

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 case history. The Council reports on problems that have been dealt with by responsible agencies and counselors.

Margaret S. - Mother doesn't understand my problem.
Mrs. J.S. - She confuses me and makes me angry.

Margaret S. - I am 14 and I'm very much worried about my future. I get no help from my mother. She isn't understanding and thinks I shouldn't need any attention from her because I'm too old. I have a brother of 10 and sisters of 7 and 3 and they take all Mom's time.

My big worry is my lack of popularity. I realize a lot of girls have this problem, but I have a strong feeling that I'll never marry and have children. I don't know why, but this fear becomes stronger all the time.

Recently I have been thinking that if I dyed my hair I wouldn't be mousy looking and I'd get more attention from the boys. Several girls in my school have done it and it has worked wonders for them. My mother absolutely refuses to let me do it.

Mrs. J.S. - Margaret gave me the worst scare of my life when she got that hair dyeing idea. Who ever heard of a 14-year-old child dyeing her hair? It's true that a few of the girls in her school did it, but I can't imagine what kind of parents they have to allow it. Also, I wonder about their fathers' incomes. Who can afford that for a teen-ager?

I try to be a good and understanding mother, but I must say Margaret confuses me and makes me angry. She gets these hare-brained ideas and is constantly worrying about nonsense. How can I convince her that nearly all girls get married sooner or later?

Naturally I expect Margaret to help with the younger children, but sometimes I think she is more childish than all of them put together.

The Council: Margaret does appear to be competing for her mother's time and attention on a rather childish level, but perhaps she is forced to this extreme by her mother's failure to see the intensity of her fears. Margaret is at the stage where she may really need far more attention than her mother thinks she should.

Margaret should be made aware that many girls, even the most popular, have fears about being old maids. All adolescents worry a lot - essentially about whether they will succeed in being adults. Boys worry about being able to make a good living and get "places" in their careers and girls worry about finding favor with a desirable male.

Because girls mature physically earlier, they may reach the high point of their anxiety in early adolescence. By the time they are 18 or 19 they usually gain some assurance. But in the early teens, the girls resort to desperate, attention-getting methods like tight sweaters, too much makeup and (if they are allowed) dyed hair.

The fact that Margaret talks to her mother about her fears and isn't ashamed to confess her desire for an extreme measure to get attention speaks well for her relationship with her mother. This

General's Brother Held for Murder

Herrin, Ill. - (UPI) - A brother of Brig. Gen. Andrew J. Goodpaster, White House staff secretary, was charged Saturday with the Christmas murder of a 51-year-old mother.

But Walter J. Goodpaster, 46, a Carterville, Ill., optometrist, refused to make a statement or discuss the slaying with police.

Goodpaster was held without bond after Justice of the Peace Elmer Farmer charged him with murder.

Justice Department Said Usually Right

Washington - (UPI) - The Supreme Court decided the Justice Department was right in three-fourths of the cases involving the federal government this year.

Solicitor General J. Lee Rankin, who represents the government in cases before the high tribunal, said in a year-end report Friday night that the government's arguments prevailed in 63 of 80 cases.



EXPLOSION - A rescue worker searches through wreckage of a bottling plant after it was leveled by an explosion in Warsaw, Ky., Friday. The blast destroyed an estimated 15 homes and damaged 30 others. At least 11 persons were taken to hospitals with injuries, and one was critical, state police said. Eight had been released. The explosion reportedly was caused by propane gas leading from a furnace. (UPI Telephoto)

Studies by the United Arab Republic indicate that 11 percent of the national income is contributed by industry.

British Columbia cedar trees, taller than the eastern species, reach as high as 175 feet.

Longest of all rivers in France, the Loire flows more than 600 miles to the Bay of Biscay.

Boys Gulp Shaving Lotion, Get Sick

Salem - (UPI) - The sheriff's office here reported Saturday that three of four students at the Chemawa Indian school near here who gulped down some shaving lotion Christmas were made ill.

They were listed in satisfactory condition Saturday in a Salem hospital. They had become violently ill immediately afterward.

The fourth youth, 18, was taken to the Marion county jail and charged with being drunk and disorderly. The younger boys were 14 and two 16.

Shows Gratitude

New York - (UPI) - Miss Nina Zozulin, 35, a native of the Ukraine who came to this country from a French displaced persons camp and set up a grocery store seven years ago, said she tried to think of some way to show her gratitude to Americans.

Friday she served her customers as usual-but refused to let any of them pay.

Webster's Work
Noah Webster began work on his dictionary of the English language in 1807. His first edition contained 12,000 words and 40,000 definitions.

Wine Colors
Fresno, Calif. - Red wine can be made from white grapes and white wine can be made by using red grape juices.

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1,200 Steelworkers Return to Jobs

Salt Lake City - (UPI) - Some 1,200 members of the United Steel Workers union employed at the Kennecott Copper Corp. smelter near Magna began returning to their jobs Saturday.

The steel workers began reporting to their jobs Saturday morning. The return-to-work call did not apply to steel workers employed at the nearby Kennecott refinery.

"The refinery workers will be called back to their jobs as they are needed," a company spokesman said.

Golden Gate Bridge has the world's tallest and most massive bridge towers - 846 feet high and weighing 88,800,000 pounds.

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