

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 counsels.

Frank S.—She's trying to support her family in Europe. Elsa S.—Wouldn't he do the same for his family?

Frank S.—My wife is European. We met nearly 15 years ago when I was a GI overseas. We have been married 12 years and have three children. I have a good job and we could be very comfortable and happy if my wife wouldn't try to support her family in Europe.

When I was overseas I was very generous with Elsa's family. I was very much in love, and it was hard seeing her family having such a rough time of it. Maybe I gave them the wrong idea, that things come so easy over here it means nothing to share with them.

But after all, things are different here and I want my kids to have what the others have.

Elsa has visited her family after each of the kids was born. That was quite a drain on our budget, too. At this rate we'll never be able to take care of our future.

Elsa S.—Frank is being very unfair. Even if my family lived here in the States, I would have to give them gifts from time to time. Just because Frank sees a package going to Europe he explodes.

And why should he act that way? My family really needs the things I send. If they didn't need it so much he wouldn't resent it, but would think it natural for me to want to send them gifts.

Frank doesn't understand that it makes me just as unhappy as it does him to have to deprive our kids of things. It is true that I sometimes send more than I should to my parents and sisters and

their families, but wouldn't he do the same for his family? Aren't we supposed to share alike—and that includes responsibilities?

It annoys me when my family in Europe sends hints, but what can I do?

The Council: Behind the conflict between husband and wife there is a deeper conflict in Elsa's own mind.

Elsa agrees that it makes her unhappy to deprive her own children of material benefits. But it also makes her feel guilty and unhappy to be enjoying more prosperity than her family in Europe.

It is not an easy conflict to resolve, yet Elsa must find a way out which satisfies herself and her husband. Frank agreed to support her and their children when they married. He may want to extend his responsibilities a bit further, but there should be some limit to what he does for her parents, sisters or "cousins by the dozens."

Elsa should recognize that broadly speaking, there are two choices: (1) To reduce herself and her children to economic equality with her relatives in Europe; or (2) To accept the fact that she and her children will enjoy more prosperity than her family in Europe.

Nobody can tell Elsa how far she ought to go in either direction. This is a matter she must have out with her own conscience—and her husband.

We would suggest that Elsa come to Frank with a fair appraisal of what she feels she sincerely can and should do for her European family in the years ahead. It is possible that Frank will be quite reasonable if Elsa is willing to stick to certain limits.

Coffee, Sandwich Champs In Television Crowned On Busy Election Night

By WILLIAM EWALD UPI Correspondent

New York—UPI—All three networks will be claiming victories over each other today. But on the basis of late returns, here is the straight election night dope:

1. At NBC-TV, staffers consumed 45 gallons of coffee, 1,100 sandwiches, 12 layer cakes, 15 gallons of potato salad, 8 gallons of baked beans and 48 cherry, apple, pumpkin and coconut custard pies.

2. At CBS-TV, staffers waded into 45 gallons of coffee, 836 sandwiches, 1,000 pieces of pastry and 3 bagels. It was suggested that some partisan might have sneaked the bagels in from the Rockefeller-Harriman campaign.

3. At ABC-TV, the assembled horde downed 57 gallons of coffee, 1,000 assorted sandwiches and 500 pieces of baked goods including cheesecakes, brownies and chocolate layers, all of which were supplied by the sponsor who, incidentally, makes cheesecakes, brownies and chocolate layers.

NBC Sandwich Champ

As I see it, this gives NBC-TV the victory in sandwiches, baked beans, potato salad and peach, apple, cherry and coconut custard pies. ABC—clear-

In any case, it will be easier to arrive at a compromise if the air is cleared of some of Elsa's emotional conflicts and the husband and wife set out to make a decision in terms of actual dollars and cents.

ly gets the win in coffee and cheesecake and brownies. And CBS-TV came up with a clear lead in pastry as well as bagels, although the latter victory is a hollow one.

Aside from gustatory matters, these other things happened on TV:

All three networks trotted out awesome mechanical monsters with names like UNIVAC, RAMAC, and UEDPS, but at one network, NBC-TV, two newsmen could be spotted working in green eye shades. . . CBS-TV's Doug Edwards reported over the air that a lady in Michigan had accused the network of placing a man inside UNIVAC to write out all those fancy predictions.

The first prediction of UNIVAC, the wizard of odds, took place at 6:24 p.m. (c.s.t.) when it gave 100-1 odds that the Democrats would sweep both houses. . . NBC-TV's RAMAC made its first prognostication at 8:22 p.m. when it said the new House would have 271 Democrats. . . around 9:30 p.m. ABC-TV's electronic brain said there would be 290 Democrats in the House and 62 in the Senate.

Apologies Made

Boo-Boos Department: ABC-TV's John Daly referred to the Midwest as the "Mid-east" and later apologized. . . A local CBS-TV announcer referred to Democrat Chester Bowles as a Republican and later apologized. . . David Brinkley of NBC-TV got an indignant call about classifying West Virginia with the southern bloc and he apologized. . . ABC-TV's John Vandercok called the network's electronic computer a "com-muter," but he didn't apologize—I guess he figured the machine wasn't listening.



William Ewald, UPI Correspondent, reports on the election night feast.

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