

Here comes the Chessie

Remember last summer when the Chessie Steam Special rattled through Redford Township, Livonia and Plymouth? Those who rode the train may be interested in obtaining a copy of the above lithograph made by Barton Davis, a Chicago artist. The cost, including postage, is \$5. The 16 by 20 inch lithograph may be purchased from the Twentieth Century Railroad Club, PO Box A3238, Chicago, Ill. 60690.

Boys back work for wives

Today's high school seniors feel it is acceptable, and often desirable, for both a husband and wife to be employed, a new nationwide survey indicates.

They also endorse a quite equal division of child care, according to the University of Michigan Institute for Social Research (ISR).

But the young people oppose a complete reversal of sex roles, the study shows. Eighty-five per cent rejected the idea of a wife working full-time while her husband was not working, and 64 per cent would not accept a situation in which the husband worked only half-time, even if the couple had no children.

"In contrast, only four per cent would not agree to a half-time job for the wife while her husband worked full-time," the study reports. "The seniors were far more restrictive in their view of the husband's work options."

A. Regula Herzog, Jerald G. Bachman and Lloyd D. Johnston examined the personal preferences of a 1977

nationwide sample of about 3,000 seniors. Five questions were asked about husband/wife division of employment, child care and housework.

"Our interest was prompted by the enormous influx of married women into the labor market during the last decades," the researchers said. "In this decade, even the mothers of pre-school children are returning to work. Yet several research studies indicate there is no concurrent trend for husbands to assume a much larger share of the child care and housework."

Will the next generation of new-lays be more egalitarian or tradition-minded? The ISR data provide some suggestions, however, preferences are not perfect predictors of actual behaviors, the authors said.

The data show that among the seniors the most widely preferred arrangement for a couple with no children is full-time work for the husband and full- or half-time work for the wife. The more traditional arrangement in which the husband has a full-time job and the wife is not employed

outside the home was rated less preferable by the seniors surveyed.

The preferences shift dramatically when a pre-school child enters the picture. Then, 47 per cent of the males and 35 per cent of the females desire full-time work for the husband and no outside employment for the wife.

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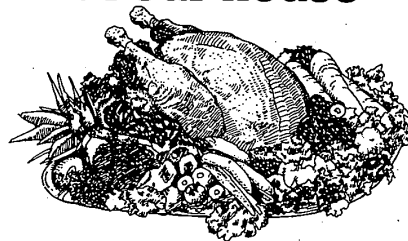
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