

It appears that a new member will undergo an intensive period of therapy, supervised by one of the three specialist. Then members will be encouraged to work amongst themselves, as current problems arrive. No one technique seems to be dominant, although quite a lot of body work is done, and a lot of straight verbal analysis.

So what is there in the A.A. Commune for an 'Outsider'? Opportunities to experience commune life is provided in the form of summer camps. For £65 a week one can live in the visitor's quarters set slightly apart - and participate in the commune's daily work and leisure programme.

The group who talked to us certainly appeared relaxed, open and thoroughly likeable people. They reminded me a little of a small salvation army group without their hats. Also - their promotion film seemed to be a little out of character. Having taken a full hour to explain the natural gregariousness of man, and the necessity of free expression we were then warned that the film about to be shown might shock us. Normally the commune spent more of the day working than shown in the film . . . neither did they spend all their leisure hours naked, wiggling their bottoms and breasts in front of a camera . . .

A pity because it looked like fun - however for those who would like to try 10 days, 6 or 8 week course in 'A.A. Consciousness' details from A.A. Commune, A-1020 Vienna, Austria Praterstrasse 32/2/12.

(maybe)

it was a game. Love me
& i'll love you back; only
love me came first & not only that
but love me in my own way
(do my thing) do your thing but do my thing
first.

it was a game. the rules changed
& you couldn't laugh, & everything was spelled out:
god was spelled GOD;

rejection mattered: love was taken from the dictionaries
& given a lack of meaning: it was used
to hurt. love me came first.
i'll love you back came last.

(maybe)

Wilson Stapleton