



QUOTH THE MAVEN

BY BEVERLY KING POLLOCK

Leading Problems of Day

With the coming of summer and the kids home from school, I find new reason to comment on leading problems of the day. My day, that is.

I have concluded that from summertime certain truisms evolve. Like:

1. Every home is prey to a mysterious disappearance of peanut butter, jelly and salami (not necessarily in combination form). The minute this type food is brought in, it is confiscated by a roving band of students (no doubt communists or that ilk), who move on to the next house if one does not have readily accessible the proper multi-flavored soft drinks. (Perhaps the generation gap is the open space in the refrigerator.)

2. The kitchen sink is never free of dishes. At night the last thing I do before bed is brush my teeth and wash the dishes again. The next morning I awake, and as if by magic, the sink

replenishes itself.

3. (It's the same with the laundry room. I can wash all night, yet by daybreak four new dirty loads of clothes appear.)

4. A mother is honor bound daily to make breakfast 32 times, depending on when the inhabitants (permanent or temporary) awake, lunch 17 times; but praise be, dinner is for everybody at the same time.

(Teenagers may bounce up and down a dozen times during the evening meal, not necessarily to help but to answer the phone.)

5. Nobody ever eats the leftover half of grapefruits or canteloupes. On my spare days, I go through the refrigerator searching out the half moon foil parcels and consuming same. (Remember how your Bubbeh told you it was a sin to waste food.)

6. Children may (or may not) complain about the poor quality of summer television. Often they are reduced to reading a book or even a newspaper.

7. It is still necessary to "X" off each day of the calendar. Else I forget what week it is.

8. Chauffeur duties multiply even if your teenagers let you have the car. My daughter condescended to take the bus to summer school (not enough I have to pay tuition for nine months -- now twelve!) so that I could still have my car -- to take my younger daughter to work.

9. And then somehow there is always a moral issue involved. Tell me: what is a decent interval before you demand your daughter throw out her prom corsage from the refrigerator?

10. But one time, on an off day I woke up my younger son at the crack of noon and he stretched and said, "Hiya, Beautiful," and I decided that maybe summer has some value after all.

HOSPITAL STRIKE IN ISRAEL

JERUSALEM (WNS)-- A strike by employees of Government hospitals has spread to the Municipal Hospital in Haifa where doctors are refusing to work in the out-patient clinics unless they receive extra pay. Out-patient clinics in Government hospitals were closed when doctors refused to work there. In some hospitals employees are performing the minimum work required to keep them open. Meanwhile, 15,000 employees of the sick-fund administrative and medical auxiliary staffs work their required hours without a break forcing the clinics and pharmacies to close by mid-afternoon.

Three hundred postal workers are in the third week of their strike and a partial -- afternoon -- strike by 120 members of the international telex and cable exchange workers has disrupted overseas communications. With some 21,000 workers engaged in strikes, stoppages and slowdowns, Labor Minister Joseph Almogi has

proposed bills to curb "illegal strikes." One bill would ban strikes during a period of "collective agreement." Disputes would go to mediation or collective bargaining. The other bill deals with strikes that are called when the "collective agreement" expires.

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