

PREDICTS DECLINE IN U. S. POPULATION

The prediction of a stationary population for the United States by 1970, with the birthrate and the deathrate equalizing each other, to be followed by a further decrease in the birthrate to possibly 10 per thousand, and the inevitable result of such a decrease—the rapid decline in the American population—was made by Dr. Louis I. Dublin, statistician of the Metropolitan Life Insurance company, as he sailed to attend the second General Assembly of the International Union for the Scientific Investigation of Population Problems held in London, June 15-19.

"The birthrate in all civilized countries has been declining at an accelerated rate for the past fifty years," said Dr. Dublin. "In America we can definitely forecast that if the decline continues at its present rate, the population will become stabilized around 1970.

"The decline in the birthrate is due somewhat to decreasing fertility but more particularly to birth control. We have the knowledge of the latter and its application is spreading rapidly throughout the civilized world, especially among American city dwellers. The crude rate of natural increase is already at a low figure in the cities of the United States. In many of them the crude rate is either zero or a minus quantity at the present time.

"Studies we have made indicate that the population of the country will become stabilized as to age composition in less than fifty years. When that happens the population of the country will be in the neighborhood of one hundred and fifty million and the expectation of life at birth will have increased to approximately 70 years. The true birthrate in 1928 was 17.3 per thousand and the true deathrate in that year was 5.6, leaving the true natural increase at 1.7 per thousand.

"If the true birthrate does finally all to 10 per thousand and it gives promise of doing so, even with the present mortality the population will decline one-half in eighty years."

URBAN POPULATION NOW EXCEEDS RURAL. The population of the United States now is 56.2 per cent urban and 43.8 per cent rural in character, according to an announcement just made by the United States Census Bureau based on the 1930 door-to-door count.

DOG DAYS ARE HERE THEY CAME JULY 26TH. The term 'Dog Days' seems to have come down to us from the ancients. They also called them the Canicular Days. Canicula was an old name of the Constellation Canis Minor; it was also used to denote Sirius, the dog star. The rising of the dog star was supposed to be the occasion of the extreme heat and the seasons incidental to these days.

ARIAL RIVERS OF NORTH TOUCH NO EARTH OR ROCK. Rivers that never touch earth or sea, though they flow for many miles in the far north, are described by Capt. Robert A. Bartlett, in a report to the National Geographic Society.

These rivers flow on the great ice sheet that covers practically all of Greenland. They rise in large lakes that form in summer when the surface of the ice melts, and flow long distances until they fall into a crevice in the ice or into the sea.

FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN.

DAILY THOUGHT. We, ignorant of ourselves, beg often our own harm, which the wise Powers Deny us for our good: so find we profit By losing of our prayers. —Shakespeare.

—It's easier to keep cool this summer than ever before. Because you can wear less in the way of clothes than ever before.

And how is that? Decidedly not by wearing fewer items. But by wearing less material. And that doesn't mean fewer yard lengths of material, either. Only less area.

All of which sounds a puzzle doesn't it? But the answer is simple. Mesh. The fashionable cotton material with the empty spaces in it. Actual holes where the air can get through.

And you start right in at the skin and go through to dresses and jackets and all outer clothing if you want to mesh-up for vacation. You can have shirts and shorts or union suits of either cotton or silk mesh. And girdles of openwork net combined with meshy elastic (or no elastic at all).

We haven't discovered any slips of mesh yet, but that's just about the only thing that doesn't seem to be in this cool, airy material.

Stockings were about the first item of clothing to adopt the fashion of mesh. First there were just silk mesh stockings. Then along came lisle (which is cotton) mesh for sports wear.

Then the mesh anklet or tennis sock appeared. And the newest development is the pure white lisle mesh stocking for wear with white sports costumes.

Next dresses took up mesh. We saw lots of mesh dresses in Palm Beach last January. And as always happens with any good winter sunshine resort fashion, the rest of the country took them up as soon as warm sports days arrived.

They're fine for tennis and golf dresses as well as sporting costumes. Most often they're made in some very simple, tailored style such as a shirtwaist dress or the fashionable rever type, with polo sleeves.

You can make up your own mesh costume with a separate skirt and blouse (or a lacy, mesh-like sweater) for two-piece dresses are right in fashion. We've had one good blouse sketched—one in double-breasted effect—but there are many other kinds just as smart.

Cotton mesh hats—well, you've been seeing thousands of them these last warm weeks. Swank little rooled turbans and brimmed hats that shade the eyes. Fine hats to pack in the week-end or vacation suitcase.

And if you want a hat of all mesh, you can have one with cool, mesh crown and straw brim. Mesh shoes? Yes, indeed! We've had one sketched—the tip, strap and heel in calf and the sides in mesh fabric. And there are others of meshy linen and of leather perforated all over in the open-air fashion of mesh.

Of course, a mesh handbag goes with a mesh costume. The popular envelope type—favorite of fashionably dressed women—is illustrated. But there are pouches, too.

There are short jackets of bright-colored mesh, smart with a dress of white mesh or any other white material. Full-length coats of openwork, meshy materials.

Mesh scarfs, too, and even mesh gloves that are as cool and comfortable as bare hands. And mesh belts and flowers of the crocheted types are some of the most fashionable there are.

—Prickly heat and kindred irritations of the skin are unpleasant annoyances which frequently appear during the scorching days of July and August.

In some cases the trouble is local where the skin has become irritated with the perspiration which has not been removed. In fleshy persons the friction against the folds of skin sets up an inflamed and painful condition.

In most cases, however, the diet has much to do with the trouble. Indigestion aggravates the trouble and for this reason a diet of simple, nourishing, cooling food should be chosen. It is important that the liver and bowels perform their functions daily.

Food which causes the blood to become over-heated or places too great a tax on the digestive organs must be eliminated. Rich pastries, fried foods, and any liquid containing alcohol even though in a small proportion is black listed for those subject to skin irritations in summer especially.

Also on the list of discarded food is meat such as beef, pork and mutton. Broiled lamb may be eaten occasionally, likewise fish and chicken, besides non-starchy vegetables, fruit, except bananas and thin soups.

The sufferer must regulate his diet, otherwise the local treatment will have little, if any effect, as the trouble must be traced to its origin, the blood, and corrected there.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

—There are unlimited uses and places for sugar in the diet. Don't neglect it; your system requires it. Sugar itself is not responsible for overweight, but excessive eating of sugar, starch and fat, of course, is fattening, whereas abstinence starves. No one can afford to eliminate sugar from the daily diet.

—Feet shut up in shoes sixteen or eighteen hours of the twenty-four need a daily bath to keep them in good condition. The best time to give feet their hot-water-and-soap bath is at night. In the morning a plunge in a bowl of cold water will make them hardy and keep the skin and flesh firm. Be sure to dry them thoroughly by vigorous rubbing. A little foot powder dusted over them is soothing and helps absorb excess moisture.

—Subscribe for the Watchman.

FARM NOTES.

—Wiring the dropping boards in the hen house not only helps to control worm infestation but keeps eggs cleaner.

—Old, low-producing cows should be made ready for the butcher at the earliest possible date.

—The better calves should be properly grown and given a chance to become profitable producers.

—Dry cows should be fed some grain during the entire dry period which is usually of about six weeks' duration.

—Hay is fed to calves as soon as they will eat it. They also receive whole grain and wheat bran as soon as they have a liking for it.

—It is just as hard to make milk in summer as it is in winter, and the heaviest producing cows will pay well for a little extra feed if they are on thin, dry, scant pasture.

—The usual falling off in milk flow in most dairy herds during the late summer months is due chiefly to an insufficient amount of feed and the hot weather.

—The calves should be put in clean, bright, dry quarters out of sight of the cows. It is best to wait 12 to 24 hours before attempting to teach the calf to drink, as it will be hungry by then.

—After the heifers are bred they must be fed enough grain and hay or pasture to meet the demands of the developing calf and to keep them growing and developing at the same time. Too often they are turned out on the pasture and neglected until a week or two before calving.

—Ducks must have clean water in pans deep enough to cover the holes in the nose as they drink. Notice how they blow out food when drinking otherwise it might clog their nostrils and choke them.

—Early molting hens are usually poorer producers and late molters are the better producers. Probably the easiest way to check up on the weight of the pullets is to color band a few birds in each pen and weigh these occasionally.

—The day is coming when the most successful poultrymen, even on general farms, will raise their chickens inside of fences like they raise their hogs and cattle.

—The most successful way to protect fruit trees from rabbits is to kill the rabbits. It is very effective if properly done and perhaps it also tends to satisfy our baser nature, which sometimes craves vengeance for losses endured.

—The success or failure of an orchard may be influenced by the owner even before the trees are planted. One of the preliminary steps that should be taken is the selection of varieties of fruits that are adapted to the locality where the orchard is to be planted.

—Alfalfa, red clover, or soy bean hay of proper quality solves the green-feed problem. The way to feed the hay is to cut it into one-half-inch lengths with a clover-cutter and feed it in wire-netting feeders. The hay can be fed uncut in racks. If the proper quality of hay is unavailable, add 5 per cent by weight of the best quality alfalfa meal. Warm drinking water helps make winter eggs. Hens dislike cold water and drink it sparingly. When a layer fails to drink enough water, she eats less feed.

—The man who can supply his dairy cows with 30 to 35 pounds of corn silage per head per day during eight to nine months of the year and with 12 to 15 pounds of alfalfa hay during the winter season will have no difficulty in making dairy-ping good cows. Though many farmers do not realize it, silage and legume hay are the most important feed for the dairyman to supply in abundance to keep up the milk yield.

—Modern developments in marketing turkeys through pools and cooperative associations in the West are beginning to be felt in the eastern States. Working along similar principles of quality standardization on turkeys as have the Pacific coast egg producers, it begins to look like the western growers will teach the eastern growers a lesson, just as the western egg folks showed the eastern egg producers how to market white eggs in New York. Quality and standardized marketing must be preceded by quality and standardized production.

Right now it seems that the raising of turkeys in confinement is to follow close on the heels of raising chickens in confinement. The Pennsylvania experiment station has demonstrated the confinement raising of turkeys in a manner that exceeded all expectations. Some growers in Maryland are also raising turkeys in close confinement with marked success.

—Despite a decrease of 24 per cent in value of livestock during 1930 Pennsylvania has retained a position as one of the 11 leading livestock States and one of the five greatest east of the Mississippi river.

—More than half of the total value represents dairy cattle. The livestock values of the whole State on January 1 totaled \$148,351,000. Clearfield county is 46th in the list of 67 counties in value of live stock, with \$1,260,250; other counties of this section in their relative order are Centre with \$2,269,980; Indiana, 1,775,690; Clarion, 1,759,300; Warren, 1,619,400; Jefferson, 1,472,590; Huntingdon, 1,407,290; Cambria, 1,342,280; Blair, 1,301,050; McKean, 872,330; Clinton, 733,340; Elk, 478,630 and Forest, 145,900.

THE DARK MOUNTAINS.

(Continued from page 2, Col. 6.)

"Jole doesn't know I'm blind. He—he hasn't been to many parties." "It wouldn't hurt him if he never went. You don't know about the parties they have now."

That was true. Rachel Nash sat up nervously, but lay right down again. Her head swam. Hunger—thirst—hidden anguish. Jole, thinking she had falled him, gone to a wild party—!

Mother hurried under the coat that had been spread over her and wrung her hands till they ached. Maybe she slept. For suddenly she heard the "z-z-z" of wind behind loose wall paper, the bang of a door. Voices. Something touched her.

"Maw," Jole said hoarsely. "M-mother." "Why, hello!" Mother forced an admirable gaiety. "We having the party?"

"Uh-huh, Maw, with a man knows all about eyes. Shake hands with my mother, Dr. Hill." Rachel Nash groped and felt her fingers closed in a cool, firm grasp. There was the fragrance of fine wool garments with rain on them; cigar-smoke. Not a dream!

"It's cold in here," a voice s range and not strange said. "Think you can get out to the fire, Mrs. Nash?" "Of course."

Mother straightened her rumpled garments; steadied herself, and went forward holding Jole's arm; felt a gush of warmth where the man of the house was rattling coal into the heater. She was in the wooden rocker facing something that dug into her eyes like a knife—could it be light that was so agonizing?

She was moved this way and that like a cloth woman—cloth that could do nothing but suffer. The cool hand tucked a rool under her neck; her head hung back. When her lids had been turned till they could not resist, something whiskered over them like fire rushing across dry grass.

Then the stabbing light was shut away by damp, leafy pads, by a soft, thick bandage—heavenly! She was back in bed with a warm blanket over her. From a distance she heard the doctor say she was not blind—what an idea! No, just the worst case of overworked eyes possible not to be blind.

"I'm leaving some witch-hazel with the box of cotton," he added, "and a dropper with the healing lotion. I'll make the glasses when you bring her up to Stillwater."

Ira had hardly spoken; now, he asked, "What do I owe you, sir?" "Your son has paid me," Hill was struggling into his overcoat, and his voice sounded jerky. "But maybe you won't mind going back with me. Strange road, you know. I talked with your daughter—they'll bring you home in the morning—Now, if I had a cup of coffee—"

Of course, Ira would go—when had he ever missed a chance to go to Stillwater? Steps moved toward the kitchen. Rachel Nash heard the rip of a match; smelled the scent of a cigar, of fresh coffee. That must be Jole rattling at the heater. Why—Jole had paid the doctor—how?

After what seemed a long time the back door opened and shut. There was the muffled sound of an automobile going; of rain beating on the window. Some one was in the room with her, jarring the bed.

"Maw," Jole said, "you want this coffee? Careful, it's hot." Rachel Nash sat right up. Her fingers tumbled with the cup handle; steadied there. How long did it take one to learn to drink in the dark? My, the coffee was good! No wonder she had been dizzy—choked—scared!

"Too bad about the party," she murmured. "Reddy didn't miss the party," Jole spoke matter-of-factly. "She went with old Bill. His dad's got scads of money. Bill's had a crush on Reddy for a year; but if they marry before he graduates, his dad's going to put him in a blacksmith shop."

Jole was silent. Then he chuckled, not knowing, of course, that Mother knew just why he did chuckle. "Wouldn't I be a bird—with a wife? But—but Reddy's a good kid, Maw."

"Of course," Rachel Nash breathed warmly "I hate to have you—" "Hurt, Maw? I ain't hurt, it's the foot boy or it I guess, being crazy for something and then wondering why."

Again the huskiah voice trailed off. The clock back in the kitchen struck twelve—was it that late? "Crazy's right," Jole muttered at length. "I got so the sight of a book made me sick. I almost went back on everything we planned. But—you ought to told me, Maw."

"What, son?" "Why they didn't go on and expel me. I heard it, all right. We met Margaret Foss this afternoon, and she stopped right there in the rain and told about her tablecloth—just why you worked your eyes out. She didn't mince matters either."

Jole gritted his teeth in his punishment. "Gee," he breathed. "Gee!" Then it all rushed out in sentences and half sentences, hoarse, passionate, triumphant. "Think of it, Maw—Reddy mad because you didn't shake hands with her; me asking for pie. And you sitting there all through dinner, pretending to see, pretending to eat—such a darned good sport! But you listen, Maw; listen to me!"

Jole took the cup and saucer and set them just anywhere. "Tomorrow," he then said, "we're going to Stillwater—to live. I got a job, Maw—a man-sized job."

Mother put out her hand and touched her boy's sleeve. Found his fingers and felt them grip hard. Maybe Jole guessed what she suddenly feared. "It won't keep me out of the University, not if I get down and dig. Just make us something to rent a good house on; something to cure your eyes with. Dad's for it, Maw. We talked it over before he and Doc left. He's going to rent the farm, cash rent, and take a job test-

ing cotton at the experiment station. You glad—Maw?"

"Oh no, I'm almost killed," Rachel Nash laughed—or did she sob.

How easy it was to joke again! Glad? Enraptured was the name for it.

Why, she wasn't blind. Nothing dear had been lost. She was running along the tops of her dark mountains, only now the mountains were not dark. A trail of light grew there and spread for her feet. Jole had come to meet her—with a lantern. —Hearst's International Cosmopolitan.

JAIL POPULATION SHOW INCREASE

The population of county jails in May 1931 had increased 30 per cent. over the population of these county institutions in the same month of 1929, according to a report of the bureau of restoration, made public today by John L. Hanna, State Secretary of Welfare.

The population was 6,100 on the last day of May 1929 as compared with 8,821 on the last day of May 1931, indicating an increase of 2,721.

The report further indicates that during the month of June there were more prisoners than were admitted. The figures showed that 9,802 persons were admitted and 9,974 were released.

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