

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 a family disagreement presented to the Council. The Council deals with problems, major and minor, encountered by guidance counselors and social workers. Edited by Mrs. Alma Deany. (Copyright by General Features Corp.)

Mrs. J. L.—I don't think our living arrangements will work out.

CORA L.—I thought my mother was beyond being so petty.

Mrs. J. L.—My daughter and I are trying out what looks like a noble experiment, but which—like many others—is probably doomed to failure.

My husband and I occupied an attractive three-room apartment while Cora was in college. During her senior year he passed away, and now that she has graduated it seemed the natural thing for her to move in with me. But since we both have jobs it was agreed that we'd try to consider each other "roommates," just as though we were sharing quarters with a stranger, rather than fall back on our old mother-daughter habits.

Unfortunately Cora isn't sticking to our bargain. Each morning I find a note from her with instructions one wouldn't dare give a roommate. She doesn't dare give a roommate a lick of housekeeping, cooking or marketing either. Instead of work being shared, it's quadrupled—for me.

CORA L.—The only time a roommate arrangement can work out is when you find someone who's sympathetic and flexible. I thought Mother was. I know I am. But I guess I'd overestimated her adjustability. I'd forgotten how fussy she was about every dolly being in place, and every used-up item being immediately replaced.

I only ask her to do things for me which I'd gladly do for her. If she requested them, since she gets home first, I hand her my food requests so she can get dinner started. She's the dressmaker between the two of us, so of course I leave my skirts with her to be shortened. Sometimes I ask her to help out with a small errand. These are things I'd be glad to do for my roommate, and more so if it was for my own child.

As for housekeeping, the living room is mine and I clean it week ends.

THE COUNCIL: For those who must run as they read, we have a shortform answer for Cora and her mother on what sharing an apartment implies. The dictionary says that "to share" means "to enjoy, with others." Hence, unless each of these co-tenants is helping the other to enjoy life in the same three-rooms-and-bath, she isn't sharing but is hogging.

But, we hasten to add in case the runners are still reading, there's no magic, no tricks of the intellect or of the vocabulary, that can turn a mother and daughter into detached, "uninvolved" roommates. These are two gals who really new each other when, and the kid gloves go out the window pronto. A meanie is called a meanie, not "forgetful."

One kitchen, one bath, two women, three rooms, four times four things to argue about each day—that's about what it can add up to unless certain rare conditions prevail between the principals. Mrs. L. and Cora started out with her first one—an agreement on terms, but are coming out on the just-as-important next one—adherence to terms.

Suppose we proposed a new way to set up this intriguing menage-a-deux:

1. Terms are to be as specific as possible, with Cora "keeping up" the living room every day, not just weekends, because Mrs. L. must pass through it every day and may even wish to have a guest pass through it, too.

2. Major lapses and omissions are to be regarded as serious "defections" with cumulative black marks accruing to the setup. These would weigh heavily during discussions, when it's "time to renew."

3. But minor "short-cuts" and lick-and-promise smooth-overs would be overlooked in a spirit of live-and-let-live sympathy and generosity. All successful roommates have three essential qualifications which make this last provision possible: a sense of humor, a resiliency and an acceptance of "the human factor" in any deal.

Encompassing all the above



NEW UNIFORMS—These trim uniforms, shown for the first time by Postmaster General J. Edward Day at the national postal clerks convention in Portland, will soon be worn by some 30,000 window clerks in the nation's post offices. Here Mrs. Bonnie Del Vecchio and George King display the uniforms. The jackets are blue and the ties are maroon. (UPI)

Stockholder, 88, Records No Losses

By JONATHAN KLEINBARD
United Press International
Philadelphia — (UPI) — Walter Sonneberg has owned stocks for more than 50 years — through one depression and many "recessions" — and has never lost a cent.

It is this same care which enabled the 88-year-old economics expert to retire more than 20 years ago after working in the Pennsylvania Railroad's accounting department for 39 years.

There are no social security checks in Sonneberg's mail and he has no family which feathers his nest for him. Rather, Sonneberg and his wife live in their comfortable Mt. Airy section home on his

businesslike considerations is the emotional one for Mrs. L., especially. Making up for some of the impositions is the great privilege and comfort of being so close—physically and companionately—to a young daughter who not only loves her, but—what is rarer—obviously likes her a great deal.

railroad pension and from investments in the stock market.

But the couple's future wasn't always so secure. The octogenarian can recall his first job when he made between \$40 and \$50 a month. No goal.

"I didn't have any definite goal in mind when I left high school. I just started out with the idea of getting ahead and securing my future," he said.

He not only planned his security, but was able to save enough to enable his wife and himself to see most of the country. They traveled on his vacations to Florida, Maine and California.

Sonneberg thinks his investments helped him most of all. "I made them to insure a future income," he said.

Sonneberg, who usually sports a bright pink rose in his lapel, believes the secret of investing money is to choose the right companies. He named three in which he has put money over many years—Borden Company, Inc., Pennsylvania Power and Light company, and Pennsylvania Glass and Sand company.

Financial Correspondence
Sonneberg has a drawer full of correspondence with such financial experts as Dr. E. G. Nourse, former Truman administration economics expert, and Bernard Baruch.

Sonneberg thinks the trouble with the American economy is that there is too much emphasis on money.

"Dollars aren't the important factor," he said. "It's the organization of the economy itself which matters."

He attributed the current gyrations in the stock market to a lack of confidence in the President. Although he refuses to commit himself to "crystalball gazing," Sonneberg leans toward Barry Goldwater-type economics policies.

He has published several articles on his economic theories. "Now, I lack the stamina to compile the material I've researched, so I'm not making much money from my articles," he commented wryly.

Insecticide Use Said Restricted

Washington — (UPI) — Although farmers and ranchers use more chemicals for insect control purposes than ever before, less than 5 per cent of the acreage of the 48 contiguous states is treated with insecticides in an average year.

The Entomological Society of America estimates the total quantity of insecticidal chemicals used in 48 states in an average year at 225 million pounds. The acreage of the states is about 1.93 billion acres. Of this huge acreage, only 4.62 per cent of it is treated with chemicals.

The cropland and cropland pasture available is 457 million acres. About 13 per cent, or 68.6 million acres, is treated annually with chemicals to control insects and to protect crops, livestock, health, and possessions. The poundage of chemicals used on the cropland is about 185 million pounds.

Less than one-half of 1 per cent of the forests lands undergo chemical treatment and even a smaller amount of grassland is treated. The cropland not treated represents about 85 per cent of the total cultivated land.

NEW
Hawthorne, N.J. — (UPI) — A new liquid derived from polyethylene and urethanes can be mixed with sand to make sidewalks or patios as hard as cement at much less cost, Delco Research Corporation says.

Girl Injured in Traffic Accident

An 18-year-old Medford girl, Karen Alice Mayfield, 1 Black Oak dr., was injured slightly early Monday when the car in which she was a passenger struck a light pole at a service station at South Central and Riverside aves., according to city police.

The driver of the car, Robert Ames Clarke, 23, Jacksonville, was cited by police for violation of basic rule. The accident occurred about 2:23 a.m.

In another accident Monday, vehicles operated by John Lee Swartzfaver, 16, of

Local Man Graduates From Iowa University

A student from Medford was one of 147 persons to receive degrees here recently at the second graduation ceremony of the summer quarter at Iowa State university, Ames, Iowa.

Donald G. DeLisle, son of Mrs. R. M. DeLisle, 293 North Holly st., Medford, received a Ph.D. in plant taxonomy.

744 Beall lane, and Alexander George Diepenbrock, 50, of 20 South Newtown st., were involved in a mishap about 3:25 p.m. on Bartlett st. between Seventh and Eighth sts.

No injuries were reported, police said, and no citations were issued.

Three Persons Appear in Court

Jewell David Kirklin, 27, of route 2, box 102, Central Point, pleaded innocent to charges of assault and battery in Jackson county district court yesterday.

No trial date has been set. Kirklin is charged with assaulting his wife.

On Tuesday, Louise Marie McCall, 27, of Sonoma, Calif., was bound over to the grand jury on charges of obtaining property under false pretenses. The charge involves a check.

Walter Dale Balla, 18, of

45 North Barnburg rd., Medford, was bound over to the grand jury on charges of obtaining property under false pretenses. The charge involves a check.

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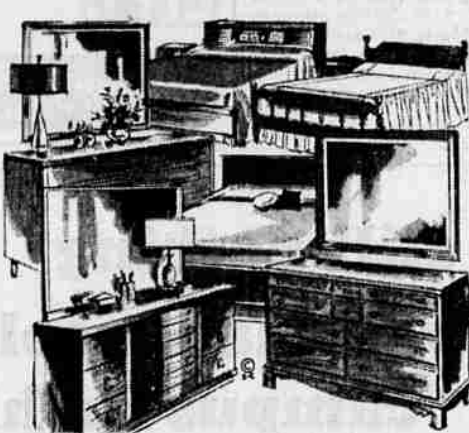
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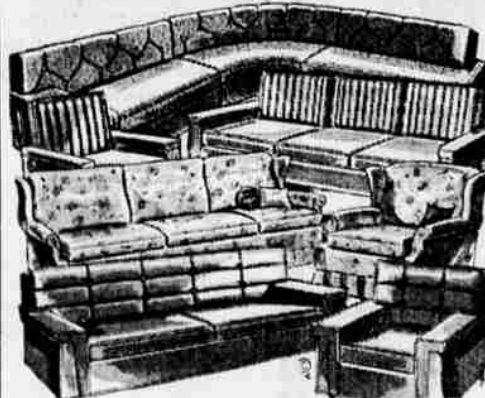
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