

Court Rejects Seattle Pair's Religious Plea

Washington—UPI—The Supreme Court has rejected the appeal of a Seattle couple who refused for religious reasons to send their daughter to public school.

The brief order leaves standing a decision last Jan. 25 by the State Supreme Court that the teaching the youngster, now 15, has been receiving from her mother does not conform with the state education law. They are faced with the necessity of making other arrangements.

Interested in Church

The parents, William and Maude Wold, moved to Seattle from Colorado in 1952 because of their interest in the Seventh Elect Church in Spiritual Israel. They later joined the church, which exists only in King County.

Their daughter, Alta Lee, then seven, was enrolled in the Ronald public school of the Shoreline District No. 412.

Members of the Seventh Elect church may not cut their hair; play or listen to musical instruments or dance. Further they may not eat meat or remain in the presence of any one who does.

Trouble in School

Alta Lee and an older sister, Freda Mae, had trouble in school because they followed the teachings. It was hard to find a lunch location where other children were not eating meat. There were difficulties in gym classes featuring folk dancing. The home education started in 1955.

The girls were subsequently made wards of the juvenile court but now removed from their parents' custody. Finally a juvenile court judge ruled that Mrs. Wold's teaching methods conformed to the state compulsory education law.

This decision was reversed by the Washington Supreme Court in a split decision.

Freda Mae, now 18, is no longer in the case.

MAY VISIT RUSSIA

London—UPI—Prince Philip may break a 43-year-old royal tradition and go to Moscow, it was reported Sunday. The Sunday Pictorial said Queen Elizabeth's husband may go to the Soviet Union next May to open the British exhibition in Moscow.

Four Youths Escape From MacLaren School

Woodburn—UPI—Four youths, two 18 and two 16, escaped from MacLaren school for boys during a baseball game Sunday night. One was from Salem and three from Portland.

IT'S A GIRL!

Knoxville, Tenn.—UPI—Dr. Andrew Holt, Tennessee University president, handed Roger Luebke his diploma Sunday and got a gift in return. Luebke, a new father, handed the surprised prexy a cigar inscribed, "It's a girl."

SEAWAY MAN DIES

Massena, N.Y.—UPI—Services were held Sunday for Lewis G. Castle, 70, administrator of the United States section of the St. Lawrence Seaway. He died Saturday.

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.

Pearl S.—We lost our friends because I told the truth.

John S.—She should apologize.

Pearl S.—I am terribly upset about a problem involving some of my closest friends.

My husband and I have been friends with the D's for nearly 12 years. They have a young teen age daughter who is studying ballet dancing. It happens that I studied ballet for several years and even danced professionally a short time before my marriage.

My friends asked my opinion of their daughter's dancing and whether they should encourage her to go ahead with her plans to study dancing full time instead of going to college. I advised against it. I pointed out that the girl hasn't the right build for a dancer and her teachers have been taking them all for a ride by encouraging her. Since then they've hardly spoken to us. My husband says I was in the wrong.

John S.—Pearl sets great store by her honesty and says she'll never be afraid to come out with the truth, but I always tell her people don't want to hear the truth. They would much rather hear something pleasant and flattering.

The D's are nice people and we really miss their companionship. Pearl knew they set so much store by their daughter's talents. Also, the girl herself was very hurt by Pearl's remarks—which she overheard.

I feel that Pearl ought to apologize to the D's, but she says there is nothing to apologize for. They asked for an honest opinion and she gave it to them. She meant no harm. Friends have told us the D's say Pearl is frustrated in her own ambitions and that's why she wouldn't encourage another young girl. Now Pearl thinks they ought to apologize.

The Council—It's true that most people prefer approval and flattery to truth from their friends. That doesn't mean we must all become liars. We should be aware of the old question of what is the truth. Opinions often vary, even among experts, and it is obvious that none of us can lay claim to absolute knowledge.

Knowing that both the girl and her parents had made a large investment and had high hopes for a dancing career, Pearl was unwise to take upon herself the responsibility of such a definite statement about the girl's future. She could have been both honest and wise if she had been a bit evasive and said they ought to get advice from other people working in the field—aside from the girl's teachers.

The fact is that some dancers manage to achieve a measure of success despite some physical handicap. Also, a teenage girl is still in the development stage. Her body may change greatly within the next few years.

Are apologies in order? It might be even better if Pearl would say she has given more serious thought to the matter and recommends that the D's get a few more opinions from individuals active in the field.

We don't think Pearl ought to seek an apology from the D's for what they said because they were obviously talking out of a sense of deep hurt. Their statement was no more unwise than Pearl's—and could be just as true. No doubt they believe they were also stating the simple truth.

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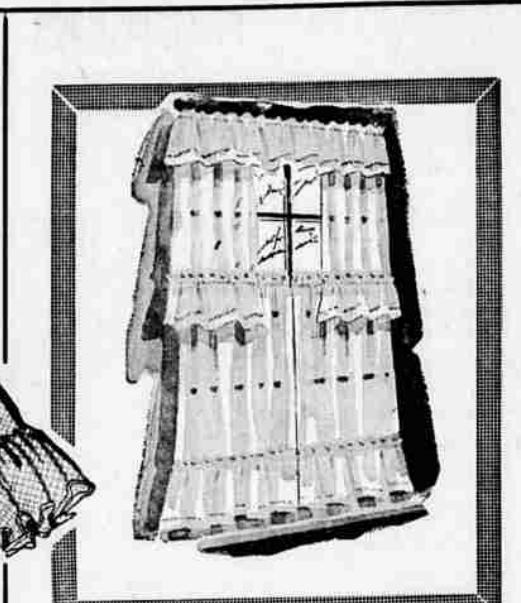
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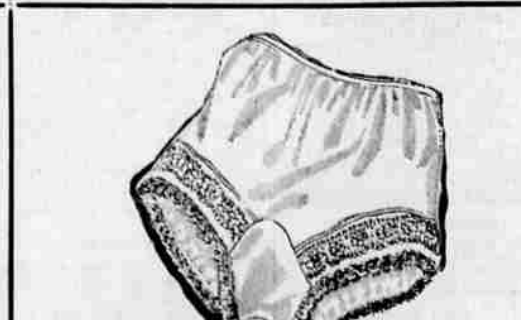


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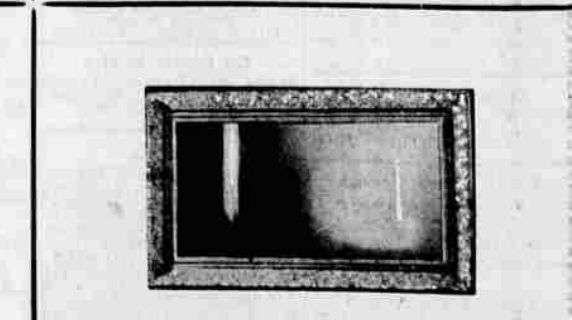


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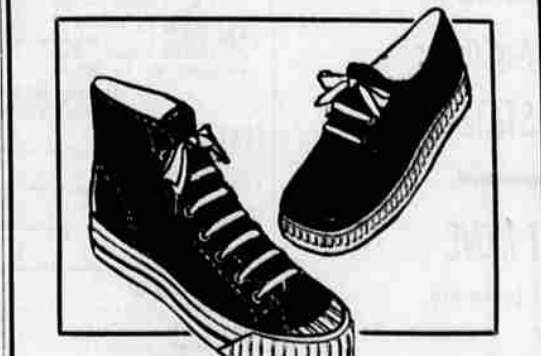
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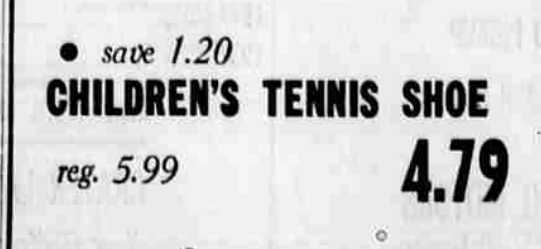
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