



The Femme Forum



NUMBER 16
SEPTEMBER, 1968

Welcome back to Femmeland after a long, hot summer of mixed emotions. For most of us (the whisker-set) the warm weather and its effects do not blend too well with make-up. There's nothing quite like a two-hour session of "getting ready", only to sit down in a very feminine way to relax and then proceed to melt. Now that's not to say that it still isn't worth it all, but it does make "being beautiful" a bit more difficult! However, we somehow all managed to survive and here we are in great anticipation of the cooler months. And speaking of Fall, Geri, 49 K-3, has some words to say about the "new fashions" for this social season in a very clever editorial.

FASHION THOUGHTS

The September issue of McCall's magazine, in addition to its usual contents (including some moderately wild fashions), has an article that has as its topic a subject that has been receiving a lot--perhaps too much--attention: "What are Women Doing to Men's Clothing?" The author, one George Frazier, takes a dim view of what is happening to men's styles: "the revolution in men's fashions--the long hair, the ruffles, the splash of gaudy colors, the tunic jacket.... All the efforts toward male elegance would never have got very far without women to urge and encourage; all the flamboyant apparel on display... the evidence of effeminacy in male clothing, would have withered on the vine had it not been for the nagging influence of all those females.... By now it should be quite clear that there are any number of couturiers who, having implemented their hatred of women by making them seem boyishly breastless.... apparently intend to emasculate men by hard-selling them into dressing effeminately."

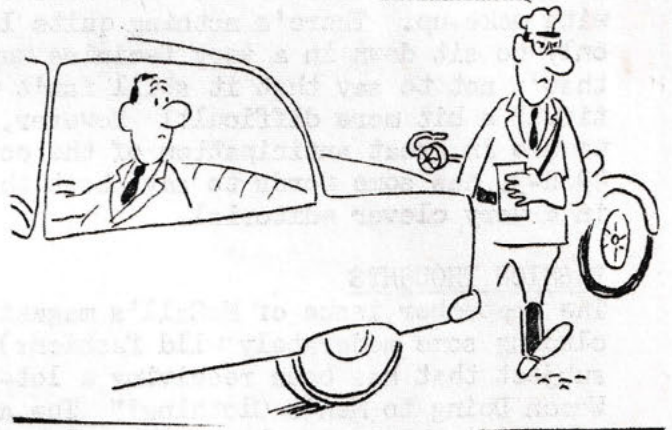
From this point, Frazier leaps into a quotation from Charles E. Winick's book, The New People, pointing out the "desexualization in American life" and seconding Winick's prediction that the "radical dislocation of sexual identity" may one day be regarded as "the single most important event of our time." And so on. It is really difficult to finally summarize what Frazier's point is, for he celebrates the downfall of the grey flannel suit--a bit wistfully, however: "For the grey flannel suit, the aping aspect of it aside, did not dominate its wearer. It was the man, not the suit, that caused admiration...."

There are several things that should be commented upon in this article--confused as the author seems to be. First, the significance of the article as a whole,

appearing in one of the leading women's magazines, suggests several things: the relative insignificance of the topic (the reader must answer the question of whether magazines like McCall's creates or reflects opinions--or if, as I suspect, it reflects the standard-branded type of mentality typical of the middle class, which tends to be no mentality at all.); the fact that the author repeats several times, "women just don't know a thing about men's clothes." and then adds slyly that the women are really interested in introducing their menfolks into a kind of planned obsolescence; "By urging her husband to embrace the peacock look, (the wife) can feel a little less guilty about her own expenditures on clothes." That last point is typical of a male author writing in a woman's magazine--it all comes down to money, and the fact that the wife is attempting to castrate her man.

While I could go on at extravagant length about all this, I think it time to leap into the theme of this editorial: the clothing revolution. Ever since Newsweek magazine ran an article on "Unisex" about two years ago, the trend toward more latitude in male clothing (and one must note, it's counterpart) has been the most popular topic for magazine articles since the last time Liz left what's-his-name to marry that "other guy."

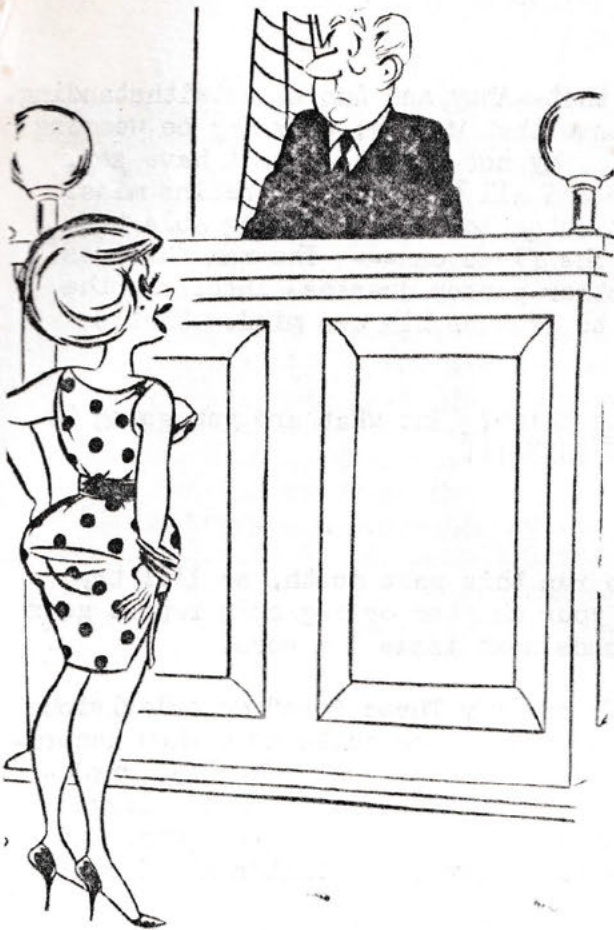
Why? Why the great concern? One-half of the articles seem to take the stance: "Hang onto your manhood, men! If necessary, we'll take up a hold-or-die position, fortified in the barber-shops and pool halls, gas stations and sporting-goods stores across the land!" The other half are just slightly more prurient than those two masterpieces of pornography (at least I'd label them obscene), True ("The MAN'S Magazine", baby) and Woman's Day (have you--can you--read the letters to the editor, the ads, or the medical column without blushing?). These latter views are the ones that point, with audible giggles, at the new innovations, especially among the young, bless them! who do all the right things--for the wrong reasons. Five years ago, a young man with shoulder length hair, earrings and beads would be openly giggled at; today, only the very old (in mind, if not in age) do this. Of course, much of this was done deliberately to annoy the older folks, especially parents.



"It's worth a try!"

The fact remains that a revolution took place. The theme of women's fashions this year (vide McCall's) is--"Do your own thing!" In modern society, that seems the only sane thing to do, doesn't it? Do your own thing. Be yourself. In a society that has reduced the individual to a numbered identity--area-coded, zip-coded (no criticism of our recent reorganization of members according to zips--in, fact, I think I suggested it), with social-security numbers, employee-numbers,

the



"I call it 'My own thing'!"

ad infinitum, the only way an individual can know he exists, is to assert himself. What better way than to express himself by his clothes. "Your own thing."

In a real sense then, we TV's have anticipated society. We have been doing our own thing for a long time--the only problem being, we learned to do it in a defensive manner. We learned that it was most often the clothes--and not the man who excited admiration. How else explain the success-orientation of such a high-percentage of us? We want to be admired for both reasons--the success ideal typically (but not normally) masculine, and the physical attractiveness (typified by not only dress, but a phenotypical ideal--the rounded silhouette of the female). Up to now, society has only permitted an individual a choice of one of these reasons--and that choice was made on the rather arbitrary distinction of the primary sex-glands present at birth.

All that seems to be changing. And, what's wrong with a woman encouraging and urging a male to be more free in his dress-- must the motive be only mercenary? I

fear Mr. Frazier has problems in this area. Mayn't the woman a) appreciate the need to adorn oneself (see Virginia's thesis on this point); b) be erotically aroused by the male in his finery as well as the reverse (as of course it is in the lower orders of animals); and if it was the grey flannel suit that let the man be admired not the clothes, doesn't this indict women in general? And yet we all know women we admire as women--regardless of the clothes they wear. Will we be able to say, twenty-five years from now, that "The skirt-and-blouse (insert your favorite ensemble)--did not dominate its wearer. It was the man, not the skirt, that caused admiration." Perhaps. Maybe ten years? Maybe two? Why not this year? Is this a good year to introduce the home folks, the close friends who are "So Understanding" but you aren't really sure of? Find out! Do your own thing!

I'd make a small bet (very small), that the following campaign would be reasonably successful: start wearing a skirt around the house--that's all, just a skirt and your moldy T-shirt. Let your hairy knees show. You'll get laughed at, but what the hell? Inside a week, two or three of your (remaining) acquaintances (probably the women) will advise you that it would look better if your legs were smooth--and the rest is history. Inside six months, you can wear your loveliest--and I'll bet some of your male friends will join you--How many times have you been at a costume party when some male (beside yourself) was wearing a dress--How many males showed their admiration or envy? Think about it.....

I have a theory (based on my own life) that a great part of TVism is caused by the repressions of society. My father used to chide me that if I continued acting in a certain, non-orthodox manner (whatever I was doing)--I should "start wearing dresses." So I did! Now, who had the problem? Him or me? I solved my problem, he's still hung up.

Are TV's super-normal? I wouldn't discount that--Abby and Ann L. notwithstanding. The kids today may not become TV's in the sense that we are; they may be wearing clothes indiscriminately, regardless of sex. Why not--clothes don't have sex, people do--that's the point that Mr. Frazier and all these other cretins miss. There's a traditional story in biology about entomologists not being able to tell male and female fleas apart. However, the fleas can--- The man who sees a manifestation of perversion in the way another person dresses-- insofar as the dressing is an end in itself--had better do to examine his own mind. That's where the perversion is.

Let's have some reaction on this--what do you think? And what are you going to do about it? This is the year: DO YOUR OWN THING!!!

SHEILA IN TV-LAND

Laura writes that Brother has had her on the run this past month, so I'll try to fill in - but PLEASE don't be furious if your chapter or region's report gets left out! Laura will tidy up all my loose ends next issue I'm sure.

Before getting into those details, did ANYONE see "My Three Sons" on television August 17th? None of us in Pi did, but it must have been quite some show according to the newspaper account: "Poor William Demarest, as Uncle Charley, graduates from apron attire to full blown camp style as a chorus girl in the lodge talent show. Circumstances force him to travel home in his dress and wig, and he winds up in jail after belting a would-be Cassanova", and that's ALL I could find out. Any witnesses?

Let's give Fran's new system a work-out, and see whether those Arab numerals can really replace my wierd Greek code:

#980 and 835 had another ball at Annette's place in Idaho last June with Gina 44 S-1 as reporter. Those present included Marilyn, Brendalyn, Vicki, Florence and one other whose name I didn't get, plus 5 wives, at the "Happy House on the Hill". Even had the wife of a local policeman there, just for fun as he's not a TV. Gina traveled up all dressed in a nice Capri outfit, but with her brother's head on top of it; there was no comment from the various people they encountered and only one raised eyebrow! Incidentally, Vicki is planning to take a tour of Stockholm, Copenhagen and London next month, and I hope I've set things up for her there.

#940 had the experience of a visit from Avis and myself, the latter in full dress for the first time there since 1963! The six visits in between were in work clothes, and I

Quote from Readers Digest:

"The saddest words of tongue or pen.....The hems are coming DOWN again!"

Be warned, as ye sew, so shall ye rip.....

Sheila



"Well, I made it to the laundry room and back!"

was starting to get a reputation there for being one of those characters who just TALK about dressing but never happen to have "it" with them. (When I lived in California, we had REAL phonies, but now even some of the phonies are artificial!) We had a delightful evening at Crystal's with no less than 12 members and 4 wives. Sorry, I didn't get all the names, but Jan picked us up and returned us to our hotel, and Phyllis was, as always, in the center of things making sure all went well. By way of contrast, we had dinner with Jan's brother next night, and a more sedate trio you could not have found. He showed us marvelous parts of the Bay City no tourist ever sees, and NO, we did NOT go to Finocchio's.....Last day, we squeezed in a lunch with Dr. Benjamin, just in from the East. He is slowing down, he says, and only working "a little", which means only about as hard as most people half his age. A few weeks after we left, he broke the big story in the San Francisco Examiner: Dilantin, long used to control epilepsy and suggested by Dr. Walinder in Sweden for "cooling off" TV's who show TS leanings, has proved effective in dealing with the "gender role confusion" in some hippies! This certainly is important news, and of theoretical as well as practical interest.....



"There seems to be a feminine touch around here!"

#900 had a visit from us also and we made the Alpha meeting for the first time in two years. Many new faces, quite a few old friends missing due to the rapid population turnover in LA. Inez writes, in her inimitable ALPHA ACTION newsletter, that July was lots of fun with a wig stylist present at the meeting. The subject of that meeting was "Sharing Experiences" and it went very well. Next meeting subject will be "Passing"; wish I could be there. I have more than a suspicion that when lots of us "pass", we are just treading on the average citizen's fear of "getting involved", and fooling no one but ourselves!! So HATE me for saying it, but I can tell you tales that would turn your very earrings white.....

#770 had a visit from my brother, who gathered with Sally for one hurried hour back in June. She has written me since, too, with a tale of troubles: Catherine moved to California before Sally could even meet her; Jennifer left for the Coast and Sharon, whom they hope to meet this month, is

leaving for California in December! Linda Ann, another good member, moved to Florida. So what is Texas to do? With this rate of loss, Sally is as far from a Texas Chapter as ever; but Laurie and Dee are loyal supporters.

#440 brought forth 3 reports, all about the same: A dull summer, but hope that Virginia's appearance in Cleveland will help things along. Mabel reports prospective members in the area, but has not been able to organize any action there yet. Meanwhile, she keeps up her program of dress a little EVERY day; score at

present - 365 + 245 consecutive days in 1967-8! Quite a record; she also logs the hours of femme-dress, and it's well over 10,000 now, since she retired from the stage in the Prohibition-time speakeasies.

#300 report from Ann [redacted] was almost entirely concerned with her trip to Mexico; a wonderful trip. She visited at length with Barbara Ann and Ana Bertha; also met Arturo, our non-member correspondent there who has been so helpful with clippings and information, and may now join up after all. One sad note: her car was broken into and all her photographs stolen! She asks that all readers who have negatives with her on please share them with her to fill the gap.

#210 has sprung into life from two years in the doldrums. First, a visit here from Deanna, 20 Q-1, the lovely President of the newly formed Rho Chapter. She, Dorothy Ann and I discussed the future of FPE while our wives discussed OURS. Next weekend, Avis and I returned the visit and met Linda, Jeanette, Beverly and Irene, PLUS a 100% turnout of wives - the first such that I remember. To top it off, Jeanette's children were there till bed-time, calmly accepting the whole scene(though I think my brother's drab costume struck them as out-of-place among the colorful sisterhood). Irene turned out to be an old-timer who knows most of the NJ and NY groups. They had great plans; I'll let Deanna tell in her own words how the August meeting went:

"Members of RHO(RHOdodendron) Chapter, including GG's, enjoyed their first annual outing during the week-end of August 10-11 at a secluded spot in the beautiful Shenandoah Mountains, thanks to the hospitality and arrangements of our two charming hostesses, Jeanette(20 R-1) and her GG. To them we owe a vote of gratitude and thanks. For two days the "Girls" lived as girls enjoying the mountain air and household chores(?) and making Eastman Kodak Co. a tiny bit richer!!!

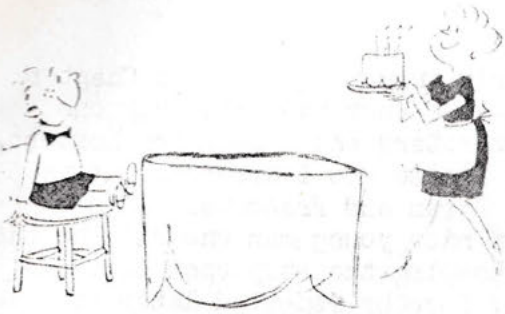
Linda Jean took over the kitchen(with some assists from the GG's at times), Jeanette served as hostess, Deanna took over the barbeque and Beverly Jean was busy with outdoor activities. Her attempts to get 'Meano' the strawberry roan horse back into the corral almost ended in disaster; only injury though was a ruined hairdo!



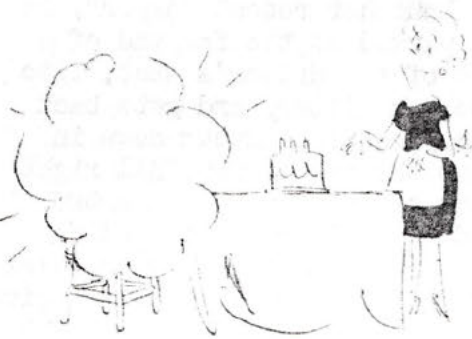
On Saturday it was shorts and blouses and sweaters, and Sunday, due to the cooler weather, house-dresses, and it was quite a picture to see four 'girls' trying to get a stubborn car started; the trouble was finally located in one of the gadgets under the hood, the grease cleaned off it and one perfectly running car again. A steady rain on Saturday evening ruined plans for a campfire meeting, so it was indoors and a meeting around the dining-room table, followed by pizza. Sunday, several explorations of the surrounding country-side were made followed by fried chicken and then a trip to a nearby lake; all then ready for the journey home, tired, but with many pleasant memories."

#142 Region's Bobbie had a fine meeting when Virginia went through and put on a show on their television station in Rochester. They have plans for regular meetings there as soon as the memberships build up, but right now, the problem is the common one of too few members per square mile.

"An F.P. must have imagination."



#100 is showing signs of life after a few of us had given up on the problem of NYC. Conny has agreed to be Interviewer. She is the operator of a sort of "story-club", an informal library of unpublished TV literature, and should do well at this new assignment.



Kathey had an adventure; let her tell of "The Rise and Fall of Kathey.": "Dropping a friend at rockaway beach - found free parking available, no beach fees, no crowds - so decided to stay a while. Soon was prancing around on the beach, in and out of the water with skirts up to her knees - or higher. A glorious few hours, feeling free and feminine, at ease in her surroundings. Then the discovery: PURSE WAS STOLEN! Everything, both sets of car keys, money, license, social security, identification letter by Dr. B. Hysterics, but enough presence of mind to cry like a true woman. Lifeguard noticed her distress. He had found her purse in a paper bag near his tower.....Prayer of thanks to Kwam Yum.....Only the money and cigarettes were gone, plus brother's watch(which he didn't miss for 3 days).



Krazy Kitty bounces back; out again next weekend, same time, same place - only this trip with a bathing suit! And the purse in the car, and the keys pinned to the suit. Not a bikini, just a conservative middle-aged lady's suit - and the car gimmicked up with spare keys and dollar bills like something from Agent 007's garage...No more gambles like that one, and NO desire to learn what would have happened if the thief had kept the purse!

"Birthday Wish"

#070 Region has been quite disorganized with my travels, Dorothy Anne and Heidi moving and the Summer vacations. Sandra promised me a review of the movie "The Queen", but it will have to wait. However, on the plane coming home from LA, we saw "The Shakiest Gun in the West" which includes a TV scene not mentioned in the publicity releases. Don Knotts gets disguised as an Indian girl to rescue Barbara Rhoades(a lovely 6-ft. redhead) and promptly passes a test that should happen to every TV who is over-proud of his femininity--a squaw hands him a BABY! I would just die, I know it. Also on the plane, found a fascinating account in the Readers Digest(July, pp.223-264) by the mother of a schizophrenic boy who spent many years and a fortune having psycho-therapy for him, only to learn from the last of 9 doctors that schizophrenia is a PHYSICAL disease, and therefore about as easy to "psych" away as typhoid fever. But, of course, TV can't have a physical basis; just ask any psychiatrist.

Between trips, Avis decided to turn out the closets and see what we could give to Good Will. After going through both of hers and discarding everything she didn't absolutely need(3 wire hangers and a plastic bag), she got to work on the one I share with my brother, and did better there; so Will didn't go away empty-handed, after all.

#060 also had a visit from Avis and myself in early August. The Gamma Chapter is really wheeling, and it was amazing what a turnout they had with only one week's notice, but Dorothy is a most efficient secretary and a charming hostess, too. Due to the tough scheduling, only Dorothy, Eloise and I dressed, but we had the brothers of Doris, Barbara, Lisa, Betsy, Karen and Francene. Also 4 wives, and the girl-friend of Eloise, plus a very nice young man who will be the "official" hair-dresser for the Chapter. He is keeping the shop open late one night a week just for TV work, all quite private; Dorothy reported later "excellent work at a good price. They hold, too." They were to meet again in Sept. at Lisa's, then a big party at the club they visited last year for Halloween. They have a new member, Ellen. Karen told us all about her recent "caper", in Dorothy's words: "Picture a TV with a panel truck parked at the far end of a huge shopping center parking lot. Brother pops out of the driver's seat, into the back of the truck and a little while later, emerges sister, and gets back into the driver's seat. Sister notices squad car approaching, ducks down in seat and pulls off wig. Next a deep voice says into the cab window, "All right you there, let's see your driver's license. Get out of the truck." A crowd gathers as our girl Karen is questioned and frisked and driven off to police station. There, more questioning about her jewelry and her attire (blouse, mini skirt, opaque stockings). They book her for drinking (3 beers) and will not give her a dime to call her lawyer. She gets dime from a station visitor. After 4 hours in a cell, our girl is released and picked up by her GG. It seems that two men dressed as women were shoplifting in a large department store at the Shopping Center. Police were on the prowl and TV sitting in truck can be suspect. No charges were pressed and our girl Karen has promised to be more careful next time she has the urge to dress.

This little caper by one of our youngest chicks indicates how badly we all need lessons in feminine comportment (bearing, dressing, thinking, etc.). We can never know when we are in the right spot at the wrong time. Perhaps we need to develop a method for measuring our passing effectiveness....a method with a minimum amount of hazard. Any ideas, girls?"

FPE-NE reports a rival magazine has sprung up in Holland. Called WOCAS, it is only 8 pages per month for \$5 a year. Frankly, it looks like a pretty indiscriminate crowd they plan to reach, and I cannot recommend it to any FPE type. Anette is watching it for us. She is also looking forward to another interview, this time with Sten Hegeler of the Danish paper EXTRABLADET, to result in a whole-page article like that in TVia #52. Their Gerda will be visiting here at Kathey's, Susanna's and Diana Joyce's in Sept. Also, Erna reports a project to print hundreds of copies of "Introduction ti TVism" in German and distribute the literature to several countries. FPE is proud of this effort by the members of Sweden and Denmark and is pleased to give a financial hand in this effort. Good luck, girls.



"All the guys are doing it, Pop!"

MEMORY OF

It has come to the attention of your editor that a former active FPE member has passed away. Edwina 13 M-1 died during the summer. I knew Edwina personally for several years, and came to deeply respect her courage. Edwina lived alone all of her life, never having the good fortune as many to find a help-mate. She knew what loneliness and family scorn meant because she lived through both many days of her life. Yet this person still felt that she owed the world something because of the happiness she was able to find within the harmony of her own personality.

So Edwina worked and worked to prepare a little impersonation act that she hoped would be accepted by the public. She finally gave her presentation at a church function and to her personal joy, was very well accepted and appreciated. She went on to give nearly 100 such performances, always neatly dressed and made-up, to groups of elderly people in retirement and institutional homes. This was her way of letting people know that a man who wears a dress is not an ugly thing, but can be a very surprising and acceptable form of expression. And so, Edwina has now gone, but in respect to her courage, let it be said that she pleased many and found a way to help wherever she could.



"Alright George, go buy yourself a new dress!"

NEW FPE MEMBERS

Let's extend a most warm welcome to several lovely ladies who became new members of FPE since our last issue of the Femme Forum. We will list our new members according to their respective regions. From Region #980, Donna 37 B-4, Laurene 5 N-7, Cathy 5 B-29, Nitas 5 C-8 and Teddi 5 P-8; Region 940: Sharon 28 H-1, Janet 5 H-21, and Laurie 18 K-1; In Region #800: Marylynn 50 M-1; Region #630: Florence 25 S-2; Region #600: Betty 13 K-1, Barbara 13 B-7, Freda 13 F-9 and Nancy 13 L-4; Region #550: Geraldine 34 B-1; Region #480: Joyce 22 C-3 and Anne 22 W-3; Region #460: Esther 14 H-3; Region #440: Jo Ann 35 A-3 and Dorothy 48 M-1; Region #270: Janice 33 L-1; Region #210: Wendy 20 S-3; Region #190: Susie 38 F-3; Region #100: Josephine 32 L-2; Region #070: Wendy 30 R-3; Region #060: Barbara 21 S-3, Ellen 21 D-3 and Joanne 21 C-1.

NEW INTERVIEWER APPOINTED

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Heather 7 D-3 as our Interviewer for Florida. We are also still working on obtaining new Interviewers for several other areas in dire need of help. We will hope to have more to report next time.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES

Silicone is NOT the girl's best friend, it says in the TIMES (and if it's in the TIMES it MUST be so)...Though the date-line is San Francisco, and you can't be sure what the AP man there just finished smoking....It seems that the injections have a tendency to wander around the body, if not done with the utmost care, and while it IS what's up front that counts, one Las Vegas dancer found her internal falsies moved around to her back and in another, the stuff slid down to the groin! Had to be carved out, too. A third one got it into her blood stream (it is a clear viscous oil sort of like Nujol but inert chemically) and went to her eyes; spots were so bad she's had to be led around for a year. What price glamour?

If you want to be safe, get a tough plastic bag of stuff implanted just under each breast; but it costs \$2,000, while the injections are only \$50 apiece, with 8 or more required. The operation is legal, the injections are borderline, and may be outlawed soon.....So there goes another dream; better stick with Virginia's jelly-bra, which leaves something to be desired, but is SO easy to take off when you've had enough femininity for a while!

Sheila 30 B-2

Enter the new "Feminine Forever" pill, a combination of female hormones, estrogen and progesterin which although basically designed to eliminate a variety of post-menopausal symptoms, certainly sounds like the answer to every TV's prayer, at least insofar as the name implies - "Feminine Forever".

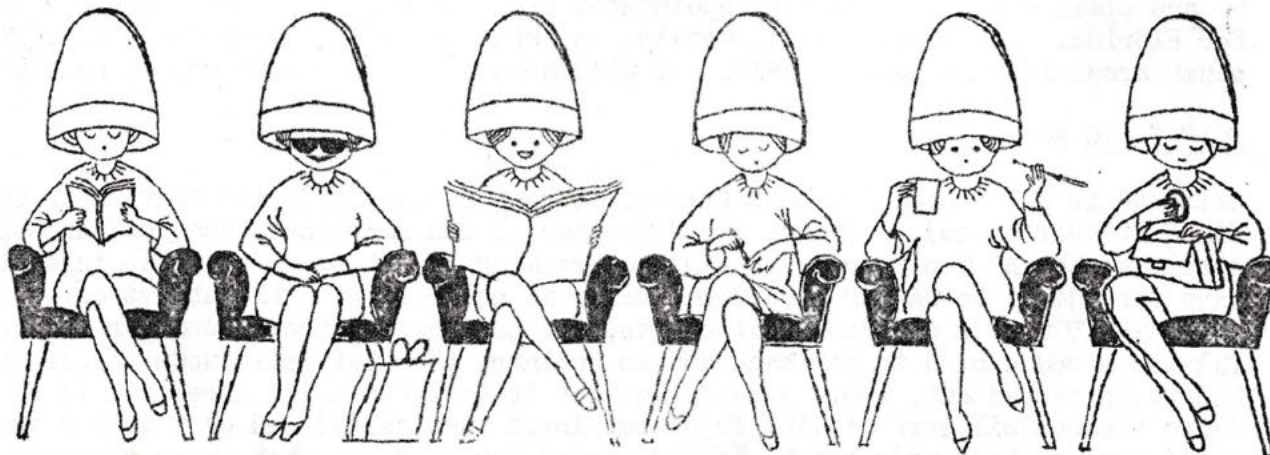
Who can say that there might not possibly be some "fringe benefits" for TV's, who will not be interested in the prevention of menopausal symptoms(at least I don't think so!), but may be interested in the retardation of wrinkles and dry skin. (Count me in on that!) Wouldn't it be wonderful though if we could have some clinical tests made to determine the effect of these "Feminine Forever" pills on the average TV!

Deanna 20 Q-1

BOOKS, BOOKS, BOOKS.....LITERARY GUIDE BY Geri 49 K-3 FPE

Not to continue harping on one string all the time, but the literary column this time will be a little different. Your literary chairlady(sic) spent the summer preparing for a doctoral examination at the local University. There hasn't been a great deal of time to do much reading for pleasure. Several things however, are worth mentioning: The July 3 issue of Variety had a review of the Club 82 impersonation shows, so you might check your local library for back copies of that.

One of the scandal tabloids(Candid Press, weekly, 25¢ a copy, published in Chicago) has been running a weekly column called "Spotlight on Impersonation", written by Pudgy Roberts. He is currently running a campaign for the booking of more impersonator shows, etc., but obviously has a slant for the amateur TV as well. At present, he's running a "most beautiful gown in the world" contest: you write in with a drawing and/or description of what you consider the m-b-g-i-t-w to be, and if you win, it will be custom-made for you. If you are interested, one way or the other, the address is Candid Press, 2715 No. Pulaski, Chicago, ILL. 60639.



"Which one is the FP."

I promised a review of some of the surrealistic fiction that uses TVism in one way or another, but haven't got it done yet (I can't remember some of the authors, and will have to get up to the library again and look them up.) You'll find TVism (although in a minor fashion) in the novels of Thomas Pynchon (V. and The Crying of Lot 49) and the novels of Andrew Sinclair (especially Gog), but I want to review these at greater length in connection with some others. I recently had to re-read Virginia Woolf's Orlando, (part of the PHD exam) and would recommend it, in a minor way for those of you who haven't seen it yet. Best part: you can get it at the local library without alarming the little old ladies who guard the books.

In connection with the editorial, I also urge, again for those who haven't seen it, that you read Nigel Dennis's Cards of Identity (now available in paperback). Especially read the section entitled: "A Dog's Life: a case of sexual misidentity." Hilarious--and thought-provoking.

One of these times, I'm going to do a review of TVism in contemporary drama. No "happening" is complete without it (see any of the recent publications on themes, scripts, etc., for "happenings". Better yet--have one yourself.) Alas, since the notoriety of John Osborne's A Patriot for Me, both TVism and HO, for that matter, has become a part of our theatre. The Staircase is a good example (supposedly to be made into a movie starring Rex Harrison as the "wife"--in drag, and Richard Burton. Oh, well...). I recommend Osborne's play (available for about \$2 in hardcover; check your local library or bookstore (Books in Print) for the address. The local Univ. bookstore has carried it as a required text for a course in contemporary British drama. The theme of the play is HOism in the German army (Vienna), but the whole second act is a scene at a drag ball--of interest in a mild way, and the hardcover version has photos of the British company. In the meantime, there are about 15 more, and I'll include a list and synopsis in one of the next columns.



I want to thank Aldene 2 G-1 for forwarding a list of paperbacks. If any of you have come onto anything, please send a note via Fran, and we'll mention it here. Aldene mentions the following (although I don't know if these are available or not--): Unnatural Desires by Vin Saxon (Publishers Export Co., Inc., Box 3223, El Cajon, Calif.)--a fiction story of a TV, "her" GG and others; Whisper of Silk, same author and publisher, same story line; Running Wild by Myron Kosloff (menticns TV) and The Transvestite by Charlie Sachs, same publisher as the Saxon books, and about the same story line. This info is courtesy of Aldene, for which I thank you. Please--any of the rest of you--if you have something new (or old, that has been omitted), drop us a line. Nearly forgot: Connie 32 V-1 sent a copy of A Gun for Honey--a Honey West thriller that uses the same gimmick as Kiss Your Elbow--a TV killer.

Guess that rounds it out for this one gals.

Femininely yours,

Fran 49 C-1 FPE
Executive Secretary

"This is not Mommy's dress, it's mine!"

