

For And About You

What to do About Spendthrift Wife

By Harriett Muhammad

DEAR HARRIETT: I'm 65, my wife is 49 and we have two girls, ages 15 and 19. Here is my story:

Before the first child, my wife thought we would never get along, but after having children I thought she would change her mind. I was wrong. I've always tried to do my best by her, but I have my faults.

"During the depression days, I was a chauffeur, a butler — I did everything but the laundry for \$12 a week. At home, I would wash all the diapers for the kids. For 18 years I packed my own lunch and fixed my own coffee and toast, which I still do. I even help do the work around the house now.

"EIGHT YEARS AGO, I bought a house on five and a half acres of land near a main highway. I would drive 80 miles a day to do construction work, both winter and summer so that I could pay for this lovely place we have. Now I'm retired and have an income of \$350 a month.

"But, my wife is still not satisfied. She has caused me credit problems three times. All that is straight now, but I don't wish to be responsible for anything she buys. I'm trying to send my oldest girl to college in September, but my wife wants Early American furniture, which I cannot afford, and she knows this.

"FOR 19 YEARS of the 22 we have been together, she was a housewife. Now she has been going to work about two days a week. Somehow I've failed this woman, but how? I'm writing you because you're a woman and I want to com-

pare your opinion with my own. I thank you sincerely."
Orwell, Ohio

DEAR SIR: Marriages may not work out the way you would like for them to work out for countless reasons. I couldn't tell you how you've failed your wife just from this letter — she would have to tell you this. But going on what you've told me, one of your differences seems to lie in personality factors. Your wife seems to be a person that is hard to satisfy materially. She has deemed material advancement more important even than the future of her daughter, which seems very selfish on her part.

You are wise enough to value a higher education for your daughter over some new furniture. If by explaining this to your wife, you aren't able to get her to see this, then let her buy the furniture with the money she's earning now and be sure she and the company understands the monthly bill is her responsibility. This may be the only way she will learn to appreciate how it is to work hard for what she gets.

YOU FEEL AS THOUGH you have failed her, but responsibility for a successful marriage rests with both of you. You, alone, can't take all the blame nor credit.

DEAR HARRIETT: This letter is aimed at Mrs. O. T. of Los Angeles, Cal. and other mothers.

I am also on welfare with

my two children. I agree with you on some of their tactics. But here (Phoenix, Ariz.) we have a program enabling you to help yourself.

I am going to nursing school for an L.V.N. license. The welfare pays my tuition and pays for my books, shoes, stockings, etc. They also pay for my baby sitter (whom I may choose) and they supply me with bus tickets and lunch money. They do not cut my checks. If for some reason you don't like the course you're in you can change to another.

I HOPE THIS INFORMATION helps you and others. You can check on this through your State Welfare Department or County Welfare Department. Ask for School Aid for Dependent Mothers. May you all be blessed. Mrs. E. G. Phoenix, Arizona.

DEAR MRS. E. G.: Thank you for your thoughtful letter. I'm sure all those who are interested, regardless of the city or state, will check into this further. I welcome all such letters that will be of benefit to others.

Something on your mind? Write and tell me about it.

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New Guinea & Papua-

PORT MORESBY, Papua — Self-rule is scheduled to Northeast New Guinea and Papua in 1968, when the next House of Assembly elections are held. A select committee of the present assembly has begun work on drafting a new constitution to determine the basic form of the new government of the country-to-be. Expected name of the new land would be Paradisea.