

Population To Hit 300 Million By Year 2,000, Survey Shows

New York — America's mushrooming population will swell to the 300 million mark, mostly through "planned" births by the end of this century, a survey of family planning shows.

The prediction is based on American wives having the three-child families they expect and on a continuance of the prevailing low death rate.

The four-year study was conducted by the Scripps Foundation, Miami University, and the Survey Research Center, University of Michigan. The foundation was established in 1920 by E. W. Scripps, founder of the Scripps Howard newspapers.

National Sample
The report is based on interviews with approximately 2,700 married women under 40, a representative national sample of the major social, religious (Protestant, Catholic, Jewish) and economic strata.

The women were asked to what degree they plan their families. They were asked also to what degree these plans succeeded.

Their answers, along with an analysis of the consequences for the growth of the American population, are published in book form by McGraw-Hill. The title: "Family Planning, Sterility and Population Growth."

Prof. P. K. Whelpton, an author of the report and director of the Scripps foundation for research in population problems, Miami university, said recent statements by the Catholic hierarchy about family planning raise the question as to the family-planning situation among American Catholics.

Of 787 Catholic women interviewed 600 tried to control family size, Whelpton said.

"Half of the 600 used only church-approved methods; the remainder used other methods," he said.

Recent statements, according to Whelpton, have given a misleading impression as to what is going on in foreign countries.

"For instance," he said, "in two Catholic countries, France and Italy, where the use of

contraception is frowned upon, the birth rate is among the lowest in the world."

Water Sprinkled On Branches Aids Christmas Trees

East Longmeadow, Mass. — If you want to keep your Christmas tree looking fresh sprinkle its branches with water.

That is the advice of Herbert A. Johnson, 32, one of New England's largest Christmas tree dealers. He disagrees with the theory that a tree is better preserved by putting its base in a container of water.

Pitch Flows
"As soon as a tree is cut down, pitch begins to flow toward the open wound," he explained.

"Then it hardens around the base and prevents water from entering the tree from the bottom."

"I tell my customers to sprinkle water on the branches about every other day," he said. "That way the tree absorbs enough moisture to keep it fresh looking through the holidays."

Johnson said there's no harm putting the tree in a bucket of water. "But it will take in so little water it's hardly worth it," he said.

'Golden Apple' Award Presented To Stars

Hollywood — Shirley MacLaine and David Niven Tuesday received the Hollywood Women's Press club "Golden Apple" award as the most cooperative actor and actress of 1959.

Sandra Dee and Edd (Kookie) Byrnes were runners up for the awards. Dick Powell and Anne Baxter accepted the awards for Miss MacLaine and Niven, both of whom were unable to attend.

The American family planning study shows that a surprisingly high proportion of husbands and wives plan the size of family. Six out of ten wives under 40 expect to have the number of children that they want.

Highlights of the report by Whelpton, Prof. Ronald Freedman, of the University of Michigan; and Assistant Prof. Arthur A. Campbell, of Miami University included:

—Nearly eight out of ten couples with the wife under 40 have tried to regulate the timing and number of pregnancies.

—Many of the others either are young couples who expect to control fertility later after they have the children they want, or are couples who are completely or partially sterile — they cannot have any children or find it difficult to have as many as they may want.

—Family planning is not only widespread and fairly successful in the whole population, but in almost all important groups.

Differences Not Large

—Main differences were found between educated group and between religious groups. Couples who have gone beyond grade school regulate fertility more than those who have not done so. Protestants and Jews control family size somewhat more frequently than Catholics. In neither case are the differences large, however.

—Most wives in all major groups want two, three or four children. For the population as a whole, more than eight out of ten want this number. Among the others, somewhat more want at least five rather than only one.

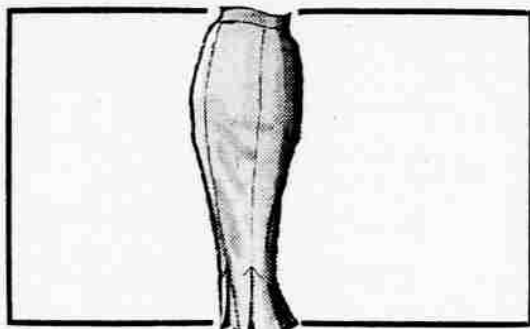
The authors said that if the blueprint for births continues unchanged beyond the year 2000, America's population should climb to 600 million by the year 2050.

If one couple in ten had one extra child, the United States will have a population of one billion less than a century from now.



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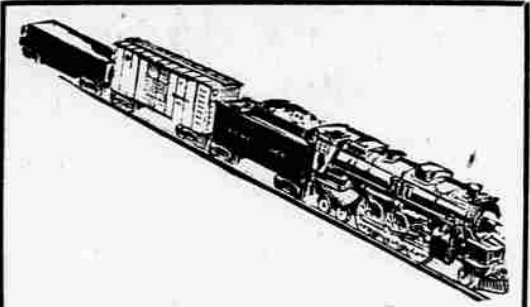
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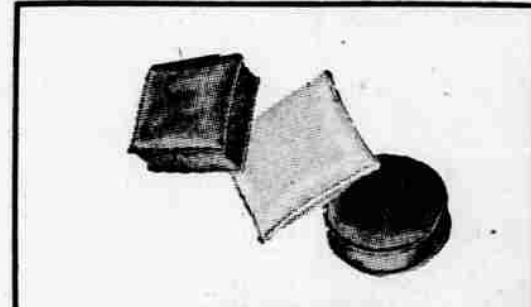
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