

# Birth rate down in East European countries

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AP) — Easy abortion and increased use of contraceptives are pushing birth rates down in Communist Eastern Europe and governments there are worried about it, a western study showed Tuesday.

A study by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization says: "It is reckoned that 60 per cent of all pregnancies are aborted in Hungary—probably in the U.S.—

S.R. too—44 per cent in Bulgaria, 36 per cent in Czechoslovakia and 23 per cent in Poland.

"The Church in Poland heads the opposition against easy abortion and seeks to defend the traditional family concept."

The Soviet Union eased its campaign against abortion in the mid-1950s. The study suggests it was because the death rate had gone down and Soviet leaders

wanted to get more women into jobs. It adds that the downward swing in births may have gone further than expected and that attempts may now be made to reverse the trend.

The birth rate in the Soviet Union dropped from 36 per 1,000 in 1938 to 17 in 1970. It was then about the same level as rates in Western Europe and below the rate for southern European countries.

In Romania, the laws against abortion were tightened more recently, sending the birth rate up from 12 per 1,000 in December 1966 to a level of 40 in 1967. But the spread of contraceptives and

illegal abortions brought it down again to 20 in the first quarter of 1971.

The study finds that except in East Germany and Czechoslovakia, contraceptives play a minor but slowly increasing role in population trends.

In the 1950s population in Eastern Europe was growing faster than in NATO countries. Now the trend has reversed. In 1965 the Eastern countries had about 65 per cent of the population of NATO areas, including the United States and Canada.

By 1985 the proportion should fall to about 62 per cent.

NATO does not see any prob-

lem for the Soviets in keeping up their military manpower.

Like other industrial countries, those of Eastern Europe are adopting the idea of the small family, but NATO suggests some special reasons: a chronic lack of housing, the need for women to work, the urge to acquire more comforts, and women enjoying sex more without child-bearing or even marriage.

"The 'liberation' of women is an old Soviet concept," the study says. "It is, however, offset by certain practical disadvantages summed up in the Soviet saying: The man bears the responsibility, the woman carries the bricks."

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## Fellowships authorized for personnel studies

A&M has been authorized eight one-year fellowships under the federal Education Professions Development Act (EPDA), President Jack Williams announced Tuesday.

The EPDA fellowships will be set up for the 1972-73 school year with holders preparing themselves as specialists in college student personnel work, according to Education Dean Frank Hubert.

Dr. Robert R. Reiley will direct the program.

"The awarding of these fellowships recognizes Dr. Reiley's work in the field of student personnel services for higher education," Hubert commented. "He designed the program as a component of Texas A&M's graduate program in higher education."

Reiley indicated the EPDA Fellows program will prepare junior college counselors, with emphasis on work with Mexican-

American students.

Each fellowship is valued at about \$5,000, of which the graduate student will receive \$3,000 plus dependents' allowance. TAMU receives the remainder.

Interested individuals with the master's degree equivalent in education or related fields should contact Reiley in A&M's Educational Psychology Department

for additional information.

He is an associate professor in educational psychology and three-year member of the university faculty. Reiley teaches a course inaugurated last fall for TAMU students in residence hall personnel work. His background is in guidance, educational and clinical psychology and junior college administration.

## Godard's 'A Woman is a Woman' second film festival presentation

A famous French movie director's view of women will be featured in the second Spring Festival of Films presentation Friday.

Jean-Luc Godard's "A Woman is a Woman" will be shown in the Memorial Student Center Ballroom beginning at 8 p.m., announced Contemporary Arts Committee film series chairman Scott Smith.

Godard wrote and directed "A Woman" in 1961 as his first and only "neo-realist" musical, Smith commented.

The film is a free-form, improvisational work with music by Michel Legrand, who arranged for "Summer of '42." It features French stars John Paul Belmondo, Jean-Claude Brialy and Anna Karina. The color photography is by Raoul Coutard.

Smith noted the film has English subtitles and "gives an audience insight into Godard's view of women, Hollywood musicals, off-beat movies and love."

Admission will be \$1 for TAMU students with activity cards, \$1.50 for others or by season ticket, available at the Student Program Office in the MSC.

## TAMU awarded WHO contract

The World Health Organization in Geneva, Switzerland, has awarded A&M a \$5,000 contract for research in planning and design of health facilities in developing countries.

TAMU President Jack K. Williams said the studies will be conducted through the Health Facilities Research Program of the Architecture Research Center, part of the university's College of Architecture and Environmental Design.

Mann and Donald A. Sweeney will direct the project.

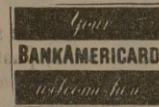
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