

Redwood City, CA
Tribune
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Transsex

JUL 1 1977

Allen's P. C. B. Est. 1888

Transsexual 1304 marries prisoner

VACAVILLE (AP) — The bride, in an ivory-colored gown, arrived in a powder blue limousine.

As photographers snapped, the slender blonde Katherine Anne Marlowe Bies, who was born Kenneth Bies in Des Moines, Ia., in 1926, went into the prison to become the first known transsexual ever to marry a California convict.

It happened Wednesday at the California Medical Facility in Vacaville.

Ms. Bies, 50, married Robert Lonnie Barnes, a 29-year-old convicted murderer.

They had met two years earlier when Ms. Bies was lecturing on transsexualism at San Quentin Prison.

Prison officials said the marriage was approved after a check of Stanford Medical Center records on Ms. Bies' 1973 sex change operation.

Prison spokesman Phil Guthrie said Barnes has a parole hearing in October.

Barnes, asked by reporters why he married Ms. Bies before parole, said: "Love and loneliness. I have met quite a few women before Kate. But who knows when loves strikes?"

San Francisco, Calif.

Examiner

(Cir. D. 163,391)

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Transsex bride, 1304 convict groom

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Explained Bies: "Lonnie's been in prison for nine years. He knew long, lonely dark nights. So did I."

After years of restlessness, she went to the Stanford Medical Center.

"Through evaluation, I discovered that I would be happier as a woman," she said, adding that the operation cost \$10,000.