

# The Distaff Side...

By Jerry Wendt, Women's Editor



She is absolutely beautiful to look at. Blue-black hair, a flawless skin and the kind of figure that causes the teenagers she talks to say, "Wow, she's really stacked!" Couple that with a brain that is as sharp as a precision instrument used for diamond cutting and you have a winning combination, and that's the little lady 1st. She is Ann Landers, the most widely read newspaper person in the world. Her column is in 434 newspapers and they range from Alaska to New Mexico.

Ann Landers addressed a local town hall Thursday, and later on addressed members and guests at the Meadowbrook Country Club over a luncheon. We had a few minutes to chat with her before she went on stage. She looked stunning in a navy and pink knit suit topped with a white mink jacket. Of course we asked her about her clothes.

"I bought the suit in Israel," she said with a smile. "I didn't realize they had such marvelous knits." Her large leather bag came from Mexico. We asked her what designer she favored and she said she had no special one, but liked Pauline Trigiere. Her cosmopolitan wardrobe is symbolic of another blessing in her life, for besides being attractive enough to be a movie star, she is married to a very successful business man, Jules Lederer, and as his wife she travels with him to many places.

The Observer would describe Ann Landers' effect on the audience as that of an electric shock treatment. She pulls no punches, and forces people to look at this world about us.

"We are paying the price for our money-oriented culture," she said. "We know the price of everything and the value of nothing."

"We are spending millions to put a man on the moon and we can't get along with each other on earth."

She was horrified concerning the recent scandal regarding cheating at West Point and regards it as symbolic of our loss of integrity. "We have added an 11th commandment," she said sorrowfully, "and it is 'Thou Shalt Not Be Caught.'"

Ann Landers is deeply interested in teenagers. Much of her mail comes from them, and she is probably more familiar with their problems than anyone else on the current scene. She had just come from Starr Commonwealth where she addressed the students, and she had high praise for the Commonwealth.

With regard to teenagers she said, "Many people say to me, 'Ann, don't you think all this talk about teenagers is a little exaggerated? Weren't we just the same? Aren't they really like us?'"

"I wish I could say yes," said Miss Landers, seriously, "but the truth is NO, they aren't. If Booth Tarkington wrote 'Seventeen' today, it would have to be 'Twelve'—so far advanced are these teen agers."

"The reason for this," she continued, "is the automobile." And then she said firmly, "I am in favor of absolute rigid discipline for teen agers." And like all her subjects, Miss Landers has first hand knowledge of what she is discussing, she has a daughter who is now married and the mother of two.

"Most teen-agers do not want to be over-protected," she stated. "It gives them a feeling of security to know there is authority behind them. Let your children have the thrill of accomplishment," she continued. "You know that is the

greatest thrill in the world and we are robbing them of it by our own desires to have the pleasure of gift giving."

We were impressed by the forthrightness of her answers and that not once did she revert to a cliché or duck an issue.

Her views on alcoholics are that alcoholism is a disease not a disgrace. "Alcoholism is our third greatest killer today," she told her listeners. "Only heart disease and cancer rank ahead of it. The percentage of women alcoholics is staggering. The neglected wife is a prime candidate."

She believes that the families have an obligation to the alcoholic. "I am not in favor of divorcing an alcoholic as the solution to the problem. Join 'Alanon' she recommended, "and learn to help him with his problem."

If you have written to Ann Landers or will someday, you are in top company. She receives 30,000 letters a month from every state in life. She answers every letter. She is a dedicated person and takes pleasure in the fact that her column gives service to people. She puts them in touch with the nearest agencies if their problem goes beyond the advice she can give. In order to do this, she has a staff of 12 secretaries who do the typing and research. She herself sends the letters, those that aren't answered in her column receive a personal reply. A sample of this is that her last month's telephone bill was \$1900.

And in conclusion, did the lady herself ever have a problem? If you expected her to duck out of that, you were wrong, because she did, and out of that problem came Ann Landers.

Her husband was a man consumed by ambition, because of a drinking depression years, due to illness in his family, he had to go to work before completing his education; he was determined to "make good." He did, of course in price.



YES, YOU GUESSED RIGHT! That's Ann Landers, the queen of all columnists lunching at Meadowbrook Country Club with a group of area women.

ly style, in fact was even one of the founders of the Young Presidents Club (an organization for men who are presidents of their own companies before they are 30 years of age). But in so doing, he left his young bride with much time on her hands, while he was devoting long hours to starting his business. And how did she solve that problem?

"I determined to never complain, to keep myself informed, and always in shape," she said. "I made up my mind that I would keep pace with him. I would create new interests, keep myself mentally alert. And now I am as busy as he is."

They plan a year ahead of time to take two wonderful trips together. When he returns from Europe, they will go to Honolulu.

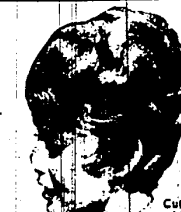
How has it worked out? "Well," said Ann, "I enjoy my success as Ann Landers, but I really enjoy my success as Mrs. Jules Lederer. You see," she smiled disarmingly at her audience, "I really LIKE Jules Lederer."

Low Calorie Brunches To Be Held Dec. 8

Garden City Weight Control Club will sponsor a low calorie brunch Thursday morning, Dec. 8, from 9:15 to 10:30 a.m. in the Log Cabin at Garden City Park.

New and prospective members are urged to attend. For further information call 421-

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THE PLYMOUTH SYMPHONY LEAGUE invites you to attend the Annual Christmas Ball and dinner dance on Saturday, December 3 at the Mayflower Meeting House. Reservation Chairmen, left to right, Mrs. Herbert Burley, and Mrs. Howard Beck

Two People Can Be Fed On Seven Dollars a Week

Two people living on \$7 a week? Impossible? Not for Elaine Czarota and Margaret Kleiner, home economics students at Madonna College.

On Oct. 9 Elaine and Margaret packed their belongings and embarked on an adventure into Home Management. For six weeks they put into practice theories they had learned in class. Elaine and Margaret learned to plan, budget, shop, cook and clean in addition to attending classes and meetings and doing their homework.

Their hub of activity was the Home Economics house on the Madonna College Campus. Furnished in modern decor, the two bedrooms also has a living room, dining room, and a kitchen.

Elaine and Margaret found that on \$7 it was possible to eat beef, frogmore, chicken a la king, and various other dishes including tuna casserole, cottage cheese, and Jello salads. They reported no weight loss after their six-week experience.

Their budget increased to \$12 when they invited guests for dinner. One week they had Sister Mary Dosthoda, home economics instructor, and Sister Mary Angeline and Mrs. Barbara Jupp, art instructors, for dinner.

Another week they invited their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Czarota, of Redford Township, and Mr. and Mrs. Rudolf Kleiner of Livonia.

The students also found time to try their hands at making baked Alaska, home-made apple, pumpkin, and lemon meringue pie, as well as date-ut bread and oatmeal cookies.

Elaine admitted that they did encounter problems. "We found that we had to borrow a teaspoon of vanilla in order to finish mixing the cookie ingredients, and that the candles we wanted to use on the dinner table had melted and

hand Mrs. Bernard Schmidt her tickets for a party of 12. Guests will be delighted to learn they may be served dinner at whatever their arrival time may be, dress is optional and reservations close Nov. 29.

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## Plan To Wed

Mr. and Mrs. Moses Louwaerts of Gilman Street, Garden City, announce the engagement of their daughter, Christine, to Robert A. Hagen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lowell Hagen of Oakdale Drive, Livonia. Miss Louwaerts is a 1964 graduate of Garden City High and attended Schoolcraft College. Her fiancé is a 1961 graduate of Cathedral Center High School and also served in the United States Navy. An April 22 wedding is planned.

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