

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. (Copyright 1961—General Features Corp.)

Wilma D. — On account of her, I can't tell my brother anything.

Mamie G. — I don't see anything so confidential in her talk.

Wilma D. — Because my sister-in-law is such a blabbermouth, I don't dare tell my own brother what's new with me and my family. He'll tell Mamie, and she'll tell the whole world.

She uses any little tidbits about us she can collect, as bait to get invited around. That's how she holds her audience. She hands out her version of every little family item she lays her hand on. For instance, I told my brother I'm getting a new fur coat. I planned to tell my friends, one by one, as I saw fit. What was my surprise to get a few phone calls the very next day from friends who wanted to hear the details.

How's that for a quick leak? You see now why I must keep secrets from my brother.

Mamie G. — What's all the secrecy about? You'd think Wilma is working for the FBI the way everything she says is supposed to be so important.

I can keep a secret as well as the next one, provided it's labeled a secret. Otherwise I feel free to use my own judgment on what to tell, when to tell it, to whom to tell it. But I don't see where I've done Wilma any harm to mention that she's getting a sheared racoon. It was the same when she joined a gym. After all, 1000 other women are signed up there, so I couldn't imagine her trying to hide the fact. But she didn't talk to me for weeks because I wrote the news in a family letter to a cousin.

My husband feels as bad about this as I do. Wilma has no case at all.

The Council — Here we're back to the old joke on How to Spread the News, — telephone, telegram, and tell-a-Mamie.

As to what's tellable, all depends on what about and to whom. Obviously when it's about Wilma and to the public at large, she deems it untellable except by herself. But with more relaxed people, anything that's destined to become public knowledge sooner or later may be banded about sooner by anyone who needs conversational fodder.

Some folk tell you it's Friday as though it's a State Secret. Peering to the right and left, with one hand over their mouth, they whisper sweet-nothings which are really nothings. Seclusiveness, secretiveness is a mannerism, a way of life with them, whether they are FBI men or merely nontrusting, self-important souls who won't part with a word without a price attached.

This disagreement boils down to whether Mamie is circumspect, sensitive and discreet with her tidbits of conversation, and whether Wilma is unduly touchy, suspicious, and self-dramatizing about "routine" news.

As in-laws their "feelings" may be asked. And who's caught in the squeeze? Mamie's husband, of course. His easy chatter with his wife turns him into a "grapevine" as far as his sister is concerned.

The happy compromise may lie in Mamie's realization that Wilma's attention-getters, when Mamie beats her to the punch, what's left? So it behooves Mamie to give Wilma the pleasure of talking about Wilma. Mamie can limit her conversational pearls to talk about Mamie, herself, and less self-conscious friends.

Go ahead and talk naturally. Wilma, to your brother (even if you consider him a sieve) and to Mamie. But you, Mamie, must clam up "unnaturally" so as not to steal Wilma's thunder. She needs it more than you.

People Outnumbered By Dogs on Airline

New York — (AP) — Ozark Air Lines reported that during a recent 30-day period it shipped more dogs than people from one of its normally busy passenger terminals.

More than 400 dogs of various breeds were shipped from Mt. Vernon, Ill., weighing approximately 6,319 pounds.

HEALTH COSTS

Chicago — (AP) — The Health Insurance Institute reports individual costs for health purposes rose from \$87 in 1956 to \$116 last year.

News About Servicemen

COMPLETES SCHOOL

Dennis E. Henderson, machinist's mate fireman apprentice, USN, has completed the Navy machinist's mate school at the U. S. Naval Training center, Great Lakes, Ill., and is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Henderson, 1532 Terrace dr.

On Jan. 6 the sailor will report aboard the USS Monticello at San Diego.

PEN SALES 'BULLISH'

Fort Madison, Ia. — (AP) — Unit sales of fountain pens and ballpoint pens during the 1962 holiday gift season are expected to set an all-time high mark for the writing instrument industry. Marketing analysts at the Sheaffer Pen company predict an increase of 5 to 12 per cent over the 20 million pens that moved over retail counters in the several weeks before Christmas last year.

BACHELORS LOOK AHEAD

New York — (AP) — Bachelors head the list of cedar chest purchasers, according to statistics compiled by the Lane company, large manufacturers of the chests. Eighty per cent of all cedar chests are bought as gift items, mostly by men for their finances, the company said.

Congressman's Life Is Difficult Job, Durno Concludes

By A. ROBERT SMITH
Mail Tribune
Washington Correspondent

Washington (Special) — "The life of a congressman," concludes Rep. Edwin R. Durno, after two years of experience in this role, "is a difficult and demanding one."



In a final news letter before leaving office, the Medford physician summed up his observations about the important task to which a few hundred Americans devote themselves year-in and year-out because this is a free society. Inasmuch as newspapers seldom take time to report, along with the hard news developments, the personal routine of a congressman, Congressman Durno's

summation of it probably rates as news to many citizens. Here is what he wrote: "He must live a dual life in trying to satisfy 51 per cent of his constituents and, at the same time, live with his conscience and do the things that are morally and economically proper for his district, his state, and his country."

"The job is exasperating, frustrating and yet most rewarding. An average day is from 10 to 14 hours without scanning the newspapers and glancing at the many new books and governmental reports that cross his desk. (Editorial note — Dr. Durno found time, however, to read the newspapers from Oregon, and some days he was frank to say that what he read only intensified his exasperation, a not uncommon experience for men in public life.)

"Dictation and letter signing, 100 — 200 daily; committee work, 9:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. Congress assemblies at noon. The sessions may last from two to six to eight hours. Visitation by his constituents; luncheons and dinners wind up the day and he is usually home by 10:30 to midnight. And then there are special projects, hearings he must attend, phone calls, telegrams to answer, and myriad lesser duties."

"The Congress itself, wieldy in committees where laws are actually hammered out; most unwieldy on the floor of the House, where it is difficult and nearly impossible to write legislation. I often think of what the unitarian I must think when they see the House of Representatives in session for the first time. Noisy, sparsely attended, poor acoustics for the gallery. There is seeming confusion most of the time, and indeference is evidenced by those members who are present."

It is not surprising that Durno would comment on this aspect of life in the House, for he was much more conscientious than the average congressman in attending daily legislative sessions and listening to the debates, or what passes for debate, in order to inform himself of the pros and cons of issues on which he had to vote.

"It would seem that I am writing an indictment," he continued. "I am not. I repeat, laws are made by committees, by men behind the scenes, and are fashioned by seniority, friendship, equity and necessity."

Influence Recognized

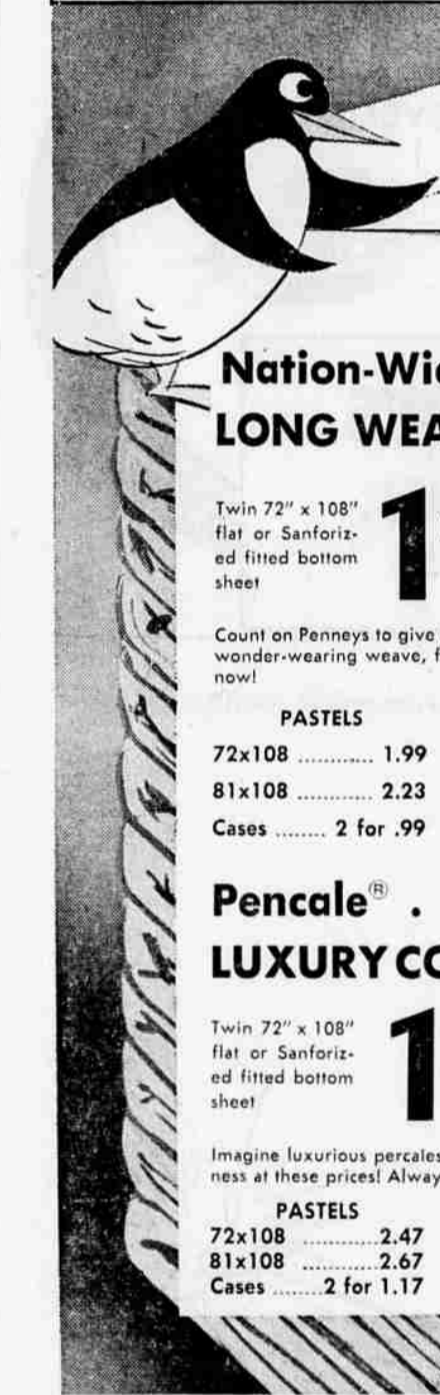
Therein, Durno offers a clue to his reason for bowing out of the House the unsuccessfully sought the Senate nomination last May instead of seeking a second term in the House. He recognized that influence is greatest among certain senior congressmen, that the House was a good place for a younger man to stake out a career but that an older freshman congressman could have less expectation of serving long enough to gain the necessary seniority. With this in mind, he thought it better to gamble on a crack at the Senate, where individual influence is often greater.

"What a funny feeling one gets in the pit of his stomach as he casts an 'aye' vote for an appropriation of \$48 billion that takes your vote and lion. You suddenly realize only 218 others to commit 185 million Americans to pay the bill. How easy it is to vote for something that gives people something — education, health, welfare, agriculture,

urban renewal, increased salaries, medicare, pensions. How difficult it is to vote against those things even though you know that as a nation we cannot afford them if we are to continue to be the big benefactor of more than 100 other nations of this world. Generous, kind, compassionate, America."

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2.67	3.79	3.79
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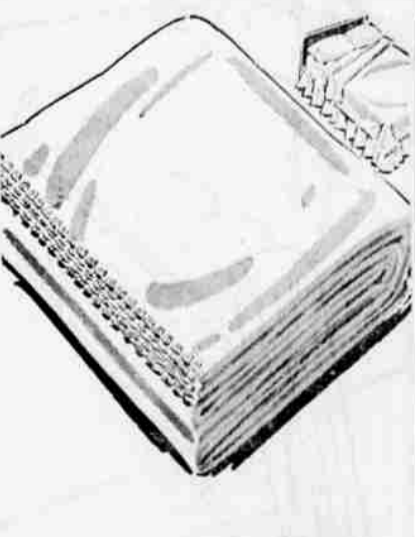


SAVE! NEW LOW-LOOP PILE TOWELS IN FLORAL PRINT

hand towel, 2 for \$1 24" x 46"
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Treat yourself to 2-ply towels with rich, distinctive fringe elegance! Penney's adds a beautiful floral pattern, sizes these towels extra large, then prices them extra low! Pink, yellow, or sky blue print.

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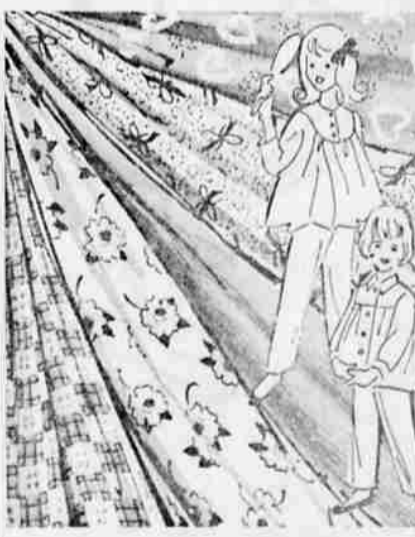


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