

The Family Council

Editor's note: The Family Council consists of a judge, a psychiatrist, three clergymen, a newspaper editor, a women's editor and two writers. Each article is a summary of an actual report. The Family Council does not give advice. It merely reports on problems that have been dealt with by responsible agencies and counsellers.

Mr. M. W.—We should tell our son how we feel about his marriage.

Mrs. M. W.—He should know what he really wants.

Mr. M. W.—Our son is a bachelor of 40. Recently he met a woman of 45, fell head over heels in love with her and wants to get married.

Now we have long hoped Peter would marry, but this marriage seems very desirable. We feel if Peter marries he ought to have a family. It is out of the question with this woman. Her age is a consideration from another point of view. Although she is still quite attractive, my wife and I feel she will not be so within a few years. Peter will regret the whole thing then.

My wife is against our telling our son to get married, because he is so old, but I think he is just as capable of making a mistake as a young fellow.

Mrs. M. W.—If the son is a bachelor, everyone blames the mother. They say she holds him back. I know I always urged my son to get married, but friends and people in the family still hint it's all my fault.

I feel if Peter doesn't get married now, he may never do so. I have never known him to be in love before. Maybe it's not the best thing in the world to marry without hope of a family, but it's better than being entirely alone.

I don't think Peter is as capable of making a mistake as a young fellow might be. He should know what he really wants. If he doesn't know now, he never will. It seems to me it would be wrong to throw a wet blanket on the romance or try to break it up.

The Council: If a man waits until 40 to fall in love and then does so with a woman of 45, it seems very likely he has no desire to have a family. His father's belief that he "ought to have a family" is not likely to affect him in the slightest. If the romance has any strength at all, it cannot possibly be

broken up, even if Mr. M. W. were to put in his criticism.

The criticism Mr. M. W. suggests appears, however, to be in bad taste in view of his son's age. Peter knows the facts of life and does not expect his wife to have a youthful bloom any more than he expects her to bear a brood of youngsters. It is unnecessary to point these things out.

Mr. M. W. should try to put aside his fear that his son is making a mistake. As his mother points out, if he doesn't know what he wants now, he never will. The father can take some comfort in the fact that even if Peter should some day have a regret or two, a marital mistake in later life is unlikely to have the same wasteful, agonizing consequences as one made in youth.

Mrs. M. W. is more realistic, but should try to get over her guilts and her fears about "everyone" thinking she has been responsible for her son's bachelorhood. If she has consciously done nothing to hold Peter back from marriage but, on the contrary, urged him toward it, she has done the best she can.

These parents ought to be glad their son has at last found someone he can love, and give the marriage their blessing.

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Blue Mountain Phone Loan Given Approval

Salem—O.P.—A \$557,000 loan contract by Blue Mountain Telephone company has been approved by the State Public Utilities commission.

The company, whose main office is at Spray, Ore., proposes to borrow the money from the Rural Electrification administration and to mortgage its property as security.

The loan will be used to construct a central office building at Spray and for additional plant facilities.

Dead line Sunday. Classified in at noon Saturday. 10 a.m. Monday for Monday's other days. 5:30 p.m. previous day.

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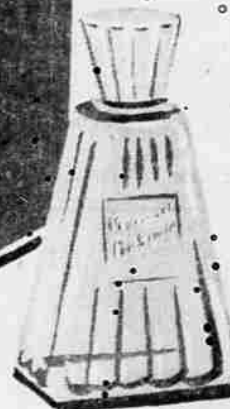
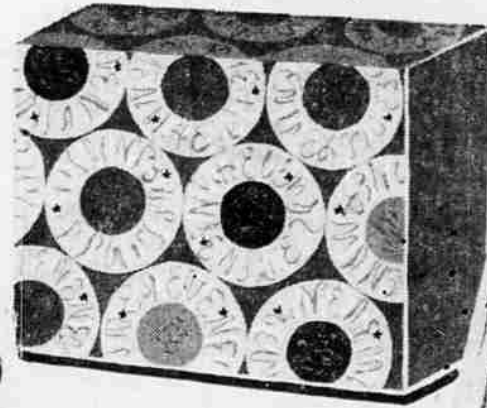
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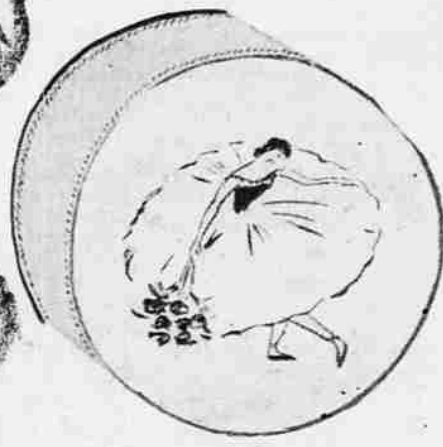


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