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Rose Pastor Stokes
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THE MODERNIST
25 East 14th Street
New York City
Vanderlip's Speech—A Warning Note

An Editorial by Margaret Sanger

The Birth Control Movement in America has heretofore centered its interest upon two points. The first of these is woman's freedom. The other is relief for the economically oppressed workers through limitation of offspring.

This has been the movement's development in most countries, except England. There it has been very definitely based upon the principle that failure to control the birth rate results in ignorance and sufficiently has a constant tendency to permit the population to increase beyond the food supply. This is the first of what may be called the two principal tenets of the English Movement. The second is that over population is the first and most fruitful source of ignorance, pauperism, disease and crime. Around these two principal points the advocates of Birth Control in England have waged their battle.

English statesmen and economists, however, are keenly conscious that Britain is over populated. It is a matter which is discussed constantly by press, politician and public. America is a newly developed country. The overcrowding of population has not yet made itself so greatly felt. For this reason, perhaps, the advocates of Birth Control have had less direct interest in this phase of the matter than have the advocates of the same doctrine in the tightly packed United Kingdom.

It required the World War to awaken us to this phase of the general problem. Conditions revealed by this struggle and its aftermath make it impossible for American believers in Birth Control to leave out of consideration, hereafter, the relation between population and its means of subsistence.

Of all those who have written and spoken upon problems arising out of the war, none has called our attention so plainly and emphatically to the food question as Frank A. Vanderlip, until recently head of the City National Bank of New York, one of the most powerful financial institutions in the country. In an address delivered May 26, which stirred the press of the country into a hysterical discussion that has not yet run its course, Mr. Vanderlip directed attention to some of the most significant facts in the European situation. In all the babble of discussion that has followed, no newspaper has yet commented upon the fundamentals pointed out by the financier. None of the editorial writers was able to discover that the vital points in the address were those which dealt with the European food situation, as it arises out of over population.

Here are some of the facts which Mr. Vanderlip brought out:

Europe has increased its population since the Napoleon wars from 175,000,000 to 440,000,000. Now let us think of those figures—175,000,000 to 440,000,000. Now Europe did not become any more productive. She probably does not raise a very great amount more food than she did a hundred years ago. How has she fed those people?

The British government will have to get five to six million Englishmen out of England and nearer to the source of the food supply. It is that fact that we must grasp. If these industries must be kept going in these highly industrialized European countries if the people are to live. Take England—the most thickly populated country in the world—700 to the square mile. They have built up that whole island into an industrial community that can live only by selling abroad a great part of the product of the factories and with the proceeds of that export buying more raw material and the foods for the population.

English industry has made a red ink overdraft on the future by underpaying labor so that it did not receive enough to live efficiently and you know that in the mill towns of England there grew up a secondary race of under fed uneducated undeveloped people. Well England has got to pay the overdraft now. She found that a third of her men of military age were unfit for military service. One of Mr. Lloyd George's most famous utterances was that he could not make an A 1 Myron out of a 3.5 populan. They all see it and that differential (low wages) which England has had in international trade is gone. That is not all of it. England must maintain her markets if she is to maintain her population. Remember she is an industrial country just like an industrial village. She has this vast population that her fields will not sustain. She must bring in raw material and sell it abroad and have margin enough to get more raw material for the few she needs, and she is facing the demoralized markets of Europe.

Mr. Vanderlip speaks, of course, as a financier. But whether one is a financier, a reformer or a revolutionist, the facts that he points out are the facts that must be faced. No matter what our theories or our faiths, these facts stand. They grow increasingly ominous, and the necessity that they be dealt with grows more insistent.

What do these facts mean to America—to the people of America? They mean, first of all, that upon America will be made increasing demands for food for Europe. We have already been supplying England, France and a part of Italy. Plans are already under way to "feed Germany" if a peace satisfactory to those in power, politically and commercially, is made.
We have, too, that while supplying food to England and France, we went through a period of scarcity and unprecedented high prices. We have long since passed this period, which was also marked by high mortality among the civilian population. Witness for instance, the influenza epidemic.

It is also to be remembered that America, like England, as long as this nation depends upon present means of production and distribution, will be forced to seek more and more markets and sources of raw materials. What else is the meaning of the expansion of the United States within the last generation? Why have we taken over Hawaii, the Philippines, Porto Rico, and why have we virtually held a protectorate over Cuba? Why is American capital so interested in Mexico? Why is it that we go to South America for much of our meat supply—and only within the past few years? Why do American packers control much of the cattle and most of the packing industry in South America? What is the meaning of our heavy imports of rice? Is our situation different from that of England, except in degree?

A look at our population statistics may shed some light upon the question. In 1880 our population was a little over 50,000,000. Ten years later it had increased to approximately 63,000,000. In 1900 it was approximately 76,000,000. In 1910 it lacked but a few thousand of 93,000,000. Now it is estimated at 106,000,000. It has more than doubled itself in thirty eight years. The rate of increase for the twenty years between 1890 and 1910 was approximately 21 per cent. At this rate, we will have 200,000,000 people in 1950. While only a generation ago, we began reaching out for imports to add to the stock of foods produced at home.

It is well understood that one of the causes of the World War was the rapid increase in the German and Russian populations. The German population, for example, grew from 41,000,000 in 1871 to 67,000,000 in 1918. It increased 60 per cent in forty seven years and made a world cataclysm inevitable because it did not produce sufficient food to sustain its tremendously increasing numbers.

It took Russia, with the highest blab rate in Europe, forty years—from 1871 to 1911—to increase her population 77 per cent. In but 38 years, we have more than doubled our own population. It took Japan sixty five years to double her population, and her government has been making a studied effort to increase the number of Japanese.

In view of these facts, it is high time for people living in America to give careful attention to the population problem. It is especially important that those of us who advocate Birth Control should at once begin to make an intensive and exhaustive study of the subject. If England, with the most extensive colonial system in the world at her command, cannot take care of her few tightly packed millions, what will be the state of affairs when the United States, youngest, most powerful and most rapidly growing of the nations, with no more colonies to take except by force, shall have 200,000,000 or 300,000,000 people?

Street Meetings Great Success

The first open-air birth control meetings ever held in New York city are turning out to be great successes. The close attention paid by the audiences and the size of these audiences, compared with those of other meetings in the same neighborhoods, indicate that there is a greater interest in Birth Control than in any other subject now being discussed at street meetings.

George Swasey has been the speaker at all the meetings thus far. Mr. Swasey recently addressed many outdoor audiences upon the same subject in England.

At the tune *The Birth Control Review* goes to press, the following open air discussions have been held: 137th street and St Nicholas avenue, 400 people; 181st street and St. Nicholas avenue, 1,000; 125th street and Seventh avenue, 400; Seventh street and Avenue A, 300; Tenth street and Avenue A, 500.

The meetings will be continued and it is expected that after they will be a part of the regular Birth Control propaganda.

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**The BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW**

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Editors: MARGARET SANGER—MARY KNOBLAUCH MAUDE EGGINTON LILY WINTER BLANCHE SCHROCK

Art Editor: CORNELIA BARNES—LOU ROGERS

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The Neo-Malthusian Idea

By B. Laber, M.D., Ph.D.

Malthus published his "Essay on the Principle of Population" in 1798. In this work he laid down the principle that should human beings be allowed to multiply without check, their number would increase in a far greater proportion than their supply of food.

Thus, increase must be checked and is being checked all the time by epidemics, disease, poverty, wars, etc.

Malthus came to the conclusion that the best way to prevent overpopulation was by means through which humanity should not suffer, that is, through preventive obstacles.

Although Malthus and his followers had many opponents, none has yet succeeded in overthrowing his law and his logical conclusions. Some radicals believe that under more normal social conditions, the land could nourish an indefinite number of human beings, and that scientific progress could increase sufficiently the productivity of the land. They do not think to what tremendous figures the population, left free, would amount. A normal woman between the ages of 16 to 45 years, can give birth to sixteen children. Such a couple would give to the world 10,000 descendants after one hundred years. Two hundred years later, their progeny would amount to fifty million. Every eight years, the population would double. But even if we suppose that women between 20 and 40 years, would bear, on the average, six children, the population would still be three times its original density after twenty-five years. If every woman should bear but three children, the population would be doubled in forty-five years, which means that Europe, in ninety years, would have one billion inhabitants.

Malthus' theories will remain true under single socialism or anarchism, because the surplus population will always bring trouble and misery and eventually destroy the order of any society.

The best preventive obstacle advised by Malthus was abstinence from sexual intercourse for those unable to feed and educate their children properly. He called it "moral restraint." This is Malthusianism.

From it was derived Neo-Malthusianism, which is more practical, as it recognizes continence to be impossible for a long time in the average, normal, mature man and woman. It teaches the people to use means to prevent conception.

In 1818, James S. Mill expressed the idea that it would be well to find anti-conceptual means.

In 1822, Francis Place emphasized this necessity much stronger in his writings.

In 1826, Richard Carlyle published a booklet indicating preventive methods, "The Book of Every Woman."

In 1832, Robert Dale Owen (son of Robert Owen), published a similar book called "Moral Physiology."

In 1833, Dr. Charles Knowlton, of Boston, brought out a book, —"Fruits of Philosophy," which explained preventive means in a more exact manner than former works.

In 1854, appeared the epoch-making book "Elements of Social Science," or "Physical, Sexual and Natural Religion," by Dr. George Drysdale.

Twenty years later, the following event had, for England and for the world, a great significance. Applying the so-called Lord Campbell's Act, an English Court sentenced a bookseller of Bristol, to two years in jail for selling Dr. Knowlton's book.

This fact aroused the generous journalist, Charles Bradlaugh and the talented Annie Besant, who, in order to bring the injustice of the law to the attention of the public, challenged the courts by openly advertising and selling Dr. Knowlton's book. The trials took place in 1877, after which the accused were finally acquitted. The birth rate in England has decreased remarkably since then. One of the reasons for this was the foundation of the Neo-Malthusian League and in 1879, the monthly publication of "The Malthusian," which appears yet and sends to everyone, everywhere, information concerning preventive methods, except to the United States, because of our restrictive laws regarding this matter.

Dr. Charles R. Drysdale, Dr. Alice Vickery, and Dr. Reynolds are among the most prominent and restless Neo-Malthusian propagandists.

If we leave England, the cradle of Malthusianism and Neo-Malthusianism, we find that in Holland, Van Houten, later member of the Dutch Government, wrote a series of articles on prevention as early as 1877, and that the Neo-Malthusian League won official recognition in 1895. At present, the League gives regular contraceptive consultations free of charge to everybody.

In Germany, Dr. Mensinga invented a good preventive, and Helena Stoecker published "Neue Generation." Another German periodical in sympathy with Neo-Malthusianism is "Sexual Probleme."

The propaganda goes on in Sweden in spite of the fact that a few years ago Dr. Nystroem was fined for a lecture on anti-conceptual methods.

The people in France anticipated the Neo-Malthusian propagandists, they were Neo-Malthusians before the movement was created. Perhaps the most energetic fighter for the free distribution of contraceptives and for the sexual rights of women was the great teacher, scholar and philosopher, Paul Robin, who died a few years ago. It is due to him that in France, previous to the war, mass meetings on the subject were held every day, that consultations were given freely, and that the Frenchmen, in the last years, were flooded with Neo-Malthusianism.

*This was written in 1914, although not published until now.
Thusian literature, which easily counteracts the propaganda in favor of a surplus of population constantly but vainly made by the authorities and by rich and religious hypocrites, who, themselves, are childless, or never have more than two children.

The most Important French periodical on the subject was “Generation Consciente,” which appeared regularly before the war.

In Belgium “Procreation Consciente” was published.

In Switzerland, the Deputy, Grandjean, published “La Vie Intime”.

In Spain, Bulfi propagates Neo-Malthusian ideas through “Salud y Fuerza”.

Italy, where a much needed propaganda goes on, was stirred a few years ago by the trial of a woman who had distributed the booklet, “L’Arte di Non Far Figli”.

Even in Russia, at a convention of physicians several years ago, the majority advocated for everybody the right to distribute preventive methods openly.

There exists a “Neo-Malthusian International Bureau,” whose secretary is Dr. Rutgers, of Holland.

In the United States we had a few fine fighters such as Dr. Foote, Moses Harman and Dr. W. J. Hobinson. We may add the elder Dr. Abraham Jacoby, who has shown much sympathy to Neo-Malthusian ideas. The writer of these lines has done his share among the Jewish population since 1904. But the first person to openly and publicly give preventive methods against our laws was Mrs. Margaret Sanger.

Now, what are, briefly, the arguments for and against Neo-Malthusianism, which has been accused of producing race suicide, but which really improves the race?

First, some radicals, especially the unmarried ones, object to Neo-Malthusianism, because they fear that immediate work for this idea would retard the realization of their hopes for a social change. The contrary is true, and it seems to me that radicals should fight for the right to limit their offspring more than for any other immediate reforms. The Socialists always help the workers win their strikes, they should not forget that the most effective general strike of the working people is to beget fewer children. And, to the beavers in direct action, I wish to say that nothing is a more direct action than this suppression of a large number of workingmen who become the “reserve army” to replace strikers, to fill up the unemployed ranks and the bread lines.

Those who always wished the poor to breed many children were the masters and their supporters. This alone, ought to be a sufficient reason why the workers should restrict their offspring. The capitalist class in France worships the two children system for itself. Some wealthy women there went so far as to mutilate their bodies in order to be certain that they would not bear children, the 20,000 expensive cataract, the 40,000 removed ovaries of the rich women of France within a few years, are proof of this. This number would have been multiplied, were it not for the bad physical results of such mutilations. But nevertheless, the French Bourgeoisie clamour against the harmless preventives used by the poor.

The representatives of religion also encourage the people to follow “God’s law” and to multiply continually. But all religions have always considered woman as a breeding machine and nothing else.

We know that one of the causes why women, as a class, are more reactionary than men, is the large number of children they must bear and breed. This enslaves them more than any other thing else. The same is, to a certain extent, true of the men, as they, knowing their responsibility to a heavy family, cannot fight freely for their rights on the economic field.

That the large number of future men are intended as “Ka nonenfutter” we have seen numberless times in history. This fact was expressed clearly by the great, genial and practical bandit, Napoleon I., who, after a battle, when somebody deplored the death of thousands of soldiers, said in an ironic way: “Paris will replace them in one night.”

But the surplus of population is not needed only as cannon fodder, it is needed in peace time as food for capital, in the giant cannibalistic industry to our modern so-cial factory.

To the people at large more children mean more misery, more ignorance, more disease.

We are told: “Prevention is against nature.” But do we follow nature in everything else? And why should we wait until nature, which is, of course, indifferent to our individual fate, regulates our lives?

We are also told that prevention is an antisocial act. I consider it the most social act. But supposing it were anti-social, I am convinced that we owe society nothing if it does nothing to make our lives comfortable.

But such objections cannot come from those who know what a great responsibility is to have a child, from those who know that we are not dumb and irresponsible animals nor from those who have observed that birds, before they decide to have little ones, prepare a good nest and assure themselves that the surroundings will give them food for their offspring. Does man always have a nest and food prepared for his children?

To have more children means to divide the same bread (as nobody earns more as a result of the increase of the family), the same shelter, the same clothes, the same time of the mother, into more and smaller parts. It means often many successive artificial (so-called “criminal”) abortions, and it means also to augment the cases of consumption and feeble-mindedness in society.

It has been demonstrated that where the birth rate decreases, mortality decreases in about the same proportion.

One of the deepest, most Important causes of the present war was undoubtedly the too rapid increase of the population of Germany.
In 1876 the birth rate of Germany was 41 per 1,000 population. Only lately there has been a reduction to 28, but the surplus, which has been partly relieved by emigration, could not be relieved sufficiently. Compare with France, with a birth rate of 21, and with England, 25.

We hear from time to time of famous men who have originated from large families. They are exceptions, but assuming that this was the rule, what does the majority of the people care for great writers, painters, musicians or scientists if poverty does not even permit them to hear of their works?

There are harmless means to prevent conception, why should they not be allowed to circulate freely? To be sure, they will not always be successful, but they will be so in the majority of the cases.

While Neo-Malthusianism alone cannot solve the social question, it brings to the people more health, more happiness, more intelligence, more independence, a better physical and moral education—but what is more important, it places in the hands of a woman a means which helps her emancipate herself and makes her mistress of her own body, she becomes free to bear or not to bear a child, at her choice.

Militarists Want More Children

Perhaps no country, aside from our own, is advancing a more chauvinistic program at the present time than France. Advocates of increased population, more happiness, more intelligence, more independence, a better physical and moral education—but what is more important, a places in the hands of a woman a means which helps her emancipate herself and makes her mistress of her own body, she becomes free to bear or not to bear a child, at her choice.

In the New Statesman with the idea that what England needs is greater numbers in order to keep the Empire intact, to hold present possessions, to rule the world, and protect itself from incursions of more overpopulated nations.

Dr. Saleebey further advocates the rapid population of the earth with the Anglo-Saxon stock, by an accelerated birth rate in the Dominions, by emigration from crowded quarters of the Empire (emigration of white stock), and by State maintenance and assistance to poor parents and their children. His argument hinges itself on the threadbare theory that the Anglo Saxons have special gifts as colonizers and administrators, and that the best thing for humanity is that the major portion of the earth should be under the guardianship of this God gifted race.

The Germans were said to have this same idea before the war, and the British resented it. It now appears conclusively that this resentment was nothing but envy and jealousy. Just what Ireland, India and Egypt think of such theories is now being demonstrated in those countries.

Further, we shall try to see just what interest an English woman has in spending all her life in pregnancy that future generations of Anglo-Saxons shall coerce the world “in the way it should go.” This “benevolence,” coupled with militarism, has brought the world to the brink of destruction. The English workers are learning this, along with the workers everywhere. Their interests lie with their own class, not with the imperialists’ ambition.

If such ideas as those advanced by Dr. Saleebey should materialize, the Anglo Saxons would indeed be leading in another dance of death.

But a light has dawned upon a new world order, this light is not confined to the Anglo-Saxon race, to Europe as a continent, nor to men as a sex. It has revealed the truth that no people, no class, no sex, has a right to rule over another for the sake of either profit or pleasure.

Instead of a future, wherein unlimited numbers of Anglo Saxons walk, lash in hand, driving men of other shades of color and opinion to do their bidding, a fewer number of just, honest, fine souled men and women from every country should advance shoulder to shoulder, to solve their common problems. The way of Dr. Saleebey is the way to destruction. The way of the common man and woman is the way to a new international order.

Volunteer

Volunteers are needed to sell The Birth Control Review in both New York City and other cities. A few women interested in the movement are selling the magazine on the streets daily in New York City. Anyone willing to help in this work should communicate with Elizabeth Colt, in care of The Birth Control Review, 104 Fifth Avenue, New York City.
How Shall We Change The Law

By Margaret Sanger

APPELLING SITUATIONS revealed every day indicate all too plainly that in cases where a woman's disease is affected by pregnancy, the medical institutions and clinics of New York State are accomplishing nothing to relieve those diseased conditions. Where the disease is tuberculosis, syphilis or some other organic malady which is aggravated by pregnancy, women appeal in vain for instruction concerning contraceptives. Physicians are willing to perform abortions where they are pronounced necessary, but they refuse to direct the use of preventives which would make the abortions unnecessary. The almost invariable reply to the appeals of their women patients is "I can't do it—the law does not permit it." Recent inquiries made of physicians leave no doubt as to the accuracy of this statement. Medical practitioners are heavily handicapped—especially in institutional and public work—by Section 1142 of the New York State law which prohibits anyone whatsoever from communicating to any person information concerning contraceptives.

RECOGNIZING THIS condition of affairs and the tremendous evils to individual women, to children and to the whole social body, various groups and organizations have attempted, in the past four or five years, to secure amendments to the law.

Within the Birth Control movement there have been two distinct options as to what sort of an amendment should be urged. One opinion has favored what has been called the "unlimited bill." This measure would so amend the law as to permit anyone who chose to do so to impart information concerning contraceptives to anyone who wishes it. It would accomplish this end simply by striking the word "prevention of conception" out of Section 1142. The amendment favored by other Birth Control advocates would allow doctors, and possibly midwives and nurses, to instruct in the use of contraceptives.

The tune has now come to analyze both of these proposed plans and make up our minds finally and definitely which one we should support. In arriving at our conclusions we must consider both what kind of an amendment it is possible to obtain in the present state of the public mind, and, most of all, what is best for those who are going to apply for the information, once it is made available.

MY INTEREST IN THE proposed amendments is to see American womanhood freed from forced maternity. Which of these bills will best bring about that liberation? How shall this information be given in order that the woman who receives it may be sure of obtaining the results desired? Will this end be served by permitting every one to give the information, regardless of age or condition—physical, mental or economic? Do we desire that everyone, regardless of scientific knowledge, experience or ability, shall have the right to advise as to the use of means of preventing conception?

Personally, I object to the so-called "unlimited bill." My objection, however, is not the usual one, that it would increase immorality. I do not believe that a universal knowledge of contraceptives would lead to immorality. On the other hand, I do believe that when instruction in the use of contraceptives is given, it should be given by the kind of persons best suited by training and experience to give it scientifically and accurately. If everyone is permitted to impart information, those who receive it have no guaranty that it is correct or suitable to the individual's physical requirements. Incorrect, unscientific information may bring good results in some cases, but it is more likely to cause a vast amount of disappointment and anxiety in others.

A BILL WHICH WOULD authorize physicians, nurses and midwives to impart information would meet this need. These classes of persons are equipped with the physiological and other knowledge to make the results of contraceptives dependable.

A second point in favor of the Doctor's and Nurse's bill is that it brings the applicant for contraceptives into direct touch with the person giving the information. Thus, of course, means direct instructions, and specific information suitable to the individual case. It means that the important factors of health, physiological structure, temperament and economic condition can be considered and their requirements accurately met.

A third point that must not be overlooked is that under such a measure it would be possible to get statistics of cases handled, methods applied, and results obtained. Thus there will be no guesswork as to what methods are the most reliable for certain cases. Thus, too, will those who gave instruction improve upon present methods and develop new and superior ones. A system of disseminating information which depends largely upon neighbors, friends and kindly relatives is not likely to give the best results. Neither is it likely to improve present methods and develop more desirable ones. I do not believe it to be more advisable to have an amateur instructor in contraceptives than to rely upon an amateur dentist or surgeon.

THE LEGISLATIVE BUREAU of Columbia University, under the direction of Samuel McClure Lindsey, has drawn the following bill, which in a general way, covers the ground indicated:

"Sec. 1. Section 1145 of Chapter 88 of the laws of 1909, entitled 'An Act providing for the punishment of crime, constituting Chapter 40 of the Consolidated Laws,' is hereby amended to read as follows:

'1145 Physicians, instruments and information. An article or instru-
The Birth Control Review

ment used or applied by physicians lawfully practicing, or by their direction or prescription, for the care of prevention of disease, is not an article of indecent or immoral nature or use, within this article. The supplying of such articles to such physicians or by their direction or prescription is not an offense under this article. The giving by a physician or registered nurse lawfully practicing information or advice in regard to, or the supplying by any person of any article or medicine for, the prevention of conception, is not a violation of any provision of this article.

" This Act shall take effect immediately

With the inclusion of midwives among those authorized to impart information, I believe that this proposed amendment would be the best possible at this time. It would permit those in institutional and private practice and those in public health work to give freely and without fear of prose cuhn the information which is so sorely needed. These are my personal opinions, based upon my experience as a nurse and in the Birth Control movement. I believe, however, that the more these measures are discussed, the more suggestions are put forward, the better the results achieved in the end. I would suggest, therefore, that those interested, write their views to The Birth Control Review.

Young Japan for Birth Control

Mr. Keikichi Ishimoto, a young Japanese, has written the following letter in reply to the article "Babies and Imperialism in Japan," by Agnes Smedley, which appeared in the June issue of this magazine.

"Of course I have found very much interest in it, (the article) but I wish you will also acknowledge that nearly all the intelligent young people in Japan are in favor of Blah Control, though the government does not like it.

"I think it is my duty to inform Americans that there is a great gap between the ideas of young Japanese and old ones who have prominent positions now. Only the young Japanese can understand the true meaning of democracy, hate militarism, and believe in Birth Control. So I don't doubt the remarkable change of Japan, especially in spirit, in the past few years.

"As for me, I am very much in favor of Blah Control, and already have sent a few copies of The Birth Control Review to my friends in Japan, including a man in the Home Affairs Bureau. And I intend to recommend this doctrine throughout the country after my return one year later. I believe Japan can neither do anything harmful to human progress, nor improve her own country, without Birth Control."

Mr. Ishimoto left Japan last February, so is in a position to know the spirit of his own people. He assures us in a recent interview that America gets only the attitude of official Japan and cannot know of the new spirit of the masses of the Japanese people, which has changed with startling rapidity within the past two years. The Japanese are a well educated people, the literacy percentage being about 95 per cent. Although labor unions are illegal, new social thought is per meating society, and a transformation is bound to be completed within a few years.

The rate of women's progress may be gauged by articles in various journals. Feminism is gaining Impetus, as is shown by such headlines as "Japanese Housewives Must Awaken," "Women Must Be Modern," "Women Want Equality," and "School Girls Strike." A group of Tokyo women have started a new monthly magazine, entitled "The New Woman."

Some of the leaders in the new movement are Fuji Ueda, a student at the Japan Art School for Women, Miss Taka Takanashi, formerly a student at Stanford and Chicago Universities, and Mrs. Yano Yoshioka, director of the Tokyo Girls Medical College. Some of the reforms which they advocate are justice to women of America.

A side from these women one cannot forget the part played by young women a few years ago, before the Socialist societies were suppressed. Although forbidden by the police to attend public meetings, they walked side by side with their comrades, lecturing, distributing literature, organizing, and going to jail. A young woman, Suga Kanno, was secretly tried, with sixteen men comrades, and was sentenced to death. She died smilingly.

What this new movement among the women means remains to be seen. Within the past three months, at least a dozen young Japanese have called at The Birth Control Review office to investigate the movement and its methods of work, with the intention of returning to their own country to spread it there. There are no legal, religious or ethical obstacles in the way of its advancement. With the Japanese woman stepping out into the new day, the movement is bound to gain a secure foothold.

In England and in America

The Malthusian, of London, publishes a statement to the effect that the second edition of Dr. Marie Stopes' booklet on "The Parenthood," which gives contraceptive information, has been exhausted, and that the third edition is off the press. The Neo-Malthusian League itself circulates broadly similar practical leaflets on the same subject.

Yet while England, commonly considered the most prudish of nations, considers this a wise thing to do, America still clings to a decadent laws and sends to prison men and women who attempt to instruct women in the limitation of their families. These laws are not only an insult to the intelligence and decency of the American people, but they are confusing in their wording and implications and could have been framed only by ignorant minds.
Maternity—A Hazardous Occupation

By Ellen A. Kennan

As statistics of causes of death are available only for a certain portion of the United States, included in the so-called “death registration area,” which contains only about 65 per cent of the population, and since even these statistics are incomplete, owing to inefficiency of enforcement of existing laws, it is evident that the number of deaths from these causes is much underestimated. It is also probable that the death rate in the portions of the United States not included in the death registration area is much higher than in the 65 per cent of the population, and as the omitted portions are chiefly southern states and rural districts of the western states.

The method of computation of death rates which gives the clearest picture of the hazards of childbirth is that which takes into account only the women giving birth to children in that year. This is the method in use in a large number of foreign countries, but on account of the lack of accurate birth registration, it has not been used in computing rates for the United States. Only for states in the “provisional birth registration area” (this area includes only the New England States, Pennsylvania, Michigan, New York City and Washington, D.C.), and for one year, 1910, can death rates per 1,000 live births be given. Another cause of inaccuracy in the reports is that, frequently, for very obvious reasons, there is an intentional concealment of the real cause of the death.

In comparing returns from various years over long periods of time, differences in the constitution of the death registration area cause one of the most important difficulties, for the death registration area has been added to almost yearly, as registration has improved in various states and cities.

Another important source of error in the comparison of the death rates of various years is due to the improvements which have been made yearly in the accuracy of the returns of the cause of death, so that a seeming increase of the death rate in one year over that in another might mean nothing more than an improvement in the accuracy of the returns.

In the summary of the contents of the bulletin, the author says:

“The low standards at present existing in this country result chiefly from two causes: (1) General ignorance of the dangers connected with childbirth and of the need for proper hygiene and skilled care in order to prevent them. (2), difficulty in the provision of adequate care due to special problems characteristic of this country. Such problems vary greatly in the city and in the rural districts. In the city, in accessibility of any skilled care is a chief factor.”

As I read the summary, I felt that the most important point had been omitted, an explanation of the “special problems” mentioned. However, on reading further in the body of the general discussion, I found what I was looking for...
THE LARGER CITIES probably show a much higher rate among the less favored than among the more favored groups of their inhabitants. Overcrowding, over work, low incomes, ignorance of the need for good obstetrical care, and how it can be obtained, may all play then part in producing this high rate m the larger cities.

"In many cities also, much progress has been made in the provision, through obstetrical clinics and hospitals, of good obstetrical care, free or at low cost, for those who otherwise could not afford it. Yet even m a city well supplied with such clinics, the number of women reached is relatively small in comparison with the total number of women who bear their children without adequate care during pregnancy and labor.

"It is well known, moreover, that women of moderate means, who represent a very large proportion of women bearing children, have in most modern cities, received least benefits from improvements in standards of prenatal and obstetrical care. In working out plans for decreasing the death rate from childbirth in large cities, the interest of this group can not be ignored. The problem must be considered as one which must be solved for all classes in a community. It must be realized that it is a problem of the greatest importance to the community as a whole. A very hopeful tendency is the one shown already in some cities, to look upon such a service not as a charity, but as a concern of the municipality, as truly as the protection of its homes from fire and burglary, or its milk and water supply from contamination.

The final suggestion in the above quotation is most valuable, too valuable not to have been embodied in the general summary at the beginning of the report, for the general summary reaches a much wider circle of readers than the body of the report.

It would be useful to have statistics not only as to the economic situation of the families involved, but also as to the number of children and the number of pregnancies and births of the mother. May not too frequent pregnancies and bad economic conditions contribute largely toward a high maternal mortality? It is to be hoped, too, that statistics will be collected con-

TIMES is certainly reassuring to find Norway and Sweden with the lowest maternal mortality rate from all causes pertaining to childbirth, for these two countries lead the rest of Europe along so many lines of social endeavor. But why does Italy rank third on the list? It would not be surprising if only northern Italy were taken into consideration, but how about southern Italy, with its poverty and its ignorance? May it not be because the Ignorance and poverty are not accompanied by such a grinding factory system as that of the United States? At any rate, the United States stands fourteen in a group of the different foreign countries. Spain, Switzerland and Belgium stand at the bottom of the list. It would be interesting to speculate as to the causes. How about poverty and ignorance in these countries? What of labor conditions? How about information as to Birth Control? This is the sort of fact that would be helpful to know.

Attack on Mexican League

THE MEXICO BIRTH CONTROL LEAGUE has started a campaign which has aroused at least every thinking person in Mexico City, where its headquarters are located. It recently published Spanish and English editions and advertised extensively the practical pamphlets which are suppressed in the United States. The result was that the health commissioners raided the headquarters and seized a number of copies of the pamphlet. Mr. Linn A. E. Gale, president of the League, aided by two attorneys and a number of influential friends, took the case before the health department. It developed that the commission did not consider the book unlawful, but objected to the advertisement which it contained, of a drug which had violated the rules of the Druggists' Bureau of the Health Commission, by conducting his business without a license.

There are no laws against scientific contraceptive information in Mexico. But the editors of "El Universal", a daily newspaper supported by American capitalists, are making an effort to see that one is passed. The day following the raid on the League offices, this paper carried a front page photograph of Margaret Sanger, together with a two column article denouncing Birth Control as being "against the laws of God and nature."

The attack on the movement, however, was a splendid advertisement, and a tremendous demand for the book developed. Mr. Gale, president of the League and editor of Gale's magazine, which has been publishing articles taken from the Birth Control Review, writes as follows:

"Please give the Mexican government credit for its liberality, and make it plain that the affair is not a duplication of the persecution so universal in the United States. Of course, the aristocrats, the Catholic Church and the foreign capitalists are incensed, but the Carranza government fortunately is democratic enough not to listen to them a great deal."

"The Death Control Review"
Hard Facts

(Leaves from a Nurse's Note Book)

KATIE R—26 years old, married 7 years, 6 children. 6 years normal healthy 5 years normal healthy 4th child always sick, died when 3 years old 2½ years anaemic. 18 months anaemic. 3 months infantile baby—mother unable to nurse baby

Was serially ill with influenza pneumonia during her last pregnancy. Husband garment worker, work seasonal, average rate of wages, $18.20 per week.

Baby born at home. After convalescent period, this mother came to see me, said she was weak and dizzy all the time, was taken to doctor for special examination. Doctor reported that patient's abdominal muscles sagged, and this caused the dragged down, exhausted feeling. He advised abdominal support, abdominal belt provided, also patient was very anaemic. Tonic prescribed.

Katie, who was an intelligent, English speaking woman, asked the doctor if he could please advise her how to take care of herself so she could have some rest from having babies.

"Doctor," she said, "when I married seven years ago, I was a strong, healthy woman, but babies every year is more than I can stand!"

The doctor told her she was very sorry he would not advise her, as it was against the law—but told her she must "be careful!" Four weeks later a home visit made. Patient reports she feels much more comfortable since wearing belt, but still has dizzy spells, and faints at times.

"Oh! nurse, if I could only go away for a little while to have some rest. I have not had a good night's rest in five years. Look at me! Twenty six years old, and like a woman of 80 years. Since the day I went to see you I have not had my foot out of the house. Look at my home and children,—only half kept. Every time I work for half an hour, I most he down and rest for twenty to thirty minutes. When my baby was born the doctor said that was enough children and I must not get pregnant again. I was very weak, having had the serious illness—pneumonia—when I was in my sixth month of pregnancy. But he did not tell me how to care for and protect myself having another baby."

Then, in her own way she was trying to reason out why she should be wrong to tell her how to prevent having another baby, when the doctor himself told her she must not have another one,—that she could not stand it.

So we parted.

The woman broken in spirit dreading the future.

And I, discouraged, unable to lighten this woman's burden, envying the animals, as there are Dog and Horse Laws, to protect them—(Whoever heard of a lover of animals allowing them to be bred to death?) And at the same time, the woman's request, "give me a rest from bearing children," ignored.

MARY G—35 years, married 7 years, 4 children. Patient—a hunch back, contracted pelvis.

This patient came under my care when I was in training as a nurse. While having my obstetrical course, with an assistant nurse, I was sent to care for her in a congested part of the city.

We arrived at 7:30 A.M. The home consisted of three rooms, kitchen, dark bedroom and living room. Found a distracted husband and saw two small, ill children. Never shall I forget this small but deformed humanity, huddled on a couch in the living room. In all my training and experiences since, never have I seen a human being suffer as this woman did.

Begged her to go to the hospital, there was still time, but no, she was afraid of hospitals and would stay at home.

Told her we were going to send for the doctor, she was so exhausted. But she begged not yet. "I always suffer like this for three days and they then take the baby with instruments." Nevertheless, sent my assistant back to the hospital to report the patient was exhausted and to send a doctor. Doctor arrived, examination made. Returned to hospital, arrangements made, my assistant to go to corner drug store and wait for or doctors from hospital after doctor had given report. In due time, orders came: Prepare for high forces (In tenement homes we rubbed the windows with bon am so the neighboring people could not see in).

While waiting for the doctors to come, this wonderful, heroic, deformed little mother told a at intervals how she suffered in having her babies and each one, as they came, was harder to bear.

Her first baby, 6 years, apparently normal. Third baby, a crippled child, died, 4½ years, undernourished, anaemic. Mother was glad, as she might have grown up and suffered as she did. Infant born—puny little mortaal, one wondered how so small a piece of humanity could cause such suffering.

Doctors came. Patient, owing to malformation, an interesting study. Though this happened some years ago, I have never forgotten the fortune of this woman, while we were trying to encourage her by telling her the doctors would soon come, and they would give her help, and she would not suffer much longer. She said, "Children! I don't care if I do die— I never want another child, it is too much for the doctors to go away and just let me suffer and have babies. I am so tired I wish I could die now!" Patient—very ill, made a poor recovery.

About four years later, while working in the same district, a woman stopped me on the street and said, "Are you not the nurse who took care of Mary G, the little hunch back?" I was indeed glad that the woman had spoken to me, as I had often wondered what had become of my patient.
Learned she had suffered much, and about a year and a half afterwards had become pregnant again—performed an *abortion* on herself and died from blood poisoning. The injustice of it all was deeply impressed upon me, but did not just under stand how to express the great need that women should have right to say if they wished to become mothers.

Also, doctors and nurses ought to be allowed to impart the knowledge to save human beings from such dreadful suffering as this woman had to go through, and in the end, through ignorance and despair, lost her life.

Since I now understand what birth control means, and as I look back on this case from a humane standpoint, it ought to have been the doctor’s duty to instruct this woman to safe guard herself.

Bella G—35 years, married 10 years, 8 children, 4 living children, last child born a cripple.

Mother very ill for some weeks and unable to nurse child. Child brought to hospital when one day old. But parents took little interest in child, visiting seldom.

Home visit made, asked mother to come for baby as it was not doing well, doctors said it needed mother’s care. Mother claimed she was still too ill to care for child.

Four weeks later a second home visit made, mother again appealed to, to take some interest in child, again replied she could not take the child home—unable to care for it.

Two weeks later—Father notified to call and see me so I could make some arrangement to take the child to a special inst. After a week’s time he called, but the infant had grown so much worse that it was only a matter of a short time to the end of the journey. A blessing for the little, unwanted child. The man, when spoken to about not responding to the requests to come to the hospital, said, “Well, I could not take the baby home—my wife is always sick and cannot care for the three children home now, and I can hardly make a living, and this mouth do not know how I am going to pay the $6.00 rent.”

“And yet,” I said to him, “You go right on increasing the family—unable to support them.”

“Well,” What am I to do about it?” was the reply given, “why don’t you teach us to limit our family?” Earning capacity, $15.00 18.00 per week.

Maggie D, 26 years, 6 years married, 4 children, 1 miscarriage, 5 years, 3½ years, 2 years and 6 months.

Recently, while making some home visits, a mother sitting on a tenement house stoop called, “Nurse, want a minute. I want to see you!”. Thinking she wanted to speak to me about the white-faced child she had by the hand, I wanted. When she came up she said,

“Don’t you remember me, Maggie D? Don’t you remember coming to my house when Jennie was a baby, and making me go to the milk station to have the baby weighed every week? The nurse taught me how to care for the baby and I have gone there with all my babies and I have four now I called you to ask you, where I can go for lessons how to care for my self?”

Asked her why she did not come back to the hospital to have her other babies, replied, for home reasons.

“Maggie, you have grown old since I first knew you.”

“Well, the babies have come quicker than they were well come. My man broke his leg two years ago and that set us back. This winter there was a strike on for 8 or 10 weeks (dock hand), and we had barely enough to eat, and very often no coal, fortunately the winter was mild, my neighbor was in the same fix that I was. So every other day she lighted the stove and cooked, and then the next day she came to my home.

NOW THAT MY MAN IS WORKING, and we thought would be better—we a notice move—the building is to be torn down and a storehouse built.

“I have heard there is a nurse who teaches women how not to have too many babies—when you cannot care for them—I heard them talk about her at the mother’s club.”

“Well, what do they say at the mother’s club about having babies?” I asked.

“Well, we all like our babies, but would like them much better if they didn’t all come in a bunch. My baby is a bottle baby and I am so afraid of becoming pregnant again and we cannot afford another baby.

“You are a nurse, can’t you tell me—for the children’s sake, help me.”

Vicious Legislation

Pennsylvania must need more poorly paid labor, more asemic factory hands, more feeble minded persons and more human deraets of all kinds, judging from House Bill 376, now under consideration.

This bill virtually forbids any resident of the State of Pennsylvania to permit his mind to dwell upon the subject of Birth Control. It was, of course, introduced by a man, Mr. Hickernell, and is the same measure as that sponsored by the Roman Catholic church two years ago. At that time the Governor vetoed it. At present time the Bill is before the Public Health and Sanitation Committee, the chairman of which is a physician who has granted audiences to a large number of protesting women, among them physicians, social workers, and workers in the Birth Control movement. The legislature will soon adjourn, so the measure may not get to a vote this year.

The vital part of the Bill reads,

“That any person who shall disseminate or impart or attempt to disseminate or impart information or knowledge tending to interfere with or diminish the number of births of human beings in this Commonwealth either by advertisement or lecture, or by distribution or sale or circulation of written or printed matter shall be guilty of a m - n or and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine of not less than two hundred fifty dollars ($250) or more than one thousand dollars ($1,000) or imprisonment for a period of not less than three (3) months nor more than one (1) year or both.”
Under this law, the Birth Control Review could not circulate in Pennsylvania. But under the Federal law, it can, since the magazine has second class mailing privileges. Under the law, any person with a vision of a better, healthier and finer humanity would be imprisoned. Such measures as this could not be formulated by persons who know the meaning of human suffering, but only by those to whom human beings are but pawns in the game of modern industrialism. The poignant realities of struggling mankind, attempting to build a better and saner world are, to them, but objects of derision and hate. Any man or woman in Pennsylvania who will obey the mandates of such feudal minded dictators must he either a coward, or dead to the spirit of the men who framed the constitution which the new Pennsylvania Bill repudiates—A S

At Social Workers' Convention

A SPECIAL MEETING of the various Birth Control or organizations was held in Atlantic City on June 5, during the National Conference of Social Work. The meeting was called in the Presbyterian church, under the auspices of the Child Welfare section and, although but a small notice was given in the daily bulletin of the convention, a large and deeply interested audience of social workers from all parts of the nation was in attendance. Miss Helen Todd, representing The Birth Control Review, Mrs Munturn Pinchot and Mrs Frances Bjorkman, representing the National Birth Control League, and Mrs Mary Ware Dennett, representing the Voluntary Parenthood Association not only spoke in half of the work of their respective organizations, but sold within a few hours all the literature on hand. Mrs Frank B. Watson, of the Child Welfare Section, arranged for the gathering.

The attitude of the social workers was frankly sym pathetic. As Mrs. Florence Kelly, speaking for the Industrial Section, said, “whether you believe in Birth Control or not, it is a burning question and can never be ignored.” Dr. Campbell, from Johns Hopkins University, spoke of the unfortunate nervous effects which he found in his patients because of the false idea implanted in their minds that any effort to prevent having children was wrong and immoral. His statement that this inhibition should be removed, for the welfare of the race, voiced the sentiment of the most advanced physicians today. But his remarks that contraceptive information was available to the majority of civilized people called forth a murmur of dissent from his audience. Dr. Campbell exhibited frank surprise when his ideas were denounced by Mrs Pinchot, who following his address, read letters of despair and appeal which had come to her and to Mrs Sanger. She also related experiences of Birth Control workers, nurses and physicians. Her address furnished convincing proof that what the rich women can obtain is denied to the poor.

Miss Todd, speaking for The Birth Control Review, also spoke of the need of clinics which would remove from the minds of women, particularly of the working class, the cloud of fear which hangs over them that they will be driven to reproduce the undernourished and the unfortunate.

Mrs. Dennett's address described the laws which prevent all intelligent understanding of the reproductive forces of life, and of the need for their removal. Dr. Kate Baldwin, of Philadelphia, one of the most ardent workers in the cause of Birth Control, added to the evidence by facts gleaned from her long medical practice.

After a general discussion of the subject by the social workers, a vote to have the subject of Birth Control put on the official calendar of the National Conference of Social Work for the next year was unanimously carried, and a petition to the management that this be done was signed by practically every person in the audience.

National League Activities

The National Birth Control League, with headquarters at 200 Fifth Avenue, has begun a drive for members among the Suffragists and Feminists, and is making determined efforts to secure endorsement of the proposed Birth Control legislation from women's organizations, and to have the measure included in their programs of work.

In its program of publicity the League conducted a booth at the Call Bazaar, held from May 29th to June 1st, where literature was distributed and the petitions to Congress and the State legislature circulated. It also plans to start extensive propaganda among the people of New York State, in order to build up public sentiment before the convening of the New York State legislature in January, when Birth Control bills will be introduced. It has been conducting a series of meetings, at which Mrs. Munturn Pinchot has addressed large numbers of women.

The League was represented at Atlantic City at the National Conference of Social Work by both Mrs. Pinchot, and Mrs. Frances Bjorkman, the secretary. Mrs. Pinchot's speech was simple, direct and convincing. Mrs. Bjorkman made a straight appeal to social workers. In part, she said: "I feel very sure, although I am not a social worker, that a great many of your most practical and capable people must quietly, and despite of the law, give whatever instructions may seem necessary and advisable. But how much more dignified and efficient it would be if when we were sending the children with defective eyes to the oculist, and the people with tuberculous to the tuberculous camp, we could also send to a decent clinic the woman who is having more babies than she can possibly look after, or who is producing diseased or defective babies merely to become public charges, or who is producing babies only to lose her own health and capacity for self support, to receive scientific examination and expert advice."
The Bishop of Birmingham, England, who is also president of the Nat-ona Council of Public Morals and chairman of the English Nat-ona Birth Rate Commission, has come out in favor of Birth Control. The prelate, in his capacity as chairman of The Nat-ona Birth Rate Commission, pointed out that marriage has a spiritual as well as a procreative function and that it is immoral to bring into the world children whom it is impossible to give "proper upbringing." He asked objectors to Birth Control if it is not possible that there is "most danger in leaving things as they were?"

The Nat-ona Birth Rate Commission has been conducting a most exhaustive inquiry into the British popular-opprobrium and related matters. Many members of the English clergy have been giving careful study to popular-opprobrium Birth Control questions. Among the more famous ones whose activities have been heard of on this side of the Atlantic is Dean Inge, of St Paul's, one of the most widely known churchmen in England. Like a number of other influential clergymen, he has been a staunch and vigorous advocate of the movement.

Under the title "The Ethics of Birth Control," Dr. C. Killick Millard, public health officer for Leicester, who is also a champion of the Birth Control movement, has made a leaflet of the London Times' report of the Bishop of Birmingham's utterances. The Times said:

"The National Birth Rate Commission resumed consideration of the problem of 'Birth Control' yesterday, "The president, the Bishop of Birmingham, said that the cry of many social reformers was for a greater increased birth rate. But what a nation needed was not an unlimited number of citizens, but a sufficient number of the best quality, as well as eugenically right for people in certain circumstances to use harmless means to control the birth rate."

"The most unsatisfactory feature in regard to this matter was that childbearing was prolific, generally speaking, only in the very classes in which the children often did not get a fair opportunity of life, while in the sections of the population where there were good prospects of ensuring a healthy upbringing, control was carefully exercised."

"It was contended by objectors to Birth Control that the object of marriage being the production of children, preventive measures were necessarily wrong. The great Roman Catholic Church, with its magnificence decisiveness, admitted of no compromise except one, and the Anglican Bishops had so far taken the same line. The Jewish Church was also emphatic on the matter, but the Nonconformist Churches had not spoken formally. The reply to the argument used might be that the procreation of children was not the only object of matrimony, and there was surely a dishonoring of that very object to have children born when not wished for by both parties.

"Had not the sexual association of married people a spiritual meaning which must be placed first in all definitions of it? It was surely the culminating expression of the love of the two who had become one flesh. It brought with it the creation of a child which was the combination of the two natures, but it need not be an imperfect union if on occasion, for high and pure motives, there was a sacrifice of this particular result of married love. It might be true to say that if all the full duties of motherhood, particularly lactation, were carried out, the normal family would be moderate in number and reasonably spaced, but unhappily something in present day conditions seemed to render many women unable to do what every true mother longed to be capable of. It was immoral to avoid having children from selfish motives, but it was surely also immoral to have child after child under circumstances which, humanly speaking, were such as to render the proper upbringing of such children impossible."

"Among the decisions as to Birth Control which probably would be agreed upon by all concerned in a discussion about the subject were that it was wrong in every way to use any preventive means after there was even a suspicion that conception might have taken place, that it was wrong for diseased persons to bear children who might have transmitted to them any physical or mental taint, that it was wrong to use preventive means which could injure the health of either of the persons concerned, and that if it was the duty of the State to see that every mother, before and after the birth of her child, should have for herself and her husband the care they needed, the State could not excuse in any way the husband and wife.

"It was a fact that Birth Control did take place often by evil means, while numberless unwanted children were born. No one would deny that some control was desirable, but some would say that there would be eventually a lowering of the whole moral standard if it were permitted. Might it not be possible that there was most danger in leaving things as they were? True sex teaching and sound religious instruction as to marriage, with an appeal to the higher patriotism, would probably prevent the abuse of Birth Control."

Catholic Clergymen Too

The English clergy are not the only ecclesiastics who are advocating Birth Control. About the same time that Dr. Millard's leaflet showing the stand of the Bishop of Birmingham reached the Birth Control Review, there came two highly interesting letters. One was from a member of an or
der of the Roman Catholic Church. It reads

Mrs. Sanger

It is rather a roundabout way to get news of you, as I did this morning, per the "Mailman" of London. I was at death's door recently and never expected to write you again. But the powers of good have given me a new lease of life.

But while I live I shall ever advocate Birth Control as the greatest antidote to poverty. I am going on 73 now, and I suppose I shall have to cross over the Great Divide ere long. Meanwhile I am going to beg two favors of you. First, to give me what you find to be the beat Birth Control method. I am often asked for this aid from Armenians, Slovones, and Serbs, but cannot tell what I don't know.

The second is any back numbers of the American Birth Control Review you can spare. I haven't seen one for over a year. I was promised Mr. Hardy's illustrated book on Methods of Birth Control but it was slopped en route from Paris.

My young Bishop who is as poor as myself, is also in sympathy with you and the cause.

The fight is glorious and you will finally come off victorious. Thank kindly of the old monk who is tediously convalescing and who is ever Faithfully yours,

THE OTHER LETTER was from a clergyman of the Polish National Reformed Old Catholic Church. It is as follows.

Dean Editor

I am a Polish National Reformed Old Catholic Clergyman that has been working for over thirty years in this country among foreign population. The experience I had is pathetic, in seeing young women over hardened with family worse than the animals. Comparatively young women are mothers of 12, 16, and 18 children. I know a woman who had 25 and can quote many other instances. The result is lunacy, insanity, premature death. I know of girls of 14, 15, and 16 being forced into marriage and motherhood. Some mothers are suggesting this to their children—girls often exposed to temptations and dangers, sometimes by force.

I have heard of your publication along these lines. Would you not send me a sample why which I would certainly appreciate.

Yours truly,

Health Officer Wants Clinics

Dr. KILICK MILLARD, Medical Officer of Health for Leicester, England, has entered the fight for Birth Control clinics within the British Isles. His articles have been appearing in London dailies and weeklies.

"My remedy is Birth Control," he says frankly in a recent interview in the National News. "A knowledge of this ought to be made available for all who desire it." In Holland, they have regular Birth Control clinics, recognized by the State, where mothers can get practical instruction from young practical doctors. I should like to see one or more similar Birth Control Clinics started in this country.

The Rights of the Children

As a matter of fact, each child must suffer as the result of the social inequality under which he comes into the world. Born in poverty, he is deprived of care, nourishment, sweetness, play, sunlight, pleasure. Even in his first years, which should be ennobled with grace, beauty and tenderness, this delicate, sensitive creature already knows the rude hand of adversity.

Just look at him in his clogs, wearing the ill-cut dress or apron which bears the stamp of charity. Go to the school, seek there for the art and the charm which should serve as a frame to accustom their young eyes to a conception of the beautiful. Taste the infected food which runs their stomachs. Go to the founding hospitals. Seek, but you will seek in vain, for the cares, the cradle songs, the consoling kisses which should enshrine the life of the little ones.

"Dear Children, Women, hear children, working women," is the cry of the ancient reactionaries in the Senate, while they vote millions for death. What do they vote for life? Nothing! The child of the proletarian must thrive somehow, must be brought up, and educated, but he must not cost the capitalist class a cent. When he is grown, he must furnish them with the strength of his arms, the light of his intelligence, and the rampart of his breast.

Let the mothers and the women raise their voices at last and proclaim the rights of their children.

It is not gifts, loans, charity that they must demand, but a normal income by a living birth. The child, and in creasing year by year, an income which will permit the child to develop all of his faculties completely up to the tune that he is able to work.

We claim for our children the right to a free and happy life.

Speaking of Clinics

In order to preserve the health of soldiers who are being demobilized, the United States Public Health Service and the Department of Health of New York City have established thirty seven venereal disease clinics in Greater New York. These clinics are for the benefit of persons who have contracted a venereal disease. But neither the federal government nor the City of New York has yet established a clinic at which a woman suffering from one of these diseases may receive contraceptive information in order that she may not give birth to infected children.

WANTED

Woman (teacher) with two children of tender age, wishes to get in touch with some one who can assist her in locating a home for herself and children, where she can be assured that the children will properly be cared for during her absence. Wants to live with human folks who are not afraid of their own thoughts, and who are interested in child welfare from the standpoint of enlightened thinkers. People who are not speaking terms with Mrs. Grundy. Location must be in Greater New York. Address Mrs. I. S. Hudes, 26 Rogers Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.
"A Damnably Cruel Dilemma?"

DEAR MADAM —

Coming to New York after six years absence, I accidentally found on sale near Times Square the May issue of your very readable publication. For the first time I became acquainted with the magnificent, civilizing work you are doing and I want to enroll myself as a member.

The cause you fight for is now a very vital one to the destiny of my two children and myself. You may or may not be in position to help me, save my wife for the family. I really have no right to burden you—an absolute stranger—with the recital of a story which is altogether too familiar to you. It is a family tragedy. But your editorial impresses me so strongly that you are a very, very human person that I cannot resist the temptation to tell it to you.

Very succinctly stated as follows: My wife is the mother of two children. By contact, presumably in the primary school, both children became tubercular some three years ago. After several years of heroic nursing and debilitative responsibility on their mother, both children in recent months have been pronounced "as having their lung lesions healed." Both, of course, require unusual care and are a source of constant anxiety to their mother, a high bred, high strung woman.

ABOUT SIX YEARS ago my wife underwent a major operation — three of which were pelvic. The gynecologist, Dr. — of Brooklyn, after dismissing her from the hospital, cautioned her emphatically that "if you have another child it will be dangerous." Only a common but no means sure preventive was given her. A few weeks ago she became pregnant. In alarm she went to her physician in the country town where for the three years she has lived to keep the child under prescribed climatic environments. This doctor is quite cognizant of the probable effect of another childbirth upon her health — if she survives it. He knows the nature of her former operations as he is also a gynecologist of no mean ability. This man dismisses her tragic problem with what he terms her "personal" opinion as follows:

"Mrs. H., if you can find a doctor who can abort you safely, don't continue this pregnancy. But don't go to a quack. No. I can't and won't do it for you. What I have advised, is not my professional opinion. I know you can have the child."

And Dr. — claiming that my wife has not been his patient for six years, also refuses "to interfere in the case," and that "this is property the job for the doctor whose patient she is," and that the other doctor is simply "passing the buck to him."

THE STAND of the shrewed, souled scoundrel who divorces his personal opinion in this tragic matter from his professional opinion and says "you can't compel me because I have the civil and moral law back of me" has bound my wife to the helpless inevitable. If I don't lose my wife I will probably be left with a hopeless invalid and two or three delicate children.

Is there no way out of this damnably cruel dilemma? Are there no physicians with a proper sense of values and real morality instead of self-righteous hypocrisy who will interfere in her case and stop this brutal tragedy? Surely there must be such a gynecologist in New York who will listen to reason. But how to find him, I know not. She is "not their patient," the common excuse.

R W H Jr.

New York City

Appealing Hands

Little hands, little hands,
Wheresoe'er you be,
Little hands, little hands,
Stretched appealingly.

Little ones, nameless ones,
Would that I could give,
To each one a welcome,
And a chance to live.

Little hands, little hands,
Hands so lily white,
Woul that I could keep you,
Pure in heaven's sight.

Would that I could hold you,
From cruel toil apart,
Would that I could shield you,
From greedy labor mart.

Little hands, feeble hands,
Groping helplessly,
Would that I could clasp you,
In bond of sympathy.

Would that I could grant you,
In life a sweeter part,
Would that I could find you,
Each a mother's heart.

Little hands, little hands,
Empty of all toys,
Would that I could bring you,
Childhood's real joys.

Hands of the neglected,
Hands so bruised and torn,
Better life had spared you.
The grief of being born.
Book Reviews

CHILD WELFARE IN OKLAHOMA IN ALABAMA, IN NORTH CAROLINA Published in three volumes by the National Child Labor Committee. Price $1.00 each.

How are we going to secure to all children a fair and equal start in life? Some say by means of Birth Control some through child labor prevention, some through fairer educational opportunities, others confine themselves to relief measures such as the securing of mothers' pensions, good housing, adequate institutions. The three volumes under consideration represent an effort to stimulate the securing of justice to children through the correlating of various activities, "to develop the thesis that a child in order to enjoy the fullest possible opportunity to grow into complete manhood and womanhood, must have the fullest possible measure of care through the properly coordinated functions of the state. It is not enough that these functions be performed separately, each independently of the others—their interrelations must be recognized and this can be most easily done from the commanding viewpoint of the state itself.

The surveys were made at the invitation of social or educational agencies in the different states, the first two under the direction of Dr. E. N. Clopper, the third under that of Mr. W. H. Swift, both of the staff of the National Child Labor Committee. It is announced that a third volume on Kentucky, in preparation. Each subject studied—health, education, child labor, institutions, juvenile courts etc.—has been taken up carefully and each law or institution revealed as they exist now—not as laws and institutions show that they should exist but as the administration of these laws and institutions makes them. They are accompanied by definite recommendations for improvements in laws, institutions, and administration.

It is not only erring human nature that these reports disclose. The laws in many cases form a good ground work for inconsistency and ineffectiveness. In Oklahoma, for instance, which is blessed with a large homogeneous rural population, school attendance is compulsory for children between the ages of 8 and 16 for only two thirds of the time. School is in session. Investigation disclosed that the fact that attendance is enforced even for a shorter period due to defects in the school system itself. North Carolina has a law forbidding the marriage of mental defectives, but it imposes no penalty upon the clergyman officiating at such a marriage in deep going conditions as they exist today—not as laws and institutions show that they should exist but as the administration of these and institutions makes them. They are accompanied by definite recommendations for improvements in laws, institutions, and administration.

Typically southern conditions and problems are revealed in the Alabama volume. The little boys who sell pies to the soldiers at camp, sitting on the dusty curbs with their uncovered pies the Montgomery youngster selling extras at noon who when asked why he was not in school, said—"When there is an extra out they call up the principal from the newspaper office and she lets us out at noon!" are examples of a general lack of regard for the values of human life, especially of childhood to which we are all too prone.

It is interesting to learn just what result these studies have brought forth. In Oklahoma the winter five out of twelve child welfare bills were passed among them four recommended in the Committee's survey. In North Carolina a child labor bill was passed as well as a juvenile court law (recommended in the report on that state) and it is expected that progressive measures will also go through before the adjournment of the legislature. Perhaps the most important, from the point of view of the object sought by the Committee, was the passage of a bill creating a Children's Code Commission for Oklahoma—a body of three experts who will study the existing laws and their administration, and report back to the legislature their findings, with recommendations for the correlating and standardizing of laws relating to children. Laws are not everything, and the is an arousing public opinion that these surveys will accomplish the most that they have already done so as evident in the action taken by several legislatures. It is not one reform—child labor, the care of orphans, the securing of mothers' pensions, or an increase in educational facilities—that is the purpose of these surveys, but an appreciation of the fact that all these problems are one, that you can't touch upon child labor without thinking seriously about mothers' pensions and the means for seeing that every child that comes into the world comes into it unharmed by a heritage of disease and poverty. They disclose facts, they are very human in viewpoint, and they are technical as well in that they provide workers with the means of putting them hopes for children into effect.

Ruth McAlpine

THE KINGDOM OF THE CHILD By Alice Minnie Hert Henniger E. P. Dutton 173 pp Price $1.50 Mrs. Henniger has chosen a delightful title, full of biblical reminiscence and spiritual significance. Drama to Mrs. Henniger is the way of bringing the child out of the child himself, the spiritual qualities, soul stuffs and histories which will serve to re-educate, re-motivate and adjust his life. Never is this accomplished by imitation; she emphatically states and restates but by absorption and study and living the characters to he acted.

We would recommend it to every teacher and especially to every mother and father interested in the development of children in this b e moved to be discovered. Age 11 is therefore a high time, says Stanley Hall in the introduction for the real psychological, moral, civic and religious value of the dramatic instinct to he adequately set forth.

This is what the author has done and from her multi-national child player, her experience and her deductions are of real value. This book will do the reader good as well as the child for whom it is ultimately designed. It is written con amore and for that reason gets under the skin.

E. B. Parson

BOOKS RECEIVED

Sex Lore By Mrs. S. Herbert Macmillan Co., 147 pp Price $3.00

The Woman Question By Ellen Key, Havelock Ellis, G. Lowes Dickinson Boni & Liveright Inc., 229 pp Price 70c

PAMPHLETS RECEIVED

Bulletin of New York School of Social Work, 105 E 22nd St N Y 32 pp

Case for India By Sovernment in America, 7 E 15th St., N Y 4 pp Price 5c

Crucifers and Crucified By Theodore Price, New Wharf Alvichazz, Worcestershire, England 163 pp 50c

More Light from Korea By Korean Independence League Philadelphia 12 pp


Practical Methods to Insure Success H. W. Butler, Applegate, Cal. 129 pp Price 25c


Social Amelioration and Eugenic Progress By Professor S. J. Holmes Reprinted from Science, January 1919 31 pp

The Approaching Extinction of the Mayflower Descendants By Professor S. J. Holmes and C. M. Doud Reprinted from Journal of Heredity, Nov 1918 Washington, D. C. 5 pp

Workers Unite Dr. Mane D. Equi, Portland Oregon 8 pp

The Law of Population, Its Consequences and Its Bearing Upon Human Conduct and Morals, By Anne Besant Sold by B. C. R 73 pp Price 25 cents
The Malthusian Doctrine Today

By C V Drysdale, D Sc

(Continued from last issue)

The last of the inferential proofs of the doctrine of pressure of population upon subsistence is given by the all-important Darwinian theory, the human application of which is still so little understood. Although Malthus only concreted his attention upon the problem of human overpopulation, his main argument obviously applied (usually with much greater force) to every form of life. The rate of reproduction of the majority of plants and animals is enormous, and the proportion of offspring which arrive at maturity and only the of old age extremely small. Were we able to investigate the correlation of birth and death rates in the lower animals and vegetables we should find it extraordinarily high.

It was reserved for Darwin, who published his "Origin of Species" in 1859, to make the great generalization of the Malthusian law of population which has revolutionized the whole of biology. His acknowledgment of the principle of Malthus (like that of his co-discoverer, Russell Wallace), is explicit. Thus in the introduction to the "Origin of Species" he says —

In the next chapter the struggle for existence amongst all organic beings throughout the world, which inevitably follows from the high geometrical ratio of their increase, will be treated of. This is the doctrine of Malthus applied to the whole animal and vegetable kingdom. As many more individuals of each species are born than can possibly survive, and as, consequently, there is a frequently recurring struggle for existence, it follows that every being, if it vary however slightly in any manner profitable to itself, under the complex and varying conditions of life, will have a better chance of surviving, and thus be naturally selected. From the strong principle of inheritance, any selected variety will tend to propagate its new and modified form.

Turning to Chapter III, "Struggle for Existence," we find these words, which ought to be engraved in large letters in all halls where social questions are discussed —

"Nothing is easier than to admit in words the truth of the universal struggle for life, or more difficult—at least I have found it so—than constantly to bear in mind. Yet unless it be thoroughly engraved in the mind, I am convinced that the whole economy of nature, with every fact on distribution, rarity, abundance, extinction, and variation, will be dimly seen or quite misunderstood. We behold the face of nature bright with gladness, we often see superabundance of food, we do not see, or we forget that the birds which are so delightfully singing around us mostly live on insects or seeds, and are thus constantly destroying life, or we forget how largely these songsters, or their eggs, or their nestlings, are destroyed by birds and beasts of prey, we do not always bear in mind, that though food may be now superabundant, it is not so at all seasons of each recurring year."

And a little later —

A struggle for existence invariably follows from the high rate at which all organic beings tend to increase. Every being, which during its lifetime produces several eggs or seeds, must suffer destruction during some period of its life, and during some season or occasional year, otherwise on the principle of geometrical increase, as numbers would

---

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quickly become so. Ordinarily great that no country wuld support the product. Hence, as more individuals are produced than can possibly survive, there must in every case be a struggle for existence, either one individual with another of the same species, or with the individuals of distinct species, or with the physical conditions of life. It is the doctrine of Malthus applied with manifold force to the whole animal and vegetable kingdoms, for in no case there can be no artificial increase of food, and no prudential restraint from marriage. Although some species may be now increasing, more or less rapidly, in numbers, all cannot do so, for the world would not hold them.

There is no exception to the rule that every organic being naturally increases at so high a rate, that if not destroyed, the earth would soon be covered by the progeny of a single pair. Even slow breeding man has doubled in twenty five years, and at this rate in a few thousand years there would literally not be standing room for his progeny. The elephant is reckoned the slowest breeder of all known animals, and I have taken some pains to estimate its probable minimum rate of natural increase: it will be under the mark to say that it breeds when thirty years old and goes on breeding till ninety years old. Bringing forth three pairs of young in six months, if this be so, at the end of the fifth century there would be alive fifteen million elephants, descended from the first pair.

The elephant is reckoned the slowest breeder of all known animals, and I have taken some pains to estimate its probable minimum rate of natural increase.

Birth Control Organizations

IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES

The Federation of Neo-Malthusian Leagues
Dr Alice Drysdale Vickery, President

IN THE UNITED STATES.

ANN ASTRON. MICH. - Mrs. L. A. Rindall, 1218 Forest Court, BOSTON, MASS. - Charles P. Loomis, 40 Central Street

BROOKLYN, N.Y. - Dr. P. L. Leach, 326 Western Avenue

CHICAGO, ILL. - The Citizens Committee on Family Limitation, Secretary, Mrs. E. D. Page, 521 Longwood Avenue, Evanston.

CLEVELAND, OHIO. - The Birth Control League of Ohio, Mrs. A. W. Newman, 10001 Ashbury Avenue, secretary

DETROIT, MICH. - Mrs. Jesse A. Rau, 219 Brooklyn Avenue

ELIZABETH CINN., N. J. - Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Saunders

FRESNO, CALIF. - George A. Herrick, 2496 Reed Street

LOS ANGELES, CAL. - Dr. E. W. C. Loh, 954 East 66th Street

MIDDLETOWN, CONN. - Dr. William A. Maloney, 548 5th Street, secretary

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN. - The Minneapolis Birth Control League, Mrs. Helen C. Thomson, 1208 Vincent Avenue, N., secretary

NEW ORLEANS, LA. - H. H. Goodfield, 426 Delacroix Street

NEW YORK

The Committee of One Thousand, Dr. J. S. Wile, 230 W. 97th Street, chairman

International Birth Control League, Dr. Wm. J. Robinson, President, 12 Mt. Morris Park West

THE LAST EXAMPLE of the elephants is interesting, as this rate of reproduction is considerably below that of human beings, and yet gives this enormous increase in a comparatively short time. At this rate, if we take the population of England and Wales five hundred years ago as about two millions, it would have reached fifteen million millions today.

Darwin clearly saw that these enormous rates of reproduction were quite ineffective in promoting rapid increase — the only difference between organisms which annually produce eggs or seeds by the thousands, and those which produce extremely few, is that the slow breeders would require a few more years to people, under unfavorable conditions, a whole district let it be ever so large. The wander lays a couple of eggs and the ostrich a score, and yet in the same country the condor may be the more numerous of the two, the Fulmar pelagic lays but one egg, yet it is believed to be the most numerous bird in the world.

This may be commended to the attention of our militarist and imperialist fanatics, whose zeal for the populating of our Empire leads them to advocate higher birth rates regardless of the subsistence problem (To be continued in next issue).