

The Family Council Auto Production Decrease Expected During Next Year

Editor's Note: The Family Council consists of a judge, a psychiatrist, three clergymen, three editors and a women's editor. 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.

Candace T. - His work keeps him away all week. I want him to quit.

Chester T. - Other women manage fine. Why is she such a baby?

Candace T. - Chet is a long-haul truck driver and must often be away for days on cross-country jobs. When we were first married I didn't mind these absences too much, because I had my job to fill the days and I could use the evenings to visit. The freedom was nice, and so was the light housekeeping I could get away with.

But now it's six years and three babies later. I need a husband around and the children need more than a weekend father. When Chet leaves early Monday morning for a five-day hitch, all I can think of is Friday night when he'll be back.

The worst time is evenings when I see the other husbands coming home for dinner. And all I do is finish up the children's hamburger, get to some ironing after they're in bed, and call it a day.

I know Chet could get work that would enable him to come home every night. Even if he made less money, the sacrifices would be worthwhile. He'd have some home life, and I wouldn't be so lonely.

Chester T. - Candy knew what she was in for when she married me. She even encouraged me to ask for this assignment during our engagement because the pay was almost double what I was making on local jobs, and we wanted to buy a small home.

I was proud of her "guts" in being willing to be alone so much of the time. I figured here's a real helpmate, a grown woman, not a baby who's afraid to stay by herself.

But now she's whimpering. I realize she gets fed up with the care of the babies and the house. But she's free to get a sitter and go places during the week. And we do have wonderful week ends. I'm sure Candy will admit that I take over the kids almost 100 per cent. They're so glad to see me and I'm gaga over them.

She's just indulging in self-pity. I've asked her to be patient. In our concern, after you've put in ten years of this rugged schedule you're in line for an office job.

The funny thing is that Tom, my relief man, tells me his wife won't let him change back. She loves having the week to herself. She's using the evenings to go to night school.

The Council: The T's design for living is indeed hard for a young wife with small children. But for a mature, self-reliant woman it can have some pleasant compensations and byproducts.

Candace is obviously overlooking the "good" side of the deal in her preoccupation with her role as week day widow.

With five days in which she's the boss of her own schedule, she can have the big meal at noon and plan long quiet evenings for rest, reading, study or having the neighbors in. No need to keep dinner hot. Plenty of time to play with the children before their bedtime.

We gather that through babysitters and relatives, Candace can get away if she wants to. That means a chance to make herself more interesting and attractive through acquiring new knowledge and skill. A homemaker who must attend to her husband's needs every evening, in addition to her children's all day, hasn't this latitude for self-development.

But instead of adjusting the days to yield the greatest return in accomplishment, Candace goes into a robotic trance where she tends the house and minds the children.

Board Product To Aid Industry

Corvallis -UPB- A new process for making a board product from bark may add a lift to the Oregon lumber industry, according to the Oregon Forest Research Center here.

Lelf D. Espenas, director of research, said today that a board from bark of the Douglas fir or Ponderosa pine can be made without adding expensive resins for bonding.

Under proper conditions of heat and pressure, he said, natural substances in bark react to bond together. Resins for bonding presently used are responsible for nearly half the cost of manufacturing other particle boards.

mechanically and centers all conscious thought on poor little me. What a dullard she must be turning into! And what a nag!

Since Chester holds out to her the chance that he may be able to change his long-distance commuting duties in a few years, and since the present job is one he likes and gets well paid for, Candace would be smart to stop complaining and use this period to build up her self-sufficiency so Chester can continue to be proud of her.

If he senses that she wants him around more because she's unable to fill her idle moments herself, he may balk at having to serve as a sort of babysitter to an overdependent wife. If Candace wants him to accept that office job when it's offered to him, she must act like a magnet and not a millstone.

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Washington-UPB-Large unsold inventories, unemployment and "unsettled business conditions" will cause a 13 per cent drop in auto production next year, the Commerce Department has predicted.

The department's annual auto review and outlook statement, said production of new automobiles was likely to fall from 6.7 million in 1960 to 5.8 million in 1961.

The 1960 total, up 1.1 million, or 20 per cent, from 1959, was just what the department predicted a year ago. It was the second best production year in the history, trailing only the record of 7.9 million cars assembled in 1955.

Based on Slowdown

The department based its forecast of a production drop next year on the general business slowdown of the last six months and on reports that

dealers have enough cars on hand to meet demands.

A major cause of this year's 20 per cent production spurt was the introduction of the compact cars, the department said.

U.S. compact models, it said, accounted for about 30 per cent of the 1960 production and were likely to make up 35 to 40 per cent of the cars made in 1961.

A second major factor in the 1960 auto output spurt was the rebound from the 1959 steel strike which forced cutbacks in auto production.

No Great Demand

The department said dealers had about one million cars now on hand, meaning there is no great demand on auto factories.

Commenting on 1961 prospects, the department said it would be a "good year" but not a record shattering one.

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