

FAMILY MUDDLES NOT ALWAYS AIRED

MANY MUDDLE THROUGH

Not All Demoralized Households End in Divorce Courts; Many Manage to Work Out Solution

Most American families have domestic trials but "muddle through" without recourse to the divorce courts, Professor Thomas D. Eliot, of the department of sociology of Northwestern university, told home economics teachers of the Association of Land Grant Colleges, in a recent address at the Congress hotel, in discussing "Some Present-Day Problems of the American Family."

Not all demoralized families are those broken up by divorce decrees, he said. Even a normal family may be as much a "broken home" as if it were dismembered, if its morale is low or its standards are slack.

"Family disintegration," he continued, "is merely an end result, a precipitate from a muddy mixture that is not a solution. Most families at any given time are 'muddling through' without landing in the domestic relations courts."

Work Out Salvation

"Some work out their own salvation, or there are available to them private, non-philanthropic resources of aid, comfort and counsel. Others are in a state of chronic mild maladjustment that always stops short of acute or complete demoralization because their standards, their status, or their intelligence repeatedly rescues the situation."

"Anyone who has ever lived the life of a real neighborhood knows that an apparently normal social-economic and home-economic status often conceals a situation which is just as much a social-case-work problem as any that ever called for the services of a charity visitor or a probation officer."

Character a Factor

"Character, as the ethical basis of family life, ranks high as a precondition to family success, Professor Eliot declared. Admitting that some virtues which make for family solidarity, such as responsibility, faithfulness and honesty, are undermined, he asserted that even more fundamental is the attack on the attitude towards virtue in general, self-control, and the family itself.

"The attitude towards the conventional roles in the family itself are all under fire," he said. "When a

boy, admonished against immorality and appealed to on grounds of his future family, tells you that he never intends to marry or that he wouldn't marry a girl who hadn't had a previous 'experience' or who cared about his own previous escapades, or who cared for children, — what does one answer?"

"Family pattern is the legal-social basis of family integrity. In any civilization, the accepted or tolerated family pattern is a guarantee of recognized status, which is psychologically essential to a sense of security and self-respect in the family's members. Conformity to custom is thus of great symbolic importance, though the particular form insisted upon by custom may change."

Adaptive Patterns

"A surprising number of family patterns have proved themselves of adaptive value and have been sanctioned by group standards under different circumstances. The problems of marriage and family pattern are therefore largely problems of what kinds of experimental variation from the approved type are or should be tolerated."

Generally considered abnormal. Child marriage, adopted in India, is a small but acute problem in the United States. Are co-operative house-keeping, marriage under two roofs, the companionate, pathological or progressive variations?

"Is marriage to trim its sails to standards of living, or should we insist that the plane of living be reduced as each new child arrives? Or shall each child have in his own right a claim upon the community surplus?"

NEW FASHIONED YULE CUSTOMS ARE BETTER

Old Time Cheer Is Myth, Says Magazine Writer; Favors Modern Type

Good old-fashioned Christmas cheer, so loudly mourned for in these modern days, is a myth. The new fashioned Christmas is far better, declares the Woman's Home Companion in its December number. "Much has been added and nothing has been taken away unless by our own blindness or folly," it continues.

"Sleigh-bells and Yule log, the far, slow pilgrimage oved drift-piled roads to the home of childhood, the groaning board lined with beaming faces, voices lifted in familiar hymns—the old-fashioned Christmas.

"Fast motor cars, rows of city

A lot of fellows who take pride in the fact that their word is as good as their bond will not hesitate to lie to their wives whenever it is absolutely necessary.

TRADE OUTLOOK IS PROMISING, REPORT

SURVEY SHOWS CONDITION

Report to National Association of Manufacturers Indicates Little to Worry About in 1928

The annual survey of the nation's trade by the National Association of Manufacturers shows a preponderating opinion for a favorable condition, only a shade less flourishing than at this time last year. Analysis of the answers received from manufacturers in every line of activity all over the country reveals that, while current trade is in the "excellent to good to fair" category, the percentage of excellent business reported is slightly lower than in the fall of 1926. The survey reached into twenty-two specific industries and the miscellaneous groups.

Similarly, while the outlook for winter trade is reported generally optimistic, the percentage of adverse opinion as to prospects is higher than in 1926. A diminution of the remarkable business tempo maintained through last year is also indicated by the reports on business conditions at the present time as compared with the fall of 1926, fewer reporting an increase of business this fall than did last fall.

Preceding Condition

The two immediately preceding conditions noted are a corollary to the further condition, shown by analysis of the reports, that there has been some slowing up in the movement of goods as compared with last fall, the percentage of those reporting an overstocked condition being slightly larger than that reported in the fall of 1926.

A small net decrease in employment is shown this year, offsetting the heavy increase reported last year, with a consequently greater supply of labor of all classes available. Wage increases, however, are reported by a greater percentage than those recording a decrease, although the percentage is not as high as last fall. The reports indicate that production has been maintained in practically unchanged volume since last fall, with a very slight decrease in sales quantities, and a much heavier drop in sales values.

Industrial peace prevails almost without exception, a comparatively infinitesimal percentage of labor trouble being reported.

The above comparative summary is given for the sole purpose of showing in how slight measure the prosperity of 1927 appears to have fallen behind that of 1926. A fairer idea, perhaps, of the real past, present and future of 1927 in business may be obtained from detached consideration of the following percentage items giving a survey of industry as a whole:

Present Trade Favorable
Present trade is pronounced favorable by more than 91 per cent of the replies, 11 per cent reporting it excellent, 36 per cent good, and 43 per cent fair.

Prospects for winter trade are even more favorably portrayed, more than 92 per cent of the replies reporting them as: excellent, 8 per cent; good 44 per cent; fair, 40 per cent.

Business is better than last fall in the experience of 33 per cent, with 27 per cent reporting it unchanged, and 40 per cent reporting it lower.

A healthy movement of goods is indicated by reports of low stocks on hand by 17 per cent of the answers, with 72 per cent recording normal inventories, and only 11 per cent noting an overstock of goods.

ILLINOIS RIFLEMEN TRAIN FOR BIG MEET

State Marksmen to Be Given Facilities of Post Ranges for Practice, Report

Adjutant General Carlos E. Black is desirous Illinois shall secure a place on the international rifle team which will compete at Amsterdam, Holland, in July, 1928. As a result of this desire for honors to come to Illinois he has placed at the disposal of rifle-men, both civilian and members of the Illinois National Guards, the facilities of the state rifle ranges for practice.

Action of Adjutant General Black is in keeping with the request of the executive vice president of the National Rifle association, who says:

"In order that every citizen of the United States may have an opportunity to try out for places on the team, arrangements have been made through the secretary of war and the corps area commanders to make available one or more targets at practically every army post equipped with a rifle range.

"In addition to the above facilities you are requested to make available the necessary targets upon your state rifle ranges in order that members of the national guards of your state and civilians who care to do so may try for places on the international team."

It is suggested the tryouts in Illinois should be completed not later than December 1. This will give the successful candidates additional time to practice through the winter and early spring.

The high men throughout the United States will be selected by a committee of the National Rifle as-

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BASIS ON WHICH AUTO FEES ARE ASSESSED
There are eleven different bases on which registration fees on private passenger automobiles are assessed by the various states, according to a bulletin issued by the Chicago Motor club.
Seventeen states base the rates on horsepower; 14 on weight; 7 on horsepower plus weight; one on a flat rate per car; one on the cost of vehicle; one on cubic inch displacement; one on value plus weight; three on a flat rate plus weight; one on value; one on selling price plus weight and horsepower; and one on the manufacturers list price.
One of the most patriotic demonstrations we know of is the glee expressed by certain free trade newspapers when some foreign country threatens to raise its tariff against the United States.

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