

U.S. male has best chance of marrying

Yearbook gives population figures

By GERALD NADLER
United Press International

UNITED NATIONS — The world's population will double to 8.08 billion in just 35 years.

An American male has the best chance of marrying, Cubans the best shot at divorcing, Africans the "best" odds at dying before reaching 51, and Norwegian women the best chance for long life with Swedish men a close second.

The new U.N. Demographic Yearbook says world population reached 4.04 billion in 1976 and that 8.08 billion persons will crowd the globe by 2013.

The statistics say population is increasing by 1.9 percent a year, or 76 million persons annually, which will lead to a doubling of population in the year 2013.

Eight of 10 people in the world live in the most populous 25 nations, led by China with 852 million, India 610 million, the Soviet Union 258 million and the United States 215 million.

The best chance of living longest is to have been born a Norwegian female, whose life expectancy is a ripe 77.8. That is slightly more than a Swedish male's 72 years, the yearbook says.

Males and females born in the 1960s also will fare well — barring calamities — in northern Europe, North and South America, and Australia and New Zealand.

A life expectancy of up to 75 awaits females born in Sweden, the Netherlands, Iceland, the United States, France, Canada, Japan, Denmark, Finland and England, Australia and New Zealand.

Most Africans, however, will not make it past 50.

Inhabitants of 2 of the continent's 43 states or areas can expect to live less than 40 years, while in 21 others death will come at 49. Only in nine states will the life span be more than 50.

Male citizens of Chad have a life expectancy of 29 and females 35. Residents of Ethiopia, Africa's oldest independent state, will make it to 36 if they are male, 40 if female.

South Africa's male whites born in 1960 will live to 64 and females to 74, while the "colored population" as they are indicated in the U.N. yearbook will live to 50 for males and 54 for females.

China's population of 852 million is rising by 14 million a year, meaning it will top one billion by the year 2000. India's population is growing by 13 million yearly, making it a candidate for the billion club also.

But the most rapid increase in the world's population is in Africa, where annual rates of growth are 2 percent or more in 37 countries, or areas with nine of the nations growing by 3 percent or more.

Yet more than half the world's population — 57 percent or 2.3 billion — lives in Asia, followed by Europe with 10.2 percent or 412 million, 8.2 percent in Africa at 333 million and 6.4 percent or 258 million in Latin America.

The two superpowers — the Soviet Union and the United States — account for 10 percent of the world's population.

The Soviet Union, the world's largest country, accounts for 5.9 percent at 258 million, ahead of the United States with about 5 percent, or 215 million.

The yearbook follows the U.N. classification of areas, which sound almost as if they came out of George Orwell's futuristic works in which the world was divided into three political spheres.

Australia and New Zealand are listed under Oceania, as are Papua, New Guinea and American Samoa. The United States is under the Americas.

But the Byelorussian Republic, a republic of the Soviet Union, has separate statistics, since both it and the Ukraine Soviet Republic have individual votes in addition to the parent U.S.S.R.

Whatever the classification, some of the statistics are bleak.

The African nation of Burundi leads the world in infant deaths with a rate of 150, meaning 150 of 1,000 infants in Burundi do not make it to their first birthday.

Sweden has the lowest infant

mortality rate at 8.7, followed by Japan at .1, Denmark 10.4, Finland and the Netherlands 0.5, Switzerland 10.7, Norway .1, France 11.3, Singapore .16, Spain 12.1, Iceland 12.5, England and Wales 14, and Australia 14.3.

The United States ranks 17th in infant mortality with a rate of .51,

East Germany 18th with 15.8 and New Zealand 19th with 16.

The highest annual marriage rates for males is in the United States with 96 or 1,000 marriageable men a year tying the knot. For women, Syria is the best spot, where 112.4 of marriageable women marry.

Cuba leads in divorces with 21.8

of 1,000 couples uncoupling each year. Puerto Rico listed separately is second at 20.4 and the United States third at 9.

The U.N. 1976 Demographic Yearbook is the 28th in a series which began in 1948, three years after the founding of the world body.



Battalion photo by Susan Webb

Happy Birthday, Reveille!

Texas A&M's mascot is celebrating her third birthday today, complete with cake and party. Company E-2 in the Corps of Cadets takes care of Reveille, and one company member said the party also would include gifts. Like most three-year-olds, she'll receive some favorite toys: dog bones, Frisbees and

balls. Reveille will further celebrate the occasion with extra time to play outside.

Last year, on her second birthday, Company E-2 gave her a party at Lake Somerville. The smaller celebration this year is due to her birthday falling on a class day.

Project links courses

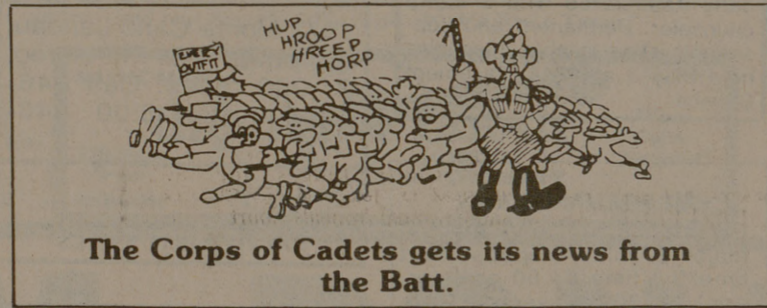
A \$43,000 grant will have freshman English and history students at Texas A&M speaking the same language—at least for awhile. The money comes from the National Endowment for the Humanities and will be used to fund a pilot project linking history and English courses for freshman students.

"We felt it was important to show students on the freshman level that there are connections," she said. "The general feeling among the faculty is our teaching will also become more effective."

The project, which begins this fall and continues through the spring semester, will involve some 540 freshman English and history students and 12 faculty members.

In conjunction with the project there will be a workshop this summer to acquaint Texas A&M faculty with the plan and show them ways of implementing it in their courses, she noted.

"We're trying to learn a lot of things through this project," Mrs. Strommer related. "Do the students learn more, are they happier having the courses taught this way?"



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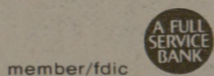
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