MARGARET SANGER IN JAPAN

SONS AND NIECE OF BARONESS ISHIMOTO

BIRTH CONTROL IN MEXICO

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HOLLAND (1885)—Dr. Nieuw Malthussche Bond Secretary,
Dr. J. Rutgers, 9 Verhulststraat, Den Haag Periodical, Het
Gellukkig Buigess. Dutch

GERMANY (1889)—Gemeinschaft der Fortschrittliche Vereine Secretary, Herr
M. Hausmeister, Stuttgart. Periodical, Der Malthusianer. German

BOHEMIA-CECHOSLOVAKIA (1901)—Secretary, Michael Kacha,
1164 Zizkov Prague Periodical, Zadruhy. Czech

SPAIN (1904)—Liga Espaol de Regeneracion Humana Secretary,
Santo Municipal, Madrid, 117, Pala, Madrid. Spanish

BRAZIL (1905)—Secesao Brasileira de Propaganda Secretaria,
Manuel Moscosa, Rua do Bento Pires 29, Sao Pablo, Antonio
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BELGIUM (1906)—Ligue Neo-Malthusienne Secretary, Dr. Fer
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THE NEW GENERATION

(Successor to the Malthusian, founded 1876)

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Mrs. B. T. Drysdale

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US.

Blood and Iron

The dogged resistance of the Russian workers of factory and farm, together with the pressing need of the world for peace and reconstruction, has forced the diplomats and the powers they represent to abandon their policy of "Blood and Iron" toward Soviet Russia.

Further than that, some of the hostile governments have been shamefully appropriating funds for the relief of the many millions of famine sufferers in Russia. This change toward benevolence, strongly tinged though it be with tardiness and mistrust, is a welcome change, but after all their heart is not in the work and they are anxious to abandon it at the first pretext.

What else could be the meaning of current reports that, "the back of the famine having been broken," it will not be necessary to expend all of the money appropriated for relief? A moment's consideration of actual conditions in the vast famine areas will reveal the cruelty of discontinuing relief efforts now.

Millions upon millions of Russia's peasant people, though rescued from starvation by a meager daily dole, are still broken in health by the long ordeal and sadly shaken in spirit. The fearful ravages of civil war still mar great stretches of their lands and the blockade has denied them farming implements, while the little they had has largely turned to scrap iron. In the rest of the country the farmers are living from hand to mouth and the city population is on the verge of complete exhaustion, weakened by the prolonged diet of inferior black bread and cabbage soup.

Who that has vision and heart would leave them now unaided in their misery to face such a desperate situation?

What then shall be done? Shall we continue to feed these millions indefinitely? No, by no means! But if we are truly humane, we will continue to assist them until they are strong enough to face the struggle of life with fair chance of victory. And if we have vision, we will realize that they cannot succeed without the modern farming implements that would enable them to extract from the soil a thousand loaves where they now get but one.

"Blood and Iron" is the policy that must replace "Bread and Iron." Bread we must continue to give until strength is restored, but we must also give "Iron"—plows, seeders, tractors, reapers, threshers—in order that that strength may be productive and the danger of a famine recurrence may be banished.

The policy of "Bread and Iron" must be instituted immediately. Government red tape cannot be expected to do it and will not. The people must act themselves.

Friend, we call upon you to do your utmost.

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Margaret Sanger in Japan

The TAIYO MARU reached Japan on March 10th. Not until she arrived in Yokohama Harbor did Mrs Sanger know whether or not she would be allowed to land, or whether, if she landed, she would be permitted to speak. While she was still at sea a vigorous correspondence had gone on between the Home Office and the Foreign Office of the Japanese Government. The Foreign Office, urged by Masanao Hanahara, Vice Minister, who was a fellow passenger on the TAIYO MARU, had been urging by wireless that all courtesy be shown Mrs Sanger. The Home Office feared her influence on national customs. The result of this correspondence was known in the United States before it was known to Mrs Sanger herself, and in a letter dated March 8th and mailed after arrival she wrote, "My landing is still very mysterious, though from the various invitations I am receiving to speak before representative groups it would seem I must be going to land". These invitations were sent to her by wireless. Among them was a welcome from Kaizo, the group of progressive Japanese who publish the magazine Kaizo, one from the doctors of Kyoto, one with greetings from the New York Society of Nagayo, with an invitation to visit that city, and one from Baroness Ichimoto, Mrs Sanger’s hostess.

A graphic description of Mrs Sanger’s landing was given in the Japan Times of March 11th. "Mrs Sanger," reads the article, "was allowed to land in this country last night after a series of negotiations that made the diplomacy at the Washington Conference look like child's play. She will remain here for some time and hopes to have an opportunity of discussing with doctors, at least, her theories on Birth Control. But she has promised the police that she will "be good" and make no attempt to deliver any public addresses on the subject.

"When the TAIYO arrived at quarantine she was surrounded by a fleet of small craft police launches, tenders of the Toyo Kisen Kaisha service, health officers’ boats, government vessels, mail tenders and press dispatch carriers. After the police and health officers had finished their official duties the reporters were allowed to board the ship.

An army of STAR writers from the Tokyo newspapers, the authorities said, they issued seventy passes to these men alone, a dozen regular waterfront reporters and a few foreign correspondents swarmed up the gangway of the ship which bore nearly three hundred distinguished persons as first cabin passengers, including two Japanese delegates to the Washington Conference and members of their suite.

"The eager news men rushed up the gangway and surrounded about in search of a notable news story. Was it Admiral Baron Kato they sought? It was not. A dozen disgruntled shorthand men dropped out of the herd to take notes on the Envoy’s address in the dining salon but the others flocked on ward until they found the modest quarters in which abode a modest little American woman and her handsome young son. Mrs Sanger and the cause of Birth Control were what the press of Japan was interested in—the Peace Conference was an old story.

"Mrs Sanger was surprised and pleased by the intelligent questions that were asked her about her mission. She answered each Interrogator simply, comprehensively and with admirable patience."

Mr Hanahara had become well acquainted with Mrs Sanger during the voyage from San Francisco to Japan. On February 23rd she had given a two hour lecture to the first class passengers in which she had put forward freely her ideas on Birth Control. This was followed by many conversations which thoroughly convinced Mr Hanahara that the opposition to her entering Japan was unwarranted. He reported to his government that she was "a gentlewoman with a fixed principle for the betterment of mankind and that she did not hold or advocate extreme and dangerous thoughts which the Japanese authorities had reason to fear." The lecture of February 23rd was followed by several others, arranged for those who had not the privilege of attending in the first class saloon, and as there was a universal desire among second and third class pass sengers, as well as among those who had become personally acquainted with Mrs Sanger, to hear her ideas on Birth Control.

After landing existence became somewhat breathless, and it cannot be a matter of surprise that towards the end of her stay Mrs Sanger was tired out and compelled to cancel a few engagements on the ground of illness. Writing on March 15th, five days after landing, she says, "I am just as busy here as I was in New York. Japan is full to overflowing with Birth Control Interest. The protests against the authorities for trying to keep me out were so serious that they had to allow me to enter. The common people did the protesting as well as some of the delegates on board the boat. I have spent many hours discussing the subject with police officials and government authorities, and yesterday I gave a public lecture here in the Y M C A Hall. My days are crowded with lecture and reception dates. Every evening, afternoon, dinner, lunch and morning is taken until I leave Tokyo. I am now beginning to fill break fast engagements. Japan has been put over, there is no doubt for China!"
THE PUBLIC LECTURE was not directly on Birth Control, but on the population question—as a concession to the authorities. In lectures to groups, however, Mrs Sanger was able to propound freely her ideas. The audience at the public lecture is thus described in a three column report of it in the Japan Times of March 15th.

"Prosperous looking business men, well groomed women, students, shop girls, a Buddhist priest or two, a number of foreign eugeneri and a battery of camera men composed the audience which heard Mrs Margaret Sanger, American Birth Control advocate, speak on War and Population in the Tokyo Y M C A auditorium yesterday afternoon. It was Mrs Sanger's first public meeting and among her most attentive listeners was a liberal sprinkling of 'plain clothes men' of the Metropolitan Police who were there to see that the speaker did not overstep the bounds permitted into a discussion of Birth Control—a subject officially banned as 'dangerous' to Japan morals. No more interested audience could have been secured. Apparently most of those present understood English, for the audience, as though charmed by the clear and distinct voice of Mrs Sanger, sat silent and expectant as she spoke. The usual stir came as the translator started on each new paragraph of Mrs Sanger's speech, and it was easy to discern those who had understood Mrs Sanger as he proceeded with the translation. The listeners were less attentive than the others. They were both typical women of the poorer class, aged beyond their years by the bearing and raising of many children in a few years. Each was compelled to pace the room at the rear and croon to a fretful baby on her back."

On April 4th a cablegram was received from Mrs Sanger stating that she was about to leave Kobe for Hongkong. Calling at points in Korea on the way, according to the plan outlined before she left the United States, she was to go from Hongkong to Shanghai and Pekin, in each of which places lectures had been arranged for her. From China she will go to Manila, and possibly other places in the Philippines India will be reached from Manila, Calcutta being the first objective. The work in India will include a number of lectures which are being arranged for Mrs Sanger by Professor Shastin, of the Department of Philosophy in the University of Calcutta.

The Japan Times for March 26th, contained the following interesting item in connection with the visit of Mrs Margaret Sanger, American Birth Control advocate: It is interesting that at the 29th annual meeting of the Tokyo Association of Graduates from the Imperial University Medical College, held at the Tsukiji restaurant at Ueno, Friday night, the question of Birth Control to which they have hitherto been comparatively indifferent, was discussed. A resolution for organizing a committee to systematically study the relation of population and economy from the medical point of view was adopted.

P. S.—Letters have just been received from Mrs Sanger giving more particulars concerning her work. During the week of March 14-21 she gave ten lectures. Then followed her illness, with a threat of pneumonia, compelling the cancellation, of five public meetings. A cablegram from Pekin dated April 19th stated that she had addressed an enthusiastic audience of 2,000 at the National University of China.

A WARM WELCOME is awaiting Mrs Margaret Sanger in London, where she will attend the International Congress, July 11 to 14, on her way home from the Orient. A great public meeting is planned for the evening of July 13th, at which Mr H. G. Wells has promised to take the chair. Mrs Sanger will be one of the principal speakers. The organizers of the Congress report that excellent scientific and medical support is being given to the project, and that there will be large representations from the various European countries. The American Birth Control League is in correspondence with the countries of South America and Mexico and Canada, with the aim of forming a large Pan American group. Some of the names mentioned in connection with the delegation are Mr Alfred Buckley of Ottawa, Canada, Senora Ricardo Alfaro and Senora Cele S DeAverhoff of Havana, Cuba, Mr Gustavo T. White of Columbia, S. A., Mr Herbert Scott of Peru and Mr George M. Falconer and Dr Nicolás Camara Veles of Mexico. From Japan it was announced that Baroness Ishimoto, who was Margaret Sanger's hostess during her stay in Tokyo, will head the Japanese delegation. Friends and sympathizers who would like to join the United States delegation are urged to send their names to Mrs Anne Kennedy, Executive Secretary of the American Birth Control League.

ANOTHER MILESTONE PASSED in the history of the movement for Birth Control. On April 13th, Justice Bjur of the New York Supreme Court gave his approval to the certificate of incorporation of the American Birth Control League. The matter had been under advisement for many weeks, and pressure had been brought to bear by opponents of the movement to induce Justice Bjur to withhold his approval. It was represented to him that the name of the League was illegal, and that so long as there were laws against the dissemination of information concerning Birth Control, it would be inconsistent for the State to put the seal of its approval upon a Birth Control organization. In explaining his action in signing the certificate of incorporation and in disregarding these representations, Justice Bjur quoted from a decision in the Appellate Division of the Court, in which the court had said: "It is not the province of the court to set itself up as a censor of the tastes, social or political of the people, provided only it is clear that the purpose and intent of those organizations is to seek the accomplishment of that programme by lawful methods, that is to say to change our form of government by amending the constitution through constitutional methods."

In applying this decision to the case of the American Birth Control League, Justice Bjur insisted that "these incorporators undoubtedly enjoy in common with their fellow citizens the privilege of discussing the methods of any statute and of presenting arguments for its amendment or repeal." Incorporation adds to the dignity of the League. It establishes its place as a body doing work which it has a legal and constitutional right to undertake and it furnishes an answer to those opponents who contend that the very words Birth Control carry a sinister meaning.
Birth Control in Mexico

BRIEF AND SCATTERED paragraphs in some of the newspapers gave the surprising intelligence that Mexico was in the throes of a Birth Control campaign, and that the opposition was vigorously trying to let the world know of it. There was at least one public meeting, at which part of the audience objected strongly to something said by one of the speakers. This was reported, but the whole story was not given, and that story is of great interest as showing a contrast between the attitude taken by the government of one of the Mexican States and our state and city authorities.

The agitation grew out of the translation and distribution of a pamphlet written some years ago by Margaret Sanger. This pamphlet had been secured by some reformers who had succeeded in having it published by the Mayab Press in Merida, Yucatan. It fell into the hands of some bitter opponents, who drew up a petition and presented it to the District Attorney General, urging him to prosecute the men responsible for the publication. The local press recorded this action and the newspapers at once took sides for and against Birth Control. The cartoonists got busy, and between the advocates and the bitter opponents, the public was thoroughly aroused on the question and Birth Control became the most discussed topic of the hour.

In the meantime the District Attorney sent the petition to the Governor of Yucatan, who at once remitted instructions to refuse it. In compliance with these instructions the District Attorney issued a statement that was printed in full in the Diario Official of March 14th, and reprinted in many of the newspapers both of Merida and of other Mexican cities. The statement is too long to quote in full, but following are some extracts:

"THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S Office cannot shape its manner of proceeding to the narrow minded and antiquated criterion of morality, the result of deep rooted religious prejudices, which crops out in your petition. The Executive of the State wishes to have it made clear that forever the same propositions which have no other cause than moral fanaticism which filled with horror the vast period of clerical domination of the Middle Ages. As long as the present socialist government directs public destiny, the Attorney General's office will not undertake any prosecution for futile ideas of morality, since prosecutions in the name of morality have at all times been the most odious pretext of which religion made use so as to destroy its enemies.

The problem of the birth rate to which the pamphlet makes reference pertains most profoundly to the proletarian groups, and it is natural that the conservative and reactionary classes of society, which have an advantage through the excessive birth rate among the working classes, put up a cry to heaven in defense of their selfish interests. It is natural that they try to impede the movement of emancipation, clamoring that it is an attempt against morality, in order that they can maintain their prerogatives, for as long as the phenomenon of excessive birth rate will remain, it permits them to keep the workman in slavery, paying him work at a sordid price for the fruits of his hands, and just so long will the economic emancipation of the working man be a fact further remote every day.

"And it is a fact worthy of observation that the rich, the privileged, the capitalists, those who live in good circumstances, while they limit their birth rate without seeming immoral to them, judge it a matter of the greatest immorality that the poor, the exhausted, the miserable, the underfed, the workers should try to limit their birth rate. Yet the latter birth rate taking place among the worst conditions, constitutes one of the causes why the species degenerates, as it is impossible to feed and educate a numerous offspring in a proper manner.

THE REPORTS OF the agitation that were published in American newspapers stated that many Birth Control pamphlets had been distributed in the public schools. This report was expressly denied by the Governor in a statement published March 13th. "The Government of the State," read this statement, "declares also that the aforesaid pamphlet has not been distributed in the public schools. It is written especially for adults and not for children, and the unfounded report that it was so distributed is a malicious calumny." In regard to this part of the accusation of the opponents of Birth Control the District Attorney writes: "In the aforesaid petition you make the crime of insulting public morals and decent customs consist in the positive fact that the pamphlet was distributed and explained to the public and to educational centers," for which reason according to you "it must be considered obscene" an erroneous criterion which the Attorney General's office cannot accept, because it is contrary to the text of Article 429 of the Penal Code which you invoke, seeing that, if the crime existed which you denounce, it would certainly not consist in the positive fact that the pamphlet was distributed and explained to the public and to educational centers.

"In virtue of these facts the Executive of the State judges that the denunciation on your part, for the purpose of having in the name of morality a prosecution instituted against a printed publication for a supposed crime that does not admit any legal basis, constitutes merely an episode in that strife of the classes, in which the blind forces of the past have united to engage in their last battle against the redeeming ideas of humanity. If the accusation had been made for purely moral reasons, however erroneous, you would undoubtedly not have stirred the waves of scandal in order to solicit public attention about a matter which has found in you its most active propagators. The morals of your religion would have forbidden you, and it is not consistent that you, full of pharisaical scruples, should come to demand, in the name of that morality, the punishment of a deed in which you were participants.

"CONSEQUENTLY THE Government of the State charges me to inform you, as an answer to your petition, that the District Attorney's office cannot take cognizance of the accusation which you have been pleased to make, or institute a prose-
cution for the supposed crime under the press law, under the name of supposed morality, but that at all times the most profound respect for the free expression of ideas, which you profess to trample underfoot, has inspired its action, and that it will follow its path from which such denunciations as yours will not suffice to dislodge it, the only exception being serious cases of disturbance of peace and tranquility.

The statement was signed by the General District Attorney, Arturo Casneros Canto, and dated March 11, 1922. It is a remarkable document, and one that might be recommended to the attention of the police departments in some American cities - especially in New York, where a meeting for the discussion of the morality of Birth Control was broken up not six months ago.

News Notes

March 17 - Dr Sidney I. Goldstein gave an address on Birth Control to the Association of Women Physicians of New York. His subject was "The Control of Parenthood as a Moral Problem.

April 2 - At the request of Mr Joseph Lewis, Mrs A G Porritt spoke to the Freethinkers Society of New York on the Need and Morality of Birth Control.

April 4 - The Reading, Pennsylvania, Branch of the American Birth Control League held a public meeting at the Woman's Club, Reading, at which Mrs Anne Kennedy was the principal speaker.

April 6 - The Pennsylvania Branch of the American Birth Control League held its second conference at the Bellevue Stratford, Philadelphia. The President of the Branch, Dr Kate W Baldwin, presided. There was a good audience, and fifty-two new members enrolled in response to an eloquent plea by Mrs Lucretia L. Blankenburg. More names were also sent in after the meeting.

The speakers announced on the programme were Rabbi Sidney I. Goldstein of New York, Rev Roger S. Forbes of Germantown, and Miss Franklin R. Wilson, Superintendent of the State Industrial Home at Muncy, Penna. Dr Franklin L. Johnson, of Girard College, Philadelphia, also spoke, taking as his subject "Quality versus Quantity." The two clergymen both spoke from a high moral standpoint and impressed their audience by the beauty and sincerity of their addresses. Miss Wilson gave a startling instance of a man from a traveling circus who advertised himself as being the father of sixty-eight children. Nineteen of these children were blind from birth.

Miss Wilson strongly scored the anti-social nature of such multiplication of the unfit. The Pennsylvania Branch has established a Speakers' Bureau and is planning to circulate the women's clubs and other organizations of the State.

April 13 - The certificate of incorporation of the American Birth Control League was signed by Justice Biur.

The Movement in England

March 14 - Mr. Harold Cox made an outspoken plea for Birth Control as a means of putting an end to war in an address before the Eugenics Society in London. This address was reported in all the English papers, and editorials strongly commending it appeared in many of them.

March 17 - Mr. Harold Cox spoke on Population before the Delphian Coterie in London. Sir Rider Haggard, who also spoke, advocated emigration as a cure for the increasing congestion of population in England. Mr. Cox took issue with him, and stated that the only permanent remedy was Birth Control.

Birth Control in Holland

March 26 - The 40th annual meeting of the Dutch Neo-Malthusian League was held at Utrecht. The League maintains clinics served by four doctors and 52 trained women (with one additional for the Island of Java). The Dutch death rate has fallen to 10.7 per thousand and its infant mortality rate to 50 per thousand—a better showing than any other country except New Zealand.

An Appeal from Austria

A sending aid has been received from Austria, where famine and misery have been universal since the end of the war. Conditions there were carefully investigated last year by Mary Winsor and her observations were given at the Birth Control Conference in October. The sole hope of that ruined nation seemed to her to lie in the campaign for Birth Control which is being conducted by the League Opposed to Compulsory Motherhood—Der Bund gegen Mutter schaffenzwang. The president of the League is Johann Ferch, who is giving his life to the task of saving mothers and infants from the fate that awaits both in case of childbirth under the present unfavorable conditions. A letter from Mr. Ferch received by the American Birth Control League reads: "We are now in the final struggle to reform the law which oppresses the most poverty-stricken mothers. Propaganda is necessary to win the victory. For this we are too weak. As founder and champion, in the name of the common cause, I ask for help.

With fifty or one hundred dollars the League (Opposed to Compulsory Motherhood) would be able to carry on the agitation throughout the entire country. We need prompt help!"

How little he asks! Surely someone would like to send this much needed assistance. If enough could be raised, Mr. Ferch might be enabled to go to London in July to the International Congress, and there bring the case of Austria to the attention of the advocates of Birth Control from all parts of the world.

Contributions sent to the American Birth Control League will at once be forwarded to Vienna.

Our Membership Contest

More names of members who have secured ten or more new members for the American Birth Control League.

Mrs. Inez Hayes Irwin, New York
Mears Peck and Stern, New York
Miss Frances Johnston, New York
Mr. J. Murdoch, Canada
Mrs. Sarah Caselli, Illinois
The Question of Birth Control Discussed from A Psychiatric Standpoint

By Aaron J Rosanoff, M D

Clinical Director, Kings Park State Hospital, N Y

IT IS A MATTER of common knowledge that psychiatry has a strong practical interest in eugenics. Psychopathic heredity is the most important cause of mental disorders, and so the prevention of such disorders is largely a problem in eugenics.

As yet only a partial solution of this problem has been attained. The tendency has been to deal with it in a cautious and conservative way, in order to avoid the obvious danger of doing more harm than good. Of the measures that have been proposed—legal restriction of marriage, sterilization and segregation—only the last mentioned has been found at all widely practicable, and even it has serious drawbacks and is far from being wholly adequate.

Psychiatry is, therefore, at present in a position to welcome further suggestions.

The question which this paper is to deal with may be formulated as follows: Assuming universal instruction in technique of Birth Control to be an established fact, what would be the effect upon the prevalence of mental disorders?

I need hardly say here that Birth Control is not something new. It is as old as human history. But knowledge of its technique has never been equally distributed. In general it may be said that in all times persons favored by better education and education have had the more ready access to this knowledge. Also, in all classes of society, men have held greater power in this matter than women, partly because there has been less prudishness in male education, but more largely because, for the male part, methods of contraception are so simple and so obvious as to be spontaneously discoverable by almost any one.

WHAT I CONCEIVE to be new in this movement is the proposition that by universal instruction and training persons of all classes and both sexes be given the full power of Birth Control.

And so the question, as above formulated, resolves itself into two other questions, which are not so general and therefore more readily answered. (1) Under the conditions specified, would persons suffering from grave mental disorders refrain from having children to a greater extent than those who are free from such disorders? (2) Would the relatively increased prerogative of women under the new conditions result in checking or restricting propagation among psychopathic persons? These two questions require separate discussion.

(1) Under the conditions specified, would persons suffering from grave mental disorders refrain from having children to a greater extent than those who are free from such disorders? It is clear that, unless this question can be answered in the affirmative, Birth Control could be counted on possibly to reduce the absolute number of psychopathic persons, along with the general fall of birth rate, but not their percentage in the population.

The fact is that psychopathic persons have children, and often many children, not solely because of Ignorance of contraceptive methods, but because of thoughtlessness, imprudence, inefficiency, lack of control, etc. Moreover, many of them passionately desire children, and, no matter how many they have already brought into the world, they continue to have more as long as they can, feeling in no way dissatisfied with the low standard of care which they are able to give them. All this is within the daily experience of psychiatrists.

IT WOULD SEEM, then, that while well balanced persons might be expected to make such use of Birth Control as to reduce their families and thus attain for themselves and their children a better ordered life of higher standards, psychopathic persons could not be expected to benefit to the same extent. On this point we are, therefore, led to the conclusion that the percentage of psychopathic persons, instead of declining, would probably increase under conditions of general instruction in contraceptive methods.

(2) Would the relatively increased prerogative of women under the new conditions result in checking or restricting propagation among psychopathz persons?

The industrial and economic organization of modern society is such as to restrict greatly the freedom of play of sexual selection as a factor in race progress.

All things being equal, the respective role of the two sexes in the play of sexual selection is not the same.

Fundamentally, and aside from more or less ephemeral social compunctions, the male is concerned with scarcely more than superficial attractiveness or unattractiveness. He has, at the same time, the greater pressure of desire, so that his role becomes principally to overcome the resistances of the female.

In the role of the female, on the other hand, the most striking phenomena are resistances and discriminations, and with these there is a better natural endowment of discernment of personality beneath the surface.

IN OTHER WORDS it is in the nature of things, that the male influence is for propagation in general, and the female for selection in propagation.

Psychiatric experience abundantly shows that while normal men often have for their mates feeble minded women, normal women mate with feeble minded men only by way of rare exception.

Under modern social conditions marriage and home building generally involve the economic dependence of women, and it is this that interferes with the free play of sexual selection.

(Continued on page 89)
Family Limitation in Czecho-Slovakia

By Oscar W. Junek

Formerly Professor in the Department of Anthropology, University of Minnesota

TO BEGIN WITH, suffice it to say that the movement in the new republic of Czecho-Slovakia receives a vigorous endorsement by all classes of the population except the Roman Catholic Church and one or two more or less conservative parties represented in the "Narodni Shromazdeni" (National Diet).

Before Austria Hungary was parcelled up into a group of smaller and independent governments, Bohemia, Moravia, and Silesia consisted of a population of eight and one half millions. After the overthrow of the old Hapsburg regime and the formation of a Czecho-Slovak Republic two more countries have been added to these three, namely Slovakia and Sub Carpathian Russia. These five states boast now of a population of fourteen millions. The Central government is in Prague (for the Czech side) and in Bratislava, Slovakia (for the Slovak side) — in fact a coalition government.

The Czechs (Bohemians) by virtue of their western contacts and western influences and ideas are a people possessed of a decidedly high culture. Their illiteracy falls below 2 per cent, a fact which bespeaks best their general status in the family of nations. The Slovaks, on the other hand, have an illiteracy of from 17 per cent to 50 per cent depending upon the districts from which they hail, and as for the Sub Carpathian Russians (Ruthenians), who are the most eastern in the Republic, their official census figure of illiteracy is 78 per cent and more.

As regards social hygiene, fecundity or birth rate, immigration, assimilability, citizenship — all questions which occasionally command attention of economists and legislators in our country, Bohemians are the most desirable subjects in the matter of making up the prescribed quota for immigration to our shores.

Bohemians comparatively are of the highest and finest possible timber, a timber that is readily amalgamated with our own stock, or at least assimilated by our own psychology, viz., American ideas of life and progress. Assimilation a purely a psychic process and our Bohemian immigrants find it much easier to become acclimated to our conditions than the Slovaks and the Ruthenians.

When I visited Czecho-Slovakia last March, the newspapers were literally swamped with news matter concerning Mme. Landova Stychova's "abortion bill." Her introducing it into the parliament made it naturally a much talked about issue. But what really commanded my attention was the fact that all of the so-called classes of society spoke of it most earnestly and intelligently.

Now what should be observed in this bill that it is on directly opposite lines from the methods which the Birth Control Society in the United States desires to be known by all classes of people who cannot be burdened with too many children. The bill is negative itself since the idea back of it is negation and opposition to natural laws. Mme. Landova proposes "that all women, especially women of the laboring class, who are economically and physically not able to take care of their offspring, should be allowed by the state to bring about an abortion up to the third month of their pregnancy."

It is self-evident that a country in which a bill like that can be introduced into a legislative institution, must be radically progressive. I speak, of course, only of the introduction of this bill into the parliament and not of its legalization. That is another question. The first to oppose the bill were the Roman Catholic Church, the Czecho-Slovak Medical Association and two political parties which represent the large and small agriculturists.

When I approached Mme. Landova Stychova and presented to her our own methods of prevention of conception, mentioning them to be the only possible ones, since they are harmless and preventive and not harmful and destructive as the one she wishes to have legalized, she very promptly stated that most of the people of Bohemia know the preventive methods and are making use of them, but that her bill should be adopted to complete the woman's right over her own body.

To say the least, Mme. Landova Stychova's proposition made the people think in birth control terms. They realized its importance long ago and acted accordingly, but this last parliamentary event caused them to make it a public issue to be discussed freely by rich and poor alike in the restaurants, coffee houses, concert halls and by the press. It gave the people new food for thought, brought them face to face with the problems at hand and made them choose what is best for them. I am safe to say that they will rather adhere to preventive methods than adopt the abortion bill. For women of Czecho-Slovakia as of other civilized countries fear abortion and rightly so. I am also safe in predicting that Mme. Landova Stychova's bill will be scrapped not only because of opposition in the parliament but because of a higher consideration — the natural and moral law.

I gained an impression while in Czecho-Slovakia that if women wanted babies should not come into the world, it will be safer to prevent their coming rather than their destruction. This impression I gained while speaking with men and women of the poor 'rayon' as well as with the middle and the higher classes.

OUR CONTRIBUTORS:

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A Way Out

By May Peirce Guest

The young man’s eyes were glowing as he paced the floor of the tiny room. He was visioning the future when he and a fine stalwart son would be pals. How proud he would be of the splendid, powerful, clean limbed lad, his own, his and Janey’s. How wonderful! And best of all, it would so soon be true.

He glanced at the young woman lying so still, so utterly quiescent, on the bed, her large dark eyes fixed on him.

He grunted his expansive boyish grin, which showed two rows of fine white teeth, and paused by the bed, tenderly took his wife’s thin hand in his great powerful ones, warm and throbbing, with vitality.

“Janey dear,” said he, “I’m going to be a boy for sure, and what do you say to calling him Leo? Leo for lion, you know, for he’ll be fine and strong in every way, a kid to be proud of. What do you say, Janey?”

He caressed her hand with his lips, while she nodded assent, smiling into his doting eyes. But suddenly her face was convulsed and she set her pale lips hard to gather to stifle a cry.

“Poor darling,” he murmured, “if only I could bear it for you. But you have lots of grit, and you’re coming through fine. I know you are. I’ll run get the doctor now. I won’t be long. Janey.”

Tears filled the young wife’s eyes. He was so big and strong, yet so tender and true. She felt her utter inadequacy, her lack of vitality with which she so yearned to meet for his sake. Again the horrible, tearing, bursting agony! She covered her mouth with both hands that she might not cry out.

An eternity seemed to pass. Then the door opened and the doctor entered followed by her panting Ben. The doctor took her pulse and gazed mienly at her, noted the abnormal whiteness of her skin, the hollows beneath the eyes, the tendons of her slender neck, the transparency of her thin hands.

His busy white brows drew together ominously. “How long has she been sick?” he growled to Ben.

“Oh, just sort of ailimg for a long time. What they call anaemic I guess. Never was strong. But she’s full of pep and grit, Doctor. I reckon she’ll be stout and fine after this is over.”

Scowling, the doctor motioned him into the next room, and following closed the door after them.

“Young man, it’ll be a miracle if your wife lives through tonight. She hasn’t the strength of a new born mfant herself. Go get a nurse or somebody, and be quick!”

Benjamin Brown started. His face became a deadly white, some invisible hand was clutching his heart cruelly. His breath came in gasps. His Janey! His very life! Was it possible she might leave him forever? God, he had never realize(d), never thought of that! He must save her!

Grabbing his cap, he rushed out, returning shortly with a nurse.

The interminable hours of that night, horrible snail like, crawled past in their clammy sweat. While Ben sat in an agony of suspense, head in hands, on the red plush sofa in the diminutive dimly lit living room.

From the bedroom, where the doctor and nurse fought for the life of his wife and child, had come a few indescribable heart rending groans, the sickly sweet odor of chloroform and then silence, a most awful crushing silence, potential of such vast possibilities.

As Ben sat there, his curly head grasped in his stiffening hands, his eyes staring at the worn linoleum, thoughts pestered him like malicious demons. It hurt to think, he had never had to before. He had just felt—and acted.

Wasn’t it his own fault that Janey was suffering such torments? She at the gateway of death, and he himself in such torment? Yet what had he done that was wrong? Why—why? God,” he groaned in his extremity, “What is a poor devil like me to do?” And again through his soul surged the unanswerable “Wherein is the fault?”

Scowling tears ran unheeded down his face, he twisted his hair between his fingers, “Oh God, why did you fill a chap with such love for a girl and then allow her to suffer so? Why, God?”

He dropped his head and buried his face in the sofa cushion. “We need each other so much. God, we just couldn’t get along alone. Alone! Don’t you understand? Ain’t there any way out, not any, God?”

“Tick tock, tickety tock.” The voice of the clock seemed...
the only answer: The great city slept, the silence was over
whelming. "Tick, tock, tickety tock."

SUDDENLY, LIKE THE report of a pistol, the door knob
turned and the bedroom door opened and closed. The nurse
had entered carrying a wee bundle. She dropped into a chair
tense. Still she did not look at him nor speak.

Ben, sitting rigidly upright, stared at her. Wanting. He saw
a bundle in her arms, but that didn’t matter. He wanted,
tense. Still she did not look at him or speak.

"Well?" he at first whispered hoarsely. "Well, is she—
= = = = = she — = a — = = ?

"Just breathing," sighed the woman. And went on dreamily,
"It was simply awful. She may pull through though." Then
she straightened herself and leaning close to Ben she hissed,
"You men are selfish beasts, beasts, I say! That’s what you
are! A delicate girl like that ain’t fit to have a child!"

The hot blood rushed to Ben’s head, his brain seemed burst
ing. He covered his eyes with his hands and groaned.

"Oh yes," continued the nurse seethingly. "You all act this
way at the time, and before a year’s up I’m called in to go
through it all again. Beasts! I’ve kept silent long as I can."

Ben’s brain was in such a turmoil that he was quite marticus
late. He could but groan again, rocking his big bulk to and fro.

His thoughts were sharply switched to the bundle in her
arms from which suddenly proceeded a faint, weird, kitten like
cry.

All tenderness now, the nurse laid the bundle on her spread
knees and drew back the covering.

"It’s a boy," she stated. "The poorest, scrappiest little mite
I ever saw, not quite five pounds. There—there, you poor
little darlin’!", she burst, "Don’t cry and awaken your ma.
You must do for her. There, there."

Ben gazed in fear and horror at the red, contorted little
visage, his fine son, his splendid Leo. His pall! That he
shivered, and with a choking sob, turned away.

JANEY DID NOT die. In some of her despairing moods
she thought it would have been better had she done so,
for but little needed strength came with which to care for Leo,
who, with his feeble hold on life, wailed day and night, while
with Those eyes and aching heart she hung over him. To his
hovering parents his cries seemed to voice themselves into—
"Father, Mother, Oh why, why did you call me into being and
crush me into this under sized, pain racked little body?"

After a series of particularly strenuous nights with the
little sufferer, Ben, (who had a faculty for writing jingles)
set himself to work with pencil and paper as dawn crept in
at the window and Leo mercifully dozed. He smiled grimly
as he wrote—

LITTLE LEO’S LAMENT

It’s got a pain in my toe, Muwer,
And a pin’s a stickin me,
I don’t know where it is, Muwer,
Just where the thing can be!

I feel as cold as ice, Muwer,
All shivers everywhere,
Why don’t you cover me up, Muver,
You never seem to care

Oh dear, but I am hot, Muver,
All stuckey and messed up
Bring me a drink of water, Muver,
I want it in Fawer’s cup!

And say, I’m nearly starved, Muwer,
Don’t you hear me yell?
Such an empty in my middle
Oh dear, this life’s just H——l!

And now I’m much too full, Muver,
I’m sure I’m going to spill,
That milk has gone quite loco,
It simply won’t keep still!

There’s something in my eye, Muwer,
I can’t see anything,
And I’ve swallowed something hard, Muver,
Maybe it was your ring!

I don’t see why I’s born, Muwer,
I think it’s horrid to live
When a feller has as many pains
As holes is in a sieve!

I’m going to keep on cryin’, Muwer,
Cryin’ night and day,
And all the handkerchiefs in the world
Can’t wipe my tears away!

"THERE," SAID HE to himself with a stretch and a yawn,
When Janey wakens I’ll give her that little surprise with
her cup of coffee. If she cries a bit she’ll have to laugh too."

He drew the cover more closely about the sleeping babe,
gave him a long, anxious look and tooted into the little
dining living room where he slept, or tried to sleep, on the all
too narrow, too short, extremely undulating red plush covered
sofa. Their one real heirloom! How he did loathe that sofa!

He had no other bed since little Leo’s birth, and as Janey
had scarce strength to hold the baby or get from room to
room, he had also, after a fashion, done the marketing, cooking,
and general straightening up. Why couldn’t he get ahead
faster and earn more? How could so many men earn enough
to afford those luxurious motor cars, and those marvelous fur
coats for their wives, and—and everything? His spirit
writhed.

Already worried to the point of frenzy over little Leo,
Janey’s heart sunk further as she observed her Bennie, how
strained looked his dear eyes, how slowly, heavily he now
moved. And sometimes she heard him mutter oaths—awful
oaths, such as he had learned in the army—beneath his breath
Her bright, happy Ben was gone. A worried, fagged, discour
aged man stood in his place. What were they coming to? What could she do? Her poor little Leo, and her poor big Ben. Her head ached, her back ached, she ached all over, and her thoughts were chaotic, desperate, exhausting, futile.

She and Bennie had floated along on such a happy stream. Then came little Leo who had apparently turned the tide which now seemed to be sweeping them to destruction. Life seemed devoid of reason. She could find no logic, no solution to their problems.

Then something happened—one night Ben rushed in and without kissing her, flung himself down on the bed and burst into the most amazing tears.

"Darling, Ben, what is the matter?" Her arms were about him, her kisses on his wet face. "For goodness sake, what is it, Benny?"

H e flung her roughly off, and sitting up, brushed the tears from his eyes with his sleeve. "Oh, nothing." He spoke wildly—"Only I've been too dog tired to do my work right, so I've just been fired, that's all. It don't matter, don't matter at all. I knew it was coming, glad it's over. I couldn't see anything straight, dropped everything I picked up. Didn't know what I was trying to do. How could a fellow work? Hell, what's the difference anyhow?"

There was a profound silence, save for the turbulent beating of two overtaxed hearts.

Little Leo stirred, flung out tiny claw like hands and smiled piteously. Janey took him up and comforted him against her breast.

Finally Ben became quite relaxed, he stood up, and moving like a sleep walker began to get supper. They ate in silence, a choking silence which made swallowing almost impossible. Yet, they must eat, and the dishes must be washed. What then?

When the last dish was put away, Ben slouched past Janey and took up his cap. "Don't worry about me, Honey," he said, brushing her cheek with his lips and moving toward the door. "My nerves are shot all to pieces and if I stay in I'm likely to break things. See? I've been holdin' on and holdin' on till I'm just bustin'. Tonight I'm going to raise Hell. See?"

Janey saw all too clearly. She had been seeing all along, but there had been nothing she could do to avert this climax.

"Bennie dear," she placed her hands upon his shoulders and gazed piteously up into his haggard face. "Bennie dear, don't do anything to hurt yourself, to feel sorry for. I know it's been awful for you, and you do need to break loose, to have a good time. Here, take this." She drew from her pocket a five dollar bill which she had saved toward their rent. "Go to some show, laugh a lot, forget your troubles awhile, get something nice to eat. Spend it all, now do, Bennie, you'll feel a heap better."

B en stared down into her eager, lovely face, and his eyes filled with blinding tears, but he took the money. "All right, good little pal," he spoke huskily, averted his gaze, tucked the bill into his vest pocket, opened the door, and said, "So long!" he said, and was gone. Gone, with his desperate thoughts into the black night!

Janey never knew how long she lay in the chair into which she had literally fallen. Even the wailing of little Leo did not rouse her. She heard him as if from afar, quite out of reach. Her mind was occupied with the inner life of Ben during the six months since the baby was born, since he had been sleeping on that narrow, short sofa, a man set apart, away from his family, isolated. His warm loving heart had hungered and not been fed. She knew he had yearned for her arms about him, even as had they yearned to give him a sense of loving care and protection. She knew the extreme force of his emotions and what a strain the check must have been that he had placed upon himself. how this accumulated passion for her was fermenting in him and torturing his sensitive nerves to the snapping point.

He had come to her one night, only a few nights before, and pleaded, childlike, "Ah, Janey, let me slip in with you and snuggle a few minutes. I'm lonely as Hell. Honest, I can't stand it, Janey." And instantly her mind had leaped ahead—"What if—What if? Oh no, there must be no chances taken! No more little suffering Leo!"

"Poor darling," she had whispered, sleeping quickly out of bed. "I'm going to sit by you and put you to sleep, just like Mother used to do, you know. Now be a good boy and come back to the sofa."

With set lips and clenched fists he had silently allowed her to tuck him in, and had at last fallen asleep, her cheek against his. Then Janey had drawn a long, quivering breath, and gone to bed to her wide eyes until morning, utterly exhausted. It couldn't go on much longer like that! Oh no, it simply couldn't!"

And now he had broken loose. He had gone out for the night! Where had he gone? What was he doing? What might he not do! Ah, if only he would remain her sweet, clean, faithful Benny! So she prayed and waited. The wind rattled a shutter, the fire died down in the stove. She crept to the sofa, drew up a cover and hugged Bennie's pillow to her close, close.

(To be continued)

A part from Sheer economize pressure, the idea has come automatically into reality with the advent of woman's emancipation and its modern influence upon sex relationship.

Marriage will be all the purer and happier as responsibility is shared, as the profound mystery of life is raised above hazard and ignorance, and becomes a sense of responsibility. In a large measure the dreadful conditions of life in our big cities are due to the tragedy of irresponsible parenthood. We cannot afford waste or abundance in the next decade. Life, too, must be controlled. People will have to regard the problem of population as one of expenditure. The big family will become an anachronism. —Austin Harrison.

"Unless the devastating torrent of children can be stemmed, our condition will certainly go from bad to worse."

—Dean Inge
I DID NOT KNOW that my brief article "Back of Birth Control" was to be a subject of debate, but am glad to add a few words in rejoinder.

It is amusing to note in both these "Replies" a repeated reference to "Puritanism," the writers seeming to think that there can be no possible objection to the indulgence under discussion except that of the ascetic.

A broader knowledge of biology would show that absolute monogamy, with contumacy save in the mating season, is the law of nature among many of the higher mammals and more birds. These creatures are not Puritans. They are under no compulsion of religion, and show none of the alleged consequences of "suppressed desire". They simply do not have desire except at the time when it is useful.

To speak of monogamy as a "dogma" is childish. It is just as natural a system of mating as polygamy, polyandry, or promiscuity. The other animals, like ourselves, are subject to over development in sex, or to various forms of morbid development if their natural processes are interfered with, as with those kept for stud use, or the artificially celibate dog.

The general reply to this position is that we are not like other animals, but something higher, and that the miserable indulgence of this function among us is proof of our superiority. To support this much is said to claim a connection between sex energy and all our human activities, with special emphasis on the arts, an idea which may be classed with other "rationalizations" of a dominant impulse.

MEANWHILE WE HAVE so over-developed this function as to make marriage a horror to many women, to provide the unique spectacle of a large contingent of women kept to gratify the alleged "needs" of men at the sacrifice of all we hold best in life, an array of hideous diseases produced and transmitted by this excessive indulgence, and a general condition of feverish intensity which makes happiness in this relation sadly rare.

In the face of these undeniable disadvantages it requires much proof to show that our degree of sex development is a benefit to the race. Pleasure is the natural concomitant of all our conscious functions, concomitant, not purpose. As soon as we begin to use a function for its pleasure without regard to its purpose, as in eating, drinking, or sex intercourse, we do not increase the sum of our happiness, but reduce it by all manner of morbidity.

If the human race was healthier and happier than the others we might boast of our methods, not before.

In the meanwhile, to admit that we are oversexed involves no condemnation of existing individuals. What it may be necessary to do, as the best personal compromise between the normal and the present condition is one thing. To make such compromise a basis for an active philosophy, calculated to maintain and increase the excessive development, is quite another thing, and a far more machiavellian one.

Appeals from Mothers

MOST PEOPLE are convinced that there is far too rapid a multiplication of the unfit. It is a matter of common knowledge that the families of those in comfortable circumstances are small, and that the families of the poor are in inverse ratio to their poverty. Many people regard these facts with a hopelessness that can see no remedy except in a cradle competition in which they would set the educated to follow the example of the feeble-minded or thoughtless. That there is no need for such pessimism is clear from the hundreds of letters that pour in upon the advocates of Birth Control. These letters show that the moment the law is lifted which prevents the dissemination of scientific information about Birth Control the mothers will troop to the clinics for aid. They show that women are giving birth to unfit children solely because they are forcibly kept in ignorance. Their more for tunate sisters obtain the information. The more a woman needs it, the more difficult is it for her to secure it. Give the mothers a chance and the problem of the multiplication of the unfit will be solved in the individual home, leaving to society only the necessity of guarding those men and women who are so feeble-minded as to be irresponsible. The problem of population will not find its solution in government regulation or control. It is not the problem of the economist or of the politician. It is primarily the mothers' own problem and the mothers will solve it when they are made free to do so. The following letters are but a few samples. They merely show the universal mother love which is the key note of Birth Control.

My dear friend Mrs. Margaret Sanger,

I am writing to you for help, I am the mother of seven children, the oldest 16 years, the youngest 1 year old, and God only knows what times I have suffered and also my nerves are all gone. Please help me in this matter. I have read your book on "Woman and the New Race" it is just grand.

My husband don't seem to care how many they are. Only tell me just what to do to prevent getting pregnant again. I would be a happy woman to hear from you and God will only bless you for it all.
Dear Mrs Sanger,

A friend of mine gave me her book to read on Birth Control, written by you, and I’ve decided to write you for advice. First let me say I think Birth Control would be one of the finest things for the poor class of people. I am 34 years old, have been married 15 years, have 5 children and have had 2 miscarriages that I know of. My children are aged 14, 13, 11, 9, and 4 years.

Every time I give birth to a child my hearing becomes worse. Was never had till after my third child, but now I can only hear out of one ear. For the last year my husband has been out of work so much that we can’t keep what we have in clothes or the right kind of food. My children seem to have good health, but their cards from school say 3 are underrnoshed. And I am so afraid. Oh, I don’t want to bring more children into the world and maybe have them blame their parents for not giving them the best advantages. It’s not fair to the child is it?

Dear Mrs Sanger if you can, I would appreciate it so much and thank you all my life, for I don’t want to see my children one hasn’t any, because his wife isn’t strong enough to care for them. We have moved about three miles out of town to try to cut down our regular expenses enough to pay some back bills, including doctor’s bills also funeral expenses of an infant which I lost two months ago. But still we can get no help. My dear Mrs Sanger, I don’t mean I would never have wanted any children, for, had I been childless, I would have taken one or two to raise. But to just be in constant dread always is more than I can stand. I have always had kidney trouble, and I have had much female troubles—have been taking treatments ever since my last baby was born. I am very gray and nervous, and I am cross when I certainly don’t want to be just because I am always either in fear of getting in the family way or worrying how I shall meet the expense of another without the means to keep those already here properly.

Hypocrisy and Birth Control

By William Almon Wolff

The thing that baffles me is trying to talk about the limitation of offspring is the blatant hypocrisy of most of the people who are opposed, not so much to Birth Control, as to recognizing plam and obvious facts. Now it happens that I, personally, am convinced, for a number of what seem to me to be excellent reasons, that some limitation should and must be imposed upon the processes of nature so far as they concern and affect the reproduction of the human race, just as innumerable limitations have, in the development and advance of civilization been imposed upon other processes of nature.

We limit nature’s ability to chill or heat us by wearing clothes and building houses. In so doing we most emphatically defeat some natural purpose. It is natural for a vessel at sea to proceed according to the direction of the wind, but we began to limit that by using oars, then by learning to manage sails so as to tack and sail close hauled against the wind, and finally by evolvm steam and motor-driven ships. It may be that some people can discover a moral in these matters, those did who said that it was blasphemous to try to invent a flying machine, since if God had intended man to fly he would have given man wings. I can’t argue with people whose minds work in that fashion, of course, because I simply haven’t that sort of mind, and we speak different languages.

Still, there are persons who have not been convinced that Birth Control is desirable. I don’t agree with them, but I am perfectly willing to believe that they are both intelligent and sincere, and I assume that they pay the same tribute to those who, like myself, don’t agree with them. The sociological and economical arguments that have formed my judgment do not appeal to them as they do to me. That is a matter for argument, not for a brawl. At all events, I can meet such people, and argue with them, and feel that perhaps we are getting somewhere. Provided, that is, that they will recognize certain plam and outstanding facts.

The trouble is that most of them either will not or can not do that. That is why I say that they are hypocritical. What I want to do, by way of clearing the ground for a real argument, is to agree upon conditions, not as either these people or I think they ought to be, but as they actually are.
Now, in effect, they talk and argue as if, at present, all the various laws concerning contraception were fully and actually enforced. They seem to feel that the advocates of Birth Control are seeking to bring about a revolutionary change in actual conditions, as if, that is, Birth Control today were not practiced at all, and would become practically universal if those who advocate amendment of the laws on the subject prevailed.

The fact is, of course, as everyone at all likely to read what I am writing knows, that only the very poor and some members of the Roman Catholic church do not habitually use contraceptive measures of one sort or another. Despite stringent laws upon the subject, anyone may enter practically any drug store in New York City and select a contraceptive device from a large and widely varied stock. Among individuals information upon contraceptive methods, and as to where various devices may be bought, is as common, as freely interchanged, as is information about home brews and bootleggers — probably the interchange of information is even more free.

The only people to whom this information and these contraceptive devices are, perhaps, not readily accessible are the very poor—precisely those who, for economic reasons, need them most. One reason, of course, why, under present conditions, the poor cannot make full use of what knowledge they possess is that the illicit and contraband nature of the trade in contraceptive devices operates to make their cost dis-proportionately high.

The present condition has, of course, other sinister and dangerous aspects. Much of the information upon which contraceptive methods are based is unscientific and mis-leading, many of these methods are untrustworthy or in juris to health. That does not and never will prevent them from being used, the only way in which they can be abolished is by making available correct information as to safe and dependable methods.

These people say, in effect, that sexual relations, except for procreative purposes, are lustful and licentious, that if people wish to limit the number of their offspring they can and should do so by abstaining from sexual life except when they are ready and willing to have children.

Now, that is not true, and every decent human being who has ever known love knows it is not true. Even a rudimentary knowledge of modern psychology, of the works of Freud, Jung, Adler and many others supplies a thousand arguments on this point. But most of the people of whose hypocrisy I complain regard Freud as the victim of a sex obsession. Even they, though, will perhaps hesitate to denounce Dean Inge as an advocate of sex licence. And Dean Inge has written, nobly and simply, of the richness and the deep value of the sexual part of marriage, and its relation to the extraction from life of its fullest values.

The fact is, of course, that modern men and women, sane, balanced, continent people, normal in their sexual lives and desires, find a need for a degree of sexual intimacy that would by no means be satisfied by the arbitrary limitations that Archbishop Hayes, for example, has suggested.

Moreover, doesn’t this whole line of argument collapse the minute the logical process begun by Archbishop Hayes, again for example, is carried one step further? It is wrong to destroy life. Granted. No one defends murder. Birth Control advocates, by the way, were they completely successful, would eliminate abortion, which is murder, if you please. If it is wrong to destroy life, it is not equally wrong to prevent it from coming into being—to interrupt, that is, a process of nature from which life would result? Suppose you grant that, too. Proceed then if it is wrong to prevent the creation of life by arresting a natural process in a certain stage of completion, is it not equally wrong to prevent it by prohibiting or inhibiting, as the case may be, the first step of that process?

YOU MUST DO nothing, says Archbishop Hayes, to prevent the natural results of cohabitation from occurring if you honestly believe that for any reason you should not bring children into the world, the thing for you to do is to abstain from the act that has the result of bringing them, because that result, appointed by God, or nature, cannot be prevented without sin.

But God or nature, ordaining that conception should, nor mally, result from cohabitation, ordained equally that men and women should be moved by the desire to cohabit, and church and state have not only sanctioned that desire, but encouraged its fulfillment by the development of the institution of marriage. The desire, not the physical act, is the first step in the procreation of children—a beautiful fact which these hypocrites consistently ignore, and which accounts for what seems to me their perverted and disgusting degradation of the whole sexual relation. So to interrupt this process in the phase of desire is logically, as sinful as to interrupt it in the phase of satisfaction of desire.

Hypocrisy must be, it seems to me, the point of attack for those who believe in the limitation of offspring. Until you eliminate that all the other arguments you can make are bound to fail. You must make these people who meet you with what they say—and may believe—are "moral" arguments see and admit that sex love and sex desire are as clean and as beautiful as they are elemental. You must make them realize that those who shrink from any frank consideration of the sex relation to do so because their own knowledge of the subject has been perverted—because they have failed to understand what clean and sacred desire can be, and because they will find, if only they succeed in achieving complete honesty in the examination of their own thoughts, that they measure the quality of sex desire in others by its nature in themselves.

Birth control is an economic necessity. The Church in reference to this subject is out of date. We are no longer living in the patriarchal age of nomadic agriculture, when the numerous offspring would help in the tilling of the soil, and would increase the strength of the tribe. Under present conditions, the middle class men, whose sons and daughters are expected to study for a career, has to think twice before he indulges in a large family.

—DR. BERNARD HOLLANDER.
A FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1921

HURDMAN AND CRANSTOUN
Certified Public Accountants
55 Liberty Street
NEW YORK
March 20, 1922

MRS FRANCES B ACKERMAN, Treasurer,
New York Women's Publishing Company, Inc,
New York City

Dear Madam

We have made a detailed cash audit of the books and records of the New York Women's Publishing Company, Inc, for the year ended December 31, 1921, and submit our report in the accompanying statements.

It will be noted that the operations for the year resulted in a loss of $5,607.92. This loss was reduced, however, by pledges, donations, etc., amounting to $4,364.79, making a net loss for the year of $1,243.13.

Respectfully submitted,
HURDMAN AND CRANSTOUN,
Certified Public Accountants

Exhibit "A"

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
December 31, 1921

ASSETS

Cash ........................................... $49,834
Due from subscribers to Capital Stock ............... 1,400
Furniture and Fixtures .................................. 615.00
Good will ............................................ 18,237

TOTAL ASSETS ................................... $75,621

LIABILITIES

Loan Payable--Mrs Margaret Sanger ................. $200.00

CAPITAL

Capital Stock Issued
(authorized $10,000) .................................... $8,650.00
Capital Stock Subscriptions ...................... 200.00

$8,670.00

LESS DEFICIT

Deficit, January 1, 1921 ........ $6,670.00
Add Net Loss, (Exh "B") ... 1,243.13 8,113.79

Equity, December 31, 1921 ................... $55,621

Exhibit "B"

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSE
Year Ended December 31, 1921

INCOME

Subscriptions and Office Sales ................... $2,524.77
Street Sales ..................................... 2,340.03
Sales of Literature .................................. 1,714.22
Advertising ....................................... 516.41

TOTAL INCOME ................................ $7,095.43

EXPENSE

Publication
Printing and Paper ...................... $6,020.61
Cuts and Drawings ......................... 68.67
Folding and Mailing ....................... 75.19 $6,184.47

General
Office Salaries ...................... $4,681.50
Rent ........................................ 669.20
Printing and Stationery .............. 140.78
Toteen Distribution ...................... 121.37
Advertising and Publicity .............. 45.25
Taxes ......................................... 10.00
Miscellaneous Office ..................... 850.78 6,518.88

TOTAL EXPENSE ............................... $12,703.35

NET LOSS ON OPERATIONS .................. $5,607.92

Other Income

Donations .................................... $1,791.97
Pledges ........................................ 2,289.42
Miscellaneous Income ....................... 18.80
Proceeds from Rummage Sale ................ 264.00 4,364.79

Net Loss, Year Ended Dec 31, 1921 (Exh "A") $1,243.13

THE QUESTION OF BIRTH CONTROL DISCUSSED FROM A PSYCHIATRIC STANDPOINT

(Continued from page 81)

It may be that the correct remedy for this situation consists in radical change of industrial, economic and social conditions. But it may also be that, by merely restoring to women, though Birth Control, their natural prerogative of determining when and by whom they shall have children, a better selected race would result.

This seems a small crumb for psychiatry to contribute to the cause of Birth Control. But I would not have you think that I have come here to throw cold water on the proposition whether from the standpoint merely of psychiatry, an advantage is to be gained through Birth Control or not, matters, after all, comparatively little. Fundamental human rights are here at stake.

Personally, if I may be permitted to speak not only as a psychiatrist, but also as a man, I should say that the Birth Control movement ought to be regarded as one of many steps in our progress toward human liberation. Such questions as how it might affect industrial production, efficiency, national strength, etc., must appear to all lovers of liberty as essentially irrelevant.

If for the preservation of the existing order it is necessary to enslave women through involuntary parenthood, then there is something basically wrong with the existing order. This and every other remaining vestige of human slavery must be abolished on this general proposition there can be no compromise.

It is a false argument which says that, if it be proved expedient to do so, involuntary parenthood shall be done away with. I say rather, if the heavens fall, it shall be done away with.
A Renew by Havelock Ellis


This Study of Present Tendencies in the Biological Development of Civilized Mankind—as the sub-title has it—constitutes a compendious statement of the eugenics problem. It is written by the Professor of Zoology in California University, and the zoological approach to anthropological questions, as the example of Dr. Haddon and others has shown, is a highly desirable avenue, for it ensures that human differences will be discussed in a reasonably biological manner. At the same time this is an excellent example of an academic class of books freely produced in America. The books of this class usually grow, as the present volume has grown, out of lecture courses to students. They contain and need contain, nothing that is original, no personal point of view, no special charm of style. But frequently, owing to the circumstances in which they have arisen, they are learned, impartial, and equally interesting. Therein is their value. They contain no strong opinions, they are not written to advance any theories, they are addressed to students of such varied kinds that the professor is disposed, if he has any strong opinions, to keep them to himself. But they furnish the material and the tools to others who are in the process of forming what may sometimes prove strong opinions. So that if the writers of these academic books are so alive to the fallacies, pitfalls, and uncertainties of knowledge we must not complain when they decide to fight back. He, the professor, for God’s sakes, and even for the sake of varying the form of this impartiality, advocate a “judicious combination” of both, as Professor Holmes does here, in relation to one particular question, by recommending us to blend a little of Dr. Drysdale with a little of Roosevelt.

It is possible that some reader may be interested in this particular question just referred to. They will, therefore, be attracted by the two figures which Professor Holmes has devoted to the theme of the Birth rate and the Causes of that Decline, both illustrated by figures and statistical tables. Professor Holmes takes his texts from Ecclesiastes and Bertrand Russell “Desire not a multitude of unprofitable children,” and “There is no importance in an increasing population, on the contrary.” This would seem to indicate the direction of Professor Holmes’ sympathies, but it scarcely corresponds to the drift of his arguments. He here often seems to belong to that large body of old fashioned but, without doubt, most worthy and well intentioned people who consider it necessary to always preaching to the best and most enlightened members of our civilization—for they admit that it is those who control the distribution of their offspring—to produce more children, and who, moreover, consider that the prospect of a world inhabited by fewer people than ours at present is something too appalling to contemplate, one must just shut one’s eyes tight and shout. It never occurs to these good people to ask themselves what claim they have to be better than the best and more enlightened than the most enlightened that they should presume so arrogantly to tell them what to do. And it is never home in on them that possibly it might be easier and more profitable for the raw if, instead of under taking the vain task of damming the oncoming stream of birth-control they were to try to direct it into channels where it might act beneficially by reducing the number of feeble minded and sick folk who threaten to swamp our civilization. Nor do they explain to us why it is that the present population of the globe represents a level so completely favorable beyond all that we went before us or would have imagined coming after, that it must be maintained world without end.

But it must not be supposed that Professor Holmes is a fanatic in his attachment to this class of people if, indeed, he belongs to them at all. He remains true, here as ever, to the principle of the “judicious combination.” He is gently sarcastic over those who regard Birth Control as a panacea for the evils of mankind, and he is mildly shocked at the behavior of the best and most enlightened people. But he prays that C. V. Drysdale’s Small Family System—perhaps the best general statement of the Neo-Malthusian doctrine—and he well sets out the various causes that lead to a declining birth rate though he has nothing to say about that automatic tendency of high civilization, corresponding to the progressive movement of all evolution towards the diminution of the birth rate with rise in the zoological scale, as set forth, though too carelessly and uncritically, by Dr. P. in his recent hook on the laws of birth and death. He recognizes also that the population cannot go on increasing indefinitely, and he knows how desirable it is that some stop shall be put to the increase of the less desirable human stocks in civilization. Indeed he often places aside, impartially statements that tell in opposed directions. As his primary topic is eugenics, one might expect him to recognize that Birth Control is the key to any sane eugenic progress under modern conditions, especially as he admits that, even with our present knowledge, “there are abundant possibilities of rapid transformation.” But that is not his way. It is satisfactory, however, and quite in keeping with his statement that “opinion in medical circles and elsewhere is coming to be more favorable to the movement,” that efforts on the other side are futile, if not mischief-asking. An important and even for the better classes practice Birth Control, it is necessary to “become so hopelessly indifferent about extending the information to the people among whom it would do the most good.”

It must be remembered that these chapters are only two among sixteen in which all deal with attractive and important problems connected with heredity and selection—mental, physical, and social. An eugenic marriage, assortative mating, the influence of order of birth and age of parents upon offspring, industrial development in its racial influence, etc. All these topics are discussed in a commendable and helpful manner, and there is a useful bibliography at the end of each chapter. Professor Holmes sets out all the considerations which make the future of mankind un hopeful. But he points out that these considerations are not always easy to interpret, and his final statements incline more to the optimistic than the opposite side. There is no positive proof of deca- dance, physical or mental, in the races. But, in the words of Major Leonard Darwin prefixed to the last chapter, “the obvious conclusion must replace the blind forces of natural selection.” The author clearly sees at the end that “some means must be instituted for encouraging race suicide among those to whom nature has been ungenerously furnished with the disastrous tendency of our civilization, and we must seek by education to extend more widely that eugenic conclusion which is still so sadly lacking.”

Havelock Ellis
—from the New Generation, February, 1922

The Birth Control Review

Book Reviews

The Child and the Home. By Bennion Liber. Rational Living, New York. Much practical good sense is packed into this little volume, and as long as the present system of uncontrolled breeding continues there will be need for such instruction and warning as Dr. Liber gives here. It will also still be possible to observe innumerable instances of the mistakes in child training which he points out. A little child is the most wonderful thing in all nature. It is its possibilities for good or for evil are greater than those of any other creature. Yet any woman who captures the fancy of some man is considered good enough and wise enough to be entrusted with the care of this precious and tender little creature. When Birth Control is recognized as moral and necessary, a new standard of values will be adopted, and public opinion will demand that the woman who gives birth to a child should herself fit for the tremendous task she undertakes. The Eugenists are demanding that men and women shall be physically and mentally fit for marriage, but as yet no one is demanding that parents shall have training in child culture before they are so andacuous as to bring a child into existence. There will be fewer unfit adults—fewer suicides and
would be suicides—when motherhood and fatherhood are regarded with greater respect and when consequently parents have a higher respect for their children

PERIODICALS

The New Generation (London) for April is largely devoted to the economic aspects of birth control—its necessity for an overpopulated country like England. It contains articles by Lawrence Houseman, Dr. Barbara Crawford, C. V. Drysdale and Gordon Lang.

The Nation, New York, for May 3rd, contains an interesting account of the commotion in Mexico over birth control.

American Medicine, Burlington, Vt., for March contains an interesting editorial entitled "Protecting Marriage." The writer suggests the need for an overhauling of the laws regarding both amnullment of marriage and divorce to conform to modern ideas of morality and eugenics.

A still more notable article concerns the "Possibility of the Ultimate Eradication of Venereal Disease." It is written by Dr. T. L. Nascher of New York, who approaches the subject from a point of view as frankly male as if the opinions of women in sex matters were wholly negligible. Fearing the prostitute as a purveyor of venereal disease, Dr. Nascher would apparently supplant her by supplying every man, no matter what his economic position with an individual mistress. In what respect this system would be superior to monogamic marriage, or why it should solve a problem that such marriage has failed to solve, Dr. Nascher does not explain.

Contemporary Review, London, for March contains a remarkable article by J. Saxon Mills on Unemployment and the British Empire. He is convinced that with 650 inhabitants to the square mile England is overpopulated, and that "in British cities intellectual congestion is especially acute." He quotes Harold Cox with approval, but instead of Birth Control as recommended by Cox, he would have emigration on an enormous scale from Great Britain into the still thinly populated regions of the Empire. This would be only a temporary palliative if it could be carried out, and Mr. Mills seems to have little comprehension of the immense difficulties that always attend large scale immigration into a country with few resources for dealing with the new comers.

BOOKS RECEIVED

From Science Publishing Co., Chicago, Searchlights and Sane Ethics, by Dr. Lee Alexander Stone.

From McClure Publishing Co., Chicago, Race Decadence, by Willaim S. Sadler, M.D.


From E. P. Dutton & Co., New York, Sex Knowledge, by Norah D. March

DO NOT thank, however, that the average man realizes even yet how vast a part is played by sex in everyday life.

There will be, of course, much opposition to a recognition of Birth Control. It will come from some who honestly but wrongly dubiously in such recognition, at will come from many to whom humbug has become almost instinctive, it will come from men who sexually are subnormal (remember that civilization tends to destroy natural impulses). It will come from old men who have forgotten their earlier vitality.

-SIR W. ARBUTHNOT LANE.

"The lesson of the war stands, Nations that lack men to resist aggression are doomed to perish. The British Empire and all its traditions will decline and fall if the Motherland is faithful to motherhood. We cannot risk it. We are too near the sound of guns."

-Sunday Express, England

SHALL THIS GO ON? By M S

Why must we, women, blush to feel an exultation at Man's beauty?

Men do not so. They speak, they write us, Our beauty soft curved line and tender colorings.

Let us speak out! We're only half emerged From must of the past, Our souls drag rotting memories, Traditions of our slavery, Making us more tragic that we only half are free We, you, I—all women, Joy in run of clean muscle, taut, straight limb, Economy and dignity of build, architecture built for use, Body, hard, vigorous, and keen

Frankly worship these Then are we no longer blind to infirmities and sores, To crumbling frames and all their ugliness.

Let us not pity horror! Bear clean blooded children if we must There is no lovely martyrdom in birth of Putrid Flesh It is for us, all women, to worship Clean and Whole! Have you not seen babies pale and wan, Heavy souled, heavy bodied, sons of generahons in their eyes.

Shall this go on?

If so, know then, their existence is to you A mockery, an accusation!

Shall be, while they live, and their children's children live! Is this Honor?

To have added yet another link in the Chasm of the Flesh? Flesh only, with no terrible great touch of the Fire of the Soul!

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT CIRCULATION ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 2, 1912

Of The Birth Control Review published monthly at New York, N.Y., for April 1, 1922. State of New York, County of New York.

Entered as second class matter at the post office at New York, N.Y., under the Act of March 3, 1879. The name and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are: Publisher, New York Women's Publishing Company, 104 Fifth Avenue, Editor Martha Sanger. (4th Fifth Avenue Business Manager, Birth Albert, 104 Fifth Avenue, New York.)

2 That the owners are (Give names and addresses of individual owners if a corporation give its name and the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding one per cent or more of the total amount of stock): New York Women's Publishing Company, 104 Fifth Avenue, N.Y.C., Mrs. Annette B. Rubens, 54 East 54th Street, Mrs. Mary Kuehn, Seventh Avenue and 55th Street, Mrs. Frances A. Ackerman, Bronxville, New York.

3 That the known bondholders and security holders owning or holding one per cent or more of the total amount of bonds or any security are (If there are none so state) None.

4 That the two paragraphs next above giving the names of the owners, stockholders and security holders of any corporation do not apply to the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting is as follows: Also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing all facts of full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting as follows: Also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing all facts of full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting as follows.

RUTK ALBERT Business Manager

Sworn to and subscribed before me this twentieth day of March 1922

Harvey P. Vaughn, Notary

(My commission expires March 31, 1922)
THE AMERICAN BIRTH CONTROL LEAGUE announces the
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Chairman, Prof E W McBride
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4 Hygienic Preventives
Chairman, Dr Norman Haare
5 Economic
Chairman, Dr C V Drysdale
6 Political
Chairman, Mr Harold Cox

The American Birth Control League urges every sympathizer who expects to be in Europe, or who can make the journey expressly for the Congress, to join the American delegation, which will be headed by Margaret Sanger.

Write for information to
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