

<u>George Moscone</u> 300 Hear Mayor Promise Gay Police Commissioner

Mayor George Moscone addressed 300 at a Gay Community Forum at the California State Building following the November meeting of the Toklas club. He surprised listeners with some encouraging promises and clarified his relationship with the gay community. These are the major points made by Mayor Moscone:

• Supported city funding for a future Gay Community Center, explaining that present Center at 330 Grove is in a building that is to be torn down for construction of a Performing Arts Center.

• Established himself as the gay liaison person, also encouraging activists to use



newly elected Supervisor Harvey Milk as spokesperson. Rejected a "Mayor's Gay Advisory Board" because it would not be representative of all facets of the gay community.

• Favored city funding of the annual Gay Freedom Day Parade from the city hotel tax. He called the parade "an honest endeavor that gives publicity to the city; an event that has considerable self-enforcement in difficult times."

• Offered to appoint a gay person to the city Police Commission before his term expires and to appoint a gay veteran to the city's Manpower Commission in the immediate future.

• Praised the Toklas club for its resolution in support of Police Chief Charles Gain, emphasizing that he will retain Gain in office no matter what pressures are applied.

• Announced he had upfront gay people on his staff but that he had hired them because of their ability, not because they are gay. He said he did not believe in sending out such people as his "gay" representatives, that he (the mayor) preferred to be the direct contact to gay people.

Mayor Moscone called for better communication between himself and the gay community. He called for more public forums in the future—and for the gay community to rally behind Supervisor Harvey Milk, to "put aside feelings that were evident in that campaign and unite behind the winner."

