

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 counselors.

Mrs. M. E. — Dolores wants to leave college.

Dolores E. — I just want to be a housewife and mother.

Mrs. M. E. — I am a widow with one daughter — a girl of 19. My husband died when she was only six years old and I went back to work, determined to make the best of life for both of us.

I had always wanted a college education, but was unable to get one. That's why I wanted one for Dolores. I scrimped and saved and worked toward this end. I also saw to it that she had music, dancing and dramatic lessons. I wanted her to have more in life than her mother.

Well, after one year of college, Dolores wants to drop out and get married. The boy she has chosen is just a nobody, a nothing. He has no education, comes from a broken home and his prospects in life look terrible. How can Dolores do this to me?

Dolores E. — All my life Mother has pushed me to do this, that and the other thing that I had no interest in at all. She wants me to be somebody important, but I just want to be a housewife and mother — and the sooner the better!

The boy I want to marry didn't go to college, but he has been a hard, steady worker and is making a good salary. It is true he comes from a broken home, but he says he wants to make a different sort of life for his own wife and children.

College is all right for girls who want careers or who want to marry later in life, but I would like to have a large family and I feel I am fully mature and able to care for a home and children right now. I don't see why I should have to wait.

The Council: Mrs. M. E., despite her good intentions, hard work and sacrifices, has imposed an unfair burden upon her daughter. We suspect Dolores' impatience to get married has at least as much to do with her desire to rid herself of that burden as her desire for a family.

Mrs. M. E. has simply imposed upon Dolores the responsibility for living another human being's life. Mrs. M. E. wanted to go to college. Therefore Dolores must go. Mrs. M. E. wanted some sort of personal glory in life. Therefore Dolores must have glory.

In her effort to free herself from bondage to her mother, Dolores is forced to seek the

opposite of everything her mother wants for her. She feels this is the only way in which she can assert her individuality.

We suggest that Mrs. M. E. try to tear herself away from this ideal image of herself she sees in her daughter. She must recognize Dolores has individual standards and needs and they cannot possibly be exactly the same as anyone else's. The "nobody" Dolores wants to marry may just happen to be the somebody who can bring her the greatest happiness.

But we do think a word of warning is in order for Dolores. Immediate marriage looks like an ideal way of freeing herself from Mother's domination, but it could be a way of exchanging one set of problems for another. Dolores ought to take the time to find out whether she really wants this young man for the freedom he now represents. A college education and/or work experience could help her find out.

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Grange News

Roxy Ann Grange

Roxy Ann Grange met Friday, Sept. 19, called to order by Master Al Sims.

HEC Chairman Verda Quackenbush reported HEC met at the home of Evelyn Hendricks with Verda as co-hostess.

Agricultural Chairman Charlie Whitcher reported good demand for feeder cattle, and also they are experimenting in pellet and wafer feed made of hay in eight or 10 states. There will be no need for big hay barns, as there will be no need for storing hay. He said eggs will be cheaper this winter.

Orie Moore reported wafers are proving more satisfactory, as pellets do not have enough roughage.

Master Al Sims announced he will be in Chattanooga for the next 10 days.

Mrs. Wilma Van Gordon had charge of the lecture hour, which consisted of a liars' contest, and Mrs. Alexander's orchestra.

The display table contained cull pears made fancy brought by Marie Pfister.

Refreshments were served by Mr. and Mrs. Orie Moore and Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Nolte.

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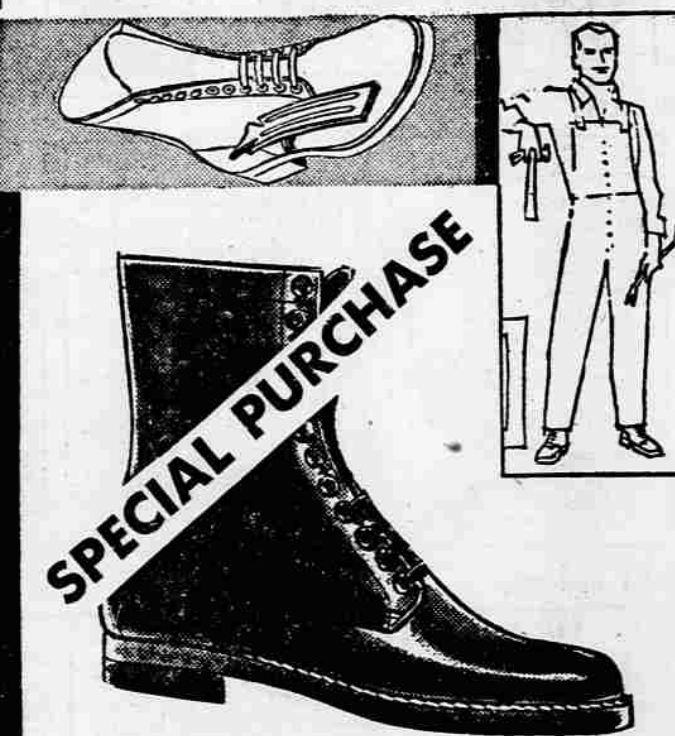
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