

PIGGLY WIGGLY

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**Family Council**

Editor's Note: The Family Council consists of a judge, a physician, 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.)

Alan Y. - I'm nothing more than a money-machine to her. Diane Y. - He should know I appreciate him. But he likes soft-soap.

Alan Y. - I can see how a man gets into the habit of stopping off at a bar, or even giving a woman a ride home in his car. He craves a kind word. Lately I have the feeling that my wife looks at me as some kind of a machine, nice and reliable, that hands over money to her and runs along fine, but has no feelings. She's even stopped saying thanks. It's Do this, Do that, Get me this.

I hear other wives. They know how to talk to a man. It's How do you feel, darling, and, Oh, you're wonderful, and I'm such a lucky woman. Maybe Diane loves me. But nobody, me included, could guess it to hear her talking to me.

Diane Y. - Since when is talk the sign of love? I can show Alan plenty of gals who put on the heavy love-talk, recite Elizabeth Barrett Browning's sonnets and all-and yet are as false as a lead nickel. I show Alan my love for him by my work. I keep his home running like clockwork, his meals are tasty and nourishing, and I manage to get some of his money into the bank so we can soon own our own place.

He knows I was never one to gush. I'm a straightforward person and I just say what has to be said at the time. I'm sorry if he feels unappreciated. But that's all in his own mind.

Whatever smooth talk he gets from others may well be baloney. Mine, he should know, is true-blue and sincere.

The Council: A little buttering-up now and then is relished by the best of men, Diane. And women, too, we might add. Nobody denies that vanilla ice cream is a treat, but it's the sauces and trimmings that turn it into a parfait. You've been handing Alan the ice cream cold, leaving the embellishments in the closet so long that you even forget they're there.

Imagine what a wonderful world this would be if people spoke their kind thoughts, instead of keeping them in mind only. In a marriage it may be a bother to dress up those fleeting feelings, escort them out of the mind and heart, and present them in words which flow easily out of the mouth. It's easier, as Diane does, to assume that one's mate knows how one feels. And she relies upon her actions, rather than words, to speak loudly to Alan.

But man is an insecure animal. He laps up reassurance from any quarter he can find it. And as he matures he differentiates between empty flattery "to get on his right side," and true appreciation. Of all possible sources of praise, none can be more meaningful than the word of commendation from his mate. Who should know him better? What she says really hits.

Alan puts his finger on the carelessness and thoughtlessness which often creeps into a good marriage. A man can easily collect smiles and a kind word in the course of his daily contacts. But he, and no doubt Diane too, feel much like Sweet Alice when the smile was from her one and only Ben Bolt. Then, "she wept with delight... and trembled with fear" at his frown.

So we advise Diane to take time-out, even if she feels "wily" doing it, to put all her positive feelings about Alan into simple words. It may sound like corn to her, but it's checkbook of the minerals and vitamins which nourish a strong love. Too often, the unsaid is just dead.

**New Hi Y Club Is Formed in City**

A new Hi Y club, composed of sophomores from Medford High school, has been organized at the Medford YMCA. Carl Saltmarsh is the advisor for the group. Bill Bulger is the president and Dean Hansen, secretary.

Two committees appointed at the first meeting are constitutional. Dean Hansen, John Dent, Jim Brinson and Greg Peters; nominating, Terry Sager, Terry Anderson, Bill Bulger and Rob Sanderson.

Mike Christian was appointed club reporter. Other club members are Gordon Lilly and Marc Kinney. The next meeting will be Feb. 11.



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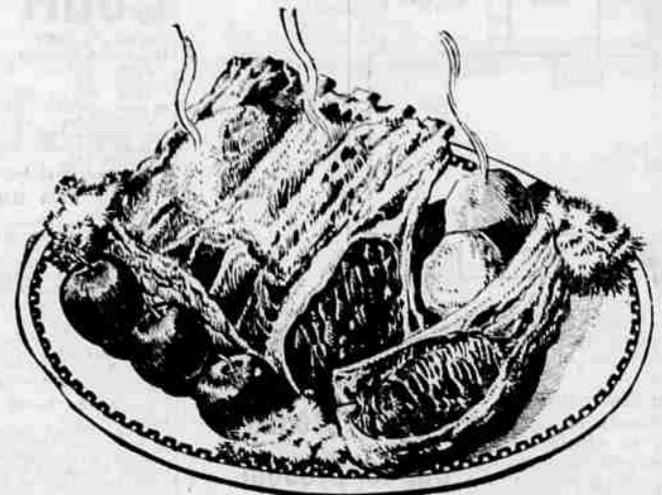
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