

The **BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW**

Dedicated to Voluntary Motherhood

And Now? By Virginia C. Young

Endowment of Motherhood, By Dr. Alice Drysdale Vickery

Origin and Workings of the Comstock Laws, By James F. Morton, Jr.

Why Not Birth Control Clinics in America? By Margaret Sanger

"The question then is whether we are to have intelligent Birth Control . . . or unintelligent, dangerous Birth Control ?" says the Editor of American Medicine Read the article on page 12.

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THE BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW

MARGARET SANGER
Editor

DEDICATED TO VOLUNTARY
MOTHERHOOD

MARY KNOBLAUCH
Managing Editor

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Editorial Comment

By Mary Knoblauch

STANDING BY THE bedside of a woman dying in child birth, Martin Luther is supposed to have said — "If a woman grows weary and at last dies from child bearing, it matters not. Let her then die from child bearing. She is here to do it."

These brave words may have been a consolation to the sorrowing father and husband, called upon to contemplate the result of his casual act—but were they wise or aptly spoken from any other standpoint?

Would anyone, for example, engage a chauffeur who said of his machine, "It's no matter if it breaks down, burns out, loses its parts, goes into the junk heap, that is what it is for." No! Certainly not. Machines cost money. The people who pay for them know that to give satisfaction they must be well treated. They must be oiled, greased and watered. They must have gasoline. They must be kept clean and in repair. Other wise neither pleasure nor profit can be had from them. The merest Ford contrives to concentrate upon itself more care and attention than often falls to the lot of the reproductive machine called woman.

THEY—MACHINES REQUIRE rest. They can't be run all the time to the limit of their capacity and give either good service or long service. They also require individual attention. No one expects a Buick to run like a Rolls Royce, nor a truck to keep pace with a racer. It is considered sheer stupidity when a man does not know what his engine can do, and tries to make twenty horse power do the work of eighty. There are expert machinists to give instruction in the physical make up and capacity of different cars. The law, please note, does not frown upon the giving of this necessary knowledge. The citizen has a right to be as happy, as safe, as satisfied as expert advice can make him when it is merely an automobile that is concerned. It is only women's bodies that must be used to death for want of information and the whole race that must suffer from this lack of foresight.

The State has found it wise to license chauffeurs. No one is allowed to drive on the highways who has not proved to the satisfaction of competent judges that he knows at least how to start and stop his engine. The more natural method of learning to drive by experience was found incompatible with the safety of the public. It is a crime to overload ferryboats

and elevators or to operate them when you don't know how. Machinery won't stand for much nonsense. It refuses to be strained beyond its limit. Hence it is treated with respect. Yet it is a far greater menace to the safety of the public to overstrain woman with child bearing, even if it be true that she has, as Martin Luther suggested, no other function than the reproduction of the race. To do that properly, she must at least be accorded the same measure of consideration that is shown to other machines.

Holland and New Zealand have seen the wisdom of giving her at least that much attention. Their physicians give expert advice on the limitations of the family, as they give it on club feet or squint eyes. The result has been fewer but sounder children, a great lowering of mortality, and a net increase in the population. Parents there, like chauffeurs here, have been taught how to go about their business.

MOREOVER, AND IN this respect woman differs from other machines, the smallest part of her work is done with the delivery of her child to the world. It is just as important for the welfare of the race that the mother should have the strength, the time, and the knowledge to bring up her children properly after they are here, as it is for her to bear them and die doing it.

If it is too much to expect that women should be regarded as human beings with the right of self determination in the matter of child bearing, let public opinion at least realize that she can't perform her duty as the race producing machine, if she is forced to continue childbearing when she is mentally, physically, or economically unfitted for the task. Let the laws be so altered that the doctors in the clinics may give advice, when it is needful to women of the poorer classes. If our doctors don't know what advice to give, let them go to the Dutch and find out.

Queen Victoria, in a letter to King Albert of Belgium, written in 1841, says — "I think, dearest Uncle, that you cannot really wish me to be the 'mamma d'une nombreuse famille,' for I think you will see the great inconvenience a large family would be to us all, and particularly to the country, independent of the hardship and inconvenience to myself. Men never think, at least seldom think, what a hard task it is for us women to go through this very often." These were the words of a queen and a domesticated, conservative queen at that. She is not supposed to have had radical ideas to upset her equilibrium. She did not have to wash and bake and brew for her children; she could count with certainty on having all possible care and attention for herself, and yet she considered the task

of **having children** a hard one, and **realized** that men seldom thought about that side of it, or thought about it as **Luther** did, with a sense of secure detachment.

THE DAY HAS come, however, when they must **think** about it. The **legislators** must see that the day for **blind domineering** is done. **Fear** and **ignorance** never were the **obedient** weapons slave **drivers** hoped they would be. Slave labor was **neither intelligent** nor **economical**. The slavery our laws impose on mothers will, in the future of voluntary motherhood, seem **just** as absurd. The day **will** come here, as it has come and **is coming** in other lands, when **physicians will give** contraceptive information for the benefit of the race, as they now **prescribe glasses** to preserve the eyesight. Woman, the breeding machine, **will** get at least as much care as the automobile.

Judge Advocate on Birth Control

MINOR J C RUPENTHAL, a judge advocate of the United States Army, formerly judge of one of the most important **judicial districts in Kansas**, gives his views on **Birth Control** in a **recent** letter to the **Blab Control Review**.

"I have some **firm convictions** on the **subject** of **Blab Control**. I am unable to agree **with** the extent or **extremes** of **sentiment** often found in the columns of the **Birth Control Renew**. But I do think that people should **consider** the subject in calmness and not reject the whole matter out of **prejudice** or **superstition**, etc. Everyone ought to start **in with positive convictions** that the **insane**, the **imbecile**, the **idiotic**, the **syphilitic**, and perhaps other forms of **physical defects** that are **incurable** and **transmissible**, should not be **reproduced**. Nor should any woman bear **children** to a point that is dangerous to the well being, largely regarded, of **either** mother or **child**, but how far to go must be a controverted matter permanently.

"I hope some **time** to be able to follow your **suggestion** of **summarizing** all cases **decided** by courts, **touching** these laws whose summary has been made by me. My **experience** as judge in hundreds of **divorce** cases **sustains** your view that the matters touched by **Blab Control** lead to much **marital unhappiness** and to **divorce**."

N. B. C. L. Begins Fifth Year

IN VIEW OF the world events that occupied the **public mind** so **engrossingly** during the whole of **its life-time**, the **National Birth Control League** feels that it may well be **justified in its conviction** that "the first four years are the hardest."

Organized in the **spring** of 1915, it has **carried on all its difficult initial organization and promotion work** against the heavy odds presented by the war, and therefore at the **beginning** of its fifth year, with the war over and with a **substantial membership** and a sound **foundation** of **public opinion** to stand on, it looks forward to a future of **comparative** easy going.

At the annual **meeting** held **April 14th** at the home of Mrs **Minturn Pmchot**, a new **Executive Committee** was elected as follows

Miss Anita Ashley, **Miss Elinor Byrns**, **Mrs Lucian Cary**, **Mrs Walter Chambers**, **Mrs Mabel Potter Daggett**, **Dr A. L. Goldwater**, **Miss Alice Riggs Hunt**, **Mrs Maxwell Hyde**, **Maxwell Hyde**, **Mrs Louise Kneeland**, **Mrs Daniel O'Day**, **Mrs Lillian R. Sue**, **Miss Kathleen Taylor**, **Mrs John H. Williams**

Mrs Maxwell Hyde was reelected **chairman**, and **Mrs Minturn Pmchot** was made **treasurer**.

TWO CHANGES IN the **constitution** were made. One adds to the "objects" of the **League** the **clause** "to promote the **distribution** of all the best **contraceptive information**, as soon as **legally permitted**, through **clinics**, **dispensaries** and all other **effective agencies**." Another creates an **associate** non dues **paying membership** of persons who accept in writing the **aims and principles** of the **League**.

Plans were made for **vigorous prosecution** of the work in **Congress** and the **State Legislature** and the general propaganda through **literature** and **meetings**.

A new executive secretary, **Mrs Frances Maude Bjorkman**, has been engaged. Some new and **pertinent literature** is promised for an **early date**.

Too Bad

By **Hekn Hoyt**

Too bad the stork, when he **comes**,
Will not stay
And sew the dresses,
And give the baths and bottles
Only a moment it takes him to set down his load,
Then he is off to the sky **again**
With never a look back for us'

The BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW

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Managing Editor

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LILY WINNER

BLANCHE SCHRACK

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Art Editors

CORNELIA BARNES

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The Origin and Working of the Comstock Laws

By James F. Morton Jr

THE FULL HISTORY of the censorship in sex matters remains to be written. Much material has been collected for the purpose, but the task will be one of great magnitude. It is certain that among the ancients there is little trace of the thought or feeling that the vital things of life require a special reticence in language or a veiled form of expression. What they had to utter on these themes was plainly expressed, with no strange fancy that a special virtue known as modesty required the use of innuendo, metaphor or euphemism to call up to the mind an idea naturally expressible in plain words. In view of the special activity of the churchly mind in seeking a religious sanction for the extreme prudery which has become a conventional virtue, it is interesting to note that the Jewish and Christian Scriptures are second to none of the writings of antiquity in the use of plain and explicit language with reference to sex organs, functions and acts. The advocates of verbal inspiration are therefore placed in the peculiar position of being required by the most elementary rules of logic to abandon their premise unconditionally, or to admit a divine example for the use of expressions which are today held to be under the ban.

It is not in the splendid classical civilizations and their literatures, any more than in the sacred books of the Christian and other Oriental religions, that a warrant is to be found for reading "obscurity" into the straightforward discussion of natural things. In fact, so persuaded are our censors themselves that the use of a foreign, especially a classical tongue purges references to sex matters of their assumed uncleanness, that it is possible under even our present exaggerated censorship to print and circulate almost anything in the Latin language, so that not only medical works but books of all sorts for general circulation pass freely, although containing casual reference and quotations of the most baldly pornographic character, provided that the otherwise offending words or sentences are printed in Latin only.

The psychology which admits of this puerile subterfuge need hardly be characterized, being so far beneath contempt as to admit of no adequate term of reproach. Like the shameless hypocrisy of the censorship in other respects, such as the suppression of sober sex discussion and the impunity of the publications revelling in erotic double entendre, the prosecution of sellers of cheap editions of Boccaccio and like writers and the free course permitted to the publishers of editions de luxe, the "unwritten law" license even to medical periodicals above those of the laity, the liberty granted to certain classes of purchasing books which must not be sold to the public at large, this insane superstition that a word or idea is indecent in English and proper in Latin cannot be reconciled with the supposition of common intelligence or common honesty on the part of those who have usurped the right to dictate the speech and writing of the citizens of this country. Even a Comstock or a Sumner would hardly maintain with a grave face that the

wealthy, the members of certain professions or those able to read Latin are so much more pure-minded than any of their fellow-citizens that contamination of their sweet souls is impossible, and no other hypothesis is tenable save that of cowardly or corrupt favoritism in the enforcement of the law. As speedily becomes the case with all censorships, the honest and just administration of the Comstock laws has never been even attempted by their author or by his successor.

UNTIL LONG PAST the Elizabethan period, the Anglo-Saxon world had not become afflicted with the scourge of prudery. The plain spokenness of Shakespeare and still more that of Beaumont and Fletcher are familiar to all. The robust minds of that brilliant age saw no cause for blushing when a spade was called a spade. Throughout the Seventeenth and Eighteenth centuries, although certain traces of affected reticence had begun to appear, creating a prurient mental nastiness which renders the dramas of Wycherly and Etherege consciously perverse, the process had not gone much farther than in other lands. In the Nineteenth century, however, apparently without rhyme or reason (although the historic causes may be determined when occasion permits a closer analysis), both England and America began to diverge with great rapidity from the rest of the world, until today the curious prudery notable in the typical Anglo-Saxon mind is the cause of amused and contemptuous surprise to the natives of other civilized lands, who have not yet developed so unwholesome an aversion to the normal view of sex. It has been our misfortune that British insularity and American vanity have concurred to develop in the English speaking world a preposterous Phariseism of the "holier than thou" order, which has made it impossible for us "to see ourselves as others see us." The hunt that our thin skinned prudery could be anything but a token of superiority is taken as a kind of treason or at least a proof of unpardonable coarseness. Until a certain day in August, 1914, it was permissible to point to the French as an awful example of a people that had become decadent and rotten through failure to adopt Anglo-Saxon notions of modesty. That sort of statement has not been much in evidence for some time past, and is not likely to be renewed in the near future. History has a way of giving the lie to our little national racial conceits.

WHAT IS CALLED OBSCENITY, was not a crime under the common law of England. Space forbids the detailed proof of this statement, but any who doubt will find all question removed by consulting Theodore Schroeder's admirable work, "Obscene Literature and Constitutional Law," pages 33 to 41. It is not until 1868 that we find in England an unmistakable denial of the right to discuss sex matters with the freedom applied to other subjects. In the well known case of Regina v. Hicklin, the court held a pamphlet attacking the Roman Catholic Confessional to be obscene in reveal

ing some of the objectionable questions put by priests to their female penitents. This is what is called a "leading case," since the words of this court, although the product of loose and absurd reasoning, have ever since been blindly followed in both England and America, in spite of the fact that the United States had at that time been a separate nation for over ninety years, and our judges were in no way bound to adopt the vagaries of the British courts.

The test of obscenity gravely put forward was "whether the tendency of the matter charged as obscene is to deprave and corrupt those whose minds are open to such immoral influences, and into whose hands a publication of this sort may fall." In other words, sane and well balanced human beings are not to be permitted to read anything that might have an injurious effect on the minds of the feeble minded and degenerate. The monstrosity of the proposition is self evident, and it is hard to retain any respect for English and American courts which have for fifty years parrot mouthed it as if it were inspired gospel. The sight of jewelry in a window may deprave the sense of honesty of a poor weakling, and the sight of the American flag may incite in an abnormally minded alien enemy or social revolutionist the impulse to murder. Therefore the jeweler and the patriot should be imprisoned for the crime of a possible tendency to "deprave or corrupt" some hypothetical person of a weak or already depraved nature. The absurdity and infamy of the dictum become no less when applied in the single realm of sex, instead of being extended to all parallel cases. It should be borne in mind that this British judicial atrocity was perpetrated just five years before the so called Comstock laws were enacted, and that our statutory legislation has since been systematically interpreted in the light of this more than dubious case settled under the vague idea of a general duty to protect the fragile "public morals."

IN THIS COUNTRY, the open display and sale of pornographic literature has been under the ban from an early period, under the general idea of preserving the public eye from gross scandal, but obscenity hunting as a fine art and favorite pastime began among us with the rise from obscurity of the somewhat unsavory character known as Anthony Comstock.

The early life of the notorious American censor contains nothing of special note. It has been charged that during one period he was addicted to somewhat abnormal and reprehensible sex practices, but the evidence is not clear. In any case, when approaching the age of thirty, about the year 1872, he suddenly acquired publicity by his vehement and extreme denunciations of the alleged corruption of the youth of America by a flood of obscene literature. His impetuous propaganda won him a large following, and in 1873, he besieged Congress with the demand that laws be immediately passed to curb the monstrous and growing evil. In the course of his energetic lobbying, he exhibited to the horrified gaze of the congressmen a number of samples of pornographic matter, claiming that the schools and colleges were being deluged with them. No hint was given at this time of any ulterior purpose, and the later wild extravagances of the censor in his systematic attacks on literature, art, science and serious reform propaganda

were kept carefully secreted from the attention of the law makers. The whole plea was based on the sale of pornographic literature to the young, and the use of the mails to spread this "moral filth" among the school children. Naturally, nobody wished to appear as a defender of pornography, and no legislator even dreamed that anything further was involved. In the rush of the closing days of the congressional session, the exact text of the apparently laudable measure received no careful scrutiny. As a matter of fact, the bill was passed in the last hours of the session with practically no discussion, being hurriedly jammed through together with some two hundred and sixty other acts. As later changes have been made, the text of the original act may be of interest.

Sec 3893. No obscene lewd or lascivious book, pamphlet, picture, paper, print or other publication of an indecent character or any article or thing designed or intended for the prevention of conception or procuring of abortion, nor any article or thing intended or adopted for any indecent or immoral use or nature nor any written or printed card, circular, book, pamphlet, advertisement or notice of any kind giving information directly or indirectly, where or how, or of whom or by what means either of the things before mentioned may be obtained or made nor any letter upon the envelope of which, or postal card upon which indecent or scurrilous epithets may be written or printed shall be carried in the mail and any person who shall knowingly deposit or cause to be deposited for mailing or delivery, any of the herein before mentioned articles or things, or any notice or paper containing any advertisement relating to the aforesaid articles or things, and any person who, in pursuance of any plan or scheme for disposing of any of the herein before mentioned articles or things shall take or cause to be taken from the mail any such letter or package, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall for every offense, be fined not less than one hundred dollars nor more than five thousand dollars or imprisoned at hard labor not less than one year, nor more than ten years, or both.

THIS WAS MERELY the entering wedge. It is bad enough, with its vague epithets, depriving any person accused of mailing "obscene literature" of anything like due process of law, since the whim of a peculiarly narrow minded judge or ignorant jury might condemn any man or woman to ten years' imprisonment at hard labor and a fine of five thousand dollars for a harmless reference to sex, which no normal human being would dream of finding obscene. Nor is this mere fancy, as many actual cases of vindictive and unscrupulous persecution can bear witness. Moses Harman, for example, one of the most sincere and high minded social reformers in our history, suffered a long term of imprisonment for publishing in his paper, *Lucifer*, an indignant protest against the brutal assault by a bestial ruffian upon his sick wife. Nevertheless, even this blanket provision did not suffice to enable the censor to vent his spleen upon those whom he desired to injure, and, subsequent amendments, bringing the law into its present form, were successively procured by him. The addition of the word "filthy" to the adjectives in the original act was made to cover matter which dealt with sex in such a way that even the Comstock type of mind could not bring it under the definition of obscenity in the cases *Reg v Hicklin*. Another amendment subjected private correspondence, hitherto always held sacred, to the insolent invasion of an unprincipled censorship. Numerous verbal changes were made, with the general intention of stopping up every loophole, and of giving to a prejudiced judge or jury so many possible catchwords on which

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to **convict** that **it** should be rendered unsafe for any person so much as to **mention** the subject of sex for fear of **falling into** one of the traps set for honest reformers rather than for **specialists in** pornography

In fact, the **wording** of the law **is** so vague and comprehensive that **its** literal enforcement would be utterly **impossible**. As stated above, the censors have never **ventured** to carry it out to the letter, **without** fear or favor. **Physicians**, lawyers, **Latin** scholars and to some extent scholars of other **foreign** tongues, and above all the wealthy, have been **systematically** granted **immunity** from the **strict construction** applied in the case of **American citizens in** general, as **equality** before the law **is** no part of the program of the **censorship**. In **reality**, the rules **applied in** the case of those not protected by **favoritism** would bar the **Bible** and Shakespeare from the malls under heavy **penalties**, would **wipe** out many of our popular **magazines** and would cause the **suspension** of most **medical periodicals**. The **provisions** regarding **prevention of conception** (evidently understood by the **legislators** who passed it, as by the **ignorant** today, as merely synonymous with **abortion**) would make **it** a crime to preach chastity or delayed **marriage**, or to advocate the **sterilization** of the **criminal** or unfit. Nay, there **is in** the files of the **National Birth Control League** a letter sent to me by Anthony Comstock himself, **in** which he specifically **violates his** own law, by **giving** me definite **information of a** certain "**article** or thing designed or **intended** for the prevention of conception," and **which has** been very frequently used for that purpose. Men **have** gone to **jail** for no more than the **great** censor himself wrote to me

THE ACTUAL ENFORCEMENT of the law has been marked by a long **trail of persecution**, **falling** largely on the **high** est type of men and women. While the **claim** of Comstock and of **his** successor, Mr. **Sumner**, that vast **quantities** of **pornographic literature** has been suppressed, need not be **disputed**, any **possible** good in **this** **direction** has been offset beyond all **comparison** by the **mischief** of **creating a reign** of terror with reference to all wholesome and **candid discussion** of sex, out of **which light and guidance** might come. The **emasculat**ion of our **literature** has been fraught with **pernicious** consequences in the **lowering** of our **national virility of mind**. Art has **suffered**, and the **mischief** done to **public health** and normal **living** by enforced Ignorance **is** beyond all **computation**. If the **censorship** really **wished** what **it** **originally** pretended, to protect the **immature minds** of the young from the unwholesome **suggestions** of pornography as thrust upon them for commercial purposes, the end could be **achieved** without an **autocratic** dictation to mature men and women **without** the **persecution** of sincere educators and reformers. I have myself offered a reasonable **compromise** law (in **Case and Comment**, June, **1916**), to the **following** effect: Repeal the present law altogether, since the vagueness of **its** **provisions** **furnishes** no **criterion** of **guilt** or **innocence**. Confine the **prohibitory** clause to the display in **public places**, or the **mailing, exhibiting, giving, loaning** or **selling** to **children** below a **certain** age of any **pornographic** product, and let pornography be **specifically** defined as any art or other product **exhibiting persons or animals performing** an act of sexual **conjugation** or of

sexual satisfaction in any other form, or **suggesting** such an act or **inviting** to or **preparing** for **it** or **in** a state of sexual **excitement**, or **calling attention** by **pointing, gesture, pose, attitude**, or otherwise of the spectator or of other persons or **animals** represented, to the sexual organs, whether exposed or **indicated** under **clothing**, more than to any other part of the body or to the body as a whole, also any **writing** or **print, pamphlet, book, etc., describing** the pleasures of sexual **excitement** or of **its gratification** by any means whatever, normal or abnormal, or **describing** any **specific** instances of any form of sexual **gratification** or **inviting** to the performance of such acts or **recommending** them. Proper **exceptions** can be framed to remove all danger of the **inclusion** of **medical writings** or **physiological** textbooks or **magazine articles** in the scope of the **prohibition**, and the **advertising** and sale of means of **abortion**, except for the **preservation** of **life** or health, may be **included**. The **foregoing is** not offered as verbally perfect, but as **indicating the direction** and the **limits of legitimate restrictive legislation**.

The federal government **is**, of course, concerned only with the **availability** of the **articles mentioned**, as the **question of display, sale, gift** or loan belong to state **provisions**. I have not referred above to state laws. Suffice **it** to say that they have followed the **line** of the federal statutes, **containing** the same vagueness and **offering** scope to the same abuses. The New York and several of the other statutes were framed by **Comstock himself**, and enacted shortly after the passage of the federal law **in** 1873, and these have been **copied** by other states. It may also be added that **additional** federal laws, later **secured** by Comstock's influence, **forbid** the use of express **companies** or of any other common **carriers** to transport such **articles** as are barred from the malls. This was done in the face of a **decision** of the United States Supreme Court (*U S v Jackson*, 96 U S 727), **which** expressly declared that Congress could not lawfully **commit** so gross an **invasion** of **personal liberty**.

THE REPEAL OF THE clauses **prohibiting** the **giving** of **Birth Control information** **is** the special immediate issue. This legislation **is** anomalous in every way. With the exception of a freak law in Connecticut, no statute book in this country (and probably none in the world) **contains anything** so preposterous as a **prohibition** of **Birth Control**. Yet the federal and state laws make **it** a **crime** to **furnish** the means of doing an absolutely lawful act, or to **give information** concerning the same. It is a piece of **legislative insanity** probably without a parallel. In **getting rid** of it, we shall be rendering a vast service, not merely to the host of **unwilling** mothers, not merely to our country and to the human race, but to the decency and **dignity** of our **lawbooks** themselves. While **concentrating** on this great work, however, let none of us forget that the **entire** body of the Comstock law **is** an infamous **travesty** on law and justice. Its **unconditional** repeal would be an **immeasurable improvement** on the present state of **things**, but if we are afflicted with the **timid** fear that a little **salacious** reading will ruin our youth, **in spite** of all the counter **influences** of the home and the school, I have shown above an

(Continued on page 18)

And Now?

By Virginia C Young

AS WE SIT DOWN to count the cost of the World War, surely the grimmest fact of all the grimness, the outstanding horror of all horrors, is the wholesale destruction of large numbers of the young and the fit. For each nation has given of its best—those boys who were to have been the fathers of that newer and better race which each generation always hopes is to arise for the building of the better and fairer next.

Nor has the signing of the armistice brought, nor does the signing of the final peace treaty seem to promise a surcease from the pain and loss. The Horses of the Apocalypse still ride on! And in our morning papers we read of eminent scientists dying of starvation in Petrograd, and scores of students and highly trained army officers executed in Moscow. While at last, in ill concealed terror we plan to close the gates of our own nation to the "Red Peril," which is the peril of the badly born.

There are these who would speak of Birth Control to a world so sorely in need of men and women to "carry on." And we can understand the protest of these bewildered questioners. But the war has taught us many things. It has taught us to think for ourselves, as never before, and one of the things that we are beginning to see, gropingly at first and then more and more clearly, is that what the world needs is "not more of us, but a better brand of us."

MR. GALSWORTHY HAS recently made an eloquent, if unconscious plea for birth control in an article in the Atlantic Monthly. He argues that war is only possible in a world where there is a preponderance of human beings who love ugly things more than beautiful things. To whom a green hill side in early spring is only a convenient place for gun emplacements and barbed wire entanglements. And we might add, to whom a cathedral is only a bulky mass of material which interferes with the range of cannon, and not the product of human love and worship and sacrifice and the spirit of beauty which is the spirit of God.

But whence are to come these "lovers of beauty," the parents of the yet unborn, who shall wisely, intelligently, yes and prayerfully, enter upon this vital business of producing off spring of the highest and finest type? Where but from the ranks of the boys and girls of today?

Yes, all of us must realize, men as well as women (for women have always striven, even if inarticulately, for the privilege of voluntary motherhood)—I say, all of us must realize that we cannot and dare not go on in the stupid, blundering old way. The tune is here when we must see and confess to the rank hypocrisy of carefully limiting our own refined and exclusive family stock while refusing to hold out the hand of intelligent sympathy to those others whose power to people the earth fills us with dismay. What some of us know,

all of us must know, in order that the day may come when no child shall be born into a society unready or unfit to welcome, to feed, to train and to properly provide for it. There is a task for Reconstructionists!

In this stirring appeal for a better race Miss Young refers to the "badly born" against whom we are thinking of closing our portals. It is interesting, in this connection, to note the efforts made by the present Russian Government towards righting past errors in regard to children. In the Dream of the Soviet Government, published in a recent number of the *The Nation*, we read "children born out of wedlock are on equality with those born in wedlock with regard to the rights and duties of parents towards children, and likewise of children toward parents." And further "In case the father of a child born out of wedlock does not make such a declaration, the mother of the child, or the guardian or the child itself has the right to prove fatherhood by legal means."

Would it not be well if the more generally recognized governments would take some such step in regard to the "badly born" within their own portals?

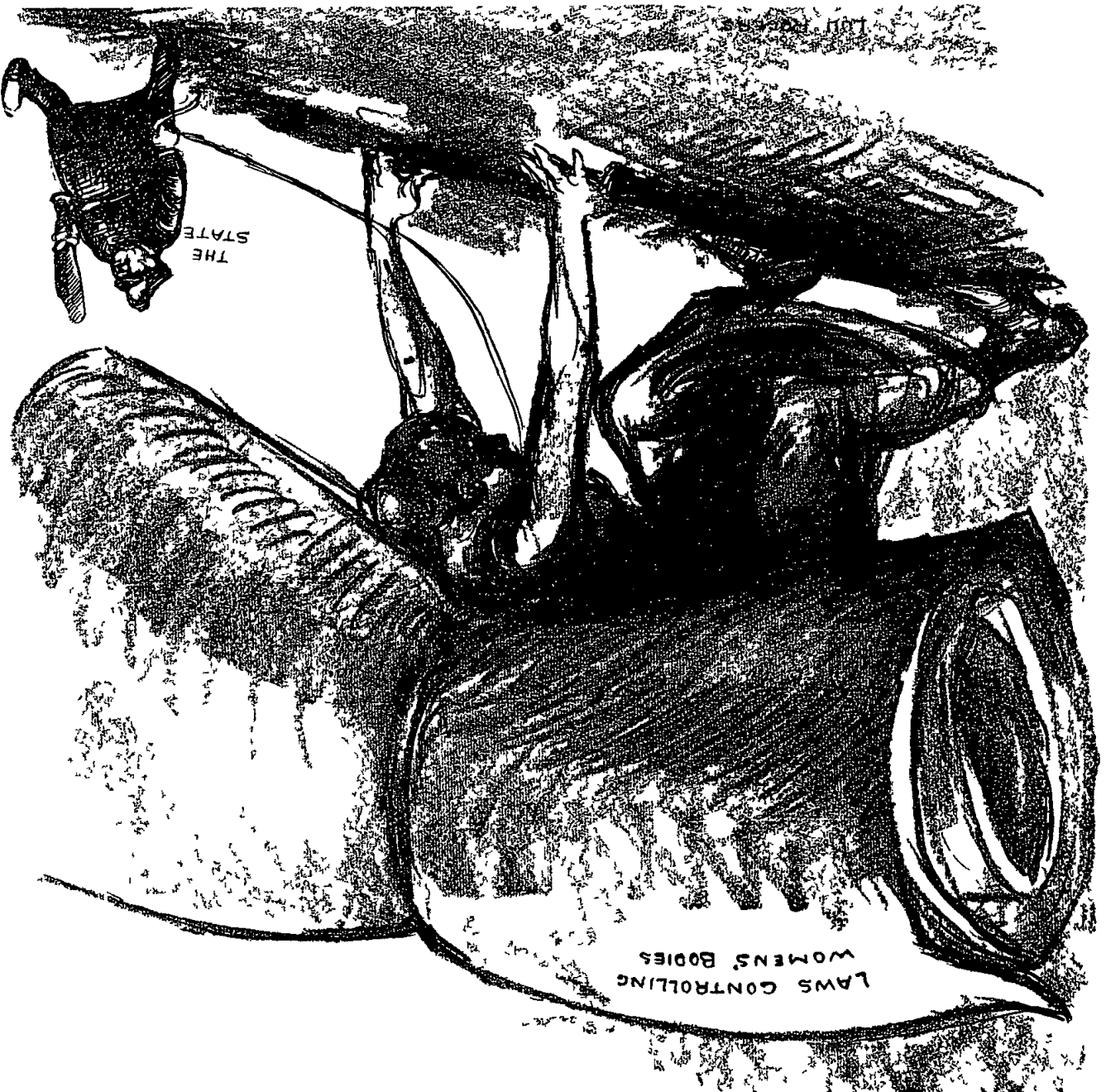
Also may we not hope that the wholesale slaughter of the intellectuals in Petrograd mentioned by Miss Young, may turn out to be as greatly exaggerated as the oft repeated story of the murder of the Grandmother of the Revolution?—
Editor's Note

Women to Discuss Birth Control

THE WOMAN'S INTERNATIONAL League of New York State is arousing women to their opportunities and responsibilities at home. The League is announcing a series of Women's Freedom Conferences for Tuesday evenings in May, where informal discussion at supper will be followed by more formal, but general discussions, on problems which affect women. The subject of Birth Control will form a prominent part of these discussions, as it did in the recent Women's Freedom Congress, held under the auspices of the League.

Over population—unrestrained breeding—IS one of the factors working for war, and this subject must form a part of any program which aims to make wars impossible.

The Woman's International League is grasping the real and fundamental issues working for permanent peace and the freedom of women. It is a branch of the Woman's Peace Party which is, in turn, a section of the International Committee of Women for Permanent Peace. Twelve delegates from the United States are now on their way to Bern to attend the first convention of the International Committee since 1915. Jane Addams is chairman of the Committee. Jean



HER LEGAL STATUS

ette Rankin sailed with her three weeks ago. It is expected that many of the most brilliant feminists of Europe will attend the conference. Among them will be Dr. Aletta Jacobs, who opened the first Birth Control clinic in Holland in 1881 and whose work has the sanction of the Dutch Government. The weekly conferences of the women in New York City will emphasize the economic situation of the wife, a subject which

financially independent women are likely to ignore nowadays. Women's position in international affairs, in political and in industrial organizations will be the subject of other evenings, and every effort will be made to reach wives and mothers on whom the burden of child bearing and social responsibility rests, and upon whose full emancipation rests the future of civiliza-

Why Not Birth Control Clinics in America?

Margaret Sanger

"Why not *Birth Control Clinics in America*?" is the question asked of the *medical* profession by Margaret Sanger through the columns of the March number of *American Medicine*, New York, issued April 1. Mrs. Sanger's article with the editorial comment upon it, are reprinted by the courtesy of the editors of the *medical publication*, who believe that in publishing it they were fulfilling an obligation to their readers.

THE ABSURD CRUELTY of permitting thousands of women each year to go through abortions to prevent the aggravation of diseases, for which they are under treatment, assuredly cannot be much longer ignored by the medical profession. Responsibility for the inestimable damage done by the practice of permitting patients suffering from certain ailments to become pregnant, because of their ignorance of contraceptives, when the physician knows that if pregnancy goes to its full term it will hasten the disease and lead to the patient's death, must in all fairness be laid at his door.

What these diseases are and what dangers are involved in pregnancy are known to every practitioner of standing. Specialists have not been negligent in pointing out the situation. Eager to enhance or protect their reputations in the profession, they continually call out to each other: "Don't let the patient bear a child—don't let pregnancy continue."

The warning has been sounded most often, perhaps, in the cases of tubercular women. "In view of the fact that the tubercular process becomes exacerbated either during pregnancy or after childbirth, most authorities recommend that abortion be induced as a matter of routine in all tubercular women," says Dr. J. Whitridge Williams, obstetrician in chief to the Johns Hopkins Hospital, in his treatise on "Obstetrics." Dr. Thomas Watts Eden, obstetrician and gynecologist to Charing Cross Hospital and member of the staffs of other notable British hospitals, extends but does not complete the list in a paragraph on page 652 of his *Practical Obstetrics*. "Certain of the conditions enumerated form absolute indications for the induction of abortions," he says. "These are nephritis, uncompensated valvular lesions of the heart, advanced tuberculosis, insanity, irremediable malignant tumors, hydatidiform mole, uncontrollable uterine hemorrhage, and acute hydramnios."

WE KNOW THAT abortion, when performed by skilled hands, under right conditions, brings almost no danger to the life of the patient, and we also know that particular diseases can be more easily combated after such an abortion than during a pregnancy allowed to come to full term. But why not adopt the easier, safer, less repulsive course and prevent conception altogether? Why put these thousands of women who each year undergo such abortions to the pain they entail and in whatever danger attends them?

Why continue to send home women to whom pregnancy is a grave danger with the futile advice: "Now don't get this

way again!" They are sent back to husbands who have generations of passion and passion's claim to outlet. They are sent back without being given information as to how to prevent the dangerous pregnancy and are expected, presumably, to depend for their safety upon the husband's continence. Back comes the patient again in a few months to be aborted and told not to do it again.

Does any physician believe that the picture is overdrawn? I have known of many such cases. A recent one that came under my observation was that of a woman who suffered from a disease of the kidneys. Five times she was taken to a maternity hospital in an ambulance after falling in offices or in the street. One of the foremost gynecologists of America sent her out three times without giving her information as to the contraceptive means which would have prevented a repetition of this experience.

Why does this situation exist? One does not question the intent or the high purposes of these physicians, or that they are working for the improvement of the race. But here is a situation that is absurd—hideously absurd. What is the matter?

SEVERAL FACTORS CONTRIBUTE to this state of affairs. First, the subject of contraception has been kept in the dark, even in medical colleges and hospitals. Abortion has been openly discussed as a necessity under certain conditions, but the subject of contraception, as any physician will admit, has only recently been brought to the front.

It has been permitted to lie latent, it has escaped specialized attention in the laboratories and the research departments. Thus there has been no professional stamp of approval by great bodies of experimenters.

The result is that the average physician has felt that contraceptive methods are not yet established as certainties and has, for that reason, refused to direct their use.

Specialists are so busy with their own particular subjects and general practitioners are so taken up with their daily routine that they cannot give to the problem of contraception the attention it must have. Consultation rooms in charge of reputable physicians who have specialized in contraception, assisted by registered nurses—in a word, clinics designed for this specialty—would meet this crying need. Such clinics should deal with each woman individually, taking into account her particular disease, her temperament, her mentality and her condition, both physical and economic. Its sole function should be to prevent pregnancy. In the accomplishment of this, a higher standard of hygiene is attained. The result would be not only the removal of a burden from the physician who sends her to the clinic, but an improvement in the woman's general condition that would reflect itself in a number of ways to the benefit of her family.

ALL THIS FOR the **diseased** woman But every argument that can be made for **preventive medicine** can be made for **Birth Control clinics** for the use of woman who has not yet lost her health Sound and vigorous at the **time** of her marriage, she could **remain** so if given advice as to **by** what means she could space her **children** and **limit** their number When she is not **given** such information, she is plunged **blindly** into **married** life and a few years **is** likely to find her **with** a large **family**, herself **diseased**, **damaged**, an unfit breeder of the unfit, and **still** ignorant What are the **fruits** of this woeful Ignorance in **which** women have been kept? **First**, a tremendous **infant** mortality—hundreds of thousands of them dying annually of diseases which flourish in poverty and neglect Next, the rapid increase of the feeble-minded, of criminal types and of the pathetic victims of toil in the **child** labor **factories** Another result is the **familiar** overcrowding of tenements, the forcing of the **children** into the street, the **ensuing** prostitution, alcoholism and almost universal physical and moral unfitness

These abhorrent conditions **point** to a blunder upon the part of those to whom we entrust the care of the health of the individual, the **family** and the race The medical profession, neglecting the **principle** involved in preventive **medicine**, has permitted these **conditions** to come about If they were unavoidable, we would have to bear **with** them, but they are not unavoidable, as shown by facts and figures from other countries where **contraceptive** information **is** available

In Holland, for instance, where the **information** concerning **contraceptives** has been accessible to the people, thru clinics and **pamphlets** since 1881, the general death rate and the infant mortality rate have fallen until they are the lowest in Europe Amsterdam and The Hague have the lowest infant mortality rates of any **cities** in the world

IT IS GOOD to know that the first of the **Birth Control clinics** of Holland followed shortly after a **thorough** and **enthusiastic** discussion of the subject at an **international** **medical** congress in Amsterdam in 1878 The first **Birth Control clinic** in the world was opened in 1881 by Dr Aletta Jacobs in Amsterdam So great were the results obtained that there has been a gradual increase in the number of **clinics**, until to day there are fifty-two in operation in that country of some 6,000,000 people **Physicians** have found that nurses trained for this work by **specialists** are **highly** competent to take care of it and it is the almost invariable rule that **Birth Control clinics** are conducted by such nurses Dr J Rutgers of The Hague, secretary of the Neo Malthusian League, is the **specialist** who trains and **instructs** the nurses The general results of the work are best judged by tables, appended to this article, taken from The Annual Summary of Marriages, Births and Deaths in England, Wales etc., for 1912*

In conclusion, I am going to make a statement which may at first seem exaggerated, but **which** is nevertheless carefully considered The effort toward racial progress that **is** being made to day by the **medical** profession, by social workers, by the various charitable and **philanthropic** organizations and by state institutions for the physically and mentally unfit **is** practically wasted All these forces are in a very **emphatic** sense **marking** time They **will** continue to mark time until the **medical** profession **recognizes** the fact that the ever increasing tide of the unfit **is** overwhelming all these agencies are doing for society They **will** continue to mark time until they get at the source of these **destructive** conditions and apply a fundamental remedy That remedy **is** Birth Control

*Amsterdam (Malthusian [Birth Control] League started 1881. Dr Aletta Jacobs gave advice to poor women, 1885)

	1881 85	1906 10	1912
Birth Rate-----	37.1	24.7	23.3 per 1,000 of population
Death Rate-----	25.1	13.1	11.2 per 1,000 of population
Infantile Mortality			
Deaths in first year-----	203	90	64 per thousand living births

The Hague (now headquarters of the Neo Malthusian [Birth Control] League)

	1881 85	1906 10	1912
Birth Rate-----	38.7	27.5	23.6 per 1,000 of population
Death Rate-----	23.3	13.2	10.9 per 1,000 of population
Infantile Mortality			
Deaths in first year-----	214	99	66 per thousand living births

Rotterdam

	1881 85	1906 10	1912
Birth Rate-----	37.4	32.0	29.0 per 1,000 of population
Death Rate-----	24.2	13.4	11.3 per 1,000 of population
Infantile Mortality			
Deaths in first year-----	209	105	79 per thousand living births

Fertility and Illegitimacy Rates

	1880 2	1890 2	1900 2
Legitimate fertility-----	306.4	2% 5	252.7
Illegitimate fertility-----	16.1	16.3	11.3
			} Legitimate births per 1,000 married women aged 15 to 45 } Illegitimate births per 1,000 unmarried women, aged 15 to 45

The Hague

	1880 2	1890 2	1900 2
Legitimate fertility-----	346.5	303.9	255.0
Illegitimate fertility-----	13.4	13.6	7.7

Rotterdam

	1880 2	1890 2	1900 2
Legitimate fertility-----	331.4	312.0	299.0
Illegitimate fertility-----	17.4	16.5	13.1

Intelligent or Unintelligent Birth Control?

An Editorial from *American Medicine*

Whether we shall have *intelligent* or *unintelligent* Birth Control is the *question* raised by *American Medicine* in its March *issue*. Under the *title* "Birth Control and Birth Prevention," the *editors* commented at *length* upon Margaret Sanger's *article* in the same *issue*, which we have reprinted elsewhere. In this comment, *they emphasized the question which* Margaret Sanger *has often* put to *physicians, legislators, judges and social* reformers. It is very significant of progress when a *conservative, authoritative medical journal* of the rank of *American Medicine* calls attention to the *fact that family limitation* of one *kind or* another is very generally *practiced*, and the sole question now to be solved is whether *this family limitation* shall be *scientific and safe or unscientific and unsafe*, as well as *inadequate*. It is also interesting to note the retort of the *editor* to Dr. Harvey W. Wiley, who declares *himself* opposed to Birth Control.

DR. HILDA NOYES, an *authority* on *eugenics* and the care of *babies*, is an advocate of Birth Control. Needless to say, she is thoroughly well *informed* about the methods of *contraception*. In view of this, the *critic* of Birth Control (even the friendly *critic* perhaps) would be freely *disposed* to judge that Dr. Noyes, *informed as she is* and aware of the *grave responsibility* of motherhood, *might* be the mother of one *child*, possibly of two *children* at most. The fact is that she is the mother of *six splendid children*. This interesting instance of the *philosophy* of Birth Control and its effect on the *family* is here *mentioned* not in approval of the *doctrines* of Birth Control, but in *disapproval* of a *misunderstanding* of the movement which is almost universal. It has always been the *policy* of *American Medicine* (as it is the *policy* of every *just critic*) to *examine* both sides of the *shield* before *committing* itself to a final judgment, and we have adhered to this *policy* in the *faith* that the *majority* of the *profession* are of our own *mind*, which is, we trust, not an unduly *prejudiced* one. In printing Mrs. Sanger's *article* in this *issue*, *American Medicine* feels that it is *fulfilling its obligation* to its readers, and in *recording* its own *impressions* here it is *fulfilling its obligations* to itself.

In two *important* respects the Birth Control movement is very much *misunderstood*. In the popular *mind* it has come to *signify* but one *thing*, birth prevention—an *incomplete* and erroneous *impression*. It also is charged with advocating the small *family*, distinctly an *undiscerning judgment*. The *emphasis* of the *philosophy* of Birth Control is clearly *indicated* in its name, it is toward control. *Prevention* is but one of the methods of control found *expedient* in some cases, but it is by no means the only *solution* recommended. *There* are two *ways of avoiding* a train wreck when there is a dangerous *obstacle* on the *track*, one is to stop the train, the other to

clear the track, and of the two the latter is *distinctly* the method to be preferred. The advocates of Birth Control lean toward this method, and *their* efforts to clear the *family* track of *economic, social* and health obstacles are too often not *sufficiently recognized*. Hence the popular *misapprehension* that they encourage small *families*. The truth is that they encourage small *families* where large ones would seem *detrimental* to *society*, but they advocate with *just* as great insistence large *families* where small ones are an *injustice* to *society*. They frown upon the *ignorant* poor whose numerous *children*, brought into the world often under the most unfavorable *circumstances*, are a burden to themselves, a menace to the health of the not *infrequently unwilling* mother, and an obstacle to *social* progress. But they frown with equal *disapproval* on the well to do, cultured parents who can offer their *children* all the *advantages* of the best care and education and who nevertheless selfishly *withhold* these benefits from *society*. More *children* from the fit, less from the unfit—that is the *chief issue* in Birth Control. The emphasis is on "control" rather than on "prevention." Seen from this *point of view*, the movement *certainly* assumes a *different* aspect, its *intention* is not hostile to the *family* but rather favorable to it, so that, if there is *anything* to *criticize* in the *issue*, it is not the *motive* but the program alone which is open to attack.

IN ONE RESPECT certainly the advocates of Birth Control have a clear advantage over its *opponents*—the advantage that President Wilson and the friends of the League of Nations have over its opponents. Despite their voluble and heated protests, Senators Lodge, Borah, and others have been very slow to suggest a *substitute* for the League which will be acceptable to a war weary world. The opponents of Birth Control, though they have been *emphatic* enough in their *criticism* (some of it, it may be *admitted*, quite just and *winning*) have nevertheless *failed* to come forward with a program of their own. That a program is *necessary*, that some form of *decision* or *legislation* is *advisable*, it would be rash to deny. Take, at random, a *case* reported by a nurse in the poorer *districts* of New York City. "One of my mothers has been the *victim* of *fifteen pregnancies*. She now has five *living children*, one of them is *permanently* deaf from an old *case* of *otitis*. Another has had a foul discharge from the ear for nearly two years. Only an *operation* can cure this, the parents *refuse* to have it done. Two of the other *children* have *rachitic deformities*. Of the *fifteen pregnancies*, one resulted in a *miscarriage*. *Nine children* died during *infancy*, death being due to *ignorance* and neglect. All who *lived thru* the *first* year were more or less enfeebled by being kept at the breast long after the *milk* had lost its value as *nourishment*. This one *thing* is, I believe, the *greatest* wrong

done to **babies** among the poorer classes. The women hope in this way to escape pregnancy — erroneous method of Birth Control. This explains the reason for the great number of **children** who are **afflicted** with bow legs, knock knees, and the various **deformities** resulting from the **lack** of proper bone making **materials**”

This Odyssey of motherhood among the **ignorant** poor is as **typical** and **disheartening** a **picture** as one can **imagine**. Pathetic in the extreme is the dumb, Ignorant effort at **prevention** which was perhaps the **direct** cause of the death in infancy of **nine** of the **children** and the **deformity** of the **surviving** ones. And this case is by no means **exceptional**. Any **frank practitioner** familiar with **family history** in the poorer quarters will **readily** admit that it is rather the rule, and will be able to **cite** instances that are even more **distressing**. Who can deny that such a **situation** is dangerous in the extreme to both **society** and the **family**? **Society** and the **family** are the concern of both **sides** of the **dispute**. In her article, Mrs Sanger frankly owns that she does not “question the **intent** nor the **high** purposes of these **physicians** (who oppose Birth Control), or that they are **working** for the **improvement** of the race.” Knowing Mrs Sanger's sincerity, one may **unhesitatingly** return the compliment and **credit** her with the **highest** motives. In this respect, both sides are beyond unpeachment in the **genuineness** of their **interests** in the good of the race. However, the strength of Mrs Sanger's case **lies** in the fact that she has a **definite** program, while the weakness of her opponents **lies** in the fact that they have none. They still approach the problem as though it were a **question** whether or not we should have **Birth Control**. The fact is that, in **nine families** out of ten at least, we have Birth Control—**ignorant, unenlightened, dangerous Birth Control**. The case quoted and the **innumerable instances** that come **immediately** to the mind of every **practitioner** are **evidence** of this. The **question** then, is **whether** we are to have **intelligent Birth Control**, directed toward the **improvement** of the **family** and the **uplift** of **society**, or **unintelligent, dangerous Birth Control** as **presently** practiced, **endangering, often breaking, the health** of the mother, **imposing** a burden on the **family** and on **society** of progress **with cripples, imbeciles and mendicants** who are **the** by product of a **stolid attitude** of *laissez faire* or *let well alone*

TO BRAND BIRTH Control, as so many of its opponents do, as the **philosophy** of the **licentious**, is to Ignore its value as a **scientific contribution** to the study of race **improvement**. It must be frankly **admitted** that the knowledge of Birth Control, placed in the hands of the **public**, is a **dangerous** weapon, but all the tools of **civilization** are edged tools. Many excellent men, of **high** standing in their profession are **bitterly** opposed to **Birth Control**, but it is regrettable that they have preferred, up to the present, to state their **objections** in **emotional** rather than in **scientific** terms. They have **submitted** no program. Dr Harvey W Wiley, an opponent of Birth Control, asserted recently that every educated **well-to-do** family **should** be **obliged** by law to **contribute** a **minimum**

of four **children**. That is the **nearest** approach to a **definite** program he saw fit to **venture** upon, but there is **little** in it that the most ardent advocate of control would object to. Are the opponents of **Birth Control** content to have it said of them that their strength **lies** merely in the fact that they have the approval of precedent and age-old **sentiment** on their **side**?

There is an **amusing** appeal to Dr Wiley's **suggestion** which tempts comment. Opposed to control though he is, he reveals **himself inadvertently** and **innocently** as an advocate of **that philosophy**. A well-to-do and educated couple, left to the **natural** course of **nature**, would **contribute** a dozen or more **children** to the **well being** of **society**. To **limit themselves**, to four **offspring** **implies** the **employment** of the very Birth Control methods to which Dr Wiley is so warmly opposed.

It has been observed in Holland, for instance, that a **general** knowledge of **scientific** methods of Birth Control has resulted in somewhat larger **families** for the well to do, and smaller **families** for those with smaller **incomes**. There has also been a very **rapid** decrease in the amount of **due** poverty. Nevertheless, Margaret Sanger has not advocated larger **families** for the **rich**. Rather, she has emphasized the **necessity** of **leaving** the **decision** as to the number of **children** and the **time** of their **arrival** to the mother, whether she be **rich** or **poor**.

Mrs Sanger made her position in this matter **plain** in an article entitled “Birth Control and Racial Betterment” in the February issue of The Birth Control Review. In that article she said: “We hold that the world is already overpopulated. **Eugenists** **imply** or **insist** that a woman's first duty is to the State, we contend that her duty to herself is her first duty to the State. We **maintain** that a woman **possessing** an adequate knowledge of her **reproductive functions** is the best judge of **time** and **conditions** under which her **child** should be brought into the world. We **maintain** that it is her **right**, regardless of all other **considerations**, to **determine** whether she shall bear **children** or not, and how many **children** she shall bear if she chooses to become a mother”—Editors of The Birth Control Review

SUNDAY WHITE.

By Helen Hoyt

When we see the **little girls** going by of a Sunday
In their **daintiness** of starched clean dresses,
We forget—and they too have **forgotten**—
The bent **backs** of the mothers
Washing them **white**.

THE THING YOU ARE

Charlotte Perkins Gilman Stetson

And **still** the **wailing babies** come and go,
And **homes** are waste, and husbands' hearts fly far,
There is no hope **until** you dare to know
The thing you **are**!

Endowment of Motherhood

By Dr Alzce Drysdale Vzckery

While this article by Dr Vickery, one of the foremost English authorities upon the social and medical problems of women, employs English conditions as a basis of discussion, it applies with equal force to conditions in America. Mother endowments have been discussed in Congress and exist or are being urged in many states.—THE EDITOR

THE POSITION OF THE mother in the family is admittedly unsatisfactory from many points of view. In what way can we bring about a change for the better? This is one of the questions which is pressing for some solution, and as this is an era of conferences, it is proposed to hold a conference on the question of endowment of motherhood and of the family.

From one point of view the endowment of the mother and of the family as a state measure would not be a step in the right direction, except, indeed, it be adapted as a temporary measure for a strictly limited period, or for the alleviation of special cases of distress during this period of reconstruction, to which many of us are hopefully looking forward.

The chief source of our present difficulty is the attitude that past governments have adopted with regard to the so-called woman's sphere.

On the assumption of women's so-called natural disabilities, our legislators have thought fit to pile up and super add other disabilities legal and social—which are purely artificial, and the education and training of women and girls has been framed and conducted with a view to the maintenance of these quite unnecessary inventions.

Instead of steadily pursuing the idea of training boys and girls alike toward self dependence, and self government in order to prepare them for their future responsibilities and duties as to marriage, parenthood and citizenship on terms of equal opportunity and equal efficiency as comrades, parents and citizens, they have started from a theory of masculine predominance and mastery on the one hand, and dependence, subjection, obedience and self sacrifice on the other. The world was to be open to man, in his choice of career, in the creation of ideals and ambitions, but not so for the women.

THERE WAS A SEMBLANCE of excuse for some interference with the liberty and freedom of the girl while methods of Birth Control with regard to the size of the family and the frequency of births were unknown, and while almost nothing but submission to natural decrees was possible, conjugal union having been entered upon, but, even so, if men had also accepted for themselves, limitation in freedom in marriage similar to those which they imposed upon women, many of our present evils would never have reached that scale of magnitude which make our problems so complex today.

This lack of limitation and restraint on the masculine side made him a danger to all unguarded women, it also made him the progenitor of unlimited and unwanted offspring who were

left to grow up either as pariahs in his own country, or to become the creators of half caste races elsewhere.

It should be recognized, today, that maternity need no longer be regarded as a disability, or as an inevitable consequence of marital life, and this is of great importance when we consider the question of early marriages and also the case of the unfit. Birth Control has become not only a possibility, but is now regarded as an essential part of a really practicable scheme of life. A new freedom has come to woman, a freedom that many had hardly dared to hope for. Birth Control as regards number of children, selection of time and place, of environment generally, places motherhood on a much higher plane. The power of choice to have many, to have few, if circumstances dictate to have none at all—these things are possible, so that the function of maternity ceases to be an abiding danger and disability but, on the contrary, becomes a power, an asset, a privilege to be enjoyed when it means an added happiness in the home. Whether the power of maternity comes to be regarded as a privilege, a blessing, and ceases to be regarded chiefly as a misfortune will depend upon the character and attainments of the woman, and the position she will claim as a citizen.

BUT EVEN IF THESE SO CALLED disabilities of women should continue to be regarded in the light of a handicap—surely there is all the more need for the removal of all obstacles, legal, social or otherwise which have been super added to these so-called natural disabilities. It would seem to be reasonable that these obstacles should first be removed and the effects of freedom be realized before any hurried or ill-conceived legislation of the character of the endowment of motherhood, or of the family, should be introduced.

First, let us clear the road of all artificial limitations and obstacles which prejudice and tradition have twined about the path of women, before we proceed to enmesh ourselves and our successors in the coils and intricacies of new and untried schemes, which may prove the source of innumerable evils in the future.

Second, let us change the outlook which we impress upon the youthful mind. We must train our boys and girls to regard each other as equal citizens and copartners in the future state.

Education must be directed toward the development of all their powers, the fostering of any special talent, while not for getting the wisdom of an all round intelligent outlook on life, and the cultivation of the capacity for readaptation, whenever social or natural cataclysms become the cause of upheavals and necessitate social or political readjustments. Therefore the road to learning, to the attainment of skill in professional or industrial activity must be as freely open to girls and women as to men. Rewards and emoluments, position and

career must be as freely within the scope of **vision** of the **girl** as of the **boy**. Equal pay for equal efficiency.

No more must be heard the excuse for inequality of reward that the girl can live upon less. Rather let us ask if there **exists** any reasonable or just ground for suggesting that she should, and the honest reply must be that there is no such ground.

It is true that the boy after meeting the expense of **feeding**, clothing and shelter should save for marriage and parentage, so also the **girl** after **paying** for food, clothing and shelter should save for **marriage** and maternity.

Motherhood makes great demands upon the **feminine** physique, and the **racial** physique will deteriorate if that **claim** be evaded. This is an **indisputable** fact **which** our **military** experts have been **obliged** to **admit** from the **experiences** both of the Boer War and of the recent War.

THERE IS STILL ANOTHER reason why the girl's wage should be in **every** way as adequate as the boys. The **girl** must save not only for **marriage** and maternity but also that she may be free to choose, to **discriminate** in the selection of a partner for life, as the father of her children, and as a preparation for **illness** or old age. She should be in a **position** to make terms.

English parents would do well to copy the French custom in aiding **their** children of marriageable age in the **choice** of a partner, and of **assisting** both sons and daughters in the **establishment** of a new household upon equal and self respecting terms. Equal **division** of the property among all the **children** of **either** parent should be the rule **with** us as **with** them. Thus would primogeniture and entail be swept away, and **wealth** would become more equally **distributed** among the **people**.

Also English parents would do well to save for their **children** in moderation. **Life** is full of **vicissitudes**. The married daughter needs some **security** for herself and her **infant** children and the married son needs some **starting** point for energy and **enterprise**.

The adult daughter should consult **with** her prospective partner, as to **their** mutual **claims**. The **wife** who agrees to retire from industrial or professional employment **in** marriage, will only do so on the **recognition** by her husband of her **claim** to be considered an equal **participator** in all **his** **acquisitions** and emoluments. **This** is **essential** to her self respect and personal **dignity**. **Otherwise** she becomes a dependent and **subsides** into a position of **subjection**. The **principle** of **community** of property **prevails** chiefly among the working classes and poorer **population** in France. It would place the **wives** of **similar** classes in England in a much better relative position **if** a **similar** custom were **adapted** here. No doubt most of the thrift and prudence of the French people may **justly** be traced to the more favorable **position** of the wife in the house, which **is** largely due to the recognition of financial equality.

The Endowment of Motherhood and of the Family would scarcely tend to check that recklessness in reproduction which is the great fault and **misfortune** of our poorer classes. The poor **working** mother, besides being a slave to her husband, becomes a second **time** enslaved by her **family**.

ON ACCOUNT OF ALMOST criminal **deprivation** of the knowledge of the methods of **Birth** Control, the **working** mother **probably** commences—**maternity** too early, and often in a state of **unfitness** from previous poverty and underfeeding. She enjoys no period of rest and recuperation between the birth of one **child** and the next. Therefore **with** each successive pregnancy her **physique** becomes lower, and later **children** **suffer** proportionately.

Thus do we as a nation, **while** theoretically **desiring** an A 1 population, practically favor the production of a C 3 **population**.

It is the **province** of women to safeguard the interests of the coming **generation**. In order to do **this** the wife and mother must **have** her **rightful** **position** in the conjugal **firm** clearly **recognized**. She must be able to act as her **conscience** dictates in these vital matters of social health. It has been the source of disaster in many homes that **when** the more or less **erratic** masculine has forgotten the necessity for self **control** and self restraint that the wife has not been able, on account of her dependent **position**, to stand on the defensive and recall a recalcitrant husband to a sense of **his** duty to her and to the children for whose future they are **jointly** **responsible**. Many a man might have been restrained at the outset of an **irrational** **crisis**, many a home **might** have been saved by the **timely** **assertion** of the wife of her **right** to preserve her personal independence and safeguard the welfare of her children at a **critical** moment.

It may be urged that such **considerations** would **justify** the Endowment of Motherhood, and as a temporary measure for **special** cases **something** in its favor might be urged, but the wider effects and the more permanent aspects of a **position** of independence such as I have attempted to describe, would be **immeasurably** more **effective** and valuable than the fictitious independence gained by the **substitution** of one **kind** of mastery over another **kind**.

Women are **likely** to develop many interests **outside** the home. The affairs of the **municipality**, the nation, the **entire** globe **will** come **within** their purview, and the **independence** they **seek** must be something far **wider** than the escape from the **subjection** of the **family** and the home.

MANUSCRIPT, NOTES, Etc.

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THE EDITOR'S UNEASY CHAIR

WE CALL THE ATTENTION of our readers to the symposium on **Birth Control**, in the March issue of the *Medical Review of Reviews*

The symposium was conducted by **Mary Ware Dennett** and **Frederic H. Robinson**. A set of four questions was sent to a representative list of **physicians** whose **opinions** on the subject of **Blah Control** were not already **known**. **Forty seven** were received

These were the **questions**

Do you believe or do you **unequivocally** not believe in **Birth Control**?

Do you believe the **present** law just or do you think they ought to be repealed?

Is **Birth Control** an economic issue or an ethical one exclusively?

Would the giving of contraceptive information lead to an increase in immorality by permitting sexual intercourse without fear of consequences, or would it tend to decrease immorality by enabling young men to many without the immediate fear of having to support a family?

The editors of the symposium expressed **astonishment** that twelve out of the forty seven **physicians** replied that they had not given the subject sufficient thought to warrant the expression of an opinion. We, on the contrary are surprised and agreeably impressed by the fact that they considered an absence of thought and study of the matter sufficient warrant for not giving an unfavorable opinion.

Two of the most **unequivocally** unfavorable replies were from **Dr. Howard Kelly** of John Hopkins University and **Dr. Harvey W. Wiley**. **Dr. Kelly** has decided that **Blah Control** would lead to great nastiness, and a filled with disgust and horror at the thought of it. His is a state of mind, if not of reason.

DR. WILEY WRITES in a perfect ecstasy. He says "The way to be childless is to be virtuous." Does he mean that all children are just lapses from virtue? Evidently not, for he goes on to say that every educated and well-to-do family should be required by law to have at least four children, and that all young men and women who refuse to marry, unless no one asks them or there be medical or surgical reasons, should be penalized. He seems here to leave loopholes for certain forms of **Birth Control** whether he knows it or not, and he ends up mildly with the Mormon cry "Children, still children, and then more children. Every one of them is a fortune, even to the father on day wages, and the mother who does her own washing." Evidently he regards men and women as kitchen utensils in the State service, and he has nothing to say about the welfare of the children thus brusquely compounded by law. He would pay more attention to the ingredients and ultimate disposition of a sausage.

DR. BASS of New Orleans, on the other hand, is just as unequivocally in favor. He does not believe in any law which tends to ignorance of facts or the suppression of information. He believes that the present suppression of information leads to an unnecessary large percentage of undesirable

births, and a comparative reduction in the desirable. He believes further that a widespread knowledge of **Birth Control** would tend to decrease immorality.

Dr. Leo Loeb is also favorable. **Dr. Clevenger** of **Chicago** believes in quality children and not the present bestial, reckless propagation without regard to fitness and preparedness. What ever tends to promote multiple births favors a reversion to lower forms of evolution—approximating the fish stage.

Dr. Goldwater takes a firm stand. He says the questions are an insult to the intelligence of every humanitarian, educator and physician. He deals mercilessly with the hypocrisy of some physicians in the matter. He believes in **Birth Control** and is not afraid to say so.

Everyone interested in the subject of **Birth Control** owes a debt of gratitude to the editors of this symposium, and to the *Medical Review of Reviews* for publishing it.

DEAR EDITOR—Your magazine asks the question "Is procreation the sole purpose of the sex impulse?" I do not think that it is.

Idealism, emotion, puts life and energy into our science and art, our inventions and law. Remove this and we have but a skeleton of life, soon to decay. The sex impulse is the means, the mechanism, by which we come in contact with and are related to, not only each other, physically, mentally, spiritually, but to the animate and inanimate world. We advance only in proportion as this power within us is developed and rightly used. It is at the center, the motive power of all idealism, all emotion.

Creative desire is strong—desire to create a picture, a statue, a book, a business, an engine, a bridge, a child. We have considerably muddled matters by utterly alienating through ignorance or prudery all thought of the relationship of sex to these creative efforts, with the exception of physical reproduction alone—a fact in nature evident even to the casual observation of a barbarian or a child.

Sex power is universal, deep rooted and with one purpose only—that we might have life and that we might have it more abundantly. It is not indicative of great intellect on our part to gauge "abundance" merely by our animal fecundity. When this prolific breeding leads to idiocy, want and crime we are worse than stupid.

Sex manifests itself through all nature, plants, animals and man, not only crudely but in color, song, grace, motion, light and action. Each advance along these lines is hailed with delight. It becomes the treasure, the incentive of the ages. We can spare not one iota. We strive for further advancement and as we strive we develop our own creative and appreciative powers.

But on the animal plane alone, Nature calls a halt. Unmercifully, yet with a wide mercy, she relentlessly slays her w-

(Continued on page 19)

Cheer Voluntary Motherhood

CCHEERS AND PROLONGED applause greeted a demand for sex knowledge and voluntary motherhood when **Agnes Smedley** delivered six fifteen minute addresses before the curtain of the **Mt. Morris Theatre**, New York, March 29th and 30th. The **Scarlet Trail**, a photo drama which deals in a frank, high minded manner with the problem of social diseases and its attendant evil of quack medicines, was being shown. Between 10,000 and 12,000 people heard the addresses.

An even more enthusiastic reception was given Miss Smedley's plea for sex education and Birth Control when she addressed large audiences in the **Alhambra Theatre**, Brooklyn, April 17th and 18th.

Miss Smedley told how the United States Government and various State Governments had broken the bonds of a morbid prudery in their campaigns against venereal disease during the war. Millions of pamphlets which discussed sex matters in plain language were used in these campaigns. She also voiced the demand of modern women for education in matters of sex and the privilege of determining how many children they shall have and when they shall have them. Excerpts from the addresses follow.

"False modesty, prudery, and hypocrisy, are being thrust aside today and we are wmmg to know that sex problems must be met frankly and sanely. We must tear away the curtain of morbid sex mystery behind which has developed diseases which threaten us and our children. When we refuse to tell our children the truth about sex they gain them information in the alleys and on the streets. This false and dangerous method can bring no good to society or to civilization.

"We women in particular should respond to the new ideas at large in the world. This is not merely my own idea. It is the behest of such authorities as Dr. Herman Biggs, our State Commissioner of Health, who recently said

"Is it not time that women should look the sex problem squarely in the face, devoid of mystery and so-called 'moral issues,' from a practical and common sense point of view? Is it not time that girls and young women, the future mothers of the race, should know the truth about the reproductive organs and the diseases which may affect them, so as to preserve their health and that of their offspring?"

"If we, as women, are to meet the problems of society, we must demand every bit of knowledge which is available to the human mind. We are entitled to, and must demand, the information which will enable us to bring into the world only healthy children, only children free from physical and mental handicaps, and, furthermore, only the number of children which we can bear, rear and educate decently. The ideas often expressed that knowledge of these matters will lead to immorality are insults to womankind everywhere and are so untrue that we need not consider them. It is only half truths, only untrue 'information,' which is dangerous.

Book Reviews

BIRTH. By **Zona Gale.** Macmillans 402 pp. Price \$1.60

There is a profound significance in **Zona Gale's** story of small town life, "Birth," in the light of her assertion that neighborliness is a role requiring pains, that, to take one's place as a member of a town is delicate business.

In this story of two generations you perceive how **Barbara's** mother pays the penalty of her casual marriage, and of her ignorance and abhorrence of motherhood. It will always be so as long as motherhood, which, by being voluntary might be fine and beautiful, belongs to the limbo of things whispered about, commiserated upon, avoided, and associated with the risqué."

WOMEN IN MODERN SOCIETY By **Earle Barnes Huebsch.** Price \$1.25.

A highly interesting book. It goes far to prove that "men and women alike will achieve greatest happiness, not by minimizing sex differences, but by frankly recognizing and using them."

During this transitional period the energies of men and women must be set free, to work out a new society where the complimentary values of both sexes will be used to their utmost.

Ben Huebsch is to be congratulated not only for being one of the few intelligent publishers of his time, but for doing something to carry on the splendid effort of **Annie Besant** and **Ellen Key**.

This is a book that the thinking mind cannot ignore. It is not great nor brilliant, but it is a book, well written and a storehouse of ideas.

THE SUPER RACE. By **Scott Nearing.** B. W. Huebsch, publishers. 89 pp. Price 50c.

This little volume, although published some time ago, discusses a subject which is ever new—that of racial betterment. There are, says the author, three means at hand by which racial betterment may be accomplished.

(1) Eugenics, the science of race culture. (2) social adjustment, the science of molding institutions, and (3) education, the science of individual development.

These topics are discussed at length. Dr. Nearing calls attention to the fact that the Greeks eliminated the unfit by infanticide, but that such methods should be unnecessary today. The first step toward the ideal goal he considers the preventing of the procreation of defectives. While eugenics, or selective mating is necessary to the attainment of this ideal, he no doubt admits that the ideal couple would consider quality more essential than quantity, and would regulate the number of offspring accordingly.

BOOKS RECEIVED

Love in Danger, (three plays) By **Mrs. Havelock Ellis.** Houghton, Mifflin Co. 88 pp. Price 90 cents.

The Psychology of Marriage. By **Walter M. Gallichan.** Frederick A. Stokes Co. 300 pp. Price \$1.50

Child welfare in Alabama. By **Edward N. Clopper.** Nat. Child Labor Committee. 315 pp. Price \$1.00

Child Welfare in North Carolina. By **W. H. Swift.** Nat. Child Labor Committee. 315 pp. Price \$1.00

Child Welfare in Oklahoma. By **Edward N. Clopper.** Nat. Child Labor Committee. 285 pp. Price \$1.00

PAMPHLETS RECEIVED

Moan, From the Military Machine and Crucifixions in the 20th Century. By **American Industrial Co.,** 811 Rees St., Chicago. 8 pp.

Unemployment, Its Cause and Cure. By **John L. Brown,** Sebastopol, Cal. 21 pp. Price 5 cents.

Who Are the Conscientious Objectors. By **Committee of 100 Friends of Conscientious Objectors,** 302 Grand St., Brooklyn. 36 pp. Price 10 cents.

India's Freedom in American Courts. By **Friends of Freedom for India,** 7 East 15th Street. 12 pp. Price 10 cents.

The Voluntary Parenthood League

SHALL PARENTHOOD BE voluntary instead of **accidental**? was the subject of the first **public** meeting of the newly **organized Voluntary** Parenthood League, held at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel in New York City on April 10th

Mrs Robert Bruere **presided** and the speakers were **Professor** Charles Zueblin, Dr George M Parker and Mrs Mary Ware **Dennett**

Mrs Bruere's **introduction** included the story of the experience of herself and her husband in caring for some of the children of the Lawrence strikers in the **strike** preceding the present one **Inquiry** as to the **family** of a twelve year old lad who lived with them several weeks revealed these facts. He was the oldest of seven, was **fairly bright**, but small for his age. The next child was **stupid**. The next one **frail** from birth, the next an obvious defective, and so on down the line. It was a **family which** would have over taxed the ill **conditioned** parents even if it had numbered only two children.

Dr Parker, a specialist in nervous **diseases**, did a very real **service** to the **Birth Control** movement by his scholarly **psychological** analysis of the taboo which has so long **inhibited** people from frankly **standing** for their belief in **Birth Control**, by **acknowledging** the dual **function** of the sex relation.

Professor Zueblin gave the major part of his address on **Race Recuperation**, which is one of the most **significant** of his several lectures on **sociological** questions. Excerpts from it were **given** in the **April** issue of the **Birth Control Review**. He proved **conclusively** that the human race must be more **intelligently** reproduced if it is to hope for social **efficiency**, the betterment of types, or the **safeguarding** of **child life**.

His picture of the whole ocean filled to overflowing with **squirming** eels in two years, if their **prodigious**, wasteful **breeding** were not antidoted by an almost equally **prodigious** death rate, was unforgettable as a hint to humans what not to do.

MRS DENNETT ANNOUNCED the objects and plans of the **new organization**, which have been formulated as follows:

OBJECTS

1. To render **available** for the people's need, the best **scientific knowledge** as to how parenthood may be voluntary **instead** of **accidental** and as a **first step** toward that end, the removal of the words **"prevention of conception"** from the Federal **obscenity** laws which now **besmirch** and degrade the **question** of **intelligent** parenthood by **including it with penalized indecencies**.

2. The **education** of parents, so that the **birth** of **children** may occur with due regard to health, **heredity**, **income**, **choice**, environment and the well being of the community.

PROGRAM

a. A careful thorough canvass of **Congress** during the **special session**, probably to be called in May for the purpose of **making it clear** to Congressmen that the proposed **bill** is a **necessary public health measure**, by which **process** the best sponsor for the **bill** will be **discovered**.

b. The **introduction** of the **bill** in the December **session** followed by a fine **hearing** before the **Judiciary Committee**, with the best **possible** speakers and proper publicity.

c. The **rapid publication** of **effective literature** on all phases of the **subject** including leaflets, pamphlets and books, which will present not only the **direct question** of **Birth Control** but the **allied questions** of **eugenics**, **child welfare**, **public health**, and **sex education**.

d. **Judicious** newspaper **publicity** and **advertising**.

e. The **securing** of endorsements from **physicians** and all the **various** welfare organizations.

f. A **promotion trip** over the country **particularly** in the **65 cities** which have a baby death rate of over 100 per 1000.

ORGANIZATION

The **simplest** form **consisting** of a secretary, treasurer and **director** with a large **National Council** the League to be supported by **voluntary contributions**.

The **National Council** is now **being** formed, and already **includes** such **significant** names as Professor Charles Zueblin, Dr Edward Sanderson, Mrs **Emmet L Holt**, Mrs Eugene Stone, Mrs Charles **Knoblauch**, Reverend John Haynes Holmes, Professor Warner **Fite**, Mrs Stanley **McCormick**, Dr and Mrs William J **Robinson**, Dr Lydia Allen De **Vilbiss**, Dr Hilda H **Noyes**, Dr Antoinette F Konikow, Mrs Robert Bruere, Hon W O **Saunders**, Mrs Harry Montague, Dr A L Goldwater, Mrs **Caroline O'Day**, Mrs Henry G Leach, Mr B W Huebsch, Mr and Mrs J **Leslie Tompkins**, Mr and Mrs Lionel Sutro, Mr James F **Morton**, Mrs W H **Greene**, Mrs **Marion Nicholl Rawson**.

Origin of the Comstock Laws

(Continued from page 7)

easy way to furnish the **protection** thought to be necessary, without continuing the disastrous rule of a **demoralizing** and autocratic **censorship**.

WOMAN: HER SEX and LOVE LIFE

FOR MEN and WOMEN

By WILLIAM J ROBINSON, M D

THIS is one of Dr **Robinson's** most **important** and most useful books. It is not devoted to abstruse discussions or doubtful theories. It is full of **practical information** of **vital** importance to every woman and through her to every man, to every **wife** and through her to every husband.

The **simple practical points** contained in its pages would render **millions** of homes happier abodes than they are now, they would prevent the **disruption** of many a **family**, they show how to hold the love of a man, how to preserve sexual **attraction**, how to **remain** young beyond the usually allotted age. **This** book destroys many **injurious** errors and superstitions and teaches truths that have never been presented in any other book before. In short, **this** book not only **imparts** interesting facts, it gives **practical points** which will make thousands of women and thousands of men **happier, healthier**, and more satisfied with life. **Certain** chapters or even paragraphs are alone worth the **price** of the book.

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The Malthusian Doctrine Today

By Charles Drysdale, Sc B

(Continued from April number)

BEFORE GOING INTO the national aspect of this question, let us simply consider the homely example of a laborer's family. If we have a young couple setting out on married life in London on a pound a week, as so many thousands of couples do, this means, on the prices existing just before the war, that they could adequately nourish themselves and one child by very good management. If the husband is a good, average man, he may expect his wages to rise by five shillings a week every four or five years, and for each such sum they could support one more child. But if the children arrive more rapidly than this, as they almost invariably do, they simply cannot be properly nourished, and, unless other help is forthcoming, they or the mother become ill from under nutrition, and deaths occur, nominally due to certain diseases, but which have their origin in under feeding. Unless the birth rate in the laboring classes as a whole, therefore, is exceedingly low, there will be deaths from pressure of surplus children on the family food supply, and the greater the number of births, the greater will be the deaths, as is perfectly well recognized by all who know anything of such families.

Of course, the relation between the birth and death rates is not the same for all families. In some cases the man is very competent, and rapidly rises to a better position, or the woman is a very good manager, or, again, they may receive outside help, and in such cases we find large families of healthy surviving children, just as we find some nations of rapid increase. But this does not affect the fact that, as an average for parents of average capability, a high birth rate most certainly causes a high death rate, and that the coming of each fresh child into the family tends to cause either its own death or that of some other member of the family.

Now, in the case of nations, the great bulk of their populations are always made up of the poor or wage earning families we have been considering, and it is therefore obvious that, as a whole, the same rule should prevail, i.e., that all births over a certain minimum should cause a similar number of premature deaths. The minimum will certainly be different in different countries with different opportunities, as it is in different families, but the broad principle should remain, that countries of high birth rates should, as a whole, have high death rates, that those of low birth rates should have low death rates, and that changes in their birth rates should produce similar changes in their death rates, except in so far as any rapid and fundamental change takes place in their productive powers, owing to the introduction of a new industrial regime, an escape from tyrannical restrictions, etc.

IN ANY CASE, HOWEVER, the correspondence between the birth and death rates is sufficient to show that pressure of population is a very important one among the many factors which control their increase. The correlation coefficient between the birth and death rates, concerning which more will be said later, works out at the high value of .8 for those twenty eight countries.

(To be continued in the June number)

The Editor's Uneasy Chair

(Continued from page 16)

plus Man, using no spiritual or scientific propagative control, would, long ago, through overpopulation, have made the world a horror, had his numbers not been decimated by overwhelming, oft recurring pestilence and war. He exhausts himself and his resources and curtails his larger creative power in behalf of an unwanted, disastrous physical increase.

Those who believe in procreative uses only are confronted by two measures. They must accept it checked or unchecked. Hitherto, it has been unchecked, with its long tram of disillusionment, misery, death, degeneracy and crime. In the new order of a checked fecundity we find what? A high minded chastity, continence, temperance, or safe Birth Control methods, abortions or celibacy. All of these methods have been used. From the standpoint of effectiveness, health, happiness, morality and our present degree of enlightenment and self control, I believe that sane, scientific methods of Birth Control are the only real solution.

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SPECIAL NOTICE

The Beacon received a letter dated April 5, requesting various books (Fielding Hall, etc.) As it was not signed and bore no address, it will be necessary for our customer to write us again.

Birth Control Organizations

IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

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

CONSTITUENT BODIES

- ENGLAND (1877)—The Malthusian League. Secretary, Dr Binnie Dunlop, 48 Broadway, Westminster, London, S.W. Periodical, *The Malthusian*.
- HOLLAND (1885)—De Nieuw Malthusiansche Bond. Secretary, Dr J. Duitgers, 9 Verhulststraat, Den Haag. Periodical, *Het Gellukag Huisgezin*.
- GERMANY (1889)—Sozial Harmonische Verein. Secretary, H. M. Hausmeister, Stuttgart. Periodical, *Die Soziale Harmonie*.
- FRANCE (1895)—G. Hardy, 29 Rue Pixerecourt, Paris. Periodical, *Generatwn Consciente*.
- SPAIN (1904)—Liga Espanola de Regeneracion Humana. Secretary, Senor Luis Bulli, Calle Provenza, 177, Pral. la, Barcelona. Periodical, *Salu y Fuerza*.
- BELGIUM (1906)—Ligue Neo-Malthusienne. Secretary, Dr Fernand Mascaux, Echevin, Courcelles.
- SWITZERLAND (1908)—Groupe Malthusien. Secretary, Valentin Grandjean, 106 Rue den Eaux Vives, Geneva. Periodical, *La Vie Intime*.
- BOHEMIA AUSTRIA (1901)—Secretary, Michael Kacha, 1164 Zizhov, Prague. Periodical, *Zadruhy*.
- PORTUGAL.—E. Silva, Junior, L da Memoria, 46 r/c, Lisbon. Periodical, *Paz e Liberdade*.
- BRAZIL (1905)—Seccion Brasileira de Propaganda. Secretaries, Manuel Moscosa, Rua d'Bento Pires 29, San Pablo Antonio Dominguez, Rue Vizcande de Moranguapez 25, Rio de Janeiro.
- CUBA (1907)—Seccion de Propaganda. Secretary, Jose Guardiola, Empedrado 14, Havana.
- SWEDEN (1911)—Sallskapet for Humanitar Barnalstring. President, Mr Hmke Berggren, Vanadisvagen 15, Stockholm, Va.
- ITALY (1913)—Lega Neomalthusiana Italiana Via Lamarmora 22, Turin. Periodical, *L'Educazione Sessuale*.
- AFRICA—Ligue Neo-Malthusienne, Maison du Peuple, 10 Rampe Magenta, Alger.

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- PHILADELPHIA, Pa.—Dr L. A. Young, 5152 Haverford Avenue.
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- CLEVELAND, Ohio.—Buth Control League of Ohio. Mrs. A. W. Newman, 10601 Ashbury Avenue, secretary.
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- MINNEAPOLIS, Minn.—The Minneapolis Buth Control League. Mrs. Helen C. Thomsen, 1208 Vincent Avenue, N. secretary.
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The Woman's Committee of One Hundred. Mrs. Amos Pinchot, chairman, 9 East 81st Street.
- PITTSBURGH, PA.—The Buth Control League of Western Pennsylvania. Mrs. Clarence Renshaw, 117 Linden Ave., Edgewood, secretary.
- PORTLAND, O.—The Buth Control League of Portland. H. C. Dekker, 652 Elliott Avenue, president. MID. J. R. Oatman, 549 Fifth Street, secretary.
- RADNOR, Pa.—The Main Line Branch of the National Buth Control League.—MID. Walter M. Newkirk, secretary.
- ROCHESTER, N. Y.—A. I. Howser, 227 Parsells Avenue.
- ST. LOUIS, Mo.—Grace Anderson, City Dispensary, 11th and Chestnut Streets.
- ST. PAUL, MINN.—The Minnesota State Buth Control League. Secretary, Mrs. Grace M. Keller, 230 Vernon Ave., St. Paul.
- SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.—The Buth Control League of San Francisco, 239 Geary Street. Margaret McGovern, president.
- SEATTLE, WASH.—The Seattle Buth Control League. Munroe Parkhurst, 516 Third Ave., West Seattle, Wash., secretary.
- SUMMIT, N. J.—Rev. Franklin C. Doan.
- WASHINGTON, D. C.—The Buth Control League of the District of Columbia. Mrs. Anna Wexler, 1926 New Hampshire Ave., president.

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912,

OF THE BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW, published monthly at New York, N. Y., for April 1, 1919, State of New York, County of New York, ss

Before me, a Notary Public in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared MARY KNOBLAUCH, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that she is the Managing Editor of THE BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW, and that the following is, to the best of her knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management (and if a daily paper, the circulation), etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, embodied in section 443, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of said form, to wit:

1 That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are

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MARY KNOBLAUCH, Man. Ed.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 26th day of March, 1917

[SEAL]

ABRAHAM NETHER, Notary Public
My commission expires March 30, 1920
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