesbian and Gay Centre. Kent county council excluded Benjamin Britten's opera 'Death in Venice' from a schools' festival because it features a man's obsession with a boy, and Aberystwyth University students had their exhibition on Clause 28 forcibly removed from the town library by the chief librarian."

The wording of Section 28 is vague by British legal standards and many local authorities complain that they're unable to determine when and if they might be breaking the law. Activists say the confusion leads to both overzealousness and laxity.

ENGLAND: Thieves made off with more than \$8,000 in valuables after breaking into the London Lesbian and Gay Centre in July. They also caused thousands of dollars of damage to the building and its contents. Centre staffers believe the thieves