

THE ALYSON ALMANAC

PRESENTS
SEPTEMBER
in gay and lesbian history

Sept. 21, 1955: The Daughters of Bilitis, the first lesbian membership organization in the U.S., is formed in San Francisco. Originally a social club, D.O.B. grew into a national organization with educational and political goals as well. Co-founders Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon wrote the popular book *Lesbian Woman*, and remain active four decades later.

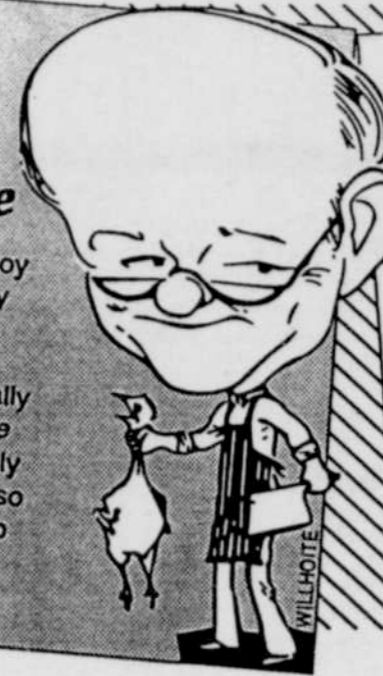


The Violet Menace

The Captive, a highly publicized play about a lesbian, opened in France, then in New York City in Sept. 1926. Playwright Edouard Bourdet used a bouquet of violets to symbolize lesbian love, and theater historian Kaier Curtin writes that following *The Captive's* success, "French florists experienced a devastating drop in the violet market."

Happy Birthday to
Craig Claiborne

(born Sept. 4, 1920) This boy from a poor Southern family made his name as a cookbook writer and food critic. His memoirs are equally fascinating. In *A Feast Made for Laughter*, he writes openly of his homosexuality, and also of his incestuous relationship with his doomed, unhappy father.



Kentucky's sodomy law was struck down by the state supreme court in September 1992. At the same time, the judges administered a firm slap to the U.S. Supreme Court for its 1986 *Hardwick* ruling in support of sodomy laws. "Equal justice under the law is more than a mere aspiration" in Kentucky, declared justice Charles Leibson.

Sources: *We Can Always Call Them Bulgarians*, by Kaier Curtin; *A Feast Made for Laughter*, by Craig Claiborne; *Members of the Tribe*, by Michael Willhoite; and *The Alyson Almanac*.

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REPORT HOMOPHOBIC VIOLENCE

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IMPORTANT DEADLINE INFORMATION

September has five Fridays so **just out** gets a week off. After the Sept. 15 issue our next issue will be Oct. 6. Calendar deadline for Oct. 6 issue is Sept. 14.

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