



QQ MAGAZINE

For Gay Guys
who have
no hangups



August 1971

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WHAT TO DO IF YOU'RE ARRESTED

BY CRAIG RODWELL

IN my ten years of Gay liberation involvement I have talked to scores of people who had been arrested for the first time for a Gay-related offense—entrapment in a Gay bar, spied on in a tearoom, “soliciting” on the street, loitering for the purpose of “committing deviate sexual acts,” etc.—people who wished they had acquainted themselves beforehand of the practices, or malpractices, of their local police regarding the homosexual. Just because you’ve never been arrested, don’t think it can’t happen to you; you owe it to yourself to become familiar with your local police attitudes and practices concerning treatment of Gay people.

Law enforcement and judicial attitudes differ greatly from state to state and city to city. The only common denominator is that if you’re a Gay man living in the United States your chances of being arrested for a “crime” which for a heterosexual man would be considered excusable, or non-criminal (holding hands and kissing in public; going to “singles” bars to make-out, approaching someone on the street you are attracted to), are much greater. So, before you are arrested, become familiar with local conditions. Talk to other Gay people in your area about it, contact your nearest American Civil Liberties Union branch for any information they may have (such as a “What To Do If You’re Arrested” brochure), see if any of your local Gay Lib organizations have pamphlets on arrest procedures and local police attitudes, and, if possible, become familiar with a lawyer you can contact if you have any trouble (carry his phone number in your wallet).

But if you are arrested, and haven’t done your homework, here are a few rules to follow which hold true for any community in the United States today:

1. At the very moment of your arrest, before even giving your name and address, satisfy yourself that the person arresting you is indeed a police officer. Ask for identification, especially if he is in street clothes. Even after seeing identification, memorize badge number(s). The reason that you should first make sure that the persons arresting you are actually policemen is that there are thousands of instances, particularly in the past ten years, of phony cops “arresting” Gay people in compromising situations, such as the “bushes” in your local cruising park, and then telling their victims that they will let them go for a sum of money. You may even find legitimate policemen offering to let you go for a fee; but remember, if you do pay them off, the odds are they will be back, again and again, for additional payoffs.

2. If you are arrested in a situation where there are other people around, as in a Gay bar, try to get the name and address of at least one witness, or if the cops won’t let you, shout your name and/or phone number out loud so potential witnesses can call you. Conversely, if you are in a situation where a brother is being arrested, give him your name and address or get his. Don’t let yourself be intimidated; you have every right to get a witness or to be a witness for another person. If even ten per cent of Gay people stood up firmly for the rights we do have, a good part of the harassment we suffer from local police would cease. As an example, in New York City about five years ago, dozens of Gay men were “entrapped” every day, say, for “soliciting for immoral purposes,” after a cop came on strong as a “Gay guy” and got an invitation to go home to bed. Finally, a group of Gay people and some civil liberties-minded straights formed a committee to end

(Continued on page 46)

Boy Studio



notable leading-lady favorites of gays as Mae Murray and, particularly, Garbo. His horizontal love scene with Garbo in *Flesh and the Devil* is one of the most famous of screen history. His off-screen romance with the elusive Garbo was another sensation. He plummeted from favor when early talkie equipment recorded his voice as ridiculously shrill and squeaky.

Gary Cooper. Yup, the tall, strong silent star of many a cowboy and other epic of the '30s, '40s, and '50s copped his early stardom in the '20s, particularly in the classic silent, *Lilac Time*. Cooper's quiet charm and smooth handsomeness made him a favorite of gays, especially in the early years of his career, when he appeared opposite Marlene Dietrich in several films.

Charles Farrell had a short but luminous career in the late '20s and early '30s as the tall and beautiful co-star of Janet Gaynor, with whom he found particular glory in the romantic classic, *Seventh Heaven*. Farrell dropped out of movies in the '30s to found the famous Racquet Club in Palm Springs. In the '50s he appeared as Gale Storm's father in the TV series, *My Little Margie*, and still looked great.

George O'Brien had a stocky, chesty, big-armed, peasant-strong physique that was very sexually tantalizing to many gays. Certainly he had one of the greatest asses of all time! He appeared in a brief-brief leopard skin in Noah's Ark which revealed him gloriously, and even more extensive costumes in other pix clung provocatively because of the nature of his big bod. He made it big in the '20s in *The Iron Horse* and *Sunrise* and then went on to lesser roles, usually as a cowboy, in the '30s and '40s.

Richard Arlen was an early version of the clean-cut, nice-boy-next-door type who appealed to gays as a love object for "quiet romance" dreams. Arlen made it big in *Wings* with Buddy Rogers and "it" girl Clara Bow and survived the talkie transition to remain a leading man throughout the '30s. He still appears in films today, in small roles.

Charles "Buddy" Rogers was popular with gays for the same reason Richard Arlen was—he teemed with that nice-boy-next-door quality. But Rogers didn't keep as active in films as Arlen did. He married Mary Pickford and settled down with her in the famous Pickfair, where they live to this day.

Johnny Mack Brown was one of Mae West's "tall, dark and handsome" men, appearing with her in 1933's *Belle of the Nineties*. But he was big before that, having served as leading man to such luminaries as Garbo and Joan Crawford in the late '20s. Brown went on to minor cowboy pix in subsequent years, but he remained tall, dark and handsome for a long time.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU ARE ARRESTED

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entrapment of homosexuals. The result of the committee's work in a relatively short time was the end of entrapment in all of New York State; in fact, entrapment in New York State is now a crime. Unfortunately, for most Gay people in other sections of the

country, entrapment is still a reality which must be dealt with. So don't be afraid to stand up for what rights you do have; be courteously firm in your dealings with local police; let them know that you know your rights.

3. When you are arrested, you are required to give your name and address ONLY. Even if it is a relatively minor offense and the cop tells you that if you plead guilty you will get off with a light fine, volunteer no information other than your name and address. You have much more to lose by volunteering additional information (which may seem harmless to you at the time) than your heterosexual counterpart would. Remember, the odds are that your arrest is part of the cop's "quota" for the day and if he thinks he can get by with charging you with a greater offense, he will. While a heterosexual would have a good chance of balancing off conflicting testimony of a policeman, there are very few, if any, judges around who would take the word of a Gay person over that of a policeman.

4. As soon as you arrive at the police station for booking, insist on your constitutional right to a phone call. Do not accept any excuses for any abridgement of this right. This is the time to use that lawyer's phone number you have been carrying in your wallet all these years (haven't you?). BUT—in case you don't have a lawyer's phone number, call a close friend or relative of yours who is most likely to be home and who will contact a lawyer for you.

5. After completing your phone call, you will be locked up—so just sit back, take a deep breath, relax and wait for your lawyer. Do not discuss with anyone, either a policeman or another prisoner, any aspects of your arrest. You don't have to be unfriendly or discourteous; just inform them politely that you are under instructions from your counsel not to discuss your case with anyone.

6. If you are arrested while in the Armed Forces, you will probably be told that you will receive a General Discharge if you will give the names of other homosexuals in the services. Admittedly, it is a difficult choice you will have to make; but I hope you would refuse to cooperate, and not give in to this particular kind of "legal blackmail." Even if you do get a General Discharge, you most likely will not be able to get any kind of government employment as they have other ways of noting on your service record that you are homosexual. Your service record will not keep you from getting most jobs, however, as most employers don't bother checking that far, and many big companies have specific rules regarding fair treatment of homosexuals.

Gay men are the easiest targets for cops who need "quota" arrests. We have historically been a submissive people who have allowed ourselves to be used by "macho" policemen who assert their perverted sense of masculinity. To guard yourself against this type of cop, when you are arrested, at all times maintain your dignity and self-respect, if you are abused—either physically or verbally—in the "back room" of the police station. I can assure you, from my own experiences, it's no fun for a Gay person to be arrested and taken to the local

police station; so do your homework NOW!

Get that lawyer's phone number for your wallet; acquaint yourself with local police attitudes and practices; support any efforts in your community to make the police more relevant to the community by putting their emphasis on crimes against people and getting them out of the inhuman business of trying to regulate our love lives.

And above all, have a good positive self-image about being a Gay person. To quote Mary Baker Eddy, founder of Christian Science, "Good thoughts are an impervious armor, and clad therewith you are completely shielded from the attacks of error of every sort; and not only yourselves are benefited, but all whom your thoughts rest upon are thereby benefited."

THE GAY OLÉ (Continued from page 25)

Acapulcan establishments—open-air nightclubs where gay guys and others wear minimal swimming attire for moonlight bathing between dances. Spotlighted, too, you can get a quite accurate body count this way... ticking off likely numbers for a later dalliance. From bikini to briefer monokini you won't see so much exposed skin and aroused eroticism short of an actual nudist colony.

There is a new gay bar (presently without a name) in Acapulco's "red light" district (female prostitutes here are thicker than flies on buffalo chips!). Everyone in town knows it's owned by the mayor's nephew, and gays believe this is the reason the rival *San Souci Bar* was raided so many times last season. In any case, this nameless bar (ask anyone about it when you arrive in Acapulco) was THE late night place to be last winter, and it remains to be seen if its popularity will hold up this year.

And speaking of raids, while the fuzz in Acapulco seldom cause trouble, when it does happen you usually have to pay your way out with around \$50. It's a good idea to carry at least that much with you if you have no one in town to call, just in case. However, if you have a friend in town, or someone staying with you at your hotel, we suggest you carry his phone number instead of extra loot, for obvious reasons.

If you're strictly the outdoor type trying cruising the main square, the Zocalo, after 10:00 in the evening. Here you will be approached by sweet young things selling pot and/or themselves. Mexican studs go for about \$8 "in season" and for about half that when the tourists leave.

WHERE TO STAY

If you'd make your visit to Acapulco really memorable stay at one of the great luxury hotels such as the *Acapulco Hilton* or *El Presidente*, which flank Condesa Beach. A short distance away, in the hills, is the most luxurious of all, *Las Brisas*. This fabulous place has 100 swimming pools, one for every room, give or take a room! Rates in hotels like these are based on the Modified American Plan which includes breakfast and dinner (you have to rough it for lunch) at about \$28 per day single and \$43 double.

It should be noted here that The Thing in Mexico is to buy yourself a young-hung-stud and take him back to your room.

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