

# HEARTACHE OF SEX-OP BRIDE

**THE radiant bride cuddled up to her husband and the cameras clicked to snap the happy wedding scene.**

It was a moment that Paula du Barry once thought would never happen. For, until three years ago, she was a man.

Then Paula had a sex-change op. and was officially registered in South Africa, where she lives, as a woman.

But the married bliss of Paula, who used to be known as Paul Barry, didn't last long.

## Vanished

Two days after she married bronzed, blond Englishman Richard Porter in Johannesburg, a woman turned up at their luxury penthouse home and insisted that she was already married to Richard.

There was a row and Richard moved out — never to be seen by Paula again.

That was six months ago. Last week, Paula flew to England to search for her husband.

He had told her that his father ran a pub in

**By TREVOR ASPINALL**

London and she visited dozens in her quest. She also made checks at the public records office in a bid to trace him.

Paula told me: "I now want to get a divorce so I must find him. I have a new fiance—a Hungarian boxer."

Paula, 34, is a well-known socialite in Johannesburg.

Richard said at the time: "It was like electricity when I met Paula, I love her because she is with it and extremely modern in her sexual outlook."

Paula, now back in South Africa, told me on the phone yesterday: "I can't get the marriage annulled unless Richard is found."

"I know people don't have much sympathy with people like me, but our hearts can break just like anyone else's."



Paula and Richard on their wedding day.