

April Ashley drops 'I'm a woman' fight

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By T. H. JOHNSTON

APRIL ASHLEY'S legal battle to prove she is a woman appears to be over.

The model who underwent a "sex change" operation 10 years ago, has had her appeal against a Divorce Court judge's ruling that, legally, she is a man, struck out.

April, now 35, went through a marriage ceremony in Gibraltar in 1963 with Mr. Arthur Cameron Corbett, 50-year-old heir to Lord Rowallan.

Last February, after a 16-day hearing, during which nine medical experts gave evidence, Mr. Justice Ormrod held that the marriage ceremony was void and granted Mr. Corbett a nullity decree. He found that she was a "biological male."

The case was the first in which a court in England had been called upon to decide the sex of an individual. Now this could be the end of her battle to prove that, since an operation in Casablanca in May, 1960, she is a woman.



April Ashley

£2,000 into court as security for the appeal hearing.

But the judges ruled that April should pay £500 within 28 days. If it was not the appeal would be struck out and Mr. Corbett could apply for the nullity decree to be made absolute.

The money, I understand, has not been paid—and the decree has been made absolute.

£5,000 from
newspaper

Last June, after she had lodged an appeal, an application was made on behalf of Mr. Corbett for security of costs.

Mr. Joseph Jackson, QC, for Mr. Corbett, told the judges that April had received £5,000 from a Sunday newspaper and he asked that she should pay