

### Religion 'Very Important' Average Americans, Survey Shows

**G**ORGE W. CORNELL, YORK (AP) — Today's American believes in God, religion "very important" church at least twice a week and thinks he'll go to heaven he dies. One among a few of the most common survey ever made of beliefs and practices in the United States. The first time such a study was made in the United States was in 1907, said Fr. Paul Bussard, the Catholic Digest. "On every subject covered, the survey has never been recorded before.

Among men, 2 per cent are atheists, but among women, the number of nonbelievers doesn't amount to even one half of 1 per cent. College graduates included 4 per cent atheists, Baptists and Catholics had the fewest doubters—virtually none.

Most people—77 per cent—think the soul lives on after death. A slightly lesser majority—72 per cent—believe there is a Heaven, where the good are eternally rewarded.

However, only 58 per cent think there is a Hell, where the bad are everlastingly punished. Just a scant few—12 per cent—see any possibility whatever of their going to Hell.

THE PREDOMINANT conception of God—held by 79 per cent of adults—is a "loving father who looks after us," while 17 per cent consider God "some kind of supernatural power you can't describe." The other 4 per cent either are undecided or don't believe.

Strong belief in God as a "loving father"—91 per cent—was in the East-South-Central States of Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama and Mississippi. The lowest—62 per cent—was in the Mountain States of Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, Arizona and Nevada.

Only 32 per cent of people go to church each Sunday. Counting these, a total of 68 per cent go sometimes, most of them at least twice monthly, while 32 per cent never go at all.

Highest weekly attendance is in New England—45 per cent—and the lowest—22 per cent—on the Pacific Coast, where a big bloc of 30 per cent of the people never go to church.

However, 75 per cent of all adults consider religion "very important," 20 per cent say it's "fairly important," and only five per cent say it's "not very important."

regard for religion isn't so high among college graduates—only 67 per cent count it "very important"—or in big cities, 68 per cent, in rural areas, 84 per cent rate it tops.

An overwhelming proportion of adults, 96 per cent, believe Jesus actually lived. Only one per cent don't think so, while three per cent don't know.

A smaller majority, 80 per cent, consider Jesus either God or the Son of God. Again, Catholics, 95 per cent, and Baptists, 91 per cent, had the highest percentages of this opinion.

Belief in the divinity of Jesus was strongest in the East-South-Central states of Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama and Mississippi, 91 per cent, and lowest in New England, 64 per cent. It also was low in big cities, 72 per cent, among college graduates, 65 per cent, and high among farmers, 91 per cent.

### GOOD AIM AT VFW CONVENTION



CAL BACKUS, of Baltimore, one of 7,000 delegates to the convention in Milwaukee of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, playfully threatens a woman with his trusty popgun. The 54th annual encampment of the VFW opened with memorial services honoring the 25,000 Americans killed in the Korean War.



Dear Judge

#### AP Newsfeatures

Lots of kids have been treading the scales, judging by their mournful wails.

What to do about a new-found pound seems to be the question.

One gal asks: "Should I starve myself for the rest of the summer? Should I go on a diet of black coffee?"

Heavens to Betsy—what's all the excitement over a little pound here or there. So many books have been written about dieting and streamlining the figure that a couple of ounces begin to look like fat-lady circus proportions to some kids.

It is perfectly natural to gain a few extra pounds during the summer months when so much strenuous exercise is likely to make us ravenous. As soon as school begins and worries about calculus and French take the upperhand again, pounds will roll off no doubt. In the meantime, relax.

If pounds exceed normal weight by four, there is something you might do just to make that bathing suit fit smoothly for the balance of the summer.

Just try the substitution theory. Instead of eating creamed chicken, eat a hamburger if you have a choice. Preferably without the bun.

When you are being coaxed to the soda fountain settle for a limeade without sugar or a big glass of tomato juice or orange juice.

If you are on the picnic-planning committee in your set talk up the hotdogs (beef), hamburgers or clams and salad, raw vegetables (wonderful to-munch-on cauliflower, carrots, radish, scallions) instead of spaghetti, chilli, macaroni salad and deviled eggs.

When Dad suggests ice cream for the family in the evening, pretend you didn't hear as you go out the back door.

Encourage Mom to serve fruit for dessert and to skip those luscious pies and cakes.

Candy and nuts and other treats that you just nibble on because they happen to be there should be put out of sight. Ditto potato chips, cookies and buns.

Instead of any of those sweets eat a piece of fruit. An apple, orange, pear, tangerine, grapes, peaches and cherries are delicious at this time and chock full of vitamins, too.

Whatever happens in your homemade diet plan don't give up those daily health foods—milk, butter, vegetables, meat or fish, cheese, fruit, wholewheat bread.

If your hips are showing a few bumps—a little exercise will go a long way to buffing them down, providing you watch your diet. Swimming, bicycling, tennis and hiking are a few of the sports which help keep weight down to par.

Among all adults, 12 per cent consider Jesus just another great religious leader. This idea is held widely among college graduates, 27 per cent; throughout New England, 23 per cent, and among Jews, 66 per cent.

Paradoxically, however, a majority of Jews, 62 per cent, say they believe "in the Trinity—the Father, Son and Holy Ghost". Although this is not formally a part of Jewish theology.

AMONG ALL FAITHS, the portion accepting the Trinity is 89 per cent. (The doctrine is most fully held by Catholics, 98 per cent, and Baptists, 95 per cent.) A high ratio of women, 91 per cent, subscribe to the concept, but only 86 per cent of men.

As to what people should strive hardest to accomplish in this life, only a slim margin, 51 per cent say preparing for an existence after death should be the main objective. Many, 22 per cent, say attaining a comfortable life on earth is a principal duty, but 23 per cent say working for the present and the hereafter should get equal attention.

Less than half higher-income people, 42 per cent, and the proprietor - management executives, 44 per cent, think primary devotion should be to getting ready for the hereafter. A big portion of them think living comfortably has first call.

But while more than half of all people feel that life hereafter should be their major concern, only 21 per cent of them think

### Children For Adoption Shortage Grows Acute

By JANE EADS

WASHINGTON—There are just not enough boys and girls to go around for all the American families who want to adopt children.

"There are many more families, about 10 to 15 times as many, as there are children legally relinquished by their parents for adoption, and the number of orphans is infinitesimal," Jo Evelyn Smith of the U. S. Children's Bureau told me. Some 80,000 families each year petition to adopt a child.

Miss Smith, consultant on adoption, foster home and day care for children, says that adoption has become increasingly popular as more children have been placed and people see their friends happy in their new family life.

Miss Smith says that unless Congress passes pending legislation to let foreign youngsters in on a non-quota basis, families cannot hope to find a child to adopt in that field either. She says she receives many letters from people who wish to adopt children from abroad, especially American-born children born out of wedlock in Japan and Korea, of whom she says there are many. Current immigration laws permit only a total quota of 185 persons a year for Japan and 100 for Korea. For Germany, however, the quota is much higher and between 700 and 800 children have been adopted from there since the war, mostly by Americans stationed in that country. Greek and Italian quotas also are higher. England and Ireland have tightened their adoption laws, Ireland permitting children to go abroad only with their parents' consent and England limiting adoption to British citizens or relatives.

"Most countries are unwilling to let their children go," Miss Smith explained, "because they wish to keep the youth to strengthen and build up their own population. At

any rate our new immigration laws prohibit the majority of the would-be adoptees from coming into this country.

Last year, she said, 435 "private bills" were introduced in Congress on behalf of individuals who wanted to get children in on a non-quota basis for adoption. Of these only 220 passed.

Until last year some 2,838 orphans were admitted to the U.S. on a non-quota basis under the Displaced Persons program and 200 children were brought in by the U.S. Committee for the Care of European Children. Both programs have been dissolved.

#### A FARMERS TIP ON FILLING SACKS

One of the most difficult jobs around any farm is a one-man assignment to fill sacks.

Here's a comparatively simple solution. Cut the bottom out of a bucket and fasten the bucket to the wall with a suitable bracket. Drape the sack around the bucket with hooks suspended from the bracket.

Sack after sack can be filled from this funnel with hardly any effort.

### Sets Channel Mark



ABDEL LATIF ABU HEIF, 23, of Egypt, set a new record for the England to France Channel swim by making the crossing from Dover in 13 hours, 45 minutes. The old record, set in 1948, was 15 hours, 35 minutes. (International)

Fifty per cent of Germans living in Great Britain become naturalized compared to 20 per cent of Russians and 13 per cent of Poles.

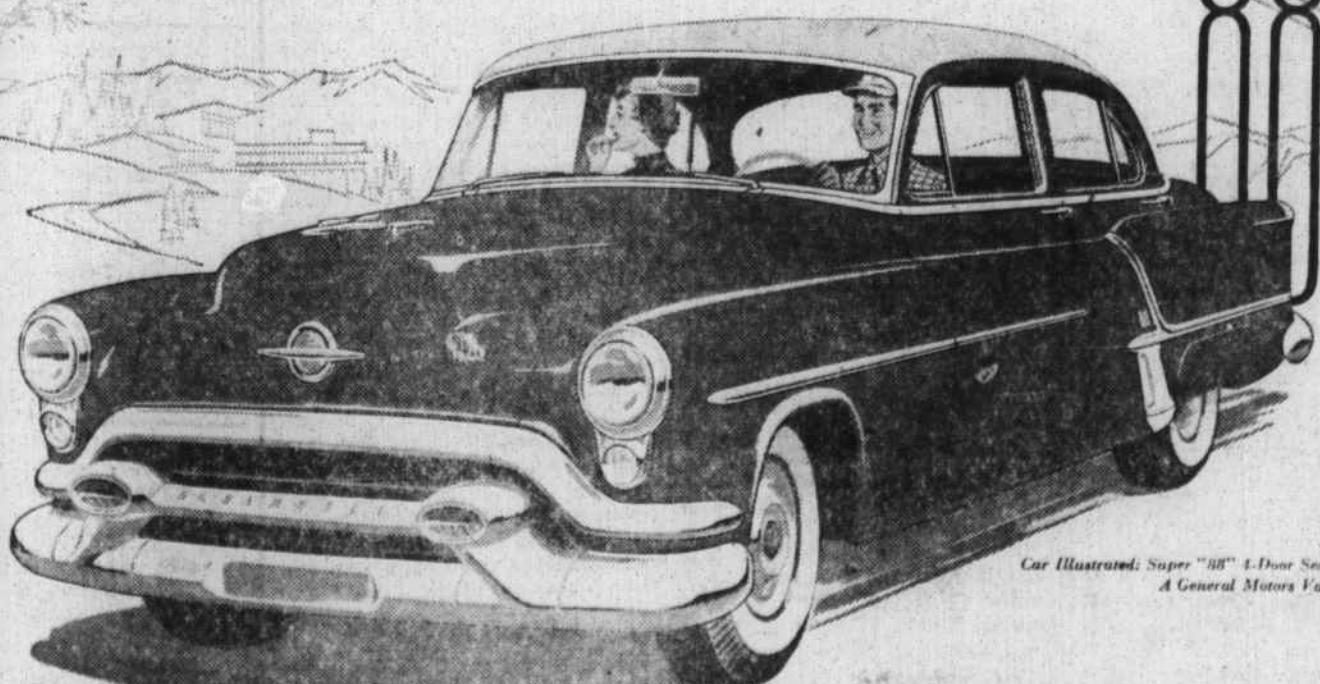
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### State Survey Rates Waynesville and Canton Bus Stations At 99

Waynesville, Canton and Cherokee were rated 99 for cleanliness in their bus stations in a report on 22 communities by the State Utilities Commission this week.

The scores are based on conditions found at the State's bus stations by the Commission's field inspectors. Twenty-two communities received a top grade of 100. These included:

- Belmont, Brevard, Burlington, Chapel Hill, Chimney Rock, Concord, Durham, Elizabeth City, Fayetteville, Fuquay Springs, Greensboro, Henderson, Kannapolis, Lexington, Mooresville, New Bern, Oxford, Raleigh, Rocky Mount, Sanford, Thomasville and Winston-Salem.

Louisburg ranked second from the bottom with a score of 73.5, and Wadesboro fell last with a score of 72.

They actually follow this rule. A majority of the others, city people and country people alike, the educated and uneducated, the Protestants, Catholics and Jews, frankly admit they give most of their time and energy to getting ahead in this world—and not the next one.

#### Wife Preservers



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6.50-16	24.80	18.60	8.00-15	29.35	22.00
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7.10-15	18.35	16.95
7.60-15	20.05	18.75

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