

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 audience, counselors and social workers. Edited by Mrs. Alma Denny. (Copyright by General Features Corp.)

Ruth V. - She's making her children too fearful.

Freda N. - Better safe than sorry, I say.

Ruth V. - My sister's instructions to her children have reached a point of ridiculousness. When I called on the family the other day, accompanied by three foreign-exchange students I was escorted around the city. I asked the youngsters to shake hands with the visitors. To my embarrassment, my 9-year-old niece replied, "We're not allowed to talk to strangers."

I want Freda to see what she's doing. She's shutting up her children inside a narrow cave for safety's sake. I'm sure she can teach them to be cautious, but at the same time to trust a few people, like their own aunt, for instance! She's getting them all mixed up.

Freda N. - We have three little ones, a daughter of 9 and two sons, 8 and 5. I'd rather have them on their guard, than ready to oblige or accompany anyone who talks to them.

The chills go through me when I read about the perverts who prey upon sweet, trusting little children. I'd rather err on the side of caution than have my youngsters get too close to the wrong person. I admit that Lorraine went a bit too far, forgetting that her Aunt Ruth stood between her and the strangers.

But I'm glad to know how careful she is. While the kids are so young, they're better off not trusting their own judgment and checking with me before every move they make.

The Council: Too much of anything - even sunny weather (as any farmer can testify) - is harmful, and Freda is ramming too much cautiousness into her young children, without balancing it with a healthy measure of optimism. Her kids are growing up with walls in front of their eyes which will not only shut other people out, but will block themselves in.

With each normal and sensible admonition, Freda should also hand out a "lift," an escape hatch. "Don't take things from strangers." "Don't answer strangers who try to strike up a conversation with you." "Don't accept candy, ice cream, toys, or rides from strangers." - these are all common-sense warnings. But at the same time, Freda must emphasize the fact that most people, even strangers, are kind and friendly, and that basically this is a good and wonderful world we live in. Her "scaretalk" is merely to place them on guard against the tiny fringe of sick people who are at large. She hopes (she must get across to them) that as they grow older and their judgment grows keener, they can allow their warm impulses toward people more free play. Her present hold-back counsel is specifically aimed at protecting them against molesters, not against their fellowmen.

Aunt Ruth is right to ask her sister to re-examine what she is doing. The children are becoming overcautious, and developing an unnecessary antagonism towards new acquaintances. There's a delicate danger line between wariness and hostility. Freda's children are en route to viewing anyone new, who hasn't been okayed by their mother, as a saboteur. She'd do better to keep them viewing such people as, at least, question marks.

There's a free leaflet, offered by the Police Dept. of N. Y. City, which can guide parents like Freda. Entitled, "A Message to Women", it suggests nine precautions families can take against child molesters. From Ruth's description, we gather that Freda has been taking nine times nine precautions, which are adding up to more than is necessary and to a distorted view of the world for Freda's children.



AMBASSADOR'S FAMILY—The newly appointed Philippine Ambassador to the United States, Amelito R. Mutuc, poses with his family in front of the embassy in Washington. From left they are the Ambassador, Mrs. Mutuc holding twins Paola and Pietro, 8 months; Jose Maria, 9; Corinna, 8, Rosa Maria, 7; Emmanuel, 6, and Maria Victoria, 4. (UPI)

Feeding the Family

Baked Stuffed Salmon Truly Elegant Eating

Famed west coast salmon is available in good supply. If you don't see whole fish in displays, ask the marketman. Tell him you want a five-pound or so fresh salmon for stuffing. Plan on 10 servings, obviously a very special occasion. Garnish with plenty of lemon wedges - lots of parsley sprigs or watercress.

5 pounds fresh salmon, ready for stuffing
1/4 cup finely chopped onion
1/4 cup finely chopped celery

1/4 cup butter or margarine
16 saltine crackers, crushed (about 2 cups)
1/2 teaspoon pepper
1/2 teaspoon poultry seasoning
1 tablespoon minced parsley

1 12-ounce package frozen oysters, thawed or chopped or 1 can oysters
Saute onion and celery in butter or margarine until tender. Combine with saltine cracker crumbs, pepper, poultry seasoning, minced parsley and oysters. Pack lightly into cavity of fish. Place in greased baking dish. Brush with melted butter. Sprinkle with salt and pepper. Bake in moderate oven, 350 degrees, 1 1/2 hours or until fish flakes easily when touched with a fork.

Cheese-Topped Biscuits
For about a dozen biscuits of distinction, combine 1 1/2 cups biscuit mix, one-half cup milk and one tablespoon in instant minced onion to make

a soft dough. Spoon into mounds on lightly greased baking sheet.

Make an indentation in center of each biscuit and fill with a spoonful of a sharp cheese spread from a jar. It will take about half of a five-ounce jar. Bake biscuits in hot oven, 425 degrees, 12 to 15 minutes, until browned. Serve hot.

Spicy Chicken Sauce
Fry broiler-fryers as usual; then make a spicy orange sauce using pan drippings in this new and wonderful way instead of making the usual gravy.

Stir two tablespoons flour into one-fourth cup pan drippings from fried chicken; add two tablespoons brown sugar, salt and pepper, one-half teaspoon nutmeg, one-half teaspoon ginger, 1 1/2 cups orange juice. Heat together until thickened. Stir in one-fourth teaspoon tabasco and serve very hot in a sauceboat so each person may spoon sauce over his helping of fried chicken.

Tomato Tempters
Tomato harvest is big and so are the tomatoes. Serve them hot or serve them cold because any way - baked, broiled, stewed or raw - tomatoes add zest and vitality, drama and color to meals.

For a tomato plate certain to please, allow one peeled, chilled tomato per serving; make cuts most through the tomato, fan-like or quartered wedge style. Arrange to mato on lettuce or other salad greens and fill with one of these combinations:

Tuna, chicken or shrimp salad, garnished with hard-cooked eggs.
Cottage cheese, chives, salt and freshly ground pepper.
Cream cheese seasoned with deviled ham.

Hard-cooked eggs, dill pickles and crisp crumbled bacon and seasonings.
Bologna, cucumbers, stuffed olives and green onions, chopped and seasoned.

Helpful Hints
For sliced canned chicken or any other meat for that matter, chill cans in refrigerator. Open both ends, push meat through, then slice with sharp knife.

When whipping cream, have everything-cream, bowl and beater-thoroughly chilled in refrigerator to reduce whipping time; increase volume. Grate rind from oranges or lemons before cutting. It is much easier. Wash fruit first. Grate only outer layer of rind for the fine flavor you desire.

Tender Hams
Preferred By Consumers
Food editors assembled in New York at the Newspaper Food Editors Conference were brought up to date on the ham situation when Wilson and Company, third largest meat packer in this country, reported on a congress in the "ham packing" industry. In the "good old days," ham was packed in barrels of salt and homesteaders had to wash it, parboil it for hours, skin it and then bake it. Even then the result wasn't likely to get written up in local food columns.

Came the era when ham was cured for a mere 45 days in a pickling brine to give curing processes time to get

to the center of the problem. Later came 15 day "cure." Today's processing techniques, in the "good new days," long since eliminated the necessity for putting hams into vats; curing time no longer takes 24 hours. All this research and progress came about because consumers preferred milder molster hams.

More than 90 per cent of all hams processed today are the bone-in ham, smoked and fully-cooked with moisture added, semi-boneless hams, smoked and fully cooked boneless ham, smoked and fully cooked boneless ham roll. And they all cost less than the old-fashioned kind. Canned hams, fully cooked, become more popular every year - now range in size from 1 1/2 to 4 pounds. All hams are adequately labeled for consumer convenience.

The federal government's Meat Inspection Division recently ruled that hams processed with moisture added in plants with federal inspection must be labeled "water added." This, of course, is not technically correct since plain water is not pumped into the ham. Actually additional curing solution is added for extra juiciness. Whatever has been going on has consumer approval as indicated by consumer acceptance.

Best buys: Eggs are plentiful, reasonable in price. Beef and pork supplies are greater than a year ago. Veal and lamb are fairly abundant. Strawberries are in heavier-than-usual abundance for so late in the season. Sweet, juicy, low-in-calories Honeydew, Persian and Casaba melons are in good supply.

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