

Family Council

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 1963—General Features Corp.)

Nadine R. — I'm so hurt that he ignores my birthday.

Travis R. — She cured me of giving her gifts long ago.

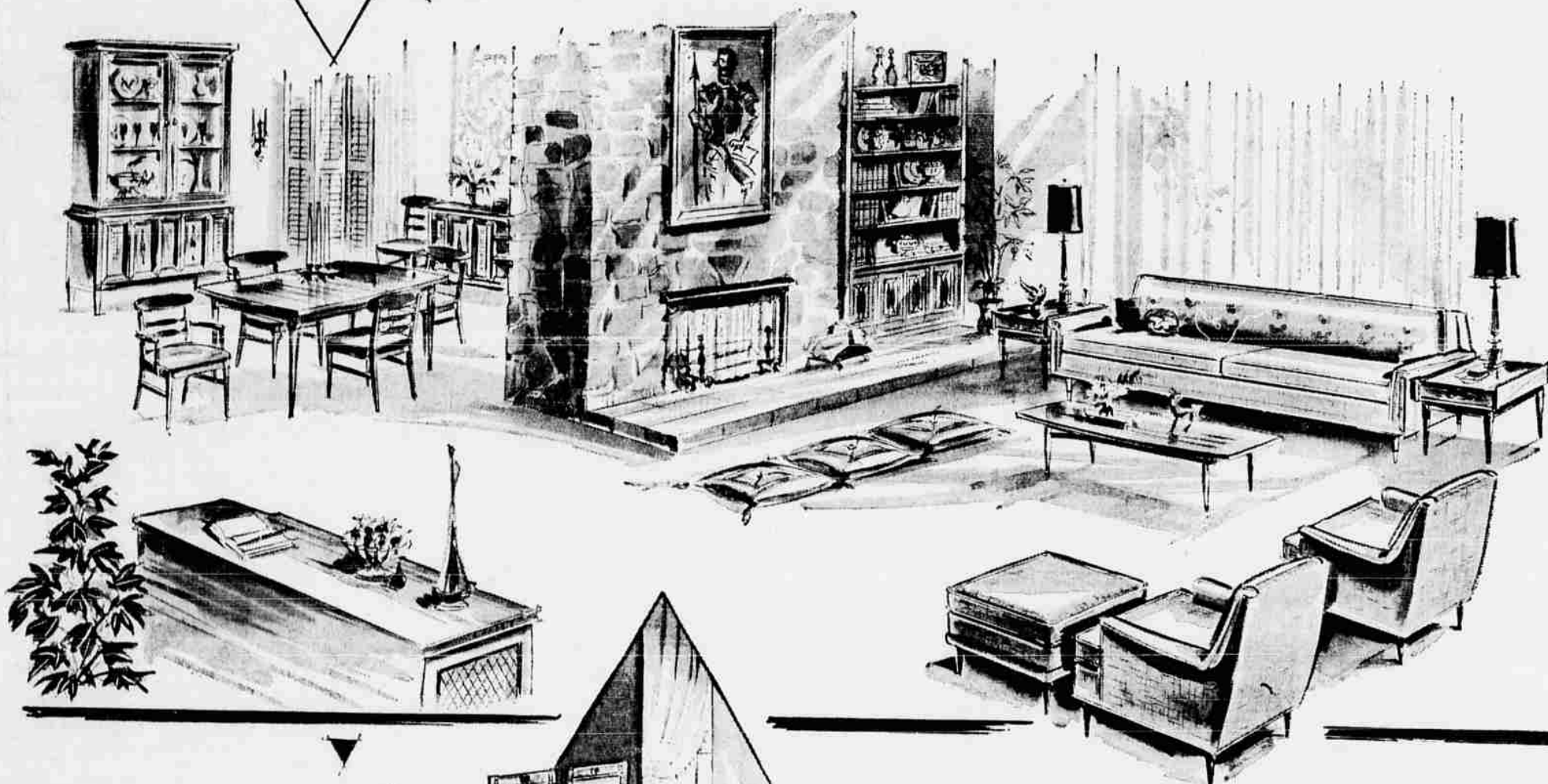
Nadine R. — For years I've been lying to my sister and friends when they ask, "And what did Trav give you?" I pull out a bag or perfume I've bought myself and put on an act of being so pleased, because the truth would embarrass me. Other husbands shower their wives with tokens. Mine is lavish with pots and pans and mops, but never a trinket or a treat.

Travis R. — She may be embarrassed with nothing to flaunt before her friends, but it's her own fault. She humiliated me plenty in the early years of our marriage. For an anniversary, for example, I gave her a necklace as we sat in a restaurant with friends. "What a waste of money!" she said, and I felt awful. She found fault with whatever I bought so I quit.

The Council: Now we find new meaning in the Biblical mention of how blessed it is to give. It's not only blessed, it's usually easy compared to the pain of receiving. How many of us know how to accept a present, take a favor, with grace? Nadine didn't, and by throwing cold water on Travis' warm delight in surprising her, turned it to stone. Who gets the bunch of violets, the lace handkerchief, the record album from her husband to light up special days? The gal who looks first at his joy, his shy eagerness about "remembering," and rises to his feeling, then secondarily fingers the package. This guarantees that whatever she blurs is right, appreciative. No bawling out about cost, taste, superfluity of the selection. Give her another chance, Trav. Let her learn to receive graciously by handing her a compliment on her appearance. If she's hep she'll smile and say "thank you," not "What! In this old rag? You must be blind."

BRANCHES AUTHORIZED PORTLAND (UPI) — The U. S. National Bank has received federal authority to establish new branches in Lebanon and Hood River, Bank President E. J. Kolar said Monday.

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