

India's Population Explosion Viewed

By VIRENDRA S. YADAV, Instructor of Sociology

Today there is no issue so critical as the steady increase of world population. The population problem has become one of the most fundamental of all human problems. It affects every aspect of man's social life—individual, national, and international. It affects the health and happiness of individual families; it affects the material property and social progress of nations. "Overpopulation" writes Julian Huxley, "is the most serious threat to human happiness and progress in this very critical period in the history of the world. It is not so acute as the threat of atomic warfare, but is more grave, since it springs from our own nature."

So it is that to many the sheer pressure of numbers on available food supply or "absolute population pressure" is one of the most serious concerns. Others see in this steadily mounting population in many parts of the globe an explanation for war between nations. They view conquest, war, and aggression as the inevitable concomitants of ever increasing population pressures.

In more recent years the gravity of the mounting population has been recognized as second in importance to the problem of the search for lasting peace. Recently, the president of the U. S. National Academy of science wrote—"The problem of uncontrollable population emerges as one of the most critical issues of our time . . . It commands the attention of every nation and society; the problem is no less grave for the technically advanced nations than for the less developed."

In brief, the population of the Post World War II is, indeed, a global phenomenon. And thus, new realization has renewed interest in India's population problem.

India's population problem presents a good laboratory for the analysis of the interrelation of population growth, resources, technology and culture. India, second to Red China in population size, poses a challenge to the students of population and demography. India has been viewed by many journalists, historians, and social scientists as a nation confronted with the problem of how and by what means nations experiencing earlier phases of demographic transition, speed up the process to realize demographic revolution. This problem has become acute in recent years due to a sharp decline in the death rate while the birth rate showed but a slight decline. A striking fact is that there is an improvement, however slight, in matters of public health services and sanitation. An increase in industrialization and urbanization accompanied by an increase in agricultural production and easier access by the government to surplus food supplier in Western countries in times of famine have operated to reduce the death rate to nearly half of what it was in 1930 (36.3) to 17. The birth rate of about 40 per 1000 population in 1967 and a death rate of 17 gives a rate of natural increase in the neighborhood of 23 per 1000 population. Should the present trend remain constant, India's population will reach 1 billion in 2000 A.D. In terms of demographic transition, India is passing through the most critical period in her history. She has never faced such a gigantic and serious problem as increasing population. Immediate solution to



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this massive and complex problem becomes more and more urgent as she progressively plays a more important role in international affairs.

(To Be Continued)

Jobs Abroad Offerings Cited

By the end of this week over 1,250 students will land in New York after spending a summer working in Europe.

The working students were selected as participants in Jobs Abroad, a program designed by the International Student Information Service (ISIS), a non-profit organization based in Brussels, Belgium.

The idea behind Jobs Abroad, as expressed by Mr. Francis X. Gordon, Executive Director, is "to provide students and teachers an opportunity to increase their understanding of a foreign culture by experiencing its traditional way of life."

Through Jobs Abroad, a member can work in the language speaking area of his choice and may select work from nine job categories.

Since most participants have little or no work experience, the job categories available to them consist mostly of jobs in non-skilled work. The categories are: Farm Work, Construction, Work Camps, Camp Counseling, Child Care, Hotel-Restaurant-Resort, Factory, Hospital, and Special. The last two generally call for previous experience and better than average language fluency.

Participation in the Jobs Abroad program has given many students and teachers practical solution to going abroad. Next year, ISIS expects to have over 3,000 jobs available to applicants who qualify and are accepted by the Jobs Abroad Cultural Board.

The return of this year's corps 1,250 working students marks the sixth anniversary of the ISIS program of Jobs Abroad.

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Asheville Slated For H. E. Meet

The annual North Carolina Home Economics Convention will be held at the Grove Park Inn in Asheville, November 3 and 4.

"Fifty Years of Progress—People, Profession" is the theme for the two-day meeting.

Highlights of the meeting include an anniversary coffee, exhibits, luncheon, dinner and breakfast meetings and speeches by North Carolinians, a Michigan home economist and a California restaurateur.

Miss Jennifer Williams, a sophomore Home Economics major, will run for state reporter of the N. C. Home Economics Association. She will deliver an address and will participate in a play at the annual affair.

The meet will have representation from such schools as the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University, Bennett College, East Carolina University, Mars Hill College, Meredith College, and North Carolina College at Durham.

In addition to the State meeting, the North Carolina College Home Economics Club will sponsor a float in the annual Homecoming Parade with Lafayette Fullwood as Miss Home Economics and Patricia Bass and Yvonne Teal as her attendants.

Political Science Club Organized

The North Carolina College Political Science Club held a get-together for Political Science majors and minors on September 27, at 7:30 p.m. in the Science Building lounge. Approximately 75 old and new students were present. Charles Howard, the Club president, introduced the officers who in turn expressed wishes, and hope concerning the club's projects for the new year.

The Political Science Club officers are: Charles Howard, president. Walter Brame, vice president; Vera Shaw, secretary; Esther Silver, treasurer; and Edward Callahan parliamentarian.

A highlight of the gathering was the summary of activities of majors and minors during the summer. Priscilla McNeil,

along with Minnie Fuller, related to the students, their experiences while working as community organizations in Rocky Mount, N. C.; the work consisted of door-to-door conversations urging people to unite and become politically involved.

Esther Silver who worked in the New York Times morgue reviewed the many assignments she had as an intern with the world's leading newspaper. Vadrine Foust and Grova Bridges reported on their summer of study as members of the Harvard-Yale-Columbia Intensive Summer program. Walter Brame related to the students his experiences while working in Durham as Regional Directors for tutors in Youth Educational Services, better known as "Yes". See Political Science, Page 5

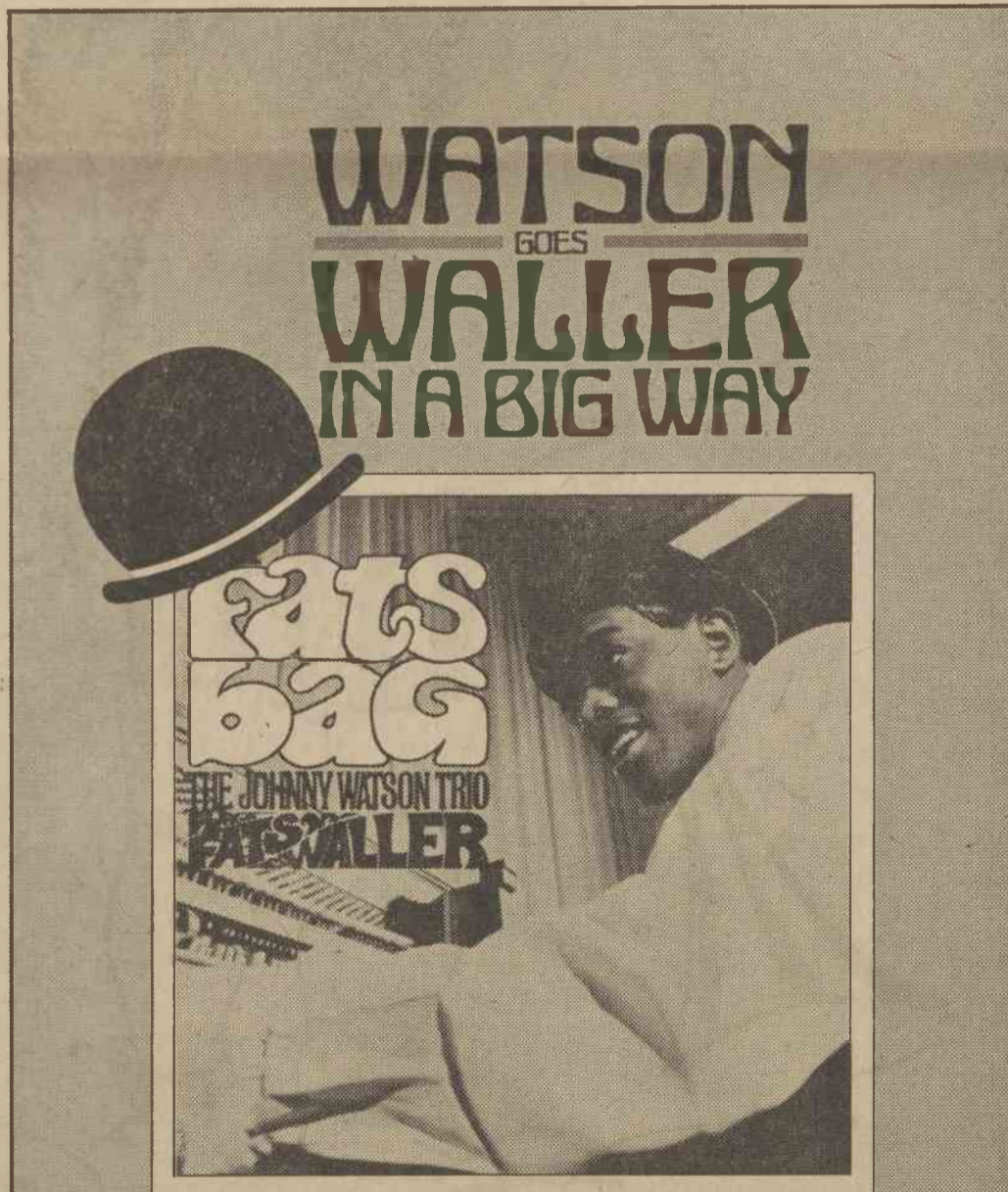
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