



Membership of the Perth branch now stands at about 125. By far the majority of these members are male and this fact is particularly disturbing to the organizing committee. Attempts are currently being made to rectify this situation. The group has split itself into a number of subcommittees and each of these is run by a convenor who reports back to a monthly meeting. Most of our activity to the present has been in the form of a large Public Meeting, small private discussion groups and Wine and Cheese Evenings.

As in many similar organizations, it is only the willing few who do any of the work and the general apathetic attitudes are certainly not confined to the eastern seaboard. We are seen by many members of Perth's homosexual community as a "lot of shit-stirrers" (even heterosexual Perthites are famed for their lethargy and inactivity!).

The public meeting was a distinct success (far more of the public than of the members). A priest (Roman Catholic), a lawyer, and a psychiatrist were the main speakers and a prominent Perth lawyer Mr. T. McDonnell was the chairman. Press coverage prior to and after the event was satisfactory. (Even the daily newspaper was prepared to have something to say despite an earlier reluctance to accept our paid advertisements).

The Clubrooms sub-committee hopes to achieve some success before Christmas. All members see this as an essential part of our current program and feel that we will not have "arrived" until we secure some permanent headquarters.

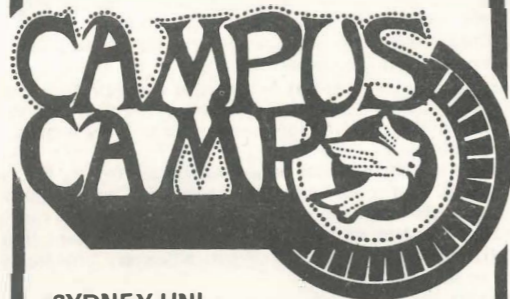
Social evenings have been held once per month and have been of mixed success. Overheads and the provision of liquor have contributed to minuscule profits. More rigorous planning will probably be needed before we are able to swell our coffers as will be required when we start on the clubrooms. Kevin, Peter and Margaret have been the key workers on the social side, but they have had few helpers.

On the law reform scene, we have been in contact with particular mem-

bers of the Labor Cabinet but despite the plank in their party's platform regarding law changes, very little has been done. With a new Attorney-General, Mr. D. Evans, it seems as if we will have to start all over again. A petition is being organized and the Canberra draft legislation has been duplicated and sent to senior members of the Government. The Tonkin government has many problems on its hands at the present time and they probably feel that we are an insignificant group. However, through the University branch of the Labor Party, the subject has been discussed at State Executive (despite sniggers from a senior member of the Government) and we are, as always, hopeful if nothing else!

Much more needs to be done to keep the Perth group on its feet. Arthur and Graham spoke to a general meeting of the "Liberation" group some weeks back and there is a real need for much more publicity of this nature.

Members from other states visiting Perth should write in advance and we will endeavour to arrange meetings and possibly accommodation for a short while.



SYDNEY UNI

Amid discussion of the possibility of the Campus Camp scene spreading to at least two more Unis making the grand total four, which just shows that when the barriers start to fall we do multiply, the original Campus Camp at Sydney Uni held a third term spectacular. The topic was, not surprisingly, Sexual Liberation, and before an audience of some 300 students.

There was a panel of four, including Australia's leading pornographer, Wendy Bacon and Dennis Altman chaired the whole scene with the nervous joy of a white rabbit eating a carrot. While there was no time at the end for questions, and so it was not easy to really know the general reaction, the atmosphere was tremendous. And it was like that because the five people down there with the mike, told it like it is (I hate that phrase) and instead of delivering neat little prepared discussions of a set problem, they just talked about themselves and their problems. Doesn't sound very exciting? Well it

was, and it was because it is all about an area of people's existence that we are not supposed to talk about. It was exciting for us in other ways too. To have three of the panel stand up before all those people and say they were camp — the other two were straight — was great because it showed that it can be done, it can be done honestly, and it can be done without all that b/s that they go on about.

There is another reason. I don't know how many of those audience people were camp. Some of my friends, especially our members, then I know. But the rest? Some of them must be, even partly. And for them, for all those kids who get so screwed up about sex from their parents and society, it should have been good to know that somewhere you can be honest, and that you are not alone. That early loneliness when you think you're camp, is awful. Maybe that day we helped some people?

I don't know. We are going to have another one of these next year, and we can, perhaps explore it more then. Meanwhile, what we did was the first time here, and it was good.

CAMPUS CAMP — UNSW.

Our second branch of Campus Camp, at the Uni of N.S.W., has only been operating for a couple of months, but it is growing merrily, and is about to burst into action with a public discussion on "Legalisation of Homosexuality" to star some of Sydney's notables like — well, we will, give you a report next time.

And after that, there will be The Grandest Ball in Sydney. That will be after the exams. It should be incredible.



The Gold Coast is the mecca of Australia's sun-seeking tourists. And believing that "one in twenty" is camp, as we do, we calculated there must be thousands of camp tourists passing through the Gold Coast annually. So we asked our Gold Coast correspondent, Polly, to report on the scene. Her report was so long (There are thousands of camp tourists visiting the Gold Coast) that we just had to edit it.

So, hopefully, here is the news from the news from the Gold Coast.

The main news is that the wouser state has changed. We have cabaret licences which allow places to serve grog to 3 a.m. Bars and bottle departments are open for two sessions on Sunday. Naturally, most of the crowd take advantage of the liberal (sic) drinking hours. The changed hours have caused our socialising habits to change too. Especially after dark.

Before 10, we still use the "bird-watching" corner bar. The locals don't like us too much for doing it but it is the only down-town bar. After 10, it's off to the sea-front "Iluka" till midnight. You must take the beachfront promenade. You just never know who you'll meet (probably your favourite Sydney Sister). Moving from moonlight to the late late show you have several places. "The King's Table" is featuring Erris and Kevan, well known on the Coast. Ian Frazer is wearing black patent hot pants and boots in his show at "Bicky's". And, of course, there is "George's" (Remember "Holly's" from the old days?)

The top of town news is of course the new Peter Moselle Show at the Broadbeach Hotel. There are new costumes, new script, a bigger cast and the Celebrity Room has been altered in a general redecoration of the hotel. The ghastly pictures are gone, there's a larger stage and walkway area, so it's a much more comfortable and intimate room, too. Just right for a special night out. But do book. Peter has given a terrific boost to the Campaign on the coast — many thanks, darls. (Incidentally, a couple of new bars at the Broadbeach are very gay). Coffee shops unfortunately, are not "in" with the extended drinking hours.

For R&R we recommend the sun-drenched sand. Dark glasses to hold the popping eyes. And gaze on the gorgeous suntans romping around. Finally, change the ingredients of your holiday recipe regularly. There are plenty around.

POLLY



Melbourne branch has now acquired club rooms, a three-storey terrace house in Carlton. There are six rooms for the use of the club, and the top storey is let as a flat.

Ground floor houses an office, library and counselling room (not in effect as yet) and a kitchen. On the second floor the back room will be a coffee lounge, and a servery has been knocked through the kitchen alcove which adjoins this room to the next room.

The remaining two rooms will have the common wall knocked out, and will be used as a meeting room, and/or dance floor.

We boast a small but adequate garden, suitable for barbecues etc. Our address is 21 Queensberry Street, Carlton, and all interstate visitors are welcome.

The favourable outcome of the Melbourne Anglican Diocese Synod was a step in the right direction. Before the outcome of this, Sir Reginald Sholl, a member of this synod, lashed out with articles in several dailies, damning homosexuality.

"Divine forgiveness of sins is one thing, but human action to make it easier to sin unchecked is another . . ." That was one of the milder comments.

A reply to his letter was sent to "The Age" but not printed.



On the 30th Sept. an inaugural general meeting was held by those N.S.W. members who had previously met and decided upon the formation of an A.C.T. branch of CAMP. This meeting was publicized by letter to the Editor of The Canberra Times and by a series of posters placed at strategic positions around Canberra. Elections were held for a governing body of annual appointment. The governing body has moved for the formation of three subsidiary committees:

1) Social Committee.

An immediate problem to be faced is the allocation of a permanent headquarters. Money raising functions are to be arranged to support the rent and maintenance of said quarters as well as the legal activities of the branch.

2) Law Reform Committee.

This is considered to be the most important function of CAMP. The laws dealing with homosexuality and public opinion are the two major concerns of this committee. An alignment between A.C.T. CAMP and the co-founders of the erstwhile Homosexual Law Reform Committee has been carried out. Lobbying for M.P. support against the Draft Criminal Code of the Australian Territories is our immediate goal.

It is hoped that a public forum can be effected on homosexuality in the next six months in Canberra. Specialists shall be invited to speak at the forum i.e. legal, sociology, medical, ecclesiastic etc.

3) Advice and Counsel Committee.

Legal, medical and psychiatric assistance on a referral basis will be instituted as soon as possible.