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.

Mark G.—Mother shouldn't invite her daughters-in-law.

Mrs. L. G.—How will I see my sons and grandchildren?

* * *

Mark G.—I am a bachelor of 28, living with my widowed mother. My father died a year ago and my mother hasn't quite come back to herself since then.

My problem involves my two sisters-in-law and their treatment of Mother. They are jealous women and they are not nice to Mother or one another. Things have gotten so bad that we can't have them at the house at the same time.

Mother makes a dinner for each of them and their families once a week. They invite her to their homes maybe once a year. Mother works hard over this dinner but they don't appreciate it. They always say something to hurt her and after they leave she cries her heart out. I don't think she ought to invite them any more, but I can't convince her.

* * *

Mrs. L. G.—How am I to see my grandchildren and my sons if I don't make dinners? As things stand, they act as though they are doing me a big favor when they come. My sons are led by their wives and never visit me alone.

Mark condemns them and his brothers for not being nice to me, but he makes things hard for me in his own way. He avoids coming home when I have them over at the house. He is irritable and yells at me when I talk to him about these things.

I have given my whole life for my family, but a friend warned me years ago not to expect a reward. Children don't appreciate what is done for them. It doesn't pay to sacrifice yourself.

* * *

The Council: Although the demands of motherhood call for many sacrifices, they do not call for a total self-sacrifice. A mother has a right to relaxation and pleasure and she is a better mother when she takes these in reasonable degrees.

The friend who warned Mrs. L. G. many years ago that her sacrifice was going too far was on the right track. It is natural and human to want return and recognition for our efforts and the friend sensed that Mrs. L. G. was heading toward a serious disappointment.

We don't believe that children don't appreciate what is done for them. There may be rocky times in the parent-child relationship, but when children mature they eventually recognize in full measure their parents' efforts. However, the parent who oversacrifices is the one who morally tyrannizes a child and does not let him mature. Eventually, he must rebel or his spirit is broken and he lives on a childlike level in relation to his parent for the rest of his life.

Mrs. L. G.'s sons have apparently had the strength to rebel, yet they have fallen into the hands of difficult and domineering women. Mrs. L. G. now feels weak and helpless because she commands so small a place in their lives.

It is easy for Mark to tell his mother not to invite the troublesome guests, but he simply does not take into account Mrs. L. G.'s feelings. These can't be thrown out of the window. She must keep up her ties with her sons and their families.

A more positive solution would be for Mrs. L. G. to seek new ties and new interests. She badly needs club and church activities, friends, social doings. When she learns to get some pleasure out of life, her family will like and respect her more and she will lose her self-pity and oversensitivity to their attitude towards her.

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4-H Club News

Central Point Sparkplugs

The Central Point Sparkplugs 4-H club met at the home of Jim and Russell Frink April 2.

The meeting was called to order by President Frank Mengel. The minutes were read of the last meeting by Bob Kuest, secretary.

During the meeting, we discussed building a sign for prefair and fair displays for the club displays.

We also appointed two junior leaders, Frank Mengel and Russell Frink, to contact a tractor dealer for the next meeting to discuss a chapter in the A and D books. The next meeting will be at the Naumes Equipment company.

Jim Frink,
Reporter

Shady Cove Cut Ups

The Shady Cove Cut Ups 4-H club held recent meetings at the home of Mrs. Daun Oliver. At our last meeting, we started making our aprons. Linda Weitman was our visitor at each meeting.

Judy Waltz furnished refreshments for one meeting. Our 4-H leader, Mrs. Weitman, and daughter, Donna, furnished refreshments for the other meeting.

Our next meeting will be April 20 at Mrs. Daun Oliver's home.

Carolyn Uhrich,
Reporter

Tea Timers

The Tea Timers 4-H club worked with eggs at the last meeting. Terry Stevens made poached eggs, Shannyn Talley fried eggs, and Caroline Field and Annette Jones scrambled eggs.

There was one member absent, Lynn Davis.

Annette Jones,
Reporter

Ruch Electricity

The Ruch Electricity 4-H club meeting was held at Robert Ziegler's home recently.

Demonstrations were given. Dan Hackert gave a two and three way switch, Ray Cook gave his electric motor, as did Louis Barker.

One of the new members, Bob Cook, has left the club.

The next meeting will be held at Louie Barker's house.

William Travis,
Reporter

Buttered Buns

The Buttered Buns 4-H club held its April meeting at the home of Carolyn Barnes. The first thing discussed at the meeting was the potluck dinner at the Grange on April 23. Mrs. Barnes, our leader, then showed us a film on how to make muffins.

After the film, Carolyn Barnes gave a demonstration on how to make Sally Lunn sweet bread. The rest of our business meeting was after the demonstration. Flag salutes were led by Donna Debrick.

Refreshments were served by Mrs. Barnes and Carolyn Barnes.

Judy Franek,
Reporter

Applegate Sewing Susans

The Applegate Sewing Susans 4-H club worked on Easter baskets at a recent meeting. The baskets were to be finished Saturday afternoon at the Applegate school cafeteria.

On May 2, we will hold a mother's tea. All girls are asked to bring their record books to the next meeting, which is to be held at Sandy Brewster's April 21.

Fourteen members and two visitors attended the meeting that was held at the home of the Kuiturt girls. Our leader helped those who needed help. Our demonstration, which was on judging, was given by Alice Kuiturt. The meeting was adjourned.

Susan Head,
Reporter

LAND BULK

New Orleans–The bulk of the earth's land mass lies to the north of the equator.

Nepal Royalty To Visit Oregon in May

Washington–UPI–The State Department said Thursday that the King and Queen of Nepal will pay a two-day visit to Oregon during a spring tour of the United States.

King Mahendra Bir Bikram Shah Beva and Queen Ratna Rajya Lakshima Shah will tour the United States from April 25 to May 15. They are scheduled to visit Oregon May 5 and 6.

Elevator Cable Break Hurts Two Men

Portland – UPI – A cable on a freight elevator snapped Thursday afternoon and two men were injured seriously when they dropped 40 feet.

Charles Setvin, 58, suffered broken ankles and other injuries. Vern Howard, 43, was in surgery several hours after the accident.

Populaires to Present Program

Ashland–"An Evening with the Populaires," singing ensemble of Southern Oregon college, will be presented in the auditorium of Churchill hall Friday and Monday evenings, April 23 and 25.

The group will sing folk music, numbers from Broadway shows, patriotic and religious selections. Friday night's concert will begin at 7:30 o'clock and Monday at 8 p.m.

Featured numbers will be presented by the girl's sextet and the boy's quartet, and special lighting and choreography have been planned. Maynard Hadley, Central Point, will direct the performances, and Lorna Schulze, Roseburg, is accompanist.

Members of the Populaires are Donna MacFarland and Sharlene Finchum, Klamath Falls; Daryl Fairrington and David Dellar, Ashland; Pat Leek, Larry Nolte, and Wilson Gilinsky, Medford; Ruth Clark, Portland; Louis Vance, Roseburg; Leona Hageman, Raymond, Wash., and John Kiehm, Glendale, Calif.

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