

The Family Council

Editor's note: The Family Council consists of a judge, a psychiatrist, the 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 associations.

Jim J. - My ex-wife tries to prevent my giving the children gifts.

Cora F. - He can't buy the children's love.

Jim J. - My wife and I have been divorced for several years and she has custody of our two children. My business keeps me out of town for long periods every year. I don't get to see much of the children. I find that when I'm with the children they are often irritable and don't talk much. I'm afraid they feel I don't love them - which of course isn't true. One of the ways I feel I can show them affection is to buy them very nice presents. I enjoy doing this and I can well afford it.

My ex-wife has tried to prevent my doing this. I feel she is bitter about my ability to melt a little of their resentment with these gifts. She made my daughter return a gift I gave her and I am furious.

Cora F. - Our daughter is 14 years old. Several months ago Jim gave her a very expensive piece of jewelry - not the kind of thing a girl of her age should own. It was finally lost or stolen. Jim went right out and bought her an even more expensive replacement.

We talked it over and Grace agreed that she was too young for that kind of thing. I didn't force her to return it. This was her own idea.

I think Jim is determined to buy the children's love and it just isn't working. They are embarrassed by his gifts. They tell me they don't want them.

I have brought the children up to know that real love isn't expressed in materialistic ways. They have missed their father and gifts are no substitute.

The Council: Many unpleasant misunderstandings lie beneath the surface in this case. The children are undoubtedly suffering as a result of them.

In spite of the fact that "real love" isn't always expressed in materialistic terms, it is unfortunately one of the important ways open to a man in Jim's position. He certainly does show his devotion to children by supporting them, yet because the money is handled by the mother, the children are largely unaware of this. If he sees little of the

children, they are naturally uneasy with him. They feel rejected by him and their uneasiness makes him feel rejected by them. The right words and gestures of affection become almost impossible for him and he tries to use a gift to say something important for him.

We agree that love can't be bought, but Cora should accept the fact that money must do some of the speaking for a father. In view of this she should definitely not have encouraged her daughter to return the gift. She should have made her aware that it was a symbol and declaration of love and spurning deeply wounds the giver.

We get the impression that there should be more contact between these parents on the matter of the children. If they cannot meet alone amicably they should meet from time to time in the office of a lawyer or family friend where they can talk over matters affecting the children. If Cora feels that expensive jewelry is unwise for a teenager, she should be able to offer a different suggestion. The children should be made aware that Dad might want to send them to an expensive camp or will take care of a big medical item.

Aside from that, Jim ought to work at keeping up as close contact with the children as possible. Telephone calls, letters, inexpensive souvenirs will do some of the talking for him when he is forced to be away. He may find this kind of contact more difficult than just going out and buying a gala present, but it will be better for both him and the children in the long run.

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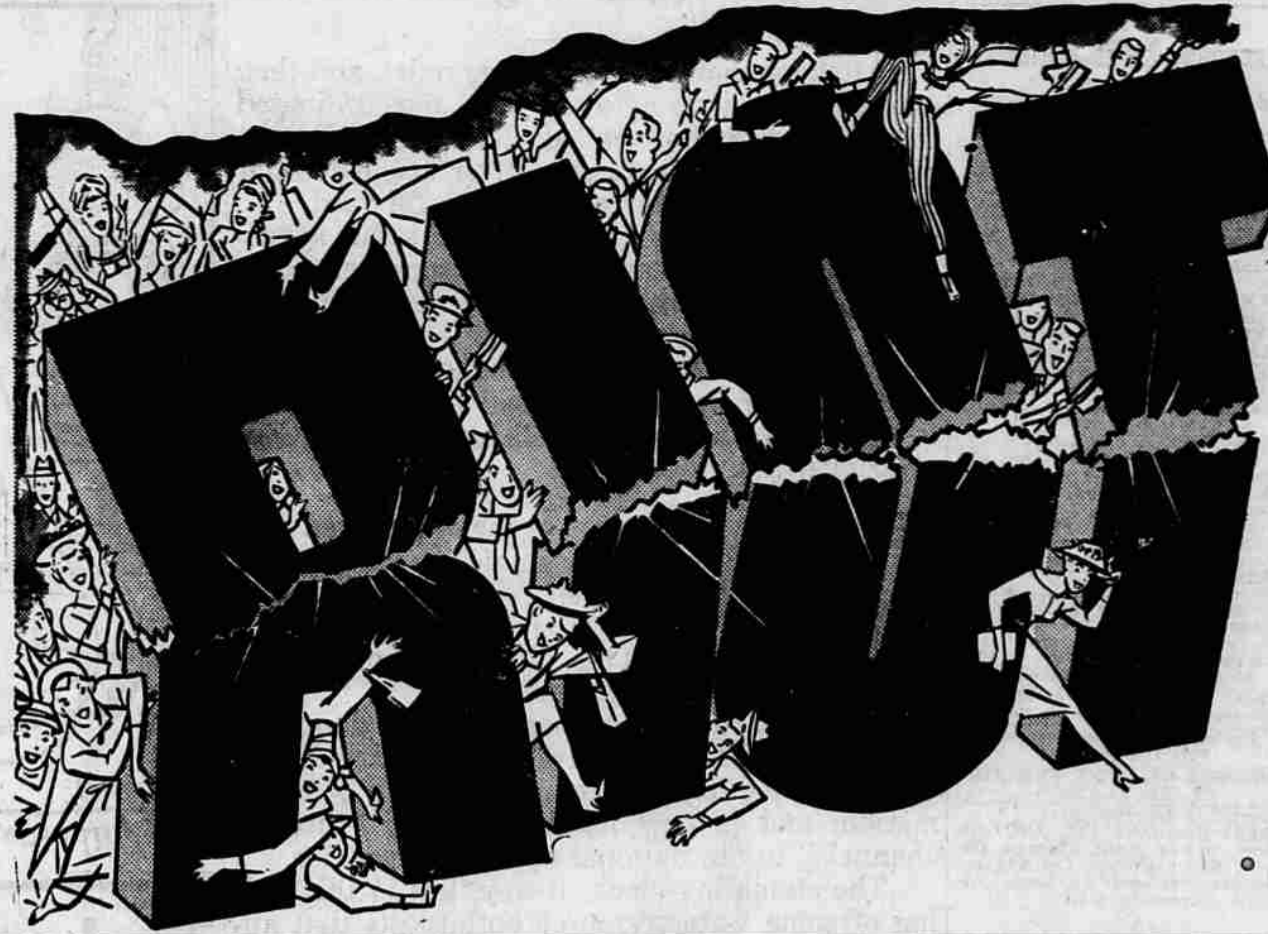
Phoenix - A "bonded electronic technicians' certificate" has been awarded to Pete's Radio and TV service, 103 1st st., by the Raytheon company. The certification is backed by an insurance company bond to guarantee the quality of radio and television service offered by the firm. D. F. (Pete) Hughes reported.

To qualify for the bonded dealer program, Pete's service submitted its pricing structure for parts and labor to insure fair prices, Hughes said.

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| 1. Simmons Colonial Hide-a-bed | 259.50 | 189.50 |
| 2. Drop End Love Seat, Gold or Green | 99.50 | 69.50 |
| 3. Beige Nylon Daveno, Plastic arms | 109.50 | 79.50 |
| 4. Biltwell Love Seat & Chair, Makes Full Bed, Green Freize | 149.50 | 99.50 |
| 5. 7 Pc. Daveno & Swivel Rocker group Includes 3 Tables, 2 Lamps | 179.50 | 129.50 |
| 6. Maple Rocker, Green tweed cover | 54.50 | 34.50 |
| 7. Daveno & Rocker, Biltwell, Maple arms, Beige tweed cover | 159.50 | 129.50 |
| 8. 3 Pc. Sectional Dvnpnt, Brown Freize | 289.50 | 239.50 |
| 9. 2 Step Tables, Charcoal. 24.50 ea. | Both for | 24.50 |
| 10. Mahogany Step Table, By Lane Co. | 47.50 | 29.50 |
| 11. Lane Walnut Coffee Table | 44.50 | 29.50 |
| 12. Lane Walnut Step Table | 44.50 | 29.50 |
| 13. Chaise Lounge, Plastic cover, Alum. | 22.50 | 14.95 |
| 14. Student Desk, small size, Walnut | 22.50 | 14.95 |
| 15. Combination Coffee Table & Barette | 39.50 | 24.50 |
| 16. Colonial Floor Lamp | 39.50 | 24.50 |
| 17. Colonial Floor Lamp | 32.50 | 19.95 |
| 18. Colonial Floor Lamp | 46.50 | 29.50 |
| 19. Maple Pioneer Rocker | 28.50 | 15.00 |
| 20. Nantucket Maple Step Table, 1 only | 44.50 | 29.50 |
| 21. Stratolounger, 1 Green, 1 Gold | 99.50 | 79.50 |
| 22. Stratolounger, With Vibrator | 119.50 | 99.50 |
| 23. Stratolounger, Brown, Green or Red Plastic, With Vibrator | 99.50 | 79.50 |
| 24. Cocktail Swivel Chr., 1 Green, 1 Beige | 33.50 | 23.50 |
| 25. Club Chair, Grey Freize | 72.50 | 49.50 |
| 26. Recliner Chair, Black Plastic | 139.50 | 79.50 |
| 27. Club Chair, Brown & Rose | 99.50 | 49.50 |
| 28. Club Chair, Blue | 63.50 | 39.50 |
| 29. Club Chair, Brown | 89.50 | 49.50 |
| 30. Club Chair, Green Tweed | 79.50 | 49.50 |
| 31. Club Chair, Brown Tweed | 79.50 | 49.50 |
| 32. Club Chair, Rose Freize | 95.00 | 59.00 |

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| 33. Davenport & Chair, Foam Rubber, Mint Green Freize Cover | 299.50 | 209.50 |
| 34. Davenport Corner Sectional, Brown | 359.50 | 259.50 |
| 35. Flintridge Maple Dresser | 159.50 | 109.50 |
| 36. Pioneer Maple Dining Chair | 14.95 | 9.95 |
| 37. Pioneer Maple Dining Chair | 22.50 | 11.25 |
| 38. 7 Pc. Dinette Set, Slight damage on table | 139.50 | 109.50 |
| 39. Walnut Chest, 4 drawer | 55.00 | 38.50 |
| 40. Walnut Chest, 4 drawer | 38.50 | 28.50 |
| 41. Blond Oak Bed, Mat. & Box Spring | 94.00 | 78.25 |
| 42. Walnut Bed, Dresser, 9 drawer | 269.50 | 179.50 |
| 43. 1 Only Foam Rubber Mattress Set, Twin | 99.50 | 69.50 |
| 44. Remnant Carpet, 9x15 | 216.90 | 109.50 |
| 45. Remnant Carpet, 6'7"x12' | 89.50 | 38.50 |
| 46. Remnant Carpet, 12x20, Nylon, Foam Back | 178.00 | 99.50 |
| 47. Crib & Mattress | 29.50 | 21.50 |
| 48. Unfinished Chest, 4 drawer | 16.95 | 13.95 |
| 49. Unfinished Chest, 5 drawer | 17.95 | 14.95 |
| 50. Mahogany Bed & Dresser, 9 drawer | 209.50 | 169.50 |
| 51. Dresser & Bed, Mahogany | 135.00 | 114.50 |
| 52. Foam Mattress Set, full size | 99.50 | 79.50 |
| 53. Bunk Bed, Springs & Mattress | 88.50 | 74.50 |
| 54. Bunk Bed, Springs & Mattress | 89.50 | 69.50 |
| 55. Remnant Carpet, 15'x17'7" | 447.65 | 259.50 |
| 56. Slipper Chair | 39.50 | 24.50 |
| 57. Bunk Bed, Only Maple | 34.50 | 24.50 |
| 58. Maple Chest, 4 drawer | 44.50 | 29.50 |
| 59. 7 Pc. Mahogany Dining Set | 179.50 | 149.50 |
| 60. Box Spring, Full size, 2 only | 44.50 | 29.50 |

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|------------------------------|--------|-------|
| 61. Remnant Carpet, 6'7"x12' | 98.50 | 33.00 |
| 62. Remnant Carpet, 6'8"x12' | 103.60 | 34.50 |
| 63. Remnant Carpet, 6'8"x12' | 101.50 | 34.00 |

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