

# Family Council

**Steve:**—Our boy keeps growing hostile.

**Freda:**—I dare not tell Steve the whole story.

**Steve:**—For the third time this year, our only child, a boy of 15, has stolen money from the house and used it to run away from home. Each time, we have hushed the matter up, forgiven him and tried without success to find out why he does these things.

I'm afraid the same sort of thing is coming on again, and I would like to know some way to head it off. I try my best not to make things hard for him and not to irritate him, even though he constantly irritates me.

I have never been able to get him to run an errand willingly. On several occasions, when he showed a surly attitude, I withdrew my request. Now, I avoid making them. He often arrives late for meals, keeping me waiting, but I restrain myself and say nothing. When I used to discuss his report card with him, he seemed to resent it, and now I just avoid the subject. No matter what I do or do not do, he grows more antagonistic all the time.

**Freda:**— Things are even worse than my husband believes. I do not begin to tell him all annoyances that the boy causes me. My husband knows about the three times he stole money to run away, but he does not know about all the times the boy has charged things at stores to me and even borrowed cash that I had to repay.

I think the main trouble is Steve's temper. He knows he has a bad one, and he can't talk to the boy because he can't trust his temper. That is why I can't tell Steve anything, and have to duck most of the situations. If Steve manages to restrain himself from having a violent outburst, he goes into prolonged fits of despondency. If he could better control his feelings, we might have a better chance to handle the boy.

**The Council:** If Steve sins with his bad temper, Freda may be making an even more destruc-

## Around Hollywood

By ALINE MOSBY  
United Press Correspondent

Hollywood—U.P.—At last Hollywood has a new star, Anthony Perkins, who admits he gets a kick out of being a celebrity, fan mail included.

Most of the Marlon Brando-type newcomers from New York television go into seclusion when they become film actors. They avoid movie premieres, often refuse to be interviewed by the press and run from their fans.

But young Perkins, a Gary Cooper type who is expected to be a top star by next year, is a refreshing change.

He answers his own fan mail, loves being photographed by the press, doggedly goes to all the premieres and happily awaits the day when his face will be known so well he won't have any privacy.

One mistake by making too much allowance for that temper. Quite evidently, she swallows too much because of her excessive dread of a verbal flare-up. But it might do the boy a great deal of good to be witness to such flare-ups. For then it might dawn on him that his father is not down on him, but just a man given to verbal explosions.

A growing boy can be subject to very painful insecurities, and a stern or harsh-spoken father may create a terribly torturing effect on such a boy.

It clearly does no good in this case for the father and mother to evade relatively harmless verbal explosions while allowing obvious tension and resentment to continue. The boy must be made to understand that his father is one of those people who is happier with himself if he occasionally explodes. It is vital that he understand that his father also explodes at other people and that he can deeply love a person whom he may have shouted at on occasions.

False delicacy on the part of both father and mother is hurting their boy. Bring things out into the open and clear them up. It would be better to punish the boy for his transgressions and let him start anew than to keep him condemned to unceasing, silent disapproval.

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"I think it's terrible when actors don't enjoy all this," Perkins said. "Why not be enthusiastic? Being a star can be as much fun as you want. This work can kill you if you don't enjoy it."

Perkins actually was reading his fan letters and preparing to answer them (most actors don't) when I found him in his dressing room at Paramount.

"Look at all these nice letters," enthused Perkins as he sifted through his mail. "Once after a TV show I got 650 letters in one day. It takes me a long time to answer them, but I think I should, if people take the trouble to write."

The tall, gangly actor has brought smiles to Hollywoodites ever since he left his successful New York TV and stage career to co-star with Gary Cooper in "The Friendly Persuasion," one of the year's top pictures.

The joke around the Chateau Marmont, an apartment hotel where actors usually live when they come out from New York for jobs, is that Perkins won't join the gang at beach parties unless a magazine photographer is along.

He thinks movie premieres are "horrible" — because he isn't recognized at them yet.

"The masters-of-ceremony at premieres say 'Hello, Lex, Hello, Lana,' but when they come to me they don't know my name," he mourned. "It's very embarrassing. You leave thinking you're not really in the movies."

Movie-goers will know Perkins is in the movies by the end of the year. He currently is playing the title role in "The Jim Piersall Story" about the baseball star who suffered a nervous breakdown. Next he does the title role at Paramount in "Joey," a part that brought him recognition on television.

While I was talking to Anthony, Katherine Hepburn raced by on her bicycle. She refuses to talk to the press, and her set is closed to all visitors. But friendly Perkins, son of the late actor Osgood Perkins, affably invites all comers to watch him work.

"I was really excited when my picture got on the cover of Life magazine," he said eagerly. "And now they've named a sandwich after me on the Paramount commissary menu: You've really arrived when that happens."

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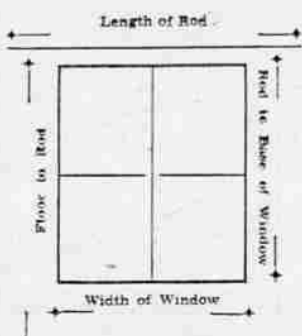
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