

Unchanging People in Changing World Continue To Follow Beliefs of Ancestors

Editor's note: Amid the current national emphasis on American education and the rights of all to seek education where they can find it, there remains in this country one determined group of people quietly but firmly resolved to keep their own rules on schooling. These are the Amish, whose way of life is unchanging in a constantly changing world. This is a report on the Amish as they are today—and were more than two centuries ago.

By RUSS GREEN

Lancaster, Pa. —(UPI)—They'll go to jail rather than send their children to a public school after the age of 14.

They cluck to a horse from a buggy seat while a jet plane whines overhead.

And they won't use electricity because it's man-made. Nor use lightning rods that would thwart the will of God. They refuse to buy life insurance. They will make Social Security payments but they spurn its rewards.

They are unchanging people in a changing world and their feelings about public schooling are but one symptom of their way of life.

These are the "plain folk," Amish (pronounced Ah-mish) people who dwell in a world of their own, almost completely detached from man's technological advance.

They stoutly refuse to abandon a life they brought to the American colonies more than 200 years ago.

Offshoot of Mennonites

They comprise a religious group of about 17,000 "Old Order Amish," an offshoot of the Mennonite church. At least 5,000 Amish live in Lancaster county, the "Pennsylvania Dutch" area about 90 miles from Philadelphia and one of the richest farm counties in the nation.

Their steadfast adherence to plain living is not due to isolation, for each year, thousands of worldly tourists visit them to observe the simple life.

These visitors see Amish men wearing flat, wide-brimmed hats and beards, but no mustaches (a mustache has a military cast and the Amish, pacifists all, detest all things military. For this same reason, the men won't wear buttons on their clothing.)

The womenfolk wear black bonnets and plain dresses with crisp, white aprons and neat white caps for dress-up occasions.

Little Wise Men

The Amish children dress as their elders do. Young boys look little like wise men as they dance "Ring-Around-the-Rosey" and play other ageless games with barefoot, laughing little girls who are dressed like their mamas.

The parents pain the gates of their picket fences blue to advise that there's an eligible daughter in the house. But courtship among the young is one area where some changes have occurred. Bundling is out. Nowadays, long journeys on cold nights by young swains are no longer necessary because the farms are too close. An Amish lad merely jumps a fence or two and he's on hand for the courting.

While they are able to live their lives with a minimum of outside interference, the Amish occasionally run afoul of the law because of their opposition to education beyond the early teens. Many a judge in Pennsylvania and Ohio, as well as in other states, has pondered the inscrutable stubbornness of an Amish parent who doesn't want to keep his children in school beyond the age of 14.

Some states set 16 as the age to leave school, but the Amish bishop will maintain children must cease their formal education at the earlier age to prepare for the real life of the Amish—farming and housekeeping.

Deny Cheap Labor

Various critics say the children are pulled from school to provide "cheap farm labor," but the Amish deny this and say their religion holds that education should cease at 14. What about advanced learning? The elders claim "they'll work it out for themselves."

A parent may be arrested because of his views on schooling. He won't resist.

And he won't pay his fine. He'll go to jail. If someone should pay the fine for him, he's apt to refuse to leave his cell until the sentence is served. And before you can say "one-room schoolhouse," he may be back before the judge again on the same charge.

The Amish are determined to maintain their own schools and the 14-year-old age limit because they consider public schools to be too worldly. They have asked for a parochial system with a schedule that enables the children to be home during the harvest.

Have Own Schools

In Pennsylvania, the Amish now have their own schools with their own state-qualified instructors. In Ohio, where Amish teachers are not accredited, a "breakthrough" occurred when an Amish family enrolled its children in a public school.

There have been other breakthroughs of a sort in the 20th century.

For example, the Amish will use gas to drive some appliances because gas comes from the earth. The same for oil. He won't drive an auto, however, but he will ride in one. He'll look at television, but not on his own property. He won't have a phone on the farm but he'll use a phone booth set out on the road by the phone company. The phone has an extra-loud ring. He'll keep a radio in the barn (for weather forecasts), but not in the home. He'll use gas lights instead of kerosene.

Quotes From the News

By UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL

Washington—Adm. Arleigh Burke, chief of naval operations, on whether he expected Russia to conduct test shots similar to the secret U.S. nuclear blasts in space:

"I wouldn't be surprised. They will want to get the data and I shouldn't be surprised but what they will."

Washington—Poet Robert Frost, on the theory that man will destroy civilization and himself with his more and more formidable military weapons:

"I think we are inexorable. Like flies and bugs. You can't really exterminate them. There will always be some in cracks and crevices, and that's us."

Casablanca, Morocco—Capt. Manlio Petris, after saving his grounded wine tanker by pumping 250,000 gallons of wine into the sea:

"I am very happy, very proud to have been able to save my ship. But I am sorry about all that wine."

London—Sunday Dispatch columnist Anne Scott-James, yearning for the good old days when women were women:

"If only I had had sense enough to stay stupid. We're talking on a man's world—and it's hell."

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What Is The Law?

This column is prepared as a public service by the College of Law, Willamette University, Salem, to explain basic legal principles, not to provide legal advice. The reader is cautioned not to apply these cases to his own problems without an attorney's advice, for differing facts may change the outcome.

Discrimination Unlawful If Purposeful and Systematic

The defendant, a Negro, was indicted for the murder of a white woman by an all-white grand jury in the Parish of Orleans, La. His motion to quash the indictment on the ground that Negroes had been systematically excluded from grand juries in the parish, including the grand jury which returned the indictment against him, was overruled by the state court. The defendant was tried, convicted, and sentenced to death. The Supreme Court of Louisiana affirmed the conviction, holding that the record disclosed no discriminatory exclusion of Negroes from his grand jury.

On review the United States Supreme Court in 1958 unanimously reversed the judgment holding that the evidence sufficiently showed that Negroes were systematically excluded from the juries in the Parish of Orleans.

Jurors in this parish are chosen from a list submitted by jury commissioners to one of the six judges of the local criminal court, who, in rotation, choose a new grand jury every six months. Sometimes the judges interview a substantial number of prospects; sometimes, as in this case, the judge makes his selection on the basis of personal knowledge or reputation in the community. No issue was made as to this method of choosing jurors as such, but it was contended that the system was so administered that Negroes were systematically excluded from grand jury service.

In reversing the conviction, the Supreme Court noted that Negroes comprise about one third of the population of the Parish of Orleans, but that only one Negro had been picked for grand jury duty within memory—and this was apparently a mistake.

Out of thirty-six grand jury lists submitted to the judges since 1936, the Court observed, six or more Negroes were included on each list, but out of 432 jurors chosen, only the single Negro was chosen for jury duty. The long-continued exclusion of Negroes from the grand juries shown by this record could not be attributed to chance, the Court decided. It seemed clear that Negroes had been consistently barred from jury duty because of their race.

14th Amendment

The Constitutional basis for this and similar cases is the provision in the Fourteenth Amendment that a state shall not "deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws." This provision does not, however, give an accused the legal right to a jury composed in whole or in part of members of his

HEAVENLY AIRLIFT

New Orleans —(UPI)—The Holy Name Society's annual convention here next fall is taking no chances on any of the 25,000 delegates returning home late. Officials planned to march delegates from the most distant cities at the head of the final parade. A "heavenly airlift" will speed home the early ranks of marchers by hundreds of specially scheduled planes.

own race. Mere inequality in the numbers of persons selected from different races is not conclusive; discrimination is unlawful only if it is purposeful and systematic.

Eight Trapped in Tennessee Mine

Robbins, Tenn. —(UPI)—Eight miners were trapped in a small coal mine near here by an explosion this morning, police announced.

A rescue team began digging toward the trapped miners. It was not known immediately if there were any fatalities.

Cause of the explosion was not determined. The mine is located in Brimstone in Scott county. The scene is about 50 miles northwest of Knoxville.

London —(UPI)—Vera Howard rejected Roy Horne's marriage proposals 1,931 times but gave in on number 1,932 and they were married Saturday.

LSGILATOR DIES
Toronto —(UPI)—Lady Helena Squires, the only woman ever to serve in a Newfoundland legislature, died here Saturday in a nursing home.

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Marshmallow Eggs	Choc. Coated	5-oz. pkg.	29c
Jelly Beans	Easter banded	14-oz. pkg.	29c
Jelly Eggs	2-lb. pkg.	59c	14-oz. 29c
Jumbo Eggs	Marshmallow	2-lb. pkg.	69c
Easter Eggs	Marshmallow Choc. coated	12-oz. pkg.	29c
Easter Pels	Assorted flavors	10 1/2-oz. pkg.	29c
Speckled Eggs	Flavorful jelly	14-oz. 29c	
Easter Bunnies	Choc. coated Marshmallows	5-oz. pkg.	29c
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Tomato Paste	Richer Hunt's	6-oz. can	2/25c	

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SAVE 20¢
SPECIAL COUPON PACKS
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STA-FLO LIQUID LAUNDRY STARCH 35¢

BURGERBITS
Kendall Dog Meal
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MAZOLA OIL
Golden Salad Oil
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VEL
12c Off Pack
37 1/2-oz. pkg. 75¢

FACIAL TISSUES
Chiffon
Pkg. of 400 29¢

FRYETTES
Snow's Clams
10 1/2-oz. can 45¢

GENIE
Liquid Cleanser
Pr. 39¢

PALMOLIVE SOAP
2 Bath Bars 33c
3 Reg. Bars 35c

TOILET TISSUE
Chiffon Assorted
2 Roll pkg. 29¢

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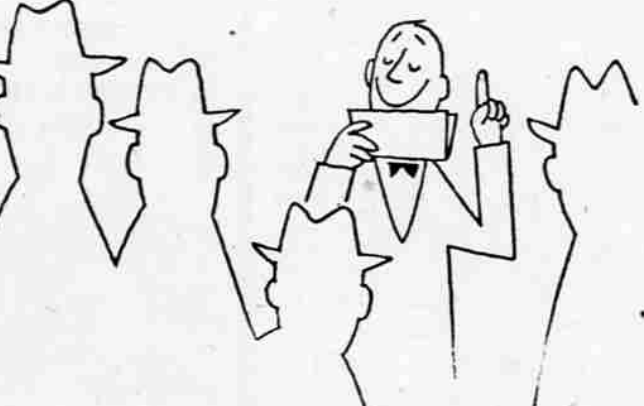


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