

# And Then They Were Ten

By Newspaper Enterprise Assn.  
In the age of the promoter and the fast buck, Andrew and Mary Ann Fischer have blown through this year's headlines like a cool wind off the prairies of their native Dakotas.

They determined at the start that no one would make a circus out of their family just because they had produced quintuplets.

They have seemed particularly concerned about the effect of the event on their five older children. One of the first comments

Andy made after the birth on Sept. 14 was:

"The Fischers now have 10 children, not quintuplets, and five others."

A financial guardianship was set up to protect the interests of all the children, not just the five new Fischers.

The parents have rejected or returned all gifts which had commercial strings attached. The only major contracts were with the Curtis Publishing Co., for the family's picture and story rights and with Brown &

Bigelow Co., who will publish a calendar featuring the babies. But even the unattached gifts and money that have come to them apparently were not expected. In his copyrighted story in the Saturday Evening Post, Andy writes of his reaction when told Mary Ann was carrying five babies.

"I was probably the most worried man in the United States. It never occurred to me that the birth of quintuplets would make news around the world. . . . The big question

was: How can I possibly earn enough to take care of 10 all at once?"

Mary Ann cried most of that same night with the same worries.

Those concerns have now largely vanished. The Aberdeen Chamber of Commerce will build the Fischers a house. Meanwhile, they have moved into a large rented house in town where a nursery for the quint is being readied. It is here they will start their real life as a family.

Why have the Fischers been able to handle the pressures of their new situation without los-

ing their sense of values?

The rigors of living on Andy's \$76-a-week shipping clerk's salary may have helped. Their pioneer stock could be a plus, too. They are descended from emigrant German farming families who carved their living out of the often inhospitable Dakota land. And finally, as Andy writes in the Post of his thoughts just before the quint were born:

"We are a religious people—I prayed that God would give us the strength and wisdom to handle the responsibilities we would have to be facing very soon."

## Fischer Quints Arrived Quickly

By Newspaper Enterprise Assn.  
For an event which happens once in every 54 million chances, the birth of the Fischer quintuplets was over in a deceptively short time.

The first, Mary Ann, was delivered a few minutes before 2 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 14. There followed in rapid sequence, Mary Magdalene, Mary Catherine and James Andrew, Mary Margaret arrived a little after 3 a.m.

Into that hour were poured all the skill of a tall, quiet doctor, all the courage of a 30-year-old mother and all the efficiency of 225-bed St. Luke's Hospital.

Mrs. Fischer entered St. Luke's on Wednesday, Sept. 11, for a checkup on the advice of her doctor, Dr. James N. Berbos, 41, is a general practitioner who delivers more babies than many obstetricians. X-rays disclosed five tiny skeletons. Mary Ann and Andy, 38, were told what to expect that day.

After learning of the expected quintuplets, St. Luke's ad-

ministrator, Sister M. Stephen, immediately bought a third Isolette and arranged to rent two others. These special and expensive (\$1,250) incubators for premature babies control temperature and humidity and filter out bacteria.

By the time Mrs. Fischer's labor began around midnight Friday, three doctors, five nurses and an extensive array of equipment stood ready. For the safety of the quint, who were arriving two months early, Mary Ann agreed to go through the delivery without drugs or anesthetic. She was conscious the entire time.

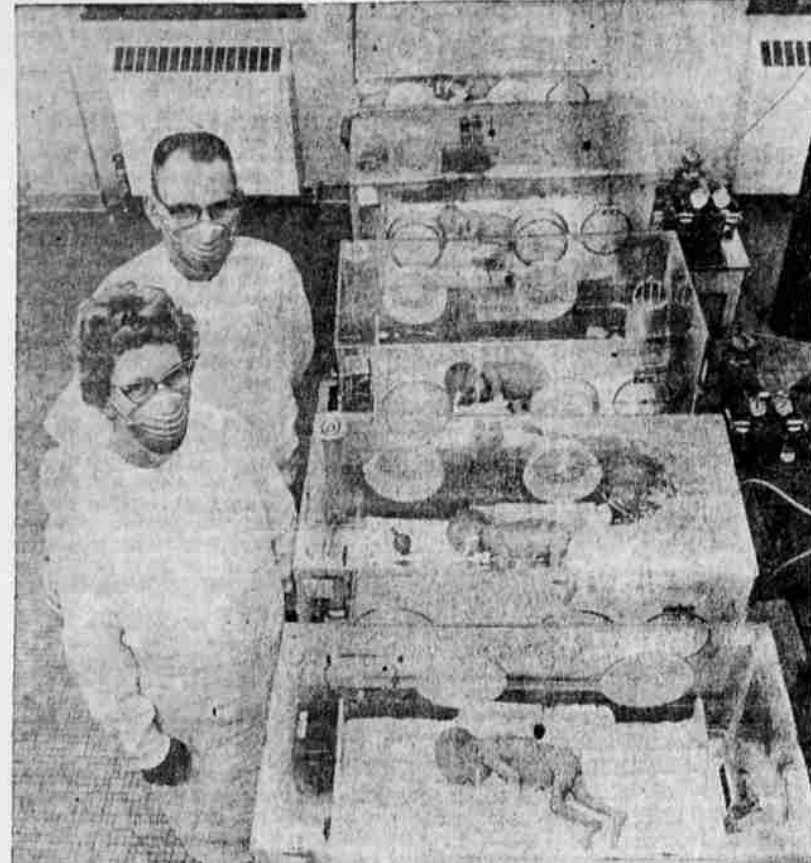
All five are now healthy, out of the incubators, and seemingly thriving in new bassinets. Mary Ann, the smallest at birth, is now reaching toward six pounds and James Andrew is now a strapping nine-pounder.

Dr. Berbos, who has been practicing in his home town since 1949, skillfully kept out of the limelight. But those in the delivery room paid tribute to his masterful handling of the birth.

Perhaps the only irony of the quintuplet story is that the doctor with experience unique to living North American practitioners will very likely never have a chance to put it to work again.



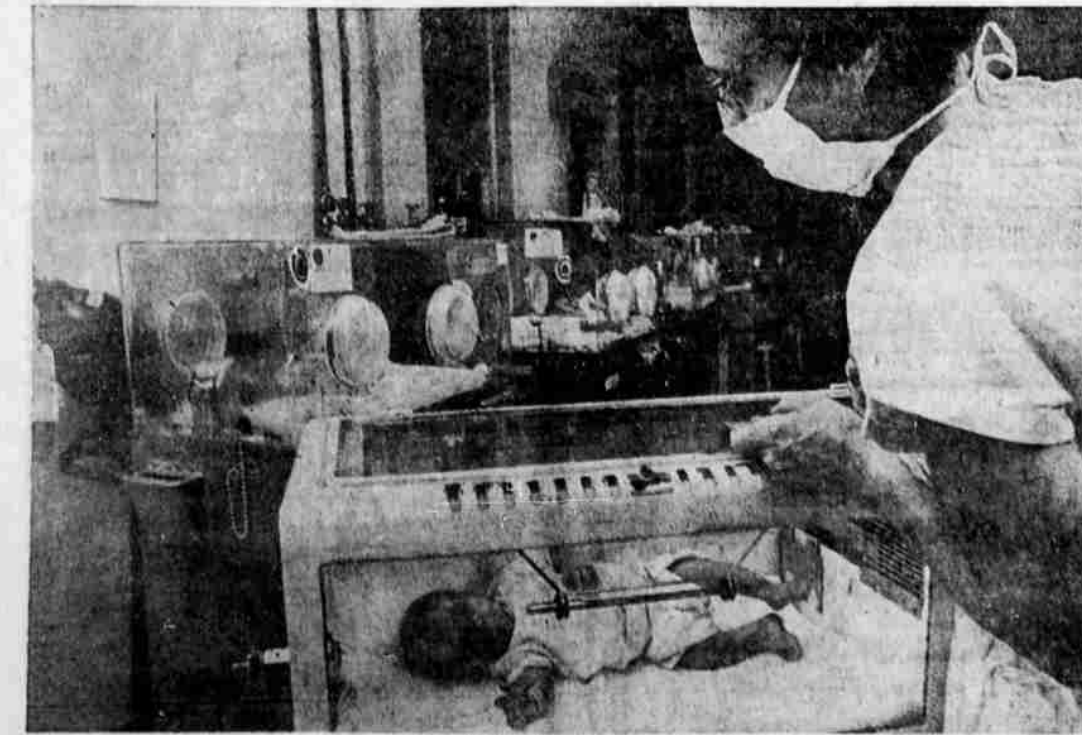
GOOD REASON FOR THANKS: Mr. and Mrs. Fischer share a festive turkey with their five older children and Mrs. Fischer's mother, Mrs. Elmer Brady, in their nine-room rented farmhouse just outside Aberdeen. Seated clockwise around the table, starting with Andy who wields the carving knife, are: Daniel Patrick, 8; Evelyn Kay, 4½; Julie Renee, 6; Mary Ann; Denise Joyce, 3½; Mrs. Brady and Charlotte Ann, 7.



FISHERS AND THEIR FIVE: Parents and quint got together for their first group photo in the nursery of St. Luke's Hospital, Aberdeen. The babies, in Isolettes, are (from front) Mary Ann, Mary Magdalene, James Andrew, Mary Margaret and Mary Catherine.



HOW THEY GREW: James Andrew Fischer (left) is just 6 days old here as a nurse feeds him through a nose tube while he rests in the temperature and humidity controlled environment of his Isolette. Ten days later, his sister, Mary Catherine (right), is bottle fed in her Isolette.



BIG BROTHER: James Andrew was the first quint to leave his Isolette for a regular incubator. His sisters, still in Isolettes when this picture was taken, are shown in the background. The biggest and strongest of the babies, he was the first scheduled to go home. This is the latest photograph of the quint to be released.



A FAMILY OF 10 CHILDREN: The Fischers are determined their older children will not be overshadowed by their famous sisters and brother. A few days after Mary Ann came home from the hospital, the seven Fischers visited the home of Mrs. Fischer's parents in Hecla, S.D. Here in the machine shed, Andy plays ball with (from left) Danny, Charlotte and Julie while Mary Ann watches.

### Indians To Elect Committee

It was decided yesterday in the Multnomah County Circuit Court that a new election will be held to select an executive committee to represent the remaining members of the Klamath Indian Tribe, in addition to others with interests in the tribal holdings, according to information obtained by the Herald and News.

An order will be filed at the Multnomah County Court sometime later today, it was said.

### Congressmen Squeamish About Raising Own Salary

WASHINGTON (UPI) — "The compensation should not be set so high that it would attract poor people to seek the salary instead of the office; nor so low that only the rich could afford to serve."

The first Congress established those salary guidelines or B-sell. It figured that \$8 a day, to be paid only for days actually worked, was just the right amount.

The 88th Congress is now trying to get up the courage to raise members' salaries to \$22,500 a year.

There are those — including some potential recipients — who say it would take gall and not courage to raise congressional salaries by \$10,000 a year.

"If we use production as a yardstick," says Rep. J. Arthur Younger, R-Calif., "we not only are not entitled to a raise, but should be returning part of what we are now getting."

However, Rep. Morris K. Udall (D-Ariz.) proposes that congressional salaries be raised to \$25,000 a year in line with the recommendations of an advisory panel named by President Kennedy. Udall argues that members have been "too timid" in raising their own salaries.

Always Squeamish  
Congressmen have always been squeamish about boosting their own pay. Some have learned the higher salaries would invite greater competition for the office. Others have been concerned about the impact on the voters. Every time Congress raises its pay some members fail to win re-election.

### Employers Looking For Men With Experience Provided They Are Under 40 Years Of Age

SAN FRANCISCO (UPI) — In the competition for jobs, the edge is generally given to the man with experience—providing he's not past the age of 40.

This is the conclusion of Lee V. Harris, who has devoted much of the past eight years to helping competent, out-of-work executives find new jobs.

"Employers today seem to want a man 35 years old with 25 to 30 years of experience," Harris said, pointing to the help-wanted ads in a local newspaper to emphasize his point.

A retired Army colonel, Harris closed down the 40-Plus Association of Northern California, a non-profit organization that worked for 23 years to solve the problem of the unemployed business or professional man.

Unresolved Problem  
Harris made it clear the association was closing its doors because of lack of funds, not because the problem has been solved.

"Ten years ago a company would say, 'Don't send me anyone over 32,'" Harris said. "Today the age limit has dropped to 45."

Harris was a member of the association's board of directors for eight years and spent much of his time handling its day-to-day activities. He took charge of the group when its executive director, David Abrams, died in August.

One of 18 such organizations in the United States, the 40-Plus Association of Northern California had a chronic shortage of funds and depended largely on the volunteer work of its members.

Efforts Successful  
But its efforts were quite successful. During its 23 years, the association placed some 6,500 executives with 2,400 companies. Harris figured the earnings of those men totaled \$36,400,000.

"We were very selective in the men we accepted as members," he said. Membership in the association was limited to executives with annual earnings of between \$7,500 and \$20,000 who had been displaced by retirement policies of their companies, mergers or sale of their companies. Only one applicant

in 10 met the membership requirements.

But even such top quality executives had difficulty locating new jobs, Harris said. He blamed the attitudes of both industry and the unemployed executives for this.

Companies today hesitate to hire an older man despite his valuable experience because of the time and money that must be spent on training and re-training programs, Harris said.

Some companies also feel that an older man will not work long enough to contribute his share to pension and health funds that he will benefit from.

Creates Problems  
The out-of-work executives, however, create some of their own job-hunting problems, Harris said. Many don't know how to start preparing a resume. Harris told of one man who was about to leave for a job interview dressed in a sport shirt and slacks.

To Harris, the key attribute that an unemployed executive must possess is adaptability. He must be willing to learn the new skills and vocabulary that are a part of the growing electronics and space industries to improve his chances for a new job.

He must recognize that the methods of his former company may not apply in his new job. And he must realize that his past experience will be meaningless if he cannot prove himself to his new employer by his on-the-job performance.

### Space Engineer Says Man Is Most Important

LOS ANGELES (UPI) — The man is more important than the machine in space flight.

That's the conclusion of a prominent space engineer in commenting on the highly successful Project Mercury and the forthcoming Project Gemini — next step on the ladder to the moon.

Project Mercury ended with this impressive record: number of orbital flights — four; miles of outer space traveled — 893,402 or a little more than 35 times around the world; time in orbit — 53 hours, 23 minutes.

Now the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and the aerospace industry are teaming up again for Project Gemini — two men in space for two weeks.

New Frontiers, a magazine published by Garrett-AllResearch, builder of life support or environmental control systems for the space vehicles, asked R. C. Nelson, engineer in charge of the Gemini system project, what was learned from Project Mercury that would aid in the Gemini flights.

"From our point of view, there's one important thing we learned from Mercury," Nelson said. "That's about the man. He has shown that a well-trained 'test pilot' who can think, adjust, repair

and act, is more desirable than the most sophisticated, automatic equipment yet designed.

"As a result the Gemini environmental control system will have less automatic control, more manual operation. By reducing the complexity of the system, we will increase reliability. Since the Gemini astronauts will have time on their hands to think and act during their two week mission, less automation is required."

New Frontiers said that in Project Gemini, man's requirement for survival will basically be the same. Thus the function of the life support system remains unchanged — to provide two astronauts a safe and comfortable atmosphere for two weeks in space.

The system will provide fresh oxygen, cabin and suit pressurization, heat and moisture control and toxic gas removal.

Based on Mercury experience, however, a number of improvements have been made in the system for greater reliability, more compactness and lighter weight.

Chief among these, the publication said, are the storage of oxygen under pressure in a state halfway between a gas and a liquid and a series of heat exchangers — devices similar to a car radiator — to cool the capsule by radiating heat into space.

APPROVES NOMINATION  
WASHINGTON (UPI) — The Senate Foreign Relations Committee Monday approved the nomination of Benson E. L. Timmons III to be ambassador to Haiti. Said committee Chairman J. William Fulbright, D-Ark., to Timmons: "You have my sympathy."