Sydney Scene

OUR DEMO
We had the sign “I’m a Lesbian and I am beautiful”, which we brought in with us on the bus. This guy and his girl sat square to us, walking along George Street with an awful 6 o’clock is even more so. (Even felt self-concious?). But the posters-seem to like it. All a bit of a giggle.

Well, there they are, (You couldn’t miss those placards). I’m handing out balloons as we go down the lane. We’re here! Usher the banner! (So this is coming out? It’s all so simple, no traumas at all). Calling across the lane in nervous comradeship. One of four pigs present decides to display his power: “Keep on the footpath, on the footpath” (Cold disdain here). The voters start arriving. “Boys” for Cameron, cheers for Hughes. It’s all very friendly, they walk up and down reading the placards. Someone even asks for five balloons for his children (They’re “Adult Literature Only”).

We shout: “In Hughes, Out Cameron” and “2-4-6-8, Guy’s just as good as straight.” Flashlights are popping. Someone spots a T.V. camera. Greg and Gary are high-kicking behind a bright pink banner with the bold black legend “QUEENS”. Things slowly quieten down; the voters are all inside, and the small groups of spectators have left the upstairs windows. With a final solemn(?) rendition of “God Love Australian Queers” we release the balloons and gradually disband.

I like this coming out! Such a sense of freedom. I shall have to move to a larger closet!

Cast Radley

I saw the Director of the company I work for. My first reaction was to hide behind a poster or balloons, then I thought ‘What the heck’ and stood there. Don’t think I saw me anyway, but I wouldn’t have cared if he had.

Selling magazines the next day, and seeing the gay-bar queers, they were all uptight. They didn’t want to be associated with anything like street demonstrations. It was as if they wanted the whole thing kept closeted.

CAMP INK DEC 71/JAN 72