

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.

Aaron F. - They omitted me from the guest-list and I'm hurt.

Bessie S. - He never showed up at previous family affairs.

Aaron F. - Even though I had full intentions of attending two recent celebrations in our family, things came up at the last minute which forced me to absent myself. Now I learn that my sister's son was married two weeks ago at a sumptuous hotel, and I wasn't even invited.

This hurts me. I'm still a close member of the family. Whether I show up or not at the parties, I usually send a gift. I'm in the theatrical business where "anything" can happen, and I can't ever be sure of going through with appointments made in advance.

Bessie S. - The family of my son's bride is not wealthy. Her father is a hard-working grocer. They were paying \$80 a couple for the guests at the wedding. And they asked us to limit our invitations to 20 couples. Actually there were about 80 couples we felt we wanted or ought to invite, and trimming the list was torture.

Aaron is in the habit of accepting all invitations and never showing up. Just a month before the wedding, he made us pay for two empty places at our Silver Anniversary banquet. This time we asked someone we were sure of.

The Council: Has there ever been an elaborate and formal family wing-ding where someone isn't sore? Those are the natural occasions for relatives with axes to grind to bring them to a sharp point and settle them. The axe, here, seems to be Aaron's.

The etiquette books notwithstanding, there are no musts about wedding invitations. They need not be bound by family relationships exclusively. When choices must be made, a close friend who has been a mainstay through ups and downs can be substituted for a blood relative who hasn't the least idea who's marrying whom!

If Aaron is really the fond uncle he protests he is, he won't make this omission the basis for a family feud. Instead, he will try to see the problem Bessie had and accept her reasoning. Evidently she's not the only member of the family Aaron antagonized by saying, "Yes, yes," and then not appearing. Worse, Aaron probably doesn't even apologize. And still worse, he sends a gift "usually" but not always, after expensive places are reserved for him. A confrontation with previously offended relatives might not have been pleasant at this wedding.

There'll be other parties and we hope, through Bessie's good offices and Aaron's good humor, he's returned to the "live prospect" list. His excuses may seem lame. They may be interpreted as making a lack of interest or desire to meet the folks. But, despite all the "events" a theatre man attends, we'll wager he welcomes a chance to swap reminiscences with great-aunt Hattie and see how little Bert-ram turned out.

However, Aaron must be less casual about skipping a celebration. And Bessie must acknowledge that her brother really does lead an unpredictable life, and excuse an absence for which he is genuinely contrite.

In this instance, besides being contrite, Aaron might be "big" enough to send the newlyweds a present even though he was involuntarily absent.

Study Announced For Primitive Area

Portland - (UPI) - J. Herbert Stone, Regional Forester, announced here Saturday that a study will be made of the Mt. Jefferson Primitive area in the Central Oregon Cascades to determine its suitability for more permanent wilderness status.

The Mt. Jefferson Primitive area is comprised of 88,700 acres and was first designated in 1930. Its acreage was increased in 1933. The area consists of portions of the Deschutes, Mt. Hood and Willamette National Forests.

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FOAM RUBBER DAVENPORT and CHAIR or FOAM RUBBER HIDE-AWAY BED

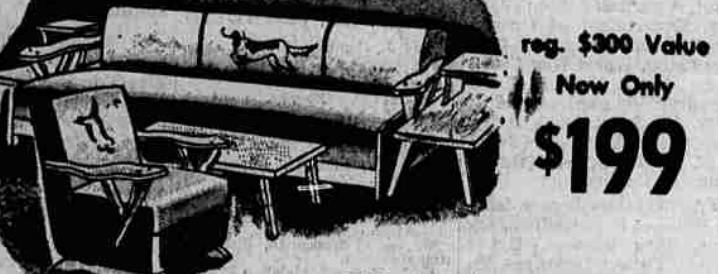
The nylon davenport and chair set has 100% pure foam rubber cushions, zippered and reversible for easy cleaning. Spacious and comfortable! The Hide-Away Bed is a foam rubber sofa that converts into a full size bed with innerspring mattress. Both in your choice of beautiful colors.



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