

Women

The Guardian, Charlottetown, Tues., Nov. 17, 1959. 7

MARY HAWORTH

Teen-age Clothes Allowance Teaches Girls Money Sense

Dear Mary Haworth: Thank you for greatly increasing my general knowledge of human behavior. But I differ with you in regard to a clothes allowance for teen-age girls. You consider it a doubtful experiment. We like the results.

Let's agree that a clothing allowance won't completely cover emergency situations. Nonetheless, it eliminates so many headaches of clothes buying that the system seems well justified.

Example: My husband no longer has to struggle to understand the intricacies and imperatives of the female wardrobe. Nor is he buried up by department store bills each month.

We started our girls on a clothes allowance at age 15; the eldest is 19 now, and the younger, 17. Due to their allowance, they are learning to appreciate their

father's financial competence as never before

EXTRA DIVIDENDS

Their newly developed ingenuity in "making do" is another happy dividend. And with more latitude for self-expression, they are turning to us more readily for guidance in major buying. I still keep an eye on their wardrobe, of course, to offer suggestions when additions are being considered; and generally they take the hint, though the final decision is theirs.

If they choose unwisely or "get in a bind" we usually don't go to the rescue; and as a result they are learning fast to be cautious careful shoppers. The elder girl, taught by this method, is quick to instruct her sister in the pitfalls of hasty spending.

A weekly allowance works better for us than a monthly allow-

ance, and \$10 a week has kept the girls clothed—with assistance on gift-giving days. But we've had to supplement this in dressing the older girl for college; and would like to give her \$10 more a month if we could afford to. (We would recommend that for a college girl with a full social schedule.) Sincerely,

J. S.

TEACHES THRIFT

Dear Mary Haworth: I am a girl 16, and wish to say a few words in defense of a clothes allowance for girls my age. For the past year I've had from my parents an all-purpose allowance, which includes \$15 a month for clothes.

Out of this amount I dress myself except for a winter coat; and in the past year I've had to discard few garments other than outgrown shoes.

Certainly by ages 15 or 16 a girl's growth is sufficiently stabilized to make a clothes allowance practical. And my parents explained clearly when my allowance started that I would have to budget, to take care of future needs. They are preparing me for college when I shall be away from home, on my own in managing my funds.

Many of my friends, whose parents foot their bills, would welcome the financial independence I have; and I sincerely believe that most teen-agers in high school are responsible enough to handle a clothes allowance wisely. Truly yours,

P. R.

PROGRAM SUCCEEDS
Dear Mary Haworth: I, and some of my friends, find that the teen-age clothing allowance

works out splendidly, as a means of teaching money sense to girls who seem to lack it when not counting the cost to parents. You must, however, give the child some idea how to proceed. I helped my daughter draft a tentative list of articles needed, and approximate prices, for a year's wear to school and camp. She didn't have to conform exactly and soon learned to juggle successfully.

She gets weekly pocket money in cash; but her clothes allowance is negotiated in the form of credit and cash. She keeps book on herself, using our charge accounts, or buying for cash where we don't have a credit, and stays within a modest budget. She did well in her summer buying and is learning to spot quality. (Big items, like a winter coat, we provide.)

T. W.

HELPS FATHER'S NERVES
Dear Scribes: Thanks for your affirmative views. Maybe the finest feature of a clothes allowance for teen-age girls is the reduced wear-and-tear on father's nerves—in taking the guesswork and suspense out of HIS monthly budgeting.

M. H.

Mary Haworth counsels through her column, not by mail or personal interview. Write her in care of this newspaper.

ACT THROUGH EMBASSY
CAIRO (Reuters)—Efforts to re-establish diplomatic relations between Britain and the United Arab Republic severed since the Suez invasion in 1956, are being made through the Canadian Embassy here. The U.A.R. foreign



DELEGATE

Mrs. Lloyd Wilkie, Alberton, past president of the P.E.I. Women's Institute, who was official delegate to the Associated Country Women of the World conference held in Edinburgh, Scotland, in August, will give her report of the conference at R.W.C. auditorium this evening at 8 p.m.

An interesting travelogue and colored slides of the conference will supplement Mrs. Wilkie's report.

The ministry confirmed Saturday that discussions for a resumption are going on. Relations are expected to be resumed before the end of the year.

SPRINGFIELD C. W. L.

The November meeting of the St. James parish council was held at the home of Mrs. James Lawless, Norboro, with an attendance of fifteen members. The president, Mrs. Leslie Trainor, presided. The spiritual director, Rev. Eugene Murray, opened the meeting with prayer.

Following routine business, the report of the National Convention at St. John was read by the secretary, Mrs. Joseph Croker. Report of the annual meeting of the Provincial T. League was read by Mrs. Louis O'Connor. Mrs. Arthur Lamb reported on the semi-annual meeting of the Red Cross held in Charlottetown. Report of the Regional Conference held in Summerside was given by Mrs. John Hagen.

Reports of units were given by: Mrs. George Croker, Free-town; Mrs. Pius Croker, S. Free-town; Mrs. Joseph Croker, Springfield and Graham's Road. Standing committees gave reports.

Favorable comments were expressed concerning the new steel tabernacle lately installed. Father Murray reported the clock for the church had arrived.

Ten dollars was voted towards the Multiple Sclerosis Society. Masses are to be offered for the living and deceased members of the parish council. A spiritual bouquet was prepared for Bishop Smith of Pembroke. All bills presented were ordered paid.

It was decided to hold the annual turkey lottery this month; the drawing to be on December 6. Christmas cards are to be obtained from the Precious Blood Monastery. A committee was

named in connection with the annual Social Welfare Bureau drive.

The president gave her report, and thanked the members for their support in doing the work of the Institute.

All officers and conveners were re-elected for the coming year. The different committees gave their reports.

Correspondence was read and discussed. It was decided to send \$2.00 to the Multiple Sclerosis society. It was also decided to donate to five organizations only each year.

A discussion followed re-wiring the school for electricity, and it was decided to look into the matter further, and find out the cost of wiring.

The members decided to hold

three more dances in the school during the month of November. A delicious lunch was served by the hostess, assisted by some of the ladies. Meeting closed with the singing of the Queen. Next meeting to be held at the home of Mrs. Thomas Humphrey. Roll call to be answered with an exchange of Christmas gifts.

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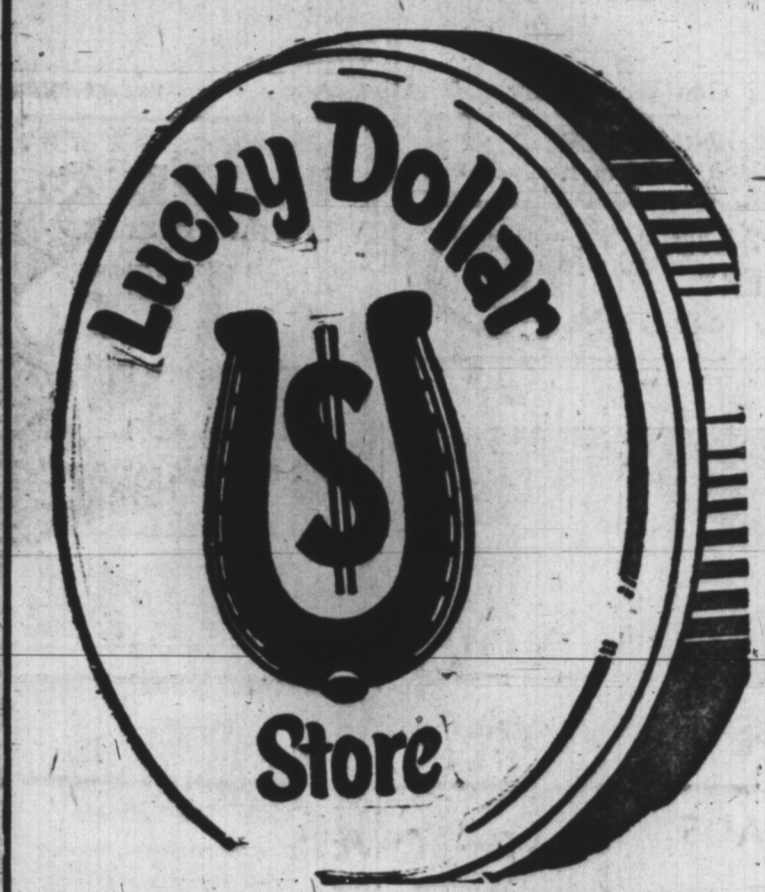
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A photograph of the renovated and modernized Cooper's Lucky Dollar Grocery store in Bellevue, Prince Edward Island.

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5 LB. CELLO ORANGES 49c
MacINTOSH APPLES, 5 lb. bag 35c