

Freedom shared is equality

ERA grasps headlines: The Equal Rights Amendment causes intense pro and con feelings. But the hard facts of changes for women accumulate. While moving like snails in the legal arena, we go at a gallop in other ways, with increasing numbers of women employed, new opportunities in education, and radical changes in family life.

Moral and legal understanding can catch up with changing facts by taking a better look at history. The industrial revolution broke up feudalism with its economic deprivations and virtual enslavement of most people.

Men gained a radically new freedom and rapid technological advancement resulted. Almost all of us enjoy a marvelous standard of living royalty couldn't command a few hundred years ago. But the new freedom for men included a drawback for women which long weighed.

The family shifted from a productive to a consuming unit. Women lost their stake in the family craft and become dependents needing support.

These economic facts had profound accompanying psychological impact as women lost status and equality. They had to seek peace and prestige in circumscribed, not devious, effort. In short, our marvelous modern era has dehumanized women.

THE MOST dismaying symptom of our social disease is the break-up of family life. Homes are disrupted as women try to find something lost for a few hundred years. Equality cannot be found by going back to feudalism but neither can it be found by indulging in rhetoric extolling the ways of a few decades ago.

We should not be surprised that the press for freedom includes some exaggerated behavior in the name of liberty. But we should be astounded at excesses caused by repressive use of power. "Do your own thing" is a distortion of individualism which destroys solidarity in the family and then in neighborhoods and communities.

Men ought to watch and listen more

REV. CHARLES ERICKSON



deeply. Men and women ought to search for better models for the young to follow. Patterns of life are changing, swiftly and decency belongs to those who participate creatively in the birth of new views of status and meaning for women.

AS WE WORK our way through these exciting times, we will be moral if we sort out eternal values and make them central. Freedom is the guide in striving for equality. Any press for freedom for some of us will work only if it increases freedom for all of us.

Equality also rests on valuing commitment. We can hold things together in business or home for a few decades by power held by unions or management, by mothers or fathers.

But finally solidarity rests on equality where all participants share commitment to each other and to the total enterprise. We must be people who honor covenants and can be depended on to stick with what we start.

We Americans have always been quick to say freedom and responsibility are inseparable siamese twins. Saying it is not enough; we must act as liberated persons who keep commitments.

The goal of pursuing equal rights is mutually. We are dependent on each other even in our most extreme independence. We need to appreciate interdependence. Maximum sharing is the task of moving toward mutuality. Equality means elevating any whose situation diminishes dignity.

Equal rights will come. We can help by glorifying freedom and responsibility, mutuality and commitment.

The Lively NEEDLE



By KAY DAVIS

A panicky thought just occurred to me; there are only 159 stitching days left until Christmas. Since my lists of presents grows longer every year, August will have to be "production month". In case you're in the same boat, here are some gift ideas and the books that give directions for them. Borrow the books from your library, or buy them from most needlework stores.

The presents that I stitch fall into three categories; one month, one week or one night. That's how long it takes to make them. Of course stitching times vary all over the place, but you get the general idea.

Hearth rugs and needlepoint pictures of the giftee's home fall into the "one month" category. If houses intrigue you, locate "Your House in Needlepoint" by Farlie and Sloan. It's available in paperback and covers everything you need to know.

Hearth rugs usually measure close to two feet by three feet. They are generally worked on five-gauge rug canvas using woolen rug yarn. For design ideas, try concentric borders, or a mixture of the smaller quilt patterns from "Needlepoint from America's Great Quilt Designs" by Davis and Giammattei.

"One week" projects may appeal to you more than larger labors. If so, how about inserts for ice buckets or serving trays, straps for luggage or ray racks, needlework evening bags for ladies, belts for men, or Christmas stockings for children?

Designs for belts or rack straps can come from any book's border pat-

terns. One of the best collections is "Bargello Borders" by Hall and Riley. Men's belts are available in kit form with the leather already stitched around the canvas to be worked. However I've found that for hard wear, needlepoint stitched onto a solid leather belt lasts longer. Look under Harness and Saddle in your Yellow pages for leather stitchers. And ask to see some needlepoint that they've sewn to leather. You don't want to be their guinea pig.

For beautiful evening purse designs, and directions for constructing them yourself, read "more Miracles with Binding Stitch" by Young, Christmas stockings come in many kits. If you still want to do your own, trace any commercial stocking that's the right size. Use interlock canvas, stitch your pattern, and sew the backing on as you would a knife edge pillow. The secret here is the interlocking canvas. It won't unravel when it's being clipped and sewn together.

Inserts for ice buckets or trays can have whatever design turns you on. The giftee's monogram, placed within a border, is always a safe choice. Next week's column will give an alphabet that's marvelous for monograms.

Reprints of "The Lively Needle" - please send a stamped, self-addressed envelope and 25 cents to me in care of this newspaper: Reversible flap for a ready-made purse or tote bag using Chelle's Plaid directions; Necklace or pin; Sashlet; Place card Holder; Coaster; Pin cushion. And if you want to stitch a luggage tag or name tag, see next week's alphabet.

Happy Vacation to all - and to all a good night.

Fee lifted for blood recipients

Blood recipients no longer are required to pay a non-replacement fee to hospitals due to a joint agreement between the hospitals and the South-eastern Michigan Red Cross Blood Service.

"As of July 1, all of the 75 hospitals we serve in Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Washtenaw, and St. Clair counties discontinued use of the fee indicating their support of our program of com-

munity responsibility for blood," said Dr. A. William Shafer, blood service director.

Not generally covered by insurance, the non-replacement fee was charged by some hospitals for each unit of blood transfused. Unless the patient was a member of a blood donor coverage plan, he or she would have to either pay the fee or arrange for family or friends to replace the blood.

The non-replacement fee was imposed in addition to the hospital administration and processing fees which are still charged by all hospitals to partially cover the costs of collecting, processing and administering blood and is covered by insurance.

"Red Cross felt that the non-replacement fee was an unnecessary burden

on the patient, especially the elderly and those without friends and relatives to help replace the blood they used," Shafer added.

Red Cross became the area's sole supplier of blood and blood products in 1975. Since that time it has changed its philosophy of coverage plans to the idea of community responsibility for blood.

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WIGGS
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Henredon's "Pan Asian"...Echoes of Ancient Oriental Cultures

Pan Asian: as the name implies, the inspiration for this collection comes from many areas of the Far East...China, Korea, Japan. Some pieces are reproductions of rare antiques, others translate ancient Oriental themes distinguished by beautiful brasses, lavishly applied. Crafted in solid and veneered mahogany with olive ash burl and "character-marked" walnut veneers, the finish is deep, dark and lustrous. From the left: High Chest, 36x19x48 1/2" high, Sale \$773.72" long Triple Dresser, Sale \$719.21x45 high Mirrors, Sale \$165 each. Full or Queen size Headboard and Frame, Sale \$256.26x17x24 high Commode, Sale \$384.50x24 high, just a few pieces from the complete collection for bedroom, dining room or living room. Come visit our Henredon Gallery in The Cotnamade.

Century's "Chin Hua," inspired by Ancient Chinese Decor

It has been said the Oriental-derivative furniture is a style always compatible with all periods used in today's decor. Much of this Century dining room grouping was inspired by the ancient Chinese pieces. A variety of sophisticated finishes is available. Shown, is a medium, lustrous semi-gloss which affords superb clarity and depth. Cordovan (reddish cast ebony) permits the grain-structure to emerge. All incorporate olive ash burls for two-tone variations. Also, some in red painted finish. This major collection encompasses over 80 pieces...all Summer Sale Priced! 38 1/2 x 48 Oval Extension Table (opens to 84"). Sale \$579...Slat-back Side Chair, Sale from \$142...All-Upholstered Side Chair, Sale from \$208...All-Upholstered Arm Chair, Sale from \$223...58 x 16 1/2 x 18 1/2 China, Sale \$1370...40 x 18 Mobile Server, Sale \$460.

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