

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

Marjorie B. - His brother creates arguments.
Edward B. - The men enjoy talking with him.

Marjorie B. - I have a terrific social problem involving my brother-in-law.

John is a very fine guy, but he happens to be a strong Democrat in a Republican community. Nearly all of our friends and relatives are Republicans. John is obsessed with politics. He eats, sleeps and lives politics. Even his wife says she can hardly stand his constant preoccupation with it.

Everytime I give a party John gets into an argument with somebody there. I have begged him to tone down, but he pays no attention. As a result, I don't want to invite him to any more of our entertainments. My husband objects.

Edward B. - I don't share my brother's opinions, but I would fight for his right to voice them. I feel that Margie wants to squelch him simply because she and the other women don't like to hear opinions with which they disagree.

I think the men take a different attitude. They enjoy a good fight with a worthy opponent. My brother is well informed and no moron. I think the men like to get together with him.

Aside from all that, he's still my brother and I know he'd feel quite hurt if we were to exclude him from our social set. We have always enjoyed a good relationship and I don't want feuds.

The Council: It always takes at least two to make an argument. So Marjorie is being a little unfair when she points the accusing finger at John, simply because he belongs to the minority in her set. The fact is that he couldn't get into a conflict unless one or more persons in the group wanted to take him up on it.

We suspect that Edward is tuned in on the right frequency when he suggests that the men in the group enjoy their arguments with John and the women may find him objectionable for precisely that reason.

This is not said in a spirit of belittling women's interest in politics and public affairs. Certainly today, many of them take far greater interest and are better informed than their spouses.

Social life is, however, far more important to women than to men simply because, in most cases, it is their big opportunity for expression outside the home. They plan their entertainments carefully, take a great deal of care about their appearance, try to be entertaining companions. And they want some attention from men for all this trouble.

Even those women who feel the same enthusiasm in political discussion that men do, like to have some attention paid them as feminine creatures.

We think it is up to the hostess to create an enjoyable evening for both men and women. Marjorie is confessing defeat when she says she must exclude her brother-in-law in order to create the right kind of social occasion. As long as her brother-in-law argues ideas and policies and is not insulting to any of the guests he is a social asset. It's up to the girls to use their wiles to win attention.

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Moth Discovered In Oriental Pine

Salem - (UPI) - A moth considered a "serious threat" to Oregon's commercial and ornamental pine trees has been found in a Portland nursery, the State Agriculture department said Friday.

Agriculture Director J. F. Short said the ornamental pine stock in the nursery has been put under quarantine pending a conference with forestry and agricultural officials of Oregon and Washington state later this month. The dreaded moth is of the European pine shoot variety. The moth has been the object of an Oregon search since heavy infestations came to light in the Seattle-Tacoma, Wash., area earlier. The department said the nursery is giving "full cooperation."

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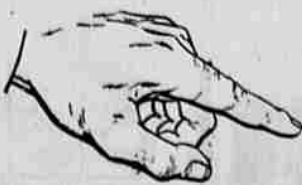
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