

# Thirteen Years a GIRL-HUSBAND.



woman. I decided to become a man would be the best way to protect myself and Miss White. Accordingly I bought a suit of men's clothes. I became a man. I remained a man until the Judge commanded I should be a woman."

## FEMALE MAN AND CHUM WERE NURSES.

The record of Miss Anderson is without an equal in the United States. Frequently it has been recorded that women of low character have posed as men, and women have posed as men so they could be soldiers. Never before had it been recorded that women of good education, such as Miss Anderson has, have become men for any considerable period and played the role so successfully.

The affair started in Cleveland, Ohio, soon after the two girls left Provident Hospital, Chicago, and started out to get work as trained



frequenting dance halls and was flirting with other women. From that day forth Marie was beset by sympathetic neighbors, who told her her husband was lazy and worthless.

"You don't catch me going to work every day like you do," one of the women told the wife. "My husband supports me. It's all I can do taking care of my house and my seven children."

"I have no children," said Marie. "Besides, my husband helps me do a great deal of the housework. He does all the heavy work. He is a good husband. I have no complaint to make. I love my husband, and besides, it's none of your business. Get out of my house and never let me catch you speaking to me again."

The outburst caused the neighbor to talk to other neighbors and soon they began wagging their



Miss Cora Anderson of Milwaukee, Wis., is again wearing women's clothing and is playing a woman's part in the Wisconsin city where she was arrested after marrying another woman under Wisconsin's eugenic law, successfully representing to Wisconsin's marriage license officials her mannishness.

For thirteen years Cora Anderson was a man. She went under the name of Ralph Kerwinio and was supposed to be the husband of Mary White, known to the world as Mrs. Ralph Kerwinio.

All would have been well had Ralph been content to live with Mary White, but if he was going to be a man he thought it would be well to be a villain of a man, and pretty soon word was passed around the firesides of Milwaukee that Ralph Kerwinio was a bigamist. "He" had married Dorothy Kleinowsky, whom "he" met at a dance hall. Mary White got jealous of the second wife, and that is why Ralph Kerwinio is again Cora Anderson.

Thirteen years in men's clothes had caused a great change in the point of view of Cora Anderson. Deprived of the usual feminine attractions of life, she learned to like men's way of living. While she started on her career as a sensitive female of the species, loving to make Battenberg, she developed into a masculine edition of the human race, passionately fond of frequenting poolrooms and barber shops.

How Cora started on her career she told a correspondent for this paper after she had been discharged in the Milwaukee Police Court on a charge of impersonating a man. The Judge only admonished her to wear women's clothes in the future. Over in the Civil Court the Judge annulled her marriage to Dorothy Kleinowsky and told her she could try her luck in the matrimonial sea again.

"I became a man," declared Cora Anderson, "because I needed work and because my chum, Marie White, and myself were constantly being subjected to annoying attentions from men. I wanted to protect Miss White and myself. I have Indian ancestry and consequently my skin is dark. Because of that I was accosted frequently by men. They seem to pay more attention to women with dusky skin than to blondes."

"Men as a rule are cowards. They insult women in a disgraceful manner when the women are without male escort. When a man comes along, no matter how runty and insignificant, and takes the woman's part, men respect the



## Cora Anderson Tells How She Fooled the World by Posing as a Man, and Even Married a Woman Under the Wisconsin Eugenic Law.

nurses. They were registered at several places, but their calls were few and their money ran out. Then they raised enough money to get to Cleveland, where they hunted for any kind of work. In Cleveland they were not employing women.

After Miss Anderson became Ralph Kerwinio she went to the Hollenden Hotel in Cleveland and found employment as a bell boy. She was very adept and was a favorite. She earned tips readily, but feared to remain there because she had appeared in Cleveland as a woman and feared detection. With her supposed wife she went to Milwaukee, where she went to work as a bell boy in the Plankington Hotel.

Soon Kerwinio began to regard himself as a man. She looked upon herself as the natural provider for the home and never al-

lowed any man to insult Marie White. She learned to fight and could give a good account of herself in contests with men. She worked with the men and joked with them. Now that she is through associating with them she has a poor opinion of man in general, says she never would marry a man, now that she knows so much about them. She thinks women are much nicer than men and cannot understand how any woman could fall in love with a coarse creature known as the man.

In Milwaukee the couple rented a flat and began their struggle life. So regular were the habits of both that the neighbors thought they were the most model couple they had ever seen. Kerwinio at first came home regularly and the two enjoyed each other's society exceedingly.

Then Kerwinio's associates invited him to go with them to the poolroom. Many times she was induced to go to the barber shop with men, and though she never submitted to a shave, she would sit around the barber shop and chat with men who had real whiskers. It was supposed she shaved herself at home, if anyone ever thought about that at all. At the poolroom she became a favorite, playing a good, heady game and winning often.

One night after she came home Miss White met her at the door in a towering rage and gave her a terrific scolding for remaining at the poolroom so late. Kerwinio liked to play the part of a man, but the part of the wife was growing irksome to Miss White. After several years she began to realize she was growing old in company with

the fake husband. She saw eligible men marry and pass her by because she was supposed to be a married woman. One day she called Kerwinio into the kitchen and demanded that "he" wash the dishes. The husband refused. She then argued that "Ralph" don woman's clothes and appear for what she was.

The husband laughed and refused. "You're growing coarse and mannish," complained the wife. "I know it," smiled Kerwinio. "Your character will be spoiled," said the wife. "Last night your clothes smelled of tobacco."

That was from being out with some men who smoked," protested Kerwinio. "I got their tobacco smoke on my clothes." The wife kept on complaining. The neighbors had been talking. They told Marie her husband was

heads toward her when she passed to go to work. While she defended her husband openly, in secret she had many sad, sad moments. She wept, and Kerwinio, man like, did not like weeping women.

That brought on the final row and Kerwinio left the house, never to return. The neighbors gossiped awhile, and then other scandals arose to keep their tongues busy and Marie had peace of mind again. She asked her acquaintances to call her Miss White, and although all thought she was a married woman, they acceded to her request. The big separation was six months ago. People scanned the papers for news of the divorce, but there was none. Marie evidently was not going to get a divorce.

Ralph had long quit working as a bell boy and was a clerk in a store. One night last winter, shortly after

CORA ANDERSON in men's and women's attire, in several poses. To the right of center is Dorothy Kleinowsky, the "Second Wife."

the separation he went to a dance hall and met Dorothy Kleinowsky. "It was love at first sight on my part," says Dorothy, "and we became engaged. I grew tired of the life at home and told 'Ralph' he must marry me at once or it was all off. He went out and procured the certificate required by the eugenic law and we were married by Edward J. Burke, Justice of the peace.

"I did not know until just before 'Ralph' was arrested that 'he' was not a man, and it almost broke my heart, but I determined to stand by 'him' and be 'his' chum if I could not be his wife."

"Miss Marie White told my employer my secret in revenge for my leaving the house," said "Ralph," "but my employer was game and never gave the story away for two months—not until Miss White, finding my employer was not going to do anything, tipped it off to the police.

"But no one can find that I have done anything wrong," Kerwinio, when arrested, charged with disorderly conduct because she masqueraded as a man, pleaded not guilty. Turning to the arresting officer, who had often seen her, the Judge asked the following questions:

"Did this woman, as far as you know, wear male attire for immoral purposes? Did you ever see her do anything vulgar?"

"No," said the patrolman. "While in male attire, how did she act?" the Judge continued.

"Like a perfect gentleman," was the policeman's answer, much to the amusement of the spectators who filled the police court room in Milwaukee. And this is the verdict of almost every third man in the city who knew Ralph Kerwinio, well and never for a moment suspected that "he" was a woman. After hearing many more witnesses Judge Page could not find the charge sustained and this "gentleman" who sat so composedly through the trial was allowed to go free with the command that she should resume her woman's dress in the future.