

PTA Puts Network On "Probation Period"

The National PTA is giving the networks notice that it means business when it concerns TV violence! On July 1, 1977, the PTA will launch its **First Action Plan**, the next step in its project to effect a reduction in TV violence, and an improvement in the overall quality of programming.

Running for a six-month time span until January 1, 1978, this initial action phase is a "probationary period" for the networks, in which they'll have the opportunity to respond to the demands of the PTA's 6½-million members for less TV gore and more diversity and quality in shows.

During this time, PTA members across the nation will be directly involved in an intensive training program and activities to make the organization's cause visible to the TV industry, advertisers, and the public. At the base of all activities will be the National PTA's "TV Action Center," a newly established operation which will serve as a clearinghouse for all information related to the project.

If there is no substantial response from the networks by January 1, 1978, the National PTA will consider alternative courses of action, such as boycotts of advertisers, programs, and local stations; selected test cases of petition to deny licensing; and civil litigation.

The **First Action Plan** will focus on a massive letter

writing campaign to the top executives of local TV stations—for the stations' public files—commenting on both exemplary and objectionable programming, with copies to the networks, program advertisers, and the National PTA. Members will be supplied with appropriate names and addresses for prime time TV advertisers, the networks, and the FCC. Another aspect will be instruction to parents in monitoring techniques for the TV shows viewed by their children, and actual monitoring activities for the six-month period and beyond. Parents will then report their observations to their local unit presidents, who, in turn, will issue consensus reports to the National PTA. These reports will form the basis for the development of an **identification code for TV programs**, which will rate shows by their amount of violence. The code will be distributed to PTA members and the news media.

In addition, the training sessions will teach PTA members how to participate in the petitioning process (to the Federal Communications Commission) for denying broadcast license renewals to local TV stations; and the ascertainment process, in which local stations are required to obtain community feedback on the ways in which the station may best serve the public interest.

"Say it with Music"

Slated for May 13, 14

One of the first productions to be presented in the new Nyssa High School Auditorium will be "Say It With Music," to be held May 13 and 14 at 8 p.m.

This special evening of music will feature a Relief Society Chorus of 80 women from throughout the valley. Mrs. June Hartley of Nyssa wrote the production and will direct the chorus. Mrs. Brenda Hartley of Nyssa is the accompanist and Mrs. Luraine Lee of Ontario will be the narrator.

Included in the concert are melodies from "South Pacific" and folk songs in the native tongue of such countries as Mexico, Holland, Japan, and Hawaii given by the chorus.

Other special numbers are a vocal solo "My Heavenly Father Love Me" by Steven Hansen of Vale. This is an original composition written by his mother, Mrs. Vickie Hansen.

The Melloetts of Ontario will sing "Who Can Find A Virtuous Woman" and a

reading, "My Mother" will be given by Noreen Savage of Nyssa.

Another feature of the evening will include a piano solo "Rhapsody in Blue" by Mrs. Marsha Wagstaff of Parma.

Relief Society is the women's organization in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and has a membership of over one million. This year the organization is celebrating its 130th anniversary in America which makes it one of the oldest women's organizations in this country.

Each week Relief Society women attend instructional classes learning homemaking skills, spiritual awareness and various crafts. The organization is also involved with compassionate service and activities such as the chorus.

The public is cordially invited to attend the evenings of music and view the new auditorium. No admission will be charged.

FIRE CALLS!

Nyssa Firemen were summoned to the Gerald Moore residence, 701 Emission Avenue, Saturday afternoon to put out a fire in the house. The fire apparently started within the house due to a faulty gas furnace. Excessive smoke and burn damage was done within the house.

Monday, April 25, firemen answered a call at the Grant Peterson home near the primary school and helped put out a grass fire.

Mr. and Mrs. David Lockner, Ontario, a girl
April 26 - Mr. and Mrs. Terry Haile, Parma, boy
Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Sellers, Nyssa, girl
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Gressley, Vale, girl
Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Steele, Burns, boy

Cystic Fibrosis BENEFIT DANCE

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TVCC PHI BETA LAMBDA members recently attending the State Leadership Conference were (left to right seated) Harriet Lorenson of Adrian, Candy Suiter of Nyssa, Diane Fenicott of Ontario.

(Left to right standing) Ken Arment of Coulee Dam, Washington, Kathy Bass of Nyssa, Willy Hansen of Fruitland and Al South, advisor.

Alcoholic, Anonymous

Society's Ignorance Indicted

"God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change; courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference."

Wherever and whenever an alcoholic is engaged in the process of making babies, he/she or both, are usually creating more "alcoholics" who, in turn will produce more of the same. While heredity has little or nothing to do with the manufacturing of "alcoholics," environment has much to do with it, or so it would seem.

My first remembrance of my mother and father was as drunks. They produced seven children, three of whom are still living: two younger sisters and myself, both of whom are active members of AA.

Brother Ralph died at age of four of diphtheria and criminal neglect, the attending physician stated. Barbara was born to my mother on the davenport while she was bombed out from swilling too much home brew. Barbara died in a hospital after seven days in an oxygen tent. She was the lucky one.

Brother Roger (age 40), met death after collapsing on the grounds of the Vet's hospital at Fort Snelling, Minnesota. Cirrhosis and emphysema took him. Brother Jack (age 41) died in the Vet's hospital at Fort Douglas, Utah. Cirrhosis and emphysema took him, too. My mother passed away in Minneapolis, Minn., of cirrhosis, at the age of 54. My dad made it to the ripe old age of 64 before he expired of acute hepatitis (one of the doctors' terms of alcoholism). Heart failure is also a good catch-all.

My mother smoked and became inebriated all through her pregnancies, which makes me wonder how many times I was drunk before seeing the light of day. Sober (between drunks, that is), she was the meekest, mildest, mouseiest person you could ever meet. After a few belts she came on loud and strong. My dad once said of her, "You can cut off her air, but don't cut off her booze... she can live without air."

In his own mad way, he loved and hated her. Her drinking was his justification for drinking, so he didn't mind her guzzling along with him, except maybe when she would slit the pillowcase under his head when he was sleeping one off, and finish his bottle. That would make him really unhappy; at which point he would likely rip her clothes off and drag her around the house by the hair. But she would get in some pretty good licks, too, and he'd end up with some bleeding claw marks down the sides of his face.

It seemed like we were always moving, like every three months. We lived in one rabbit hutch after another and every time we moved we took less with us because the landlords held our belongings for back rent. One time we were able to haul it all in two trips on a little sled.

My mother and dad had been dead for 25 years before they laid down for final rites. I had been sober for 15 years before I was able to forgive them for what they

had done to their children. I hated them with an unrelenting passion, but then my dad hated his dad too because he hadn't called him when his mother died during the night. My mother's dad had been stabbed to death while separating two fighters in a saloon, and she ended up in an orphanage.

Come to think of it, my kids hated their dad too. And still do.

They can't figure out how I could be married to two women at the same time. That's hard to explain when you're living in the real world without a glass in your hand.

Surely, I ought to be able to point the finger of blame at somebody? In my ignorance, I blamed my folks, they blamed their folks, and my kids blamed me. I guess when you take the blame to where it really belongs, you got an indictment against society itself; a society too blindly ignorant to recognize the handiwork of alcoholics or the spawning grounds which breeds them.

For further information, call 372-3318 or 372-2526.

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POPPY FACTS

A Canadian officer, Col. John McCrae, who was killed during the war, immortalized the poppy in his famous poem, "In Flanders' Fields." Its opening lines are familiar to millions of people around the world.

"In Flanders' fields the poppies blow,

Between the crosses, row on row..."

Returning servicemen brought with them memories of the battlefield poppies, and the flower soon took on a sacred significance. The red blossom became the flower of remembrance for the men whose lives had been lost in the defense of freedom. As a memorial emblem for the war dead, it underlined the plight

of those men who did not die, but returned permanently disabled. Buy a poppy, Saturday, May 14 to honor the war dead, and assist the living victims of war.

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