

## It's A Little Late To Train A 14-Year Old To Help At Home

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Just how much help can one expect from a fourteen-year-old daughter? My husband says I don't give her enough to do. I've tried, but when she's mad you're better off doing it yourself. She doesn't like to sew or cook. If you ask her to go to the store, she has homework to do although a little later she wants to watch TV or goes down town to a show. Now I don't like arguments but she's really getting out of hand. Do I have to use a club?

No, not a club, though it might have helped if you had needed her a little while your hand — about ten or twelve years ago.

You're becoming aware of your problem a bit late — perhaps not too late — but your little daughter is headed for trouble, and it's not entirely her fault. Growing girls don't usually react as she is doing.

When this happens, we had best inquire how it happened.

There are several indications in your letter. First, your husband says that you don't give her enough to do. Are you one of those highly efficient housewives who never found any use for "mother's little helper"?

Most little girls like to imitate their mothers. They typically start out by playing "keeping house" and then gradually start learning to do things "to help mother." Of course they're usually a nuisance rather than a help from the start, but how else can they learn their feminine roles?

A little patience, praise, and encouragement generally launch them on a lifetime of domestic service. The process has been going on for centuries!

How ever, you maintain you're better off doing the work yourself when she's mad. Now let's look at this statement. There are two points worth noting. You say she gets mad.

All growing children get mad on one occasion or another, but if they soon discover that it doesn't get them any attention or out of any work, they soon come to realize this is an unprofitable tactic to employ. Does your remark imply that your daughter has been getting away with it quite successfully?

You also state "you're better off doing it yourself." This remark is highly revealing. Somewhat along the line in her development you or your daughter has learned that if she gets "mad," finds some excuse, or simply refuses to cooperate, you will do the work yourself because you find it easier in the long run.

But what about her training? What's happened to her character in the meantime? If minimum effort or efficiency were the ultimate test of getting children to cooperate around the home, most parents would be better off in doing the work themselves — at least in the beginning.

Apparently, many modern mothers take this approach, with the result that their daughters either must learn housekeeping in special classes at school or enter marriage completely ignorant of their routine domestic duties. It takes time, patience, and the willingness to put up with some initial inefficiency if you wish to help your daughter develop into a mature woman, but who else has this responsibility?

Finally, you say you don't like arguments.

No normal person does. Why must there be arguments when the situation calls for a definite plan of action and firmness? Too many parents forget their position, engage



ing in endless arguments with their children as if they were dealing with adults.

There is room for understanding, counseling, instruction, encouragement, praise and affection, but no place for argument.

What should you do? It seems to me that you and your husband should have a little talk with your daughter, explaining to her that she is only one member of the family team and consequently has responsibilities as well as rights.

Further, you should have clearly in mind just what you expect of her, so that there can be some planning of work, studies, recreation, and so forth. Finally, since you are starting late, you should proceed patiently but firmly.

Your daughter has much to learn, and unfortunately she does not appear to be very close to you now. Bring her into the family circle of shared plans, responsibilities, and hopes lest she start to build her life outside of it.

## Argentine Prelate Named To Rome Post

Buenos Aires — (RNS) — Newspapers here front-paged the announcement that Pope John XXIII had named Santiago Luis Cardinal Copello, Archbishop of Buenos Aires as Chancellor of the Holy Roman Church.

CARDINAL COPELLO, 79, will be the first Latin American ever to head the Apostolic Chancery, whose duty is to issue papal bulls for the establishment of new dioceses and chapters and similar matters. He will reside in Rome.

The office of Chancellor has been vacant since the death last October of Celso Cardinal Costantini. The new appointment means there will now be four non-Italians in the Roman Curia. This is the largest such representation in many years.

Coadjutor Archbishop Fermín Emilio Lafitte of Buenos Aires will automatically succeed Cardinal Copello when he leaves for Rome, probably sometime in April. He had been virtually governing the diocese since 1956, when he was named Apostolic Administrator because of the cardinal's poor health. He was named Coadjutor in January, 1958.

Cardinal Copello was born at San Isidoro, in the La Plata archdiocese, on Jan. 7, 1880 and ordained in October, 1902. He was named Auxiliary Bishop of La Plata in 1918. In 1927, he was appointed Chaplain-General of the Argentine Army, and a year later became Auxiliary Bishop of Buenos Aires. He succeeded to the See in 1932 and was named cardinal by Pope Pius XII in 1953.

## Pope Visits Pressroom

Vatican City — (NC) — Pope John XXIII spent two hours visiting the printing plants of L'Osservatore Romano and the Vatican Poligraf Press here chatting with the pressmen.

As he entered the Vatican City daily's pressroom, which is managed by the Salesian Fathers, he was introduced to each of the pressmen by the pressroom director, Father Saverio Zagaria.

The Pope demonstrated a surprising knowledge of type faces and presses which he said he had picked up in the process of having his own books published.

At the end of his visit he gave each pressman a commemorative medal of his reign bearing his portrait which, he said, "looks a little like me."

The last pope to visit the pressroom was Pope Pius XI in 1934 for the dedication of the new L'Osservatore presses.

## Spain Diocese Builds For Poor

Vitoria — (NC) — The Vitoria diocese is building a low-cost housing project here to provide homes for workers' families.

At present 200 houses are under construction and plans call for 300 more. They are being built by the Better World Cooperative, established by the diocesan social secretariat.

The small houses include a living room, three bed rooms and a combination kitchen-dining room. Each will cost about \$1,400, to be paid for over 20 years at about \$75.00 a month.

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## Quebec

## Volunteers Build Homes For Poor

Trois-Rivieres — (NC) — Two hundred tradesmen and other workers responded quickly to an appeal by a priest here to erect homes for the poor.

The priest, Canon L. J. Chamberland, is known nationally for cooperative housing work in his parish of Sainte-Marguerite-de-Coron here, but his latest effort has been to aid families existing in what have been termed slums.

Within a half hour Canon Chamberland assembled teams of volunteer carpenters, masons, plumbers and other trade workers eager to carry out his directions.

Their first project is to be the erection of a five-bedroom single dwelling for a family of 10 persons. Canon Chamberland believes the house can be built for \$4,000. This includes utility dwellings.

## Twenty Four Missioners, Year's Quota In India

New Delhi — (NC) — India allowed 24 new Catholic foreign missionaries to come to the country during 1958.

The country's Catholic Bishops' Conference published figures of the number of entry visas granted to foreign missionaries. Of the missionaries admitted, 15 are nuns, the rest priests.

The 24 granted visas were among 45 applied for. Twelve were refused action on the remaining nine is still pending.

As explained by government spokesmen, India's policy toward visa requests by new missionaries is to admit only those who have special qualifications in humanitarian work. Archbishop Thomas Pothacamary of Bangalore, who is general secretary of the Bishops' Conference, said that three nuns with high qualifications in the treatment of Hansen's disease (leprosy) were among the 15 Sisters admitted during 1958.

The visas to them were granted for "an indefinite period without limitation of time," the Archbishop said.



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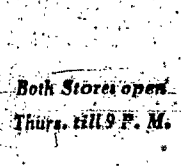
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