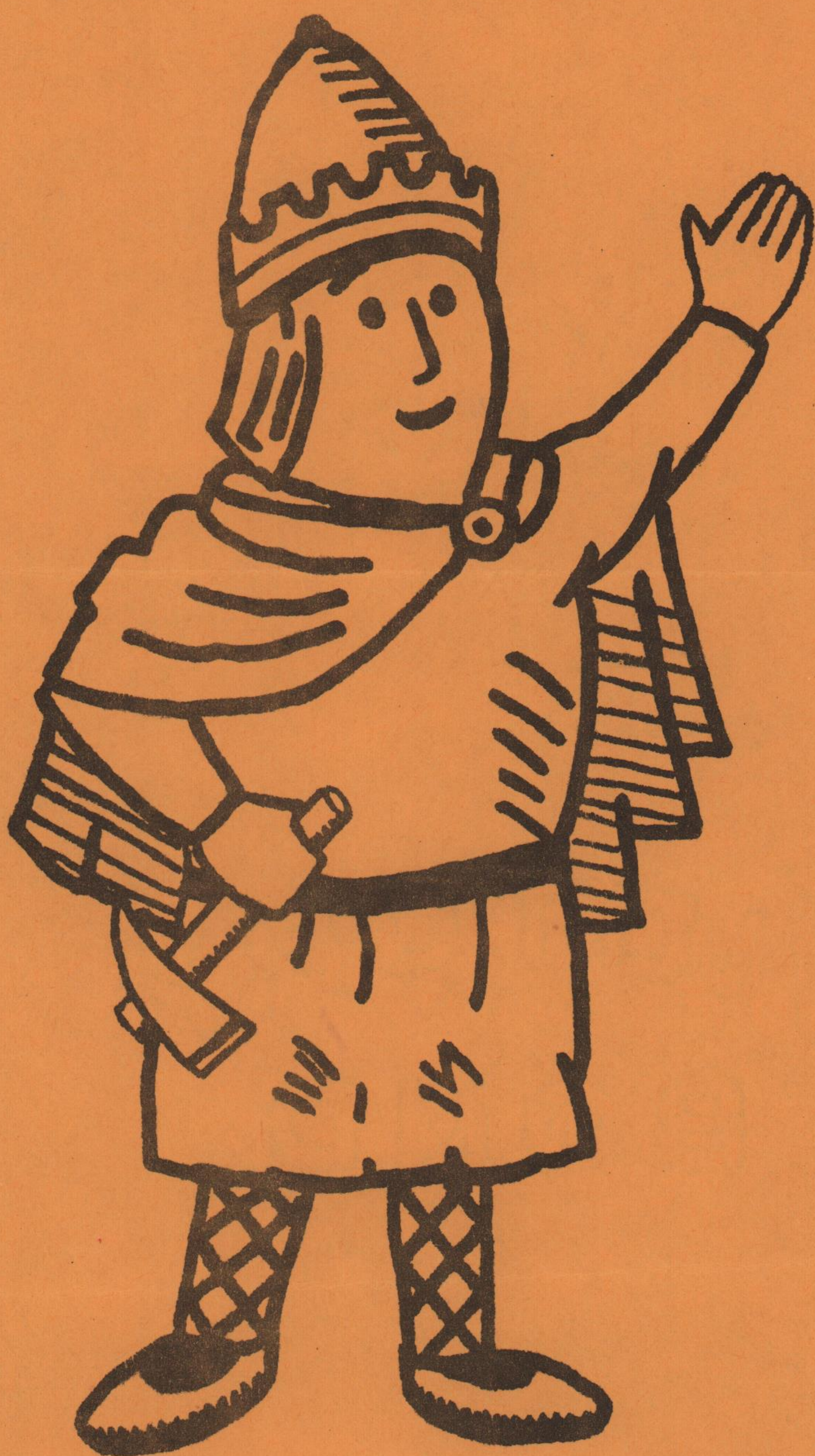


Aug 1983

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NOGSOG



NOTTINGHAM
GAY SOCIAL
GROUP

NOGSOG NEWS

AUGUST 1983

SOCIAL PROGRAMME

MON. 1ST Meet at the Forester's Pub from 8pm.

TUES. 2ND A Games Evening at Part Two Club, Canal Street from 8 pm. Free coffee will be provided. Bring your own board games.

FRI. 12TH A pub crawl. Meet at the Dragon at 8 pm to go on to the Turf Inn, the Dog and Partridge, the Mill and Gatsby's.

MON. 15TH Meet at the Forester's Pub from 8pm.

THUR. 18TH Programme Meeting at CVS at 8 pm.

SAT. 20TH A day out at Bradgate Park with the Leicester Gay Social Group. For further details see Patrick or Peter at CVS.

SEPTEMBER

TUES. 6TH A Games evening at Part Two Club from 8pm (see above)

SAT. 17TH (Provisional) we hope to arrange a trip to the Nightingale Club in Birmingham. Those interested contact Patrick or Peter at CVS.

N.B. The Forester's Pub is the one on Huntingdon St. (not the one on Glasshouse St.) We use the little Smoke Room which you get to by entering the pub from the side door - it's the bar on the right.

The CVS stands for the Council for Voluntary Services. We use their premises at 31a, Mansfield Road every Thursday and on those Mondays when we are NOT at the Foresters. These meetings are not printed in the programme, but despite that anyone is welcome to turn up at the CVS on those nights for a chat and some coffee. The CVS is also used by Nottingham Gay Switchboard on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 7-10pm. The phone number is 476714.

As some of you will know, Gay News is to resume publication on August the 18th. Previously, we had a subscription list of people who wanted a regular copy and who would obtain it from the CVS. We hope to start this idea again.

Have you renewed your subscription to NOGSOG?? If not, then either send it in to Nottingham Gay Social Group, c/o 31a, Mansfield Road or give it to one of the group's officers (Patrick, Peter Dufton, Peter Duke, David Edgley).

ODDS AND ENDS

I must apologise for the unusual mixture of printing in this NOGSOG News, but for the moment I do not have access to my normal duplicating facilities.

You will notice that some of the newspaper cuttings on the next page are NOT from the Guardian. I have, however, tried to make them more Guardian-like by jumbling the order of a couple of paragraphs. (Well, that's my story).

With the school exam season over I'm afraid I have very little to report in the way of howlers. Surprisingly, the few that I will mention all relate to the uses or properties of hydrogen:-

Hydrogen is used in deep sea diving.

Hydrogen is used in weather balloons in hospitals.

When you light it, hydrogen explodes with a pope.

The recent BBC serial "The Mad Death" reminded me of one child who wrote "If you get bit by a mad dog you get rabbis."

To return to the Guardian, several people noticed Edward Greenfield's review of a piano recital by Peter Donohoe. He was described as playing Liszt's transcription of Beethoven's Erotica Symphony.

After listening to Jerry's conversation with me about contact lenses, John suggested that we should found a Gay Lens Wearers Group. The inaugural meeting would inevitably resound to questions such as "Are you hard or soft?"

I have come across another couple of musical misprints recently. You will all know those lovely old songs:-

"Just a pong at twilight"

and "My love is like a red, red nose"

The latter song leads me to a phone message that was left for my last night by someone called "Rudolf" - he said that he knew me, and I was to phone him back and advise him about supply teaching. I will have to restrain myself from asking whether I might recognise him by his red nose. One could feel quite sorry for him if he has anything further in common with his eponymous yuletide beast - after all, he only comes once a year, and then it's down a chimney.

Nottingham Gay Switchboard still has to raise about £550 to cover its advertising and room costs, but it is pleasant to be able to announce that they have received a grant of £330 from the Council to improve the services they provide. The money is specifically to provide three items: -

A filing cabinet

An answering machine

A private phone line for sole use by the Switchboard.

Gays get a school charter

By ANTHONY DORAN
Home Affairs Reporter

OPEN displays of homosexual affection in places of work, including schools, should be permitted, according to a Greater London Council circular.

So should the wearing of gay and lesbian badges, say left-wingers in GLC leader Ken Livingstone's ruling Labour group.

The views of the GLC and the Inner London Education Authority are spelled out in a message on equal opportunities and sexual orientation to their 84,000 trade unionist employees.

Support

This says that the GLC and ILEA recognise that lesbians and men who have been open about their homosexuality have been discriminated against. The GLC and ILEA, it says, do not require employees to be dishonest about their sexuality.

'It supports those of its employees who wish to come out as gay or lesbian at their place of work. Con-

sequently it agrees that the wearing of gay and lesbian badges, displays of physical affection between members of the same sex, coming out as gay or lesbian to colleagues and/or clients shall not in themselves be the grounds for disciplinary action against or dismissal of any GLC-ILEA employee.'

A London teacher, who asked not to be named, said: 'In the case of schools, pupils are the clients. Are they suggesting that open displays are all right in front of children?

out in the name of Mr Andy Harris, vice-chairman of the GLC's finance and general purposes committee, chairman of the GLC grants sub-committee and chairman of ILEA's appointment of head teachers panel, and headed: Gay Employment Group.

This group, explains Mr Harris in the circular, is a sub-group of the Gay Working Party which was set up last year.

The group wants to set up eight new posts at ratepayers' expense to further its aims. Professor Smith said that Tories on the GLC would oppose these new jobs.

Research

Four of the eight new jobs being sought would be in an independent agency—the Greater London Lesbian and Gay Employment Campaign—to 'research and monitor anti-discrimination policies.' The other four would be in the GLC and ILEA based at County Hall.

A GLC spokeswoman said that an application had been made for £56,800 towards the creation of four of the eight jobs. Of that £44,000 would go on salaries, and the rest on office equipment. She could not say how much money would be spent on the other four jobs.

Application for the grant has been made, according to a GLC spokesman, but no decision had been taken.

In September, 1982, the GLC gave £15,000 to the London and Lesbian Gay Centre for two workers.

What new policy will they produce next?

Professor David Smith, ILEA's Tory Opposition leader, said: 'We are anxious in the Tory group not to be in a position of being anti-homosexual or queer bashing, but we won't want a situation where anything goes. We have to be concerned with the children and the parents and that over-rides the wishes of a few aggressively homosexual activists.'

The County Hall circular is sent

Scientists claim treatment for Aids

By Andrew Veltch,
Medical Correspondent

A TREATMENT for Aids, the disease which has claimed more than 1,800 victims in the US, may be near.

Scientists have found a substance produced by white blood cells which appears to restore victims' defences against infection.

There was cautious optimism among some UK specialists yesterday that it might lead to the development of an anti-Aids drug before the epidemic reaches US proportions here — so far 14 British cases have been confirmed and five men have died.

The discovery, disclosed at a meeting of the American Society for Virology this week and due to be published in the Journal of Clinical Investigation this month, involves a protein produced by white cells called interleukin-2.

It used to be called T-cell growth activating factor, which describes its function. It is excreted by lymphocytes and encourages the proliferation of the body's defenders against infection, killer T-cells.

Aids — acquired immune deficiency syndrome — destroys the balance of the body's defences against infection, leaving victims open to a range of infections.

A US Food and Drug Administration researcher, Dr Alain Rook, set out to compare the effects of interleukin-2 and interferon on lymphocytes from six homosexuals who had Aids, and lymphocytes from uninfected heterosexuals.

Interferon and interleukin-2 both increased the killer cell activity in the normal subjects, but interferon had little effect on the cells from the Aids patients.

Interleukin-2 did have a significant effect on the Aids samples: it boosted the activity of the killer cells from all six Aids victims, Dr Rook told the virology society meeting.

Other researchers suspect they may already have found a short cut in the form of a new drug called isoprinosine.

If the drug works, and if there are no unacceptable side-effects, it is thought that it could be on the market before the disease—which has a latency period of one to four years—gets a grip in Britain.

Mrs Whitehouse's son had drug

THE son of the anti-pornography campaigner, Mrs Mary Whitehouse, was found by drug squad officers as he prepared to light a cannabis cigarette, Stoke-on-Trent Crown Court heard yesterday.

Christopher Whitehouse, aged 36, and his girl friend, Celeste Evans, were each given a three-month gaol sentence, suspended for a year, after admitting possessing the drug at Redhall Farm, Betley, Staffordshire. Evans was also given a conditional discharge for possessing amphetamines and heroin. The couple now live with Mrs Whitehouse.

A breakthrough against herpes

THE team of scientists who may have found a cure for herpes are claiming another breakthrough.

The new discovery could mean millions of sufferers throughout the world receiving help in the near future.

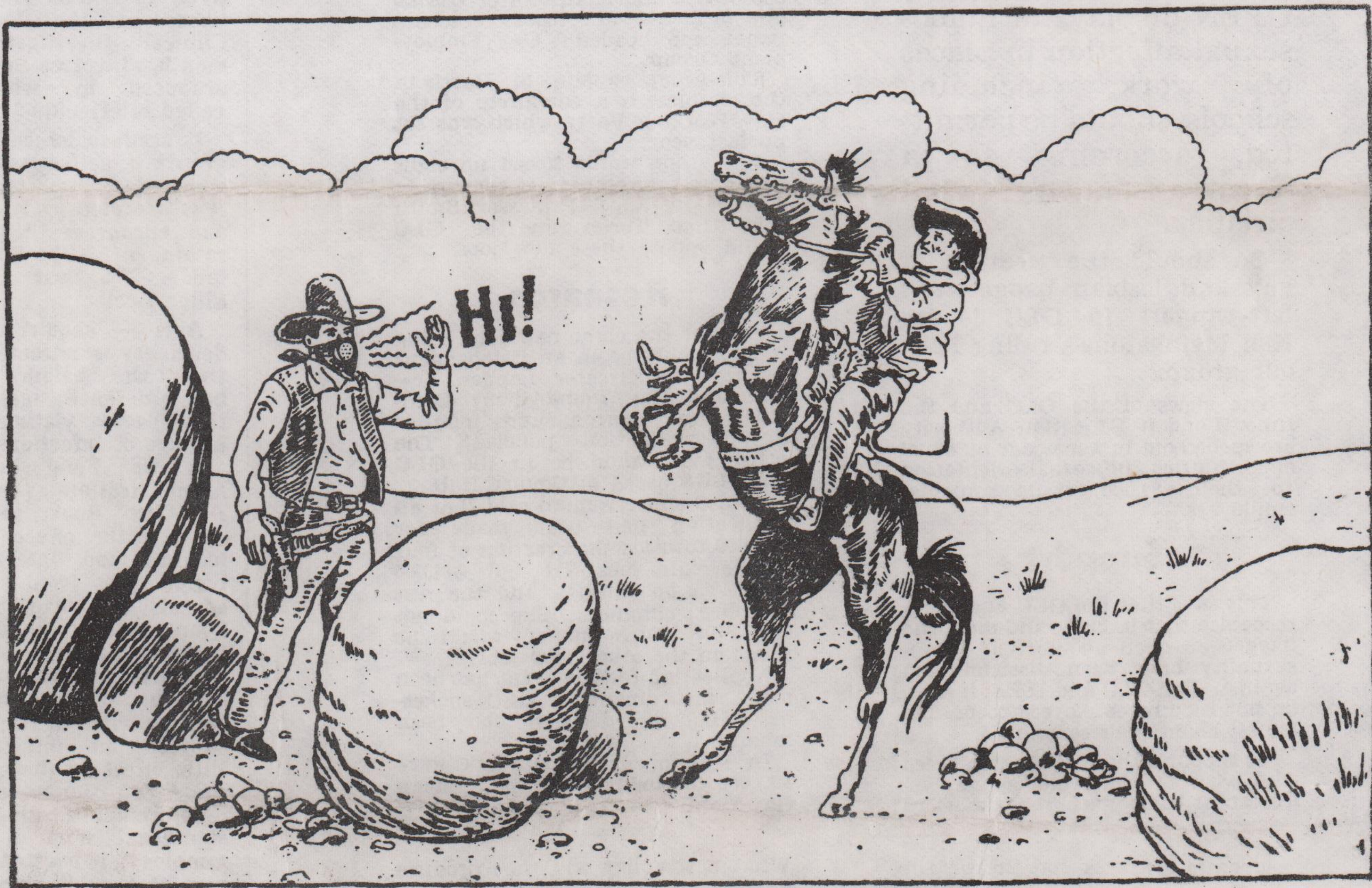
Dr Gordon Skinner, who heads the research group at Birmingham University which has developed a vaccine to combat genital herpes, says an ointment called lithium succinate can provide relief.

The vaccine could take up

to five years to come on to the market but the ointment is already available in health food shops in the United States as a general anti-septic.

According to Dr Skinner, the ointment is not a cure but experiments on volunteer patients have shown that it relieves itching and reduces the sexually transmitted disease's contagious period.

Research technician Christopher Hartley said if further tests proved successful, the ointment would soon be available in Britain.



IT WAS THE HALITOSIS KID.....