

Girl Masqueraded As Boy; Fooled Police In 3 States

GOLDEN, Colo. (UPI)—Barbara Ann Malpass of Albany, N.Y., who impersonated a 16-year-old boy for six months and fooled police in three states, relaxed in a skirt and nylon today, but fretted about her crew cut.

The 20-year-old fast talker said her imposture began six months ago when she left New York to "see the west."

"I was scared to death," Barbara Ann said, every time she was confronted by police. But they never caught on.

She sneaked sponge baths during her 37-day stint in the Jefferson County Jail at Golden. Once she picked a fight to keep from having to share a cell with a boy.

"It just got rolling along and I couldn't stop it," Barbara Ann said, tugging her skirt over her knees. The 5-foot, 8-inch lass had her close-cropped hair hidden beneath a scarf, but her stockings revealed very feminine legs.

She trimmed her brown wavy hair into a duck tail when she set out from Albany on a hitch-hike adventure through 25 states. She admitted she stole money in Golden in July, and soon after was arrested at Anderson, Ind., for hitchhiking.

She slept in three different jails, but each time convinced police she was Charles Richard Williams, 16, a Shoshone, Wyo., orphaned runaway.

Though she weighs 125 pounds, her loosely-clothed figure fooled even Sheriff Art Wermuth of Golden, the U.S. Marines' "one man army" on Bataan and a Medal of Honor winner.

She had to talk her head off to keep well-wishers on Wermuth's staff from sending her to Boys' Town, Neb.

"I'm glad it's over with," Barbara Ann said. "I'm happy to be myself again."

So good was her impersonation of a boy, Deputy Sheriff Sam Teague made her get a crew cut.

"He said he didn't want me looking like a young hoodlum with a duck tail hair cut," Barbara Ann said. Only a wisp of bang showed beneath her scarf.

After 37 days in the Jefferson County Jail, Barbara Ann was permitted to move in with Deputy Teague and his wife in September.

The Teagues doubted her multiplying fabrications about a Wyoming orphanage background. But Barbara Ann stuck out her masquerade, and even got a man's job, laying carpets.

"She kept her tongue going so fast we didn't know what to believe," Mrs. Teague said. "Looking back we can see some of her habits were very feminine. But at the time we didn't suspect a thing."

Teague came upon a letter Barbara had written to her parents, which gave Barbara Ann away.

"My parents live in a small town and all of this will hurt them," the girl said. "They were dumbfounded when they learned about this impersonation."

Undersheriff Lew Hawley said he asked the parents to wire plane fare so Barbara Ann could return home.

"But the parents told us to let her take her medicine," Hawley said. "They refused custody."

Barbara Ann wants to go to college or art school, and become a book illustrator. She has done numbers of sketches for members of the sheriff's staff.

"She's a talented artist, very intelligent, and, we think, possibly with some psychiatric help, that she will turn out all right," Wermuth said.

Wermuth sent her fingerprints off to the FBI in Washington, but heard nothing about them. She impressed everyone as so sincere and redeemable, no charges were filed, though she admitted taking \$75 in a house burglary with a boy she met.

Finally Wermuth let his prisoner move in with the Sam Teagues. She has no immediate plan to go elsewhere. And Wermuth said.

A kangaroo, at birth, measures less than one inch.

Commission Plans Appeal

SALEM (AP)—The state Tax Commission said Thursday it plans a state Supreme Court appeal from last week's decision that the state cannot tax federal lands leased to private citizens under the Taylor Grazing Act.

The decision was handed down by Circuit Judge Ed Howell in Grant County.

Judge Howell said the right to graze cattle on federal lands under this act is not a lease, but merely a license, and therefore is not taxable.

Oregon state law provides they can be taxed.

There are 800,000 acres of such leased land in Oregon.

Grant County has the largest amount, 160,000 acres and Klamath County is next with 90,000.

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Former Revlon Official Says He Alerted Network

WASHINGTON (AP)—A former Revlon official says he alerted the CBS network in September 1958, that something funny was going on with the "\$64,000 Challenge" TV quiz show.

George Abrams, then vice president for advertising of the cosmetic firm that sponsored the show, said his own first inkling of rigging on the program came in March 1958.

Abrams told the House subcommittee investigating TV scandals that in March a "Challenge" contestant, Arthur Cohn Jr., complained that his opponent was fed answers in advance.

Abrams, testifying Thursday, said he accepted the show producers' explanation that it was only a mistake. He said he was told Cohn's opponent was given a ques-

tion during a warmup session that the devil with them for being so careless." later, through error, was asked him on the air.

The next instance, Abrams said, Abrams added that he "raised" came in September 1958, when the answers in advance.

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