WEAR YOUR GOWN ALL YEAR ROUND

by Leo E. Laurence

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The Pigs were protecting the Drags from the Guerrillas. The Drags were more scared of the Guerrillas than the Pigs. The Guerrillas wanted to liberate the Drags from the Pigs.

Confused? So were the hundred spectators last Saturday night watching the Seventh Annual Beaux Arts Ball at the Merchandise Mart in San Francisco.

Halloween and New Year's have historically been the only times of the year the pigs permit the hundreds of "Drag Queens" in San Francisco to come out of their closets and into the streets without getting busted.

Despite the popular stereotypes, drags are a small percentage of the total homo-bi-sexual community. On a "normal" curve of that community, the drags would be at the super-feminine end, the leather bike-boys would be at the opposite masculine end, and the majority would be in the middle, almost "straight" looking.

I don't dig drag myself (can't imagine being a bearded lady?), and I've been gay since my Navy days in the early 50's aboard San Francisco's "own," the USS

Coral Sea.

But, by God, I do feel the drags should have the right to do their thing; not just twice a year, but every day; not just at a drag ball, but at work, school, church, and on the streets. Wear Your Gown All Year

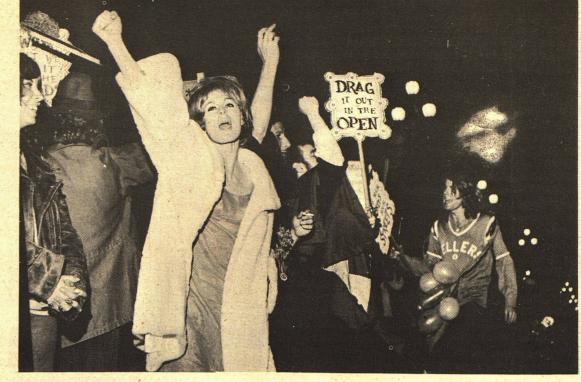
Round!" chanted the Gay Guerrilla Theatre freaks during the demonstration by the Gay Liberation Coalition outside the ball opposite Fox Plaza.

The protest was focused on the Tavern Guild of San Francisco, sponsor of the dragging event. TGSF is part of the Gay Establishment, and its members operate over 100 Gay Ghetto Bars and restaurants in the Bay Area.

"Gay Bars Are Walk-In Closets" read one picket sign. "The Tavern Guild is doing as much to delay (homosexual) freedom as a thousand repressive laws on the statute books," said a protest leaflet.

The pigs were visibly worried. There were several hundred demonstrator's and spectators outside the ball.

Every drag arriving in big, black, bossy Cadillacs sparked shouts from the demonstrators, and one pig told me: "Christ,



Boosting Drag At Queen's Ball

how do we handle these queers if a riot starts. I can't club a woman, even if she is a man.'

Trouble didn't break out. But it was clear that the Gay Establishment needed pigs to prevent the Guerrillas from invading the drag's balls.

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ley between 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.

For further information

pentry, civil engineering, etc. They want to learn all the building skills from each other as they build.

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Call: Peoples Architecture, 1940 B Bonita Street, 849-2577, from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.



photos by Bil Paul

Phone



A Hwy Production Masonic Ha	Number of units in building
Film Festiva	Name Phone Phone Address Phone Phone Owner of building Phone Phone "o whom do you pay your rent check? Phone Phone
The San Fran	ō
Midnight, Oct. 31	I pledge to support the Berkeley Tenants Union rent strike. I will withhold my rent as soon as tenants from at least 2000 units have signed this pledge and when a mass meeting of pledge
and has been a single of the second	20. Are you willing to work as a Tenants Union organiser?Other work (specify)
THE DOOR	3. Do you have any grievances about your living unit and/or landlord?
	the last year? How much the year before? 17. Cleaning deposit? Refundable? 18. Other deposit? Refundable?
Featuring	 5. What utilities are included? (a) none (b) gas (c) electricity (d) garbage (e) water (f) other (specify) 16. Has rent increased within the last two years? How much within
	horter lease? 4. Total monthly rent for your unit \$ per month
FRIEND	olid building (e) other 2. Length of your lease '3. Did you have choice of length? How much rent for a
	10. Approximate age of building il. Do you consider your building to be (a) brown shingled (b) modern Licky-tacky (c) a solid & nice modern building (d) a large, older
	 Owner of building Total number of units in your building
Sale .	7. Who manages building? (name & address)