

PRES: William M. [redacted] Albany, New York
PHONE: [redacted]

MEMBERSHIP \$12 PER YEAR

NEWSLETTER EDITORS Helen and Wilma [redacted]

MERRY XMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR:

Twas the night before XMAS when all thru the house, all 14 T.V.'S, and 3 wives were all prancing about. All prettied up in gowns of lace, fur trim, all colores, the girls outdid themselves, radiant with beauty.

The girls who partied were: Jo Ann, Glens Falls, N.Y., Arlene, Troy, N.Y. Winnie, Schenectady, N.Y., Elanda, Rome, N.Y., Jean, Peru, N.Y., Joan, Colonie, N.Y., Sue, Mechanicsville, N.Y., Kathy, Syracuse, N.Y. Francis, Henrietta, N.Y. Dennie, Peekskill, N.Y., Michelle Ann, Sommerville, N.Y., Dena & Gloria, Pittsfield, Mass., Renee, Hartford, Conn., Muriel, Geneso, N.Y.

Muriel was our new member this month, looking lovely in a Pink gown trimmed in ostrich feathers. Very lovely person to talk with.

Going over the records for this year we had 232 members who came to meet all their sisters. To date Dec. 10th. was our 60th. meeting since we formed T.V.I.C

I certainly enjoyed meeting with all the girls, who are well behaved ladies. Keep coming out girls, who knows you may outnumber the society who can't or won't come to understand your social life.

Tonight for the girls I cooked, Roast Beef, Potatoes, Creamed carrots/peas, cole slaw, apple/pear sauce, rools & coffee. For dessert we had Strawberry short cake. After we finished eating, every body helped to clean up so we could start our Grab bag.

Michelle Ann was Ms Santa Claus in a pretty red Velvet trimmed in White fur called off the nos. for the grab bag. lots of fun, even to the joker somebody put in with the grab.

FLASH::: Dennie was dressed in a gown pretty frilly, low cut, a nice pair of high heels, make up on. All the girls eyed her for the evening, you see it is a rare occasion for Dennie to dress up fancy. Dennie usually wears Pants/tops.

After the meal and grab bag was over we just sat around and talked, we had talked about every thing and anything. Before the evening was over we talked about going to breakfast together. Francis asked me if she could come dressed and I told her it didn't bother me, and then I dared Michelle Ann to go in her Santa outfit, but Wilma said we would be asking for trouble, so we agreed to behave and go as we should.

Our thanks to Grace from Mich., and Julia from Ohio for their letter of appreciation. It is nice to know that we make these girls feel so comfortable and wanted when they come to the meeting.

Get this girls, and don't let it happen to you. Michelle went to pick up his girl Dennie on Friday, and left his things in the car over night untill they came here Sat. and Lo and Behold his boobs were frozen solid. what a delemma, what to wear, oh well, we can always go back to the rubber foam.

We found out what went on in room 302 last month with the girls. Seems they found themselves a new T.V., who has been eyeing them for awhile and finally got up enough courage to talk to one of the girls, we may have gotten ourselves a new member.

With the year coming to a close I want to say thanks to all the girls who have made themselves so welcome in my home. I enjoyed every minute with them. Wilma and I have found many new friends amongst you and hope you feel the same towards us. We only wish more of you subscribers could make a meeting, we love to hear from you.

I will take this time to say Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year to all. If you celebrate New Years drive careful, make the last drink black coffee, so we will see you in the coming year.

God Bless and take care

LOVE

HELEN

FRANCE G.



YES, I WANTED A SEX CHANGE, BUT NOT THAT COMPLETE!

"Old age is like every else. To make a success you've got to start young."

DO you need or would you like a hair stylist? IT is niceto have ones hair done professionally now and then, if not regularly. YOUR hair need not be unusually long; hair stylists earn their bread and butter with the shorter styles. BY modern standards, letting your hair grow to a styable length is not an indicative of a lack of masculinity. SO if your hair is just long enough, a few tips on acquiting a good hairdresser are in order.

IF you want a neuter hair style one befetting both a man and a lady--you can be straight forward in explaining this.

YOUR first query is, "If there's no one here that would get up-tight about working on a man, I'd like to make an appointment."

IT is bad manners to make spur of the moment appointments. IT'S best to ask in person for an appointment on the following week.

MOST hairdresser, by the way, will make an appointment before or after regular hours if you prefer this.

A close shave can sting or burn or itch or all three if you skip after shave lotion, to say nothing of ruining your skin by putting make-up directly on those micro scrapes and cuts. BUT if you use after shave ~~ix~~ you're not going to smell vert pretty. HANDSOME maybe. SO what's to do? USE a woman's after bath cologne. THE'RE made out of practically the same thing and the fragrance are OH so nice.

IF you don't like to mix fragrances there is a particularly delightful fragrance which is perfectly proper--and sexy--for both the male and female in you. WHAT could that possibly be? WHY baby powder of course! THE fresh, refreshing odor of talc is a clean smell that everyone likes, no matter what the age of sex.

WEARING out to many hose? If you rotate your nylons and never wear the same pair two days in a rew, they'll have time to unstretch and regain their shape. THEY'LL last a lot longer.

EVER have trouble with dead skin flaking on your elbows? IT'S a common problem, but there's an easy remedy. IT sounds weird but it works without fail. CUT a lemon right through the middle and set the halves upright on a table. NOW sit at the table and sink your elbows into the lemon plup. TEN or fifteen minutes later you can wash off the dry skin and be left with nice, smooth elbows.

IF you've got some red lipstick lying around that don't suit your lips, try using them as rouge--many rouges and lip colors have fundamentally the same composition.

THE quickest, easiest, and least messy place to shave your legs is in a bath tub full of water. OR did you already know that?

Never use regular soap on your hair especially if you live in a hard water area, as soap leaves residue that dull hairs natural shine. USE quality shampoo and fallow it with a balsam rinse. BALSAM, besides making hair soft, fights tangles and keeps you from yanking, breaking or splitting hair while combing.

HAIR REMOVAL: THIS is something anyone going for the change should do be-
surgery, ⁴⁻² THERE are a number of TV's that have also had it done.

AS far as I know there is only one way to remove hair permanently, and that is electrolyses. It is done by the use of a very thin needle which is inserted down the hair shaft of the papilla. For a split secound a slight amount of current goes through the needle to kill the papillia. The needle is removed and the hair is then easily pulled out. Some of the hairs may return if the papilla is not completely knocked out; however, they will come back thinner and eventyally will be permanently removed. THE only pain you will feel is a split secound when the electric goes through the needle. FOR this, you can get a prescription from your doctor for some painkiller. THE average charge for electrolysis is \$25 an hour. IF you go for two hrs a week, it may take a year or two to remove a bread completely. IT depends on haw much hair you have and how coarse it is. THE results of having it gone forever are well worth it. I also just found out if you are a TS, it's tax deductible! YOU should also make sure you get a good electrolygist, since some are better than others. Some temporary methods of removal are depilatories which chemically dessolve the hair. THEY can cause serious skin irretations and should not be used on the face. TWEEZING removes hair below the skins surface, but it will grow back as the source of growyh, the papilla, cannot be removed by tweezinf. WAXING is also a form of tweezing. THE only safe permanent way to remove hair is electrolysis. IT is the only method that destroys the papilla, which supplies nourishment to the hair. SOME doctors can recommend a good electrologistto you, or you can pick one out of the yellow pages of your phone book.

(SEND me your comments on this page. I could be wrong and again you might have better ways and ideas our members would like to know.)

W I L M A

One of the biggest problems facing the male, or female transgend. rist today is HOW to find nearby empathetic friends; who are interested in transvestism, transexu:ism, gender-reassignment and femininity.

The only way to keep your health is to eat what you don't want, drink what you don't like and do what you'd rather not.

- Mark Twain

ARE YOU MISSING THE BOAT?

Have you paid your dues?

Presidents Pen.....

OUR NEXT TWO GATHERINGS.

JANUARY 21st and FEBRUARY 18th

Welcome New Members

I am very pleased to announce the enrollment of 3 new members this month.

P.A. ROGER, P.O.B. 4429 HERITAGE STA., SCHENECTADY, N.Y. 12303
 R. BRYANT, [REDACTED], MONTREAL, QUE., CANADA H4A - 2H3
 D.F. MINOT, N.D. (this add. can not be given out.)

We all here at T V I C hope to see you all in the coming months in person at one of our parties. All you members out there drop them a not to say hello and welcome them to T V I C.

B O O K S

New books have arived. Send for list #6. They can still be had 10 for \$11 as long as they last. All these books our about TVism.

C-A M E R A B U G S

It is always nice to take pictures of our members wich is permissible. But P L E A S E do not take any pictures of any one who is not dressed in feminine clothing.

D R E A M

Dream #5 will be held this coming September 1978. For full information write to DREAM, [REDACTED] (BOX 58), SEATTLE, WASHINGTON. 98104 Please t you read it in the T V I C Journal.

Q U E S T I O N S

Dear Wilma: I have a girl who encourages me in-cross-dressing. She insists on me putting on her clothes. Should I continue? M.R.

Dear M.R.: If you do it only to please her, N O. If you like cross-dressing, thats another stoby. Do not be led into a difficult way of life against your priniciples.

Dear Wilma: After a session of dressing I have a difficulty in removing make-up. What can I do? J. C.

D E A R J. C.: Apply cold cream before putting on your make - up as actors do. It is a little greasy but powder, eye sharow and lipstich remove faster.

Dear Wilma: I have this "thing" about waist-cinches and find dificulty in obtaining one. Can you help me? S. I .

Dear S.I.: Write to CUSTOMER SERVICE at any big uepartment store. They will find whatever you need quickly.

Happy Birthday Girls

- JAN. 1 Robert F [REDACTED]
- Jan. 6 Leeland R [REDACTED]
- Jan. 9 Betty B [REDACTED]
- Jan. 14 Glenn Conn. [REDACTED]
- Jan. 15 William K [REDACTED]
- JAN. 18 Eugene M [REDACTED]
- Jan. 21 Allen E [REDACTED]
- Jan. 22 Jerald H [REDACTED]
- Jan. 25 C. Nickols

It is always nice to receive a birthday or wedding anversery card. If I have left anyone out for Janury it is because I do not have your date of birth. All members who have a birthday in February or a wedding anversery send me your date.

On this glad occasion that means so much to you. You surely know that others are sharing in it too HAPPY BIRTHDAY.

ELANDA



"Perhaps some hip boots instead, sir!"

Letters to the editor

Dear Helen & Wilma

Thank you for your hospitality during last November visit. I was right about my feelings concerning the Albany TVIC--the warmth comes from the top!! I hope to be able to make an annual "pilgrimage" to one of your meetings again next year, it's all I can afford in terms of cash, vacation, and family hasel. Love, Grace. GREG B [REDACTED], P.O.B. 3013, FLINT, MICH. 48502.

Dear Wilma:

Enclosed please find a check for \$12 as I would like to renew my membership in TVIC once again. I guess you and Helen must be wondering what ever happened to Jackie so I think an explanation is in order. About 6 months ago I decided or I should say got disgusted with myself and emptied my closet and bureau drawers of everthing feminine I owned. I really thought I could live and be happy without TVism so Goodwill ended up with everthing. I often wonder what happened when they opened up that Goodwill collection box and found the 4 wigs the 6 girdles the garter belts the hose and panties. I don't know the value in dollars, but the high heels alone must have cost me \$200 or better. Everything fine for awhile and I didn't miss the guilt feeling nor did I have any desire to dress until about a month ago when one of the guys I work with happened to tell me about an incident that happened at his home. His wife had done a huge wash this particular day and had hung it out to dry on a long line in their back yard. A neighbor called the wife and said there was a young boy stealing clothes and that she had better call the police. The women recognized the kid (15 years old) and the police found the boy shortly thereafter. He had a bra and a pair of panties that belonged to the wife of my co-worker. The boys father paid for the stolen clothes and no arrest was made because he was a neighbor. When the guy was telling me this story he was laughing and making a big joke of it. He said well thats the first guy that ever got into my old ladies pants except for me and then he said I wonder what kicks a guy would get out of putting on womens clothes. Boy oh boy dis that set me off and if he only knew who he was talking to. That brought back memorys of my earlier years when I first started, I never stole, but I had on my mothers, sisters, couisin and even my aunts clothes. That afternoon when I got out of work I started all over again. The saleslady in the store I buy most of my things was sure happy to see me again. Love Jackie.

J. D. WAISANEN, [REDACTED], N. OXFORD, MASS. 016?

Dear Wilma:

Your Journal and your Club has been an answer to my prayers. It has now given me encouragement to carry on after 20 years of periods of transposing my attic from masculine to feminine. My old "guilt complex" has faded into the past and now I feel and act more feminine than ever. Knowing that there are other girls like myself who have had inhibitions makes me feel that I am not alone or "guilty". Words can not express the complete satisfaction of seeing oneself dressed up in soft and frilly clothes. The letters from your members are so frank and helpfull.

After all the more we help each other the more interesting and enjoyable life will be.
JEANNE A., PHOENIX, ARIZONA.

Dear Wilma:

I am 38 years old and have been a TV since the age of 11, and until now no one knew of my secret, not even my wife. But as luck would have it, one night my wife returned home from a meeting, unexpectedly early and found me fully dressed. She was quite shocked but she didn't panic. Possibly "shocked" is not the word, as we have been married almost 20 years and we knew each other for several years before we married. She is making a sincere effort to be understanding and tolerant of my TVism, but it is still too new to her to fully appreciate my feelings. I do hope in time we will at least come to a 50/50 understanding. Any help you can give us will be greatly appreciated.

T.J., ENTERPRISE, ALA. 36330



"...WELL?"

Dear Wilma:

Last time I wrote you I promised I'd fill you in on how I got started dressing.--So--here goes;

When I was three years old my mother took off and left four of us with my father. He took care of us until some big mouth reported us to the state social workers--my father was neglecting us by leaving us alone for 8 hours a day while he went to work--my older brother was 7, so we were all put in a Catholic home for kids. Well, when I got in trouble there, the nuns decided they would punish me by making me wear a dress. (I was 5 now) Things must have progressed, because soon I was wearing not only a dress, but also a slip, panties, bobby sox and "MARY JANE" shoes. They only dressed me for a day at a time: but it seemed like it was forever. As I was always in trouble. When I was dressed I had to become a girl. I could not play with boys, I had to play and eat with the girls, go to the bathroom with them, and even sleep in the girls dormitory and in a nightgown. It very quickly became enjoyable for me. Well it was pretty harmless and when I was 10 I was transferred to another home. That is where I really got hooked on dressing. Very soon the same thing was happening. One night a nun caught me wearing a Brownie uniform. To punish me she made me get all dressed---uniform, slip, panties, sox, shoes, and even a beanie. So---another day as a girl; hoping for more. The nun hoping I would be embarrassed in front of my friends. It didn't work. I got into trouble on purpose--so I could wear a dress. At age 12, I began noticing other girls were wearing bra's. After wearing my first bra I really got a beating from the nuns. They made me dress up again, skirt, blouse, half slip, bra, panties, garter belt, stockings and pumps. I then got my first taste of lipstick and nailpolish. After my hair was fixed I was sent out by the nuns with another girl to go to the store for something. I guess I was supposed to throw a fit or something, but I went gladly. After that, with help from other girls, I dressed as often as possible. I was still punished ~~by~~ by the nuns and that went at least a day as a girl. One day I will never forget was when I was 13, my birthday. The nuns always had a cake and a few small things as present for us kids. Well of course, my present was a skirt and blouse set. And I had to put it on, and wear it all day. I took my new clothes up stairs, and my girlfriend helped me dress,--a special gift from her, a set--black panties and bra, my first, my very own. Up till now I always wore someone elses clothes, now I had my very own. I put on my panties and bra, filled the bra with socks then stockings with rubber bands to hold them up, a short Half slip, and my new white ruffled blouse and red mini skirt. I ~~bro~~ borrowed a pair of "MARY JANE" shoes, and let my girlfriend put my lipstick on and do my nails. I had a great time that day. So---thats the crazy way I got into being a girl. I often wished I could have stayed a young girl--- but time marches on. Love Marie.

D.RILEY, RD#1, BOX 11, PATTERSONVILLE, N.Y. 12137

KATHY G.



Dear Wilma:

I never seem to be able to buy feminine things in a public place, I feel the whole store is watching me, What do I do. H.L., HARDY, ARK. 72542
ANSWER

A very common complaint of course, but try this. Shop away from stores where you may be known. Decide what you want and write it down on a sheet of small paper. Approach a middle aged assistant, clutching this paper in your hand. Say I want to buy something for my wife. "I have the sizes here and it must be this color, this material and have you any in this size like the ones you have in the window". It will take some sorting out, let her see the list of instructions you have, do not put off with something else, if sizes is in doubt, ask if it can be changed later if you have goofed on the size or style you can take it back but make sure you get the same assistant. If wanting lingerie visit the section when it is real busy, not on a rainy day or when bussiness is slow when all assistants have to do is stare at every one coming in the store.

JOHNNY CARSON on the TONIGHT SHOW, Oct. 5:

"I was reading a report on population statistics the other day. They are predicting that in 50 years the life expectancy for women will be 81 years. But, for men, it will be only 71 years. So, fellows, the solution is obvious — when you get to be 71, have a sex-change operation and live another 10 years!"

.....Reported by Winnie.

WHY CANT OTHERS SEE US,
AS WE SEE OURSELVES ?

Dear Wilma;

Although I am a physically normal man in my early 30's, I have lived the life of a woman over 16 years. The only changes in my appearance are those I accomplished myself, through the use of electrolysis to remove unwanted hair, and my use of makeup. During the course of the years, I have completely adopted the dress, mannerism, and voice of a woman. AS a little boy I wanted to associate only with little girls. I loved to play with dolls and dress up in my mothers clothes. MY father hated me because of my gentle, feminine mannerisms and he used to punish me severely. MY mother was extremely gentle and sympathetic with me. SHE approved of my style of dress and behavior, and she was glad I was different from other boys. SHE sided with me against my father. MY sensitive and artistic nature led me to become a fashion designer. IT also enabled me to be close to the world of womens clothes that I loved so dearly. MY father became enraged when he learned of my choice of a career. HE insulted me and beat me, and he finally insisted that I pack and leave the house. MY mother packed both our bags, and we both left to take a small apartment together. THE happiest years of my life began then. ONE day I happened to try on one of my mothers long robes and wore it about the house. DAY after day and little by little I began to wear other feminine articles of dress, until finally one day I was clad completely in women's undergarments, dress and shoes. I was happiest when occupied with such feminine tasks as cooking, sewing, housework. WHEN my mother saw how happy this made me, she added futher to my joy by buying me a long wig and teaching me how to apply makeup properly. WITH a little bit of padding in my bra, I looked very much like a young girl, and soon I began to go out in public in my chosen styles of dress. NO one ever suspected that I was anything but a pretty girl. MY mother and I ceased to think of me in any other way but female-her devoted daughter. MY mother gave me everthing that a young girl could desire. MY own hair had by now grown quite long, and I spent many hours in the beauty shops, having my hair dyed and waved. MY makeup was flawless and my wardrobe was the envy of my female friends. I desired only to live out the rest of my life in such sublime female happiness. I was confident now my totally feminine appearance, and the only thing that I felt was lacking in my life was friends and something to occupy my time. SO I went back to school and studied fashion, as I had intended, and after graduation I secured a job as a department head of a high class store. THE job enabled me to do the things that I liked the most: working with clothes and associating with women as one of them. I was accepted completely as a woman in a woman's world, and I was happy. I have now a large circle of womens friends, and my life is complete. MY only regret in my life is that the public attitude and the law are so silly when it comes to people like me, and that I must live my life in secrecy and hope that my masquerade is never revealed. SAMANTHA. NAUGATOCK, CONN. 06770.

Dear Wilma:

MY preference thing has been bloomers and corseletts. I have worn bloomers for years and sleep in a nightgown. I am married and my wife understands my fetish, but I don't flaunt it in her face. WHEN I get dressed up in my corselette, bloomers and nylons every day. IT gets like shaving, don't even think about it and do it. I have worn bloomers for years and enjoy them emminly. I don't wear any male undergarments at all. I used to have my wife buy my bloomers but the last few years I enjoy doing that myself. INCIDENTLY it'S not easy to find decent bloomers in the department stores anymore. IN my travels I manage to get some and manage to keep a supply on hand so I don't run short. I have never bothered with dresses or shoes as they don't do a thing for me. But when I see an add in the paper about corselettes or a nightgowns I devore it. I have tried a pantie girdle but will go back to the corselettes every time. WELL at least I updated my preference by buying a panty corselette with long legs and then I even wear my nylons and bloomers. I always preferred long nightgowns and have a few with long sleeves for the winter months. I like my blommers in any shade of pink, but I will wear my nightgowns in all pastel colors. WOULD you believe it that black undies cant do a thing for me. I can't wear a2dark a color with my coselettes as they could show through my skirts so I stick to white. ~~and~~ SOMETIMES I feel that the manufactures should say thanks to us, the lingerie and undergarments users. AS we do know there are loads of other men walking about with the same attire under their suits and I am sure we all love it or we wouldn't be doing it. JANICE, DENVER, COLORADO 80209



"For my wife Thelma . . . she's about my size."

The Ideal Wife



"Actually, I haven't had the operation yet."

What Every Man Expects...

ALWAYS BEAUTIFUL AND CHEERFUL . COULD HAVE MARRIED MOVIE STARS BUT WANTED ONLY YOU

HER FAVORITE EXPRESSION: "WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU, DEAR?"

HAIR THAT NEVER NEEDS CURLERS OR BEAUTY SHOPS

THINKS YOU HAVE EINSTEIN'S BRAIN BUT LOOK LIKE MR AMERICA

BEAUTY THAT WON'T RUN IN A RAINSTORM

WISHES YOU WOULD GO PLAY POKER WITH THE BOYS SO SHE COULD GET SOME SEWING DONE

NEVER SICK . JUST ALLERGIC TO JEWELRY AND FUR COATS

LOVES YOU BECAUSE YOU'RE SO-O-O SEXY

INSISTS THAT MOVING THE FURNITURE BY HERSELF IS GOOD FOR HER FIGURE

FAVORITE HOBBIES: MOWING THE LAWN AND SHOVELING SNOW

EXPERT IN COOKING, CLEANING HOUSE, FIXING THE CAR OR TV, MIXING DRINKS, PAINTING THE HOUSE AND KEEPING QUIET

HATES CHARGE . PLATES



THIS ISNT WHAT I HAD IN MIND FOR MY SEX CHANGE OPERATION !

...What He Gets

SHE SPEAKS 140 WORDS A MINUTE WITH GUSTS UP TO 180

SHE ONCE WAS A MODEL FOR A TOTEM POLE

NO MATTER WHAT SHE DOES, HER HAIR LOOKS LIKE AN EXPLOSION IN A STEEL WOOL FACTORY

A LIGHT EATER AS SOON AS IT GETS LIGHT SHE STARTS EATING

THE LAST TIME SHE USED A BROOM WAS TO FLY SOMEWHERE

WHERE THERE'S SMOKE, THERE SHE IS - COOKING



IF YOU GET LOST OPEN YOUR WALLET - SHE'LL FIND YOU

SHE LETS YOU KNOW YOU ONLY HAVE TWO FAULTS - EVERYTHING YOU SAY AND EVERYTHING YOU DO

SHE FIGHTS WITH THE NEIGHBORS JUST TO KEEP IN PRACTICE UNTIL YOU GET HOME



"Jimmy, you've got to stop coming here dressed in my clothes. My boss would fire me if he knew I was married!"

Cop Planning Sex Change Reassigned

WASHINGTON (AP) — A policeman considering sex-change surgery has been reassigned to nonuniformed clerical work while the District of Columbia police department decides how to deal with the case.

The 35-year-old officer, a widower and father of three, says he wants to remain with the department if he has the operation, the Washington Post reported today.

But, he told the newspaper, if the department retires him for medical or psychiatric reasons, "I am not going to fight it . . . because the last thing I would want to do is bring something that is potentially derogatory on the department . . . and I am not going to put my kids through it."

Police officials have not commented on the case, but the Post quoted one as saying he could not see how the department could legally dismiss an officer because of a planned or actual sex-change operation. The officer has been on the force seven years.

The policeman, whose identity has not been made public, has been under-

going preparatory hormone treatments at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore about 1 1/2 years.

A sex-change operation at Johns Hopkins involves at least two years of psychiatric therapy, hormone treatments and "living in the desired sex role," which in this case would include wearing women's clothes, a hospital spokesman said.

The officer said he notified the department when he started the psychiatric and hormone treatments. About two months ago, he said, he asked to be given a "noncontact" assignment, preferably plainclothes.

The department assigned him to the clerical position, at the same salary, and relieved him of his gun and police powers.

Even so, the officer told the Post he could not criticize the department. "They don't know what they're dealing with, either," he said.

He praised the "bigheartedness" of the department in handling his case. "When I needed to reach out, when I was really up against it, they were there," he said.

● Change of Sex (6393)

Dear Doctor: My problem is of the most extreme nature. I am what the medical world terms a "transsexualist." I have had this problem ever since my infancy, including having a name which is ordinarily a girl's, though I have male sex organs.

I am femininely inclined in every aspect of my life and I have always felt that I should have been a girl. All through my school years and in every job I have had it has been very

rough. I am looked upon as a "queer" and called many other abusive names. I am also in love with a normal man who wishes I really was the woman we both feel I should have been, and he won't be with me but goes out with girls he doesn't care for in order not to create trouble with his family. This hurts us both.

I am most interested in finding out about the change of sex operations and being able to live as a woman.

Mr. F. S., Indiana

Answer: Unfortunately, there is very little that can be said that will prove helpful. There are, of course, a number of cases now in this country where the operation to change a man into a woman has been performed. Some of these have turned out quite successful, with the individual actually marrying as a woman after the operation, and finding that it was possible to carry on reasonably normal sexual intercourse.

The difficulty with this is that there are few surgeons who will undertake the operation, and perhaps fewer hospitals which will permit it to be done. In addition to this, the cost, both for surgical fee and hospitalization which is rather prolonged, is very high. An additional obstacle is the necessity for psychiatric approval before the operation can be performed.

Dr. Harry Benjamin, who is probably more experienced than any other doctor on these matters, has an article on the subject which appeared in the Dec. '63 issue of *SEXOLOGY*.

Counsel transvestite son

By GEORGE C. THOSTESON, M.D.

Dear Dr. Thosteson: I think my son, who is 16, has a problem, and I don't know how to help him. He seems to want to dress as a girl. When he thinks I'm not around, he gets my bras, pantyhose, etc., from my bureau drawer. Should I take him to a psychologist, or do you think this is a phase he is going through? Should I

mention this to him? I don't want to do the wrong thing. — Mrs. B.W.

By 16, youngsters should have a well-established gender role, so I agree that a problem does exist. Psychological counseling makes sense. I hesitate to advise raising the issue before him. Many factors have to be known. Perhaps your best course is to consult a child psychologist privately first. Based on the facts you give him he will be able to suggest ways to handle the matter.

Transvestism (the term for it) is not abnormal in youngsters up to about age six. In

playing house, one may be the mother, the other the father, with each getting as much fun out of the whole game.

The problem at your son's age is emotional. That doesn't mean he is a homosexual or will become one. Nor do transvestites desire physical change as do transsexuals. They do, in fact, function as males, marry, have children, and so on.

Ridicule makes matters worse. Psychological counseling can uncover deep-seated emotional conflicts, although treatment is usually unsuccessful. For most, the quirk remains a secret and private matter, another factor for you to consider.

■ other factor for you to consider.

Parents Play Major Role in Sex-Typing

BY CAROL LACEY AND ANN BAKER
Knight News Writers

Whether Daddy is around while his son grows from baby into toddler may have a lot to do with how he sees himself as a male, recent research suggests.

A boy's adoption of a masculine or feminine identity — his gender identity — is highly influenced during his first two years of life, according to Michael E. Lamb, psychology professor at the University of Wisconsin.

"If gender identification is not established during the first two years, the child is really in trouble," Lamb said.

Clinical evidence supporting this, Lamb reported, has been gathered by Dr. John Money of Johns Hopkins University

His own research leads Lamb to suggest that "Fathers may play an important and often ignored role in the process of sex-typing and the early development of gender identity, particularly in boys."

IN A TWO-YEAR study of infants, Lamb found that fathers — as well as mothers — have potential for significant and special impact on the per-

sonality development of their children from early infancy on. The study of 26 children involved repeated observations both at home and in

laboratory settings. It was funded by the Foundation for Child Development.

"Babies establish relationships with their mother and

father which involve different kinds of experiences," he said. "These experiences, presumably have different effects on the babies' development."

"Abbott's been on the Vice Detail too long, Sarge. He's starting to complain that he has nothing to wear."

