

'I wish I hadn't changed my sex'

ALL HIS life Donald Arthur Campbell longed to be a girl. Three years ago he had an operation that turned him into the woman pictured here—but instead of happiness she found only a downward path of disillusion and despair.

NOW SHE is trying to start life afresh, hoping desperately that ordinary decent people will give her a break. Hers is an intensely human and moving story. **READ IT ON PAGE 7 TODAY.**



PLUS!

● One rumpus after another has followed Reita Faria in her stormy year as Miss World. Now you can read the **TRUTH** about the men in her life—in her own words. Page 2.

PLUS!

● Three crisis points face every man and woman as they approach middle age. "The People" brings news of a revolutionary investigation that has been started into the problems of the "Forgotten Generation." Page 14.

PLUS!

● The Gerald Brooke story from the **INSIDE** . . . Alexander Dinces, who was in captivity with him, continues his amazing account of Brooke's life of torment in a Russian labour camp. Page 8.

THE TRAGIC CASE OF THE WOMAN WHO WAS ONCE

By Alwyn Thomas

CALLED DONALD



'I changed my sex... now I wish I could put the clock back'

IT OCCURS at least once in the life of every human being . . . the Moment of Decision. For better or for worse we choose a path and life is never quite the same again.

For Donald Arthur Campbell that moment came the day his bank account stood at £700.

Either he could spend it on material things—or he could achieve the ambition he had cherished since childhood. He could change his sex. For £700 was the cost of the operation which would make him a woman.

For years Donald had believed that nature had really intended him to be a woman. He was certain his attitudes and inclinations were feminine. And he did what he could to develop these characteristics.

To have an operation was the one desire in his life. So when the day came that he could afford it, he decided to go ahead.

Knitting

That was three years ago. Last week, in a flat in Manchester, the 37-year-old woman they used to call Donald put down her knitting and said:

"I wish I'd never heard of that operation. My life has been hell ever since. I'd give anything to be able to put the clock back."

Back, indeed, to the days when 11-year-old Donald Campbell used to make his mother laugh by dressing up in her clothes in their home

in Nowara, New South Wales. Donald, who is now legally registered as Lorraine Campbell-Craig, told me:

"I wish to heaven my mother had put her foot down immediately. Perhaps

I would not be in the position I am now.

"But she didn't. The lads at the school made fun of me. They called me 'cissy' and punched me. But I just ignored them.

"I could not wait to leave school, so that I could escape the ribbing.

"But things got worse. My father realised what I was and was ashamed of me. My mother tried to protect me, but could not.

"In the end, when I was 17, I ran away from home." Finally Donald went on the stage as a female impersonator.

Undecided

He became convinced he should become a woman after meeting Coccinelle, the French cabaret singer—who changed sex.

Travelling with theatrical shows through Egypt and Italy he reached London about 10 years ago working as the manager of a bistro in Chelsea.

"All the time I was saving up for my operation," said Lorraine. "Even up to the day before I went into hospital I was undecided about it. I had doubts all the time. But the urge to be a real woman was too great. I had to take that final step.

"When I woke up after the operation, I felt terrific.

I realised that all the worry was over.

"I dolled myself up in my negligée, put on my make-up and laughed at the world.

"If I had known what was in store for me I would have cried.

"I left London to start a new life where no one knew me. I travelled the country. But I could not get a job.

"I looked like a woman—but my voice gave me away. Everyone seemed to realise after a few minutes exactly what I was. And no one was prepared to give me a chance.

"A year ago, I arrived in Manchester at the end of my tether and I just had to make some money."

In a café, Lorraine met a man who introduced her to drugs. He suggested she should become a vice girl. In despair she agreed.

Now, to her credit, she has realised just how low she has fallen. She has broken with her so-called friend. She has given up drugs.

"All I want to do is to make a decent, respectable life for myself," she said.

Cruel

Lorraine Campbell-Craig finds herself in a tragic situation.

"People are so cruel," she says. "They may not realise it, but they are. They don't accept you, or, if they do, it is as a joke.

"I have tried to live a normal life, but I have failed. People would not let me."

Lorraine must try again.

For all the wonders of modern science cannot undo what has been done.

She must learn to live with herself.

But there is no need for her to feel that she has to fight alone.

If, as is the case, her experiences have left her mentally shaken, then she must enlist the assistance of doctors once again. Psychiatric advice is what she needs and this is available under the National Health Service.

Only this time she will not have to save up for it.

There will be people, of course, who will be shocked by her story. Perhaps disgusted.

Let them beware. For them, too, a Moment of Decision will arise, if not in this respect in some other. Can they be certain their choice will be the right one?

● Lorraine Campbell-Craig at home with her knitting. On the far left is a picture of her taken when she was a young man. "I was made fun of in those days, and I am still being laughed at," she says.