

Length of Life After Marriage

Statistics

"So they were married and lived happily ever after," the old story books had it. It was seldom happy, modern novelists have shown, and the divorce courts have considerably shortened the length. But for those who expect marriage to be terminated only by death, statisticians of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. have computed how long the marriage will last. The figures are based on the ages of the husband and wife.

For example, a husband of 30 years and a wife of 25 may be expected to enjoy life together for 30 years and a few months over. The wife of 25 may look forward to 42 more years of life and the husband of 30 may enjoy 37.1 more years. The joint expectation of life for the two, that is, the length of time that they will remain unseparated by death, is 30.4 years. These figures, of course, are an average, based on the life expectation of large numbers of 30 year old husbands and 25 year old wives. Some couples of these ages will live longer and some less than the average expectation.

Few Air Deaths

Aviation

Persons who are still a bit squeamish about taking their first airplane ride may be encouraged by the news that they are only taking a chance of one in 4,000 of dying if they ride with a licensed pilot over a scheduled passenger route.

These are the chances figured out by the committee on aviation statistics of the Actuarial Society of America. The committee found that last year only 13 passengers were killed out of 50,000 who were carried in scheduled flights.

The deaths among all federally licensed pilots were 35 per 1,000 for the first six months of the year and 25 per 1,000 during the last six months. The fatality rate during the year was highest among the pilots operating planes over scheduled routes, where it was 45 per 1,000. The mortality for Army and Navy aviators for the last year was at a lower rate than that for commercial pilots, in spite of the fact that stunt and formation flying are required of the officers. The difference in the mortality rates was considered by the committee to be due to a smaller average flying time per officer.

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Just what proportion will live longer and what proportion less long has also been determined by the statisticians.

Husbands and wives who do not expect to obtain divorces can find out how long insurance statisticians expect them to live together by referring to the table below:

Present Ages:	Joint Expectation of Life of Couple:
Husband 20, wife 20.....	35.5 years
Husband 20, wife 25.....	33.8 years
Husband 25, wife 20.....	33.6 years
Husband 25, wife 25.....	32.2 years
Husband 25, wife 30.....	30.7 years
Husband 30, wife 20.....	31.4 years
Husband 30, wife 25.....	30.4 years
Husband 30, wife 30.....	29.1 years
Husband 30, wife 35.....	27.5 years
Husband 35, wife 25.....	28.2 years
Husband 35, wife 30.....	27.3 years
Husband 35, wife 35.....	26.0 years
Husband 35, wife 40.....	24.3 years
Husband 40, wife 30.....	25.1 years
Husband 40, wife 35.....	24.2 years
Husband 40, wife 40.....	22.8 years
Husband 40, wife 45.....	21.1 years
Husband 45, wife 35.....	21.9 years
Husband 45, wife 40.....	20.9 years
Husband 45, wife 45.....	19.6 years
Husband 45, wife 50.....	17.8 years
Husband 50, wife 40.....	18.7 years
Husband 50, wife 45.....	17.7 years
Husband 50, wife 50.....	16.3 years
Husband 55, wife 45.....	15.5 years
Husband 55, wife 50.....	14.6 years
Husband 60, wife 50.....	12.6 years

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Girls More Emotional

Psychology

It is a feminine trait to be very angry, very fearful, very disgusted, or very pitying—judging by an experiment at Stanford University in which persons of both sexes rated their own emotional attitudes toward an assortment of situations. Men and boys felt less emotional, or said they did, in all four moods.

The experiment is part of a study of sex differences conducted at the University by Prof. Lewis M. Terman and Dr. Catharine Cox Miles.

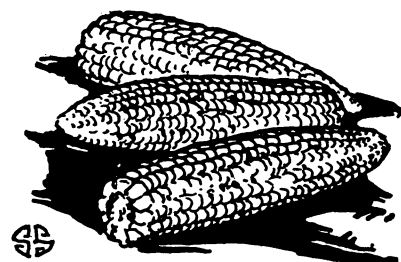
The greatest sex difference is in disgust, the psychologists found. The average woman felt more disgust at situations arousing this emotion than was felt by three-fourths of the men. The least difference between the sexes was shown in cases evoking pity and fear. The most pitying males, Dr. Miles reported, are as emotional as the most pitying females. But there are more groups of males who feel, or say they do, less pity than there are of females.

Older, better educated, and more intelligent individuals of both sexes show a tendency away from excess in all emotions, the psychologists found.

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NATURE RAMBLINGS

By FRANK THONE



Maize

When the Pilgrims and their Indian friends gathered in the first feast of thanksgiving, over three centuries ago, turkey and venison and fish may have occupied the center of the table; but it was for maize, the Indian corn, that the hearts of the Pilgrims were chiefly thankful, for this grain had been their salvation through that first desperate winter of sickness and starvation. It was a new thing to them, as their letters home showed, but they soon learned, under Indian tutelage, to grow it, dropping a fish or two into each hill to fertilize the soil.

From the small beginnings made at Plymouth, as earlier at Jamestown and the Spanish settlements in Florida, Mexico and the West Indies, the cultivation of this grain, the greatest gift of the Indian to the white man, has grown to its present mighty proportions, wherein its money value is figured in billions, and its importance in our thinking is demonstrated by our calling it merely "corn", which was our Old World fathers' name for all kinds of grain. The bread-grasses our grandsires grew are now ignominiously crowded back under the title of "small grains".

Where this giant grass with the giant ears crowded with the biggest of all grass seeds originally came from is still an unsolved mystery. All the agricultural Indians on the continent had it when the white men came; it must therefore be of at least moderate antiquity. Mummy burials in Peru, Mexico, our own Southwest, have funeral offerings of corn, in several different varieties, and there is abundant evidence that the mound-builders knew the grain too.

Where corn got its more distinctive name of maize is not certain, but it is probable that the word is derived from a Cuban Indian dialect word, "mahiz."

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