Is Poverty Inevitable?

Catholic Intolerance

Stirrings in Medicine

May, 1928

BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW

"Children of Choice, Not of Chance"

Drawing by Kathie Kollwitz from "Folk in Not"
THE AMERICAN BIRTH CONTROL LEAGUE, Inc

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TEN GOOD REASONS for BIRTH CONTROL

Woman's Right, Married Love, The Health of Mother and Child, and the Welfare of Children have been given as reasons for

Birth Control

The Use of Harmless and Effective Mechanical or Chemical Methods of Prevention Called Contraceptives

Another reason, equally vital to the happiness and well being of both the individual and the race is

Reason V — THE ABOLITION OF POVERTY

(The meaning of Poverty is “not enough to go around”, the greatest single cause is too large families. Large families glut the labor market, cause unemployment and lower wages. These lower wages must feed, clothe and house more children each year. The result is overcrowding, malnutrition and ill-health, premature labor for the children, and for the parents overwork with long hours alternating with periods of unemployment.)

Here is what a few experts say —

"Surely it is better to have thirty-five millions of human beings leading useful and intelligent lives rather than forty millions struggling for a bare subsistence."

LORD DERBY

"If the number of workers competing for each job depends on the size of the population, the larger the number of workers and the harder it becomes to get decent wages or to get any job at all."

TOSCAN BENNETT

"It is the poor, the unskilled, the poorest of the poor, we find who have the large families, whose hearts become fully to support themselves. Tens of thousands of these mothers must, besides bearing the children, do all the housework, cook, wash, sew, nurse the sick, and perhaps, get a job to help the husband by earning a few dollars extra to buy bread for the hungry little mouths at home. Education, plenty of good wholesome food and comfortable homes — these are only possible when the size of the family is kept within the income of the parents."

JAMES H. MAURER

"During the last few years the cases of desertion brought to our attention have increased tremendously in number. Fathers, wearying of the struggle to provide adequately for their large families, quietly disappear and leave the responsibility to the community, either through public relief or private charity."

JESSIE P. CONDIT

"Family case workers have always known and usually been defeated by such a situation as the following: A certain father has strength and skill enough to earn just the amount on which, my three children can be raised in health and decency. The social agency finds him with four or five children and no reason to believe that there will not be several more."

M. F. KARPF

"Labor is oppressed because it is too plentiful, wages go up and conditions improve when labor is scarce. Large families make plentiful labor and they also provide the workers for the child labor factories as well as the armies of the unemployed."

MARGARET SANGER
BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW

Four Steps to Our Goal — Agitation, Education, Organization, Legislation

Vol. XII MAY, 1928 No 5

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EDITORIAL

The arbitrary action of William J. O'Shea, City Superintendent of Schools which has prevented the American Birth Control League from having space at the Parents' Exposition is of the greatest significance to the entire American nation at the present moment. A Roman Catholic aspues to the Presidency and the Party he leads are stressing the importance among Non-Catholics of religious tolerance and broadmindedness. The action of Dr. William F. O'Shea, in bullying the United Parents' Associations of Greater New York Schools into submission and acquiescence to his prejudices, is a flagrant example of the tyrannical intolerance and usurpation of power exercised by office-holders born and bred in the Roman Catholic faith, when confronted with a social agency which has aroused the Roman Church to open and undisguised warfare. The American Birth Control League is incorporated under the laws of the State of New York as an educational agency, and is in complete agreement with the aims of the Parents' Exposition — "wiser parents, happier homes and better communities." Our League did not take the initial step in applying for space at the exposition, but it was invited as a social agency last December, to take space there.

Upon learning of the objections of the Superintendent of Schools, we addressed a courteous letter to Dr. O'Shea, requesting that he appoint a committee to renew our exhibition and to suggest any possible improvements. Ignoring this request, consciously and deliberately preferring to remain in total ignorance of its sound and dignified quality, Dr. O'Shea has chosen to insult us and to cast aspersions on our work.

Here is a splendid example of tolerance and broadmindedness among those who because of the avowed religious affiliation of a popular aspirant are stressing its unimportance in the approaching Presidential campaign. The Parents' Exposition aims to portray "modern agencies, facilities and products essential to happier homes," and to present "ideas and inspirations to help parents better equip children for health, future vocations and citizenship." Against its own wishes it has been bullied by bludgeon methods into submission to the religious prejudices of our superintendent of schools. This conflict brings into the open the menace of bigoted tyranny in the educational institutions of the United States. If such power is to be given national scope, through Presidential aspirants, its disastrous effect on the future of American civilization will be incalculable. Such unwarranted usurpation of power can be exercised in New York City only because it is supported and backed by religious affiliations which are entrenched in political power. Those who are crying against bigotry and Intolerance are the first to exercise them. The persecuted name have become the persecutors in fact. As the aims of the Parents' Association are so much a part of the aims of the American Birth Control League we have no desire to press against them the charge of breach of contract. But the American Birth Control League is taking every means in its power to combat arbitrary usurpation of power of the type represented by the action of Dr. O'Shea. The liberty, intelligence and progress of American parenthood are imperilled. We shall spare no effort in enlightening the American public concerning the full significance of this incident.

Even the strongest advocates of Birth Control do not maintain that Birth Control alone will solve all the maladjustments of social life. The conflicts of capital and labor, the evils of old age, the problems of education, of mental deficiency, of crime and punishment, and of international relations will call for work and study when Birth Control has found its way into every rational pro-
gramme of race betterment. But Birth Control is fundamental if these problems are to be faced with any hope of success in finding solutions. This is being increasingly recognized by writers on social science, both from the theoretical and the practical point of view. In his recent book, "Social Adjustment," Robert C. Dexter writing from his point of view as Director of the Social Service Department of the Unitarian Church, emphasizes this importance of Birth Control. "Of all the social adjustments discussed in this book," he writes, "that of Birth Control through contraception is in every way the most fundamental, without it most of the others will be useless or will be at the best merely palliatives. With it, society can increasingly turn its attention to other problems without the feeling that at any moment all its steps forward will be negated by its swarming progeny. An over-populated nation or an over-populated family can at best simply struggle for survival. A nation or a family whose numbers are intelligently limited can devote itself to adjustments of its outstanding social wrongs and to the cultural advances which alone set off man from the beasts that perish."

ONE of the arguments brought against Birth Control is that no one nation can safely practice it. It is claimed that it must be world-wide, for the nations that adopt such a policy would be at a disadvantage compared with those that did not. It is an argument easy to rebut. The nations now practicing Birth Control, nations with rapidly decreasing birthrates, include almost all the more powerful countries in the world, and it is the weaker and less advanced nations whose birthrates remain at high levels. But apart from the lessons that might be learned from experience, the argument of the necessity of world-wide Birth Control is losing all force, because Birth Control is rapidly becoming world-wide. This month we give the picture of progress in the principal European countries. France has long exercised Birth Control and no attempts at governmental stimulation suffice to alter the fixed habits of the people. Holland also has an honorable place in the Birth Control Movement. Germany, Austria, Sweden, Denmark are pressing into the forward ranks, and the movement is particularly rapid in Russia. Italy lags not far behind, in spite of all that Mussolini tries to do to check the diminishing birthrate. England awoke sometime ago to the fact that over-population and not under-population was her present problem. All Europe will soon be ready to join the League suggested by Harold Cox, of Small-Birth Rate Nations, banded together to prevent war, which always threatens when over-population reaches the explosive point. In this issue we have confined ourselves to Europe. But Asia presents a picture even more striking, and in a coming issue we shall show that the movement is spreading also to the Far East.

THE name of Margaret Sanger stands on the "Honor List" of persons excluded from DAR platforms, side by side with Jane Addams, Maude Royden, Carrie Chapman Catt, Alice Stone Blackwell, Judge Florence Allen, Zona Gale, President Wooley of Mt Holyoke. The list of men and women excluded, which is at least a hundred strong, has been spoken of as "the Who's Who in England and America" and one college president has expressed his chagrin at "not making it." The blacklist has been treated as a joke and it would be a joke if it had not a serious and also an encouraging side. Americanism at its worst has been represented by the poor whites of the South and by certain reactionary bodies, equally poor morally and intellectually, but wielding by their high respectability a wide influence. These organizations have had no meaning and no purpose worth calling a purpose. They have looked backward not forward, they have been so content with their ancestors of the time when America meant a mere handful of settlers that they have not considered the America of the present with its pressing problems of Quantity and Quality. This is the spirit by which a nation dies and this has been the spirit of the Daughters of the American Revolution. We therefore congratulate Mrs Helen Tufts Baille and Mrs William F. Anderson, who roused by the absurd blacklist, are leading a revolt within the DAR against its present ideals. We hope that they will succeed in bringing into it a new high and purposes better fitted to these days. Perhaps the very extremes to which the reactionary spirit has gone will prove its own corrective.

LAST MINUTE NEWS

In spite of the splendid championship of Mrs Wells P. Bagley of New Jersey and Dr Rachelle Yarros of Chicago, the convention of the National League of Women Voters has again refused to put Birth Control on the program of the League.
A LIFETIME'S reminiscences are often put down and bound together only to form a dull narrative of little interest to outsiders. But "Hermneringen" (Memoirs) by Dr Aletta Jacobs, published by Van Holkema en Warendorf in Amsterdam after the glorious celebration of her seventeenth birthday, form a book as delightful to read as a novel. Even more delightful than a novel, because it has the added attraction of truth Dr Jacobs' own story gives us the portrait of a noble personality, whose chief motive in life was the desire to help others, a brave woman, struggling an almost desperate fight, yet victorious in the end. And a love-story as touching as anything to be found in fiction.

She was born in 1854 in Sappemeer, a village in the province of Groningen, the eighth child of a physician, who had to support his wife and eleven children on the income of two thousand guilders ($800 00) a year! But he did it. And what is more, he did it well. Aletta describes how liberal and sensible their upbringing was, how every child could follow its inclinations and every cent was spent on education. At the age of thirteen she had finished the elementary school and was sent to the young ladies' school, where good manners, needlework and a little French were taught. But after two weeks she left, realizing that she could not thus waste her time. She dreamt of America, the land of freedom, where one of her friends, a captain, could take her, she would dress up as a boy and study as a boy. "What is the use of brains, if you are born a girl?" she would ask defiantly. And the father saw a way of letting her study Latin and Greek. Groningen was not far off, and Groningen had a University. But no females had ever entered there. However, Aletta had a will. When she was seventeen, it was clear to her that she wanted to follow her father's calling, as she thought the most beautiful thing in life to be to relieve suffering. She could pass the examinations required for entering the University, and with the help of Mr Thornecke, an exceptionally liberal minister, she was allowed to become an auditor for one year. When Mr Thornecke was on the point of dying in 1872, the last paper he signed was the allowance for Miss Jacobs to become a permanent student.

Also in other countries about the same time women had expressed the wish to be admitted at Universities, and all over Europe the papers were full of indignant articles about those horrible sexless beings. The behavior of Miss Jacobs showed however that one can study and pass examinations with honor and yet remain womanly.

The first years of study had brought the girl in contact with anatomy, surgery, diseases in general, the latter years brought her in contact with the diseased. And when she remarks "To be honest, my interest in the sufferer was as great as my interest in the illness. I felt especially for the circumstances of the lives of the female patients," we realize that here at least the physician's calling was chosen for its noblest, its only motive. She becomes acquainted with prostitution and finds that the most pitiable creatures in the world are only treated with contempt. When she brings flowers to the deathbed of a young woman, beside whose name the mysterious word "meretrix" appears, she is slandered, and even the professors warn her that her kindness to such women may spoil her reputation. She does not care! She studies the causes of the terrible conditions that she finds existing, she explores the possibilities of remedies. She discovers disproportions in conjugal life, she sees everywhere that unft human beings produce large families of unhappy creatures, and she resolves to devote her life to improve this evil.

Although herself hampered by illness now and then, she completes her study in 1878 at the University of Amsterdam, where she now plans to establish herself as doctor. She first makes a trip to London—notwithstanding her parents' fear of the ocean!—and meets there the most advanced thinkers of that period, members of the "Fabian Society," Annie Besant, Charles Bradlaugh, etc. She also attends some drawing-room meetings, where woman suffrage is discussed, and naturally she becomes an ardent advocate.

In 1879 she is established in Amsterdam and finds that many people, especially women, want her services. And one of the principal things women ask her is how to prevent the birth of too many children. She studies the different means and applies what she finds best in urgent cases. But now a storm of indignation is raised.

"The whole medical world poured its vials of wrath upon me, and the few who agreed with me, were silent,
fearning to be also hit by the general indignation. I passed through difficult times and I bitterly missed the man whom I could have asked for advice. My poor father had died, and the few friends I kept at that time, could not, because of lack of medical and sociological knowledge, understand the immense importance of my work for humanity's sake. It was hard and painful, as the only woman-doctor, to fight the campaign of heresies and slander led by my male colleagues. The firm conviction that the cause I served gave me full compensation, the full knowledge of being able to relieve individual suffering and at the same time to improve social evils, gave me strength to continue.

NOT only Dr Jacobs' practice was the subject of blame; people began to talk scandal about her private life, accusing her of immorality. And here the writer of this review asks permission to add a personal memory. My father was a medical doctor in Amsterdam at that time, and often, when his friends came, mostly older conservative doctors, I heard Dr Aletta Jacobs discussed. They always spoke in terms of contempt and derision. I remember one evening, when they came to tell my father of a stormy meeting of the Medical Society, which he had not attended. Dr Jacobs had been the only women there, and they did not want her to be present. These generous colleagues had attacked her and now they tore her to pieces. They spoke about her immoral life and they hoped she would soon be caught with her practice of "abortus provocatus". If she dared to appear at the next meeting, they would let her hear some more of their ambiguous jokes.

I was only a schoolgirl then and did not understand what it was all about. But later when I learnt to know what a superior woman Dr Jacobs was, I have always felt ashamed that I had been too ignorant to defend her at that time.

Fortunately she has lived to see the triumph of her pioneer's work. Many girls followed her example and entered the Universities, many of them became physicians and were a blessing to their sisters in all civilized countries. The practice of Birth Control became a factor of great importance, and in whatever part of the world I heard addresses on the subject, Holland was always mentioned as one of the most advanced countries in this respect, and the name of Dr Aletta Jacobs was always mentioned in connection with it.

NOT only in this struggle has Dr Jacobs been victorious. Also for woman's suffrage she has given her time and energy. Together with such women as Mrs Chapman Catt and Rosika Schwinn-
WHEN Mr Gerritsen in 1886 leaves his commercial work in Amersfoort to devote his tune to scientific work in Amsterdam, they still live in separate houses. However, servant trouble and other disagreeable trifles lead them to take their apartments under the same roof. And then the desire to have a child, that possibly might suffer because of its parents' free marriage, and Mr Gerritsen's wish to enter political life, which would be impossible if he lived in disregard of conventional law, make them submit to civil marriage in 1891.

"Though the alderman who made our marriage legal gave an address meant to reconcile two such radical elements with the legal action, he could not prevent me from expressing true indignation, when I had to promise obedience. Ever after I have tried to make them cancel that promise of obedience, which is obsolete."

In 1893 they expect their first—their only—baby. And it lived only one day. The most pathetic page of Dr Jacobs' book is where she, who has given her lifetime to alleviate women's sufferings and to create a happier motherhood, writes:

"The baby we had longed for so much only lived one day! What we felt after this disaster I cannot describe. It took me years to outgrow this sorrow. And yet, later, when I looked back upon this sad period, I considered myself happy, because I had known, though for one day only, the emotions of a mother, the luxury of having your own child in your arms."

Though Mr Gerritsen became a figure of great importance in Amsterdam, still he remained "Dr Aletta Jacobs' husband" in foreign countries, where they often visited congresses. Once they came together to New York, and this amusing fact is related:

"In New York we experienced for the first time after so many years the difficulty to maintain our own names. The US which we thought to be free and democratic, would not allow us to enter a fashionable hotel as husband and mfe sharing one room, but with a different name each. In "Holland House" we were obliged to take two rooms or register under one name. We choose the latter, and my husband insisted on taking my name. In New York and all other American hotels we are thus registered."

It is delightful to read about this perfect union of two such great personalities, both living for the sake of humanity, each with his own problems and difficulties, but always helped and understood by the other. In 1905 Mr Gerritsen died and Dr Jacobs agam experiences all the sadness of loneliness.

THOUGH she has friends all over the world, and such friends as Jane Addams, Olive Schreiner and the greatest women leaders in almost every country, the once so beloved father and the equally beloved husband cannot be replaced. But she knows only too well "le bonheur des autres est la seule consolation pour ceux qui ne peuvent plus etre heureux", and she continues her work with devotion and energy.

Then she makes a long trip with Mrs Chapman Catt, visiting South Africa, Jerusalem, Egypt, Ceylon, British India, the Dutch East Indies, the Philippines, China, Japan, and in every country they arrange meetings with the native women and discuss women's rights. How well I remember, when I lived in Yokohama at that time, that Dr Jacobs came to see me and took me with her to the meetings, where many of the Japanese women for the first time heard of women's suffrage!

I do not know whether at that time Dr Jacobs met Baron and Baroness Ishimoto of Tokyo, who are now the Japanese leaders for Birth Control, it was many years later that I witnessed in their summer home in Karuizawa the first meeting where this subject was discussed, and it was there also that I heard Dr Jacobs being highly praised for the pioneer work she had done.

When the war breaks out, Dr Jacobs lives again in Amsterdam, and like other women she does all she can to relieve the suffering of the soldiers. Until suddenly she realizes:

"The horrors of the war tortured me day and night. And there I was giving my time to philanthropic work, which instead of ending the war could only help to lengthen it. I came to the conclusion that women bad something nobler to do."

Again she travels, this time with Jane Addams, and they visit the different governments to discuss means of ending the war. When at last the war is over, she goes to Germany to examine the situation there, and to find out what help can be given to the underfed children. But her health gives way and she has to rest. She is almost seventy now.

Fortunately she recovered before her seventieth birthday arrived, and the end of her book is a description, copied from the newspapers, of the splendid way in which this brave and noble woman was covered with glory. What pleased her more than anything else, was the delegation of bright-eyed girl students, representatives of the six universities in Holland, who came to thank her for having opened the door of knowledge for them.
Birth Control in Soviet Russia

BY PROF. PAUL LUBLINSKY

The need for the introduction of rational methods of Birth Control became in Soviet Russia quite evident since the publication of the statistical data concerning the rapid growth of abortions in this country. Let us remember how abortions were legalized in Russia. By the circular letter of two Commissariats (Comm of Public Health and Justice), issued November 18, 1920, it was resolved that the penal method of prosecution of cases of abortions is absolutely inefficient and is always detrimental to the public health, because it compels the woman to apply for the desired operation to unskilled clandestine operators, who strongly exploit the woman and endanger her health by various primitive manipulations. The letter considered the operation of abortion as a method not desirable in itself, but nevertheless, for the diminution of dangers of clandestine abortions, it allowed such operations to be performed openly in the public hospitals without any charge for the woman. The operation can be performed only by a practicing physician, who cannot receive a fee for it. Every pregnant woman can apply for such an operation without any previous permission, if she wish not to bear the child. Punishments were retained only for those, who practiced such operations in private for special profit, who performed them not being duly licensed as competent physicians, and for those who performed them carelessly in not convenient surroundings. The penalty was made considerably more heavy, when the operation was done without the consent of the woman, when carelessness caused death, or when the practice of abortion became the professional business of the physician.

Since the beginning of the year 1921 the practice of legal abortions became predominant in the country, but precise statistical data were not available until 1924, when a Russian health board resolved to diminish considerably the free use of such abortion facilities. The maternity hospitals were filled with women waiting for abortion and sometimes the women in puerperio could not find free place in them. It was resolved therefore to reserve only 15 per cent of all hospital beds for the abortion cases, the remnant must be retained for other gynecological cases. To have a free place in the public hospital for abortion the woman must address herself to the special "abortion committee", consisting of three members (the medical officer of the district, a delegate of the women section of workers and one practicing physician). This committee considers the application, verifies the reasons for abortion and allows or refuses its performance. When the abortion is refused, it does not hinder that the woman may address herself to some private hospital, but then she must pay for the operation. In the next year 1925, the Public Health Commissariat announced in the circular letter to all hospital managers that the operation can be performed only during the first three months after the beginning of pregnancy, all operations after that term will be considered as illegal. Therefore, now the domain of the legal gratuitous abortion has become narrower than it was before.

Legal Abortions

It will be interesting to give some statistical data about the number of legal abortions in Russia during the last years. We will give the data for the year 1925. In the two principal cities of Russia—Moscow and Leningrad there were registered:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Number of Abortions with permission of abortion committee</th>
<th>Number of Abortions without permission</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Moscow</td>
<td>15,100</td>
<td>1,783</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leningrad</td>
<td>12,068</td>
<td>4,540</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All</td>
<td>16,672</td>
<td>16,658</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

When we compare the number of abortions with the population and with the number of live-births and still-births, we have this table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Number of Live-Births Per 1,000 Population</th>
<th>Number of Still-Births Per 1,000 Population</th>
<th>Number of Regret Abortions Per 1,000 Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Moscow</td>
<td>67.677</td>
<td>1.948</td>
<td>15.76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leningrad</td>
<td>31.6</td>
<td>1.036</td>
<td>8.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All</td>
<td>49.64</td>
<td>1.068</td>
<td>10.61</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In Leningrad in the year 1925 the number of abortions equaled 49.2 per cent of live-births, in Moscow—27.3 per cent. When we compare the growth of abortions and the fluctuations of the birth-rate during the last three years in Leningrad, we shall not find that the number of abortions directly influences the birth-rate index. So the pre-war time (median 1911-1913) birth-rate per 1,000 population was 27.7
The women, who underwent abortions, were

Married

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Moscow</th>
<th>Leningrad</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>81.9%</td>
<td>75.9%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Unmarried

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Moscow</th>
<th>Leningrad</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18.1%</td>
<td>24.1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

100% 100%

The number of the still-births and abortions among unmarried mothers is relatively more considerable than among the married. If we take the per cent relation of them to the number of live-births, we find that the per cent of still-births among the married is 1.1, among unmarried, 11.0, the per cent of abortions is 31.5 among married, and 47.2 among the unmarried. For the first pregnancy there were abortions among the married women in Moscow equaling 5.6 per cent, among the unmarried, 19.5, in Leningrad, 42 and 29.6. For 100 pregnancies there were abortions in Leningrad, 34.3 among the married, and 47.9 among the unmarried women.

The age of women who underwent abortions was

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Moscow</th>
<th>Leningrad</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17 and less</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-19</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>3.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-29</td>
<td>61.9</td>
<td>61.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-39</td>
<td>8.5</td>
<td>81.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40 and more</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>3.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The sexual conditions of women can be characterized by the number of abortions per 100 pregnancies in different social grades of women. In the year 1925 in Leningrad there were abortions per 100 pregnancies:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Moscow</th>
<th>Leningrad</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Women-students and wives of students</td>
<td>63.1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women-soldiers and mariners</td>
<td>45.9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women-employees and the wives of employees</td>
<td>41.8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployed and the wives of unemployed</td>
<td>41.3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Domestic servants</td>
<td>39.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Invalids and the wives of invalids</td>
<td>36.8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women-workers and the wives of the workers</td>
<td>35.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The most interesting table gives the motives for abortions. We will differentiate between the married and unmarried women in two cities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Motives of Abortion</th>
<th>Married</th>
<th>Unmarried</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Moscow</td>
<td>Leningrad</td>
<td>Leningrad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of money</td>
<td>55.9</td>
<td>49.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disease</td>
<td>12.1</td>
<td>13.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shame and desire to conceal the pregnancy</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breast feeding of babies</td>
<td>14.2</td>
<td>13.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too many children</td>
<td>17.8</td>
<td>27.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unwanted children by various reasons</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The proportion of women, who had no children at all was the same in Leningrad as in Moscow — 17.3 per cent, the median number of children to one woman of those who underwent abortion, was 1.85 in Moscow and 1.75 in Leningrad.

As a conclusion of the statistics of the two cities, I can give the data concerning the mothers' mortality. The death rate in puerperio in Leningrad was:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years</th>
<th>No of Deaths in puerperio</th>
<th>Per 1,000 Births</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1922</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>3.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1923</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>3.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1924</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>3.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1925</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>2.45</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Taking only two principal causes of maternal mortality — puerperal fever and post-abortive septis, we had in Leningrad during 1925 per 1,000 cases of child-birth, only 1.15 deaths of puerperal fever and 1.30 deaths of post-abortive septis. In the big German cities these numbers are 1.32 and 2.62. So mother's mortality on the whole is not so high.

Statistics of two principal cities do not represent certainly the complete picture of the present situation. The data, collected by Dr. Gens concerning 10 other governmental districts for 1925 show that in the middle and small towns for every 1,000 population there were 91 abortion cases, in the villages there are 0.5 These numbers include only registered abortions, the clandestine abortions also continue and Dr. Gens counted them in 1924 to be 37 per cent of the whole. The general number of abortions in Russia is approximately estimated in 120,000 cases yearly, and 28.8 per cent of them are clandestine.

Contraceptive Methods

The practice of contraceptive methods was recommended as a good measure against the constant growth of abortions, since the year 1923. The question was raised, for the first time at the city conference of obstetricians of Moscow on November 23, 1923. The resolution, which was accepted by the conference, gave certain indications about the different methods of contraception and established two general propositions. (1) The conference held admissible the recommendation by practicing physicians of safe contraceptive means, whose regular application would not be detrimental to the woman's health, the initiative in the recommendation must issue from the woman, not from the physician, (2) the physician, being a social worker, must not decline the task of giving contraceptive information in cases when pregnancy is impossible or undesirable for the woman at the given time.

A few months later, the question of contraceptive methods was discussed, on the instigation of the Department of Maternity and Infant Welfare.
in Leningrad, by two medical societies The Leningrad Association of Gynecological and Obstetrical Physicians and the Scientific Society of Mothers' and Children's Welfare. The reports were read by two eminent gynecologists, Prof' Lichkouss and Prof' Okinicz. A special committee was elected to elaborate the resolution, in which the writer of this article took part. The resolution runs as follows:

"Contraceptive propaganda is not the principal way to lessen the growth of abortions. Society must acknowledge first of all, that motherhood is a social function and as a consequence of that the state and society must organize social help to mothers and to numerous families. The extremely wide application of contraceptives can considerably reduce the number of population, more than the practice of abortions, and therefore these methods must be used very discriminatingly and can be recommended only in every particular case by a physician, specially fitted for such work. It is necessary to strengthen the propaganda of healthy motherhood and the teaching of young women that the child-birth and breast-feeding is a physiological function of the healthy woman, and that demoral of it may be detrimental to her. From the medical point of view all existing contraceptive methods are not perfectly safe and effective, some of them being harmful. The society recommends the further study of the best of them."

Advice on Contraception

In the beginning of the year 1924, the Moscow Board of Maternity and Infant Welfare sent a circular letter to the directors of all Maternity Hospitals in Moscow, in which it was suggested that, in case of an application for contraceptive information, they are invited to follow the indications given by the Moscow Conference of 1923, concerning the different contraceptive methods. One of the members of this Conference, Dr Levy, has published a small pamphlet on "Contraception as a Method of Prevention of Abortion", more than 100,000 copies of which were sold and distributed among the medical workers and the general population. The Central Board of Maternity and Infant Welfare in Russia on December 12, 1924, adhered to the Moscow practice and recommended to all local Centers to adopt the policy of contraceptive information. The Board stated that the selection of any special method must be made by the physician, that the recommendation must be individual and that the open and wide advertising of contraceptives must be avoided.

During the years 1924 and 1925, the question concerning contraceptive methods was put at the discussions of various congresses and conferences. The Second All-Russian Congress on Maternity and Child Welfare, which was held in Moscow during the summer of 1924, resolved that regular contraceptive information is one of the suitable functions of Maternity and Women Centers. The fifth all-Ukrainian congress of Mother and Child Protection, held in October, 1924, in Charkow, resolved that although the best method of stopping the growth of abortions and of preventing the disability of women, as their consequence, is the general betterment of economic conditions and the establishment in every country and every city of Councils of Social Help for Mothers, still at the present time the practical method is the giving of contraceptive information to the women workers and peasants, as a means of rational Birth Control. The Congress demanded that the Central Board of Welfare render the necessary help in the study of the most safe and effective methods of temporary sterilization of women. At the end of the year 1925, the Third Congress of Maternity and Infant Welfare of the S S R T' mon adopted the proposition of Dr Gens, in which it was stated that "During the next period the best method of preventing abortions is the giving of contraceptive information to women through special consultations for women and gynecological dispensaries and wide social help to needy pregnant women."

We can see thus that, by the beginning of the year 1926, all leading conferences and official boards had adopted the policy of contraceptive information through individual physicians or consultative centers. In the meantime the popular literature on contraception greatly increased. There were published more than 10 different popular expositions of different contraceptive methods with a circulation of more than one million copies. In the different towns and public papers were read on this subject. Since that year there have been organized about 10,000 gratuitous consultations for women, applying for the contraceptives. The big institutes for maternity and infant welfare both in Moscow and in Leningrad started such consultations.

The Practice of the Consultations

The practice of such consultations is not entirely uniform. As a general rule a special gynecological physician is appointed by the local Board of Health, who gives necessary consultations at certain hours of the day (twice or three times weekly). Two rooms ordinarily are adapted for this kind of work. The physician is helped by one or two medical nurses or registered midwives. In some places (Continued at foot of next column.)
RESTING on the experience and regulations of their own country it is understandable that the interested foreign country should think that things should be similar in Germany. That is not the case. There is no Birth Control, extending over the whole country, built up on defined lines and working towards them. The law as well as public opinion is against it. At the International Hygiene Conference (Dresden, 1911) the President of the German Society for Combatting Social Diseases, the world-famous Dr. Alb, Neisser, had to make the horrid attack confession that it was impossible, because forbidden by law, to publish any anti-conceptual and protective literature. The law was naturally aimed at the preparations themselves. And it may be accepted as a proof of personal opinion that even before this time, Professor Flesch in Frankfurt a. M., undertook, according to the report, on the premises of a housing society, which cared for the specially large families, to give lectures on Birth Control. This would, however, have been impossible if these lectures had been openly advertised or if any others than the tenants of these blocks had been admitted.

Today the case is that there is no lack of men and women doctors who are willing to give their patients Birth Control advice, when social or economic circumstances make it desirable.

There is, however, in the whole of Germany only one organization—the Birth Control Institute at Berlin—which works according to the methods employed in other countries, and solely with the object of protection of infants. Then there are two others in Berlin, in Hamburg, and in Frankfurt a. M., each of them an ante-natal center for Mothers, which give advice and instruction in Birth Control. On similar lines, the Institute for Sex Instruction in Berlin and the Workmen's Samaritan Colony in Chemnitz also give instruction.

The greater number of the existing centers for giving advice to married people concern themselves chiefly with giving eugenic advice, before marriage, with smoothing out of dissensions within the marriage, with instructions in methods of thrift, etc. They especially avoid contraceptive advice or help. So in this field in Germany, very much, we can safely say almost everything, remains to be done.

On the other hand, Vienna—German Austria—considers within its proper sphere of duty not only contraception but also abortion. Propaganda for this purpose has had the satisfactory effect that hardly any abortions are now necessary.

The contraceptives are bought in the ordinary stores.

Notwithstanding the wide dissemination of contraceptive knowledge, it can be said that it is available only for the town population. The peasantry is only slightly touched by it. It is interesting to note, that notwithstanding the practice of legalized abortions and the open propaganda of contraceptive methods, Russia stands, as before the war, in the first rank of the world birth-rates. In the pre-war time the birth-rate in European part of Russia was 43.3 per 1,000 population, giving nearly 52 millions of live-births in the year. In the year 1913, it was 42.5, in 1924, 42.7, in 1925, 43. But, with practically the same birth-rate, Russia in late years considerably lowered the infant death-rate. The per cent of the infants under one year, who died in European part of Russia, was

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>1910</th>
<th>1924</th>
<th>1926</th>
<th>1926</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In towns and cities</td>
<td>28.5</td>
<td>17.9</td>
<td>18.3</td>
<td>17.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In the country</td>
<td>29.3</td>
<td>19.7</td>
<td>22.3</td>
<td>19.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median for whole country</td>
<td>29.2</td>
<td>19.3</td>
<td>22.7</td>
<td>19.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The population is greatly increasing each year. In 1923, the population increased, 19.5 per 1,000, in 1924, 20.1, in 1925, 21.0. Before the war the annual increase was 16.0 per 1,000 (1913). One must remember that the annual increase in the United States (1922) was 10.6, and in great European countries in the year 1924 we have 7.1 in Germany, 6.6 in England, and 1.9 in France.

As a conclusion of our paper we can say that biology of the growth of population is only partly dependent on the methods of Birth Control. Behind that growth there are some other important factors which considerably contribute to this process.

(Continued from previous page)
Birth Control Movement in Sweden

By Alma Sundquist, M.D.

In Sweden already in the first half of the nineteenth century some single voices were heard warning against the danger of overpopulation. In the year 1833 one of Sweden's greatest and most famous poets, Esaias Tegner, who was bishop of the State Church, wrote in an official report on the Causes of Poverty as follows: "With the aid of Peace, Vaccination and Potatoes there has been a very great increase of the population. But as no new warning against the danger of overpopulation..."

In the year 1880, the population was then some three millions, and in the opinion of most authorities large families were to be regarded as a blessing and necessary to the future happiness of the country.

In the year 1880 Dr. Knut Wicksell began a remarkable propaganda for the Neo-Malthusian movement. Dr. Wicksell was a highly intelligent and warm-hearted man and a prominent scientist—he was later on professor of Political Economy at the University of Lund—and until his death a couple of years ago, he remained a fervent supporter of Birth Control, never tiring of warning against overpopulation. Wicksell soon got a reputation as a very dangerous man and there was a sharp opposition raised against him from several sides, but with time he got great influence and high esteem both in scientific circles and in the general opinion.

Not a few prominent men and women shared Wicksell's ideas from the beginning, and joined in the propaganda. Among these was a professor in Physiology at the University of Upsala, Hjalmar Ohrvall, who has written some very much-read books and articles on the population question.

Of course the Neo-Malthusian propaganda was fought intensely by people of a more conservative, military-minded and religious disposition. In the year 1910, Parliament passed a government bill against public propaganda of Birth Control and open advertisement and undue sale of contraceptives. Since that time bills have been introduced to abolish the law, but Parliament has refused and it is still in force.

As a matter of fact the law has not been able to check the Birth Control movement. Pamphlets and books dealing with Birth Control are printed and sold in spite of the law. A translation of Marie Stopes' "Wise Parenthood", for instance, is very much read, especially among the working classes. Lectures on the question are held by physicians and others, after the passing of the Anti Birth Control Law as before, or rather to an even greater extent. The birth-rate is falling as shown by the official statistics of the birth-rate:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Birth Rate per 1,000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1906-10</td>
<td>25.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1911-15</td>
<td>23.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1916-20</td>
<td>21.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The increase of the population was, 1906-10, 8 per 1,000, in 1924, it was 5.07 per 1,000, and in 1926, 3.44. The death rate for the year 1926 was 11.76. The whole population at the end of 1926 was a little more than six millions. According to some Swedish economists the birth-rate may be expected to still sink a little and as the death rate is very low already, the population seems to be going towards an equilibrium probably arriving about 1940 at a number of some seven millions. These future prospects are regarded as advantageous by many sociologists, deplored by others.

That contraceptive methods nowadays are known and practised, not only among the well-situated classes, but also among poor people, is evident by an investigation that has been made by Dr. Karl Edin regarding the birth rates in different social strata in Stockholm and suburbs. "Great Stockholm Dr. Edm, who told about his work to the World Population Conference in Geneva last autumn, has found that the birth-rate of the better situated families in the above mentioned region is higher than that of the lower classes and that the infant mortality is lower among the higher classes than among the poor people. That being the case, the higher strata are contributing to the regeneration of the population in a larger degree than the poor and uneducated, a state of things that must be considered as most satisfying from the racial point of view.
THE propaganda and educational work through which Birth Control has been so largely spread in Sweden has been carried on only to a very slight degree through special organizations but chiefly by single persons, lecturers and writers, some belonging to the medical profession, some not. There have been some organizations for the purpose, a small Neo-Malthusian League, for instance, was founded some years ago. But these organizations have not been very successful and the League is dying away. For the time being, the Population Question is very much discussed in the newspapers and in open meetings. Some societies for popular education, for instance one association belonging to the Labor Party, very often engage lecturers on the subject.

The Birth Control Movement has been forwarded by many physicians but until very recently, most members of the medical profession in this country have been indifferent, some of them fervent opponents of it. During the last years the general attitude of the medical men and women seems to be to a certain degree changed. Birth Control now generally is regarded at least as unavoidable, some of them as desirable and necessary both from the individual's and the country's point of view. The medical students in Stockholm receive instruction in contraceptive methods and in the obstetrical clinic at the Medical School in Stockholm, contraceptive advice is given to women or to their husbands on medical indication.

The special Birth Control clinic of the English or American type does not exist and would not perhaps quite be suitable to this country. Some years ago a woman physician, Dr Ada Nilsson, who is very interested in the Birth Control Movement, started a "consultation office for parents" working in a certain way as a Birth Control clinic but with a little different character. The office is addressing itself to "parents", that is to men and women, and gives advice not only on contraceptive methods but also on other sexual questions and on personal hygiene. Literature and advice are to be had for instance on the hygiene of pregnancy and menstruation, the hygiene of infants and children, on sexual education of boys and girls and so on.

The office began on a very small scale but is becoming more and more known and esteemed. Poor overworked mothers have been sent there by nurses and social workers, working among poor people. Written questions often come from the country where it is often difficult to get reliable advice on these things. Through the care of the office, women suffering from grave diseases, such as epilepsy, have been taken to hospitals and sterilized.

Many physicians approve of popular education on Birth Control. Most of them very occasionally hold single lectures on Birth Control, but are trying to work for a somewhat wider sexual education. They prefer to treat Birth Control as a very important chapter of the sexual question. In most cases they hold a series of lectures to make clear to them audiences the importance not only of Birth Control but also of due self-control, of sexual hygiene, of sexual education of youth, of considerateness and responsibility in sexual matters.

Of course there exists in Sweden as in other countries much unhappiness caused by sexual misconduct and there are still too many people who know nothing of Birth Control. Good educational work is still very badly needed.

Women of War

By Lucia Trent

Women who lust for blood and harbor hate,
Who hurl your men on branded spikes of fate
To die in terror on a blood-drenched sod
To the extortionate glory of your God,
How do you dare to hold a sacred place,
And claim to be the mothers of the race?
How can you heal and cleanse with heart and mind
The old recurrent blunders of mankind,
Cherish a rebel longing in your breast
To right each wrong and grievance unredressed?
Oh, those, who follow where true mothers lead,
Pity the fruit of your unhallowed seed.
**The Mothers' Question**

**Is Poverty Inevitable?**

Not if the Mother can control the size of her family. Every social worker is familiar with the sight of families painfully descending into poverty, as the number of children grows. When the young man and the still younger girl marry, they are full of joy and hope. The first child brings some preparation—doctors' bills and other expenses deplete the small income of perhaps only $15 to $25 a week. But the joy and delight of the baby is full repayment. Then comes the second—welcome, but probably not quite so welcome. After that come more and more, and each means step lower in the scale of living. What can the Social Worker do to help? Nothing real, nothing constructive, nothing at all but a weak palliation. There is only one way out—Birth Control.

**Poverty Stricken Families**

New York

Please send how to obtain the necessary information regarding Birth Control. I have already three small children, very poor health and not enough to properly care for a very large family, having been of a large family (12) myself; without having the things I should have to make me strong and well. I hate to be one to bring so many more in this world mithout care and education, they need so badly to make them good citizens of our good old U.S.A. so when I accidently saw your address I decided to write to gain the information to help me bring those little ones up. I have already that they may have some of the necessities of this life.

I could tell you of the poverty-stricken families I know which make me shudder to think of them. Neither do I need to go out of my family to tell of them. My oldest sister brought nine children here who grew up without training or education and now one of her daughters has a family of seven, whose husband will not care for them. Oh, if I could I would gladly talk for this cause. If I were gifted so I could speak in public I would be as strong for it as one of my sisters who is a great leader in the YWCA.

**A Paralyzed Baby**

Kansas

I am writing to find out if you can help me in any way. It is information about Birth Control which I seek. I am of foreign parents born in United States. I have been married for 2½ years and I already have two babies. My first baby is sick, her limbs are paralyzed and the doctors do not know when she will ever get well. She may never and I am so discouraged, yet I hardly have time to take care of both babies as I should. My other baby is only five months old, and at the time I do not know if I am pregnant again or not. I have not menstruated for about two months and it is so discouraging. I adore babies, but must one so little and a sick baby. I would rather not have any more until my baby would get well. I have been told of many remedies but I do not like anything like that, it is so dangerous. Besides, I do not think I am in very good health, neither is my husband and I almost think that under the circumstances it is criminal to have children. I would like to get under treatment of a good doctor and get well and my baby also. Then I would think it was blessed to have more children, but just now we do not have the means. My husband has been out of work for so long and he only gets temporary jobs at times. I do not know what to do. I try my best to care for my children as nature intends a mother to do. I tried to do something to prevent conception, but I guess I just didn't know how and now it is too late, I guess. Can you please advise me in the best way you can?

**Husband Sick**

Illinois

My husband has asked me to write to you on Birth Control. We don't want any more children as we can't buy clothes for what we have. We have been married 7½ years and have 3 children already. My husband is not very well. He has rheumatism very bad at times but has to go to work. Some days he can hardly stand on his feet till the day is done but has to keep from getting in the hole. I have been doing washing and ironing for two years to help a little but must give up as I am all run down, have a beating down and feel terribly at times.

Won't you please tell me how to keep from getting in the family way, as I do want to meet my husband but am afraid to. I feel as though I'm to blame for all his backaches and other troubles.
Mother of Nine

Iowa

A lady here told me to write to you and you would help me. I am only 34 years old and am the mother of 9 children. Eight are living and the oldest is 15 years. Now I think a large family is very nice where the people have money but we are poor and can't hardly make a decent living for our children. I have had a baby now every year for 4 years and it's ruining my health. I have swollen limbs and can hardly get around at times. What I would like to know is there any sure way of keeping from getting pregnant? It seems as though I always get caught the fourth or fifth month after my child is born. My husband only makes $25 a week and we are trying to pay for a home and keep even with the world, so you see we have our hands full

Five in Eight Years

Pennsylvania

I am writing to ask you some advice. I seen your advertisement in a magazine, and thought I would write to you. I have a hard time getting along on my husband's wages and trying to raise 5 children. I sometimes think my nerve will fail me if I have any more for. I certainly do work hard to keep these 5 hke I want them.

Since the last one came I have not been hke I was before and I surely wish I could find out how to prevent any more from coming into this world. I have been married only 8 years if I thought I was to have 5 more in 16 years. I believe I would sooner be dead.

"Nothing to do with"

New York

I saw your name in Zoe Beckley's corner and thought I would write for your advice. I have five children and I am in poor health and my husband doesn't earn only $20 a week and I don't think it is right to bring children into the world and nothing to do with or money to clothe them. Please help me.

Small Pay — $15.00

Massachusetts

I am not married two years and I have two children. The youngest is 3 weeks. I have tried several contraceptive methods, but none were of any use to me. I followed directions also. Now my husband is a madman but has not fulfilled his four years so he makes very small pay. Fifteen dollars is very small pay. Fifteen dollars is very small money for a family of four. I find it awfully hard to get along on such small pay.

Is there anything you could advise me to do to keep from having children so fast? If my husband was making better money I would not care how many I had as I love children. If there is anything you know of would you kindly write and let me know.

Terrible Suffering

Wyoming

I wonder if there is anything in the world that would help me. My health is broken down and I have four children and my work to do myself. I am 27 years and have had five babies, (one dead) and two still births. I can't stand to think I'll have to go through with childbirth again and my husband and I quarrel all the time. He does not care for children and always says the dear ones we have are taking everything away from us. But I don't begrudge them anything. I love my four little ones. But what will I do if I ever get that way again? Baby is two years old and I've miscarried since she was born. But the things I use are breaking my health down and the doctors here think it a crime to get rid of babies. But I know we can't take care of any more, the ones we have don't only get half what they need to eat and wear. My husband has been suffering with his stomach ever since we got married and I would hate to think one of my babies would have to suffer like he does. Why can't a person in the shape we are in get something to prevent this terrible suffering? I would rather die than go through what I have the last few years. I want to leave my husband but what can I do? I'm not able to support myself and I know the longer we live together and have to bring more children into the world, the worse we will hate each other. I have tried ever so many things. But they all fail and when I had one miscarriage and lost my baby we phoned to a doctor and told him what was wrong and he wouldn't come. I never will come any nearer dying than I did that time all alone with no one to even help me. And dear Mrs. Sanger if you can tell me anything to help me I will be thankful all my life to you and be willing to pay for advice, so I can get well again and take care of my home and children. I won't ask the doctors here, because they refused some women I know of and life cannot go on the way it is. Do let me hear from you.

Needs Help

New York

I am writing you in regard to the Birth Control subject. Now I am the mother of three children, and have to work all the time to help take care of them. I do washing at home. My oldest child is 16 and my youngest is 6. I have a boy in between that's 11, and I almost gave my life for the last two, all hopes of us both were given up, and would awfully hate to think of going through with it again, so if you know how to control this will you please be so kind as to write me about it. And I can tell you I would be very glad to know, as I almost lost my mind when pregnant for the last child thinking what I had to go through with.
Stirrings in the Medical Profession

FROM the field Dr. James F. Cooper, Medical Director of the Clinical Research Department of the American Birth Control League, sends a letter addressed by a woman physician to her fellow members of the State Academy of Medicine. The letter reads:

Dear Doctor,

A year or more ago, I sent the following list of questions to a number of women and men in the Medical Profession, who, I thought, should be informed, including Surgeon General Cummings:

(a) What contraceptive methods are advised by the medical practitioner? (I, of course, do not include operative procedure)
(b) What contraceptive methods are employed by the laity without medical advice?
(c) Where do the latter obtain the information regarding these methods?
(d) If there are devices manufactured for this purpose, where do they purchase them?
(e) To what degree are they effective in preventing conception?
(f) What effect, mental, moral, physical, and psychic does their use have on the individual employing them?
(g) How often do they fail to prevent fertilization, but interfere sufficiently with the embryonic tissues to result in an ultimate abortion, or the production of a subnormal or monstrous individual?

None of the persons addressed appeared able to answer them. Dr. James F. Cooper of New York City, who is at present in this city, informs me that he represents an organization which is engaged in research along those lines, and is, in fact, very anxious to pass on what information they have to date to the Academy of Medicine.

This is a subject fraught with possibilities for good or evil to society at large, and I do feel that, when we of the Medical Profession leave the teaching of contraceptive measures in the hands of the itinerant vendor and the under-world, instead of in the hands of the licensed practitioner of medicine, we are betraying the confidence of the humans who trust us with their welfare.

I respectfully request that the Board of Governors of the Academy of Medicine offer the courtesy of its floor to Dr. Cooper.

In consequence of this appeal the Academy of Medicine called a meeting at which Dr. Cooper spoke.

FIRST among medical journals in the United States, The Medical Journal and Record, one of the oldest and most respected, has undertaken to find the consensus of opinion of physicians throughout the United States on Birth Control. Recognizing that "not infrequently the medical profession has lagged behind when issues of importance to mankind were under consideration", the Record sent out a questionnaire to physicians throughout the country and exhorited the profession "to give the matter serious consideration".

The Questionnaire

I. Do you advocate the use of contraceptive measures for medical purposes?
   1. Where parturition would endanger the life of the prospective mother, such as in cardiac, tuberculopous or renal conditions.
   2. Where the quality of offspring would be jeopardized, as in alcoholism, syphilis, and other hereditary degenerative diseases.
   3. In cases of mental abnormality, such as idiopathic epilepsy, mental deficiency or precox conditions.
   4. In psychological difficulties, where the emotional instability of either parent would militate against the chances of proper development of offspring.

II. Would you advocate contraceptive measures for economic reasons?
   1. Where the prospective family would be unable to care for a child adequately.
   2. Where the number of offspring in a given family is sufficient and any additional children would be a burden.

III. Do you believe in the teaching of contraceptive methods in our medical schools and hospitals?
   1. To the medical profession.
   2. To the public.

IV. Do you believe existing laws against teaching of contraceptive methods are just?
   1. To the medical profession.
   2. To the public.

V. Do you believe that the discrepancy between state and national laws regarding contraceptive teaching is just?
   1. To the medical profession.

VI. Should the adult population of this country have access to knowledge of contraceptive measures?

VII. Do you believe that knowledge of contraceptive methods affects the so-called moral standards of adults?

VIII. Do you believe that the subject of contraception should be brought up for discussion before medical bodies?

IX. Have you ever received instruction in contraceptive methods?

X. Have you ever had occasion to make use of this instruction?

Remarks. Please state quite fully your views regarding the present status of the physician in relation to the
existing laws regarding contraception, also suggestions for any modifications or changes which you may consider desirable in regard to this subject

Digests of replies began to appear in the number for Jan 18. It is to be hoped that when all replies are in, the Record will make a full analysis of replies to the specific questions. But the results so far published from more than 80 physicians are themselves well worth comment. Only two of these are opposed to Birth Control and one of the two contradicts himself in his reply to a later question.

All the rest approve Birth Control, about 25 of them with some limitation as to the extent of its use. Though most of the replies keep to a fairly matter-of-fact question and answer, some make pointed comments. Dr. J. R. Wilson of Kankakee, Illinois, writes—"Why should women who conceive very easily bear the burden of populating the world, sacrificing their lives, because they do not know how to regulate this thing?" Dr. William F. Shumaker of Butler, Indiana, writes, "Our laws are such that it makes criminals of us when we intend a humanitarian act."

A psychiatrist dwells on the psychological importance of Birth Control. He laments the unwanted child and says—"From the point of view of the psychiatrist, it isn't, shall Birth Control be used, but what method is best to use?" He adds (as another contributor does also)—"Mankind is only on the outskirts of discovering the wonderful value of the reaction obtained from sex relations apart from reproduction?" Some believe that physicians should help to change the law—all should have done so indeed, long ago. Two urge that medical bodies draft and present bills, one of these believes that the Federal Bill should be proposed through the Surgeon General of the United States. Another, a prominent New York neurologist, on the other hand believes that "the essential impetus should come through lay and various non-medical organizations to a large extent—medical men simply indicating its medical relations and importance." A New Jersey physician proposes a very extensive medical supervision of private life. He wishes all cases to be brought before a local committee organized by the State Medical Society.

The highest point in the discussion was reached when, in response to the clear indications of a desire to know more of Birth Control given in the replies to the questionnaire, the Medical Record and Journal published, on March 31st. the complete medical report of Dr. Hannah M. Stone on 1457 cases in the Clinical Research Department of the American Birth Control League. It is not permitted to us by law to quote passages from the technical part of this report, but we can quote Dr. Stone's general summary of results:

"This report covers a total of 1,655 patients examined in 1925, of whom 1,457 were given contraceptive advice and care, under the direction of one physician. Through January, 1927, reports were secured on 1,133 patients, or over three-quarters of the number treated. Of those reporting, eighty-five per cent had used the prescribed methods.

"In round numbers, nineteen out of twenty women were protected over periods running from six months to two years. In over eight hundred cases reasonably followed up, and including all the methods that were investigated, the doubtful results and the failures together averaged five per cent."

WHAT AFTERWARDS?

One of an Obstetrical Extern's early cases:

"I pushed the broken latched door open and entered the most desolate human habitation I had ever seen. I was to see many more such rooms, but the awful squalor of the place struck me with raw and unaccustomed force. Pushing my way through a clump of neighbors who had gathered for the fracas, I found my patient (24 years old and already mother of four) shaming a sheetless bed with three sleeping children. She was in a deep coma and even in my excitement I knew that her pulse was pounding dangerously. Though there was nothing to guide me I suspected toxemia, blood pressure registered 200, a hospital case. The husband was gazing at me in dumb apathy, helpless as a smitten ox. 'Does any one here speak English?' I cried. No answer, I bolted, ran—till I saw the red lamp of a police station—shot an emergency call. The ambulance clanged up, and half an hour later I was trying to explain to Jake Sidonofosko that his wife had just given birth to twins by Caesarian Section."

"What came of this triumph of science? Read another extract:

"What became of the tiny bundles of warm helplessness after we discharged them? What happened to the mothers who were so eager to help, and who, for the most part, were such faithful and obedient patients? The tragedy of the District is this: after the excitement and the drama of Childbirth is over, our daily calls have been made and we have watched the infant begin to grow life with his curling fingers, after we have discharged mother and child from the clinic, they drift back into the anonymous alleyways, back to the sheet-less beds in the fetid rooms where no mere Extern can follow to save them."

"I asked Challenger (the House Officer) about it one day. 'Forget it,' was his terse reply. 'It's not our job to blast their stinking ratholes out of existence.' Then he slowed down and added, 'But it certainly gives me the creeps to see my civilization condemning a Mother and Child to one of these living tombs.'"

Book Reviews

Awakening in Spain

By Pedro Fernandez

It is significant that a book such as that of Dr. Maranon—"Tres ensayos sobre la vida sexual" (Three Essays on Sex)—should have been published in Spain.

The education of the women of that country has been up to recent times limited to those particular occupations which pertain to home making. It was generally the convents and religious schools which supplied this instruction, institutions which never lose sight of the tremendous Importance of religious training. The result has been that, while men have gradually broken away from religion through being educated in scientific institutions, or merely through being in contact with life, women, having been kept more or less in seclusion and under religious instruction, have remained devout.

But even the women of Spain are becoming influenced by the movements in other nations, and today there are thousands of young women studying in the high schools and colleges side by side with men and coming into contact with the important problems that are internationally discussed. Does this mean that they have broken away from the firm hold that religion had on them? Not yet, although there is taking place a gradual awakening that may, before long, bring quite a change in their social and economic status.

Dr. Maranon, in his recent book, sounded the tocsin of the emancipation of the Spanish women in their sexual life. Most of his arguments are not new to us here in the United States. He favors universal suffrage and economic, social, educational, and political equality, but he insists that a woman should continue to be a woman for all that, and calls attention to the fact that the great mistake of feminists in all countries has been the tendency to confuse women's rights with the assumption of masculinity. Considering the country of which he writes and the lengths to which the Catholic religion has gone to oppose Birth Control, the stand which this worthy member of the Spanish Royal Academy of Medicine takes is most interesting.

Dr. Maranon has for a long time been Director of the General Hospital of Madrid. The statistics he compiled in connection with the birth and death rate among the working classes in Spain are astonishing. These figures, together with observations on general conditions and the effects of poverty and Ignorance, led him to become an ardent advocate of Birth Control. He favors it, in the first place, for the sake of the woman herself. "On passing along the streets of a town," he says, "(especially one of those towns of Castile or the suburbs of a large city where the workers have) notice those women with children in their arms and several around them, or those that busy themselves in domestic occupations. Guess at their age and then ask them. Even allowing for the tendency of women to discount their age, I am certain that the investigator will often be surprised and astonished on learning that women who seem to be about fifty years old are hardly thirty."

I had occasion last summer to observe this same fact in the towns of northern Spain. Women of thirty to thirty-four years of age who had gone to school with me were now prematurely old, burdened with large families, weighed down with overwork and constant childbearing. It seemed to me that they were the women of my mother's generation than of mine. There were few among them who had not had from ten to twelve children, and there was not a single woman I knew who had not lost at least one-third of her children, while several had lost from one-half to two-thirds. A woman can hardly keep her youth under conditions of this kind.

It is because of the tremendous infant mortality, also, that Dr. Maranon so strongly supports family limitation. The following statistics compiled by him in the General Hospital of Madrid clearly illustrate the conditions existing in Spain among the proletarian women, selected at random after the completion of their sexual cycle. "Twenty-eight per cent had had more than eight children, ten, twelve or more, frequently between fourteen and seventeen, and in two cases, even twenty. The proportion of women of high fecundity is really exceptional, very superior to that of the most advanced countries of Europe. But of the 473 children of these very prolific women, 382 died, that is to say, the mortality was over eighty per cent.

"This is the heroic but useless effort of our poor women. What a large number of children! Only 19 per cent of our women are childless, due more to sterility than celibacy, for poor people think less about economical problems than do those who are in better circumstances, and among this class more marriages take place. But almost all of this large number of children die before becoming useful men and women, for the mother, being physically weak, cannot conceive strong children. Then too, she is not able to take care of them properly, due to adverse conditions and poverty which does not permit even sufficient nourishment and the State does nothing to alleviate the misery among these families.

"What is the reply of our enthusiastic eunuchists to these overwhelming figures? Even the most exaggerated
results of Neo-Malthusianism in the countries in which it is most extensively practiced cannot approach the havoc that poverty and ignorance produce among us. If we continue along this path what will become of the Spanish people? Although the statistics compiled by the Government (which includes the wealthy families among which infantile mortality is much smaller) show lower figures, yet for the past three years, in spite of this, the total mortality of Spain was 1,811,700, and the number of births 1,630,900. This terrible paradox is becoming more and more apparent. If the women of Spain were to give birth to one-half the number of children they do at present, in 50 years the population of Spain would be a hundred th the present number. This is not only true of Spain, it also applies to other countries.

Dr. Maranon favors Birth Control also in cases where the health of either of the two parents may impair the conception of strong children. He says that "unconscious maternity without taking into account physiological standards (which should never be forgotten) is detrimental to both the mother and the offspring and useless for society. He does not hesitate to say that "Nor our laws, society nor religion take the least care in requiring that the parents should be in good health, especially in the cases of disease that may be passed from one member of the family to another."

Undoubtedly this book which Dr. Maranon has written responds in a large measure to the needs of Spanish women to raise their standards. It is not only among those who are devoting themselves to the professions, the uneducated as well are beginning to see the fallacy of following blindly the narrow precepts which have guided them in the past.

Clinics in England

From England we have received three practical booklets on clinical work. These are the Annual Reports of Walworth and Camberwell Women's Welfare Centers and E. S. Daniels "Children of Desire." The first two are reports of clinical experience, the third is advice and information based on experience. Walworth Women's Welfare Center (London) and the Cambridge Women's Welfare Association's reports are for 1926-1927.

The Cambridge Clinic reports slow growth on account of false shame among village women, and "unfounded stones launched by opponents of Birth Control which play upon the ignorance and superstitions of the poor". In spite of this, the number of patients increased from 118 the first year to 293 last year and a considerable number are from the class which need help most since their husbands are agricultural laborers earning thirty to thirty-five shillings a week. Forty-three towns and villages are represented, so the message of the Cambridge Clinic has travelled far.

Many, says the report, "come after the first child, with the deliberate intention of spacing their children. Others who have three or four children and find it a struggle to support these in any comfort on their wages, come for advice because they do not want to lower their standard of life by further additions to their family."

"Even including, however, the childless patients mentioned above, we find a total of 608 pregnancies among the 175 patients who have been enrolled since the last report. There are 525 surviving children, or an average of three per family. To maintain our present large population, Rev. R. Connor estimates that 258 legitimate births per marriage are necessary to replace each generation as it disappears. Of the 608 pregnancies, 35 resulted in miscarriages—many of them self-induced and 11 children were still-born. Forty-five children died—32 under one year of age, 11 between one and two years of age, and two at ages slightly higher."

The pamphlet from Walworth is a general report of the Society for the Provision of Birth Control Clinics. It is a brief statement of the objects of the Society and the work of its clinics at Walworth, Birmingham, East London, Glasgow, Manchester and Salford, North Kensington, Oxford, Cambridge and Wolverhampton.

"An increasing number of women who come to the Centers," says the report, "are very poor and consequently charges have to be remitted more frequently than in the past. The value of the work to the individual women who seek the aid of the various Centers is as marked as ever. You leave a lasting impression of helpful friendship," writes a grateful mother of two children under three, from Broadstairs, whence she had travelled to Walworth for advice. Her spirit of gratitude is typical. Sometimes it is the husband who writes. Thus (from Kensington): "Thank you for your kindness towards my wife, and I congratulate you on your efforts on our behalf. Having a family of 6, I consider that we have done our share towards furthering the future generation."

"Here are some typical cases—"

"From the Walworth Center:"

**Wife aged 41. Husband a firewood cutter during the winter, at 24s Od, a week, unemployed in the summer 19 pregnancies, including 3 miscarriages. Of the 16 children born alive, only 8 have survived.**

**Wife aged 31. Husband a French-polisher earning 45s Od a week 11 pregnancies, including 3 miscarriages. Of the 7 children born alive, one has since died.** The husband is a parasite. He says the woman was badly burnt at 19 years of age and suffers from St. Vitus's dance. All the children are subject to fits and are already crippled."

**Wife aged 39. Husband a laborer 9 children, of whom 7 are alive all living in one room. The wife is blind in one eye and the other eye is diseased.**
"From the East London Center

Wife aged 24, Husband tubercular and an in-patient at a sanatorium, but is allowed to come home for holidays, 4 children, of whom 3 are living

Wife aged 35, Husband a laborer, unemployed 9 children, of whom 3 were still-born. All children very sickly

The provincial Centers present equally gloomy instances of large families in poor circumstances and of parents, unfit to reproduce, passing on an inheritance of ill-health to child after child

Thus, from Birmingham

Woman aged 36, 3 pregnancies including 3 miscarriages, 4 born with hare-lip

"From Glasgow

Woman aged 31 who had been married at 15, 14 pregnancies including one miscarriage. The 13 children survive

"From Wolverhampton

Woman aged 35, Husband a laborer. Four children and 2 miscarriages. 2 of the children being delivered by Caesarean section

"The charge that Birth Control Centers are resorted to by those who desire selfishly to shirk motherhood is convincingly answered by such letters as the following, which are typical of a large class, far more hopeful than the foregoing cases —

"From Honor Oak Park

I want to tell you that I am now expecting to become a mother, but of my own desire. I used the appliance for four years and found it most satisfactory. I shall return to the Center to be refitted after my confinement"

"From Forest Gate

I have been using the appliance with complete success for over 4 years, but my youngest boy is now 4 years old, I should like to have another baby"

"As in previous years, the Centers have owed the majority of their patients to the warm recommendation of those who have already benefited by the help given. This fact is, perhaps, the surest index to the success of the work"

We add the society's appeal for funds

"The Society denies no financial assistance from public funds. Sufficient has been said to indicate the value of the work to the community and to the individuals whose suffering it seeks to alleviate. There is no field of charitable activity where so moderate an outlay produces so great a result. Nevertheless, few people yet realize the importance of the work and it is difficult to raise funds. Indeed, some of the provincial centers may have to close unless more money is forthcoming"

The first part of the little booklet by E S Daniels, late Inspector of Nursing and Health Visitor to the Education Council who was one of the first to make an issue of Birth Control as a legitimate part of public health work, summarizes in a straightforward and readable style the reasons, personal and social and international, why Birth Control is necessary, and meets the objections of the opposition

In the second part Miss Daniels discusses the best known practical methods and clears up mistaken ideas as to the efficacy of such traditional "preventives" as prolonged suckling and the safe period. Miss Daniels is now superintendent of public Birth Control Clinics at Brighton and Southampton

Books Received

About Ourselves, Psychology for Normal People, by H A Overstreet W W Norton and Co, N Y


Dangers of Contraception, by Fredk T McCann, M D League of National Life, London 6d


George Sand—The Search for Love, by Mane Jen- ney Howe John Day Co N Y $5 00

Thurston's Philosophy of Marriage, with William Robert Thurston Tiffany Press, New York $2 00

The Road to Plenty, by William T Foster and Wad-dill Catchings Houghton-Mifflin Co, N Y $2 00

Oplysning, Thi Jensen Bornebærsætnings Hvorfor? Og Hvordan? Copenhagen 35 Ore

Oplysning, Kvinden Og Forplantningen, Afg Lege J T Leunbach, Copenhagen 35 Ore

Oplysning, Hvor Kommer Bomene fra? Afg Lege Max Hodmann, Copenhagen 35 Ore

Storm Fighters, J D Whiting Bobbs-Memll Co, New York

Woman in Soviet Russia, by Jessica Smith Vanguard Press, New York 50c

The Mother, by Grazia Deledda, Macmillan Co, N Y $2 00

Modern Youth and Marriage, by Henry Neumann, Ph D D Appleton and Co, Brooklyn $1 50

Hymen or the Future of Marriage, by Norman Haire, E P Dutton and Co, N Y C $100

Growing Up, by Karl deSchweinitz, The Macmillan Co, N Y C $1 75

Education for Tolerance, by John E Fanshawe Independent Education, New York City

Modern Marriage, by Paul Popneoe Macmillan Co, N Y C $2 00


Notes on Malthus, by David Ricardo Johns Hopkins Press Baltimore, Md $5 00

Motherhood and Its Enemies, by Charlotte Haldane Doubleday, Doran and Co N Y $2 00

Life and I, by Gamahel Bradford Houghton-Mifflin Co N Y C $3 50

Physiology, by V H Motttram W W Norton & Co, N Y C $2 50

Galileo or the Tyranny of Science, by J W N Sull- ivan E P Dutton Co, N Y C $100

Public Health Progress and Race Progress—are They Incompatible? by H S Jennings, Ph D

The Economic World, by A R Bums and E M Bums Oxford Univ Press, N Y $2 00
A French Champion

The opponents of the Birth Control movement name France as a perfect example of the so-called declining birth-rate. That country is now in the grip of laws having for aim the curb of Birth Control. It seems rather paradoxical to those cynically-minded that some of the officials most bitter in their denunciation of population control, are themselves childless.

Happily in France there are a few, the few found universally, who fight for principles untrammeled by hypocrisy. One of them, Victor Marguerite, who fights with his pen, had his name eradicated from the roll of the Legion of Honor, notwithstanding a fine letter from Anatole France to that body, for waging an unabated struggle against the groups whose theories are doubled-faced and have for aim greater human work material and cannon-fodder.

Victor Marguerite—though he may not have quite attained to a great writer in terms of literature, but like Zola, he writes with a definite purpose and tries to show her in its true colors, sparing no word to do so. When "La Garconne" first appeared, the people whom he tried to depict in their rapacious and distorted existence, naturally fell upon the book as being lascivious, immoral, corrupting to the general public. How sort quis mal y pense. Purulent minds found their own vices represented in words and so denounced the vices all more.

The last book of Marguerite created another storm. It is the first to be published of a trilogy entitled "Vers Le Bonheur." The mere title of this volume, "Ton Corps est un Toi!!" (Your Body is Yours), was enough to excite the mob, most of whom probably did not believe in the principle of the title.

In "La Garconne," there is nothing to the sane and clear minded to excite repulsion or desire. One feels but the terrific struggle and conflict of a wandering within itself. It is but the story of a young girl "well gifted and of energetic character" to quote Anatole France, "who found with reason, that the world is rather ugly." She finally finds a way to happiness and peace.

No book could give a breath of air as pure and as clean as "Ton Corps est un Toi!!" Not only has Marguerite written an epic on the struggle of Woman, but he has evolved a calm, aloof, way of presenting his problem. No ranting of pain, no passionate beating against the hard walls of circumstance, instead cold struggles and then warm sun. Few writers have undertaken a like subject without growing sentimentally hysterical, perhaps a few passages in Bojer's "Maternity" could be compared with Marguerite's description of the maternity ward, the damp smell of blood and disinfectant. Yet the excruciating labor is left unsaid, only the final relief of birth given.

Marguerite chose a strong character to be buffeted by Society. And Society rams its attacks at the beginning in the assault on the young girl by a dilettante. She has the solace of her uncle, in whom Marguerite personifies Paul Robin, the French pioneer of Birth Control, whose unceasing toil stands out amidst the multitude. The girl is left in a sea-port of France and there treads her mill bravely. Her uncle with his meager savings tries to help her. He has taught her the necessary facts of life, only to have his work almost wiped out. However, as the girl lives on, her hfe as and by sheer character she manages to keep a straight soul. Her baby she gives to the Assistance Publique. She is then thrown into contact with the law which in the person of a Judge shows itself in rather dark colors. But Spirita Arelli's spirit triumphs. The book closes as a herd of sheep is leading to the slaughterhouse. Spirita murmurs "Poor beasts"! And her uncle shrugs his shoulders. "They are numerous. If they could educate their strength!"

No one after reading the first of this new Trilogy will not wait eagerly to read the next two. In Marguerite's words, from his introduction to "Ton Corps est un Toi!!" "What have I wished to do in my last books? To show through the flyghty Monque and the voluntary Anika, the tribulations of so many feminine souls which search themselves on the tortuous paths of liberation. 'Vers Le Bonheur' would elevate itself higher to illuminate the long, long road over which, under the heavy burden of maternity, Woman laboriously advances, shielding with her fine hands the torch of Human Hope!"

Ivan Bloch

A few of St. Patrick's Paraders

"You got the Pope's curse all night for selling that," said a young Inshman, my first customer on St. Patrick's Day. "I should worry," I laughed, "I have God's blessing too, and that is far more Important to me." "Oh, you got the right dope," he went on. "I used to belong to the church, but eight years ago my eyes were opened, thank God, since then I trust no one, only the Lord Jesus. The bunch that opposes this is the cause of our trouble on earth, they want people to have plenty of babies, but don't care a darn what becomes of 'em."

Two men approached simultaneously, one with "that's the stuff. I don't believe in raising an army and navy." "Nor an army of wage slaves who are mostly unemployed or on strike, whining about their starving babies," chimed in the other, and I supplemented with "nor asylums full of unfit that are merely an unnecessary burden to the taxpayers!"

Kitty Marion
Spain and the Birth Control Movement

By Helly Cozzoni

WHEN the first appeal of Margaret Sanger reached me in Spain asking me to attend the World Population Conference held in Geneva in August 1927, I asked myself, looking on the program, if I would ever be able to speak about the Conference at all in Spam. But when I met Professor Aznar, a Spanish statistician, as a member of the Conference, I realized how clever had been the board of the organization to ask a scientific man to join and even let them assume the best part of it. There are things which up to now can only be said under a scientific flag. These things are getting discussed in such book as Maranon's, "Three Sexual Essays" and, from another point of view, in "Maned Love" by Marie Stopes. I don't know if they can help Birth Control, but at least they will contribute in freeing that forbidden ground, which is the most sacred of the human functions, from the thick veils which have entirely hidden it from the attention of not only the common people, but even from that of scientific pioneers.

Spain is not more backward than many other countries in this respect. Birth Control is practiced a great deal in a hidden way and without scientific guarantee among certain classes, the wealthiest, I dare say, and seems more or less a privilege reserved to them. Is it because the privileged don't like to divide their property at their death? That would seem quite natural in the provinces of Catalona, Barcelona, Gerona, Lerida, Tarragona, where the regional laws establish that landed property should pass undivided to the eldest son or daughter. And is it not possible that they will not lower the number of laborers by diminishing the size of the humbler classes?

The church of course is entirely against Birth Control as an attempt to change the laws of God. I shall never forget a discussion during which I had to argue that houses of prostitution did not seem to me quite on the side of God's laws. I was answered that the Church from the time of St Augustine had settled that this was a minor sin for which allowances were to be made.

Now if from the woman's point of view Birth Control is excellent I find it still more necessary on the man's side. Because after all even a woman who does not wish children cherishes them after birth, but this instinct is not given so strongly to men. A man loves the child of the woman he is in love with, whose birth he has been desiring, not the child born by chance without his moral contribution. Many times I have tried to imagine myself in the place of a man, father of an undesired child by a mother he doesn't love. I am bewildered before the despair of a man who does not feel he is mated properly but who has to bear forever the companionship of the female who is to be the mother of a child he never thought of having from her. The laws compel him to take care of it but that is not sufficient from either a material or a moral point of view. Such a man as this and the peculiarly Spanish Don Juan type whom Dr. Maranon calls "not quite a man" no less than the poor and all classes of women, would be helped out of many a difficulty by Birth Control.

According to Prof. Aznar's statistics on Spam, half or more of the children born die young, and though the professor is on principle opposed to Birth Control he cannot help conceding that he would not mind limitation of births, if it would result in benefit to the quality of the living, for he agrees with most of us that Quality rather than Quantity, is after all one of the alms of the human race.

News Notes

UNITED STATES

A delegation from the Child Study Association visited the headquarters of the American Birth Control League on March 19th. The group which was made up of delegates from many states was in the charge of Miss Margaret Quillard, an officer of the association. This is the first time that Birth Control has been made a regular feature of the study program of the Child Study Association.

Dr. Cooper reports keen interest on his trip in the south. He spoke in March in North and South Carolina. In April he addressed other South Carolina audiences and went on to Tennessee, Kentucky and Missouri. By the end of April he reached Illinois and on May 3rd attended the meeting of the American Medical Association at Minneapolis. On the last day of March, Dr. Cooper wrote of the evidences of interest in the south "I have been out from New York 18 days and have held 12 medical meetings and two lay meetings—one at North Carolina State College, the other a Rotary club meeting. Valuable con-
pects were formed at Duke University including the dean of the new medical school who is very favorable to Birth Control, and also at North Carolina University at College Hill.

The following program of the American Eugenics Society will be of interest to readers of the Birth Control Review

I STATE LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

1 Minimum age for marriage. At first this can feasibly be made only one to two years higher than the age stipulated in the state. Sixteen years is the goal to be sought. There should be provision for specific exception by order of some appropriate court. (The court to be designated will vary according to the nomenclature of the several states.)

2 Require formal application for marriage license at least five days before its issuance, with provision for exception by a specified court in special cases.

3 Where there is a period of delay already provided as to the granting or use of marriage licenses, the next step should be to provide that the required period shall be counted from the time of a compulsory publication of the intention in the official county newspaper of each applicant.

4 Persons of more distant kinship than first cousins or of those connected by marriage but not by heredity should not be forbidden to marry. First cousins should be allowed to marry only on approval by an expert in heredity who is listed by the State Board of Health as such.

5 More adequate appropriations for the building and maintenance of institutions for the segregation of the feeble-minded, insane, epileptic, and defective delinquents.

6 The grounds for divorce should be widened to include besides adultery, the following: insanity, epilepsy, feeblemindedness, desertion, and sterility (except that the result of age).

7 Greater limitation of the pardoning power of the governor.

8 Granting of paroles to criminals only after a competent consideration of the nature of the individual case as a possible social and hereditary menace.

9 State authorization by approved physicians to sterilize a person who is insane, feeble-minded, epileptic, one with inherited blindness or deafness or other very serious inherited defect, when desired by such persons or guardians. The approval of such proposed operation and operator by a deputy appointed by the State Board of Health for such purpose is required.

10 State authorization for physicians to prescribe contraceptive materials or devices to their named patients.

11 Authorization for the sale of such materials on such prescriptions and the necessary replenishing of such supplies by druggists for such purposes.

12 A law regulating childbirth. This also can feasibly be made only one or two years higher than the existing law in any state. The goal should be to extend regulation up to sixteen years, but this does not mean complete suppression of all child labor below sixteen years. (This is included not as a eugenic measure, but as a definitely eugenic measure since large families are encouraged in the very poor in regions where child labor is easily exploited.)

II FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

1 Application of the state legislative program elsewhere described to the District of Columbia.

2 The increase of the exemption per child in the income tax to $1,500.

3 Restriction of immigration to those who are superior to the median American in intelligence tests as well as fulfilling such other qualification as are now imposed.

4 Extension of the quota system to North and South America.

5 Registration of all aliens and the extension of deportation provisions.

New York

On March 14, the Codes Committee of the New York Legislature refused by a vote of 7 to 4 to report the Birth Control Bill. On the following day a meeting of protest was held in New York City, and more than two hundred telegrams were sent by individuals who attended the meeting, to the Rules Committee, asking that the bill be ordered out. The committee however, took no action.

On April 11, the Clinical Research Department of the A B C League gave its annual reception to social workers. About fifty workers, representing some seventeen social organizations in the city, took advantage of this opportunity to discuss with Mrs. Sanger some of the problems regarding Birth Control in relation to women cared for by the Social Welfare organizations.

At the invitation of Dr. Benson Labor, Editor of "Rational Living" and Health Officer of an experimental cooperative group, Dr. Hannah M. Stone addressed about two hundred men and women on Birth Control. The meeting was held in the cooperative auditorium in the Bronx and followed by intelligent discussion.

ENGLAND

The high rate of maternal mortality in England has recently been the subject of serious attention. A Conference on Maternal Mortality was held in London, Feb. 29-March 2, at which Dame Edith Lyttelton presided. The Queen, who is deeply interested in the question, sent a message stating that she viewed with great concern the continued high rate of maternal mortality and felt that a very real endeavor should be made to remove this reproach from our national life. The chief recommendations were further research, notification of every death in childbirth to be followed by a post-mortem.
examination to determine the exact cause, and a request to the Ministry of Health to give serious consideration to the report of the conference and its resolutions. On March 23, it was stated by Mr Chamberlain, Minister of Health, in the House of Commons, that he was taking the necessary action to give effect to the recommendations of the Conference. It is difficult to imagine that the ban on giving Birth Control advice at the British Health Centers can be long continued in face of this active campaign against maternal mortality.

Dean Inge, the fearless champion of Birth Control, produced a sensation in the English Church when he published a statement in the Evening Standard of March 21, that, in his opinion, women ought to be admitted to the ministry, without any bar on account of their sex. "The Church alone," he added, "adheres to antiquated prejudices and cripples its efficiency by so doing." Some suggest that it is improper for women to preach or pray in public. Now that we have women members of Parliament, town councillors and barristers, the time has gone by for such prejudices. But the typical churchman will admit no changes if he can help it. This accounts for the extraordinary tenacity of religious institutions, and also for their unique power for blocking progress. They would conserve everything, good and bad alike, and they have kept several civilization bound in fetters, slaves of senseless taboos.

This was spoken of the Church of England, but it is eminently true of the Roman Catholic Church. In spite, however, of this conservative tendency the churches are gradually urged on the path of progress. The Catholic Herald, one of the most widely circulated Catholic journals in England, on February 25th printed a statement from a clerical correspondent giving the position of the Church on Birth Control. He stated that "It is sometimes said that official instructions have been issued by the Catholic authorities urging the Catholic laity to have more and more children so as to swamp out the others. That is not true. The Catholic Church leaves altogether to the parents the decision as to the number of their children. She even teaches that those persons who marry with insufficient means of supporting a family are sinning against God, and those already married who have not or expect not to have the wherewithal to feed another child are doing wrong when they set about procreating one for the rights of marriage are limited by its duties. But the Church does set her foot down against a practice which is technically miscalled Birth Control. Those who need will understand. She teaches that anything midway between the complete act and abstention, the unnatural prevention of conception during intercourse, is grievous sin. This sums up the whole Catholic doctrine on this delicate matter, nor does it contain anything novel."

This is a clear statement that Birth Control through delaying marriage or through continence is recognized as right by the Roman Catholic Church. The position was emphasized by Dr L D Field, speaking at the Catholic Citizens' Parliament. She urged that it was the duty of Catholics to do everything in their power to palliate the evils that have produced the demand for contraception. She especially urged that the Church should teach the obligation of a husband to respect the health of his wife and not to force maternity upon her when she was unfit for it. The Church should take one step further, and allow freedom of conscience to those not of her Communion, as to how the number of the family should be regulated.

DENMARK

FROM FNS Thit Jensen comes the following, dated February 20th.

I have delayed writing because I wanted so much to send you my big article about the Congress. It will be published in "Frem" (a paper something like "Forward") our biggest magazine, 70,000 subscribers. I have, during the fall, written a new big novel from olden Danish history. This will be published in March and in that month I have twenty-five years Jubilee as an author. There is to be a jubilee dinner and a jubilee edition of my collected novels (23 in all).

That is nothing—but I have lectured every night since January 12th about Birth Control, giving the lecture the new title "Men's and Women's Love." In the biggest meeting-house in our country, "Fyns Forsamlingshus," I had 2,000 hearers. After every lecture I sold a little booklet of mine "Birth Control. How and Why," the proceeds being used for the organization. In the capital, I lectured 28 times, always speaking about Margaret Sanger and the importance of her enormous work in organizing the Congress.

Besides that, I am carrying on a campaign in the Danish Women's Association. I read in an American newspaper that the Women's City Club in New York had some meetings, discussed the Birth Control problem and finally resolved to support the Birth Control bill. I am now hunting the Danish Women's Association to do the same thing. This Association is wonderfully organized, it has its divisions all over the country, and I have made up my mind that all these divisions, instead of eternally supporting charity institutions, shall teach poor tired mothers how to limit their families.

More and more the young physicians are practicing Birth Control. After my lectures I often talk with physicians and their wives at their homes and later on they write to Dr Leunbach and learn from him what is necessary, so that when letters come from places where I lecture I have a physician ready for the women.

One night I heard a young physician belonging to the Christian physicians' association tell about a meeting of his organization, and he said that more than a third of
the members were Birth Controlists, only a few white-haired old gentlemen protested

I feel quite sure that Birth Control is going forward wonderfully in our country I feel even more that the Congress had a mighty effect When I speak about the 200 specialists from the whole world meeting each other to discuss the question of Birth Control, people recognize with astonishment that Birth Control is not "home destruction," that it is the response to a world problem and a subject not to be shunned but to be discussed

Our union is growing I am planning a clinic in the Hospital at the capital, where the poor and sick women can learn contraception, like the clinic in Johns Hopkins Hospital I read about in the Birth Control Review I am determined I will set this work for civilization on foot here in Denmark I must not forget that two Danish labor women's associations are unqualified in their support of Birth Control They have held large public meetings in Copenhagen and among their speakers were a former minister of justice, leaders of large public schools, Dr Leunbach and I

Dr Leunbach sends information about The Organization for Sexual Information in Denmark, which aims at the diffusion of sexual information throughout the population The committee has set up the following program for its work

1 To approach all the medical men in our country in order to establish cooperation in giving advice as to the application of contraceptives
2 To deliver enlightening lectures, especially among the working classes
3 Propaganda through lecturers from abroad
4 To issue books and leaflets
5 To establish consultations in the main towns
6 To supply poor women money for the purchase of contraceptives
7 To answer letters and inquiries

The information is to cover all sex questions, eugenics, the prevention of venereal disease, prevention of pregnancy, especially emphasizing the great difference between the dangerous and unlawful interruption of pregnancy and the lawful and harmless methods of contraception

Members of the organization are invited to the lectures and meetings and receive the publications The annual subscription is 4 kr (about 4 shillings or 1 dollar) In case of poverty, working people, students, etc 2 kr

Members of the executive committee are Dr J H Leunbach, Chairman, Dr Voight, Secretary, Th Jensen, Marie Slange, Emma Shbbe, Th Dinesen and M Krulund The address a Stokholmsgade 39, Copenhagen

To Dr Gudrun Fris-Holm of Sandusky, Ohio, we are indebted for a digest of some Danish pamphlets, she writes

The Danish Birth Control League publishes and distributes from time to time small pamphlets called "Information." Three of these have been sent to the League.

The first is written by Dr J H Leunbach who leads the Copenhagen Chmc, besides being the editor-in-chief.

Dr Leunbach's booklet is a very clear, concise and well adapted exposition of the whole process of propagation. It is well illustrated, even showing the preventives in actual position.

The second pamphlet is a translation of a booklet by a Berhn doctor, Max Hodann, intended for children from 12 years and up It gives a very minute description of propagation, even explaining the sexual act itself Dr Hodmann indeed wants the children to know all there is to know and he does not use the beautiful method of leading up to human propagation by first explaining plant and animal fertilization.

The third booklet consists of 26 pages of most interesting reading The author is Thit Jensen, founder of the Danish movement The title is "Baby Limitation, How and Why." It is a searchlight sarcastically thrown on the situation A letter from a so-called religious opponent of the Birth Control movement is analyzed Thit Jensen says the letter is written by "immoral stupidity," sanctioned by "ignorance" and that in the last analysis the state pays the piper A detailed report is given of a working man's wife from one of the Danish country towns This woman gave birth to 28 children in 25 years Seven times she had twins and the total avoirdupois she brought into the world amounted to 280 pounds Of the 28, 21 were born without power of resistance and died an early death The mother of these 21 sufferers for the stupidity of society lived under conditions totally unbecoming civilization and she ended, physically broken, living on a state pension Mrs Jensen points out that this is what mass ignorance calls "God's will"

The booklet also tells about a mother, opposed to Birth Control, who with four children visited a friend who was a strong supporter of the movement The mother explained that Birth Control is not necessary, as nature regulates itself through pest and famine Besides these, she continued "There are wars and emigration!" "Yes" said the other lady, "here you have just four children, one for famine, one for pest, one for war and one for emigration!" The mother flushed This was the first personal application of her theories she had heard.

We need, declares Thit Jensen, that love and true religion which creates fellow feeling and safe-guards others as we safeguard our own.

Very appropriately, the little pamphlets bear as their symbol the figure of a Pehcan and her brood—the bird which according to legend feeds her young on herself. Beneath the picture are the words "The forerunner of the Stork, the Pehcan shows how the Stork story originated."
Correspondence

FROM NORWAY

Editor Birth Control Review

Oslo

The other day both Mrs Katti Anker Moller and I had to meet as witnesses in a legal suit against a dealer who had advertised contraceptives. The charge was that he had offended the old law forbidding advertisements of "articles that in use of them tend to violate the feeling of decency." The paragraph was, at the time formed directly against contraceptives, and it was the "Society for Advancement of Morality" that then had forced the public prosecutor to act.

We have the great satisfaction that the jury's verdict was not guilty, which means that the said paragraph is from now on dead. The advertisement of contraceptives does not make any more wrong than other words not hurt the feeling of decency. We have two Mothers' Hygiene Offices, one in Oslo, one in Stavanger. They may now carry on their work undisturbed.

In regard to international work I will restrict myself to the following points. So far as I can see, an established fact is always the best propaganda. Applied to our case I think that the opening of a new mothers' hygiene station is always the best form of education. Quite a few such centers are now doing splendid work in the different countries of Europe. But so far they have had difficulties, especially at the start, because they had to depend largely upon themselves only. I think that an International Headquarters would here be of very much help. Such a Headquarters would bring the different centers in contact. They might exchange their experience, obtain advice regarding the best and most effective methods, and a fundamental point where many ardent workers have difficulties from lack of proper knowledge. Such a Headquarters might obtain information from the different centers concerning their results with the methods used, a material that ought to be critically examined and eventually published.

Otto Louis Moms

Editor Birth Control Review

Long Island.

I was much interested and profoundly moved to see the name of Bernard Cadwallader, director of Sandalphon School, of Cleveland, Ohio, among the contributors to the symposium in the March Birth Control Review. I say profoundly moved because in common with many mothers of the children who are taught to live and be happy and, within their limitations, useful in this unique and miraculous Mtle home and school at 1874 East 82nd Street in Cleveland, I cannot hear of the school without a movement of gratitude and a desire to do something to extend its usefulness.

Schools for the retarded are still necessary and they cannot be entirely done away with even when Birth control is practiced. My own little boy is one of the

Mr Cadwallader speaks of a normal child born but the victim of infantile sleeping sickness. I took him to one fabulously expensive eastern school for the handicapped after another, only to be refused by all of them on the ground that his condition was such that he would have to organize the school. Then I took him to Sandalphon, a school not run for profit, where they did not refuse. They simply asked the House. Mother—a woman with what the religious call a Vocation—if she would undertake the charge. And she did, with the result that my boy is now almost made over.

J M C

"ADVICE OFFICES"

(A letter addressed to Harold Cox)

Beckenham, Kent

Sirs,

I feel it must compliment you upon your very excellent article on Birth Control in yesterday's London Times. It is so to the point and so clear, and I only hope the Health Authorities would act upon your advice. Personally I could sacrifice time, strength and work for that purpose.

It might interest you that in Sweden, Woman's Unions have two years ago started an advice bureau for Parents at Stockholm. I believe with the aim of preventing unwanted children to be born. This bureau is very much liked and last autumn another Bureau was started at Gothenburg.

I would love to see such advice offices all over England, but being a foreigner, no one would listen to me, should I start a campaign for this purpose.

At present I only wish, that you would become Minister of Health very soon, as now nothing whatever is done, in spite of Mr N. Chamberlain's lovely words, "It is the duty of statesmen to look to future generations."

Eva Malmberg

"Most of little Betty's neighbors have large families, and Betty herself is well supplied with brothers and sisters. "After returning from a visit to her aunt, who had been married only a short time, Betty was asked how many children her auntie had."

"Oh yes, she answered quietly 'All the doctors have sent her yet," a sample."—Tu B^t
AN ANNOUNCEMENT

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of the

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May, 1928

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"Congratulations, Mr. Drake It's a girl."
"Thank heaven it's a girl! She'll never have to go through the worry I've been through today."

—N Y World

NO BIRTH CONTROL

It is true that the common fly does not manifest as many fine traits of character as many dignified persons wish it did. It shows little discretion where it sits down. Its regular parking place is a bald head. And it is loath to leave even when notified with unction. It will return again and again after being tagged.

As to Birth Control, it has none. Nor does it seem to have studied up on the matter. It will deposit as many as twenty clusters of eggs with 120 in each carton — and then sit on some human nose instead of the eggs while they hatch. Two weeks are sufficient for them to mature and finish their education for a clever career. For sheer productivity, the rabbit is filled with chagrin and also consternation.

—Los Angeles, (California) Times

THE OYSTER BEATS

Leaving your money to the biggest family is dull. The mouse would beat any human being, the shad would beat a mouse, and the female oyster, with her millions of youngsters each year, would make the shad look like Birth Control. Leaving money to poor parents that take the best care of their children might be a good idea.

—Syracuse (N Y) Journal
TAKE YOUR CHOICE

While Generals Pershing, Foch and Gouraud addressed the American Legionnaires and pleaded with them to abolish war, the Japanese were speeding ships laden with munitions bought in France, England and Germany for use against the Chinese in case China objects to her penetration of Chinese provinces. War comes from provocation. It cannot be stopped as long as a single country starts out to provoke it. A great many sincere people believe it will be necessary for the Almighty to increase the human bumm of combativeness to make up for the decrease in fatal diseases brought about by smart doctors It stands to reason that "God so loves the world" that He will not allow it to be reduced to a human breeding pen with a hog-and-hominy annex to supply food. The alternative to war is Birth-Control. Take your choice.

—Jefferson County Union (Ft Atkinson, Wis.)

"Ability and character are not a matter of class, the difference comes from the unfair handicap to which the children of the poor are subject."—Alice Hamilton, M.D.

Dr Bumm, a leading gynecologist of Berlin, Germany, estimates that there are 500,000 miscarriages yearly in Germany, of which 80 per cent to 90 per cent are voluntary, that is, purposely brought about.

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STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION.

ETC. REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 14, 1912.

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1. The name of the periodical is Birth Control Review.

2. The complete address of the printer and publisher is 104 Fifth Ave., N.Y. City.

3. The names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are:

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Managing Editor: Mary Sumner Boyd, 104 Fifth Ave., N.Y. City.

4. That the known bondholders, mortgagees and other security holders owning or holding in excess of five per cent of the total amount of bonds, mortgages or other securities are (If there are none so state) None.

5. That the two paragraphs next above giving the names of the owners, stockholders, and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company or corporation for which such trustee is acting, also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing all 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 or corporation have any interest direct or indirect in said stock bonds or other securities or than is so stated by him.

Mary Sumner Boyd

Managing Editor

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 25th day of March, 1928.

[Seal]

GEORGE MENKES

(My commission expires March 10, 1928)

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IN THE SAME NUMBER

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3. To open clinics where the best contraceptive information shall be obtainable by all who need it.

"There is no other subject of such importance as Birth Control. Knowledge of its marks a new and happier phase in the history of civilization."
—Havelock Ellis

"There could be no greater contribution to the morality of the world and to marital happiness than Birth Control."
—William Allen Pusey, M.D., President of the American Medical Association, 1924-1925

"It is not a question of introducing among the poor an effort to prevent excessive child-bearing. Such efforts are made all the time. It is a question of introducing safe and sane methods, and of spreading among them the knowledge that such limitation of the number of children is possible without the risk of death or invalidism. It is a question of offering to the poor who need it most, the knowledge and the power which has long been the possession of those who need it least."
—Alice Hamilton, M.D. Harvard Medical School

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