

# Official Report Reviews Britain's Family Growth

LONDON (Reuters) — Britons learned today that their crowded life is probably going to stay crowded, but no strong increase in population is likely to strain its social seams.

This news, and some surprising figures on British love and married life, are contained in the first comprehensive study of Britain's family growth since 1911. The official report by two professors was issued today.

More than 1,000,000 women answered the questionnaires from which professors D. V. Glass of the London School of Economics and E. Grebenik of Leeds University drew their conclusions.

They found that the big families which helped make her a world power during the 19th century now are definitely a thing of the past. The size of the average British family has dwindled from five children in 1890 to 2.3 in 1946, the report says.

**STABILITY REACHED**

But indications are that families have increased slightly in size during the Christmas holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Hoyt.

Mr. and Mrs. George Chandler entertained New Year's Eve before the dance at the Charlottetown Hotel.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank MacMillan, McGill Avenue, entertained at their residence New Year's eve.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Molloy entertained New Year's eve at a supper party and dance at their home.

Miss Helen MacDonald has returned to Sydney, Nova Scotia, to resume her studies in X-ray at St. Rita's Hospital after spending the Christmas holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Emmett MacDonald.

Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Whidden and son, David, of Pictou Landing, N. S., are visiting in Summerside, guests of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Walker.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Callbeck and young son, of Saint John, N. B., spent the New Year holidays in Summerside, guests of the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Callbeck.

Sam Gottesfeld, one of the top market authorities in New York, commenting on the H.B.C. fur sales in that city at the end of the season, states that dressed EMEAs mutation mink sold fully in line with the raw mutations offered earlier in the week. The entire collection was well over 90 per cent sold as the trade continued to absorb merchandise. H.B.C. officially reported as follows: A total of \$3,377 Royal pastels was 96 per cent sold, reaching a top of \$46 for males and \$25.50 for females. Some 931 Stretwells were 94 per cent sold hitting \$46 and \$25.50. A collection of 461 Luletias was 100 per cent sold with highs of \$55 for males and \$31.50 for females. A total of 6,297 Ceruleans and Cerulean types was 100 per cent sold, at tops of \$61 and \$30.50. Breath of springs reached \$66 and \$32.

A small offering of homozygous type was 100 per cent sold, reaching a top of \$80 for Stewart Silvertu type males. An offering of 9,479 Jasmies was selling at the rate of a 93 per cent turnover and hit a high of \$60 for males and \$39 for females. The auction house gave no official report on the Jasmies, but trade sources put the level at fully firm to current market. Some 83 per cent of the Royal pastel males sold between \$30 and \$42, and almost 65 per cent of the females ranged between \$19 and \$23. Trade sources pointed out, however, the sharp increase in the Royal pastel males has made in the commercial and low grade merchandise. A year ago, for example, 20 per cent of the Royal pastel males offered brought under \$26. The lowest price in the above sale was \$26, and only 11 lots or 7 per cent of the male offering brought below \$30. Last December, 46 per cent of the males brought below \$30.

The great increase in female price levels becomes even more apparent on comparison with last December's Royal pastel prices. Currently, over 60 per cent of the females are bringing \$19 to \$23, and another 23 per cent of the females are going over \$23. A year ago only 5 per cent of the females brought \$19 to \$22.50, and 75 per cent of the collection ranged from \$15 to \$19. Market sources reason, therefore, that competition at the auction level has practically eliminated the so-called cheaper goods, pushing this merchandise into the price bracket of better skins last year.

Anning, Chadwick & Kiever, London, England, is offering 1,700 raw Russian mink at a special mink and fox sale to be held in London, January 11th. Just recently a representative of Armtog, Russian fur selling agency, visited Canada and was present at the Canadian Fur Action Company's sale in Montreal, letting prices and examining goods and the probability is that some types of Russian furs will be consigned to that auction in the future. The American Fox Breeders Association has made known that it will hold its next auction sale of Novorax fox in various color phases at American Fur Auctions, New York, March 2nd and 3rd.

The following taken from the U. S. Fur Rancher, October 7th, will explain the above: A further development in the long-awaited return of long-haired furs is on the way with the current program of the American Fox Breeders Association, which is promoting three new types of fox — each magnificent in its own coloring — under registered trademarks by arrangement with the Canadian National Silver Fox Breeders' Association. These new types are: Opaline Pearl-Platinum Fox, Opaline Silver Fox and Palladium Platinum Fox. These three exciting new

# Timely Notes on Silver Fox and Mink Farming

The upsurge in business confidence which has occurred in the last few months, particularly in the United States, with its accompanying tremendous rise in the prices of securities is being reflected in the fur markets and the latest reports of end of season activity show a very optimistic trend that will be heartening indeed, particularly to those who have continued to breed silver foxes and their mutations. The latter have, of course, not made any great appreciable advance in prices, but popularity, being established and more fox furs are being worn in all the fashion centres of the world. The visit to North America of the Queen Mother who was always adorned with silver fox, has helped very much because of these new types of foxes has done much to revive interest in fox, which is now resuming its rightful place on the fashion scene.

The Agricultural Research Service of the United States Department of Agriculture is conducting research with penrays for animals in co-operation with colleges, universities and experimental stations. One of the best of these stations is connected with the University of Wisconsin at Madison, Wis. The program calls for an analysis of the various mutant genes affecting coat color to determine their independent or associated relationship with each other and to test the results of various combinations of genes in producing desirable pelts. Through this program has seemed to end the phase coat color it does appear to fur qualities and characteristics of commercial importance. Promising material is located at some fur breeder's ranch, an analysis is made of breeding background, and if possible controlled matings are conducted at Madison.

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# Children Recover Following Fire

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# NEWSY NOTES

By J. A. Clark, D.Sc.  
CHINCHILLA

The chinchilla is a small, grey, hopping, rodent mammal about the size of a squirrel. The small Chinchillidae family belongs to the porcupine section of the Rodent order of mammals. The chinchilla (C. lanigera) is one of the three somewhat squirrel-like animals that have long hindlegs, bushy tails, very soft fur and complete collar bones; the other two genera: (Lagidium peruvianum) is a larger rodent of the Andes Mountains that has ears which are more pointed, and only four toes on its five feet instead of the chinchilla's five; and (Lagostomus trichodactylus) the very numerous burrowers of the pampas called viscacha, and known generally as the "Pampas" Hare. Their name, chinchilla, is derived from the Spanish word for bed-bug, Chinche, on account of an odor they give off, and chinchillidae became the family name for these South American rodents.

These dainty herbivorous rodents are native to the eastern slopes of the Andes Mountains in Peru, Argentina and Bolivia. There they make numerous and very deep burrows which are dangerous to men on horseback. In the Andes they are found at from 1,200 to 8,000 feet elevation. After the coming of the white man and his development of the fur trade, chinchillas were extensively hunted for their fur by the natives, who used weasels to drive them from their burrows. In 1899 this led to the exportation of 450,000 chinchilla skins from Chile. In order to prevent their extermination, Chile, Peru and Bolivia then placed an embargo on the shipments of chinchilla skins.

The chinchilla has a body about 10 to 12 inches in length and a tail fully six inches long. Its head resembles that of a rabbit, but its body resembles in many ways the common guinea-pig (Cavia cabaya), including similar conformation of rootless molar teeth. The chinchilla ears are long, broad and thinly covered with hair. In their natural surroundings, they are nocturnal, and feed early in the morning and towards sunset. They feed on grasses and roots. To eat, they sit on their haunches, holding the food in their fore-paws. They are very clean in their habits and are gentle and sportive, and do not lose their gay spirits in captivity, so that they make admirable pets. The chinchilla fur is about three-quarters of an inch long on the back, and an inch or more on the sides. It is a delicate French gray in colour, darkly mottled on the upper surface and dusky white beneath. Each hair follicle was once supposed to produce up to 80 hairs, now it is believed they produce from 200 to 300 hairs.

The largest chinchillas seldom weigh more than one and three-quarter pounds. The young, which are born fully furred, with teeth and open eyes, are very tiny. The gestation period is about 111 days, and litters of two are usual in captivity; while under natural conditions where they live gregariously in the mountains of South America, the female usually produces five or six young twice a year.

Chinchillas were brought to North America by Mr. M. J. Chapman, a mining engineer who had been working in Chile. He succeeded in getting eleven specimens to California in 1919, and was able to acclimatize them gradually to the reversal of seasons and altitude. Timothy hay of good quality is their main staple food. They should have some green material throughout the year. Sunflower seeds, small pieces of apple and raisins are used as treats. The cages should be kept scrupulously clean. The chinchillas like to take a sand bath every day. In the Andes they probably had a very fine volcanic ash, which seems to be nearly everywhere, but any clean, fine sand will do.

The chinchillas do a great deal of running and jumping, and should have a perch in their cage for acrobatics. A squirrel-wheel can be used to reduce those that carry too much flesh.

In handling, they are picked up by the tail, as their bodies are tiny, delicate and very easily injured, except when lifted in the proper way. In captivity there are many problems in raising the babies of these, which are susceptible to chills and disorders of both lungs and intestines. At present

# Happenings

Christmas holidays her daughter, Miss Mary Morrison, a student at Mount Allison University.

Mr. and Mrs. George Mason, Banbury, entertained at a family dinner party over the holiday season.

Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Parent entertained at a formal dance at their residence Ravenwood on New Year's eve.

Miss R. C. Parent entertained Thursday at her residence at Luncheon-Bridge. Covers were laid for twelve.

Miss Helen Bailey, Fredericton, has been the guest of Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Parent for ten days at Ravenwood.

Mr. Sterling Walker has been spending the holiday season with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Walker, Fitzroy Street. Mr. Walker leaves by plane this week for Montreal to visit friends.

Miss Anne Stewart has returned to McGill University, after spending the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alan Stewart at Strathgarny.

Mr. Donald Clark of the Regina Trans-Canada Airlines and Mr. Roger Clarke, a student at Mount Allison University were visiting over the holiday season their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Clark, Longworth Avenue.

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh M. Simpson, who have been visiting their son-in-law and daughter, the Reverend and Mrs. W. T. Warren in Morrisville, Pennsylvania, are expected in Charlottetown shortly.

Mr. and Mrs. T. M. Lothian entertained at their residence North River Road on Friday evening at four tables of bridge.

Miss Laura Higgenbotham, Halifax, was visiting in Charlottetown over New Year's.

Mr. Philip Jardine, student at Dalhousie, has been visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. S. P. Jardine, Brighton Road, for the holidays.

Miss Winnifred MacPherson, a student at Horton Academy, Wolfville, Nova Scotia who has been spending part of her Christmas vacation in Charlottetown the guest of her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Patterson left Sunday morning to resume her studies. En route to Acadia, Miss MacPherson will visit her mother, Mrs. H. B. Morrison, Moncton, and Mr. Morrison.

Mrs. Arthur Mould entertained the Four Thirty Club Ladies, Monday afternoon for tea.

Mr. and Mrs. T. D. Rankin, Toronto, have been visiting their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Ian R. Rankin, 60 North River

# Road, for Christmas and New Years.

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Simpson, North River Road, entertained at a supper party New Year's night.

F. O. E. G. and Mrs. MacInnis and daughter Karen have returned to Dartmouth, after spending New Year's holidays with Mrs. MacInnis' parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Trainor, West Royalty, P. E. I.

Miss Loretta Trainor R. N., has returned to Halifax after spending New Year's holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Trainor, West Royalty.

Mrs. Alfred McNeill and Mrs. Wendell Barbour entertained at a neighborhood tea over the holiday season. Mrs. Myron Bell poured tea. Mrs. Allison Rogers, Mrs. Sheldon, Mrs. William Moreside, and Mrs. A. J. Brown assisted in serving. Miss Barbara Moreside, age five years, and Miss Anne Barbour, age four years, hand in hand, welcomed the guests at the door. After these duties were over and the tea served they entertained the guests by singing carols and reciting, truly dear little deputies of good neighbours.

Miss Norcen McGuigan left by plane the other morning for Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, after having spent the Christmas holidays with her mother, Mrs. J. L. McGuigan, City. Miss McGuigan is a dietitian at University Hospital in Saskatoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth A. Parker have had as their guests for the holiday season Mrs. Parker's mother, Mrs. B. J. Porter, Mr. Robbie Porter, and Mr. Donald Porter, all of Halifax, N. S.

Mr. Heber McEwen, Toronto, prominent young lawyer, member of a well established law firm arrived by plane Saturday morning to spend the New Year holiday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bruce McEwen, 34 Kent St. He returned by plane Tuesday morning.

Miss Constance Matheson returned to Alliston, Mass., on January 1st, by plane after spending the Christmas holidays with her sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Kelly, 289 Richmond St. Miss Matheson was accompanied back by her mother, Mrs. Angus G. Matheson.

The hostesses at the Charlottetown Curling Club Saturday night will be: Mrs. Waldo Hoyt, Miss Ethel Sutherland, Miss Sybil Gordon, Miss Mary MacLellan and Mrs. J. S. Taylor.

On Thursday evening the Gyrette Club met at the home of Mrs. Morton Dew. The lunch committee was Marian McKenna and Elaine Myers.

Mr. Joe Hoyt, Third Year Engineering student at Acadia University, returned to Wolfville, N. S., on Monday, after spending

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# Crime Index Helps Police

OTTAWA, (CP)—A crime index system at RCMP headquarters here, detailing all serious crimes in Canada and classifying how they are committed, has speeded police work by quickly narrowing the list of suspects for various offences.

The system, originated by Scotland Yard and adopted by the RCMP about 15 years ago, was described Wednesday night in a service club address by Const. Harry Lesick of the RCMP identification branch.

Confirmed criminals tend to repeat their offences with similar methods, he said. A chain of related crimes implies the work of one particular man. The crime index helps put the finger on him.

Similar crime patterns depend on the personality of the criminal.

The index is divided into such sub-sections as frauds, robberies, safe-crackings and international criminals. Each sub-section is headed by an expert on the various crimes.

Some research work was done during the Second World War on a machine to handle all the data and feed out the answers but the idea was ditched in favor of the sub-section practice.

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PERFUMED MONARCH

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