



MISS TEEN USA — Linda Henning, 15, of Sioux Falls, S.D., has been crowned Miss Teen U.S.A. She won the title over 32 contestants from all over the United States. The award was presented in Santa Monica, Calif. (UPI)

The Family Council

Editor's Note: The Family Council consists of a judge, a psychiatrist, three clergymen, three editors and a woman'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 by General Features Corp.)

Donald G. — My father makes me account for every penny.

Mr. L. G. — It's good training. He sees his mistakes.

Donald G. — I'm 11 years old and in junior high. My parents have made an allowance deal with me which sounds good but is really awful. The amount is okay, it covers my carfare, lunches and school supplies. It also lets me have a coke or a pizza a couple of times a week, and there's enough for a movie. If I'm careful, I can even treat a friend to a ticket.

What bothers me is that my father insists on my keeping a record of every cent I spend. At the end of the week he wants to see it. Why? As long as I don't run short or start to borrow, he should leave me alone. He makes me feel like a baby.

Mr. L. G. — What's wrong with teaching a kid how to handle money? It's good to get into the habit of keeping track of where it goes. I still put down personal expenditures in a little book. Just as with Don, I give myself an allowance and I try to keep within it. I budget myself, and writing things down shows me where I went wrong or else how smart I was.

I don't intend to command him to stop buying comic books or start walking a mile to school. My idea is to show him how he might make his money go further, even save some in a small bank account for a big purchase. Then I might even add a few dollars to interest him in "interest."

The Council: — A mail-order house used to offer a coat hanger for a nickel. If you sent for it you got a nail. Now, Mr. G., would Don learn more from mailing in his nickel and getting stuck, than from listening to you tell him it's a fraud? We think he would.

Having pockets that go jingle-jangle make a kid feel ten feet tall, but only when it's his own money, not change for the milk bill or money to be tested by, as is Don's allowance. While it is hard for a parent to stand back, watching his child make a mistake in spending, Mr. G. must do just that for a few weeks if he's really interested in equipping Don for money-handling on his own.

Naturally Dad can tell in a flash where Don is overinvesting and overpaying. But don't tell Don, Dad. Not right away. Not every day. Life will be telling him more cogently, more impressively, than you can. If he weakens one week and blows the bankroll on between-meal hamburgers, he may have to ask you for an advance on next week's stipend to make good his offer to buy two chances on a raffle. His embarrassment whispers that the hamburgers were a mistake — more eloquently than your admonition could. It's no real fun, no chal-

lenge deciding how to allot one's funds with the eye of experience looking over one's shoulder. Dad may look, of course, but not too often, and preferably only when Don seems to be in need of an audit. At first his purchases will be based upon trial-and-error, trial-and-error. Mr. G. should let him float along on his heady sense of importance. If he's headed for the cold gray awakening called "insufficient funds" he'd better hit it the hard way, alone. That would soften him toward the counsel of his Dad, with or without an advance on next week's allowance.

The only time for stepping in here would be when Don's spending becomes so unbridled and conspicuous as to suggest an emotional difficulty behind it. He must be helped to gain power over more than money.

State Commodities Are Shipped by Rail

Eugene led the nation, in 1960, as a rail shipper of seeds, fresh pears, and frozen fruits.

For this reason the health of the railroads and their future prospects are of vital importance to Oregon farmers, writes Roy J. Sampson, assistant professor of transportation in the University of Oregon school of business administration.

Sampson, whose article, "Never Discount Railroad Importance," appears in the April issue of Oregon Farmer, points out that in addition to her standing in the shipping of seeds, pears, and frozen fruits, Oregon ranked second in the nation in shipment of dry onions, third in frozen vegetables, and eighth as a potato shipper.

All of the products were widely distributed, necessitating long rail hauls. The largest tonnage item, grains and grain products, was not moved for long distances, but some 20,000 rail carloads were involved in the shorter movements.

He adds that Oregon's agricultural economy is based on mass distribution of its products both regionally and nationally, and "despite the existence of competing forms of transport this job cannot be done cheaply and effectively without efficient railroad service."

It seems obvious, he writes, "that an abundant and efficient rail service at reasonable rates is essential to the health of Oregon's agricultural economy. For without adequate railroad service, Oregon agriculture would be seriously handicapped in distributing its products and would be squeezed out of many key markets."

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