A REAL AMERICAN MOTHER—SIOUX INDIAN
(By courtesy of Lewis W Hine)

Official Organ of
THE AMERICAN BIRTH CONTROL LEAGUE, Inc, 104 Fifth Avenue, New York City
THE AMERICAN BIRTH CONTROL LEAGUE
announces the
FIFTH INTERNATIONAL BIRTH CONTROL CONGRESS
to be held in LONDON, JULY 11, 12, 13, 14, 1922, under the auspices of The Malthusian League of Great Britain
President Dr C V Drysdale, IBE, DSc (Lond.), FRSE

PROGRAMME

Tuesday, July 11th
MORNING—10 a.m.—1 p.m.
Opening of Conference
President Dr C V Drysdale OBE, FRSE
Greetings and Reports of Societies.
AFTERNOON—2 30—5 p.m.
Individual and Family Aspects of Birth Control.
President Mrs Margaret Sanger
EVENING
Reception of Foreign Delegates by Mr and Mrs H G Wells.

Wednesday, July 12th
MORNING—10 a.m.—1 p.m.
Economic and Statistical
President, Prof J M Keynes, MA
AFTERNOON—3—5 p.m.
Moral and Religious Section
President, Rev Gordon Lang
EVENING—7 30 p.m.
A Public Dinner to celebrate the Centenary of Birth Control Propagation by Francis Place.

Thursday, July 13th
MORNING—10 a.m.—1 p.m.
Eugenic Section
President, Prof E W MacBride, DSc., MA, LLD, FRSE
AFTERNOON—2 30—5 p.m.
National and International Section
President, Harold Cox, Esq.

Friday, July 14th
MORNING—10 a.m.—1 p.m.
Medical and Public Health Section
President Sir G Arickshad Reid, KBE, MB, FRSE
AFTERNOON—3 30—5 p.m.
Private Session on Contraceptive Devices for members of Medical Profession
President, Dr Norman Haare, MB, ChB
EVENING—8 p.m.
Public Open air Meeting in South London for Working Men and Women

A visit will also be arranged to the Malthusian League’s Welfare Centre, at which Birth Control instruction given by a woman doctor in addition to ordinary child and maternity welfare advice.

Saturday, July 15th
An automobile excursion to Dorking, Surrey, will be arranged for this day in order to visit the birthplace of the Rev T R Malthus (d 1834), author of the famous Essay on the Principle of Population, and founder of the Malthusian school of thought.

THE BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW
104 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK, N Y

Vol. VI JULY, 1922 No 7

Editor
MARGARET SANGER

Managing Editor
Annie G Porritt

Circulation Manager
Ruth Albert

Published Monthly Subscription price 8200 a year, foreign countries and Canada 8225, postpaid
Bundle rate $14 per hundred

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Issued on the first of each month.

Address correspondence and make checks and money orders payable to THE BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW


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The
New Generation

(Successor to the Malthusian, founded 1876)

Editors
Dr C V Drysdale
Mrs B T Drysdale

Published under the auspices of the MALTHUSIAN LEAGUE
124 VICTORIA STREET
LONDON, S W 1

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Margaret Sanger in China

To the Readers of The Birth Control Review

The average tourist visiting China, cannot help but be unpressed by the fact that the Malthusian doctrine has proven itself true here and can never be refuted while China exists in its present condition. Here one sees millions of people, with scarcely clothing enough to cover their naked oodels, eking out a mere existence for which they have to work twelve to twenty hours a day.

On the way from Mukden to Peking, every inch of ground is utilized for food. While on our trip from Peking to Hankow, and then down the Yangtze River to Nanking, on our way to Shanghai, we saw the land so taken up in producing food that the people are compelled to make their habitations and homes in boats upon the water. There are few roads in China. Even that space is taken over for food production and mile upon mile of great tracts of land is cultivated for the barest necessities, and thus after four thousand years of civilization

China proves beyond a doubt that the bare fact of birth does not necessarily enhance our civilization. We find in this old country conditions that are appalling. In all the large cities the foreign quarters are clean and well cared for, with paved streets, beautiful palatial residences, few children in the districts, and those few well clothed and looked after by Chinese nurses. While off in another part of the city, where the Chinese native dwellers, conditions are unspeakable. It amazes me that foreigners, Americans, English and French can live here and close their eyes to such sordid, degrading conditions. They could not live amongst such conditions in their own country without an effort to improve them. It is said by those who have lived here long, that China psychologically swallows up all those who live here, and I certainly believe that it is true, for during my conversation with many missionaries and business people, who have lived here for the last fifteen or twenty years, I find that they have lost many of those qualities of char arter and conscientiousness which have been bred in them for generations in their own country. Here and there one finds an effort toward improvements, but the Improvements in the cities are done mainly in the foreign districts for their own comfort and convenience. Here we see the most abject and distressing objects of poverty and misery. We see disease rampant openly in the streets. We see lepers sitting begging from passersby, while those afflicted with syphilitic sores walk beside us. We see mothers, professional beggars, who bear their children openly in the streets. Their children in turn become beggars and so it goes from generation to generation. The street is their home, eating, sleeping and begging there. They do not like to be photographed as they are very superstitious and believe the camera brings evil to them.

The thing I cannot accustom myself to in China, is being pulled in a rickshaw by a human being, or being carried in a sedan chair by three or four of them.

I can’t endure the eager running of the half naked rickshaw boy, and I avoid them whenever it is possible. It is said his days are numbered in this uncivilized occupation. He lives four or five years at most. The remainder of his life is spent cursing out an existence. He suffers from varicose veins and heart disease. We see them everywhere, clothed in thin trousers and jacket, and usually ragged and dirty when not engaged by hotels. Eagerly they solicit our trade and pick up the shafts of their little vehicle and begin the dog trot journey.

At Peking a young woman, secretary to a prominent official called for me to take me to the gentleman’s home. On the way she related the joys of living in China. She said she got a small salary, far smaller than she got in America, but her com forts far exceeded anything she could have had at home with double her present wage. Among the comforts noted was a rickshaw boy whom she employed by the month, paying him 10 Mex. or 5 American dollars a month, out of which the boy sup ports himself and his family. He had been in her employ three years—she had never given him more money nor did she expect to.

One of the hardest features of life of an employee in China is that he can not get a position by himself. He must have someone else get it for him. When a foreigner does not know this, and dismisses a servant, it means practical starvation for that man.

Besides the rickshaw men, the lives of coolies and singing song girls make me shudder. While in the Northern cities the coolies are men and boys, in Hongkong the women do this beast of burden work. As I sat writing this I looked out of my window upon a newly built structure where hundreds of women are carrying bricks in baskets to the men who are laying them.

I can not give here all my experiences, but I can never again boast of our civilization after my conversation with some of Shanghai’s singing girls. These little children are segregated in districts for someone’s profit. They are babies in body and mind, and are sold into bondage often in infancy. It is said they are owned completely by the woman or man in charge, and any attempt to run away or at subordination is promptly met by the cruellest beatings and torture.
I passed through several of these districts in Shanghai accompanied by a progressive missionary who had lived in China the past seventeen years. He spoke the language fluently and himself was an officer of the Door of Hope.

I wanted particularly to find out what these girls used to prevent conception. They spoke freely of their lives and their sorrows. I came away sick to my soul with doubts and pity and would have been filled with despair had not each girl told the story of many babies at home, "too much baby," "no chew," convincing truth again and again that Birth Control is the basic solution to such problems, especially as they relate to the future.

We in the Western world who have the desire to make the Birth Control movement international have asked ourselves how this idea would be accepted in the Orient. We have time and again been told by our opponents that the Japanese and Chinese would not accept this idea, and that eventually, if we persisted in our work in the Western countries, the white race would be entirely wiped out. But, however, a great pleasure to me to be able to say that the idea of Birth Control is readily accepted in both of these countries. I have already given an account of the enthusiasm with which the message was received in Japan, and, while there has been no such publicity in China, yet wherever I have gone, and there has been an opportunity to speak, the enthusiasm has been keen and encouraging. In Shanghai I was able to meet several members of the Commercial Press. All these gentlemen were editors and influential writers in the Chinese world. They entertained me at tea one afternoon and made plans for the translation and publication of a pamphlet on "Family Limitation" and also for the establishment of a magazine devoted especially to the population and Birth Control subject.

On Sunday April 30th I was invited to address a meeting at the Labour Museum on behalf of three organizations, the Kuangsu Educational Association, the National Association of Vocational Education of China and the Association of Family Reformation of China. I was addressed to publish meeting to consist of working men and women. It was interesting that the occasion of this meeting was the third anniversary of the Family Reformation Association of China. The three essential rules that one must abide by in joining this association are not to drink, not to smoke, and not to gamble. I suggested a fourth rule of limiting the family, to come with the mothers' health and the fathers' income, and the suggestion was readily ap plauded.

While my tour through China has not had the same national interest as my meetings in Japan, yet I feel that considering the lack of time and preparation for my coming to China the results have been splendid. With the possibility of a League in Peking and the establishment of a branch of the Chinese there together with a branch League in Shanghai and a magazine devoted to Birth Control, I feel that we have established some good centres and should make rapid progress in the few years. The Chinese press has been splendid. Wherever one has been able to arouse attention, there has been a splendid response and I feel that one of the important things of the future will be to send two or three speakers into China to remain at least six months, in order to pick up the loose ends and to encourage those already starting this work.

From the South China Morning Post of May 8th in the Editorial entitled Birth Control I quote: "Chin is as striking an example of over population and resultant degeneration as the world can show. It might with difficulty be made the reformer's first battle ground, for from what we know of old custom it would be a hard fight, so hard that if at were won, the education of the rest of the world would be a simple matter." This sums the matter up in a nutshell and yet I feel today, as I am about to leave this country for Europe, that there are no more encouraging prospects for the general practice of the idea than right here in China.

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T H E LATEST NEWS from Mrs Sanger is from Hongkong where she arrived on May 8th. She left Japan — after over three weeks there — on April 4th. On her way to Peking she stopped over at Seoul, Korea, and at Mukden, Manchuria. There were no meetings or speeches at these places, but her coming was announced beforehand everywhere there were reporters and camera men, ready for interviews and pictures. On April 12th she reached Peking, where she remained until the 21st. While there she gave a number of addresses, the most important being a speech to the professors and students of the National University, one before the nurses of the Training School of the Rockefeller Institute and several before groups of medical men. From Peking she went to Shanghai, which she reached on April 25th. Here again there were meetings to address and interviews to be given. While in Shanghai, Mrs Sanger made some careful investigations of such questions as child labor, wage rates in China and also birth and mortality rates. The letter from her which we rejoice to be able to print this month gives her impressions of some of our writers as "the glorious fertility of the Orient." I:

There was an astounding amount of publicity concerning Mrs Sanger and her visit to China in the press of Shanghai and Hongkong, both in the newspapers printed in English and those printed in Chinese. A large bale of the vernacular papers, forwarded to the Review, contained the following articles:

April 15 — The China Times Favorable editorial on Birth Control commenting on Mrs Sanger's work and her coming visit.

April 19 — Republican Daily, Shanghai. In Woman's Supplement Editorial on Voluntary Motherhood, and Life Sketch of Mrs Sanger and her work.

April 20 — China Times. Special article by Miss C. Y. Yi, in appreciation of Mrs Sanger's work, extending welcome to her on approaching arrival at Shanghai.

April 21 — Republican Daily. Editorial Welcome to Mrs Sanger.

April 24 — China Times. Report of Mrs Sanger in Peking, and of her journey from Peking to Shanghai.

April 26 — The China Times. Interview with Mrs Sanger sent from Peking, in which she discussed Eugenics, the New
In addition to all this matter, the women's press in China also devoted much attention to Mrs Sanger's work and plans, suggesting the establishment of a League for Birth Control and a Birth Control organ in Shanghai.


Panel discussions and debates on Birth Control were held in many universities and towns. The State laws in many States were passed to repeal these laws, but whether repealed or not, it is well known that in many States, and especially in the Southern cotton manufacturing States, enforcement is most lax and ineffectual. Without the check of the Federal law, children are again liable to exploitation in the cotton factories, and the big family of children who become economically self-dependent at ten or eleven years old, and who grow up illiterate, stunted in mind and body from premature toil, and altogether unfit to be the parents of the next generation will still be lauded by the employers and the newspapers. The mothers are not to blame. When a man cannot possibly earn wages enough to keep a family, the mother naturally argues in the words of the Lan cashine woman "better let the children work with vultures, than go to school without vultures." Birth Control in the long run offers a way out, but the way is too long and difficult unless the law steps in and makes children a responsibility rather than an asset. Until parents have both sufficient intelligence and a sufficiently good economic level to be able to disregard the quick gains of child labor, society must protect the children with child labor legislation. Through the law parents will be taught responsibility for the children and a sense of parental responsibility leads to a demand for Birth Control.

THE DECISION OF the United States Supreme Court which makes unconstitutional the Child Labor Law of 1919 is a serious blow to the movement for Birth Control. As history plainly shows, whenever young children can be profitably utilized in industry, the birth rate rises. In the textile regions a family is valuable to the mill owners in proportion to the number of hands it can apply to the machines. Textile towns do not welcome single men. Women and children are also needed, and the younger a child can go to work, the more profit able is a large family both to the father and to the employers. It is when children are a responsibility rather than an asset that the movement sets in toward a diminished birth rate. Every law compelling school attendance, every law curtailing hours of work for children and every law prohibiting work for wages under specified ages—every law in short which aims to give the child a chance for full development and which removes it from its parent's power of exploitation makes for Birth Control, while on the other hand, every condition which makes possible the exploitation of child life, irrespective of the effect on the health and development of the child itself, makes for large families, high child mortality rates, and illiteracy and inefficiency in the coming generation. The mothers suffer with the children, for no matter how much economic value can be wrung from the child, the mother must pay the toll of life and suffering that is demanded from the bearing of many children.
The Birth Control Problem

By C C Little

Cold Spring Harbor, Long Island, New York

The recent conference on the Birth Control problem held in New York City, was the first actual opportunity which the writer has had to become intimately acquainted with the aims and efforts of the leading workers in this field.

The activity, energy, and seriousness of purpose of the group of workers in attendance there could not possibly be questioned. The members of the conference included sociologists, economists, medical men, humanitarians, and biologists. The arguments offered for Birth Control were many and in large measure convincing, but through them all, there was a conspicuous absence of concrete scientific evidence as to whether contraceptive methods have a desirable effect physiologically and psychologically on those directly practicing them, and on the progeny of such individuals.

It may, I imagine, be objected that such effects are of secondary or minor importance as compared with the economic and sociological improvement which relief of human congestion should produce. With such a point of view I should like to take clear-cut issue, even to the point of stating that no aspect of the problem is so important as the completion of a careful series of experiments to determine the biological effects, if any, which various contraceptive methods have on an individual and on its subsequent progeny.

It is not necessary to contemplate application of such methods to humans until and unless the evidence obtained from careful experimentation with laboratory mammals is sufficiently encouraging to demand our unreserved confidence.

Thus to find that rabbits may be made completely sterile for let us say a period of three weeks following a certain type of treatment, and that at the end of this time produce a considerable number of apparently normal and viable young, is not in itself sufficient to encourage an extension of the methods used even to such expensive material as dogs or monkeys.
Appeals from Mothers

A GAIN WE OFFER to our readers a very few of the hundreds of letters that come to us from all parts of the United States and Canada. Every one of these letters is a genuine cry for help from an oppressed mother. If the men who make our laws could be compelled to read them all, it seems impossible that the legal barriers against Birth Control clinics could endure a day longer than would he necessary to pass the necessary legislation.

My dear Mrs. Sanger

I feel the book, Woman and the New Race and I am interested in it. I was married 5½ years ago when I was 21, and I am going to have my 5th baby in about 2 weeks. This is the only time I have got so far, along, they all were premature, the oldest one is the only one that we were able to raise and it almost breaks our hearts to give them up after we have them, but my kidneys are weak and I nearly lose my own

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until certain highly Important related facts are made clear by further work with the rabbits themselves.

The ADDITIONAL FACTS needed involve (1) Information concerning the duration of life, cause of death, and psychological and psychological behavior of the treated animals, as compared with their untreated litter brothers and sisters as controls, and (2) The careful study morphologically, physiologically, and psychologically of the inbred and outbred descendants of treated animals compared with the inbred and outbred progeny of their untreated brothers and sisters.

There are excellent reasons based to some degree on experimental data for insisting on these points. The danger of failure to obtain evidence on these matters should be clear to all. In event of its absence one would need only statistical evidence indicating the harmful effect of a single contraceptive method advocated by an official of the Birth Control League, to bring down upon that organization an almost irresistible flood of protest and opposition.

With such evidence on hand, however, attacks of opponents to the application of contraceptive methods could be met from behind a firm and comfortable fortress, once established with sufficient care and on critical material, would be essentially unassailable.

If the Birth Control idea is as important as it seems to be, it is worth the expenditure of time and funds to produce the body of experimental evidence necessary to enable us to say with conviction that any contraceptive method is or is not harmful. This is the only sure and dignified way of convincing the scientific world and thinking public of the existence of unselfish and broadminded impulses at the back of the Birth Control movement.

Propaganda to show the increase of this or that undesirable race, or harmful economic type may carry sufficient weight to convince many hundreds of thousands of the need of Birth Control, but it can never carry conviction as to the advisability of any particular contraceptive method.

It seems to the writer that a frank admission of this kind by those most vitally interested in this work if followed by a sincere appeal for funds to support research along the general lines suggested, would certainly meet with a strong and general response. At the same time it would do much to clear the movement from any possible cloud of misinterpretation which might naturally follow failure to lay strong and unassailable biological foundations as have all other world-wide movements involving preventative hygiene. Practices of more or less general application

[It is with great satisfaction that we print Dr. Little's valuable paper. We welcome his recognition of the need of more research into the physiological and psychological effects of various methods of Birth Control and of the necessity of more scientific evidence concerning the effects of contraceptives now in use. This need we have consistently and urgently presented to the medical profession. Such research is of course necessary if we are to secure the attention of scientists and to see them conducting the series of careful experiments of which Dr. Little writes. Nevertheless we wish you another side of the question. For years the advocates of Birth Control have appealed to the scientists and doctors to respond to the appeals of suffering mothers and hard pressed fathers, and to give Birth Control information. It was necessary to engage in nation-wide—almost world-wide—propaganda in order to make the call loud enough and in silent enough for the scientists to hear and heed it. Proceeding without the advantage of the careful scientific investigations which were the desideratum, the advocates of Birth Control were obliged to resort to the empirical knowledge gathered from the long operaion of Birth Control clinics in Holland. Admittedly the contraceptives now known are not perfect and the evidence that the scientists are awakening to the immense need that exists for their services is the best tidings for Birth Control that have reached us since the movement began.—Ed.]

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life every time with albumin and I am weak other ways, cant hardly be on my feet at all after the 6th month.

My husband don't want more either because I suffer so much. We tried so many things but I get that way any tune, no matter how careful we are. Our Dr told my husband to get a divorce as I could not stand having children, but we are happy together with our boy and won't do anything like that, but if there is something that will keep me from getting that way I would be glad. All our money goes for Drs and hired girl bills.

We hope very much that this baby will live, but we don't want no more for 5 or 4 years till I get strong again, so please help me if you can.

Dear Mrs. Sanger

I am the mother of three little youngsters. My oldest son is four years, the next one is three years and my baby girl is
nine months  Now I want to raise and provide—my husband and I—for the babies the best we can, and more children in our circumstances would be a total failure. My husband is a machinist. His wages are twenty-five dollars a week, and we are struggling to get a room, as we are unable to find any children. As it is we were unable to rent a house, and we were forced to take a basement, where we are most miserable. The children cannot make a move but the landlord is after them. So we are trying to get our own home. How grateful I would be if you could give me the desired information for not having any more children, as the idea keeps me in constant dread and terror.

Dear Mrs. Sanger,

Am writing to you because I know you will help a poor woman like me. I am really young, only twenty-three, but feel almost twice as old. Am married three years and have three children, the oldest being two years old, the second, one year, and the third, two months ago. I am always in bed for four weeks on account of being so very weak, and cannot afford any help as my husband must make for us to live on.

I have to work very hard right after birth, wash my own clothes and everything, and have been sick with the falling of the womb ever since. Every time I go and see a doctor he says "I am sorry, but I cannot do anything for you." Dear Mrs. Sanger, I have read your book where you have helped so many, and decided to write to you, hoping to God you will help a poor woman, for your help will be a godsend to me.

My dear Mrs. Sanger,

Just received your book Woman and the New Race and must say it is a wonderful book. I am married to one of the best of husbands who is kind to me in every way. We have five children but this is the question. We are very poor and I have got the consumption and I don't want to bring any more children into this world to suffer with this dreadful disease. Now what I want is this: For you to send me a letter telling me means of preventing the birth of any more children.

Please send me answer immediately before it might be too late. I am positive that there is some way to prevent this and I feel sure you would tell me. Three of my children are threatened with this disease, and I don't want to bring any more children into this world. I am almost certain that I would die if any more children were born to me and one thing I would rather die than have another for we can't support what we have got and then the awful condition it leaves me in.

My dear Mrs. Sanger,

As I know you get thousands of letters of this kind, I will try to make this short. I have tried in vain to get any information about Birth Control, and finally got hold of Woman and the New Race, which had your address in it, and I am writing in the hope that you may help me.

My husband is an ex-service man. We knew each other before the war, but both being poor, knew we had no right to get married. But a year after he had come back from the front, we gave up waiting for fear of losing each other for good, and risked it, hoping that both working hard we would be on our feet before any babies came. But work was hard to get. We were as careful as we knew how, but neither of us knew much, and nobody would tell us anything.

Six months ago our little girl was born. I was in a run down condition and had a very hard time of it. I spent over two months in the hospital, and a few weeks in bed after I came home, as I couldn't walk. They didn't expect me to live, and I have to go back in the Fall for some stitches to be taken.

But it is a darling baby, strong and healthy, and I wouldn't be afraid of going through it again now that I feel better—if we could afford it. We got very badly in debt during my illness, and my husband never knows when he has a job, or "business gets slack." So it is necessary for me to work too to make ends meet. My mother is getting old and isn't well, and of course we support her. If I have any more babies just now I don't see how I am to take care of the family I already have.

Will you please help me? You speak in your book of some methods being more dependable than others. Would you tell me what they are? No matter how expensive they must be cheaper than a baby every year.

DINNER PAIL EPICS

By Bill Lloyd, Federated Press Staff Writer

I see some preachers, from their hole, still rail against our Birth Control, as if the whole of our creation was simply made for fecundation. They say it simply is a crime to suit yourself and pick the time when Mister Stork, with flapping wings, shall leave with us a wee, pink thing. They say it's wrong to regulate how oft the stork comes to our gate, and if we would keep out of hell, we should let babies come as mell as we please. It may perhaps sound somewhat rough—but lust where do they get that stuff? Sex specialists, like great Forel, have written books in which they tell that modern man has got for sex, aside from seeking to annex more children than he can support—which is the rabbit's special forte. Forel goes on much farther yet and tells us sex life should beget love, cheer, and personality, as well as more reality.

Young people, living on small wage, should be permitted to engage themselves in early married life, without the struggle and the strife of living constantly in need, by having numerous kids to feed. Babies are better born, I say, if we have wit to pick the day, and so don't look quite so dejected when babies come so unexpected.

The preachers say we should desist from some things if we would resist too large a family of our own. Their recipe lust makes me groan. To which remark I rise to say, the human race ain't built that way.

Sex surely ain't the nasty thing some of our preachers seem to sing. Free us from profit making self, and sex will take care of itself, and if we know what we're about, the human race will not die out. Most everybody loves a kid, but that don't mean to raise the lid, and live our lives in deadly fear the stork will come round once a year.
The Housing Crisis

A Lecture by Scott Nearing, delivered at the Rand School, New York

We think of the housing crisis as having been brought about by the war, when, as a matter of fact, it came with the war, not out of it. We have been moving towards it for some time. The same thing happened in the early days in England, in Birmingham and Manchester. Excepting that then there were fewer regulations so that the situation was more intense, the disaster greater than now. So it is nothing new, war simply emphasized it and perhaps hastened it.

In 1915 the average monthly construction in the United States amounted to nineteen million square feet of residential floor space. In 1916, eighteen million, 1917, twelve million, 1918, eight million six hundred thousand, 1919, twenty million, and in 1920, eleven million, five hundred thousand. There are two series of changes, one brought about primarily by the war, and the other by the business depression. From 1915 to 1918, there is a drop to eight million, and then an increase to normal, and then a drop to almost one half in the next year. The war turned the energies to destruction and away from construction, and this is likewise true of all the European countries. In many parts of Europe the tenants have organized tenants’ leagues, with which they are trying to meet the problem.

In the second place, the war intensified the housing crisis because of the increase of the price of those things which are used in building houses. Using 1913 as 100, costs of building material were 236 in November, 1919, and 313 in November, 1920.

With the situation thus intensified by the war, tens of thousands of families have to accept Inadequate quarters. The expensive houses and apartments are plentiful, but the cheaper ones are packed. Behind that is a most impressive and difficult question—that of taking care of people. It takes us back to the population question, the problem of how to take care of the people that are being born into the world. The problem has two general aspects—first, the number of people in the world, second, their concentration or density.

The population of the whole world has recently been increasing rapidly. In 1800 it was three quarters of a billion, in 1920 it was one billion, eight hundred million. In 100 years the world has added one billion people to the population, in three generations the world’s population has almost trebled itself.

This increase has not been equally distributed through the world. It is seen in the countries where great industries have sprung up. There are three dominant features in the industrial revolution, railroad mileage, the production of coal and the production of pig iron. From 1830 to 1870 the increase in population was gradual, from 1870 to 1910 there was a very rapid increase. In 1800 we were living a domestic industry life, during the period from 1870 on the factory system has developed rapidly, and with it there has been a stupendous increase in industrial products.

The population of the world has increased only largely in those parts which have felt the impetus of this economic change. All throughout Asia, which contains nearly two thirds of the world’s population, the industrial system has made little impression. The same increase in population will probably occur in India and China when they have become industrialized.

Now turn from this survey of world population increase to the changes in population on that have taken place in certain specific countries.

England and Wales

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1100</td>
<td>Two million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1200</td>
<td>Three million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1300</td>
<td>Three and one quarter million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1348</td>
<td>(plague year) Below three million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1400</td>
<td>Three million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1500</td>
<td>Three million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1600</td>
<td>Almost four million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1700</td>
<td>Five million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1750</td>
<td>Seven and one half million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1801</td>
<td>Nine million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1911</td>
<td>Thirty-six million</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Up to 1801 these figures are estimates, since 1801 they are taken from the census returns. England and Wales was an agricultural country, from 1200 to 1600 they had an almost static population. There is a picture of what has been here before the normal status of mankind, century after century practically no change in a very important country. About 1500 there began an increase in population which was established by voyaging and trading. But about 1750 a change began which is known as the industrial revolution, and then, during a period of 160 years the population jumps from seven million to thirty-six millions. At this point where the industrial revolution makes itself felt, there is a profound change in the status of the country. Through all these centuries the population of England was almost stationary, then, in 160 years, it increased five fold.

If this were an isolated case, one might say that it was an exception to the rule, but here is another country, a well-established, settled country, with organized traditions, which also has had a static population—owning a static culture.

Japan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1621</td>
<td>25 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1721</td>
<td>25 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1774</td>
<td>259 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1804</td>
<td>254 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1846</td>
<td>269 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1920</td>
<td>559 million</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more than two centuries there was practically no change. In 1840 the change begins. In 1859 the trading ports were first opened. Now notice that in England the change came about...
1750, while in Japan it came in 1850, one century later. But the same thing happened in both countries, both of them opened their doors to the new culture.

I have here the figures of a new country which shows approximately the same thing, excepting that, being a new country, we cannot go back nearly so far.

United States

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1790</td>
<td>Four million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1800</td>
<td>Five million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1810</td>
<td>Seven million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1820</td>
<td>Nine million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1830</td>
<td>Ninety million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1840</td>
<td>One hundred and ten million</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From 1820 on the industrial revolution made itself felt in the United States, and from that point there are tremendous population changes. In the case of the United States the newness of the country, the bigness of the country, the virginity of its opportunities, were all factors, but nevertheless, the figures for Great Britain or Japan indicate that the United States would probably show the same line of increase even had it been an old country in 1800.

As far as population changes are concerned, Western culture is primarily responsible. The East had reached an equilibrium, the West has disturbed it. Turn again for a moment to the United States. Our housing problem is here, it is a problem of population. In ten years, between 1910 and 1920, we added fifteen million people to our population, in the previous ten years, we added sixteen million. From 1900, when the population was 75 million, to 1920, during that brief period, the population has increased by thirty million. It is true that part of the increase is due to immigration, but in Great Britain and Japan, where there is no immigration, the same thing is true. More people are being born than are dying.

When people talk, therefore, about the housing problem, the primary question is the increase in population, and that is the problem forced upon us by the industrial revolution.

There is another side—the concentration of population. In 1800 only three per cent of the people lived in cities or towns. In 1900 the cities and towns have absorbed one half of the total population.

United States

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Population to square mile</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1790</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1820</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1850</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1880</td>
<td>104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1920</td>
<td>355</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

During that time the density has increased severalfold. Take the old state of Massachusetts.

United States

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Population to square mile</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1790</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1820</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1850</td>
<td>123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1880</td>
<td>221</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1920</td>
<td>479</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The increase in density is tenfold. Now take the new state of Illinois.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Population to square mile</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1790</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1820</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1850</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1880</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1920</td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Now take the old state of New York.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1790</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1820</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1850</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1880</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1920</td>
<td>217</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These figures will necessarily increase, if we increase our population for the area will remain constant while the population grows. We are rapidly filling up the country. Let us examine the growth of a few cities. Take the old city of Boston.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1870</td>
<td>250,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1890</td>
<td>480,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1920</td>
<td>740,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The new city of Chicago.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1870</td>
<td>259,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1890</td>
<td>1,200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1920</td>
<td>2,702,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

New York.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1870</td>
<td>1,478,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1890</td>
<td>2,507,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1920</td>
<td>5,620,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It does not require any knowledge of mathematics, any expert calculating ability, to see what this means. It means that not only has the population increased, but that it has been concentrating in a few places in the United States. Thirty-five people to the square mile, but on Manhattan Island, one hun dred thousand. If the whole United States were as densely populated as Manhattan Island, its population would be thirteen million, five hundred billion.

The world’s population has increased with phenomenal rapidity. Concentration has likewise increased at a phenomenal rate. It is not a typical American problem, it belongs to the whole of Western civilization. The culture that makes possible these tremendous increases in Japan and England and the United States, also makes possible rapid concentration of these great numbers of people. They are packed up and piled in great human heaps. In the United States, with our skyscrapers, we are about as guilty as they are in any other part of the world. Under these conditions, what is the use in talking about housing?

Mr. Untermyer’s plan is to build 45,000 five story tenements at a cost of one hundred million dollars. He says, “This plan would take care of the needs of the masses for whom no provision is being made at the present time.” The needs of the...
masses' But we have added fifteen million people to our popula
last ten years, and in the next ten we will add millions more Mr Untermeier's proposal is like a snowflake on the Alps, it does not touch the problem This idea is interesting politically but socially it has no significance In our age, if you add fifteen million people to the popula
years, or if you multiply, as in New York City, decade after decade, something must be done about it First, you use Mr Untermeier's remedy, then you will have to build more subways, then you will have to build second story side
But there is no remedy there Do you remember the promises that congestion would be decreased when they first started to build subways? But the street car strap hanger of fifteen years ago would have had his sense of personal dignity
affronted if he had been asked to ride on the modern subways The congestion has increased as any student would have known Mr Untermeier has a proposition just like that of the subways, which is not sound socially

THEN WHAT SHALL we do? I suggest two general lines of remedial action First, let us suppose that society is intelli
gent enough to handle its problems as would intelligent edu
ators or businessmen Then suppose that we were confronted
with the above facts What would we do? First, we would stop the increase in population We could find out how many
people the world would hold, say in 1925, it is no occult mat
ter, we could work out The problems involved in the war were more intricate, but we worked them out We have got to
limit the population How to do it? The birth rate must be decreased How? By some measure involving Birth Control
How can Birth Control be put across How was the war sold to
the people? The movies, the schools, the billboards, the
newspapers et cetera It was a great social crisis, the war had to be sold Now we have got to sell Birth Control Just as we frightened people with the Hun, now we will tell them that they will starve to death if the popula
on-continues to increase with such rapidity And they will, for we are not competent to handle the increment

Pharaoh had one method of decreasing the population but that will not work today The promulgation of the theory of Birth Control is the only answer It is already practised by the French and the well to do, but the poor people keep on breed
ing Rudimentary social intelligence calls for drastic social
action for limiting the population-and until some drastic action is taken we will continue to have epidemics and wars and other things which will limit the population for us Society has reached the point where the means of maintaining physical life has increased beyond the means of organizing the people Here is a city of nearly six millions Are we happy? Do we act rationally, or do we act like nervously unstrung people, all of whom require treatment? New York is an absurdity It would be a laughable thing if we were not so tragic

How many people can live to a square mile? When you have found out the point at which happiness and depth and breadth of living begin to show diminishing returns, that is the place to stop You limit the number of persons that may live in a room, why not limit the number of those who may live in a city?

THE COMMUNITY SHOULD own the land and own the houses and provide sanitary living quarters for the popula
tion The community owns the streets, the schools, the water works, the next thing is for it to own the houses If we are to have an organized community life, the community must have the means of maintaining that life What is a city for? To get rich in or to live in?

The remedy for our housing problem is two fold First, a thoroughgoing, widespread propaganda for Birth Control, second, a thorough going plan for limiting the cities as to size and construction, and then municipal building, providing a place for its citizens In Europe they do it It is nothing new, nor out of the ordinary In the meantime the New York papers will continue to jolly you by telling you that the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company is going to lend great sums of money for building purposes-at a good rate of interest You will be told that there is a great movement on for saving the people of New York It is nonsense Rents may be a little lower and sanitation may be a little better, but decreased population and organized cities alone will answer the problem

A Way Out

By May Peirce Guest

(Continued from June issue)

ON REACHING the corner where he had stood brooding he
fore, Ben now paused again, this tune fighting to return the
reckless mood which would drown his scruples His standards
were high, but the natural man was insistent in its demand
And thus, standing there staring into space, the conflict raged
fiercely within him, when all at once he became aware of a
woman beside him He closed his eyes

Probably it was the painted kid at her post again!

But why did he close his eyes when he was on his way to

The rush impulse was the last tug of the restraining anchor before the vast tidal wave of desire would catch him up and sweep him irresistibly forward on its foaming crest

He felt the anchor dragging, felt it being swept clear of the ground, going up, up The great wave had caught him Ah, he would no longer resist, he would become a very part of its mighty rush

He opened his eyes It was with a violent start that he met those resting upon him, those of a woman so different from the

painted kid, so clear and steady and calm, filled with an eager
The birth-control reviewer.

she - unhappy, perhaps? And poor little kids that cry all night so you can't get any rest? And you don't know how to go on? There's human nature tugging at your heart? You have to deal with, and you dare not think of putting the little wife through more agony, and burdening another soul with a diseased existence? Is that it?"

She smiled direcdy into his soul - the deepest most miraculous smile he had ever imagined, more comprehensive than he ever could possibly have imagined!

He stared at her, his big hands clenched, his breath suspended. Great beads of perspiration broke out on his fore head. He thrust his chin forward, bringing his face closer to hers. "If you know all that, can you--can you," he moaned his lips, "Can you tell me a way out? Can you?"

"Sh--she admonished. "Don't get so excited here in the street. It's to help solve this problem that I stand here at midnight and sell these magazines. It's to help turn this world so full of sickness and misery into one of healthful repose, to show people what a crime it is to bring into it disease, meee, or crippled children to teach them that their love can be expressed without such tragic results. I sell this magazine to help the thoughtless to think, to show that reason and love should rule equally and that when impulses are guided by common sense, with due regard for the future, lives will be simplified, strength preserved and homes filled with peace and happiness."

"Yes, yes!" Ben was drinking in her words, as a parched man on finding water in the desert.

The young woman knitted her brows as she tuned over the pages of one of her papers. "This is a most important article, here at last! It explains the purpose of this movement for a better race, we must, first of all, have legislation which will permit doctors and nurses to give information concerning family limitation. Our magazines fulfill their mission if they make clear that crying need, and stimulate every reader to act toward this end. Do you see?"

Ben scratched his head and asked, puzzled, "Is it possible that there is a law which prevents such invaluable stuff, I mean knowledge, from being given out?"

"There is," she replied grimly. "I can hardly believe it," he ejaculated, "in this great and free America! But just let me get at that law - I wouldn't do a thing to it! Here, I want a magazine of course, and say, a - a does it tell a fellow all he wants to know? About - a - well, everything?"

"The law does not permit us to speak as plainly as we would," she answered.

"Then - a, I say, a - would you, could you - a? Would it be too nervy to ask you to come to see my Janey, my little wife (she's just a wonder, she is!) and tell her all about it? You see, it would mean just everything to us - make life worth living again. We have been so lonesome and nervous like. In deed," he mopped his brow with his handkerchief, "indeed I could never tell you how much it would mean to us! You will come?"

His tragic eagerness filled her eyes with sympathetic tears. "Indeed I will go to see your little wife She must be brave and well worth knowing."

"Brave!" Ben's face sparkled. "Why, if you knew all Janey bears, and never a complaint. She's got lots to suffer in her self, is too weak to sit up long. Then there's little Leo - so sickly he just cries day and night, can't raise his poor little head, yet though, he's six months old. It just tears out one's heart to look at him. And then - Ben heaved a great sigh - "then, there's me to worry her. She's crazy to do her part, and more too, yet she has to let me help a lot at home, 'cause she can't be on her feet, and having to sort of hold me off at arms' length - and - and feeling so sorry all the time! Well you can see what Janey has to bear."

The tears in the young woman's eyes ran quietly down her cheeks. She held out her hand. "Good night, my friend, there is a way out. I will see your Janey tomorrow at ten o'clock without fail."

Between his big hands Ben caught her slight one and almost crushed it with the fervor of his pressure. "I-I can't thank you, there ain't words. I - I," he choked, swept off his cap, turned, and hurried away. He not only hurried, he ran, flew. His feet were winged, space was not. In his boyish days no thrilling fire engine dashing up the street had caused him to exhibit the (Continued on page 139)
Birth Control: Is It Moral?

Dr. Ernest H. Gruening's Answers to Mrs. Sanger's Four Questions

ONE Is not over population a menace to the peace of the world?

A great menace. There are altogether too many people in the world. Quality, not quantity, should he the desideratum. If men and women are really superior to beasts, it is in their ability not to breed like rabbits or to spawn like jelly fish and turn their offspring into the ruthless jungle existence of tooth and claw, but to bring wanted, carefully nurtured, loving children into the world endowed with all the strength and fineness and potentiality for a happy existence which the plan mning and devotion of thinking beings can encompass. The over-population of the world has already borne the bitter fruit of war. Germany's congested multitudes were taught to believe that they were surrounded by enemies, that the open spaces of the world had been preempted, and that Germany had to expand forcibly in order not to perish. However false this assumption, the fact remains that the Germans believed it, and it was a potent factor in producing the catastrophe of 1914-1918. Japan's problems are similar—her overcrowding and inability to overflow into other lands underlies the present tense Far Eastern situation. Over-population is responsible for the fierce economic struggle all over the world. The changed conditions in the United States in the last 20 years, the repressions of the present day, the development of class consciousness and the intensification of the industrial conflict are merely manifestations of the patent fact that our country has at last filled up and has become overpopulated. Unemployment, an acute symptom of this condition, means nothing less from an economic standpoint than that there are too many people for our present system to support. A still graver symptom are the famines which regularly affect sections of the earth, notably China, which we then belatedly and ineffectively try to relieve by feeble palliative measures.

TWO Would not the legal dissemination of scientific Birth Control information through the medium of clinics by the medical profession be the most logical method of checking the problem of over-population?

(A) It would. It is essentially the duty of the medical profession to accept full responsibility for the therapeutic phases of this problem. The new spirit in medicine demands that diseases he prevented wherever possible. The old adage is particularly applicable to matters of health that "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

Three Would knowledge of Birth Control change the moral attitude of men and women toward the marriage bond or lower the moral standards of the youth of the country?

(A) Neither. On the contrary, so far as it would trend to eliminate for all time the crime of abortion, its effect would he distinctly moral.

FOUR Do you believe that knowledge which enables parents to limit their families will make for human happiness and raise the moral, social and intellectual standards of the population?

(A) I believe that no single reform capable of such immediate and wide spread application would so greatly add to the happiness of the human race. There are no panaceas, but Birth Control properly established would go further to eliminate poverty, sickness, insanity, crime, with all that these scourges imply, than any other remedy proposed.

The Key to Race Perfection

By Ralph H. Bevan

A LOW COST— or high standard—of living is by no means all of social welfare. It is, however, the indispensable foundation. Only on prices low in proportion to incomes—on diminished poverty alone—can a much higher average of health, culture, generosity, perfection of character, and happiness be built. The great practical problem is to remove the cause of the High Cost of Living.

The radicals tell us that the remedy is redistribution. Undoubtedly the apportionment of wealth on the principle of "economic strength" has aggravated the original pressure of population. Unfair distribution confines the masses to an insufficient share. Excessive riches are a secondary cause of the high cost of living. How subsidiary, nevertheless, is this source of poverty is driven home in the leading article in the "American Economic Review" for March, 1920. Here Professor Henry B. Gardner, Head of the Department of Economics at Brown University, publishes his presidential address to the American Economic Association. His conclusions are drawn from the most trustworthy calculations available. The practical accuracy of his figures is confirmed by corroborative results independently arrived at for the United Kingdom. This authority shows that the antebellum product of the United States—the richest country in the world—equally divided, would have yielded only an annual income of $1,300 for families of five.

H.C.L and poverty, then, originate in a pressure on wealth. Thus partly results from undue accumulation by a few. Mainly, however, it is consequent on inadequate supply.

The surgery which would cut under the roots of the high cost of living, must diminish the pressure on the means of subsistence. That may be done by increase in the quantity of wealth, or by limitation of the birth rate among the least productive classes. Of these expedients, the former, in so far as it is practicable, is surely preferable.
EVIDENTLY, THEN, the great need is universal training in international and international cooperation—for the utmost production of useful wealth. That is the master key to the lowest cost of living and permanent peace—to the highest standard of living and happiness.

World cooperation for the production of wealth alone, however, cannot prevent ever recurring crises of overpopulation with their calamitous, aggravating effects—strikes, revolutions, wars. Often more imperative even than the instinct of self-preservation is the impulse of race preservation. While present ideas regarding Birth Control prevail, multiplication of population will soon offset any surplus of life's necessities brought about by education. It must be realized that instinctive emotions are divinely intended to be regulated in their operation by the intellect, which is the later product of evolution—the higher element in consciousness. Innumerable are the proofs offered by tragic experience. Education in practical economics is not enough. The proper supremacy—the divinity of intelligence, must be acknowledged. That only can prevent repeated pressure on wealth—future wars ever more colossal, more crazing.

The right of a far sighted reason to regulate the effects of blind impulse for the promotion of human happiness and perfection must be recognized. Convictions against the having of children who cannot, without excessive struggle, be prepared for worth while living—such promptings are not superfluous, to be censured. Rather are they to be approved as divinely inspired. The least productive, thrifty, healthy, generous, or otherwise least useful classes may reasonably object to aggravating overpopulation and multiplying their misfortunes. Such disinclinations should be respected as inner workings of divine wisdom. A more enlightened attitude toward Birth Control among medical and religious advisers—that is the only key to diminution of poverty and lasting peace—to the greatest perfection, happiness and progress of the race.

This is not the place to set forth the wisest modes of Birth Control. We shall not even argue that any method is harmless. The writer has not volumes of space at his disposal.

FOR MANY YEARS, however, stimulated by a very searching experience, he has pondered, questioned, and read on the riddle of the world's misery. As a result, he long ago came to an unprejudiced inquiry into the healthiness of the best preventives of birth has the golden key to the lowest cost of living—to the practical problems of human evil and happiness. Thus painstaking has been the inquiry from which has been drawn the conclusion that the venerable horror of Birth Control is founded on religious and medical superstition. It seems, then, due to that human welfare to which highest allegiance is owed, to urge a scientific investigation of the hygiene of birth prevention.

Intelligent Birth Control would not threaten race suicide. It would encourage the normal desire for children except when likely to add human misery. It would not countenance disinclination for children in all circumstances, but it would educate medical and spiritual advisers to respect clear scruples against the assumption of parental responsibilities as prima facie guides to human perfection. Intelligent Birth Control would honor such questionings as dictates of reason which, being the most lately evolved, appears the highest element in man. Intelligence is not merely the surest index to divine purpose. It is the intended ruler over the operation of the primitive instincts.

A person's deliberate opinion that he ought not to have children would seem the weightiest evidence. His is probably a case in which the birth of a child would be wrong to both. Very important in the determination of happiness are factors of temperament. Of those none but oneself has sufficient knowledge to judge whether the struggle for existence has proved excessive. So unnatural a view on the part of anyone would be a most significant indication that parenthood would be a mistake for all parties concerned. Not alone would the children be handicapped by over burdened parents, they would inherit subnormal constitutions. It is impossible for another to estimate the value of one's life to oneself. Of this truth, if space permitted, sound authority and reasoning might be offered at length.

ALL THAT IS feasible, however, is to suggest why others are disqualified to decide whether one's life is worth transmitting. Consciousness is a complex combination of satification and painful feelings. Its worth is the excess of joy over suffering. If dissatisfaction preponderate, life has negative value only. It is a burden endured only from the hope of future happiness or from horror of suicide. Pleasures, pains, and the side on which the balance lies, depend even more on calculable factors of temperament and of will power than on external circumstances. Men and women are of the widest variety and diversity. Reasonable means and health are necessary and enough to make most men's lives worth while. But some can manage happiness in extreme poverty and suffering. Others cannot avoid misery even with wealth and bodily comfort. Buoyancy of temperament may offset misfortunes. Apart from the most unendurable, a melancholy constitution may render existence a curse despite a lot seemingly the most fortunate. A medical or spiritual adviser can measure the value of a patient's life to the patient only by an utterly unreliable standard—that of external circumstances. The only dependable index to the inner worth of life is the person's own judgment. Does he feel that on the whole he has lived rather because of positive satisfaction than negative horror of suicide?—that is the crucial query.

In effect, then, Intelligent Birth Control is the doctrine that prevention of births should not be hindered in face of authentic inside information of its necessity. Control of births ought to be facilitated where offspring would probably, both for parents and children, mean lives more or less burdensome or at least of doubtful value.

SATISFACTION PREDOMINATES in human life. The Deity is benign. The appalling burden of the world's agones is to be attributed to mankind's superstitious tolerance of it. We have failed to realize that pain exists to afford the (Continued on page 137)
Birth Control in Relation to Poverty

By Edward G. Punke

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS. It appears, vitally affect both the birth rate and the death rate. Having in mind chiefly the declining birth rate, various pen have written much about "race suicide," "racial decay," "population decrease," and the like during the past half century. Mourning humanity's diminution in birth rate, such writers have chanted in season and out their sad requiem. "Decadent France" was their word, New Zealand and Australia, they remark, are the latest sad additions to the list of decaying nations. Others, not less venomous and pessimistic, hold up the moral degradation of family limitation as, they mantam, the most recent example of moral, religious, and patriotic degeneration.

RACIAL DECAY. The late Theodore Roosevelt was an important and prominent writer in the field of racial decay. He may be taken as fairly typical of that class. Reviewing a book, "Racial Decay," by A. C. Beale, an Australian official, Mr. Roosevelt wrote in the New York Outlook for April 8, 1911, as follows:

"In Australia and New Zealand there is no warrant whatever in economic conditions for a limitation of the birth rate. New Zealand is as large as Great Britain and as fertile. The New Zealand people have realized to an extraordinary degree, the institutional and industrial ambition of democracy everywhere, yet the rate of natural increase in New Zealand is actually lower than in Great Britain. Yet its (Australia's) population tends to concentrate in meat cities of disproportionate size. So compared to the country population, just exactly as in England and the United States and it increases so slowly that, even if the present rate were maintained, the population would not double itself in a century."

In the foregoing quotation appear two errors which would almost irretrievably impair the reputation for accuracy of any writer. The first is "yet the rate of natural Increase in New Zealand is actually lower than in Great Britain." This statement was made in 1911. The vital statistics for 1906-10 show the average survival rate, or rate of natural increase, for New Zealand and Great Britain to be 17.4 and 11.5, respectively; 1,000 inhabitants for the entire United Kingdom for the same period it was 11.0 per 1,000. For the year 1911 the survival rate was 16.6 and 9.6, and for 1914 it was 16.7 and 9.5 for New Zealand and the United Kingdom, respectively. It will be seen that the survival rate or rate of natural increase for New Zealand was in 1911 at least a third higher than that of Great Britain or the United Kingdom. Doubtless much of New Zealand's success in democracy, of which Mr. Roosevelt speaks, is due to her careful population selection and limitation through Birth Control and other measures.

A Gain, Mr. Roosevelt errs sharply when he says the population of Australia "increases so slowly that, even if the present rate were maintained, the population would not double itself in the next century." As statistics show, the rate of increase for the Australian Commonwealth for the period 1906-10 was 16.0 per 1,000, a rate requiring approximately 437 years for the number of inhabitants to double. For the years 1911 and 1914, respectively, the survival rate of Australia was 16.8 and 17.6—an even higher rate than during 1906-10.

Such, then, are the errors in Mr. Roosevelt's statement. In this connection it is felt a comparison of the survival rates of a few high and low birth rate countries may not be amiss. Russia and Germany are often held up as typical of the nations having rapidly growing populations, whereas New Zealand and Australia are frequently pilloried as horrible examples of the nefarious effects of voluntary parenthood. For the years 1900 and 1909 the survival rates for European Russia were 183 and 151, respectively; for Germany, they were 135 and 138, respectively. For the same years Australia and New Zealand showed survival rates of 16.2 and 18.2, and 15.2 and 16.4, respectively. These figures indicate a more rapid rate of increase for both New Zealand and Australia than for Germany, and a slightly greater rate of gain for New Zealand and a slightly lower one for Australia than for Russia. A careful study of the vital statistics of the thirty leading countries of the world (Registrar General's Report for England and Wales for 1914, p. 97) will reveal the fact that very few nations have a higher survival rate than New Zealand and the Commonwealth of Australia. Such a study illustrates how the chronic pessimists about racial decay display the piety simplicity of considering the birth rate only, forgetting the death rate is likewise important, and the survival rate is the real test of population progress.

TO BE CONTINUED

OUR CONTRIBUTORS

Bevan, Ralph H. Rhodes Scholar at Oxford from Rhode Island. Contributor to wide range of periodicals.

Guest, May Peerce, Writer and Artist.

Gruening, Dr. Ernest H., Editor of The Natcon, New York.

Little, C. C., Biologist with Carnegie Institution, Washington, D. C., Scholar in Experimental Research.

Nearing, Scott, Sociologist, Author of a large number of books dealing with questions of wages, labor and other social problems. Lecturer at Rand School.

Punke, Edward G., Assistant Professor of Sociology, University of Michigan.

HUMAN WASTE

Mrs. Charles S. Willard, of Allington, Conn., thirty-six years old, wife of a carpenter, married when fourteen, has been the mother of twenty-one children. Only five are alive, the others having died in infancy. There was one set of twins.

—New York World.
Book Reviews

A Review by Richard Jennings

THE NEW MOTHERHOOD By Margaret Sanger with introductions by Harold Cox and Havelock Ellis (Jonathan Cape London)

Margaret Sanger remarks Mr. Harold Cox, in his introduction to this book is less well known in England than in America. That is natural enough. Nothing makes people so celebrated as persecution.

America, the land of Liberty is perhaps the country where Pushyfoot, Possum Pecksnif Comstock and other pseudo-moralists have the widest power over the lives of their unhappy fellow citizens.

The land of Liberty is the place where nobody can get a glass of beer unless he drinks it under the rose.

It is also the land that sent Mrs. Sanger to prison for defying an idiotic law which forbids people to publish information about Birth Control.

We got rid of that form of prohibition in 1877.

Nowadays in Britain, practically the whole of the upper and middle classes know about Birth Control and practice it.

If they did not, they would be in a sorry plight indeed.

Weighed down by taxation it would be impossible for them to give away sums needed for the health services, the medical aid to the hospitals, the schools and alas, the lunatic asylums needed to support or "control" the hideously high birth rate of the classes least fitted to recruit the population of these islands.

Why are our rulers—mainly middle-class or upper-class men—such cowards and hypocrites over this vital business of the birth rate? Why do they keep silence about it and never put it in their election addresses? Why now that practically all of them recognize the fact of over population do not all of them indicate the remedy and instead of spending the tax payers money, in futile maternity benefits and the tinkering and patching of mother's welfare sentimentality—why do they not save that money by insisting that every health centre in every panel doctor, every Home and every Hospital should (as in Holland) be allowed—be urged—to relieve the misery of those burdened year by year with unwanted babies?

If they did so—instead of talking rubbish about emigration—the housing problem (totally unsolved) would disappear. The slum problem would vanish. Motherhood would be voluntary and happy. The cruelty that comes from overcrowding would diminish.

The main incentive to war would go. The labour' outcry would be silenced. Unemployment would be rare. There is hardly any social grievance of today that would not be immensely relieved by this most essential of all reforms.

We shall have to face the problem some day. We have forty millions, many of whom we cannot feed or house. In a century a time if we do not control our birth rate there might be 2000 million people in Great Britain—more than the present population of the whole earth!

No nostrums of Socialism or State aid can ever hope to deal with that number. Birth Control or run—that is the alternative.

At the next election I should like voters to heckle all candidates of whatever party on this subject.

I should like them to ask ambitious M.P.'s if they have studied the figures in Mrs. Sanger's book. I should like the women voters above all to ask rates and Income tax people how a high birth rate means a high death rate, means a huge undergrowth of the sickly and diseased means exorbitant taxation means bad health for overstrained mothers, means slums and cruelty and vice.

Any government of the future that shrinks this problem will solve no other. All depend upon this. What, then, shall we hear of it when we get the next appeal to the people?

*Mrs. Sanger's book Woman and the New Race has been published in England under the title The New Motherhood. We reprint the following review which was published in The Daily Mirror May 12th.*

A Review by William J. Fielding

PSYCHOANALYSIS OF THE REFORMER, by Joel Rinaldo

Lee Publishing Co New York 137 pages Price $2

In many respects this is a remarkable little book. Its analysis of the complexes motivating the typical "reformer" of the Blue Law Prohibitionists-Sabattarian type is illuminating and colorful, and gives evidence of much philosophic insight into human nature.

Mr. Rinaldo is more strictly allied to the orthodox Freudian school of psychoanalysis than most American writers on this subject. Conclusively, he sees a sexual basis, the typical psycho-morbidity of the individual, including all varieties of reformers.

It is evident, however, the author has a few private complexes of his own which persist in disputing themselves. I refer to his inclusive grouping together of almost everyone who may be affiliated with some social movement—whether of a negative or a positive constructive character.

Two examples will suffice to illustrate what I believe are irrelevant comparisons in several Instances. Mr. Rinaldo has included the old abolitionists and the modern Birth Control advocates in with his heterogenous bunch of reformers.

Now there may have been neurotics among the old abolitionists as there doubtless are among the modern Birth Control advocates. I am equally sure that there were neurotics among the staunch defenders of chattel slavery, as I am sure that there are neurotics among the present day bitter opponents of contraception. But as the author makes no allusion to the neurotic defenders of the status quo it leaves the impression that the moral are all on the other side.

As a matter of fact the modus operandi of the Birth Control movement and of the prohibition movement are diametrically opposed. Whereas the prohibition movement (as an expression of reactionism) is a negative force; as methods being repression, restrictive laws and prohibitory influences on the individual. The Birth Control advocate seeks to remove from the statute books the present irrational restrictive laws regarding contraceptives and to nullify the present social and religious taboos and prohibitions which now prevent an honest public discussion and general understanding of the subject.

As a notable example who may we ask displayed the meddlesome tactics of the prohibiting neurotic—the people who arranged to publish holy literature in Town Hall the morality of Birth Control, or the Eccle Catholic Police outfit which forcibly silenced the speakers and dispersed the meeting?

If there are relatively as many if not more neurotics among the reactionaries and conservatives as there are among the liberals and progressives, why point out any particular group of the latter as horrible examples? The same holds true in regard to the abolitionists as a type.

Notwithstanding the one sidedness of the thesis in certain respects which prompts these criticisms the book may profitably be read by anyone interested in social tendencies as well as psychological (and psychopathological) studies.

SEX SEARCHLIGHTS Edited by Dr. Lee Alexander Stone

Science Publishing Company Chicago

It is somewhat difficult to classify this volume. It runs to 747 pages and more or less covers every imaginable phase of the sex question. The first portion of the book gives the physiology of the reproductive organs. For chapters follow on the venereal diseases. The fourth gives an account of many cases of sexual agitation. The remainder of the volume is occupied with a miscellaneous including quotations on the storm and poems and the general aim being to show the tragic results of ignorance in sex habits and poor training.

*Very few married couples voluntarily remain without any children at all*—Dr. C. V. Drysdale
PERIODICALS

The Veteran, (New York) for June contains an article by Dr. Maxi
milian P. E. Grossman entitled Did You Want to Be Born? It takes
stand for the right of a child to good inheritance and proper care—a
right that is only possible under a system of Birth Control.

The Shield (London) for May contains an interesting article on
Birth Control by Walter Hunt. The Shield is the organ of the
British Association for Moral and Social Hygiene, and so far has no
position on Birth Control. In an editorial note it stated that while
printing Mr. Hunt’s article it takes issue with him on his conclu-
sions which are not supported by evidence. Mr. Hunt reasons for
opposing Birth Control rest upon the assumption that the deterio-
rating of native races and the introduction among these people of many dis-
cases from which they were formerly free is due to the relinquishment of
older customs of strict continence except for procreative purposes. He
takes no account of the introduction of infection of such diseases as
syphilis and measles, nor of the fact that under European rule there
is no longer the strict weeding out of the unfit. His argument is altogether
a case of post hoc ergo propter hoc, and has little scientific value. It is, however, one more indication of the great need of scientific inves-
tigation in this neglected field.

BOOKS RECEIVED

From the Macmillan Co., New York, Parenthood and Child
Nurture, by Edna Dean Baker. Genetics by Herbert Eugene Walter.
From the Truth Publishing Co., New York, The Tyranny of God
by Joseph Lewis.

From the Cosmopolis Press, New York, Where Knowledge Means
Happiness by V. P. F.

From Henry Holt & Co., The Control of Life by J. Arthur
Thomson.

From The Haldeman Julius Co., Girard, Kan., Complete set of 239
Ten Cent Pocket Series. The Series includes an exceedingly wide
range of excellent literature—classics of Greece, of Medieval Europe
and of more modern times. In it are found, the immortal writings of
Plato, Shakespeare, Schopenhauer and Goethe. The wisdom of Ingen
nol and the wit of De Sveigny. Poetry, history, science and philosophy
all find their place in the series. The series is not too much to say that
the boy or girl with high school education who reads with attention
and discrimination. Two of these ten cent booklets a week, will derive
the equivalent of a broad and humanizing college course. Considerable
attention is given to Birth Control the debate between Mrs. Sanger and
Winter Russell being presented in No. 208. Other numbers deal with
sex education and a woman’s feminism, while No. 209 gives Dr. A. Knopf’s
views on the question. There is in fact scarcely any question of vital
Importance to mankind which does not find its place in the series.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Editor, Birth Control Review
I have before me here a communication from your office asking me to
aid your movement and to subscribe to your magazine. I sincerely
appreciate your efforts and also what you do but this is a very complex
world, and all great movements are necessarily slow, and all reforms
somewhat tardy in being enforced. To my mind it would be a ques-
tion if this law could be enforced to limit offspring, and the danger
might arise of illegitimacy. Possibly it also involves greater than the one
complained of. Further, it might also lead to an increase of clandestine
prostitution with its baneful results as it is harder to fight an Indian
ambush than to fight an enemy who comes out in full view. While I
certainly believe in healthy children as well as parents, still the knowl-
dge which you might feel that a mother was entitled to, of which you
would wish to disseminate among those who would be legitimately en-
titled to it. I think that this knowledge very well disseminated all
ready, almost more so than it is really good for women, as I think that
it is taken advantage of a good many times to their utter sorrow. In after
life, trusting that this will set me right with your views I believe in
health surely, but I do not at this time see that we can improve on it,
as people would not take our advice on these matters any way, and I
am positive that we could not force our views on them, no more than
prohibition.

W. J. M.

(Our correspondent shares the old fears of man for woman. Some
centuries ago men were equally solicitous about the evil effects of allow-
ing women to learn to read as he now is about their being entrusted
with knowledge that would enable them to be mistress of their own
bodies. Is it not time that women were allowed to grow up and to
assume the responsibilities of adult human beings? The Birth Control
movement is not concerned with legislation that would force any line
of conduct on anybody. It aims only to take away the prohibitions
which prevent women from acquiring scientific, medical information
—Editor.)

They tell us we live a sheltered life at home while they go to
the wars, but that is nonsense. For I would rather go into
battle thrice, than bear a child once—Euripides in “Medea”

The Key to Race Perfection

(Continued from page 134)
joy of overcoming it. Divine instincts and laws are to be
learned and utilized for that purpose. Control of births will
be suicide only of that portion of the race whose multiplication
would probably be burdensome both to themselves and their
children. Birth Control amounts to survival and Increase of
those classes with the greatest capacity for useful happiness.
In the last analysis, then, control of births is a policy of non
Intervention with divine law. It would facilitate the multi-
plcation and survival of the finest to forward human welfare.
Far from being race suicide, wise Birth Control is the most
rapid race progress towards perfection.

In sum, scientific investigation should be made of the most
salutary methods of Birth Control. And the medical and
spiritual advisers ought to be educated and imbued with the
keenest sense of their sacred responsibility. They are to dis-
perse their information with all caution and solely for race
perfection. Thereby limitation of births may be facilitated
among the least productive, thrifty, healthy, generous, adapt
able, intelligent and otherwise least useful classes. This is the
only permanent remedy for overpopulation, underproduction,
economic pressure—tor the underlying causes of wars, class
conflicts, and poverty. Intelligent Birth Control is the only
method—or at least the only prompt—means to the highest
average productivity, thrift, health, generosity, adaptability,
wisdom, and perfection of mankind. Scientific facilitation of
Birth Control is thus the only effectual surgical for that in
conceivable bulk of human misery due to wars, poverty, class
struggles, ill health, selfishness, and unadaptability. In the
ideal of Birth Control, moreover, it is included, improvement of
the intelligence of the race. Wise birth regulation will be
effectually applicable through all time. Scientific Birth Con-
trol, then seems many times the most promising key to human
perfection, happiness, and progress. Its incalculable possi-
bilities, as it is more intelligently applied by future gen-
erations, defy limitation.
The American Birth Control League
MARGARET SANGER, President

PRINCIPLES

The complex problems now confronting America as the result of the practice of reckless procreation are fast threatening to grow beyond human control.

Everywhere we see poverty and large families going hand in hand. Those least fit to carry on the race are increasing most rapidly. People who cannot support their own offspring are encouraged by Church and State to produce large families. Many of the children thus begotten are diseased or feeble-minded, many become criminals. The burden of supporting these unwanted types has to be borne by the healthy elements of the nation. Funds that should be used to raise the standard of our civilization are diverted to the maintenance of those who should never have been born.

In addition to this grave evil, we witness the appalling waste of women's health and women's lives by too frequent pregnancies. These unwanted pregnancies often provoke the crime of abortion, or alternatively multiply the number of child workers and lower the standard of living.

To create a race of well-born children it is essential that the function of motherhood should be elevated to a position of dignity, and this is impossible as long as conception remains a matter of chance.

We hold that every woman must possess the power and freedom to prevent conception except when these conditions are satisfied.

Every mother must realize her basic position in human society. She must be conscious of her responsibility to the race in bringing children into the world.

Instead of being a blind and haphazard consequence of an uncontrolled instinct, motherhood must be made responsible and self-directed means of human expression and regeneration. These purposes, which are of fundamental importance to the whole of our nation and to the future of mankind, can only be attained if women first receive practical scientific education in the means of Birth Control. That, therefore, is the first object to which the efforts of this League will be directed.

AIMS

The American Birth Control League aims to enlighten and educate all sections of the American public in the various aspects of the dangers of uncontrolled procreation and the imperative necessity of a world program of Birth Control.

The League aims to correlate the findings of scientists, statisticians, investigators and social agencies in all fields. To make this possible, it is necessary to organize various departments.

RESEARCH To collect the findings of scientists, concerning the relation of reckless breeding to delinquency, defect and dependence.

INVESTIGATION To derive from these scientifically ascertained facts and figures, conclusions which may aid all public health and social agencies in the study of problems of maternal and infant mortality, child labor, mental and physical defects and delinquency in relation to the practice of reckless parentage.

HYGIENIC AND PHYSIOLOGICAL instruction by the Medical profession to mothers and potential mothers in harm less and reliable methods of Birth Control in answer to their requests for such knowledge.

STERILIZATION of the insane and feeble-minded and the encouragement of this operation upon those afflicted with hereditary or transmissible diseases, until the understanding that sterilization does not deprive the individual of his or her sex expression, but merely renders him or her incapable of reproducing children.

EDUCATIONAL The program of education includes the enlightenment of the public at large, mainly through the education of leaders of thought and opinion—teachers, ministers, editors and writers—to the moral and scientific soundness of the principles of Birth Control and the imperative necessity of its adoption as the basis of national and racial progress.

POLITICAL AND LEGISLATIVE To enlist the support and cooperation of legal advisors, statesmen and legislators in effecting the removal of state and federal statutes which encourage dysgenic breeding. Increase the sum total of disease, misery and poverty and prevent the establishment of a policy of national health and strength.

ORGANIZATION To send into the various States of the Union field workers to enlist the support and arouse the interest of the masses to the importance of Birth Control so that laws may be changed and the establishment of clinics made possible in every State.

INTERNATIONAL This department aims to cooperate with similar organizations in other countries to study Birth Control in its relations to the world population problem, food supplies, national and racial conflicts, and to urge upon all international bodies organized to promote world peace, the consideration of these aspects of international amity.

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speed which now took him home to Janey and little Leo. He was bursting with an immense exaltation; his sense of power had become vast like. His future stretched before him like a paradise. The awful anguish of his past six months had magically dwindled to a little heap of rubbish, already relegated to the dustpan of oblivion. In this one eventful night he had experienced the gamut of emotions, had traversed the scale between despair and hope. Thus elastic is the human soul! How otherwise could it survive?

And now all fear of returning to Janey had gone. Ben had found an outlet for his energy in visonising a road straight ahead, a clear road, along which he and his beloved could safely travel.

He checked his speed as he neared his little home, his tiny three room apartment. Not for worlds would he startle them, they might be getting some blessed sleep. And all was quiet. Janey lay on his red plush sofa, her face buried in the pillow, lost at last to her maddening problems. And even little Leo was sleeping.

Gazing at them in their almost deathlike quietness, a strange awe crept through Ben. Then stealthily, he moved across the tiny room and crouched down by his wife, resting his head against the sofa. Surely, surely the wild beathing of his heart must waken her, it could be heard by the whole sleeping city!

(The to be continued)
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Edward J. Mc Cann

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