

TRANSVESTIA

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***** THE INTENT AND PURPOSE OF THIS MAGAZINE *****

From time to time persons other than Transvestites will come across this magazine. For their benefit as well as for its regular subscribers, it is desirable to set forth clearly and concisely its aims and purposes.

TRANSVESTIA is published by, for and about Transvestites for the purpose of providing a center about which people interested in this field may gather. Its pages provide opportunity for expression of opinion both lay and professional, for discussion, and for sharing ideas and experiences, all of which lead to a better understanding of this particular facet of human behaviour.

TRANSVESTIA seeks to provide information both to and about Transvestites and Transvestism in order to broaden the understanding of this form of expression not only among those interested in it but by friends and relatives who may find themselves indirectly involved.

TRANSVESTIA also serves as a means of gathering information as well as disseminating it. Medical science has no adequate means of contacting and interviewing Transvestites in large enough numbers nor of selecting persons reasonably well adjusted to their problem and uncomplicated by other psycho-social behaviour patterns, to form any well considered opinions about this phenomenon. The magazine can provide much research material through the cooperation of its readers to further the understanding of this problem by psychiatrists, psychologists, sociologists, lawyers and jurists, and police officials.

It is the firm belief of the Editor of TRANSVESTIA that HAPPINESS is rooted in KNOWLEDGE of oneself and one's world because KNOWLEDGE is the beginning of UNDERSTANDING, which is the beginning of ACCEPTANCE, which is the beginning of PEACE OF MIND, which is the essence of a happy and well-adjusted life. Unhappiness, loneliness and fear have too long been the lot of Transvestites. It is to be hoped that TRANSVESTIA can help to convert these into peace, togetherness and relaxation.

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DANCING IN THE DARK

She finished dancing and sat down
She wore a lovely evening gown.
Dancing pumps upon her feet,
Eyebrows penciled in so neat,
Makeup carefully applied,
Demure and pretty at my side.
A brilliant necklace at her throat
Sparkled as I got her coat
And as we left a fellow sighed-
And wished that he were at her side.
He, of course, would never guess
Who really was inside that dress
Who really smiled behind that fan--
Down at the plant they call him-DAN!

Georgia--Colo.

TRANSVESTIA

Vol. II No. 7

January 1961

COVER GIRL FOR JANUARY--MISS DENISE

I am 31 years of age, single but on the verge of taking the step. I am a college graduate and hold two degrees. My vital statistics are 38-28-38 (with the proper padding). I am 5'5½ and weigh about 145 lbs. I take a size 16 dress and wish I could wear a smaller size. With all due modesty I have a better than average masculine build and have been interested in body building for a number of years. This helps me considerably with "cleavage".

In attempting to sum up my life as a TV I find it difficult to pinpoint the beginning. I think that this is true of all TVs unless some traumatic experience left an indelible impression early in life. I know that at the age of nine or ten I was aware of this delightful urge because of a news story emanating from the West Coast that one Edward Price Richards had changed his sex and name to Barbara Ann Richards. This story impressed my young mind very much but I believe that my TVism probably goes back to the age of 7 or 8. This article did not by any means create a TV--I merely find it useful in ascertaining how long ago I was aware of TV desires.

As a youth I was never dressed as a girl nor did I desire to do things commonly associated with little girls. On the contrary I preferred baseball, football etc. Perhaps these so called masculine interests were inescapable since to be called a "sissy" was unthinkable. However, I truly enjoyed these masculine pursuits and still do. My TV as far as I can ascertain was a completely natural phenomenon. I just liked to dress as a girl from an early age and environment had nothing to do with my inclinations.

My cross-dressing from this early age until about 5 years ago consisted in the wearing of various articles of feminine attire owned by the female members of my family. I've always desired the complete feminine wardrobe and don't have any fetish for a particular item. My periods of dressing up were and still are guided by the accessibility of an empty house.

About 5 years ago I began to acquire my own personal wardrobe. This was necessary since the clothes I had formerly worn no longer fit. I have an adequate wardrobe as far as undergarments are concerned but as for dresses, gowns, coats, etc. my wardrobe is meagre. Problems of storage arise and since I still reside with my parents, the concealment of a formal ball gown or coat is a real problem. With marriage and my own apartment I intend to acquire a complete wardrobe.

My sexual life has always been heterosexual and normal and the fact that I am still single was made out of choice. Homosexuality does not interest me in the least although I hold no ill will and sympathize with their plight. Being a TV one probably comes in contact with homosexuals more than the average person and my disinclination towards this form of expression is based on combat experience.

TRANSVESTIA has played an important role in my present attitudes toward TVism. It's biggest contribution to me has been the acquiring of a sense of belonging. I've been a practicing TV since I was 10 and over a period of some 20 years you can get quite lonely and frustrated. I had read everything on the subject I could find during that period and I was well aware that my tastes were not unique. However, the scarcity of literature on the subject fitted in quite neatly with the dream world existence familiar to and nurtured by all TVs. TRANSVESTIA sort of woke me up and made me look upon TV as something not so terribly wrong. Seeing others in a similar "plight" made me feel that things really aren't that bad and I stopped feeling sorry for myself because I know there are others with similar tastes and desires and probably bigger problems.

Through the magazine I have been able to meet several other TVs which was an exciting experience since although I had read about others over this 20 year period I had never actually met a single one. These meetings began only about 6 months ago but since that time my entire outlook and opinion has changed. The first thing I discovered

was that while wearing women's clothes in the presence of others the clothes assumed secondary importance and that I was still me. The biggest thrill lay in the anticipation of getting dressed and of course, in the actual dressing. I was unable to alter my male personality to that of a female and am not so sure that I would really want to. I have been told by a TV much more experienced than I, that with each forward step in the practice the desire increases and that feminine mannerisms would become more and more natural. This may be so, but I cannot either affirm or dispute this since I don't believe I'm qualified to make an opinion.

From these discussions with other TV's I began to look upon my problem more realistically. I found that when one meets others dressed femininely one's reaction is not just an erotic one as it may have been when gazing in the mirror at oneself. Clothes cease to be both a beginning and an end...they are merely clothes and one becomes more interested in the personality wearing them. I came to see that if TV goes deeper than just the narcissistic level we become aware that it's not just a love of feminine clothes. As dear Virginia called it, "the social woman" aspect of our TVism is brought from the depths. We've always had it but now we know what it is. Everything becomes clearer and our make-believe world although still existing is not so make-believe. Together we could discuss our problem intelligently without the overpowering sexual aspect distorting our thinking. I began to know myself and to accept myself for better or worse.

Since I am to be married in the near future I decided to consult a doctor for my own sake and also for the sake of my future wife. Fortunately I live in a large city and was able to see one of the foremost men in the sexological field and a man who knew a great deal about TVism. ((Ed. Note: This was Dr. Harry Benjamin who kindly contributed the article in #6. He is a real friend of all TVs as Denise discovered.)) He assured me that I was a perfectly normal male but that I had cer-

tain feminine characteristics as do most men. He also spoke to my fiancée and explained my practices. As of this writing the girl has accepted the idea that I will dress on occasion as a woman and she sees nothing harmful in the practice. She is grateful that a doctor explained the phenomenon to her since she had been totally ignorant of the subject. She felt that the doctor explained TVism quite clearly.

Whether my future married life will be completely harmonious as far as TVism is concerned I don't know, but the important thing is that I succeeded in bringing it out in the open and feel my chances of success in marriage are stronger. It is the acceptance and awareness of TVism and its implications and complications by the TV himself that is so important. I feel that helping to bring this about is perhaps the greatest contribution that TRANSVESTIA is making to its subscribers.

When one reflects it seems fantastic as well as ridiculous that for years and years TVs have a problem that they don't share with anybody. The anxiety and tension involved in dressing up in seclusion is enough to create a serious neurosis in anybody. And then through the magazine we not only find that there are many others like us, but we can write them and exchange feelings, see their pictures, and read about how others handle the problem. Achieving this degree of openness after years of secrecy is a great relief and I am very glad that I personally arrived at this state before marriage in order that the subject could be presented properly to my future wife rather than having her discover it sometime later with the consequent misunderstanding and unhappiness which would result.

Best Wishes to all TV's

DENISE



DENISE-THE GLAMOUR GIRL





DENISE-THE OUTDOOR TYPE



SOME EXPERIENCES IN MY "WOMAN PROJECT"

by "Jeannette"

((Ed. Note: This is a true story with a few details obscured to avoid identification of the author, who has achieved some public prominence in his field. However, I have known "Jeannette" personally for a number of years.))

Two of the persons who had come with me to the airport to see me off knew that I was a man in woman's clothes. The man there, a scholar and also a lecturer, had been quite interested in my experiment ever since being told of it six months before. The larger of the two women with me, a movie and television actress and stage performer had been one of my confidants and friends in my "woman-project" for longer than that. The third person with me, the smaller woman knew me only as "Jeannette". She and I had become fast friends in the little church I started attending when I first assumed my woman identity a year and a half before. She had then sponsored me into her chapter of the Eastern Star, where we were now Star-Points and sisters together.

Not that I had begun my girlhood, so to speak, only eighteen months before this trip. The first time I remember putting on my sister's dress was when I was 9 years old and that was thirty two years ago. My other brother had donned a dress too on that first occasion, for we children were "dressing up" that evening. Somehow I knew even then that wearing a dress struck a deeper response in me than in him--that here was something which, though new and unexpected, was a profound and basic part of me. So on occasions thereafter, all through the school years when I was home, I spent hours or even whole afternoons or evenings in my room studying, in some dress and perhaps underthings of my sister. These I carefully too for the occasion and as carefully returned them to their places when the time was over so my use of them was not detected.

When I went away to school, I took along several items which my sister had discarded and added several items of my own purchase. So I got my start in childhood as I suppose most of us do, for being a TV is fun and why waste a lot of years missing it.

Then came marriage. I was surprised to find my interest in wearing female attire myself continued after marriage. I had somehow supposed, I guess, that my feminine dressing was a pre-marriage substitute for feminine companionship. And my wife likewise had not expected to find her husband interested in sometimes wearing panties, bras and skirts. But with the help of a sensible psychiatrist (and there are such) we both were enlightened on the subject of transvestism and set out to explore what it might add to our lives. Luckily for both of us, my wife loves me and therefore was predisposed to accept my liking for wearing dresses simply because that was a part of me. Then we both discovered that this acceptance on her part, opened the door to a closer togetherness in our relationship.

The next step, which came quickly, was my wife's happy discovery that my adopting an element of womanliness myself was a sincere appreciation of the very thing my wife was, a woman, so her own opinion of herself went up. "Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery", as the old proverb has it, so my wanting to imitate a woman led my wife to reassess upward her own position as a woman and to see and appreciate more the fortunate aspects of her own being as a human female. Finally she came to see how my "woman-side" is an enlargement of my own personality, making me more, not less, of a person.

On my part, I realized how deeply transvestism was an innate part of me, as much as blue eyes or curiosity or my own particular IQ--but how if I'd gotten a woman who wasn't understanding she could have made a shambles of our marriage. So I appreciated and loved this understanding, companionable wife of mine more than ever. For all these reasons plus the fact that on occasion we use my transvestism in happy loveplay, this "strange condition" within me has enriched our relationship as man and wife and our life



DENISE





HELEN--Georgia



DOREEN--Mass



GLORIA--In her new Hairdo
Penn.

together is so much the better for it that we really feel sorry for those couples who do not have transvestism or some other special thing, unusual and not shared by the common herd, to give them a special togetherness.

So we went along through the years, and together built up my wardrobe and experience until a definable feminine personality had been created which both of us enjoyed, and which, when she went out, moved openly in public with poise and assurance (and, my wife says, with a certain grace and charm). I hope so for these are qualities every woman wishes to have. This all grew to the point where, after careful discussion and planning, I started out on a definite woman-life in addition to my own well established man-life.

To do this I took the name Jeannette as a married woman whose husband was overseas in the service. As Mrs. J---, I rented a small apartment. This gave me a separate address, plus a greater freedom of living as a woman than I had in the home--although our children had been casually introduced when young to "Daddy in a dress", as a special project of just our family, and don't give it much more thought than any of the other special individual or family interests we have. (They do recognize that "others would probably laugh at us if they knew", so they simply don't tell everything they know.) I rented the apartment as Mrs. J---, so, of course, I must dress at home before going to it, as I usually do an evening or two a week and on Sundays. Yes, my wife is a frequent visitor to Mrs. J---'s and is known in the apartment building as one of Mrs. J---'s close friends.

I found it quite natural to strike up an acquaintance with several of the women in the apartment building both the married and the single ones, going shopping, to movies, parks, and to the beach in summer with them. I discovered how, though rather tall and a bit broad shouldered for a woman, to still cut a good figure in a one piece bathing suit. And I started attending church in the neighborhood.

It was in this church that I met Edith and we quickly became friends. I was willing to work in the various women's projects of the church--a church always has lots of things for its willing women to do--and Edith, long a member there gave me direction. We cooked together for the church suppers, sewed for the bazaar, led devotions and gave reports for women's group meetings. From her I quickly learned the ins and outs of the personal relationships of the members and of the official life of the church. Now, Edith too, was here at the Airport to see me board my plane. But she did not know, as did the other two, that one of my suitcases held the business suit, shirts, ties, shoes etc. for the lectures and business conferences which would make up most of my several weeks away. She still knows me only as Jeannette J--, and her continuing friendship is one of the warm high-valued treasures of my life,

The other suitcase held my best black dress and the hat, gloves, shoes etc. in which I would speak several times this weekend in and near Boston. My traveling outfit was a blouse, skirt, and jacket, with no hat--I was flying coach not first class, and my hair (my own, not a wig) has turned out to be one of my better feminine attributes, so I like to go hatless when it is appropriate for a woman to do so.

Goodbye kisses were exchanged all around and I climbed the ramp into the big jet, waved goodbye and found my seat. In less than two hours I'd be in New York--my first time as a woman. It was Wednesday evening. On Thursday I would do a little shopping and by telephone conduct certain business and set up some appointments for my masculine self to fill later. Then Friday I would take the train into New England for my several lectures--lectures which had been offered my male self when several groups learned that I was coming east on tour again. My male self had "regretfully" been unable to accept these engagements due to a tight schedule, but I had told them that "a woman co-worker who is adequately informed on these subjects will be in the area and is competent to speak for you if you wish". And so they accepted Mrs. J-- as their speaker.

Arriving in New York I had to have a place to stay--where? Then it occurred to me that there are organizations in most large cities which provide lodging, restaurant and entertainment facilities exclusively for women. Why not go there, where else would be more appropriate for a woman traveling alone? I gave the address to the taxi driver and in a few minutes was deposited on the front steps. I registered, was given a nice room and found the bath and restroom facilities no problem or embarrassment. After visiting for an hour or so in the lounge with other women there, I retired to my room and enjoyed a sound night's sleep. In the morning I found breakfast in the cafeteria tasty and the company pleasant. I then left to accomplish my business of the day. My second evening, night and breakfast were as pleasant as the first and then on Friday I was on my way again. My stay was simple and uneventful.

But when my wife, to whom I write daily while on tour, reported to several of my friends who are in on the "woman-experiment" where I had stayed and showed them the letters with the letterhead they nearly exploded with laughter. I kidded them about this afterwards, for some of them still have difficulty in disassociating sex from this whole matter. I think that shows up something about their own minds, for the judgement we pass upon another person or an event usually judges us more than the other, showing up the ideas and bases of judgement we hold within ourselves. When one is a woman or in a state of beingness as a woman, staying at a woman's residence hotel is the natural womanly thing to do--an achievement not in male sexual excitement, but in feminine beingness.

My Boston visit and lectures were interesting--I may report on them some other time,--but the final item of this trip which may be of interest, and perhaps sometime of helpfulness to others born men but more or less interested in exploring the world of women, is of the method I used to change back to my masculine identity for the balance of the trip. One could of course, use the Diner's Club card to rent a car in one town with provision for turning it in at another destination, and change enroute. But there is a

much simpler way than that. I came back to New York by train Monday evening, in my feminine attire and identity and took a room at a hotel--not the woman-exclusively one that I had stayed at before. I registered as Jean Smithers. (Pick any last name you wish but make the first name--and your handwriting--such as could be either masculine or feminine, and don't use any "Miss" or "Mrs.") In the morning then I simply dressed out of the other suitcase for the first time in almost a week, laying aside my pretties and putting on the clean-lined, strong masculine attire which I also like. Then I came down to sign out. The night clerk and bellboys in a large hotel are not the same as the midmorning workers, and in a big city a person is not noticed too closely anyway. So Jean Smithers, woman, checked in Monday evening and stayed overnight. Then Jean Smithers, man, paid the bill and checked out Tuesday morning, and I proceeded on my way for the balance of my tour.

When your feminine personality, experience and "beingness" as a woman is well established, it can be as simple and smooth as that. Dont try it your first time "out"! As with everything else in life, build up your skill, your experience, your competence in appearing as a woman. BE a woman during the time you appear as one. But when that is at last accomplished a woman's residence hotel is a logical place to stay when away on a trip to the big city. Have fun!!

"AFTER THE BALL"

After the Ball was over
 Nellie went back to her home!
 Took off her high heels and hosiery,
 Removed both her "falsies" of foam,
 Discarded her dress and her undies
 Took off wig, makeup and all--
 Then lovely Nellie was Rodney--
 After the Ball!.

Georgia

THE AWAKENING OF A TRANSVESTITE (Concluded)

When Dad came home that evening I was very reluctant to face him, hiding in the kitchen. Mother, however, realizing that it had to be faced took me by the hand and led me into his presence. He stood looking at me for a long time, while I blushed all over, finally saying, in a resigned tone of voice, "I give up".

In some ways that was worse than a violent denunciation and I could only thank that the only prospect was for me too, to give up. No one but another like myself can realize how I felt at Dad's very effective, and backwards method of defeating any further prospects. So, doubly painful because I had just achieved a really good appearance. There seemed no out but to get my hair cut the next day and never again wear dresses. I was about to tell him I would do so when Mother spoke up. She explained to Dad that there was no need for him, "to give up", as it had all been her idea. First she showed him my permanent and on his admission that the effect was decidedly attractive asked him if he wanted me running around in boy's clothes with a hairdo like that?

He replied, "No, but since it was only a trial on K-- there is no reason why he shouldn't have it cut right after the effect of the permanent had been observed."?

There, in the latter portion of his statement, he laid himself wide open for Mother, who came right back at him. "Why, you don't think for a minute that a few hours tell the story on a permanent do you?" "In fact, if you stop to think a minute, you'll realize that I sometimes have to wait weeks before I am sure how mine will turn out. Now don't you remember that?" Faced by her accusing statements he could do nothing but mumble some agreement.

Then she continued, "Well, since I can't possibly tell about K--'s hair for several days you can take your choice. I'm not going to let him get it cut now and waste a whole morning's work, and I won't ask that he stay inside all the time either. What's it to be? Is he to go out in boys

clothing or as he is now?" Dad groaned, "Oh my gosh, Helen, he can't go out with hair like that, it would ruin him. He can put a lot of dressing on it so it will lie down."

"He'll do nothing of the kind," Mother exclaimed, "All the dressing and brushing would be as ruinous as getting it cut. His hair is going to stay the way it is, now you take your choice as to how you want him to dress! But first of all I suggest that you take a good look at him."

As the cause of all of this, Dad's hopeless sort of anger and Mother's sarcastically hot questions and statements, I did anything but relish her command that he look at me. But there was nothing to do but stand there while he looked me up and down. When he had finished Mother asked, "Well?"

"Well what?" He asked in return.

"What is it going to be?" she retorted.

"Why, damn it, there can't be any choice, and you know it," he thundered. "The only possible thing is for him to wear his dresses. Anything else would ruin us, and you know that too. But I want one thing clear--that is his promise that there will be no publicity. If there is, my God, I don't know what I will do!"

I don't know what he might have done either, but it would have been horrible I'm sure. As it was, and despite his anger, I was so delighted I could have jumped for joy right there in the face of the family crisis. But fortunately, I could keep myself under control and after a quick thought, and even knowing that it put Mother in a bit of a bad light, I told him, "There won't be any publicity you may be sure, Dad. And, after all Mother really did work hard on my hair so we just can't spoil it all can we? Really it isn't so bad that I can't stand it for a few days, and if I can put up with it you certainly can too."

Mother was standing behind Dad as I said that so, fortunately he couldn't see her face. Her first thought, thinking that I had betrayed her, was one of anger clearly

reflected in her expression, then she realized why I had said it and the anger was replaced by a smile which disappeared as he turned toward her.

He said, in a tone of voice which recognized the existence of all feminine peculiarities, "Well, I guess if you can't tell any other way K--will just have to put up with it for a few days. He's going to have to dress as a girl too, for it would be fatal otherwise. But both of you must be sure that no one recognizes him for that would be even worse. Now I really mean that." And with that he gave me a pat on the head which expressed all the sympathy in the world for my supposed plight.

Mother answered him, "You may be sure that we'll see to it he's not recognized. Fact is he looks so different I hardly think there is a chance. And, of course, I won't keep him in all that agony too long. But dear, don't you think he really looks remarkably well?"

Tosher ending question, Dad replied, "As far as I'm concerned he looks a damn sight too well. Why in the world couldn't he have been larger and more masculine looking?"

"Oh, Goodness", said Mother. "What do you want? A son that looks like a truck driver? I like him a lot better this way."

"For your purposes, you would," Dad retorted, "but nobody else would."

The exchange was about to get hot, but Mother caught hold of herself in time and dropped the subject. Dad then went outdoors and as soon as he was out of sight Mother said to me, after giving me a hug, "You certainly put me over a barrel dear, but I don't mind a bit for it's the perfect answer."

It had been nothing less than an inspiration on my part, for Dad, thoroughly sympathetic with my plight, nevertheless wished to comply with Mother's wishes. At dinner there was a general discussion of the best policy, based on Dad's assumption that it would only be for a few days,

and it was agreed that it was best to announce that I had gone away for a visit, and that a friend of Sis's, Gloria, was visiting for a time. Mother hammered it into the others that they must always call me Gloria and think of me as an entirely separate person. Sis thought the whole thing a huge joke.

How wonderful it was. The next morning I got up and dressed in the brown chambray as the most natural thing in the world. Not though, that I wasn't thrilled to pieces. My hair, though still a bit unruly, was in a do that I could handle to good effect. Make up too seemed to flow on and I arrived at the breakfast table before Dad had left, looking so well that he even remarked that I should have no trouble carrying off the deception.

Sis knew by then that it was by no means all Mother's idea, but she didn't tell Dad, and instead backed Mother in helping me all she could. The next few days were in the nature of an intensive schooling, for I was woefully ignorant of things and manners feminine, but even more anxious than they were that I make a good impression, so I learned for all I was worth. One cannot learn a lifetime of things in a few days, but I did so well that I soon found myself acting and feeling natural in my dresses.

One of these first days Mother took me downtown with her and I bought for myself, out of my own money, a splashy print cotton skirt and white blouse with a ruffled neckline. They were very cute and very appropriate for my age, besides, they added a welcome change to my very limited wardrobe. Buying them for myself, too was a very thrilling experience and to make it better the saleslady didn't seem to think I was anything but what I appeared to be.

Other too, as I inevitably came in contact with them accepted me at face value. Even some of Sis's friends whom I knew well couldn't be avoided entirely. Meeting them was on the nerve wracking side, but none recognized me. My own friends having learned that I was out of town on a visit were no problem for they didn't come around.

Nervous days, those first few, but wonderfully thrilling as well. I lived in heaven from morning till night loving every minute of it. I was constantly conscious of my femininity and worked as hard as I could to appear and act wholly naturally. With Mother and Sis to help it was surprising how quickly I began to feel at ease. My voice didn't give any trouble, neither did the mannerisms, but I did have difficulty with the walk and physical movements of a girl. After several days of concentrating on it to no seeming avail Mother had a wonderful inspiration. Again taking me downtown she bought for me a pair of brown and white spectator pumps with the highest possible heels--even higher than those on her black pumps I had worn the first few times.

Though these new pumps were much too dressy for my blouse and skirt, they went gery well with my two piece linen and the chambray. But the important thing about them was the effect the heels had on my walk, Though radically high for a girl of my age I wore nothing else for a few days. One cannot stride in shoes like that, running is impossible unless one throws one's feet out, and before one knows it mincing steps are wholly natural.

Aunt Julia had been following my transformation with a great deal of interest, and scarcely a day went by that she didn't ask me over and other than Mother she was my most enthusiastic advocate. Her life was so restricted that any change as unusual as the one I was making held a vast interest for her. Too, at her house, without the restricting presence of Dad and Sis I could relax more than I could at home acting out my femininity far more than I dared in the other's presence.

Dad of course, was anything but mollified, but Mother and I continued our pretense--she the experimenter I the victim--for all it was worth so that his objections were of little or no effect.

Then came the wonderful news. Dad, going to Chicago on business, asked the rest of us to go too. A vacation there was always thrilling and Sis and I could think of

nothing else. But when Dad, two days before we were to leave, told me to get a hair cut in preparation the whole thing turned dismally sour. No trip, not even to the Moon, was in my mind the equal in pleasure to my feminine life, I was just sick and as soon as I could get from his presence I flew to Mother sobbing out the news. There again Mother supported me to the hilt and going to Dad she announced that she wasn't through with me by any means and that neither she nor I would go if such was required. Dad groaned, but his fondness for Mother won out and he reluctantly consented to travel with two daughters rather than a daughter and a son. I was overjoyed for the trip as a girl would be a double pleasure.

When I suggested to Mother that I really needed more clothes she fairly ~~screamed~~ with laughter, saying, that for once she really had the male sex where she wanted them. Then, turning serious, she suggested that we wait till we got to Chicago before buying anything more for the selection would be so much better there.

So the morning we started I wore my skirt and blouse, as being the least liable to be harmed by motoring's dirt and muss. In a bag I had my limited wardrobe augmented by a dress and accessories borrowed from Mother. An accident with anything, particularly my underthings would have left me woefully short. Compensating that, though, were my dreams of the wonderful Chicago stores and their vast armloads of wonderful, lovely clothes. The whole ride was unalloyed joy. Meeting nothing but strangers at our stops meant that I could forget the danger of recognition always present to some extent when at home.

I won't dwell too long on what we did, but the first few days were nothing but shopping while Dad worked. But most disappointing to me was Mother's refusal to buy me anywhere near what I wanted. She wisely pointed out that Dad just wouldn't stand for it. I did get two new dresses though, both simple little prints, a very well cut tweed skirt from the Fall collections, a little soft white shorty coat and quite a lot of wonderful underthings--included was

my first panty girdle. I didn't really need it then, and in fact, don't need one now, but they are feminine things and grown up ones too.

On accessories I did better, emerging well supplied with purses, hats, gloves, and costume jewelry. Only my insatiable greed for things feminine kept me from being satisfied with all she gave me. Actually it was a tremendous lot that fitted me for any but the most formal occasions.

Other than the shopping the trip was heavenly too, we did loads of wonderful and fun things and without effort or forethought I found myself acting and looking naturally. Not once did I detect a quizzical glance in my direction. The trip home was another matter--paramount in my mind was a fear that Dad might force a termination though on the trip he seemed to forget his former objections.

They weren't forgotten, however, and no sooner were we home than he began on Mother again, fairly demanding that I be released from the supposed bondage. Not a day went by without a discussion, to say the least, on the subject. Perhaps had he been less insistent and violent with Mother he would have gotten her to consent, but as it was she got her back up and wholly aside from her, and my, desires she resisted on principle. When we were alone Mother and I frequently discussed the matter. There were, as I have said, no secrets between us, and so she knew all about my love for the clothes and a feminine life. She too, liked me that way, not from the point that she wanted another daughter, but because I was such a wonderful challenge to her feminine abilities. They were lavished on me not only hours of personal attention and instruction in personal care, but also endless sessions of instruction in deportment. I was so to speak, a creature of her creating, to be nurtured to the fullest development.

The final upshot of her arguments with Father was her ultimatum that I should be kept that way all Summer. Dad, positively violent when he first heard that, finally simmered down and fearful, I think, that further argument would

prolong it even further dropped the matter entirely.

The result was a wonderful carefree second half of the summer. Fully confident by then, and free of the nagging possibilities that had plagued me earlier, I moved about in a wholly normal life. A rather retiring one I will admit, but not more than many people live. Sis by then accepted me without reservation as well, and we had many wonderful times together. The summer flew by so fast I could hardly stand it, but I wrung pleasure from every moment. One absolute policy I adopted on my own, but heartily seconded by Dad the first time it came up, was to have nothing to do with boys or men. The first incident arose when Sis suggested that she get a date for me to some dance or other. The idea was intriguing, but I realized the danger and there and then adopted the rule. Of course, there were casual incidents when I couldn't avoid meeting some boy or other. Too, there were a few very flattering and confirming invitations but I declined.

But the summer ended, school was imminent and there was nothing to do but cut my by then very attractive hair. Lord knows it was hard on me, but in some ways I think it was even worse on Mother. To see all the hours she had spent attending my hair disappear with a touch of the shears made her despondent for almost a week.

With my hair gone there was nothing to do but change into a male--no matter how reluctant I might have been--and did I feel like a fish out of water the first few days? I looked even worse, like a horribly effeminate man. One cannot practice and study femininity for three months and then forget it in a flash, but there again I was well aware of the danger so did my best. One thing, though, that I acquired that has never left me was the habit of walking with short quick steps, and too, there was a daintiness that I have had ever since, but I think it wholly an asset though it does get me some kidding.

Don't for a moment think that this transformation did not hurt, it hurt like hell. But I realized that brooding on it would do no good, that at least for the next few

years until I was independent there was no other course, and so accepted it as best I could. Dad was overjoyed but he was the only one. Mother had lost her plaything and Sis an ever growing confidant. But there was one amusing incident to the change, and that was Sis's change in attitude toward me. Almost in the length of time it took me to get my hair shortened she changed from treating me like an equal and friend to an annoying younger brother.

Mother's and my idea, to treat it as an experiment for Mother, had enabled us to put the idea across in a way no other thing would have done, but as soon as the haircut was finished its disadvantage became apparent. Dad had thought that it was wholly her idea forced on me for experimental purposes. He never did, and never has, realized how I loved it. Hence when it terminated he felt me free from bondage and there was no excuse, my long hair being gone, for me to resume it in his presence. Too, there was Sis, though not fooled as Dad was, nevertheless didn't realize how I liked it, so she prevented my practicing it during the day when Dad was away.

But the worst thing of all was my feminine wardrobe. It remained in my room--the dresses in the closet, and the drawers full of underthings and accessories were a constant and painful reminder of better days. Mother, though, was still as understanding as ever and at every possible opportunity--though they were few and far between--she helped me wear my dresses. Those only came when both Dad and Sis were out--which was a rare combination. My hair, of course, was kept in the longest possible length so with the aid of the chignon I could look authentic. But only authentic to a point--an outwardly passable femininity. It is only by constantly living as a girl as I had done that summer that one achieves real authenticity. Then one's nails can grow to the proper length, one can keep one's complexion clear by constant care and protection, and come to feel this femininity internally as relaxed and natural.

Those snatched moments with Mother were wonderful and how I did love them. But for almost two years that was all

there ever was. Then Sis was married and left home. I was terribly fond of her and missed her no end, but on the other hand, it did give me more opportunity. Dad traveled fairly often and no sooner did he depart than I was in my dresses. New dresses too, by then, for Mother had kept me secretly supplied with a current thing or two, and sometimes for as long as a week I was able to really live. But there was always the jarring ending when Dad returned.

When I finished high school I wanted to go away for my college. The whole consideration being to get some place where I could be alone for feminine reasons. But on that score I received two negative votes. Dad for reasons of economy and Mother because she didn't want me to leave. She knew, I think, my real reason for she explained when I protested her veto that I would have more free time than I had had in high school and that she would help me all she could with my dresses.

Thus my life of tantalizing moments has continued through two years of college. To date my record is good enough to have escaped the draft, but I feel it inevitable when I graduate. Then, when I have finished with the army I expect to really live. My present plan is to leave home--not for lack of affection for either of my parents but simply so I can lead my own life. If possible I would make it a wholly feminine one, and were there only Mother I feel sure it would be possible as I wouldn't wish to leave her for she so wonderfully aids and abets my femininity and would continue to do so in a totally feminine life I am sure. But Dad is the complete drawback to that idea. So really all I live on are hopes.

****Finis****

Joe: "Did you give your wife that little lecture on economy you talked about?"

Jack: "yes"

Joe: "What happened?"

Jack: "I have to give up smoking!"

 LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Editors Note: I have accumulated so many letters that seem worthy of going into this section some of which are almost articles in themselves, that I believe a much expanded Letters section in this issue is in order. This section received a very high rating in the Popularity Poll so I feel that my action in doing this will be well received. As always answers to letter writers will be handled like answers to advertisers. Send letters in stamped unsealed envelopes accompanied by 50¢ in stamps (3s or 4s) or coin and they will be addressed and mailed.

Bear in mind one thing however, advertisers are soliciting replies, letter writers are not. It may be therefore that some of them will not care to answer letters sent to them. I dont think this very likely but it should be mentioned to avoid unexplained disappointment.

Dear Editor:

I'd like to accept the invitation for comment (made in an earlier edition). I'd like to add some coloration to Virgin Views by Virginia (in #3). She explains three ways of overcoming the powerful emotional stresses that TVs have to bear. The first being able through education and training to acquire sufficient insight to recognize the problem and accept it without fighting. While Virginia claims this process is slow, difficult, and not highly successful, I disagree in that I believe it is highly successful and worthy of the fight of understanding our important desire for feminine expression. Speaking only as a semi-successful TV (and who isn't semi-successful) and a father of five children with a loving understanding wife, I think that all of us can aspire to a degree of natural tranquillity through aducation, discussion, and a soul searching understanding of ourselves. I was in my mid-thirties and the father of three children when TVism demanded full recognition. True, the underlying so-called dormant psyche was known in early childhood, but it was

depressed with active nervous energy. World War II with its dangers and excitement (5 years of front line leadership), marriage, establishment of a new livelihood in a strange state, actual building of our home, raising a family, self education on the subject of law and psychology and part time work besides a full time job, all occupied a great deal of time and required most of my energy.

During this time I hardly realized that I had grown devoid of feelings or emotions, no doubt this was an escape from the senses that could arouse fear or apprehension. This bottled up emotion had to come out and it did. It led me to embarrassment, loss of health and job and public legal entanglements. However, at no time did any part of my family desert me in this time of need. Working with the scattered pieces of personality we have put together during the last 6 years a degree of maturity and insight that have made us both better individuals. In fact, we have both gained a serenity and happiness that we would probably never have found had it not been for our suffering, self-examination and study. We came to realize that we are all worthy individuals such as we are. And, when we further understood that the other 99% of the citizenry needed our help as well as we needed theirs, we came to feel worthy of being called human beings.

About Virginia's third solution of allowing a feminine personality to grow unintentionally; this thought in bare essence is as much escapeism as her second solution of shifting responsibility. I believe that we make ourselves a feminine creation purposely and with great enjoyment. I do agree that the feminine emotions and feelings are within us and it is up to us how we handle them. Dividing our male and female personalities is unrealistic. A psychiatrist would be quick to call this a form of schizophrenia which of course is not true. ((Ed. Note: This is not a proper use for the word schizophrenia. The prefix schizo- refers to a splitting away or a separation and this is what happens to the personality of schizophrenics all-right, but their splitting is away from reality into an imaginary world unknown to the rest of normal society. It

is a complete escape from the problems faced by the person in daily living. A division of the personality into masculine and feminine elements (not male and female as these are anatomical terms not psychological) is not a splitting in the schizoid sense. It is simply a gathering together under one heading of those attitudes, emotions, mannerisms and pleasures which make up one type of personality in order that this unity can be enjoyed as an integrated whole not contaminated as it were with inconsistent portions of the opposite type. It is like a company which manufactures women's lingerie and men's work gloves deciding to set up separate plants for the production of each while retaining complete ownership, control and knowledge of what is going on in the head office.)))

However, I know what Virginia feels and I think that as individuals we must give expression to both our male and female psychic selves. While living and earning a living as a man, as most of us do, we do not necessarily need to display any outward signs of our feminine natures. Moreover, (I hope) with our understanding and insight as TVs, we are able to unite our feminine and masculine personalities into one unified person. Keeping our two selves separate is like making scrambled eggs with the whites and yolks separated. Realizing that our personalities are made up from both masculine and feminine influences is a good step toward self acceptance, and using our feminine feelings with humility along with the aggressive male traits can enrich our existence greatly.

Janet-Calif.

((Ed. Comment. I cannot refrain from commenting further on Janet's egg analogy because I feel it is false. The egg itself is the important thing, not the method of destroying it i.e. cooking by scrambling or any other means. The egg itself is a good analogy of our total personality because the egg itself is a totality. However within the shell there are two distinct parts, the yolk and the white which serve to different purposes:--the yolk is the living cell capable of giving rise to a new chicken, while the white is a storehouse of necessary protein food supplies

and a soft cushion for the protection of the yolk. Both of these structures serve separate functions, do not interfere but supplement each other and both are contained within the same totality--the shell. Likewise separation of masculine and feminine characteristics and personalities within one personality is more functional and efficient than having them all mixed up and getting in each other's way all the while.)))

Dear Editor of TRANSVESTIA:

My plaint is that familiar one of almost every TV; the double standard of cross dressing and the hypocrisy and prejudiced involved in it.

Women parade our streets and stores, work in the home even entertain in slacks and shorts, Capris or Toreador Pants, pedal pushers etc.; they wear their husbands shirts sweaters, ties and jackets; indulge to their hearts content in adopting male clothing to their own. All this is labelled "cute", and sometimes even passes as high fashion and in any event is quite acceptable.

Yet, the first gesture a man makes toward showing an interest in any feminine garment for his own use, raises cries of shock and alarm, accusations of perversion and "sickness". The strongest voices are those of the women who don pants or mannish suits at every opportunity. Why?

I don't expect an answer--there is none beyond the fact that this prejudice does exist, no matter how irrational it may be. The matter was impressed on me anew last night when I was at a party with friends none of whom have any knowledge of my TV inclinations. There was mention of a certain fellow known to everybody at the party, a man of quiet and somewhat retiring nature.

"Oh him!" said one girl scornfully. "I think he must wear lace on his shorts!" Everybody roared with laughter and suddenly I felt mighty self conscious. I wonder what their reaction would be if I should suddenly lower my trousers to reveal a pale blue pantie-girdle of nylon satin

and lace. But I couldn't pass up the remark entirely. This girl was wearing skin-tight Capris and a plain blouse plus flat shoes. "Suppose he does?" I asked. "People who live in glass houses, you know--what about you wearing pants and shirt? Isn't that pretty masculine?"

She was open-mouthed and indignant. "That's ridiculous!" she said. "These are girl's Capris, everone wears them and certainly no one thinks I'm going to go around seducing other girls because I have them on. Personally I like them because they are so much more comfortable than dresses, why I practically live in them."

This got a laugh even from the others around her, for if those skin-tight pants, fitting so closely that she could scarcely sit down in them and obviously uncomfortable for she had been tugging at them all evening, were preferable to a cool, loose, graceful skirt, then it certainly wasn't apparent to anyone else.

Then someone brought up the old chestnut of a girl wanting to imitate men's clothing because over the centuries man has held the spot of "superior sex" and imitation was merely flattery and acceptance of this fact. When a man chooses to go for female clothing, however, it's just a sign that he is queer and a potential sex criminal. This was their considered judgement after the discussion, although a couple of voices were raised mildly to intervene with the protest that a transvestite need not be a homosexual; but that even if he were, it still didn't indicate a dangerous psychopath or sex degenerate. The smug conclusion was that the original subject Mr. X must wear lace on his underwear, hence he was a transvestite, hence a homosexual, hence a menace to society.

I am still seething. Hardly a member of that party but has played around with one another's wife or husband; there are glances, some glaring and obvious, in the personalities of all of them. Yet they choose to retain, to savor and further every shred of prejudice in something which probably half of them secretly feel themselves.

I don't expect any educational campaign to accomplish much to eradicate this in our time. "TRANSVESTIA" is doing what it can, as are many doctors, psychologists and people of intelligence and understanding. Let us hope that the trend continues so that some day the stupid and ridiculous "double standard" can be erased.

Sincerely,
Jean--Calif.

((Ed. Note: I'm sure we can all agree with Jean on this. But we can't write to her because this letter was sent in without identification. If Jean reads this issue I hope she will let me know who she is to keep the record straight.))

Dear Editor:

.....I read SEXOLOGY faithfully every month and have read it for many years. I think it is a wonderful magazine. I only hope that our TRANSVESTIA will become as great. I have hoped and prayed for years that something would come along to tie together the TVs so we could meet and talk. I hope the magazine will accomplish this, or at least be some sort of stepping stone to the goal. I have studied the subject in great depth and I have found that TVs are usually secretive and do not betray their secret readily...It seems to be one of our traits to go off in a corner, dress up, and feel content. At least we are content for a while, and then the feeling comes over us that there is something missing...Maybe I am only speaking for myself but a few others I have known say the same thing. Here we are, all dressed up---So What??? Now comes the question---where do we go from here??? About all there is to do is walk around the apartment until the inner urges are satisfied and then undress again and become the same old fellow again. For years I have wanted to talk to other TVs and get a few more answers. Maybe we can do it now, with TRANSVESTIA.

I didn't intend to write a book at this time, but now that I have started I will get a few things off of

my breasts (?) Briefly, I can say I became a TV about the time I found out there were 2 sexes. I guess I was about 7 years old. All I can say is that I admire beauty of any kind and the feminine body is one of the most beautiful things in the world. Myself, I love women very much and have several girl friends. I'm completely a heterosexual and do not care for the prissy homos that act like girls. With me, when I am a girl--I AM A GIRL!!! From the inside out...it is not an act ...I feel that a true TV feels feminine throughout the entire body when she is dressed up....

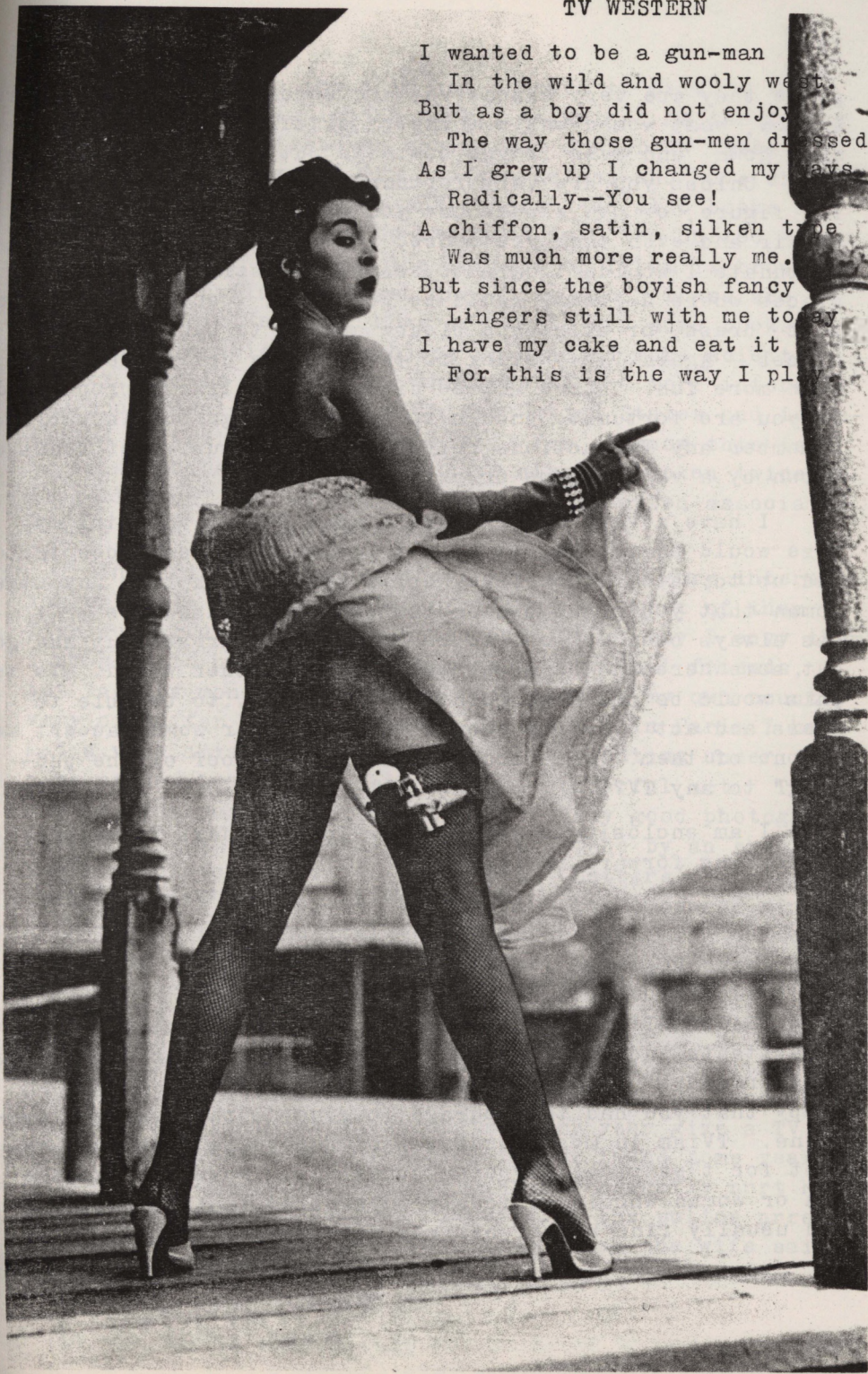
May I commend you on your expression that we keep filth and vulgarity out of the magazine...please do not give birth to a monster. We want nothing to do with homos or vulgarity. Let me say at this point, so as not to give a wrong meaning to what I have just said. I have known many homos and there is nothing wrong with them per se.. Of course, society does not accept a man loving a man, but I believe that that is an individual's right as well as it is my right to love the girl of my choice and not someone else's choice. All of the homos I have known were very intelligent, above average, and I have been a friend of many of them. I do not indulge in their affairs and they do not try to convert me or proposition me in any way. They understand that I am a TV and they are Homos and we could say, "Never the twain shall meet" and let it go at that. To get back to the point, let's keep our magazine for US only!!! After all, they have theirs...I guess you know all about "ONE". It is published in L.A.

As to contents of the mag.....for me you can keep the medical information to a fair minimum of good solid information. I guess we both know that even the best of the psychiatrists do not agree with each other. To quote myself, "Anyone that would go to a psychiatrist should have his head examined!".

I agree with Jo-Anne of Montreal (pg 25 #4 TVia). A TV should not overdo dressing up. I have been a TV for more years than I care to reveal (feminine aren't i) and I have yet to buy my first evening gown. In the first

TV WESTERN

I wanted to be a gun-man
In the wild and wooly west.
But as a boy did not enjoy
The way those gun-men dressed.
As I grew up I changed my ways
Radically--You see!
A chiffon, satin, silken robe
Was much more really me.
But since the boyish fancy
Lingers still with me today
I have my cake and eat it
For this is the way I play.



place they are very expensive, and secondly they are awkward. Anyhow, what woman would think of sitting around in an evening gown, and even if you could go out in it where would you go?? Unless you are very fortunate and have a very feminine figure, or can assume one you couldn't go to a formal affair and even then you'd need an escort. If I were that fortunate I wouldn't care to restrict myself to just those places where a formal could be worn when I could wear a nice suit, dress, or skirt and blouse and go to hundreds more places. Again I say stick to the average daily dress and have more fun. Above all be nice and act like a proper lady if you are fortunate enough to be able to go out in public. Remember any TV's actions reflect on all of us...Let's not be known by a vulgar name or phrase.....

I have a very nice wardrobe that I feel any girl my size would envy. No, it is not lavish, but very acceptable and up to date. I believe we TV's should look like any other woman that you might see on the street or elsewhere. It has always been my goal to be able to get dressed up and go out somewhere and be accepted as just another woman. To me this would be the high point of my life...to be able to dress and act cleverly enough to have other women accept me as one of them...what could be better "proof of the pudding" to any TV???

I am enclosing a money order for the next issue and am looking forward to it.

Sincerely, Betty--San Diego

GREETINGS FROM EUROPE:

TRANSVESTIA has also reached this continent and its inhabitants and must I add my approval with that of all the other readers of this magazine. Mr.(?) Editor: we are happy that you had the courage to give us this-our own magazine. TVism in most countries of Europe is forbidden except for theatrical purposes sometimes. Nevertheless the man or woman who is seriously interested in this subject can usually find his or her way to expression.

In literature there is not so much to find on this subject. Sometimes in the weekly magazines as the former PICTURE POST (English) or the German DER WESTERN there are sensational stories on TVs or even on men who have changed their sex. In Paris some publishers have also books in English marked, "Not to be imported into the United Kingdom or the USA! in which the subject of TVism is brought together with flagellantism, masochism etc. These are fictional. In Germany, however, there are some books published in which the subject is handled more scientifically. It is interesting that one of the more interesting books deals entirely with the United States and is entitled "Flagellantism in America. Yes I know this is a magazine concerning TV and I have already spoken twice of flagellation, but as you all know, TV is often associated with it and other activities.

In Paris and Hamburg there are several very interesting cabarets in which a lot of TVs work. Most of them live during daily life as women and I must say I envy them! I am glad to have some of them as my personal friends, but lack of money prevents me from leaving my own country very often for a stay in these cities. . . . In Paris I have met a very amiable countryman of yours, acting under the name of Les-Lee, and indeed doing a wonderful act. Those who are interested may contact me for very good photographs not cheap, but worth while. They are made by an excellent Parisian photographer. (((Ed. Note. Letters may be sent to the writer but may be delayed in being answered since he has gone to a hospital. This letter was written several months ago. However they will get answered eventually but I thought I'd better warn you so you wouldn't be disappointed.)))

Did you know that the WIENER SANGERKNABEN (Vienna Choirboys) are often disguised as girls? In Holland there is a University in which students every year give a TV play. In Turkey a son of a rich father lived some years as a taxi-girl. When some customer was slightly hurt he was arrested by the police. In Belgium the police arrested a TV and warned his wife. The first thing the wife said



"Bill...you're not!! That's just what I was putting on, too!"



EARLY ENOUGH

I used to be a little boy,
Which I did not get used to.
The stupid things that boylets did
I downright just refused to.
So I became a little girl
Which suited me like skin
What girllets do I understood.
At last I felt real "in".
I used to be a little girl,
Now, growing as I should
A big girl soon I'll be you see
And that I'll like real good!



As old fraternity brothers you should come up and see me,
you will be surprised how I have changed.

when she saw him was, "be careful with my best nylons". The policeman who told this story did not understand this reaction--he expected something else. Have you seen the Italian film LA DOLCE VITA in which some guys give a dancing act as women? Or the French film EUROPEAN NIGHTS with the famous Coccinelle (which means ladybird) and the BB film in which she and also a TV dances.

Till next time and I hope a lot of you will contact me.
Jacqueline--Holland

((Ed. Note. She had an ad in #5 pg 77 No. 16))

Dear Virginia:

I think you have finally pulled the right string when you printed your own pic. in TVia #4. I feel now that I am talking to a person and even tho it is in it's infancy, not to a machine or an organization. I am enclosing a check for #s 5,6, and 7 which I certainly do not want to miss.

More encouragement is due you for your efforts in our behalf as I do feel myself a part of the clan. I do not remember when I first felt the awakening of my pulse at the touch of glistening fabrics. I do recall as a youngster of possibly 4 or 5 when playing at a neighbors we would play dress ups and in the hodge podge of clothing I would have a preferende but cannot describe the clothing now. It seems that since I was the only boy on the block the girls would try to dress me up as they would be so that there was no difference and I would not want to play as a boy. Now I like to play as a boy while dressed as a girl. I am glad it makes sense to me anyway.

I am married with 2 children. My wife does not understand and has no inclination toward broadmindedness. She has resisted almost every effort of mine to enlighten her. She has seen me dressed a few times while going to an Halloween party. She knows of my feelings but since she feigns distress so much I just avoid all reference to my feelings when around her.

Your friend, Marge--Ill.

Dear Sir:

I have not read all of your issues but do wish to compliment you on what I have read thus far. Your views on the subject of TVism are not only very intelligent but also show that you know what life is all about. I agree with you that "True TVism! is not in itself too serious a problem if it is controlled, but to generalize it with many other elements of abnormal behaviour as our society does makes it a real difficulty. The guilt, fear and anxiety felt by those who have the problem make it almost unbearable to live with. If through your magazine a TV can learn that he is not so unique in his desires and that wanting to dress in women's clothes is not such a terrible thing, you will be doing a truly great thing for your fellow men. Keep up the good work!

Sincerely, Fran-- Wise.

Dear Editor:

Up until Feb. 1956 I was an active TV both outdoors and indoors. I have on several occasions slept overnight at the Y.W.C.A., naturally registering as a woman and have never been questioned as being anything other than a real woman. Believe me when I say that living a woman's existence is just as much a part of me as my arms and legs.

I have tried on dresses in department stores, have had manicures at the beauty shop and have had long conversations with other women while touching up my makeup in the powder rooms of department stores and hotels.

My greatest disappointment was in Feb. 1956 when the vice squad arrested me for so-called masquerading in women's attire. The judge sent me to our local hospital for a one weeks observation after which I was released without a fine but put on probation for one year. I have been afraid to go outdoors in women's attire since the arrest but I have continued to wear my feminine attire indoors. Oh how I have yearned to go shopping, to theaters etc. in my dresses, but I am afraid of a prison sentence. As a

result of all this, however, I have been very upset emotionally and have even thought of suicide.... Will society ever believe that we have the soul of women in our hearts mind and body so that we can be accepted as women without the fear of punishment? Please keep up the good work in educating society to transvestism and God bless you!

Sincerely, H.K.--Wisconsin

Dear Editor:

I was born at the turn of the century and until the age of 6 wore my hair in shoulder length blond curls. About the age of 12 a group of us boys were playing in the carriage barn where we discovered an unlocked trunk full of discarded clothing of my father and mother. We decided to play house and I dressed in high button shoes, a full length corset, a long black taffeta dress and beaver hat. I got a tremendous thrill out of it and my first remembered sexual excitement. I soon grew out of these clothes and though the memory lingered and a desire to dress again was with me, the opportunity and suitable garments were not available till I was 30.

A couple came to our town and staged a "mock wedding" such as our Dr. friend did. My best friend was a bridesmaid, and his aunts fixed him up to be a startlingly attractive woman. While I did not participate, I was really thrilled by seeing him in dresses and wondered how I would look in these circumstances. That same week a new mail order catalog arrived and featured "Tall Girls" dresses. I am 6'3" and after measuring myself found size 22 fit me.

I lost no time in ordering a pair of high heeled black patent shoes, hose, bra, girde and a black dress with jewelry neckline. The whole outfit cost \$16 in those days. Through an ad in Billboard I ordered a brown bobbed wig of real human hair for only \$5. I could hardly wait for them to arrive and at the first opportunity, when my wife and two daughters were visiting I carefully made-up and donned the complete costume. I will never forget

the first time I walked across the room, my high heels clicking, my girdle drawing on my thighs, the swish of my taffeta slip. I looked at myself in the mirror and knew right then that this was for me. I saw a tall and attractive woman staring back at me, smiling her Mona Lisa smile.

I quickly obtained the other dresses listed and a pair of white and a pair of red 3" heels, my own makeup and jewelry and a second wig--blonde. I dressed at every opportunity when my wife was away and took my suitcase of lovelies when I had occasion to travel.....

How do the wives accept TVism? My first never knew. My second encouraged it when she raided my trunk and found out, only to use it to attempt to blackmail me into giving her everything I owned, telling everybody who would listen about my hobby. My third accepts it, even buys things for me, but I dont know. She is now seeing a psychiatrist. We have a four year old child which restricts my freedom. Women become jealous of the feminine husband, or at least of the clothes he buys which she feels should be hers even though she has everything she desires. I dressed for her before we married and she was sexed by my appearance. I fear that the "understanding wife" is as rare as the DODO.

As I have said I am a tall girl, not at all feminine looking unless dressed. I have always been a hard worker in the steel mills, progressing upward in my job to that of an executive where I make very good. I have no guilt feelings, rather an intense feeling of well-being when dressed in feminine attire. I know that I will never give it up, and I dont want to. Dressing relaxes me no end and is a wonderful escape from life's problems. I feel that any man is susceptible to the pleasures of wearing beautiful apparel, particularly if he makes up as a handsome woman. There must be untold thousands who would join our "Club" if they ever had the opportunity to "dress" They just have never been initiated. I like TRANSVESTIA and wish you great success.

Gloria--Penn

Dear Virginia:

Your latest issue is the best yet. Keep up the good work. I can appreciate the effort you have put in and every TV I'm sure can not thank you enough for the excellent manner in which you present the magazine. I'm sure you are the foremost exponent of TV and I am confident that as long as people like you are the pioneers, TV will become better understood and perhaps someday even accepted.

The pictures and articles are wonderful. It is reassuring to see and read about others who feel as we do and I'm sure we are becoming more confident about our TV selves.

Enclosed is the fee for 2 more issues plus something to further the "cause". Again keep up the good work!

Elaine--N.Y.

Dear Virginia:

I got #3, #4 and #5 of TVia yesterday afternoon and believe me each one is better than the last. But I'm sure glad that I'm caught up on the back issues now because 3 issues are too much for me at one time. I didn't eat any supper or get very much sleep last night. Let me tell you about it.

As you know I don't get any mail dealing with TV at home. I checked my mail at the base about 2 P.M. yesterday afternoon. As soon as I looked in the box I knew what was in it and I couldn't wait till 4:30 to get home so I could start reading. Then the blow came--I had to work overtime which happens often! Well, I finally got off about 8:30 and rushed home. I started to open the envelopes the magazines were in and then I decided that as long as I had had to wait this long, a little longer wouldn't kill me. So I decided to take a bath and get dressed up first. After the bath I realized I was getting hungry. I was going to just put on a nightie and a robe and cook myself something to eat till I thought,

"no, after I eat I'll want to read my 3 new copies of TVia and I want to be dressed in my best clothes when I do. So I put on what I call my exotic outfit.

This outfit consists of black satin panties and bra, black nylons held up by a satin waist cincher and a white satin slip. The blouse and skirt are also black satin and the skirt has a 7" slit up the left side. That's why I wear a white slip with lace trim. I just love to walk by the mirror and see the white satin and lace in contrast with the black satin of the skirt. The blouse is well tailored and fits tight around my breast and waist. It has long, full bloused sleeves. Whenever I wear this outfit I make up my face rather heavily and wear long dangling earrings and costume jewelry. And of course I wear black patent high heels. I guess when I wear this outfit I look like a call girl on the make, but I'm really not. I don't dress like this all the time. Most of my dresses are very normal and fashionable. But I do favor satin and silks in my more exciting clothes. I'd just love to have a full length satin gown made some day.

Well, darn, I got so carried away with my dresses that I got off of the track of what I started to tell you. After I got all dressed up I again was going to start cooking supper, but I thought I'd just peek at one of the copies of TVia first. Well, you probably can guess what happened. I got started and couldn't stop. First #2 then #3 and in the wee hours of the morning #5 was finished. I got undressed, put on a nylon nightie and fell into bed a very hungry girl who had missed her supper but who was too tired to worry about it at that time of night. Before I knew it it was time to get out of my nightie and put on my men's clothes (ugh) and go to work.....

Love, Loretta--Texas

Dear Virginia:

Thank you ever so much for the new look of our magazine. The "Glamour Girl" on the cover is simply a wonderful idea. You know, after reading my first issue of TVia (#4) I can

hardly wait for the new issues. Today I received my copy of issue #5 and I practically ran into the house to read it! Placing it on my favorite chair, I took off at top speed to do what I was on my way home to do anyway. Showered shaved, powdered, I slipped into my white satin slip, panties, bra, nylons, white silk print blouse, navy blue pleated skirt, heels, make-up etc. Then properly prepared and in a calmer state of mind I slid as gracefully as possible into my chair and began to read.

As a Sorority Sister in good standing for many years I think I can safely bet that every one of us dresses before reading TVia. Personally, I get the most wonderful feeling when I see all the other girls in their pretty dresses! I just have to wear mine too! It's wonderful not to feel alone anymore....Thank you TRANSVESTIA and especially thank you, Virginia! Your magazine has given me great peace of mind. To me, this alone, is worth the cost of TVia. Enclosed is my check for number 6.

Please convey my admiration to "Annette" your Cover Girl #1. She is very pretty and I am very happy that she is able to at least "Live a little" outside her home in the clothing she wears so well. I must say that I like her much better as a blonde than as a brunette.

Keep up the quality of "Our" magazine, Virginia...
Love to all Charlene---Hawaii

Dear Virginia:

I have just received #5 of TRANSVESTIA and I am very pleased at reading the cover girl article and the case history of a TV and the many letters to the Editor concerning TVs. I have not had a chance to write before, so I am taking this opportunity to let you know how much I appreciate your publication and how I look forward to each issue.

I will begin by saying I am a TV and have dressed for the past 8 or 9 years. I am 33 years old, size 18½ but

wish I was a size or two smaller. I have dressed secretly for a number of years, but 3 years ago, my parents with whom I live caught me all dolled up. It was around Halloween but since then I dress up in my home and nothing is said. At first I was a little embarrassed but I soon overcame this and now I dress completely, makeup and all intimate apparel including corsets which I have to wear as I am on the heavy side-155lbs. However I like tight corseting and high heels.

I had know of transvestism and was well read on the subject so I was very pleased to subscribe to your wonderful magazine. I had always wished I could meet others like myself and through your magazine I feel I can meet some people with whom I can correspond and talk of our mutual interest.

Having learned about the Chevalier d'Eon through TVia I have visited there twice...one weekend in August and over the Labor Day weekend. I met Susanna, a few impersonators, Edith and Jo-Anne. Jo-Anne came up over the Labor Day holiday but I didn't get much chance to talk with her.

I am enclosing my subscription for #6. Thank you very much,

Audrey--N.J.

((Note: this is an exerpt from a much longer letter--Ed.)
Dear Virginia:

Jo-Anne's article (TVia #4) I give a whole hearted "Amen" to. I have long felt that one of the true acid tests of a true TV was what was in his wardrobe. I feel that aside from the lack of funds to spend on them, clothes should be both current for present style and for the TV's age. Where some TVs think we will casually buy wasp waisted lacing corsets and such except at custom shops I dont know. But further than that--how many present day women wear such things? This, though it may be an element of TV, is of course, a fetish and not really associated with reality. Aside from one sack type dress I have not a thing which would not look in keeping with this year's styles.

I'm sure that pro entertainers are more or less expected to wear evening gowns but how many of us are pros? In addition as Jo-Anne said--how many women really go out frequently in full length dresses? So maybe some do more than the ones I know, but do they go shopping that way? If you can't walk down the street of a moderate sized city at 2:30 in the afternoon in clothes that attract attention only for their good taste, then you're adding something to TV which I don't feel belongs. This applies to the "French Maid" bit too. Do you really seriously know of anyone who has such a real maid who dresses as so often described for her daily work. Maids as such are not easily found, much less "French" ones who wear spike heels, black satin dresses, tight, short, and very décollete. I feel true TV apparel is for real, every day use. Sweaters, blouses, skirts, day and cocktail dresses, plain heels and even flats (ugh) should be in the wardrobe. What's wrong with the standard American "uniform" of blouse skirt and heels? You can't camouflage so much that way, but thats the way most women dress?

In the Lukianowicz medical article I must arise with you relative to the "caricature" bit. Actually medicine knows nothing of true TVism and he is just babbling old bar tales. (The writer of this letter is an M.D.--Ed) I personally am enough of a "caricature" to have ridden on the buses and trolleys in Denver, Minneapolis, Philadelphia, Cincinnati and Boston. I have been (perhaps not wisely in powder rooms of theaters and of the Penn. R.R. station. I've hailed and ridden in taxicabs of those cities and driven a car in several of them. I spent some time in the lobby of the Ritz hotel in Boston some years ago while stopping there. Well, "caricature" or not no one stopped me and if anyone thought I was not a real woman no one said so out loud or did anything about it other than a couple of wolf whistles and a truck driver who pulled up and asked me to drive to New York with him.

I corresponded for several years (never met personally) with a gal who did pro dancing at private clubs under the name of Bobby Lindie--there were some pictures of

her in GLANCE about 1950 or so. Anyhow her observation and advice was that people see only superficially. Anyone in a skirt and heels with purse and gloves and makeup is a woman. You don't have to be especially feminine appearing (many women aren't you know) but if you'll use makeup with care and select your clothes for the occasion you'll have little if any trouble at all. Bobbie used to amuse me with the clothes. She was a "show dancer" and she dressed the part. Actually she lived in a moderate sized-but rural- eastern Pennsylvania town where flashy dress was a beacon light. She did NOT use "impersonator" in her billing. Some places she'd take off the hair at the end and others she wouldn't. In street clothes she obviously was a show girl--tall, slim, blonde with a good figure that she showed off well. She maintained that if you took a deep breath and didn't act furtively--no one would question you. I think she was pretty much right. You must, however, be complete and careful--no such obvious things as a day's stubble poking thru the pancake or sitting spraddle-legged slouching all over a chair. If you'd be a woman--act like a lady and you'll do all right.

Must really stop now,--my best to you Brenda--Penn.

Dear Charles:

Just received my copy of #5 and it is the GREATEST yet. Your magazine has improved with each issue, but this, the 5th, is the best. I especially like the sepia printing and all the reprints of the letters to the Editor. Of course I never expect to find mine there but I like to read what the other say. (Surprise, Surprise--Ed. I guess you'll like this issue for all the letters too.) And those pictures!!

Your price of \$4 per copy is NOT too much. Am wondering, though, why you can't send these out at the regular book or newspaper rate (considerably below what you are paying now for postage. My best to you and TRANSVESTIA.

A. S.--Texas.

(Ed. Note: Reason for paying 1st Class postage is for the readers protection--so others won't know what you receive.)

Dear Virginia:

I was just paging through my back copies of TVia and suddenly realized my subscription ended with #5. The enclosed check is for the next three issues; #6,7, and 8.

Our magazine is getting better with each issue. I certainly do not envy the many hours of hard labor you put into each issue. Unfortunately, your work in our behalf does not bring you many riches in monetary values, but in friendship and admiration you are wealthy.

I'm sorry I cannot find time to devote to "our" publication. I owe you a great debt of gratitude and appreciation. Through TRANSVESTIA I have recently met two very wonderful "girls" with whom I am now corresponding. The immense satisfaction I receive from their letters is all but impossible to put into words. Until a few short months ago, I was all alone on this vast isle of unjust human conformity. Then came a letter from Kay, and a month later one from Angela, and suddenly I am not alone.

To all our readers who have never attempted correspondence due to fears or unwarranted self consciousness allow me to pass on a fount of recently acquired wisdom. Until you experience the thrill of corresponding with another person who shares your longings and desires, until you find someone with whom you can discuss freely, the latest fashions, a newly acquired "possession" or the latest in makeup, hair styling, jewelry, etc., you will never know the complete happiness and satisfaction of which you deprive yourself.

The initial contact is not always easy. Personal meetings may be even more difficult. But think of the reward. Try to choose "girls" who have several things in common with yourself, other than your one confessed mutual interest. Choose "girls" who are discreet and respect each others wants and you will find a happiness never before dreamed of.

Thanks again to TRANSVESTIA and our wonderful Editress Virginia for the opportunity to express ourselves.

Donna-- Wisc.

Dear Virginia:

Thanks to our magazine I had a letter from one of the other TVs. My first, and I certainly was thrilled. It is a good feeling to know that one is not alone.

After reading all of the issues to date many times I have some thoughts on three subjects that I thought I would send on to you.

TVS AND MARRIAGE: I will emphasize strongly that one should never marry unless the intended fully understands and is willing to cooperate. In my own case she did not and would not understand. The result has been a lot of heartbreak, embarrassment and heavy financial loss. It is my own fault, as I should have known better. I hope that the younger TVs will heed and profit by my mistake.

WHAT TO WEAR? I would advise one to subscribe to one of the better fashion magazines. In time you can become quite proficient on what colors, styles, etc. to wear. Of the utmost importance, dress simply and in good taste according to one's age. Pay particular attention to how women of your age dress. Merely follow suit. Nothing is more foolish than to overdress. Every age has its compensations. I love shoulder length hair in a light shade but at my age it appears foolish. You can still be glamorous as the years pass on. At 40 I now prefer a salt and pepper shade of hair and the more matronly styles. I know that the age of 20 is long gone and I refuse to be morose about it. Accept age and you will be happier.

THE TWO PERSONALITIES: This is tough because it is hard to separate them. Again the matter of good taste comes to the front. You wouldn't go to a formal dance in shorts. It is hard work to be two people but if you wish to be a happy and well adjusted TV it is almost necessary. I have different friends, habits, and credentials for each personality. With the exception of the professionals (and I like you envy them) remember that one has to support the other. Maybe at some time in the future it won't be necessary but for today it is a fact. Give both per-

sonalities their proper amount of necessary time at being in front so to speak and life will be happier. Build it from there as each one's financial picture is different. Don't neglect the everyday necessities or both personalities will suffer needlessly. Why endure preventable agony? If you use good sense it can be avoided.

I am certainly thrilled with the progress of the mag. I do hope that in time you are rewarded financially as you certainly deserve it. Good luck, sincerely

Helen--Georgia

Dear Virginia:

Just a quick note to let you know I received my Bra and Jelly. It came yesterday so I mixed the powder last night so I could fill the falsies today. After breakfast I got dressed and proceeded to follow the rest of the instructions. Thought you might like to know what good luck I had. I happen to have a plastic tube a little larger than the one enclosed. Didn't have any funnels that small but spotted a plastic mustard dispenser I haven't used for awhile. That did the trick to a tee. Each filling took just half of the jelly and I didn't spill a drop. It took me about an hour but that was because I didn't want to squeeze the bottle too hard and too fast.

After I had finished I changed Bras. Gal you should have seen how nice they filled out my Playtex longline! I have worn it all day and they really feel comfortable. They sure beat foam rubber. Excuse the short note but I'm hurrying so I can get off to visit the folks. I have been so much at peace today, it is hard to understand why a girl can't have these moments more often. Thanks again for bringing these Falsies to our attention.

Edwina--Ill.

(Ed. Note: For those of you interested in these Falsies see the ad in the ad section. A number have bought them and reported back how satisfactory they were.)

Dear Virginia:

About this time of the month I'm on pins and needles waiting for the next issue of TVia, so while I'm waiting I thought I'd drop you a line telling you about myself.

I first became interested in feminine clothing when I was about 12 years old. I don't know why. I was never forced to wear anything feminine nor do I believe that my environment was such at the time as to encourage it. Maybe an analyst could find a reason. The only reason I can think of is that I just liked pretty clothes. The first item I started wearing was my sister's panties. They were pink rayon and this is still my favorite color although the rayon has given way to nylon.

As with most TVs I progressed to other items such as bra, slip, nylons and dresses. At every opportunity I would don my sister's and later my mother's clothing. I was never caught and managed to keep my desires a secret. As far as I know I never really wanted to be a girl, but just wanted to be able to wear the pretty things they wore.

I believe I led a normal life as I grew older. I took part in a few sports in school, liked to fish and hunt and dated girls. I had a few highly gratifying affairs with girls while in high school. I have always liked girls and at times I think maybe my adoration of them has something to do with my transvestic desires.

I married when I was 22 years old and didn't tell my wife I was a TV until about a year later. She thought it very repulsive. Since then I have worn panties under my male clothing and have worn a nightie to bed until our children were old enough to comment on this practice. My wife visits her parents occasionally on weekends so there are times when I am able to dress up completely day and night. I hope some day my wife will come to accept my desires. I love my wife very much, but I know our relationship would be less strained at times if she were more understanding.

Perhaps as TVia progresses, others who are accepted by their wives and friends will contribute ideas that can be

used by we who are less fortunate.

A few thoughts on #5. The cover is a wonderful idea. I hope someday to contribute some pictures myself. Annette is a living doll, wish I could meet her sometime. I think you are doing a wonderful job and my only fear is that the burden may get to be too much and you will give it up. I hope to visit L.A. someday and would love to meet you.

Love, Sally--Minn.

Dear Virginia:

You just gave a Texas "gal" a big thrill!. I have just received and read TVia #6 and am "indescribably stimulated". When I saw Genevieve's pictures I tingled all over. By golly...I think I'm even blushing! To make it plain...I'm PLEASED. Thanks so much for making me Cover Girl. Words just can't explain the elation I feel.

I had no idea you would print so many of my photos. Golly...Gee! How lucky can a girl get....you even printed a couple or three of the more sexy ones. The one on the lower left corner of page 5 is one of my favorites. To me at least, it combines a little sex with a little enthusiasm and cordiality. On page 8 I like the one on the right in the sheer dress holding the purse, as it expresses my dainty feminine side. The one in the upper right corner of pg. 9 gave me a thrill because it expresses the exhibitionist side of my feminine self--and being a leg and heel enthusiast..it shows off my legs to good advantage.

On pg. 53 is Vickie...WOW..."She" really sends me. I'd swear she IS a girl. What a sexy female face! And Pegie Val Addair is good too. We're getting some mighty cute girls on the pages of TVia. Susanna on pg. 73 is also a knockout. I'd certainly enjoy a week at the d'EON retreat...to be able to spend a week wearing the lovely feminine things and being with others, "in the faith"! In my case it is next to impossible...no time...no excuse to go...and the expense would be terrific.

You did not need to apologize for the quality of the printing. I know just what you are up against. The slick paper...the better type...and the general makeup are great improvements. I know you spend many hours preparing it, and you are to be congratulated on the one-man (Oops..I mean one-girl) project. Unless you have a larger subscription list than I think, you aren't getting rich either! I hope it will eventually be profitable..you deserve it.

I made the contact with Charlotte. She looks very much like she might be that rare partner for a lot of good times in pursuit of TVism. It has occurred to me that there is something unique about this. I feel it worth mentioning. My elation and excitement over at last finding a potential close friend in the hobby comes to a man (me) who already has MUCH to be elated about. I have a happy home, wonderful wife, lovely daughters, satisfactory income, good insurance plan, perfect health, several hundred friends, enjoyable hobbies, several talents, boundless energy etc. Yet, I was as enthused over gaining this new friend (Charlotte) as I would be if I was a lonely bachelor without a friend in the world.

I guess it boils down to this...my masculine self is care-free and full of fellowship and activity, but my feminine self is lonely... in need of companionship, does this make sense?

I'm anxious to get #7 and see what lucky sister dominates the "Queen's" place this time. My subscription check is enclosed. It's good to know that TRANSVESTIA "passed" the postal authorities and their investigation. Again, Virginia, many thanks for giving lil' ole me the spotlight in #6. Its great being Cover Girl.

Cordially, Genevieve-Texas

Hi Virginia:

Thanks for another wonderful edition of TRANSVESTIA! Your magazine is like Christmas 6 times a year. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. (Card)

Marilyn--Wash.

***** VIRGIN VIEWS *****
 BY VIRGINIA

The one question that haunts all transvestites is, of course, "What made me this way", or put in a more general way, "What is the cause of Transvestism"? Now, any answer to the latter generalization should provide within it a satisfactory answer to any specific individual who asks the first question. So let us examine the problem!

In previous issues of TRANSVESTIA we have had medical articles for the purpose of revealing the extent of current medical knowledge. From these articles and other reading we can list the principle causes commonly advanced as explanations for this condition:

1. Parents wanted a girl and treated boy as though he was a girl, thus conditioning him early to feminine ways.
2. Parents kept little boy in dresses and long curls to a relatively advanced age, thus again giving him what might be termed a feminine start in life.
3. Small boy is punished by being forced to wear some sort of feminine attire, comes to like it, links it with sexuality and has a fetish for feminine clothing (particularly the kind worn in the punishment) the rest of his life.
4. Lack of an adequate father image around whom a young boy could build his own masculinity.
5. A father who demanded more masculinity than a shy, sensitive, delicate boy could provide, thus driving him away from masculinity to seek refuge in femininity (transvestism or homosexuality)
6. Glandular imbalance tending to throw a boy toward a feminine type of development.
7. Various special cases such as mother fixation (desire to be like her), antagonism toward the father (desire NOT to be like him) etc.
8. Various complicated psychoanalytical theories involving "castration complexes", "phallic women" etc.

Now all of these are fine, and without any doubt there are TVs whose TVism can be explained along any or several of the above lines of reasoning. However, it is inherent in any scientific method of reasoning that an hypothesis put forward to explain a phenomenon, must be able to account for all the known facts relating to that phenomenon and if it cannot do so then the theory must be altered to include the new facts. A moments thought reveals that all of the "explanations" given above can be lumped together under one generalization, and that is that childhood conditioning of one sort or another is responsible for an adult TV.

However, this conditioning theory fails to give an explanation of two important factors:

(1) Why are there large numbers of boys who have been exposed to one or more of the 7 conditioning factors who in adult life have no TV tendencies?

(2) Why are there a large number of TVs who have no history of any of the previously listed experiences in their childhood, but who are avid TVs in adult life?

Here then are two facts which do not fit the theory, so the theory needs revision. (The proponents of the conditioning theory faced with these facts make what is to me a scientifically unsound attempt to shore up their pretty little theory by claiming that childhood conditioning took place alright but the effects were "latent" till something triggered them off in adult life. This is equivalent to saying that everything an adult is had its roots in childhood. This doesnt sound so bad because obviously we are all children before we become adults and so the "child is father to the man". But put the same proposition in logic the other way and it becomes ridiculous--an adult never develops anything completely new in his adult life that was not already there in an incipient form in his childhood!

In my view the "conditioning" theory has very serious weaknesses and instead of trying to patch it up so it will hold up it seems to me that we would be better off looking into the matter more closely to see if there is not some entirely different hypothesis upon which to build our explan-

ations and interpretations. It appears to me to be evident that there is some underlying motivation or satisfaction present in a large number but not all males which accounts for TVism. Any of the previous experiences could tie into this basic motivation and activate it IF the boy or man in question possessed it. But if he did not then TVism would not result from the activities so often blamed for it.

If this is true it is evident that we should look into the nature of masculinity and femininity to discover what this basic motivation is. I believe it has one main stem and several contributory branches, but to tie them together requires digressing a bit to develop the basic themes.

In most aspects of life not directly connected with the reproduction and nurturing of the young of the species the males and females of most mammalian species are equally capable of carrying out the tasks of life and do so practically equally. In primitive tribes of humans this is also true (in many cases the females actually do harder physical work than the males). In the less advanced countries of the world, as in the Orient, this is true even today. Only in the well advanced countries of the West do we find that the division of labor between males and females has proceeded so far that there are "masculine" occupations and "feminine" occupations. With this division of labor there has been a division of human character and personality traits too--into the masculine and feminine. (These words must be thought of as very distinct from "male" and "female"--which words refer to anatomical and physiologically different types of human beings, while "masculine" and "feminine" refer to gender and collectively encompass those attributes, qualities and behaviour patterns arbitrarily assigned to and considered appropriate to the two anatomical types.)

Everybody born with male organs is not necessarily glandularly or temperamentally predisposed to conform completely to this arbitrarily determined code of what

is socially considered masculine. Nature makes various kinds of anatomical "mistakes"---she certainly would be expected to come up with various degrees of psychological maleness which would not necessarily match society's requirements.

My contention that many of these distinctions between masculine and feminine are arbitrary and entirely cultural is supported by the findings of the famous anthropologist, Margaret Mead, who studies several different primitive cultures and found that conceptions of proper "masculine" behaviour in one tribe would be entirely lacking in others and the reverse for the "feminine" qualities (always excepting those directly connected with gestation, birth and child care).

Walker and Fletcher in "SEX AND SOCIETY", indicate that the qualities normally considered masculine are, "qualities of a dominating character, in other words, those appropriate to the ruling sex. Were our patriarchal form of society eventually to be replaced by a matriarchal form, then all traits which we now regard as being distinctive of men would be looked upon as being feminine traits and the more passive qualities which we now consider fitting to women would be assigned to men".

This statement and point of view set up a whole new approach to the understanding of transvestism--namely that it is a sociological problem, not primarily a psychological one. TVs are therefore NOT "sex deviates or sex variants" since sex does not enter into it. (For my purposes here the term "TV" refers to a true transvestite, one whose only non-conformist behaviour is cross-dressing and whose sex orientation is therefore heterosexual). TVs are social variants only since the problem they have within them is a psycho-social one and their solution for it is in the sociological realm. Why is this so? Because the categories of masculine and feminine are arbitrary and of a social and cultural origin. When a male person becomes interested in expressing what society considers feminine traits and qualities (while still oriented toward the female sexually) he is merely fighting this arbitrariness and seeking to express



BETTY--Calif



TERRY--La.

part of his real self regardless of the fact that such expression falls outside of the accepted behaviour of a male.

The next question is why does he have these urges which he tries to express? I believe there are five major motivations; partly conscious, partly subconscious:

(1) The urge to self adornment and the personality expression that goes with it,

(2) The need to acquire virtue and to experience beauty, attractiveness, goodness and acceptability in one's own eyes and by the criteria commonly used in evaluating these qualities in others,

(3) A love of and feeling for women that impels the male to want to join them and partake of that which he admires and reveres--identification if you will, but not on a sexual level as may be the case with some homosexuals,

(4) An attempt to symbolically and temporarily find relief from the requirement of masculine aggressiveness in the socially permissible more passive feminine role, and

(5) Relief from the pressures of social expectancy and an opportunity to be "free" for the moment from the push and pull of one's ordinary life.

Each of these five requires explanation and elaboration.

SELF ADORNMENT AND PERSONALITY EXPRESSION: In a great many lower animals the male of the species is the one who grows, horns, manes, fancy feathers, greater size or some other physical attribute that distinguishes the male and sets him apart from the female. These decorative effects are part of the body and the size and quality of the male's secondary sex equipment is a measure of his physical and genetic fitness and desirability as a mate. This is surely one of nature's means of selecting the best stock for mating, for the female is either allowed to or forced to (by elimination) accept the fittest (physically) male as her mate.

In primitive human society this is also the case. Adornment of the hair and skin, wearing of necklaces, bracelets, earrings, fancy headresses, and decorative

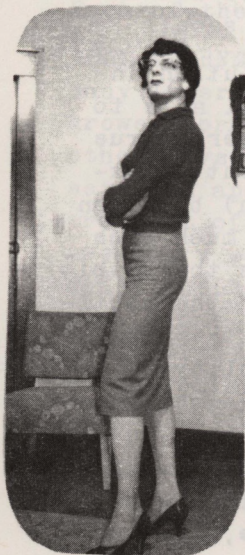
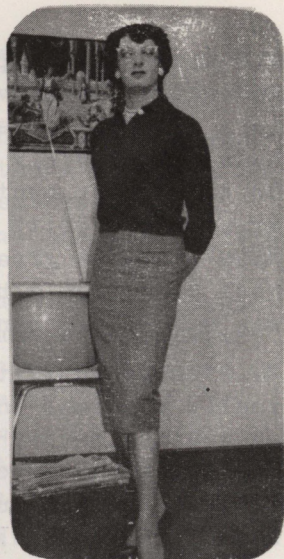
clothing and equipment are part of the male way of life. And adornment serves much the same purpose here too **but** in a somewhat more subtle way---the male with the most bear claws in his necklace, for example, would probably be the better hunter and therefore the stronger and braver and more "fit" than the male with fewer such trophies. With somewhat greater sophistication indications of fitness come from athletic prowess or the ability to dance war dances or chant or to brag about various exploits.

These activities and attitudes are, I feel, biologically inherent in the nature of maleness--the need to show himself to the best advantage to impress the other males with his prowess and virility; to induce the female to accept him sexually; and to enhance his own vision of himself. This last "**figures**" when we consider that females never need to "prove" their womanliness--males always do. Human males are capable of being aware of virility and sexual potency and even more important of its absence (and the embarrassment that goes with it) The symbolic and indirect "proof" of his masculinity and maleness through his trophies of the hunt etc. strengthens his masculine ego and reassures him of his capacity as a functional male. This reassurance is doubtless not on the conscious level, but it is real just the same.

Now in past times, up to the French Revolution in Western Europe, males of the species were still able to indulge in self adornment in one form or another. True the nobility who had the money to afford it went to extremes in personal adornment (so did the women) but even the peasantry had the right and freedom to as much such self expression as they could afford and chose to exhibit. However, after the Revolution what remained of the nobility hid themselves so to speak in the mass of the peasantry by doing away with the frills and frivolity of the upper classes and strove to be just "citizens" and thus to avoid any taint of nobility which was then in considerable disrepute. Gradually this form of dress spread throughout the western world resulting in the drab unadorned male of the last 200 years. Of course, the aus-



Loretta
Texas



terities of protestantism as preached by Luther and Calvin also contributed greatly to the acceptance of drab clothing as the lot of the male.

Simultaneously with the decline of the nobility and the feudal system generally there was the rise of the middle class and of those who became wealthy as a result of the Industrial Revolution. These men, forbidden by social pressure from expressing their sense of their own ability and importance by personal extravagance began to do so in other ways. Not only did they build their big mansions and estates, have the finest horses (and subsequently private railway cars and expensive automobiles) but they also made their wives clothes horses and show pieces through whom they could show their wealth and importance. Wives of the elite therefore were swathed in very fancy clothing of costly materials and beset with diamonds, rubies, egret feathers and what have you.

Naturally the girls of the less well-to-do classes attempted to imitate their betters so that similar clothing of cheaper materials and rhinestone diamonds and rubies led up to the "costume" jewelry of today. The point of all this is that the male for religious, economic and political reasons abdicated his right to the pleasures and satisfactions of self decoration and partly bestowed them on women (and the rest the women took for themselves)

So what is the result socially and biologically in modern society? No longer does the female decide which male to accept because of his natural healthy physique, nor from his athletic prowess (except in college days when the fullback or the champion of any sport is admired and sought after by the girls). To what small extent she "accepts" him at all, it is usually on the basis of his financial and social possibilities and thus the "fitness" is no longer biological but social. As a matter of fact the female-male relationship is to a great degree reversed, because now what happens when a man sees two girls across the street? One of them has on a fetching dress, high heels, jewelry, a tricky hairdo and plenty of makeup.

The other is in low "practical" shoes with a neat, clean and "practical" dress, with hair merely neatly combed and little or no makeup or jewelry. It takes no brains at all to know which he will ask for a date. When dating has gone on long enough he pops the question (everything else being equal). She still has the right to say yes or no, but if he is at all acceptable and has good prospects she says yes. But the point is that HE selected HER and did so because of her appearance in just the same way that in lower cultures and lower animals the female selected, that is--accepted, the male because of his appearance because it betokened biological superiority. Nowadays the girl in the height of fashion gets selected for social superiority although she may be from very inferior stock biologically. Thus have customs and clothing interfered with biological selection and the propagation of the best stock.

This got us off of the track somewhat in showing that the urge toward self adornment in the male has some deep biological roots. The male has been deprived of this right and it has been taken over by the females. When a male appropriates clothing, makeup, jewelry, etc. from the female he does so to express a portion of his personality that otherwise lies hidden and frustrated beneath the weight of social customs and restrictions. Thus point (1) of the basic motivations in TVism....this point must not be taken as a cause alone however, it is just one of the forces.

(2) THE NEED TO ACQUIRE VIRTUE AND EXPERIENCE BEAUTY: Anyone who stops to think about it knows that basically women are no better than men. There are beautiful ones and ugly ones and all shades in between; there are tall ones and short ones, fat ones and thin ones; there are mean, vicious, dirty, crude, filthy and drunken ones, and there are loving, kind, considerate, angelic and self sacrificing ones. But all of these words apply as well to men as to women. In short they describe individuals, not the sexes.

However, what we "know" about something and what we "feel" about it are very frequently completely out of step with each other. In our culture we have made the female

the repository of all good things. "What are little girls made of? Sugar and spice and everything nice!" Little boys, you will remember are composed of "snips and snails and puppy dog's tails. I wonder whether any adult has ever reflected on the feelings of a little boy when he first hears this nursery tale! It is told in story or said in fun, but is it taken that way--is he in a position to understand? Or does it hurt and change him a bit to realize that he can't be "everything nice"? Very few men remain sensitive to this in adult life, but it wasn't said to the adult but to the child in his formative years and I am personally very sure that this nursery rhyme and many other things that happen to little boys do make a deep impression and influence in some ways (in some case-not all) their adult behaviour.

All of our love songs and poems idealize and idolize the female. Listen in your mind a moment to all the popular songs you can remember: Who is so desirable that the singer would swim the deepest ocean and climb the highest mountain--whose eyes are like stars and teeth like pearls? On the other hand, who is about to die if he can't have her, and whose life is ruined since she went away? In short, we attribute to the female in song and story all of those virtues and qualities that we all feel to represent the best in the human race. Jesus taught these things (he didn't have much to say about strength, courage, aggressiveness, competition, domination etc. did he? Probably because there was too much of them around anyway and then as now they were responsible for most of the ills of the world.). But the press of everyday life makes it impossible for most men to even approach the type of life he prescribed. But we do like to think that these good things are part and parcel of the women in our lives.

The word "mother" always conjures up a vision of a wonderful, self-sacrificing little woman, sweet, lovely, beautiful--all good and no evil. Yet the world is full of mothers who don't come within miles of this picture. The point is that it is not what the female IS but what she REPRESENTS to the male that is important (I am talk-

ing completely above the sexual level) Since she REPRESENTS all these good things, and since many of the more thoughtful and sensitive males would like to think of themselves as being good, virtuous, fine, and as desirable to other people as he feels women are, it leads to the desire to become part of that which is so good and so beautiful and to partake of these satisfactions.

How can this be accomplished? Symbolically it can be done by "becoming" a girl on the outside. In our culture, indeed in all cultures, one cannot, as Lawrance Langner pointed out in "The Importance of Wearing Clothes" (which I highly recommend) discuss mankind or his clothes separately. "Man and His Clothes" is a unit not really separable. (Langnor explains this very clearly but I can't afford the space here). In this case mankind refers to the human race in general, but even more than it is true of the male historically it is true of the female in our times and culture. One must speak of "Woman and Her Clothes" because all of them from shoes to hats, and from lingerie to fur coat are a part and essence of our conception of the female. Therefore the clothing represents GIRLNESS more than anything else and consequently in trying to acquire some of the qualities felt to be present in girls, the adoption of her clothes by a male is symbolically the same as "being" her and therefore he has acquired these qualities himself.

Since another feminine characteristic is vanity the male in feminine clothes will spend much time before a mirror as a woman would. At the same time seeing himself-herself is a far more satisfying assurance that he has acquired femininity than merely being aware of the clothes he has on or feeling them with his hands. So here is where the Narcissism that psychiatrists are at pains to point to comes from. Beauty is good--and desirable. Everyone like to have beautiful and attractive things around him, so that to be beautiful and attractive is to be desirable, wanted, appreciated and sought after by others. Since beauty is a feminine monopoly the adopting of those forms of raiment, adornment and mannerisms

which are feminine by a male, symbolically endows him with the beauty, desireability and appreciation which he craves. In most cases he is definitely not beautiful, but he can feel himself to be and therein lies the satisfaction. Thus point two.

DESIRE TO JOIN: The complete nature of the attraction the female exerts on the male has not and perhaps can not be described. In lower animals it is often activated the sense of smell particularly at the time the female is receptive. In others it is motivated by some tenuous instinctive pattern that tells both sexes that now is the time and here is the place to mate. The fact that many species like salmon, eels, geese etc. migrate long distances to arrive at a proper mating ground and guide themselves in space and time by means that we cannot yet explain shows that the mating instinct is very real, very strong and very complex.

In the human species however, mating has become a thing of desire and convenience rather than of time and place. Copulation is biologically possible at any time except during an already existing pregnancy in the later phases or during illness. The motivations to do so are largely left up to the male and arise in him from stimulation of thought, eye and bodily pressures.

Whatever the mechanism of the attraction the male is definitely aware of it. Except in cases of mental disease he can't even avoid feeling it. (Of course homosexuality is a special case in which the need for and attraction by another human has been displaced to one of the same anatomical sex--leaving out any discussion of the possible biological causes of the condition.) Now to be impelled toward something generally presupposes some quality of worth in the object. This is culturally born out by the endowment of the female with virtue and goodness as discussed in the previous section. If a person or a situation has worth and value it arouses a desire to have, possess, acquire, partake and become part of that worth or value. There is a subtle distinction between acquiring

virtue, attractiveness and desirability to other people that was elaborated in Point 2 and that of joining a select group considered to have some special value and by joining to have this special value yourself. The difference may perhaps be explained by an analogy of two wealthy art lovers. One man buys Rafael's, Rembrandt etc. and builds a beautiful art gallery and exhibits them to the public as the "Jones Collection" and "Jones Gallery" thereby enjoying the effect on other people who come to see the pictures and can appreciate his discriminating artistic taste, enjoy the building he has built, and praise him for making it all available to the public. The other man, however, buys just as fine pictures but houses them in his home where HE can be part of the artistic world they represent. HE can be greatly satisfied in the joy of owning this beauty, of knowing that others would like to have it. In short, by buying and owning he partakes of and becomes a part of something which he himself realizes has worth and value and he knows that others feel the same way about it. (I'm not referring to the monetary worth or value, but the ageless artistic value of beauty of scene and of interpretation.)

RELIEF FROM THE REQUIREMENTS OF MASCULINITY: In our culture great demands are made on people, particularly on men. The male is supposed to be aggressive, forthright, bold, courageous, competitive, strong, dominant, boss, etc. Now as pointed out in the beginning these are not necessarily MALE qualities, they are merely expected of the dominant sex in a patriarchal society. All of us meet them to some extent, but I'm sure that all of us get tired of them too. It appears to be a well accepted medical fact that men do not live as long as women and that the diseases that pick them off are usually of the stress type such as heart attacks, ulcers, hemorrhages, etc. These are the "wound stripes" of our civilization as someone has called them. Men try all manner of means to get relaxation from these tensions. They play golf, bowl, go to the gym, take turkish baths, drink, run about with women other than their wives, smoke excessively, gamble, etc. In fact, most male vices and

most masculine hobbies are really only escape hatches in which they try to forget the problems of daily life. Actually, TVs have found by whatever route, a method of relaxation which is actually much more efficient than others.

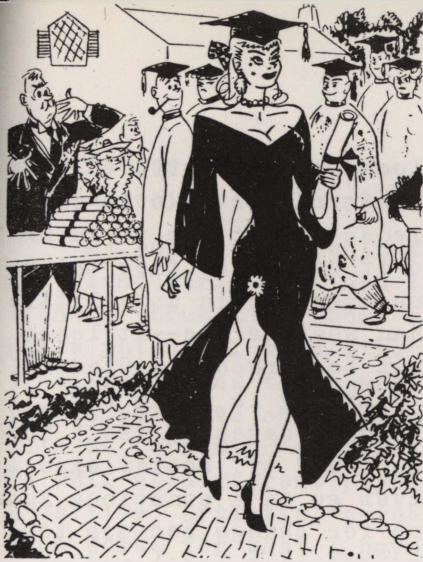
Obviously if the stress arises from the requirements that society makes of the male the greatest relief from this stress comes from ceasing to be a male for a while. This the true TV does when he "becomes" a girl. (In TVia #8 I will have a short true story that will illustrate this better than anything else I've ever read or experienced.) I must point out that what I am saying applies to true TVs only, it specifically excludes those who dress for homosexual reasons; those who are masochists and who utilize feminization as a means to that end; and also those who have a powerful feeling for very particular items or types of clothing for their erotic value and are therefore fetishists.

By ceasing to be masculine the male automatically puts aside the requirements of masculinity and at the same time acquires all the "rights and privileges", that is, the virtue, dignity, and beauty with which he tends to endow the female. Since feminine creatures do not HAVE to be aggressive, he can be quiet and passive, since they do not HAVE to be strong and everything that goes with it, he can for a time be weak and thus relaxed. During this interval he does not have to be the one who makes decisions, dominates situations, strives for competitive advantage, and all the rest of the things he does during his regular life as a man. He can experience grace, beauty, daintiness, attractiveness, gentility--not only within his own self but can feel that others see these qualities in him. He cannot actually cease seeing with a man's eye and appraising with the man's brain that he uses all week. So if on Saturday night Lewis becomes "Louise", it will be Lewis' s eyes that see "Louise" in the mirror. She will be pretty wonderful to him whether she is pretty in fact or not, because it is what she REPRESENTS that counts--all the good and beauty that Lewis ordinarily attributes to girls.

In short, the male who adopts feminine attire escapes for the moment from the requirements of masculinity that assails him all the rest of his life. (This is not to say that dislikes his masculine life to the point that he would give it up completely--such a person is a transsexual not a TV--generally he enjoys being a man most of the time but nevertheless is very happy when the moment comes that he can put it aside for a bit). He is in another world and "free" to explore it unhindered by the requirements and expectations of others with which he usually has to contend.

Perhaps a personal example will illustrate. My training has been in science and thus my mind runs to logical thinking. I like to use it in discussions, I have a lot of ideas wanting out so I talk a lot and I expect in a rather aggressive way. Being a tense person I drive somewhat faster than I should, but with a sharp eye.. This goes for Charles but when Virginia is present she doesn't care to talk so much so intensely or to think as much. She also drives considerably slower and in a different way. (My wife tells me this and she is frequently critical of Charles' driving.) Men sometimes give Virginia a dirty look and I can just hear them say, "---- woman driver"! If in conversation the subject gets on an intellectual plain and ideas begin to flow I find my voice lowering and my gestures changing as Charles unintentionally begins to "take over" from Virginia. I am still Virginia by appearance, but with the stimulation of the conversation the clothes are liable to be forgotten in favor of the intellectual exercise.

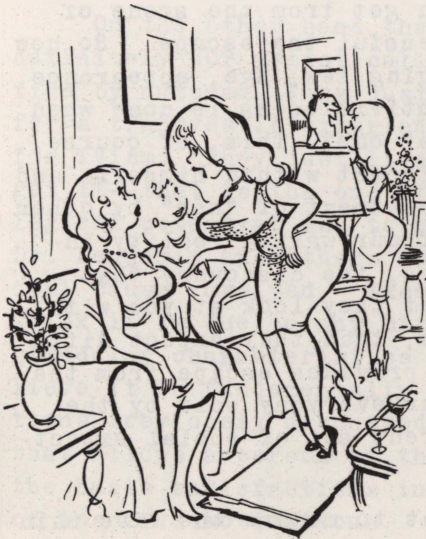
RELIEF FROM SOCIAL EXPECTANCY: This motivation is very similar to the one just previous but deprived of gender. That is, we have been discussing the escape from masculinity into femininity-a change of gender. But regardless of what gender a person is he or she goes about under a load of what I call social expectancy. Society "expects" us to behave in certain ways, remain inside certain boundaries and having developed a certain type of personality in our formative years to remain that personality. I am sure that all of us get tired of being ourselves at times. We long to be a different type of personality somehow. The staid, conservative



"He's been the 'Leading Lady' in our college plays for the last 6 years."



"Sure, we're having fun but we could have lots more if one of us was really a girl."



"Awful rumor going the rounds here! They're saying one of us girls really is!"



"No, Horace-They're just a couple of nasty boys dressed as girls! Don't bother with them, Darling!"

individual harbors a yen to cut loose and be "wild". The free wheeling playboy would sometimes rather like to calm down and take it easy but his friends expect him to be what he has a reputation for being and if he is not they think he is slipping or sick. All of us have within us a little yearning to be something other than what we are--at least for a little time. This might well be termed the Cinderella Complex. The repression of this yearning is, I am sure, one of the causes of true schizophrenia--cases of the "Three Faces of Eve" type. People are so bound by social expectancy that they cannot let themselves go on a conscious knowing level and so when the pressure for change becomes too great they make the change on a subconscious level and go into an unreal world of imagination--the withdrawn schizophrenic type or into a real but unknown (to the regular self) world of the multiple personality.

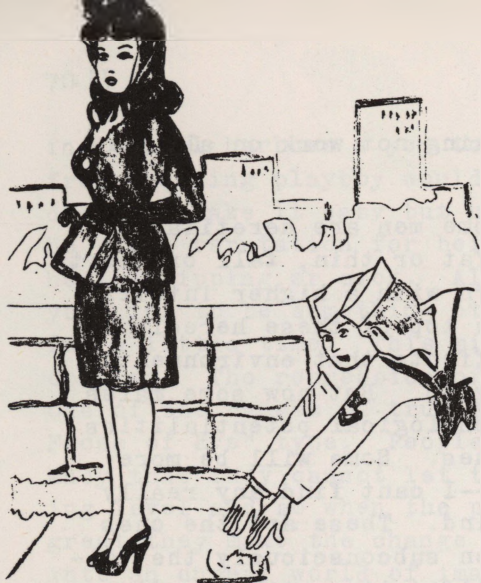
The applicability of this to TVs is as said before much the same as escape from masculinity requirements but on the non-gender level--escape from being YOU. When making an escape the further you can get from the scene of your incarceration the more successful the escape. So how can a human go further than changing sex, age, appearance, habits, mannerisms, interests, activities, as is done when a male person becomes a "feminine" one? This, of course, has two aspects (1) he feels different within himself, and (2) he is aware of a different treatment of "her" by other people. Since a large portion of our waking reality involves our interpersonal relations, the discovery that others treat you differently, that they look at you with different thoughts in their minds, that they expect different things of you--all of this provides escape from the social expectancy attached to your everyday self by the acquisition of an entirely different set of social expectations for your new self.

So now we have discussed what to me are the five main streams of motivation that underly true transvestism. But the reader may still ask why aren't there more TVs than there are (who knows how many there are--we keep secret and hidden so long and so successfully) and why do the child-

hood factors listed in the beginning not work on all persons experiencing them?

My reply to this is that some men are hereditarily and glandularly destined to be fat or thin, tall or short blond or brunette. Some are born with a higher intelligence potential than others. On top of these hereditary predispositions there are the effects that environmental influences have on a boy growing up. But now some males will be born with different psychological potentialities as well as different physical ones. Some will be more sensitive, artistic, perceptive--I can't find any really good words for what I have in mind. These are the ones who will be able to perceive even subconsciously the values gained in some sort of identification with the feminine (non-sexual). If one of this type is punished by being made to wear dresses or is much made over by a dotting mother who wishes he had been a girl, the experience will doubtless "key" into this particular type of psychological potentiality and a TV is made.

On the other hand there are many other males who are definitely NOT artistically bent or sensitive and perceptive by nature. They just do not have the fertile ground for a transvestic experience to grow into an appreciation for TVism. They just live through it, past it and forget it--that is the end of it. This difference in psychological potential is, to my mind, what is involved when Dr. Benjamin and others say there is an organic or congenital cause involved. Except in special cases I do not think it is due to any mixup of the sexual sense nor of glandular characteristics as some have suggested. I believe it is fundamentally supported by the five motivations previously discussed, initiated by some experience that allows a person of the type described to discover the basic satisfactions involved in fulfilling one or more of the five motivations. The whole thing is therefore a social phenomenon that comes into being in individuals of a certain psychological type by virtue of any of several revealing experiences. It should therefore, be studied as a problem in sociology as well as psychology.



Soldier: "Lay off, Sailor!
This gal belongs to the Army!"
Sailor: "Nuts to you, Soldier!
She's Navy property!"
"Girl": "You're both wrong,
fellows. I'm a Jet pilot in
the Air Corps."



"No kidding, Charley? They
do all that for \$500. in
Mexico."

MANY DO



One of our most cooperative employees!
I merely said to him, "If you don't
change your ways drastically...."



"Daddy, do other boys dress like me?"

There are of course, many such sensitive, perspective type males who go through childhood with no experiences of a transvestic nature and thus have no awakening of the awareness of the possibilities and satisfactions of this activity. In adolescence when sexuality develops all things are colored by it, and the values, virtues, and qualities of the opposite sex become very evident to the young man. In trying to make some sort of contact with the feminine world on a non-sexual and even on an impersonal basis, he takes up an interest in all things feminine including clothing. He may feel it, become intrigued by the differences from men's clothing. He may and probably would be come sexually stimulated by personal contact with intimate lingerie and this could "key in" clothing and what it represented to his own perceptive nature. In going a little further over a period of time he would come to the point of dressing completely, and seeing that he too could be pretty, attractive, desirable, in short all those things that he saw in girl' his own age. From then on he would be a TV.

But suppose that he survives adolescence with no specific experiences relating to clothing. At some time later in life--a masquerade party, or a dare, or a peculiar circumstance such as having no adequate male underclothes or pajamas available (this actually happened during the war) he makes contact with feminine apparel. This can then trigger off his perception of the fact that he too could ~~could~~ adorn himself, he too could be attractive, "good" and "virtuous", and could in the process escape temporarily from the pressing demands of masculinity and the expectations of society. The story of the Doctor and the womanless wedding is a case in point, so too is the story of Genevieve in TVia #6, and many others I am collecting. The infection with feminine clothing can clearly be said to be possible at most any point in life from childhood through middle age. As a further point of dispute for those who think of TVism as having primarily a sexual root is the fact that once TVism is fully established it does not die out with the decline of sexuality.

Several subscribers to this magazine are in their 60s and beyond--a period of life when sexually motivated activities are generally on the wane or gone. Yet because TVism is basically an aesthetic satisfaction its enjoyment continues.

The foregoing has outlined my conceptions of the basic factors in what is called Transvestism, but now I would like to take up the word itself. Used in the proper way it is a perfectly good word, being only the latin roots of the English words cross-dressing. For the purpose of describing an activity it is convenient since it says what someone DOES, but since this activity can be practiced under a variety of conditions and for a number of purposes, the word Transvestite DOES NOT describe what someone IS. An attempt is sometimes made, as in this article, to modify the term by referring to a TRUE transvestite, but this makes no sense either. What is a TRUE CROSS DRESSER? Anybody who cross dresses regardless of the motivation or the satisfaction is Transvesting, and if he did it frequently he could be termed a transvestite--one who cross dresses. But using words this way serves to confuse and obscure the purpose of having descriptive words in the first place. If we wish to classify people in terms of their behaviour problems so that when we use a term in conversation it will mean the same to the listener as it does to the speaker, we must use terms that have clear and unconfused meanings. Transvestism and transvestite do not have clear meanings as nouns any more. As an adjective, i.e. "transvestic impulses" it would convey meaning, as a verb, i.e. "to transvest" (cross dress) it is clear, but as a noun it means nothing because you would have to include everybody who wore any clothing of the opposite sex for any reason, at any time, and with many different satisfactions attached to doing so.

Trying to make things clearer by referring to hetero- and homo-sexual transvestites is utterly ridiculous because (a) you would have to have one single class of persons clearly defined as transvestites which class could then be further broken down into hetero- and homo-. This condition does not exist. (b) It is customary in the English language

and in any system of classification, to place the adjective before the noun it modifies such as, "green grass", "corporate lawyer", "plastic surgeon", etc. In each case the noun is the important classification and the adjective describes the special case. Since the two broadest classifications into which the human race can be divided, sexually speaking (after male and female of course), are hetero- and homo- sexual, these words should be used as the noun and subsidiary and less important factors should be used as adjectives i.e. "transvestic homosexual" or "transvestic masochist" etc.

Because of this confusion in the use of the word transvestite a new term should be set up which is more descriptive of what has previously been termed a "true" transvestite. I should like to put forward the words FEMINIPHILE and FEMINIPHILIA and to define them as follows: Feminiphilia is a condition in which an anatomically and physiologically normal male who is heterosexually oriented feels driven to partake of all things feminine as an expression of his inner personality needs. Such a person, known as a Feminiphile, enjoys dressing in feminine attire, using full feminine wardrobe including brassiere, high heels, lingerie, jewelry and makeup; acting in feminine ways, and using feminine mannerisms; and in general being seen and accepted by others as a feminine personality. The word derive from the Latin root femina--of or pertaining to woman, and the Greek root philia--loving or love of--therefore Love of the Feminine! Note that the definition above specifically eliminates homosexual persons, fetishists and masochists. ((Ed. Note: This word Feminiphile is a word belonging to TV's alone and I would welcome comment pro and con upon it and better suggestions if you can make one.)))

Now a word needs to be said about "change of sex" operations. I am sure that practically every feminiphile (FP formerly TV) who opened the paper the morning that Christine first hit the headlines experienced a very tense feeling in the pit of his stomach. A mixed feeling of intense envy, admiration and fear. I certainly did. Here was a person who had, by drastic means to be sure, turned

the tables on society and gotten into the position where she could wear all the gorgeous clothes she could afford and wear them 24 hours a day and almost anywhere she choose. We all yearned for that, and many of us in the heat of those early days longed for an operation too.

But this was before we had a chance to sit back and think a bit. As Roberta, Charlotte, Tamara and others came to light the intensity of the situation rather wore off and some of us at least were able to sit back and look at the situation objectively. I was one of these. Since those days I have personally met and talked with Christine, Roberta Cowell (in England) Tamara and about a dozen others. Through these contacts I have come to see that surgery is positively NOT the answer for FPs (TVs till you get used to the new initials). For a very few, and by no means all of the self proclaimed transsexuals it is perhaps the answer, but should only be permitted after long and careful psychiatric scrutiny and after the patient proves his/her ability to LIVE AS A WOMAN 24 hours a day for about six months. Most of those craving surgery and a large percentage of those who get it were neurotic before it and neurotic after it. Entirely too many of those who have achieved surgery end up as stripteasers and prostitutes. Too few of them take a regular female place in society, earning a living as a woman and comporting themselves as such. Those who take up teasing and prostitution are neurotically under compulsion to continually prove to the world and themselves that they ARE "women". If they were satisfied of the fact they would not have to keep exhibiting themselves on the stage or in bed.

A good many others, I am afraid, were essentially homosexual before whether they had experienced it or not, but the removal of male organs and the creation of an artificial vagina gives them the physical means and the moral license to bed down with men without the "gay" tag being pinned on them.

But for a TRUE TV or FEMIPHILE, surgery is not only not the answer, it would be the worst possible solution. This is because we are femiphiles because we ARE males. Points 1, 3, and 4 particularly of the 5 points discussed previously

are true precisely because it is the male in us that makes us yearn toward the female and which, therefore, enjoys the satisfaction of joining and entering the feminine world even though it is done symbolically. It is the male who sees the female as good, virtuous, beautiful and desirable. It is our maleness that drives us toward the boudoir and makes us want to merge with the feminine. Once we remove our maleness and drive via surgery we would no longer feel these motivations and the victory would be hollow. We would after great pain, cost, and struggle have arrived at a destination having in effect forgotten why we strove to get there and yet being unable to return whence we came.

No, my sisters, if you harbor the idea of surgery and at the same time qualify as a Femiphile by the definition previously given--FORGET IT! You reach toward it now because you see it as a condition in which you can be your beloved self with no social restrictions, in which you can you feel be "free". But you must realize that the desirability of this wonderful feminine state exists in your mind wholly and solely. BECAUSE YOU ARE A MALE with male hormones coursing through your system in effect telling you that the opposite sex is wonderful you are driven to reach out toward it. But--NO HORMONE--NO DRIVE TOWARD THE FEMALE--NO APPRECIATION OF THE FEMININE--ERGO NONE OF THE SATISFACTIONS THAT YOU NOW ENJOY! NO, surgery is not the answer--we just have to make the best of the situation we find ourselves in, and one of the most important steps in this direction is to come to understand as much as we can about the problem in general and ourselves in particular. When we can be objective rather than subjective about it we are in a way to begin to get some peace of mind about it.

The lot of the Femiphile is a difficult one. He must be constantly striving toward something he cannot obtain, knowing all the while that if he attained it he wouldn't really want it because he wouldn't be the same HE that was striving for it in the first place. Like many other things in life, it is the struggle toward and the reaching for something that provides the thrill and the satisfactions. Achieving the ultimate goal is a momentary and passing thrill

and then the glory of the fight is gone and there is left-- NOTHING. Women do not strive toward womanhood, they are in it for better or worse and it isn't by any means all the heaven that the male sees it to be in his imagination. The Femiphile hungrily waits for the occasion when he can put on his high heels, bra, girdle, etc, and "join the ladies". A woman enjoys the use of these items and the rest of feminine paraphernalia for what they can bring her in the daily competition of life, but she looks forward to arriving home and taking them all off and being free, comfortable and relaxed. (And if you wore even ordinary high heels all day you'd be glad to get out of them too!) We look to skirts as a relief, a change, a symbolic identification with that which we admire and yearn for and so we wish to get into them as often as possible. A woman who wears them all the time looks forward to the relaxation and freedom (from a modesty point of view) of slacks. Just look at most any woman at home by herself, doing her work and expecting no one to call----what happened to that glamour, beauty and attractiveness that we FPs dream about? BROTHER! what a let down!

So, Girls, let us enjoy the fight and the conniving for opportunity, and the stolen fruits that we get every so often while realizing that it is the very fact that they are "stolen" that contributes so much to their sweetness. Let us also try to understand our motives in a broad way so that we can lessen the pains, disappointments and frustrations that beset most of us.

Yours in FEMIPHILIA
VIRGINIA

NOTE: I know that this has been a tediously long column this time, but it was left out of both #5 and #6 so on the average it wasn't too bad. But it required length to elaborate the ideas presented. I'd like to think that they have hit a responsive chord in many of those who read the lines, but I invite comment and contribution both pro and con to be incorporated in #8 as a "DI-VIRGIN" Views section. (Peggie Addair's name for it)

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 * EDITORIAL EMANATIONS *
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Here we are with the first issue of Vol. II. We made it for the first year of life. Sometimes I wondered both if the magazine would and if its Editor would. It's been tough in time, money, and energy but we are now well enough established that I think we'll last---IF you readers can help the magazine to consolidate its position financially. By this I don't mean donations though I certainly want to thank those of you who have helped by over paying subscriptions and by outright financial gifts in the past. These helps have been plowed back into more pages, more postage, better mailing envelopes, more pictures and cartoons, slick paper and cartoons. But these advances must be maintained. So the help I ask of you now is to be sure that all of your personal contacts know about the magazine and if possible become subscribers. Many new subscribers have joined us since the early days, largely through the small write up in SEXOLOGY. They may not be aware that growth is not only necessary and desireable but that most of it must come from personal referrals. Doubtless new subscribers could be obtained by advertizing in various national magazines, but ads big enough to be seen costs a pretty penny and there aren't enough such pennies available, so I'm asking your help.

Another way that you can help is to take advantage of the Goods and Services advertisements and the features that have been arranged. I arranged the wig deal and worked out the custom made dress plan thinking that I would be helping a lot of you in the process and that in helping you it would help the magazine. For example, it actually cost me \$53 to print the 12 page folder on the dresses. I asked \$1 to cover costs yet to date I have had only 10 requests. I make nothing out of the dresses, trying to keep the costs down for you the prospective buyer, but I would at least like to break even on the printing.

Too many of you think of TVia like the Reader's Digest or other commercial mags. where everything is done by the publisher and all you have to do is to subscribe. Sometimes it is forgotten that TVia is OF, BY, AND FOR transvestites.

The mag is made up of the things you readers submit. It takes all I can do to collect, edit, organize, type, print and mail together with the necessary bookkeeping and correspondence. So when you like a particular thing help keep it in stock. For example, many of you have commented favorably on the cartoons, but only 2 of you have sent any in, and that supply is exhausted, so if there are to be more they will have to be sent in.

I would like to take this space to tender my thanks to those of you who remembered Virginia with Christmas Cards and in 3 instances with personal gifts. It is heartening to know that my efforts over the past year have been appreciated and that you think of me as a friend and sent cards or gifts. I wish I could acknowledge them all personally but I know you understand why I can not. I wish further that I could know you all personally but cannot. However, I have met several of you who have travelled through L.A. in fact Virginia has had a few "dates"--lots of fun, and I hope there will be more.

Now I have a new project that I'd like to spring on you. Many of you collect scrap books on TV but cannot possibly see all the mags. and newspapers published in various parts of the country. Also many of you have expressed the wish that TVia came out monthly. Now how would you like to have me put out on alternate months to the magazine a 4-8 page clip sheet made up of photostats of clippings from mags and papers? This would have to cost \$1 each or \$5 for 6 months due to the cost of subscription to a clipping bureau and the photo offset printing. It would not be feasible on this basis unless I could obtain at least 100 subs. So if you are interested you can send in your sub. I'll hold it in a seperate account and file till I get 100 and go to press with it, or if I dontget that many in a 2 months period I'll return the money or apply it against future issues of TVia. Please give me these alternate instructions when subscribing, and then sit back and wait for results.

In # 6 I assigned everyone Code Numbers for the purpose of protecting your identity should your letters fall into unintended hands either in the mail or here where I must

keep letters on file. Yet any number of you send letters with both your name and code. I dont need both. Send the Code number except when sending money which should have a return address.

If any of you have not as yet sent in your questionnaire please do so promptly. I want to start correlating them as soon as #7 is out and I want to have 100 to do it with so that it will all come out in %. So far the results look very interesting. I am sure we have here a batch of information the like of which no one else in the country, with the possible exception of the Institute of Sex Research, has. As time permits it will be used to advance the cause.

The matter of the extra stories that I referred to once before has not been forgotten, but I was late on #6 as you know (I got about 2 doz. letters all in a sweat with--"Where is it, I can't wait" Then the holidays came and then #7 which I've worked mightily on trying to get back on schedule, so I will be ready to start work on the first of the books this spring. Incidentally please dont get nervous when you don't get the mag on schedule. I have to earn a living too you know. I promise you that you will get each issue you pay for so just be patient. I cant take the time to answer these letters because it would just slow the whole project for everybody. If ever I give this up voluntarily or from some necessity you will get back any moneys you have paid.

The post office is still visiting various persons who are subscribers to TVia. Not because of the magazine itself but because the P.O. suspects that we harbor among our readers some who are guilty of postal irregularities. I make the same two comments I did before: (1) Don't send anything through the mails that can be considered obscene, pornographic or sexually stimulating. They'll get you if you do and you will be mighty sorry, and besides it gives a bad name to the whole group. (2) If you are visited don't panic. Admit to being a TV and try to explain that it is not immoral but merely a way of expressing an aspect of personality. Several of us in various parts of the country have done a pretty good education job already. Eventually by sheer weight the Inspectors are going to learn that TVism isn't bad.

=== PERSON TO PERSON ===

45. Would like to correspond with and meet other TV's especially in the Louisiana Area Terry--La.
=====
46. New TV, 22, Coll. Grad. tall. Wish meet and/or corres. with young woman who undrstnds. & accepts TV-friendship or dates, travel any reas. distance. Lonely, want acceptance and help. Will answer all Sandy--Conn.
=====
47. Annette, Cover Girl of # 5, wishes correspondence. Will meet any legit. TV in Pac.N.W, part. Spokane, Annette
=====
48. Avid TV would like meet others in S.W. Los Angeles area Like organize soeial club for enthusiasts. Joan--L.A.
=====
49. TV would like meet with and talk with another TV or intrstd. female 2x a month. Detroit area. Lucile
=====
50. Confirmed TVite like to corres. poss. meet others in VA,-TENN.-N.C.-S.C. area for discuss. & exploitation of favorite subj. Mutual confid. expect. Jerrie-N.C.
=====
51. Would like to corres. with and meet understand. girl or TV New England pref. Boston area. Will be personal maid. Also interested in Bondage Lois-- Boston.
=====
52. Lonely TV recently separated welcomes corres. and trading lit. on subject of TVism. Barbara--Calif.
=====
53. Nice looking, intell, refined yng. man desires contact with TV or understand. woman in N.Y.-Conn. area. Interested in TV, punishment etc. G.K.--N.Y.
=====
54. Wish to hear from TVs in & around Springfield, Mass. Maxine.
=====
55. Interested in contacting TVs or understanding woman in Houston, Texas area R.J.B.
=====

 * HINTS AND HELPS *

You will find it easiest to shave arms, legs and under arms with a Schick Injector Razor. For arms and legs get in the bath for 5-10 min. and shave while wet--its easy.

For the problem of lipstick that has to be easily removed try Helen Neushafer's from Woolworth, soap and water should do it and its cheap. Alice suggests using Westmore's paste rouge applied with a lipstick brush and blotted. She says it works good, looks good, and comes off easily.

Don't be bashful about plucking eyebrows or shaving arms and legs. Do it a little at a time over a period and nobody will notice the gradual change. Just don't let the stubble come back in the eyebrows. On arms and legs you don't have to get every single hair-thin 'em out by doing it here and there or lightly to cut them shorter. This should work for all but very dense growths. Watch women's arms and legs to see how hairy some women are and you won't feel so sensitive.

Readers ask about blouses coming untucked--there are strips which are coated with latex. These are sewed or pinned inside the skirt band and are tacky enough to hold the blouse in place. For shoulder straps that slip off there are strap holders available that pin inside the shoulder of a dress, they fold around the straps and snap back on themselves. There are replacement shoulder straps and bra-back extenders too for some of you with big chest girths. All these items can be gotten at notion counters.

Padding for curves can easily be made by using slabs of either foam rubber or foam plastic trimmed to shape with scissors. Worn under girdles and tapered correctly they give perfect curves and are undetectable. Make nipples too.

Proper shape, weight, softness and bounce of breasts can easily be obtained by using the inflatable falsies in your own size bra filled with the special jelly advertized in Goods and Services section. Those who have gotten them are really pleased at the natural effect obtained.

***** PUBLICATION POLICY *****

TRANSVESTIA is made up primarily of material submitted by its readers. Material is solicited on this basis:

- 1..Material is offered for publication gratis.
- 2..Material submitted will not be returned unless requested and a stamped envelope provided.
- 3..Material or pictures of an obscene or objectionable nature will not be published. The Editor retains the right to be the sole judge and to edit, alter, delete or refuse material when deemed in the magazines interest.

ADVERTISING RATES AND INFORMATION

PERSON TO PERSON SECTION: This section is intended to make it easier to make new friends--there are no other means available to TVs to get acquainted--SO USE IT! RATES: \$1 per ad per issue for up to 5 lines. Replies 50¢ in stamps (3s-4s) or coin. Send in open, stamped envelope to be addressed and mailed by the Editor. Answers to author of letters or articles accepted on same basis. The responsibility of TRANSVESTIA is limited to mailing replies, NOT FOR SUBSEQUENT ACTIONS

GOODS AND SERVICES SECTION: This section is open to those having items or services of use to TVs. The Editor asks to have any literature or pictures sent to him for examination prior to acceptance of advertising. This space is not open to those having pornographic material to peddle! RATES:

Full page (40 lines $6\frac{1}{2}$ verticle inches)	1 issue	\$20.00
Half page (20 lines $3\frac{1}{4}$ verticle inches)	1 issue	\$13.00
Quart. pg.(10 lines $1\frac{1}{2}$ verticle inches)	1 issue	\$ 7.00

TRANSVESTIA is published approx. every 2 months. Rate \$4 per issue. Send material by 15th of month preceeding issue. Address all mail to CHEVALIER PUBLICATIONS Box 36091 Los Angeles 36, Calif. Do not address mail to TRANSVESTIA

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