

SELF-MADE MAN'S SON A SOCIAL MISFIT?

By Jan Christensen

Raleigh—A successful, self-made man may find he has a son who is belligerent, too passive or a social misfit. Why?

According to Leo F. Hawkins, extension family relations specialist, North Carolina State University, "Many self-made men never allow themselves to become deeply involved with anyone. They create a world in which only accomplishments are important. They imagine themselves as nearly infallible and cannot tolerate criticism."

In such a situation the son has three emotional choices. He can become dogmatic like his father, he can become passive and submissive like his mother or he can remain emotionally like a rebellious child and become a social misfit.

What this boy needed was a family environment of warmth and adult intimacy. He needed parents, especially a father, who would discuss with him the many conflicting values being taught to him. He should have felt free to disagree with his parents in social, political and moral causes without having them withdraw acceptance and love.

"Young people must critically examine the values of their par-

ents before they can know what they believe and what they want out of life," Hawkins notes.

If parents do not afford this opportunity for critical examination of their values through intimate and intense discussion, then young people are likely to become indifferent to the values of society and unwilling to commit themselves to deep human relationships.

To fill life's emptiness, these young people may turn to pseudo adult sexual encounters or to teenage marriages that are not deep human relationships. Others may become temporary social misfits. Such actions are searching experiments by young people who are deprived of strong and meaningful relationships with parents, especially with fathers.

What fathers naturally feel for sons is compassion, Hawkins observes. This compassion is related to the basic human desire for self-preservation and is therefore solid and enduring.

However, too often this natural compassion is submerged and hidden in adult work and the absent father. "Therefore," Hawkins believes, "a man must find better ways to share this thinking and feeling with his sons."

DISTAFF DEEDS

By Janice B. Christensen
(News items this week from Camden, Gaston, Martin and Alamance counties.)

UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS

Maralyn Gagnon, a 4-H Club member in Camden County, is a girl who can think fast, Mrs. Mamie C. Sawyer, Extension home economics agent, relates.

She was giving a demonstration of how to splint a broken leg when the leg accidentally came off the mannequin she was using.

So Maralyn just put the detached leg between two padded boards and tied them in place with bands of cloth.

One very earnest onlooker exclaimed, "Do you always take the leg off to do that?"

"Only under certain conditions," Maralyn said, and continued with her demonstration.

DECENT BISCUITS

Extension agents in Gaston County have been working closely with low-income families who receive surplus foods, Doris B. Fearrington, assistant home economics Extension agent relates.

Through classes arranged between agents and welfare groups, the recipients can actually do some "first hand" cooking.

One lady, before a class started, indicated that "not even the dogs would eat her biscuits". After she learned the correct

amounts of ingredients to use and the right mixing methods to use, this same woman was delighted with the result: light, tasty biscuits.

She rushed home to prepare her family "decent biscuits for a change."

CANCER CHECKUPS

Members of Extension Homemakers Clubs, Martin County, are getting "free" cancer checkups at the Rocky Mount Health Center, Mrs. Helen L. Hoskins, home economics Extension agent, says.

Encouraged by the health leaders in their local clubs, 200 women have already had checkups, the agent relates. Five have been advised to see their physician for further testing or treatment.

CLASSES FOR MENTALLY-RETARDED CHILDREN

There are not many empty juice cans, spools or egg cartons to be found in Alamance County garbage cans these days, Mrs. Rachel K. Kinlaw, home economics Extension agent, says.

These items are being used in a craft workshop for mentally retarded children.

Taught by Mrs. W. C. Gregory, Burlington, the classes will last three weeks.

Mrs. Gregory uses the egg cartons to make mod flowers. She paints them bright colors and uses pipe cleaners as stems and ball fringe as centers.

After the juice cans are covered with burlap they can be used as flower containers or pencil holders.

Spools can be painted or dyed, decorated with Indian designs, and strung together with straws for "Indian beads".

Mrs. Gregory says working with the children has been most rewarding. "They are learning so much and are so happy with their accomplishments," she adds.

Civil War deaths were 90 times greater than in the Revolution.



THE VETERAN'S CORNER

(Editor's Note: Below are authoritative answers by the Veterans Administration to some of the many current questions from former servicemen and their families. Further information on veterans benefits may be obtained at any VA office.)

Q — I am rated 80 per cent disabled from a service connected disability. Since I am unable to work because of this disability, am I not entitled to a 100 per cent disability rating?

A — If your service connected disability causes you to be unemployable you may be entitled to a 100 per cent disability rating from the Veterans Administration. Contact the VA regional office where your records are on file for information as to the evidence needed to support your claim.

Q — I am the widow of a World War II veteran currently receiving a widow's pension from the Veterans Administration. How may I be considered for an aid and attendance allowance now provided for widows?

A — You should have your private physician submit a statement to the VA giving a complete account of your physical condition at present. If you are a patient in a nursing home you can qualify under the law without a medical statement. A statement from the nursing home showing that you are a patient will usually be sufficient. Generally, widows are eligible for an extra \$50 a month aid and attendance allowance in addition to their pension if they are unable to care for themselves.

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