

THE FAIR MABEL

UNDER ARREST

Female Impersonator of David Kyle Has Been

CAUGHT AT BENWOOD.

Released by Justice Lacey Upon Intercessions of

Wheeling Woman—Some More Interesting Revelations About Mabel's Recent Career.

The bogus Dave Kyle, who is Mabel McElhaney, the bewitching woman who has been masquerading in boy's clothing for months past and who was cabin boy on the steamer Ruth, has at last been rounded up. Saturday evening about 8 o'clock she was arrested by Officer Atwell Yost, of the Benwood police force.

Earlier in the evening the officer got word that a woman dressed in man's attire was at the fishing camp of the Central Fishing club at the north end of the Narrows, below McMechen. He immediately boarded a car and was soon at the camp.

As he walked down the bank he noticed that with the exception of one young man, who was seated uncomplacently on the bow of the boat, the campers had disappeared. The policeman looked all about the grounds and yet saw no signs of the girl. Boarding the boat he approached the supposed young man and said:

"Who are you?"

"Oh, I am me," was the reply.

"Well, you are just the person I am looking for," said the officer. At this the boy began to cry as if his heart would break, and it was at this juncture the discovery was made that the young man was none other than Mabel McElhaney.

YOST SURPRISED.

The fact that the supposed boy was a girl was a very startling revelation to Officer Yost, as she had all the appearances and manners of a boy. Her hair was cut short and even her neck was shaved. She was dressed in a man's shirt waist, grey trousers and a pair of lace shoes. She wore no collar. She and the officer took a car bound for Benwood. Although the car was well filled with passengers, none of them for a moment supposed the very good looking young man seated so quietly at the side of the policeman was a tender-hearted girl. In some manner the fact became known and the supposed boy was soon the cynosure of all eyes.

INTERCEDES FOR HER.

When the couple arrived at Benwood they went to the office of Squire O. A. Lacey. Mrs. S. O. Boyce, of Sixteenth street, who had ridden up on the same car, also went to the office and requested the squire not to send her to jail. Justice Lacey complied with the request and she was turned over to Mrs. Boyce.

Later in the night it was ascertained that the young woman was under Mrs. Boyce's care and that at that hour, 11:30 arrangements were being made to place her for the time with charitably disposed people.

FROM TYLER COUNTY.

Mabel comes from Sistersville, but has been masquerading in man's attire for some time. When she first came to Wheeling she wore a blue uniform which would indicate that she had been a bell boy or something similar. That was about a year ago, and nobody then suspected that the handsome youth, Dave Kyle, was other than "he" represented "himself" to be.

A little over a week ago she came to the wharf at Moundsville and asked for a job. She was given a position as cabin boy and made four trips on the boat, sleeping with the cabin boy of the other watch against her own protest. The boy testifies that she always slept with her clothes on and never talked to him at night. She was quite a favorite among the members of the crew and would sit for long stretches at a time and talk with the clerk, Roy Moore, and second clerk, Earl Kline. She told them all about the Buffalo exposition, having herself been there, and she showed great familiarity with everything connected with the big affair. She also told of painting a stack somewhere down the river, which was of such a height as to

cause an ordinary girl to be afraid.

WORKED AT VARIOUS PLACES.

It develops that she also worked at a number of places in Wheeling, at all of which she was successful in concealing her sex. She was working at painting here for a while and she also worked about three months at the Wheeling stamping works, as well as working at one of the feeding presses of the News' jobbing department. Some sensational papers have had her working on the railroad, but there is nothing in the story, as she could not pass the examinations required without disclosing her sex.

SHE'D HER GOLDEN LOCKS.

Mabel left her home at Elk Fork, a little oil town back of Sistersville, three or four years ago, after first getting a friend to shear her long golden hair. She has two brothers and a father still living in that town, but her notoriety seems not to have reached them.

The fact that Mabel has everywhere endeavored to hide her sex and go as a boy out and out goes in her favor. She explains her reasons for masquerading as a desire to earn an honest living in the most practicable way. She said to a friend who called on her regularly before she left home that she could earn a living better that way.

She will probably be held here until her father can be communicated with. Her mother is dead.—
Wheeling News.