

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.

Mildred R. - I can't take his gambling any more.
Jim R. - I can't take her nagging.

Mildred R. - My husband and I are in our early 30s and have five children. Our marriage has been one long misery from the beginning.

At the bottom of it all is Jim's gambling. He has been at it for the past ten years and there's no sign of his turning over a new leaf. He's always promising, but he never does. He claims that he has made more than he has lost and he will present loads of figures to prove it, but all I know is that we have nothing and we're always in debt.

I can't go on this way any longer. I feel like just running away from everything.

Jim R. - It's just plain silly to talk about my gambling. I don't gamble any more than the next fellow - an occasional bet on the horses or a card game, that's all. And I have had some real winnings.

The real trouble is that Mildred is a nag. She always has been and always will be. She goes all over the place complaining about me - to her family, my family, friends - anyone who'll listen to her.

If Mildred's disgusted with everything, I'm twice as disgusted. I can't take her nagging any more. One of these days I just won't come home at all and then she'll see how she likes it without me.

The Council: Mildred and Jim seem to be suffering from the same disease - emotional childishness.

Psychologists find that gamblers are nearly all alike at heart. They believe in magic the way children or primitive peoples do. Feeling helpless against the larger forces of life, they set up a mental image of a world in which destiny will work for or against them according to certain mysterious laws. They believe that certain days are "lucky" or certain words or ritualistic actions will put the gods in their favor.

The mature individual accepts the fact that he usually reaps as he sows. Accident occasionally works either for or against him, but these occasions are few. On the whole, he knows he makes any worthwhile gains through hard work.

Mildred shows her childishness in another way - a way more natural to women than gambling. She looks for some stronger, probably older person to help her out of her difficulties. She doesn't accept the fact that at the age of 30 only she can help herself to a better life.

Mildred and Jim each have the urge to run away from one another and the life they have created. This is just another bit of childishness. They know, at heart, that they need one another and their family life and they wouldn't be happy any other place.

Mildred and Jim can straighten out their difficulties if they agree to work together like two adults. A budget should be worked out showing where every penny goes. Jim should get a small percentage to use any way he likes. If he wants to gamble with that it should be his privilege.

Mildred should make the effort to be attractive and happy and create a pleasant home atmosphere. She should be aware that her nagging and complaining undermine her husband's self-respect and make him seek pleasure away from home. She can make a better husband of him by being a better wife.

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4-H NEWS

Crackerjacks Cooking Club
The last meeting of the Crackerjacks 4-H Cooking club was held at the home of Mrs. Warren Loffer.

Christine Lewandowski called the meeting to order. A discussion was held on the county fair and demonstrations. Luanna Loffer invited a guest, Joanne Smith.

Mrs. Loffer reviewed the group on muffins.
Mary Ann Snider, Reporter

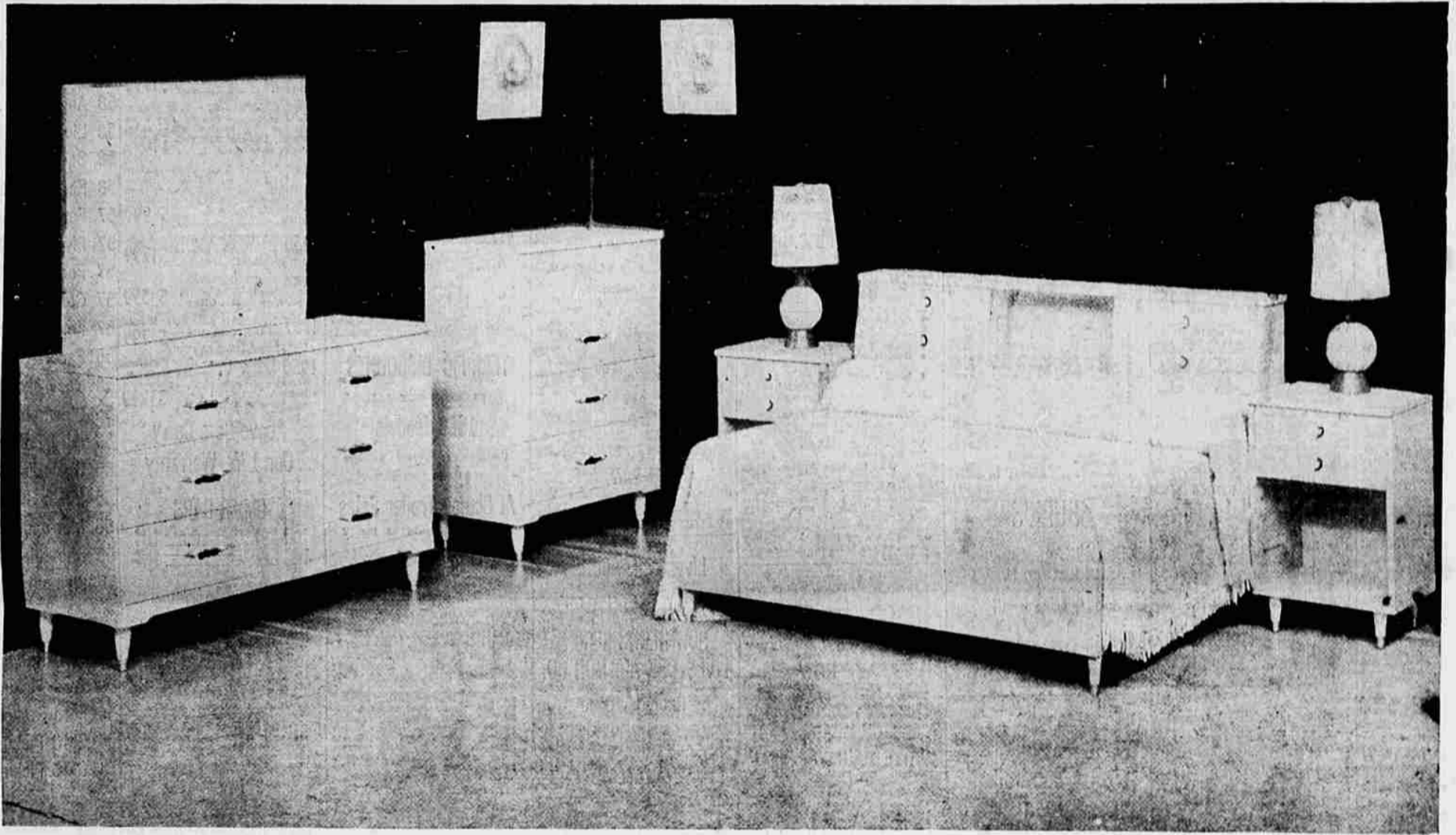
Portland - (UPI) - Multnomah county police arrested five Portland youths at a drive-in restaurant here Saturday when a mob of an estimated 100 persons failed to break up and began threatening violence.

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