

Quintuplets Amaze Psychologists as Most 'Identical' Children Ever Known to Science

Resemblance Makes Birth Phenomenon Even Stranger.

By BRUCE CATTON
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TORONTO, Ontario, Nov. 1.—The Dionne quintuplets might provide a bad moment or two for the fingerprint experts, if they should ever decide to submit their prints for examination.
For their fingerprints are amazingly similar.
The different sets, when completely recorded, can be distinguished of course. But if one of the quintuplets should put one slightly smudged print on a sheet of paper—a print of her forehead, for instance—the science of fingerprinting might find it utterly impossible to tell which of the five sisters had made it.
This is just one illustration of the amazing resemblance the quintuplets have to one another. They are identical quintuplets—a phenomenon as rare among quintuplets (which are an 87,000-to-one shot to begin with) as identical twins are among ordinary twins.
"Identical," as biologists use the word, doesn't mean quite what you might suppose. No two people are ever really identical. Even those twins who look so much alike that their own parents get mixed up about them—everyone has known some such pair—are not exactly alike. It's all a matter of degree.
But the Dionne quintuplets—all five of them—come closer to being exactly alike than any pair or group of children ever studied by science before.

THIS fact emerges from a scientific study made by Drs. John W. MacArthur and Norma Ford, biologists on the faculty of the University of Toronto. They base their findings on their own observation and on data collected by Dr. W. E. Blatz, director of the university's St. George's School for Child Study.
The biologists made their study as the foundation for an effort to solve one of science's most baffling problems—whether heredity or heredity has the greater influence on the development of a person's mental and physical characteristics.

HERE, for the first time, science has a chance to study five children of identical heredity; and scientists will be citing the five little girls from Callander on one side or the other of the perennial argument (or possibly on both sides) for many years to come.
Anyway, what the scientists were primarily interested in was in finding out whether the quintuplets actually are identical.
Identical twins, they point out, are usually the same only in a few characteristics—such as sex, blood groups, color of eyes, hair and skin, and so on. In other instances—the shape of their ears, their finger and palm prints, the shape of face and skull—they are very different.

THE quintuplets had an early experience with fingerprinting which left them and everyone connected with them very cold. When they were quite small, the provincial government sent a couple of policemen to the place to record the quintuplets' prints. The detectives brought their regulation fingerprinting equipment, with ink and everything.
So the quintuplets got ink on their fingers. Then they got it smudged all over themselves. They got it on the detectives, on the furniture, and on the virginal whiteness of the nurses' uniforms. And—no wind up—they smeared the paper so that no readable prints could be obtained, and then they got offended by so much ink and began to cry, in unison.

THE detectives retired, baffled. The scientists, being also psychologists, solved the problem. They rubbed a cold-cream-and-honey lotion into the skin of a quintuplet's hand. The hand was then pressed lightly on a sheet of glossy paper laid on a rubber pad. The hand being removed, the paper was treated with finely powdered and sifted lamp black, and after the excess powder was shaken off, the print was fixed by putting the paper in a solution of resin and alcohol.
The result was a set of prints which would delight J. Edgar Hoover—and which did delight Drs. MacArthur and Ford. To supplement them, plaster casts were made of the hands and feet, which brought out the fine details even better than the ink.

AN elaborate study of these prints revealed that the quintuplets are identical throughout.
The total ridge count of the finger patterns differed very little among the quintuplets, for instance, but was considerably different in their brother Ernest and their sisters Rose and

AGE	MARIE	EMILIE	CECILE	ANNETTE	YVONNE
Three months					
Nine months					
18 months					
40 months					
Print of right foot					
Blood group	O	O	O	O	O
Iris color	M4	M4	M4	M4	M4
Iris pattern	9	9	9	9	9
Eye refractive error	+1.25	+1.25	+1.75	+1.75	+1.75
Eye lashes	long curled dark brown	long curled dark brown	long curled dark brown	long curled dark brown	long curled dark brown
Eyebrow	light brown	light brown	light brown	light brown	light brown
Hair color	(Dark, slightly reddish-brown)	(Dark, slightly reddish-brown)	(Dark, slightly reddish-brown)	(Dark, slightly reddish-brown)	(Dark, slightly reddish-brown)
Hair form	wavy	wavy	wavy	wavy	wavy
Hair whorl	Clock-wise	Counter clock-wise	Counter clock-wise	Counter clock-wise	Counter clock-wise
Skin color	3 (Light and fair)	3 (Light and fair)	3 (Light and fair)	3 (Light and fair)	3 (Light and fair)

The remarkable physical similarity of the Dionne quintuplets is graphically expressed in this chart, based on the findings of Biologists John W. MacArthur and Norma Ford. Note how even iris colors and patterns—expressed by measurements on the biologists' testing charts—are the same for all five.

There's whose prints were taken for comparison.
The shape of the finger patterns was also very similar.
Furthermore, each of the quintuplets possesses one or more interdigital whorls—tiny whirlpool effects on the palm at the base of the fingers; a rare feature possessed by less than 1 per cent of the general population. Neither Ernest, Rose nor Therese has one of these.
Here is another thing. If you are one of a pair of identical twins, your right hand will resemble your left hand less than it resembles your right hand. By this standard, Marie and Cecile are identical through their left hands, Yvonne and Annette through their left hands, Yvonne and Cecile through their right hands—and Emilie, through resemblances in ridge counts, whorls and so on, is closely bound to all of them.
The footprint told the same story. The handprints told, from hands and feet the biologists moved up to faces; and it is only fair to report that they often got completely baffled by the five ruddy countenances they were studying.
The quintuplets themselves, however, never make any mistakes in identifying each other, and they become highly amused at the mistakes of their elders.
The form and color of the eye, and the pigment pattern of the iris, is the same for all five. The

AID RECIPIENTS LEAVE \$80,000 IN REPAYMENTS

National, State and County Welfare Units Share In Estates.

National, state and county Government welfare agencies have recovered more than \$80,000 during the last year from estates of those who died while inmates of state institutions or while receiving public assistance, reports by State Public Welfare division heads showed today.
Jack Kinney, Division of Institutions estates attorney, reported that \$31,327 was returned to the State's General Fund from estates of persons who died while institutional inmates.
Since last October the State Welfare Department, county welfare departments and the Federal Government have received nearly \$50,000 from 507 estates of Indiana citizens who died while receiving public assistance, Charles B. Marshall, general administration division director, reported.

iris color is a medium brown mixed with gray, by the way. Eyelashes are all long, curled and dark brown. The hair is all wavy, a dark, slightly reddish-brown, uniform in texture. Contours of the hairline one forehead, temple and neck are the same.
One difference was noted; the hair whorls on the crowns of the quintuplets heads all go counter-clockwise with the exception of Marie. Her whorl swirled the other way.
Complexion and skin texture for all five children are the same.
Complexion: Fair, clear and rosy. It tans deeply, but does not freckle. Cecile and Annette each had a small temporary mole on the right cheek near the eye, at one time; they're gone now.

PEOPLE'S ears are almost invariably different, even on identical twins.

The quintuplets' ears were studied with vast care, but only very minor differences could be detected—so very minor that one of the biologists twice in one day failed to identify a given quintuplet by the shape of the ear, which had been supposed to be an almost foolproof system.
As you know from their pictures, the quintuplets look alike. The biologists tested the regularity of the girls' features in an involved and painstaking way, and at last came to the same conclusion.
The biologists examined the quintuplets to see which hand each girl preferred to use. Emilie may turn out to be a southpaw; the others are all right-handed. The quintuplets' blood was tested; all five of them are in the same blood group.

NEW HOUSING HEAD TO SET UP OFFICES

WASHINGTON, Nov. 1 (U. P.).—Nathan Straus, newly appointed director of the Federal Housing Authority, will establish offices here tomorrow to direct Federal low-cost housing activities, the Interior Department announced today.
President Roosevelt's executive order transferring 49 Public Works Administration housing projects to the new authority was the final step in placing into effect the Wagner-Stegall low-cost housing law.
The 49 WPA projects, when completed, will cost approximately \$134,000,000. Twenty-two of the projects are now occupied.
Two additional projects in Puerto Rico will be administered by an island authority.

LOCAL BOY TO HEAD JUNIORS AT WABASH

Class Elects Walter Davis; Seniors Name Illinoisan.

CRAWFORDSVILLE, Nov. 1.—E. M. Cooney Jr., Danville, Ill., today was the new president of the Senior Class of Wabash College.
Others elected were Herbert Risely, Crawfordville, vice president, and Victor Hough, Chicago, secretary-treasurer.
Herbert Keck, Indianapolis; Walter Davis, Newcastle, and Joseph Fisher, Terre Haute, were elected president, vice president and secretary, respectively, of the Junior Class.
William Haines, Crawfordville; J. P. Salver, Anderson, and Boyd Loveless, Clarks Hill, were elected president, vice president and secretary, respectively, of the Sophomore Class.
William Fess, Dowagiac, Mich., was elected Freshman Class president; William Williams, Crawfordville, vice president, and William Sabo, East Chicago, secretary-treasurer.

TWO LOCAL CADETS WIN CULVER HONORS

CULVER, Ind., Nov. 1.—Two Indianapolis cadets today were named on the Culver Military Academy honor list for September and October.
Albert E. Andrews Jr., 2354 Park Ave., ranked eighth in the senior class of 142 members. Robert A. McGill, 4122 N. Meridian St., a sophomore, ranked seventh in a class of 120.

PROMOTED BY RAILROAD

Emans E. McDaniels, Pennsylvania Railroad trainmaster here, has been promoted to service supervisor in St. Louis, it was announced today. He is to succeed E. W. Perrot, who died recently. Mr. McDaniels has been in the service 34 years.

PUPILS AT TECH TO HEAR SPEECH ON INDIAN LORE

101 Outstanding Seniors Are Cited for Personal Qualities.

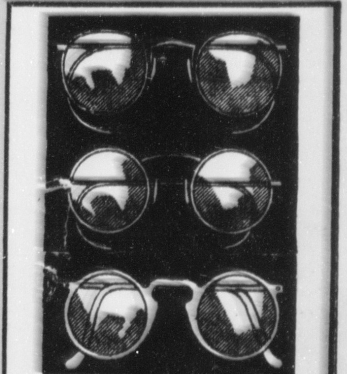
Technical High School pupils today were to open their November activities with a program of Indian folk lore and music.
Faculty members and student leaders also were completing plans for the School's Open House to be held Nov. 10 in conjunction with National Education Week.
Hanson H. Anderson announced the selection of 101 seniors as members of the Tech Legion, organization recognizing outstanding fourth-year students for "citizenship and qualities of personal worth."
Mrs. Clyde Titus was to be the principal speaker at the Indian program. A string quartet was to provide Indian selections.
Parents to Be Guests
Parents of Tech pupils are to be principal guests at the Open House from 8:15 a. m. to 9 p. m. Dinner is to be served pupils and parents at 5 p. m. Usher Club members are to serve as hosts.
The Tech Legion is composed of the 10 per cent of the pupils who have received the highest number of merit citations. Officers elected were: Alan Gripe, commander; Rosemary Hodson, lieutenant-commander, and Mary Jane Anderson, Margaret Fargo, Jean Ann Jones, Haul Lee Madinger, Mary Schlenker and Jack Welchons, captains.

CLOSSON NAMED BY REPUBLICAN CLUBS

Irvin Closson, 10th Ward chairman, today assumed his duties as president of an executive committee of the 11th District Republican Clubs.
The committee, organized yesterday to promote party harmony, is composed of elected delegates from each of the district Republican clubs. It is to meet monthly after January, 1938.
Arthur G. Gresham is to serve as secretary and publicity chairman.

BATHTUB IS STOLEN BY 'DIRTY THIEF'

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., Nov. 1 (U. P.).—"Some dirty thief stole my bath tub," Ernest Roots reported to police today.
Mr. Roots said the tub was stolen while he was away from home.



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Only nine short years ago Ayres Downstairs Store doubled its floor space and blossomed forth in new beauty and efficient arrangement. We were recognized as one of the greatest Downstairs Stores in the Midwest! Since then, our business has grown by leaps and bounds! So, today, we must rearrange and regroup our departments to get the most out of our already outgrown space. During the process of reconstruction we must, necessarily, condense departments and stocks... and the only way to accomplish this purpose is to slash prices... and ask our customers to take our stocks home with them.

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