GILBERT'S "What Young People Think"

Sure, They Plan To Ask Dad's Permission, But In The Clinch, They'll Marry For Love

By EUGENE GILBERT

Memo to parents: if you're worried about what to tell your marriageable sons and daughters when they come to announce that the question has been popped, save your cares for another day.

Chances are that no matter what sage advice you have to give about the proposed match, it will fall on love deafened ears.

They'll listen in respectful silence (if you are lucky and don't provoke an argument) and then go out and do precisely as they please—particularly if you say no.

In a nationwide survey of recently married young couples, we gleaned these two conflicting trends:

1. Boys and girls still ask their parents' permission to get married.

2. Boys and girls marry the partner of their choice, regardless of whether it is the partner of their parents' choice.

Formalities Still Followed

So, Mom and Dad, before preparing a soul searching speech on why Johnnie shouldn't marry that little blonde from the other side of the tracks or why Susie should forget the butcher boy, listen to these statistics on the futility of trying to deflect Cupid's arrow:

Fully 83 per cent of the young husbands and 91 per cent of the young wives we interviewed said they sought the approval of their parents before marrying.

But, of those who followed this procedure 93 per cent of the grooms and 87 per cent of the brides said they would have married anyway — with or without their parents' permission.

The old days of the timid suitor anxiously asking Father for daughter's hand may not exactly be gone forever, but the scene isn't the same.

In nearly nine cases out of 10, Father is being subjected to a mere formality. If he puts thumbs down on the match, he may be faced with the choice of either giving the bride away unwillingly or having her go way on her own volition.

The same of course goes for boys, even more so since the percentage is higher.

Despite this independent attitude towards their parents, most young people still ask parental permission to get married and most of them receive it.

On a comparison basis, this is what happened:

They Still Ask Advice

Taking the survey group as a whole, 72 per cent of the young husbands and 90 per cent of the young wives sought someone's advice before getting married.

Of these, eight out of 10 boys and nine out of 10 girls went to their parents for advice; 8 per cent of the boys and 4 per cent of the girls went to their clergyman, and 4 per cent of the boys and 1 per cent of the girls sought the advice of a marriage counselor. Only 8 per cent in either group sought the advice of someone other than those mentioned, presumably a friend or relative.

In most cases, the parents were receptive to the idea. But 29 per cent of the boys and 20 per cent of the girls said they were turned down by one or both parents. What did they do? They got married anyway.

The type of advice that they sought from all these sources, however, did not pertain to sex education, at least in most cases.

Of the more than 750 young couples we interviewed in various localities across the country, only 23 per cent of the husbands said they learned the biological facts of life in their own family circle.

The girls had a somewhat higher average, with nearly 29 per cent learning about life from their parents.

Hollywood Ideals Spurned

Only 10 per cent of the boys and 13 per cent of the girls were taught sex education in school. Less than 3 per cent of both sexes depended on their church for this vital information.

What of the rest?

The rest, in this case, happens to be the majority. Sixty-five per cent of the boys and 55 per cent of the girls said they received their sex education from friends of their own age and sex.

Was this a case of the blind leading the blind?

It may well have been. Only 53 per cent of the husbands and 46 per cent of the wives felt adequately prepared for marriage.

This does not mean, however, that they were disenchanted about romance or had any starry-eyed illusions about love.

Less than one per cent of the boys and, surprisingly, none of the girls attributed any importance whatsoever to the Hollywood definition of romance.

Most of the young married couples we contacted had their share of problems, but these were very real and far from idyllic.

Money The Problem

Money, for instance, loomed as the largest problem on the marital horizon. And it was the wives, rather than their bread winners, who did most of the worrying. Both husbands and wives ranked financial matters as their most pressing problem, but not in the same numbers. Among the girls, 63 per cent voted for money as a leading problem, as compared with 39 per cent of the boys.

Next on the problem list came in-laws, who seemed to bother 31 per cent of the boys and 17 per cent of the girls.

About 23 per cent of both boys and girls encountered some marital difficulty over a difference in personality and taste between themselves and their mates.

Sex despite their admissions about a lack of sex education, was a major problem to only 3 per cent of the boys and 5 per cent of the girls.

And less than one in a hundred among these young married people had any trouble with such areas as religion, politics and a difference in educational background.

One final question revealed that in modern marriage the husband no longer holds the purse strings. When it comes to money, 64 per cent used a joint bank account, 19 per cent had separate bank accounts for husband and wife and only 17 per cent had bank accounts in the husband's name only.

Questions Asked in This Survey

Did your family approve of your marriage?

Would you have married anyway if they had not?

Did you seek advice from anyone before marriage?

From whom? Parents? Clergyman? Marriage Counselor? Others?

If not, did you feel any less prepared for marriage

Where did you receive most of your sex education?

What are the greatest difficulties in making a marriage work?

Do you and your husband have a joint bank account, separate accounts or an account in the husband's name?

Next Week: Kids and Cops. What Do They Think of Each Other.

IS THE DAY of the bashful, fumbling, stumbling suitor gone?

Former Russian Officer Tells How Agents Are Trained

WASHINGTON (AP) — A former Russian officer who defected to the West gave the court-martial of M. Sgt. Roy A. Harris an account Wednesday of how Soviet espionage agents are trained and how they operate.

He was Reino Hayhanen, a former lieutenant colonel who turned against Russia and testified at the trial of Col. Rudolph Abel, convicted of espionage in Brooklyn, N.Y., last October and sentenced to 30 years.

Hayhanen, a short heavy-set man in dark glasses, was called by the prosecution at Rhodes' court-martial on espionage charges after prosecutors suffered at least a temporary reverse.

For something like an hour, Hayhanen gave the military court a repeat lesson on the training and operations of a Soviet espionage agent, similar to his testimony in the Abel trial.

An FBI agent was forbidden to testify about what the prosecution described as a confession by Rhodes. The bar may be only temporary.

U. S. Ships To Appear For Rose Festival

WASHINGTON (AP) — A cruiser, three destroyers and a submarine will participate in the 50th Golden Anniversary Portland (Ore.) Rose Festival in June, the Navy announced Tuesday.

In a letter to Rep. Norblad (R-Ore), Capt. W. C. Chambliss of the Navy identified the ships as follows:

USS Los Angeles, cruiser; the USS Twining, USS Colahan and USS Shields, destroyers; the USS Redfish, submarine.

—NEA Telephoto

AMBULANCE BOMBED—This ambulance was hit during the French reprisal bombing attack on the Tunisian village of Sakiet-Sidi-Youssef, near the Algerian border. Tunisian officials claim that at least 75 persons were killed in the air raid, including women and children.

Local Grange Groups Have Bridge Visitors

Eleven members of Bridge Grange, Coos County, visited the Melrose Grange recently and presented a program following the business meeting.

John Koch, manager of Diamond Lake resort, showed a number of colored slides depicting activity and scenery at the lake during each season of the year. His wife presented accordion numbers and his two sons played violin duets accompanied on the piano by their mother.

Visitors were also present from Riversdale, Lookingglass and Fair Oaks granges. Pomona Grange master Emmit Walters was present and spoke of projects planned for the coming year. A report was given by Mrs. George Showers, agriculture chairman.

It was voted to sponsor a public card party Feb. 15 at the grange hall to raise funds for the polio foundation. Virgil Woodruff was appointed general chairman.

Refreshments were served during the social hour following the program by ladies of the grange, reports correspondent Nettie Woodruff.

Some Leading Economists Dispute Ike's Forecast

NEW YORK (AP) — Some leading economists declined to go along Wednesday with President Eisenhower's forecast the "beginning of the end" of the business slump will come in March.

Dr. Jules Bogen of New York University declared:

"I have the fear it isn't going to be that easy. Our economy has been weakened by a very prolonged boom and by great increases in debt."

Retail economist A. W. Zelmock said:

"I would say the low point in general business will be reached within the next several months. However, the upturn will not be as rapid as in 1954. This will be especially true as regards employment."

Dr. Marcus Nadler, economist of the Hanover Bank and New York University, said:

Only "Talking"

"I doubt if you'll see any increase in manufacturing employment in March. So far the government has been talking but not doing anything. Talk does not produce orders."

New layoffs and cutbacks were reported Wednesday in the chemicals and oil industries but one electronics firm, the Stromberg-Carlson division of General Dynamics Corp., said it would increase its present 7,700 workers to 10,000 by the end of the year.

The developments came in the wake of layoffs and furloughs by railroads, air lines, aircraft manufacturers, auto, metal, glass and rubber companies. The jobless climbed to nearly 4½ million last month, sharpest monthly rise since the end of World War II.

Presley Robs Army Barber Of Opportunity

By JAMES BACON

HOLLYWOOD (AP) — That Army barber who yearned to scalp Elvis Presley's sideburns won't get the chance.

The rock 'n' roll singer is sporting a normal haircut for his current and last pre-induction movie — "King Creole." And it makes him look quite handsome.

Producer Hal Wallis, who got an eight-week deferment from Elvis' draft board, finally let a reporter on the set to talk with Elvis. He said he didn't cut his sideburns off because of impending Army duty.

"I've worn long sideburns in all my other movies," he explained, "so I figured I'd be a little different in 'King Creole.'"

Elvis finishes the picture March 14, takes a train for his home town of Memphis and expects to be at Ft. Chaffee, Ark., by March 22.

Mural Rejected By Commissioners

PORTLAND (AP)—Commissioners took a look at a modernistic painting and summarily rejected it as a mural for the new Portland airport terminal Tuesday.

"What's that?" asked one commissioner, when shown a painting by Louis Bunce, Portland artist. Bunce had been commissioned at $300 to deliver a sample for a possible mural.

Two of the commissioners for the Port of Portland, which operates the airport, thought such a mural would be "a great conversation piece," but the others said they will begin looking now for a photo montage, or landscape paintings or even a map of the world.

One commissioner said the painting may be given to the Portland Art Museum.

Bunce said he was trying in his painting to create a sense of movement "such as one would feel in air travel . . . to get the feeling one was looking at the flatness of the earth and seeing how everything twists and turns."

11 Japanese Scientists Evacuated By Sea Plane

TOKYO (AP) — Eleven Japanese scientists were evacuated by sea plane from the antarctic expedition station Wednesday and flown to the Japanese rescue ship Soya Maru, expedition headquarters here reported.

The 2,700-ton Soya Maru along with the U.S. icebreaker Burton Island were bogged down in ice 78 miles from the Ongul Island station of the Japanese scientific team.

The plane also carried six sled dogs and the headquarters here said efforts would be made to evacuate 18 other dogs left behind at the base.

Witness Testifies Red Party Taught Violent Overthrow

GREENSBORO, N.C. (AP) — A witness who testified a Communist Party school taught that violence was the only way to overthrow the American government faced cross-examination Wednesday in the re-trial of former Communist Junius Irving Scales.

Scales, 37, is charged under the Smith Act with knowingly belonging to a group advocating the violent overthrow of the government.

William Garfield Cummings, 46, a South Carolina Negro now living in Toledo, Ohio, gave the testimony in U.S. middle district court here Tuesday from notes he said he made at a Chicago party training school in 1945.

Cummings quoted an instructor as teaching "blood would run in the streets of America" in the fight for party objectives.

Cummings took the stand after a former Communist, Mrs. Barbara Hartle of Evans, Wash., completed testimony. Defense Atty. Telford Taylor of New York sought in cross-examination to show she was far from the highest Communist echelons while a member of the party.

She had testified on the violent nature of some party teachings she received.

Taylor asked her if she had any information on the party in the Carolinas while she was a Communist and she replied: "No, none at all."

Church Picketed On Showing Film

PORTLAND (AP) — A church-sponsored film exhibition went on as scheduled Tuesday night despite a picket who walked up and down in front of Benson High School here.

The picket was placed at the school by the Theatrical Employes Union, which said the First Presbyterian Church had not hired union ushers and ticket takers.

Union business agent Russell Phelan said he considered the affair show business and not church business because the film, of wildlife adventure, had been extensively advertised and admission charged.

R. E. Kennedy, a church spokesman, said "we do not intend to back down now from our plan to use volunteers" as ushers and ticket takers.

Kennedy is president of the church's board of deacons.

Bodies Of Four Young Cousins Found In Creek

DUBLIN, Va. (AP) — The search for four young cousins, missing a day, ended Tuesday with the discovery of their bodies in the icy waters of Peak Creek near here.

They were Tommy Rigdon, 10, and Danny Rigdon, 11, brothers, of East Liverpool, Ohio, and Edward Lee Booth, 15, and his brother, John Clinton Booth, 10, of Newbery, Va.

Authorities said the boys apparently had been sliding on ice covering the creek — a tributary of Claytor Lake — when the covering broke, dumping them into the 10-foot water.

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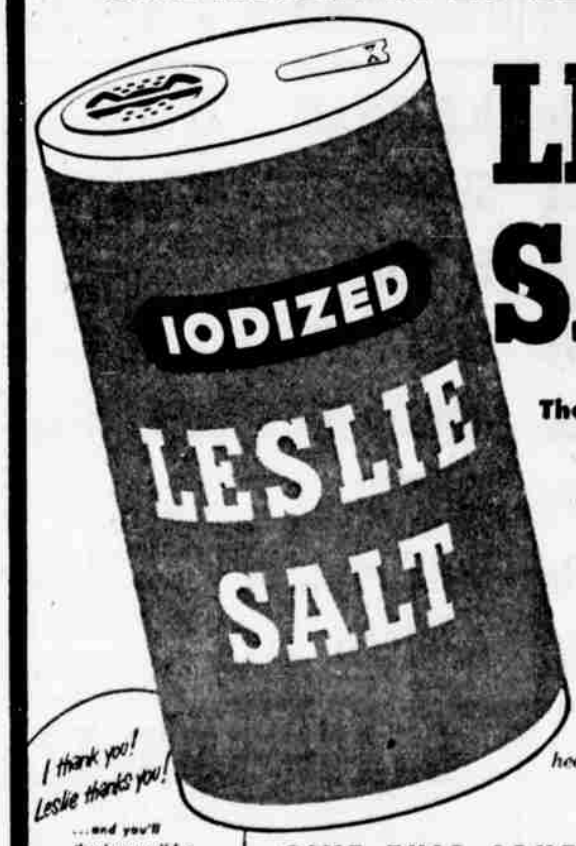

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