

*Answer:* My employers have a lot to do with it. They encourage me quite a bit, in fact, how I got this job—I was going for legal advice, for a legal separation, and the lawyer then asked me if I was interested in a part-time job. First of all he asked if I had any experience—where I worked, etc.—and that they were thinking of hiring a part-time girl in a month or so, and could he give me a call, would I still be interested? I said by all means. This is what happened, and three weeks later I went down full-time.

*Mr. S.* So this church bit came a little stronger as you became recognized as a person who had something to contribute. Am I putting this in the right words?

*Answer:* Yes, but more. Like I said, my employers did a lot for me and helped build up by self-confidence, and I started feeling better about people in general. I started thinking that this world isn't so bad after all.

*Mr. S.* Mary, how about you?

*Mary:* I've always been very strong in my faith, in my own way perhaps, but I've kept the children in church because I felt it would give them strength and the courage they needed, and I think it has helped them. They'll go to church on their own, and they don't have to be told—except for one, the older one now, he'd rather sleep in; but I've never forced the issue on him. He dropped out of church for quite a while, but now he's going back on his own. I never asked him to go back. I think the church has played a very large part in the family. Being a mother alone, with six children, I'm the oldest one here, and I have the oldest children here. My oldest one is 17. She's very active in the church. She's an Assistant Cub Master.

*Mr. S.* Mary, how old are you?

*Answer:* Thirty-five. My son is a Cub Instructor and he's interested in sports in the different team groups that they had at the church. When I needed counselling for my children, I went to our own parish priest, and he counselled them, and they always knew that he was not just a priest—that he could be a father image if they let him. He could be very kind to them. He could be very strict, which was very good.

*Mr. S.* He laid down the law when it was necessary.

*Answer:* He really did. We relied on him quite a bit. As I became more self-sufficient and self-employed and what not, I tried to

take over the reins myself, but I don't think I'd want to take over the family completely.

*Mr. S.* In other words, you need some kind of a male figure in the family.

*Answer:* I tried to be mother and father both, and I was failing; so I gave up trying to be father and just concentrated on being a mother, and that's not too bad.

*Mr. S. to Mary B:* You lived in the Crescent Valley district for six years, is that right? Now you've moved out? How long ago did you move?

*Answer:* Before Christmas.

*Mr. S.* And you moved to where?

*Answer:* Westmoreland Road in the East Side.

*Mr. S.* What kind of living arrangements have you got there?

*Answer:* We have a bottom flat. There's lots of room, and it's quite modern.

*Mr. S.* You bought it?

*Answer:* No, we're renting.

*Mr. S.* You have five children and a husband?

*Answer:* Yes.

*Mr. S.* What does your husband do?

*Answer:* He works for Imperial Oil.

*Mr. S.* What about the change from here to Westmoreland Road?

*Answer:* I find the children—especially my older one—his attitude has changed quite a bit. He's doing better at school. I don't really think he liked it down here. He's just the type of child who didn't get along too well with the other children.

*Mr. S.* Was he aggressive? Tell me why he didn't get along.

*Answer:* I really don't know. We've been trying to figure that out.

*Mr. S.* But he's doing better in school than he did here?

*Answer:* He's doing better, and his attitude has changed a bit. He's a more likable child now.

*Mr. S.* Would you say this went for the whole family?

*Answer:* No, my other children are younger. I have a boy twelve, but he's the 'going' type. He's in sports and all sorts of things. I