

This distinguished-looking suburbanite, cultured and well-spoken, is none other than TV's befuddled ignoramus, "Riley"



Country Gentleman

by Peer J. Oppenheimer

after success, they made up for the lean years by buying a \$200,000 mansion in Encino.

But the Bendixes like leisurely living, and a house loaded with servants and upkeep responsibilities didn't fit their pattern. "I wanted to slack off work," Bill recalls, "and enjoy what I've made. You can't do it in a museum."

He shows what he means when he tosses his golf clubs into a racy sports car and drives to a nearby country club for 18 holes, leaving behind Mrs. Bendix and a part-time housekeeper to tidy up the three-bedroom home.

"We don't plan far ahead," he continues, "either in work or living. We don't travel much, for example—easier and more enjoyable to stay home. And as for work, well, this year I've made two TV appearances (including his appearance tonight in the O. Henry classic, "The Ransom of Red Chief," on NBC) and did Captain Queeg in "The Caine Mutiny Court-Martial" for the summer-theater circuit. Haven't had time for much more."

Bill means that work has been crowded out by a busy schedule, which includes pruning garden flowers, canvassing antique shops to enlarge his pewter collection, and trying his hand at cooking.

Such a hard day may wind up with a game of checkers with Therese in a house quiet except for low tuned classical hi-fi. Entertaining is rare and in small groups, usually including the Alan Ladds who are long-time friends. Bill may read a new novel and a gardening magazine before turning in, but he doesn't sleep late. The day is too good to sleep through. "Yep," says Bendix with a good-natured grin, the only characteristic leftover from his professional roles, "this is the real 'Life of Riley.'"



Golfer, thinker, gardener, chef, interior decorator — hard to believe but these are the off-camera roles played by the bewildered TV favorite "Riley" — who's really Bill Bendix, a man who was never type-cast. Bill's appreciative audience is his wife Therese.



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The Catholic woman, of course, has the same problems of living that other women have.

But she is never in doubt as to how to solve them. In every decision she makes... large and small... whether they occur in her adolescence or later on as a wife and mother... she can use the clearly defined principles of her Catholic Faith. Some will say that this is a form of "thought control" to which they would not submit. By the same reasoning, the Bible with its strict commandments guiding human behavior might also be called a form of thought control.

Women generally, of course, are opposed to divorce. Many of them regard it as a grave social evil. Catholic women not only share this view, but know that according to God's law divorce with remarriage is a serious sin.

Catholic women may be tempted, at times, unlawfully to limit the number of their children to fit the family income. But the Church reminds them this is a violation of God's law. Likewise, the obligation to provide religious training for their children is not a matter of choice, but a duty.

Sincere people of all faiths, it is true, are regular in their church attendance and conscious of their need to worship God. But for all Catholics, including women, these are regular obligations which they can never shirk. Attendance at Mass on Sundays and Holy Days, Confession and Communion at least once a year, and fasting and abstinence, are not merely religious exercises which a Catholic may observe or ignore. They constitute elements in the required Catholic "way of life."



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