

LONGMONT DAILY
TIMES-CALL

Transsex

OCT 19 1976

1304

COLORADO
PRESS CLIPPING
SERVICE
DENVER, COLORADO 80204

Sex-Changed Voter Certified by Clerk

By SPRINGFIELD LEWIS
BOULDER — Charles [redacted]

[redacted] is now Jill [redacted]. And that's fine with everyone concerned, except that the name change threw the Boulder County Clerk's Office for a loop.

On Oct. 3, 1974, [redacted] registered as a Democrat in Boulder County.

In March of this year, [redacted] became Miss [redacted] through a legal name change in the Superior Court of the State of Washington.

Four months earlier, [redacted] made a more drastic change. A castration was accomplished in the first phase of his transformation to a woman.

(The final phase of the changeover involves a \$2,500 operation, in which the male genital area is shaped into a female genital area. Jill said "the final bit is a big change." The operation probably will be performed at Stanford University in Palo Alto, Calif. Jill still needs to have her beard removed, and may have her nose reshaped. She presently is taking estrogen hormones orally and her sister, a Boulder physician, is giving her therapy treatment.)

As Jill, 31, said in an interview in her apartment shortly after midnight Monday: "It wasn't a rash act ... it was something done with deliberation."

On Sept. 15 of this year, Jill filled out a change of name and address for voter registration at the county clerk's office.

Nancy Wurl, chief deputy of the county elections division, said the difference in the penmanship of the [redacted] and the [redacted] signatures "is what jerked my chain." The [redacted] signature has a definite backhand slant while the [redacted] mark leans slightly forward.

The form was brought to County Clerk Clela Rorex's attention last week. Besides the penmanship change, the switch from a masculine to a feminine name was evoking comments.

"We've never been faced with a name change like that — from a man to a woman," Ms. Rorex noted.

Ms. Rorex said she "followed up on it personally to make sure it wasn't a hoax." However, if the change was legitimate (as it was), Ms. Rorex said she wanted to ensure that Jill would not be disfranchised when she voted in the Nov. 2 general election.

Jill will be eligible to vote. The 5-foot-11, blue-eyed Jill said she did

not ask the clerk's office to make any decision on changing the gender listing.

She sees the switch on the voter registration form as a simple name and address change.

"A person is entitled to that ...," she said, sipping 99 cent cocktail sherry from a beer schooner in her \$100-a-month apartment on the Hill in Boulder.

Although Jill is not concerned presently with being registered as a woman, Ms. Rorex envisions the possibility of change of sex forms becoming a part of the electoral process.

"Obviously, it will become a more and more common occurrence. We have to prepare ourselves for it," she said then paused, adding "administratively."

Secretary of State Mary Estill Buchanan and Betty Chronic, director of the Colorado State Elections Division, could not be reached this morning to give an opinion on the development of a sex change form.

Jill, who dyes her short brown hair blonde ("because blondes have more fun") said she is "a liberal" when it comes to politics.

"I'll most likely vote for Carter, but Ford has done a damn good job. He hasn't made any gross errors and hasn't been caught doing anything bad," Jill said about the President, whom she described as having "a 1976 Father-Knows-Best image."

Jill voted for Ms. Rorex two years ago because of the county clerk's liberal policies. Ms. Rorex gained fame last year when she issued marriage licenses to two males.

Rep. Tim Wirth, Democrat from the Second Congressional District, received Jill's support in 1974 after "he handled himself well" while fielding questions from "blood-and-guts radicals" during a campaign visit at the University of Colorado.

Jill said she will not vote for any of the local candidates because she has not read much about them.

But, she visited Boulder County Democratic and Republican headquarters and picked up various campaign buttons, which she displayed on a cloth draped across her dresser mirror.

The Carter-Mondale and Ford-Dole tickets were there along with Wirth, his GOP opponent Ed Scott, and Bob Bowron, District I Boulder County commissioner Republican candidate.