

The Family Council

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. (Copyright 1961—General Features Corp.)

Mrs. G. O. — He's on a "letter" strike and never writes home from college.

Bruce O. — She's overanxious and I want her to relax about me.

Mrs. G. O. — My son is at college 500 miles from home and, for some reason, he has a block against writing to us. I drop him cards and letters regularly, telling him every little thing, asking him questions. But now I feel I'm talking to myself, or to the wind.

It's bad enough that he won't jot a few words off to me, but it's downright embarrassing for me to meet one of his girl friends or my sister, and learn he didn't even send them a thank you note for cookies or birthday cards.

I tell him it's not what he writes, it's the idea. Even one line would do.

Bruce O. — At first I wrote my parents a "duty" letter every Monday. But setting things down in black-and-white make a lot of hot air sound much too solid, too important and historic. I've assured my mother that nothing worth writing home about happens to me.

For example, once I mentioned dating a coed. In her next few letters my mother kept asking about Donna, whereas by then I'd forgotten all about Donna, was a few girls past her and deep in my term paper on Urban Renewal.

The clincher, though was her calling me long-distance to bawl me out. She knows I'm O.K., but she nags anyway.

The Council — The obvious solution for Mrs. O. would be to stop pumping the news into Bruce so plentifully and punctually, and start starving him. Let him get so hungry for a letter from home that he breaks down and asks, "Are you there?"

But there's a chance in this case, that even then Bruce wouldn't write. Mrs. O. may be one of those mothers who is so hovering, so smothering that her son is grasping for air. He's grateful for those 500 miles, every one of them. At last what he eats, wears, says, does, need not be reviewed by her. Of course he'll accept her homemade brownies and laundry packages and he won't mail his thanks. He'll tell her he'd rather forego the attentions than be forced to acknowledge them.

As to Bruce's correspondence with others, Mrs. O. needn't try to "cover" for him. He can mend his own fences when he's in town. To coax some form of response for herself, she might try the following:

Cut down, desist, hold back. Be cryptic when she writes, to keep him guessing. "Met a couple of your friends on the train," will do. Don't say who, what train, and what's new. This will be hard for an effervescent spouter like Mrs. O. But restraint is bound to pay off eventually. She might also try the lazyman's form letter in which Bruce need only check off multiple-choice answers like: I'm well, alive, kicking, sick, pooped, etc.

But fess up, Mrs. O. Those fat letters to your son fill your needs more than his and he can't respond in kind. To Bruce, though we suggest that he stop going to the inhuman extreme of complete silence in order to "discipline" his mother. A letter home is a letter home. It needn't say a thing.

Drinking Habits In Finland Show Unusual Aspect

Helsinki (UPI) — A sociologist with a bent for the unusual might study the phenomenon that makes Finland both the most teetotaling and the most hard drinking country in Europe.

With a per-capita consumption of 2.5 liters, or just under three quarts, of alcohol per year, Finland consumes less than any other country in western Europe.

But in proportion to the actual amount consumed, Finland turns out more alcoholics than any other country on the continent.

Henrik Wallgren, a young Finnish zoologist and physiologist, is no expert on sociology, so all he does is pose the question:

"Why has Finland more alcoholics than, for example, France?"

Own Theory
 Using some data gathered by other researchers and some he dug up himself, Wallgren comes up with a theory of his own:

"The greater the percentage of hard liquor in the total amount consumed, the greater the alcoholism rate in comparison with total consumption."

And Finland's liquid diet is more than three-fourths hard liquor.

Using some figures compiled for his study, "Some Social and Cultural Aspects of Alcoholism," published by the Canadian Psychological Association, Wallgren noted that drinking habits vary greatly from country to country.

France, with a per capita consumption of some 17 liters (almost 18 quarts) of alcohol annually, does about two-thirds of its drinking from the wine bottle. The average Italian drinks little more than half of the amount the Frenchman consumes, and drinks an even greater percentage of wine. The Belgian drinks about 7.5 liters of alcohol a year, according to these figures, and beer makes up about 80 per cent of the liquid diet.

Perhaps Wallgren theorizes, geography and climate play some role, since Finland, Sweden and Norway, in that order, are Europe's biggest consumers of hard liquor.

Popular Pineapple



by Alice Brooks

This large square—12 inches in No. 30 cotton has many uses. Make mats, incidental dollies.

If you use string you will get a 16-inch square—quickly made scarves 16x32 or 16x48 inches that will delight you. Pattern 7446: crochet directions.

Send Thirty-five cents (coins) for this pattern—add 10 cents for each pattern for 1st-class mailing. Send to Alice Brooks, care of Medford Mail Tribune, Needlecraft Dept., P. O. Box 163, Old Chelsea Station, New York 11, N.Y. Print plainly NAME, ADDRESS, PATTERN NUMBER.

JUST OUT! Our 1961 Needlecraft Book. Over 125 designs for home furnishings, for fashions—knit, crochet, embroider, weave, sew, quilt—toys, gifts, bazaar items. FREE—six designs for popular veil caps. Quick—send 25c TODAY.

Grange Notes

Sams Valley
 A meeting of Sams Valley Grange is scheduled for 8 p.m. Saturday, April 8. Each member is to bring a cake. Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Straus and Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Baldwin are on the serving committee.

Horses perspire as do no other farm animals. For this reason, they need extra salt in their diet.

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 All transient guests. All those who come, return. Rates not high, not low. Free garage, TV's and radios. Reputation for cleanliness.
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STARTS TOMORROW 9:30 A.M.

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WOMEN'S TRICOT KNIT Rayon Gowns \$1

Cool rayon tricot knit in pretty pastel colors, lace trimmed. Wash in a wink, little or no ironing. Sizes small, medium, large and extra large.

LARGE KAPOK Bed Pillows \$2

Strong — yet lighter than ever before! They're resilient, soft, plump... made to let air circulate. Cotton print cover.

MEN'S 100% NYLON Stretch Socks 3 pairs \$1

Neat and trim fitting in longer wearing nylon stretch yarns. Woven in smart looking patterns. Small, medium and large sizes.

BOYS' 13 3/4-OUNCE Blue Jeans \$1.50

Lowest prices ever on these heavy 13 3/4 ounce weight jeans. Western styled! Action-free comfort. Reinforced at points of strain. Sanitized. Sizes 6 to 16.

BOYS' COTTON KNIT Polo Shirts 2 for \$1

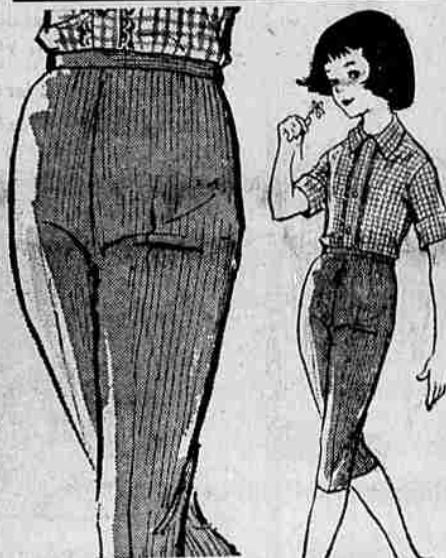
Now's the time to pick up several of these combed cottons! Smart crew neck styling. Many multicolored stripes. Sizes 4 through 12.

BIG 30 BY 50-INCH Scatter Rugs 2 for \$5

You'll want 'em for hall, bedroom, to protect carpet from heavy wear. Lavender, sand, white, silver, magenta, green. Big 30 by 50 inches.

MEN'S COTTON Broadcloth Pajamas \$2

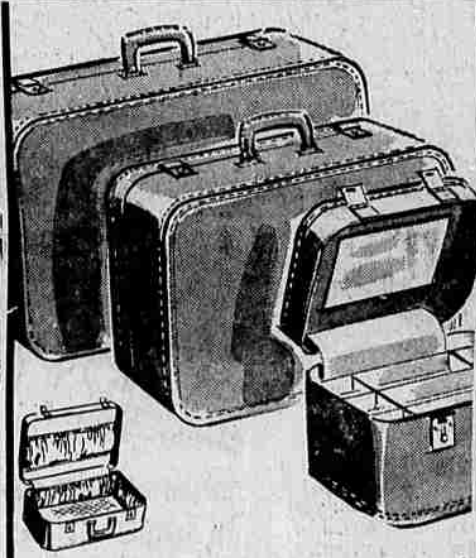
Cool cotton broadcloth pajamas in fine quality sanforized broadcloth. Slipover or coat style in smart patterns and colors. Sizes A-B-C and D.



WAMPUM SAVINGS! GIRLS' TEXTURE COTTON MIDCALFS

Crosscord®! Random Cord®! Twills! Penney's own Cordino! Fabulous machine washable cottons tailored just for our Anniversary event into boxer-back midcalfs. Sturdy Penney construction takes wear! Colors.

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WOMEN'S SMART 3-PIECE LUGGAGE ENSEMBLE BUY!

Three most wanted sizes in durable vinyl! Morocco grain covering... beauty case, 21" weekend, 26" pullman! All feature wood box construction, glamorous rayon-acetate lining. Fashion colors.

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 *plus 10% federal tax

ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL! MIX-MATCH SETS
 In Smooth and Textured Cotton
1.50 Tops
\$2 Ripplecord Pants
 Matched or switched, these add up to many fashion faces to fit every facet of your casual life. Slacks are in favored cotton ripplecord in black, green, gold, blue. Great teamwork with color-cued print shirt or crop top. All machine washable. Sizes 10 to 20.

Anniversary Special! Perfect SHEER SEAMLESS Nylons 2 pairs \$1
 Scoop up a dozen pair! First quality seamless hosiery with smart satin finish, flattering new shades, 400 n.e.d., 15 denier! Sizes 8 1/2 to 11. Get them by the box and save for the months ahead.

SUPER BARGAIN! PENNEY'S STREET FLOOR



SPECIAL! NEW-LOOK COTTON SLACK SETS

Big Anniversary savings on our print crop tops... stalk-slim slacks! Newy hues. Machine wash. Sizes 10 to 18.

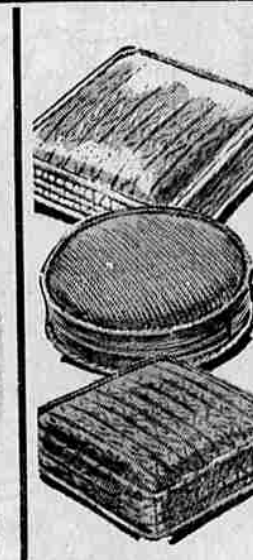
2.99 Set
 Penney's Mezzanine Floor



SAVE! 4-YARD PRE-CUT COTTONS!

80-square and other fine quality cottons in smart new spring prints. Dozens of prints for every purpose. Machine wash.

4 yds. \$1



BIG BOUNCY TOSS PILLOWS! ZIP COVERS!

Foam rubber fill; smart cotton corduroy or textured rayon and acetate cover!

Lavender, gold, blue, green, turquoise, red, orange, toast. 14 inch squares, round. **2 for \$5**



WOMEN'S SPORT OXFORDS IN COTTON CORDUROY!

In black, loden, green and beige! Widths to fit in these handsome oxfords feature a correct balance arch for added support. Sanitized for freshness!

4 1/2 to 9 **2.99**



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Short sleeved combed cotton sport shirts in colorful plaids! Cut to exacting standards. Wash, dry, touch up iron!

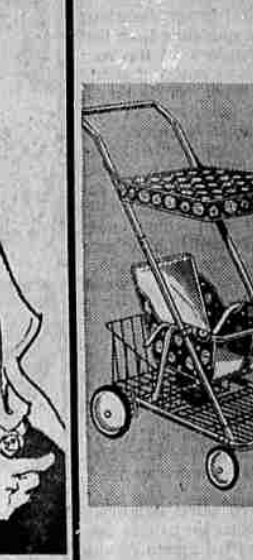
Sizes 4 thru 18 **\$1**



HEAP BIG BUY ON OUR SHORT-SLEEVE SHIRTS

Beat a trail to Penney's for cotton oxford and cotton broadcloth dress shirts. Short point or button-down.

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Light! Sturdy! Fold it, take it along. Swivel front wheels. Chrome-plated tubular steel frame! Adjustable back rest.

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