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ewing krainin



YOUNG MAN WITH A CAMERA

The girl at the right is really Marian Sorenson, of Minneapolis, but most Americans know her as Chili Williams, glamorous New York model. After Ewing Krainin, the photographer, had taken this almost-accidental picture of her, he and Harry Conover, the model man, had to dream up a quick professional name. They came up with Chili Williams.

"I think it's one of my bad pictures," Krainin says, "but I guess there's just enough girl sticking out to make it interesting."

There was. The picture first ran in *Life* magazine in September, 1943. To date it has chalked up an all-time high in requests for reprints—mostly from former service men. The score up to now is 219,000 requests.

"The silly part of it is," says Krainin, "that I made the suit myself. I went to Macy's and bought a yard and a half of polka-dot material. Then I used scissors, and Marian and I—pardon me, Chili—fiddled around with it. We achieved this suit, which is strictly safety pins in back. It could never go near the water."

Krainin is probably one of the fifteen top photographers in America. He is dark-haired, 34 years old, full of steam and zingo.

He has what you (and we) would call a nice life. A year ago he went to Bermuda with six Conover models for six weeks. But he



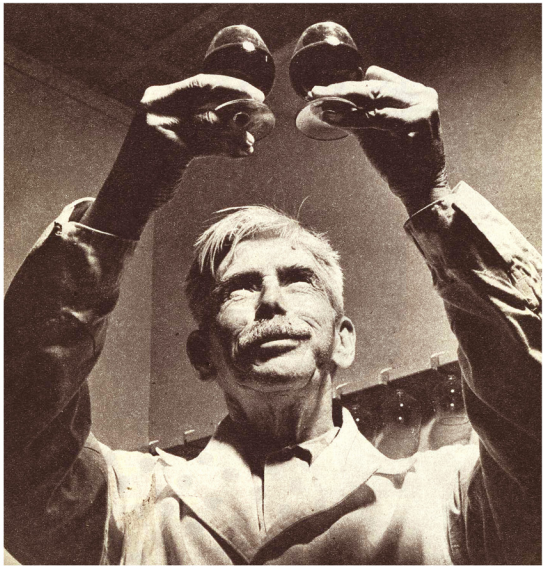
says that being a lone bachelor along with six girls was no good. Six were five too much," he explains it.

Lately he has done a three-weeks' job for the Army Air Forces—which is nice work too. He had to photograph bases and beaches and jungles for the Caribbean Air Command, from Puerto Rico to Venezuela.

Krainin has worked in the Chicago stock yards, at the Boston fish pier. He worked in two New York hospitals; he cut Christmas trees; he drove a trailer truck. He figures that he held 30-odd jobs before he finally drifted into photography.

He's apparently there to stay. The next eight pages are examples of his work.

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This is a commercial picture, of a wine tester. Krainin gets deep feeling into it.

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This one of the two girls in nightgowns is high-fashion, in which Krainin specializes.

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This is the A-Bar-A Ranch in Wyoming. The cloudscape shows Krainin's versatility.

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Krainin works with shadows. The girl is Athalia Ponsell, a Conover beauty.

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Damien Shaw stands on the Bermuda beach at sunset. Still another Krainin mood.

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