

QUINTUPLET FLOCK NEED OF COUNTRY IS CENSUS CLAIM

Population Due To Start Down Hill Around 1950—High Cost of Living, Not Birth Control, Gets Blame

By Harry Ferguson
United Press Staff Correspondent
WASHINGTON, Aug. 10.—(UP)—What this country needs is a flock of quintuplets.

The census bureau says so, and they ought to know because they spend all their time counting noses. They figure that come the year 3000 A. D. New York probably will be a village, Chicago a cracker-barrel crossroads and Washington will have a population of six—the president, his wife and the in-laws.

Sometime between now and 1950, the bureau estimates America's population will stop increasing, stand still for a while and then start downhill. In 3000 A. D. presidential candidates will run on a platform of furnishing a fourth for bridge in every household in the land.

700,000 More Next Year
Right now we aren't in such a bad fix. When they count noses next year there will be about 700,000 more of us than there are now. But this increase will melt away, because the United States no longer is a young country, but an old one. Canada is a young country and what happens? Ask Papa Dianne.

If things keep up the way they are, there never can be more than 142,000,000 Americans. Right now there are 130,000,000. The census people think that in five or six years the death and the birth rate will be balanced. In another 100 years rents ought to start going down and congestion in Times Square will be sufficiently relieved so you can cross the street without a police escort.

Living Cost Blamed
We asked the census bureau to give us the honest-to-goodness lowdown on why the population was going to decrease and they said they would. Nope, it's not birth control that's doing it. It's the high cost of living chiefly. People don't rush out and get married any more just because some blonde tells a guy he's big and strong and she's so tired of it all. The fellow counts his money, finds out he hasn't got much and switches to brunettes.

Bachelors write into the bureau every once in a while complaining because they have to pay school taxes when they haven't any kids to send to school. They don't know when they're well off.

Bachelors Beware
As soon as the population starts declining the government will take steps. It's already been done abroad. England deducts a lot of dough from income taxes for people who have children; Italy pays a bonus for children; and France pays a father lots more than a single man for doing the same kind of work.

The census bureau thinks all of us may live to see the day when the political slogan will be "a baby in every cradle" instead of "a chicken in every pot."

FIELDS UNHAPPY AS COMIC, YEARNS TO DO JUGGLING

To the world, W. C. Fields is a big success. He makes 'em laugh. He's one of the most sought after party guests in Hollywood. But beneath his humor is a secret. For professionally speaking, Bill Fields is an embittered man. The world doesn't appreciate his juggling.

Long before he turned to comedy, he was a vaudeville juggler, devoted to his art. Most of his spare time was spent in hotel rooms in honky-tonks, practicing feats of balance. But no matter how hard he practiced, his acts never received more than the average flutter of applause. He set his teeth and determined to roll 'em in the aisles.

Finally, after many years of stubborn practice, Fields perfected his masterpiece—a trick of juggling twenty-five cigar boxes, end on end, with a little rubber ball on top. First the ball was dropped and caught in his other hand; then each box followed in succession, the top one falling with machine-like precision without disturbing the boxes beneath it. It was a wow, and W. C. knew it. And satisfied that he had reached the ultimate at last, he packed up his boxes and set out for the theater. He did it as the climax of his act. At the conclusion of the trick, he whirled toward the audience with outstretched arms and awaited the applause. Several thousand dead pans stared back at him in cathedral-like silence. He went off crushed.

It was several years later that he decided to accompany his trick with a line of humorous patter. It caught on instantly, and before he knew it Fields found himself catapulted to Broadway. The second night at the Palace the manager came to him, patted him on the back and told him he was the funniest man in America. "But," he added, "after this you better quit that juggling and just talk."

So Fields talked and afterwards wrote another act for himself. Then came the Follies, Earl Carroll's Vanities, years in several hit shows, and finally the movies and a contract with Paramount.

But the big riddle to Fields is his own career. He can't understand why the world wants him as a comic when it can have him as a juggler, for so

him juggling is the supreme theatrical art and he figures he's just about as good a juggler as there is. In "The Old Fashioned Way," one of his latest pictures, Fields persuaded Director William Baughne to let him work a couple of juggling tricks

into the picture, but when it came around to his "masterpiece" he was forced to cut it down to eight cigar boxes because of exigencies of the camera shot. In "Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch," which he is now making, he

was all prepared to campaign for the full trick. But Director Norman Taurog was ready for him. "Remember, Bill," he said, "this book is a classic that the world wants as is. No juggling." "All right," said Fields, "but I

still I can't understand why you want me if I can't juggle. I don't want to be a comic; I want to be a juggler." And he went off shaking his head. Phone 512 We'll haul away your refuse City Sanitary Service

Former G. O. P. Chief Has 12 Cents Cash

DETROIT (UP)—John Gillespie, former state republican power, and 800 other persons attended an auction of his household goods today. Furnishings and works of art valued at \$155,490 were offered. Gillespie, recently declared bankrupt, said he wouldn't bid. "I have only 12 cents on me," he said.

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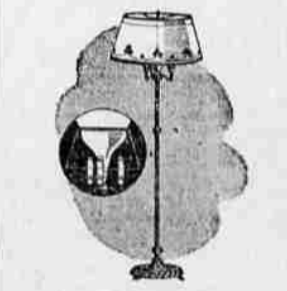
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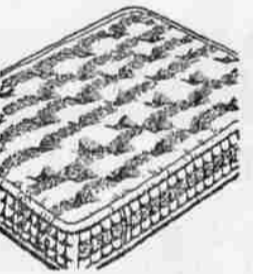
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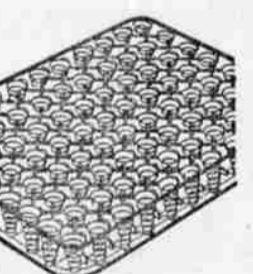
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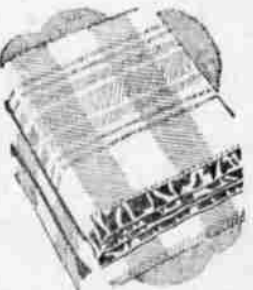
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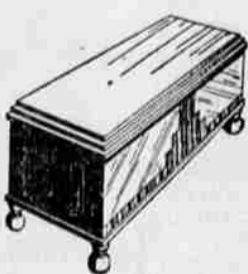
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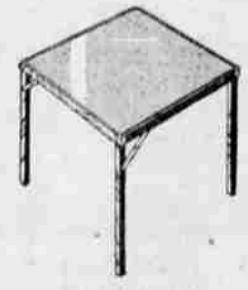
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