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BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW

THE FIFTH INTERNATIONAL BIRTH CONTROL CONFERENCE

AMERICAN DELEGATES IN LONDON

MARGARET SANGER'S IMPRESSIONS

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BIRTH CONTROL ORGANIZATIONS

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IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES

ENGLAND—Malthusian League, President Dr C. V Drysdale, 124 Victoria St, London S W 1

HOLLAND (1885)—De Nieuw Malthusiaansche Bond. Secretary, Dr J Rutgers, 9 Verhulststraat, Den Haag Periodical, *Het Gellukkg Huisgezin*

GERMANY (1889)—Sozial Harmonische Verein Secretary, Herr M Hausmeister, Stuttgart. Periodical, *Die Soziale Harmonie*

FRANCE (1895)—G Hardy, 29 Rue Pixerecourt, Paris Periodical, *Generation Consciente*

BOHEMIA-CZECHO SLOVAKIA (1901)—Secretary, Michael Kacha, 1164 Zizhov, Prague Periodical, *Zadruhy*

SPAIN (1904)—Liga Espanola de Regeneracion Humana. Secretary, Senor Louis Bulli, Calle Provenza, 177, Pral. la, Barcelona Periodical, *Salu y Fuerza*

BRAZIL (1905)—Seccion Brasileira de Propaganda. Secretaries, Manuel Moscova, Rua d'Bento Pires 29, San Pablo, Antonio Dominguez, Rue Vizcande de Moranguapez 25, Rio de Janeiro

BELGIUM (1906)—Ligue Neo Malthusienne Secretary, Dr Fernand Mascaux, Echevin, Courcelles

CUBA (1907)—Seccion de Propaganda. Secretary, Jose Guardiola, Empedrado 14, Havana.

SWITZERLAND (1908)—Groupe Malthusien Secretary, Valentin Grandjean, 106 Rue des Eaux Vives, Geneva. Periodical *La Vie Intime*

SWEDEN (1911)—Sallskapet for Humanitar Barnalstring President, Mr Hinke Bergegren, Vanadisvagen 15, Stockholm, Va.

ITALY (1913)—Lega Neomalthusiana Italiana Via Lamarmora 22, Turin Periodical, *L'Educazione Sessuale*

AUSTRIA—Der Bund gegen den Mutterschaftszwang Johann Ferch President Wien XV/1 Gablengasse 31 Periodical, *Sexual Reform*

PORTUGAL—E Silva, Junior, L da Memoria, 46 r/2, Lisbon. Periodical *Paz e Liberdade*

AFRICA—Ligue Neo Malthusienne, Maison du Peuple, 10 Rampe Magenta, Alger

JAPAN (1921)—Voluntary Parenthood League Baroness S K Ishimoto President 10, Hinoki-cho Akasaka ku, Tokyo

INDIA (1922)—Hindusthan Janamvash Sabha (Indian Birth Control Society), Delhi Honorary Organizer, Professor Gopalji

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THE BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE AMERICAN BIRTH CONTROL LEAGUE

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

MARGARET SANGER, Editor

VOL VI

SEPTEMBER, 1922

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THE FIFTH INTERNATIONAL BIRTH CONTROL CONFERENCE

The Sessions in Kingsway Hall, London, July 11, 12, 13, 14—The Foreign Delegations from Europe, Asia and America—Medical Research Society Formed—Resolutions and Manifestoes—Social Events and Public Meeting—Comparison Between English and American Birth Control Movements

By Annie G Porritt

PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE—all had their place in the Fifth International Birth Control Conference which assembled in London on July 11. There were reports of work done and of progress made with greater or less difficulty in countries of the old and the new world. There were papers setting forth the present status of the movement and discussing the many problems connected with it—problems that are political, economical, biological and medical in character. There was also the forelook into the future, and one aspect of this especially concerned the American Birth Control League because it took the form of an invitation from the League to the Sixth International Conference to meet three years hence at Portland, Oregon. The place and date were chosen with reference to the World's Exposition which is to be held in Portland during the summer of 1925. It is the hope and expectation of the American Birth Control League that before that date arrives the movement will have attained proportions and momentum that will make of the Conference a really notable event in the history of civilization.

The proceedings of the London Conference when published in full will make a large volume. It is impossible here to give any adequate idea of any of the papers. Including that limited to the medical profession, there were in all ten sessions, with an average of five or six papers at each, in addition to the general discussion of the various aspects of the subject. The American delegation contributed fifteen papers including Mrs Sanger's speech in introducing the "Individual and Family Aspects of Birth Control," as chairman of this section. The papers of Professor Knight Dunlap on Psychological Factors in Birth Control, of Professor W F Willcox on Economic Competition between American Races, Negro and White, and of Dr Donald R Hooker on "Effect of X Rays on Reproduction in the Rat" were subjects of considerable comment in the English papers.

THE FIRST SESSION, after the address of welcome by the President, Dr C V Drysdale, was devoted to reading of

greetings and reports. Among the delegates were eight medical officers of health, sent by British municipalities, a fact which shows the keen interest taken in Birth Control by local government authorities in England. There were fourteen representatives from India, and several from China and Japan. With the exception of Russia the European countries had all manifested their interest, and Frau Schwimmer from Hungary and Herr Ferch from Austria bore testimony to the deep need for control of population in these devastated and unhappy countries. The Dutch report was of peculiar interest. The advocates of Birth Control look to Holland for inspiration and enlightenment, since it is in that country that Birth Control has had the best opportunity of proving its beneficial results. The Dutch Neo Malthusian League reported an active membership of 6,978—the population of Holland barely exceeds five millions—a death rate of ten per thousand and infantile mortality rate of under fifty per thousand. Birth Control in Holland is purely voluntary, but even the poorest have opportunities for instruction in hygienic methods. The League maintains fifty five trained instructors, and the medical profession also responds readily to the general demand for information concerning contraceptives. In Sweden there is still a law against contraceptives, but the strong movement for its repeal has shown its effect in the fact that there is a large majority in favor of Birth Control in the Lower Chamber, and a bill introduced in the last session was defeated by a very narrow margin in the Upper House. The frantic efforts of the French Government to combat Birth Control are showing no results of value to the nation. In fact it is impossible by the offer of medals or bonuses to persuade thrifty and responsible French families to have more children than they can support and start in life. M G Giroud, who was unable to be present, in his summary of the situation in France, regretted this retrograde government policy, but had little doubt that France would continue to hold its own as a country of balanced population.

British and American Birth Control Movements

GREAT BRITAIN shares with Holland the distinction of being a country free from governmental prohibitions on Birth Control. It is possible in England and Scotland to maintain mothers' clinics at which contraceptive information can be given, and one of the most important outcomes for England of the Fifth International Birth Control Conference was the formation of a medical society for the study of Birth Control. The two leading medical papers in Great Britain, *The "British Medical Journal"* and *"The Lancet"* both gave respectful and interested attention to the medical phases of the Conference. *The Lancet* report ran to four columns, and included an excellent summary of the address of Dr Norman Haire, the Chairman of the section. The medical session was attended by Lord Dawson, the King's physician, by many Medical Officers of Health, and by the medical men and women from among the foreign delegates. It is the object of the British advocates of Birth Control to secure the introduction of Birth Control instruction in every welfare clinic and woman's hospital ward, conducted under public or private auspices in England and Scotland. The clinic conducted by the Malthusian League is maintained simply as an object lesson, and will be turned over to the borough authorities as soon as such a transfer will be accepted.

One remarkable characteristic of the Birth Control movement in Great Britain is the degree to which it is dominated by men. The second session—Tuesday afternoon—was the only session which had a woman—Mrs Sanger—in the chair. One result of this male dominance is that the humane and individual aspects of Birth Control were subordinated to the political, economic and eugenic aspects. It needed Mrs Sanger's grasp of all sides of the question, combined with her infinite pity and sympathy for the griefs and difficulties of suffering women to restore the balance. There were four Englishwomen on the programme in Mrs Sanger's section, but not one of them dared to "let herself go" and to express anything like sentiment or deep feeling in regard to motherhood and Birth Control. Strongly affected by the male tone of the Conference, they emphasized the material and economic benefits of Birth Control, and gave little attention to the supposedly subordinate matters of human happiness or misery, mother love, or the wrecking or salvaging of married life. The American movement, thanks to Mrs Sanger, has never lost touch with these deeper realities of our being. It has been strengthened and reinforced by all the arguments of the economists and biologists, but throughout it has been a humane concern, and it has consequently appealed to women in tens of thousands. The American Birth Control League is the work of women, aided, encouraged and supported by a very large number of men. The British Malthusian League is primarily a man's movement, urged on and supported by the devoted work of a more limited number of women. Throughout the Conference, Mrs Sanger stood as the type and embodiment of the woman's revolt against unlimited and irresponsible reproduction, and as the leader of the crusade which would lift women from darkness and despair into light and freedom.

The Sections at Work

NO PRAISE CAN BE too high for the excellence of the papers and of the chairman's address in the Economic and Statistical section. This is a department in which the British Birth Control movement excels, and Mr J M Keynes, as chairman, made invaluable contributions to the subject, not only in his address but also in his incisive replies to questions and objections. His definition of over population is especially worthy of quotation. A country or locality, he said, is over populated, as soon as the addition of one person causes a diminution of its well being. If you would be better off in home or city or county with fewer people you are suffering from over population. There were other and equally interesting definitions of over population. Dr Knut Wicksell of Sweden, after discussing the constant need of emigration to keep down the population of his native land, where a fairly high birth rate and a very low death rate would quickly bring about congestion, put the definition in a negative form. Over population exists, he said, as soon as population can be diminished with advantage to those left behind, and he added that at present there was not a single country in Europe that would not be immensely better off if the population were greatly diminished. Sweden especially had suffered during the war because emigration had been cut off, with the result of wide spread unemployment and bitter poverty. Emigration, as a palliative, was severely scored by Professor Roberto Michels, of the Milan University, who represented both Italy, his adopted country, and Switzerland. Emigration does not permanently solve the problem, he urged. It is in fact an evil. It takes from the best of the inhabitants of a country and as soon as pressure is removed, a rise in the birth rate renews the evil.

The Rev Gordon Lang, who presided over the Moral and Religious Section, represented the English Nonconformists. He is a young man, full of enthusiasm and zeal for humanity. The papers in this section included three from American delegates—Birth Control as a Background for Monogamous Marriage by Mrs Edith Houghton Hooker of Baltimore, author of the *Laws of Sex*, The Control of Parenthood as a Moral Problem by Dr Sydney Goldstein, of the Free Synagogue of New York, and Motherhood as a Profession by the Rev F W Betts, D D, of Syracuse. As we purpose to devote a considerable portion of a coming issue to the religious aspect of the Birth Control movement, I shall not occupy further space here with this section.

The Thursday morning session which was devoted to Eugenics, with Professor E W MacBride as Chairman, afforded the keenest satisfaction and delight to the scientifically minded. Every one of the six papers announced on the printed programme was from the United States. But this American pre dominance was balanced by the remarkable address of the chairman and by valuable contributions in the general discussion that followed the reading of the papers. Professor MacBride pointed out that it is the artificial interference of civilized man that has given rise to the present population problem. A pair of frogs with an average lifetime of five

years produces during that lifetime some 12,000 progeny, but the balance of frog population is not thereby disturbed, because the various casualties of frog life will in the meantime have disposed of all but two, leaving at the death of the parent pair just as many and just as few frogs as there were before. Similar conditions prevailed in the past in regard to man. Wars, plagues and famines and high infant mortality rates disposed of all the surplus population leaving in all the older countries a practically stationary population. In industrialism and the steady lowering of the death rate have caused the upset of this balance, and no longer is it possible to dispose of the surplus by emigration. Professor MacBride pointed out the disgenic effects of preserving alive the poorer strains which in former years would have perished, and commented on the refusal of both foreign countries and British colonies to accept this poor material as immigrants, leaving no reasonable alternative for over populated England but Birth Control.

THE NATIONAL and International Section, which held its session on Thursday afternoon was presided over by Harold Cox. The subjects chiefly stressed were the dangers to civilization and to the peace of the world from ever increasing over population both in the Far East and in all European countries. There were contributions from Sweden, Japan and Germany. Mr Cox gave no extended address at this session but limited himself to summing up and commenting upon the arguments put forward and joining in the discussion when this seemed necessary. His wide understanding of population questions and his lucid and interesting presentation of them were shown not so much at this session as at the public meeting, at which he was one of the principal speakers.

Friday was the medical day—an open medical section in the morning, the session limited to the medical profession in the afternoon, and in the evening a session for the delegates in general, at which a report of the afternoon meeting was given by Dr Norman Haire, and an informal and general discussion of contraceptives and methods resulted. In the afternoon, while the doctors were in session, there was also a meeting of the section devoted to propaganda methods and publicity for the movement. It was realized that the Birth Control movement, however scientific its basis, depends on publicity for its spread and success, and Professor Knut Wicksell of Sweden—a country where wide propaganda is being employed to overcome obstructive legislation—presided over the conference which was devoted to a discussion of propaganda methods.

The chairman of the open Medical Section was Dr Killick Millard, Medical Officer of Health, whose address was devoted to a discussion of the healthfulness of the use of contraceptives. He described the results of a questionnaire sent to 74 prominent gynecologists. Of these 52 believed such use to be conducive to health, while 11 replied unfavorably, and of these eleven several were undoubtedly swayed by religious beliefs rather than by scientific observations. The sterilization of the unfit as a necessary means for the community to protect itself from the ever increasing multiplication of the poorer

strains, which results from modern humanitarianism, was discussed by Dr Norman Haire. Dr W H B Stoddard, as a psychologist, offered strong proofs that harmful results from the practice of Birth Control are frequently due to mental attitude, to fears and inhibitions due to education or lack of education, rather than to any purely physiological cause. Methods of contraception were discussed both by Dr Millard and at the evening session with a freedom that would of course be impossible in America, but the discussion showed that even in England there is room for the new medical society that has been formed to make an exhaustive study of the question.

Social Events

THE SOCIAL EVENTS which had been arranged for the delegates, added greatly not only to the interest and pleasure of both guests and hosts, but also to the value of the Conference both from the educational and propaganda points of view. The first of these events was a reception given on the evening of the opening day by Mr and Mrs H G Wells. It would not be easy to over estimate the importance of having a man of the constructive genius of Mr Wells whole heartedly in favor of Birth Control, and it was a forceful method of emphasizing his support of the movement when he threw open his house and offered gracious hospitality to the members of the Conference.

The public dinner, given on the following evening was not quite in the same category as Mr Wells' private hospitality. It was given at the Holborn Restaurant—the scene of so many public and semi public dinners in London, and a feature which was novel and amusing to the American delegates was the Master of Ceremonies, an official of the restaurant, who "prayed silence" for the speakers and at the appropriate moment announced the toasts. Dr Drysdale, President of the Conference, acted as chairman or toastmaster at the dinner, and proposed as the first toast "Our Guests from Abroad" a toast to which Mrs Sanger was called upon to make the first reply. Three other Americans—Mrs Juliet Barrett Rublee, Miss Mary Winsor and Professor Willcox—were also among the speakers who included, among other notable names, Sir Arbuthnot Lane, Professor Westermarck, author of the History of Marriage, Professor E W MacBride who officially represented the British Eugenical Society, Professor Knut Wicksell and Dr Anton Mystem of Sweden, Herr Johann Ferch of Austria, Professor Roberto Michels of Switzerland, Dr Bernard Hollander, Dr C Killick Millard, Dr Norman Haire, Dr Binnie Dunlop and Mr Harold Cox. Sir Arbuthnot Lane who is one of Britain's leading physicians, sounded a note which is very familiar in America, when he deplored the ignorance of the medical profession concerning the subject of Birth Control and called upon the doctors to enter a field of research so necessary to human welfare and yet so neglected. Professor Westermarck, who is pre eminent as a student of human institutions in their more primitive forms, made some humorous comparisons between savage and civilized customs, not wholly to the advantage of the latter. He urged that the ordeals imposed on the young man in many savage tribes were distinctly eugenic, and

wondered whether it was any worse to call for a tribute of human heads, sheared presumably from unfit bodies, than to permit the bringing into the world of children doomed from the outset to sickness and misery. Among so many good speeches it is perhaps invidious to pick out any for special comment. But there was one which calls for special notice, because of its severely practical character. This was the appeal made by Dr Norman Haire for help with the Welfare Clinic which has been maintained under the auspices of the Malthusian League. Here, favored by the liberality of English law, definite contraceptive information has been given to all women applying for it, and the women have also had the advantage of skilled medical instruction in the use of such contraceptives. Dr Haire is in charge of the clinic, which he hopes to make self supporting, but, like other welfare institutions, it needs help in its early stages. Dr Haire is an Australian who is now domiciled in England and is an enthusiastic advocate of Birth Control. The response to his appeal secured the continuance of the clinic for at least some months to come.

ANOTHER INTERESTING EVENT was an excursion to Dorking to the birthplace of Malthus, who is regarded in England as the father of the Birth Control movement. Large motor vehicles were secured to carry the delegates and if there were some of them who cared little about the historic associations of the spot, all enjoyed a glimpse of Surrey—the most beautiful of what the Londoners call “the Home Counties.” An interesting address on Malthus and his philosophy was made by Mr J M Keynes. Not formally listed among the features of the Conference, but delightfully enjoyable was the generous hospitality of Mr Harold Cox who threw open his apartment at 3, Raymond Building, in the purlieus of the ancient Gray’s Inn, for afternoon tea for the American delegates, after the fatigues of the long daily sessions, and who also invited them to his home in Kent for the Tuesday afternoon of the week following the Conference.

Another event after the close of the Conference took place on Monday, July 17th, when the Lyceum Club of London gave a dinner, with Miss Kitty Willoughby in the chair and with Mrs Margaret Sanger as the guest of honor. In addition to Mrs Sanger the speakers included Sir Arbuthnot Lane, Professor E W MacBride, Mr Harold Cox and Dr Hawthorne. As was the case throughout the Conference, Mrs Sanger here again was able to speak for the women—to present that individual human point of view which is always in danger of being lost when a cause is in the hands mainly of men.

The Public Meeting

IN SPITE OF the presence on the platform of such men as H G Wells and Harold Cox, English newspapers in their accounts of the public meeting were unanimous in hailing Margaret Sanger as its principal attraction. The meeting was held on the evening of the third day of the Conference, in the large Kingsway Hall, and it is revealing no secret to state that its organizers were astonished at the popular interest shown in it. Little had been done in the way of advertising, but the great hall was filled, and the audience plainly showed, by its applause on Margaret Sanger’s appearance and by the vivid interest with which her speech was followed, which of the speakers had drawn them to the meeting. Mrs Sanger told very simply and directly the story of her recent tour of Japan and China, and of the tremendous revolution in thought which has been started in the East through the readiness of the intellectual and moral leaders to accept the Birth Control propaganda. Mr H G Wells, Chairman of the meeting, lacks the magnetism of the orator, but whatever he says commands attention. In his opening address, he praised the frankness of the Birth Control movement, and emphasized the fact that a subject can be perfectly decent when proclaimed from the housetops that would be salacious and shameful when whispered in the ear. The choice before the world, he insisted, was not between innocence and knowledge, but between furtive information on the one hand and candid, straightforward knowledge on the other.

Mr Harold Cox set forth his ideas concerning the dangers of over population both to the individual, the nation and the world with a force and clearness that compelled attention and forced conviction even on unwilling hearers. He paid a magnificent tribute to Mrs Sanger for her leadership of the Birth Control movement in America—and not in America only but throughout the whole world. It was her courage, her sincerity and her devoted service of humanity which had given new life to the movement on both sides of the Atlantic. There were further speeches from Rev Gordon Lang, Dr Killick Millard, Mrs B I Drysdale and Mrs Swanick, each of whom had a definite contribution to make to the subject. Dr Millard spoke from an intimate knowledge of English city slums, Mrs Swanick on the danger of over population to friendly international relations and Mrs Drysdale on the practical question of increasing the membership of the New Generation League—the successor to the old Malthusian League, whose platform had proved too narrow for the increasing interest in the subject.

Resolutions and Manifestoes

AT EACH SESSION of the International Congress a resolution was passed embodying a manifesto of the Birth Control movement. Without wasting space on any preliminaries to these resolutions we print below the substance of the series.

1 The Fifth International Neo-Malthusian and Birth Control Conference records the great pleasure with which it has received evidence of the rapidly growing appreciation of the immense benefits of Birth

Control for human welfare and race improvement. Above all it views with satisfaction the extension of the propaganda to the East and the readiness of its teeming populations to adopt it. It registers an emphatic condemnation of the short sighted and reactionary policy of repression still exercised in a few countries, and calls upon the governments of all nations to facilitate the extension of Birth Control knowledge among the poor and hereditarily unfit, in the interests of human welfare, race improvement and lasting peace.

2 The Conference calls the attention of all the thoughtful men and women to the great benefits which Birth Control can confer on themselves and their children by enabling young people to marry early and escape temptation, and by enabling them to regulate their families in accordance with their health and resources and to bring up their children in comfort to be happy and useful citizens. It calls in the name of humanity upon all those who have already experienced these benefits to join in the efforts to extend them to the poor and suffering, whose lives are burdened with unlimited families, and thus to help in getting rid of destitution, immorality and disease and thus elevating humanity.

3 The Conference desires to point out that the practice of Birth Control is not contrary to the dictates or spirit of Christianity, but has been advocated from motives of the deepest compassion with the poor and suffering and as the only practicable means of securing the highest ideal of marriage and sexual purity. It claims that this ideal can only be secured by making it generally known that young people can marry without the fear of unlimited families, and that universal and easy marriage affords the only possibility of eliminating sexual irregularities. It further points out that the spread of contraceptive knowledge can be and has been carried out through the medical profession and (in Great Britain) by means of sealed booklets, issued against suitable declarations in such a manner as to prevent its dissemination among young unmarried persons. It calls upon the Church and all those who have human welfare and public morality at heart to join in the provision of such instruction on these lines, and to supplement it with such moral sexual instruction as will help to guard it against abuse.

4 It desires to call the attention of the Public Health Authorities of all nations to the serious consequences to the quality of the race of the relatively great reproduction of the less successful, improvident, and hereditarily diseased sections of the community, and the consequent drain on the State for their maintenance and care, and calls upon these authorities to recommend or provide instruction in hygienic contraceptive measures to married persons at all hospitals or public health centers to which the poor and unfit apply for relief.

5 It calls attention to the now generally admitted fact that over population due to high birth rates is the most potent cause of international rivalry and wars. It also wishes to point out that mere numbers are not an effective protection to a nation in the event of war, as modern warfare is becoming more and more a question of science and engineering, directed and carried out by highly trained individuals. The three conditions for securing universal peace and national security are (a) the limitation of the birth rate of each country to its area and

resources, (b) increase of racial efficiency through abstention of reproduction of the unfit and (c) development of international law and international cooperation in place of national rivalries. It therefore calls upon the governments of all nations to promote the extension of Birth Control knowledge, especially among their least efficient inhabitants, and urges on the League of Nations to proclaim as a general principle that increase of numbers is not to be regarded as a justification for national expansion, but that each nation should limit its numbers to its own resources.

6 The Fifth International Neo Malthusian and Birth Control Conference sends its heartiest greetings to the Birth Control propagandists in all parts of the world and especially to the newly formed societies in Japan and India. It records with the deepest satisfaction the great advance of public appreciation of the movement in many countries, as evidenced by the success of this Conference and urges all propagandists to use their strongest efforts to induce the Governments of their respective countries to recognize the movement and thus to promote individual welfare, race improvement and enduring international harmony and peace.

In addition to the resolutions passed at the general sessions, there are two of great importance which were passed by the medical members of the Conference. The first was passed unanimously at a meeting composed in large part of doctors, although others interested in the medical aspect of the question were also present. The second was carried by a vote of 163 to 3 at a meeting strictly limited to members of the medical profession. The resolutions were as follows:

1 That this meeting of the Fifth International Neo-Malthusian and Birth Control Conference consisting chiefly of members of the British Medical profession considers that it is of the greatest importance that the provision of hygienic birth control instruction should become part of the recognized duty of the medical profession, and that such instruction should especially be given at all hospitals and public health centers to which the poorest classes and those suffering from hereditary disease or defectiveness apply for relief.

2 That this meeting of the medical members of the Fifth International Neo Malthusian and Birth Control Conference wishes to point out that Birth Control by hygienic contraceptive devices is absolutely distinct from abortion in either its physiological, legal or moral aspects. It further records its opinion that there is no evidence that the best contraceptive methods are injurious to health or conducive to sterility.

Margaret Sanger's Impressions

SUMMING UP HER Impressions of the Conference, after it was over, Mrs Sanger expressed her deep satisfaction over the fine scientific backing that the Birth Control was receiving in England, and over the readiness of Englishmen, not only to believe in it privately, but to come out openly in favor. Her gratitude to such men as H. G. Wells and Mr. Cox was the keener, because of her experience of many men who were thoroughly convinced in their own minds but who were unwilling to take an open stand for Birth Control. Englishmen, she felt, had a moral courage in regard to opinion which she had often found lacking in America. Another point that had impressed her was the tolerance of the British and their readiness to hear anyone who had any contribution to make to a subject. At the conference, the German delegates were received and listened to with just as much attention as English or American—not because the English as yet had learned to

love their former enemies, but because they did not permit a feeling of personal enmity to interfere with the intellectual and scientific discussion of a subject.

Another impression that Mrs Sanger had carried away from the Conference had to do with the absence of legal restriction. The fact that the proceedings could be carried on without fear of violating any law conducted to fair and open discussion, and to scientific candor resulting in a directness and delicacy of handling the most intimate questions which robbed them of any semblance of indecency. She spoke with high praise of the English press. The newspapers had carried the story of the meetings with their usual sincerity and sobriety. There was no attempt to single out the sensational nor to make the Conference an occasion of jokes and levity. The Malthusian group was evidently taken seriously in England. Dr. Drysdale, its leader, is fully recognized as a scientific man and while

the movement does not get the publicity which would be accorded it if it were treated more emotionally, it does win respect for its fundamental scientific truth

Mrs Sanger was struck by the fact that impressed every American delegate, that, in England, Birth Control is a men's movement. There is a disadvantage to this preoccupation of the field by men, and Dr Marie Stopes has done something to break the ice and bring in the feminine element. But the scientific side predominates, and any lack of scientific accuracy and scientific training on the part of the leaders of the movement would have degraded it in the eyes of the important men who now openly support it. The whole Conference, including the public meeting, had impressed Mrs Sanger by the dignity, balance and unparalleled sanity of the proceedings, while, along with these qualities there had been a remarkable intimacy of approach. Throughout the proceedings there had not been a discordant note. In concluding her impressions, Mrs Sanger recalled that the crucifixion took place nineteen hundred years ago, and it took several centuries before any considerable impression was made upon the world. It was only about forty years since Mr Bradlaugh and Mrs Besant had taken up the fight for Birth Control, and it was not to be expected that the world should yet be converted. The important thing was to stand by the principle, as Dr Alice Vickery had done through thick and thin and to keep the clear vision and the zeal of humanity which had constantly inspired her in her almost single handed fight through the early years of the movement.

NEWS NOTES

ON MAY 5TH, in Japan, shortly after Mrs Sanger had completed her lecture tour, a new law, passed at the last session of the Diet, became operative. This law sweeps away the former restriction which prohibited women from attending political meetings or forming political associations. This enlargement of the rights of Japanese women is highly favorable for the spread of the Birth Control movement in Japan. The fact that women have been entirely unaccustomed to take part in public life, or in any publicly organized movements, makes it difficult to get them to organize for Birth Control. Under the new law they will undoubtedly enter gradually into movements for betterment that affect the family

THE NEW GENERATION LEAGUE For Human Welfare through Birth Control was organized in London, England, at the time of the International Birth Control Conference. It includes the older Neo Malthusian group which has so long upheld the cause of Birth Control in Great Britain. But the basis is broader and the principles more simple and general—the aim being to draw in many people who do not subscribe to the individualistic philosophy of Neo Malthusianism. The objects of the new League to which all members subscribe are (1) To spread among the people by all practicable means, a knowledge of Birth Control and of its possibilities for human welfare, and (2) To urge upon the medical profession in general, and upon hospitals and public medical authorities in particular, the duty of giving instruction in hygienic contra-

ceptive methods to all married people who desire to limit their families or who are in any way unfit for parenthood, and to take any other steps which may be considered desirable for the provision of such instruction. Dr Drysdale, who was president of the old Neo Malthusian League, accepted the presidency of the organization, and Mrs Drysdale again assumed the duties of honorary secretary. There are twenty vice presidents, seventeen of whom are men and three women. The women are Mrs Edwin Drew, Miss Cicely Hamilton and Dr Alice Drysdale Vickery, one of the early pioneers of Birth Control in England. The men include some notable names: e.g. Sir James Barr, CBE, MD, Arnold Bennett, J O P Bland, Harold Cox, Sir W Arbuthnot Lane, Dr C Killick Millard, MOH, Eden Phillpotts, Sir G Archdall Reid and Rt Hon J M Robertson. The International Conference gave an excellent send off to the new League and a good beginning was made towards a nation wide membership.

PRESS CLIPPINGS

MAJOR E L SWAN of the United States Health Bureau told members of the Rotary Club at their weekly luncheon yesterday that in the last year 856 children under the age of thirteen had committed suicide.

He was talking on "The Boy Question", and said that the condition of the country had its effect on the younger generation, and that often when a poor man could not take care of his family one of the children, "in a spirit of knight errantry, takes his own life in an effort to aid his parents."

—*Atlantic City News*, June 8

MAYOR HYLAN'S factotum, Commissioner Hirshfield, who investigated a raid on the apartment of Mrs Morris H Elvidge by police in search of contraband liquor, denounces the affair as an outrage. "The police," he says, "cannot be too severely censured," and he has recommended that the District Attorney proceed against the policemen involved.

Commissioner Hirshfield is to be commended for his exhibition of apparently honest indignation. The public has nothing but indignation for official abuse of the rights of citizens, and particularly of those constitutional rights which are supposed to guard every person and every home against official injustice and meddling.

And yet in the same paper with the news of the Elvidge case there is an unpleasant reminder of another incident over which Commissioner Hirshfield did not wax so indignant. Last November some policemen raided the Town Hall and by force prevented respectable citizens from speaking. Hirshfield held an inquiry into this shameful affair. The investigation ended with the blame laid at the door of Police Captain Donohue.

Nobody was ever punished for the Town Hall outrage. And on Monday, when Hirshfield was denouncing the police for entering unlawfully an apartment, Captain Donohue was being promoted to be a deputy inspector. The Police Commissioner rewards a man who committed the very sort of offense which, according to the new temper of the Commissioner of Accounts, deserves the attention of the Grand Jury.

—*New York Herald*, August 8

Mothers Who Love Their Children Demand Birth Control

Letters from Women Who Are Not Idle or Frivolous

BIRTH CONTROL is often stigmatized as resulting from a selfish desire for ease or pleasure—something demanded only by idle women who prefer pet dogs to babies. On the contrary, it is the experience of the advocates of Birth Control that the majority of appeals for help come from women who are devoted to their families, who love babies, and are willing to work and sacrifice themselves for their children, but who fear to have too many, because they know that the babies themselves will be the greatest sufferers from such over crowding of the home. Some of them have had experience in their own childhood of what such over crowding means, when food is insufficient and premature labor the lot even of the little ones. The ideal large family, so highly praised by many people who know little about it, is very far removed from the reality as it exists either in our crowded cities or in the lonely plains where the ranch woman is still pioneering for American civilization. The letters given below strike this note of mother love in the cry for knowledge of Birth Control.

Dear Friend

I have just finished reading a book written by you entitled "Woman and the New Race," which a very dear friend of mine lent me. I wish you knew how my heart warmed toward you, how I would like to meet you and talk to you personally. It seems as though so many people around me have contraceptives which must work good for them, but either they won't tell me the truth, or else they don't help me, and all I can get of the doctor is an antiseptic wash which doesn't help me at all. I was married when I was sixteen years old and married a man a good deal older than I was. He is a good husband and all that and we both dearly love our children. We have three little fellows, two boys and a girl and I have had a mishap once, not intentionally I assure you. Three months after we were married I had a mishap caused through ignorance on my part. I have never been very well and my husband don't seem to be strong. I guess he works too hard as he has no trade to work at but works as a day laborer. The wages are small and work is scarce. We don't own our own home so have to pay rent, which is very high and everything we have to eat we buy so you see it makes it very hard to try to raise a large family.

My little girl is five and my little boy three and it has surely been a struggle to keep the little fellow with us, as he has had the flu, as we all did, and he had pneumonia with it, and has had pneumonia twice since and now has chronic bronchitis. Some nights I think he won't live till morning, but God has spared us our darling till now and my constant prayer is that he will get over it. Our baby is fifteen months old and I still nurse him as that is the only thing that keeps me out of the family way so I am not going to wean him until I hear from you if it is in your power to help me. I beseech you to do so. I think it is such a crime to get rid of children but I believe that if one can keep from getting that way there is no crime attached to that.

Dear Mrs. Sanger

I have just read your book, *Woman and the New Race*, or rather part of it as I am not yet through, and I decided to sit right down and write you. I have been married five years and have three children and I don't know what I would do if I had to have another. When my first baby, a boy, was born, my teeth began to crumble and my teeth have just all crumbled to pieces so that nothing but the roots is left and I cannot eat and I suffer from neuralgia until I think sometimes that I will lose my mind, and my last little one, our only little, dear girl, is a very delicate little thing and she may not live long, as from her hips down she seems thin and as if they wasn't growing, that is not growing like the rest of her little body, and she's the sweetest little thing, and never cries, just smiles when ever her eyes meet mine, but honest each smile is like a stab to my heart because I know that at the time I started to carry her or when I first knew I was that way again, I was suffering so from my teeth that I thought I would go crazy and I didn't want to be that way either. So you can imagine the way I feel when she lays there watching me with that smile, and my husband isn't well either, and I am sickly all the time now.

But I am just worrying and dreading all the time for fear I will have to have another. I just love little ones and I am never very sick during confinement either, but what is the use of having little cripples to reproach you and say they wish they hadn't been born?

Would like to talk to you as there is so much I would like to talk over with you that cannot be written. You may think I could have my teeth fixed, but I cannot afford it.

My dear Mrs. Sanger

Mine is merely a contributing phase of the composite ignorance which spells so much soul anguish and physical torment. Happily married in the sense of love, but seemingly damned in physical punishment—a baby every year for fifteen years—living on a farm, subjected to all its hardships, which are much more bitter because of near poverty scarcely able to eke out an existence and now utterly worn out by child bearing, I face the ravages of tuberculosis. We simply can not have any more children, it would be criminal.

Dear Mrs. Sanger

Three years ago I was a little girl with not a care in the world. Today I am the mother of a baby girl eleven weeks old. I am 18 years old and was delicate from childhood. My baby weighed seven pounds. She is very small but I am lucky in being able to nurse her.

I do not want another baby because I only weigh 115 pounds and am not able physically to bring a healthy baby into the world, as my doctor told me. My husband is only a boy and it will keep us both busy to do what is necessary for this one little baby. Won't you please advise me what to do. I intend to have a family after I am a little older and

have better health. But I certainly do not bring another into the world until I am better able to care for them both. I have read your book "Woman and the New Race" and have shown it to my women friends.

Dear Madam

Just recently I happened to see an advertisement of your book "Woman and the New Race" in a magazine, and I immediately sent for one. I have read it through several times now and most heartily believe in your doctrine of Birth Control and especially this method of contraceptives for obtaining that end, although I had never heard of such a thing before. I had always supposed abortion to be the only means of obtaining Birth Control, and from that my whole being rebelled, believing, as I do, it to be murder. I am most thoroughly in accord with the use of a contraceptive though, which prevents life from beginning. Now I do not wish to take too much of your time but I would like to tell you a little of my own story.

I was married four and a half years ago when I had just passed my eighteenth birthday. Just five days before our first anniversary a little girl was born to us. My husband was a minister at that time and I had lots of leisure then to give to the care of my small daughter. But when she was just a year old, my husband left the ministry and we came here and

opened a store. It is quite a good sized country store and also post office. When my daughter was eighteen months old a little son came to us. For three months previous to his birth I had the care of the business all alone as my husband had a vineyard which took all of his time. I took care of the post office and store until my birth pains came and, because of overwork, I had a very severe confinement. However, I had to be up and at work again by the time my son was 2 weeks old. This is a summer resort and we are rushed to death in summer. Paul was born on June 12, and I was in the store all summer. My children were just neglected. It couldn't be helped. My baby never knew what it was to nurse without my having to put him down from one to three times during the process. If he had not been a model baby, I could not have done it. Now, of course my health is impaired and I shall ultimately have to be operated on as I suffer terribly from backache. The doctor says it is a matter of a few years, if the exercises I am taking now do not help, before an operation will be necessary. In the meantime, several pregnancies may occur and would be, the doctor tells me, probably very painful. I am now only 22, and my youth revolts from the pain which may be in store for me.

Is there not some way in which you could help me?

Birth Control in Relation to Poverty

By Edward G. Punke

[Concluded]

THE INHIBITING POWER of social disapproval on motherhood out of wedlock doubtless exercised a large influence in the past. With certain people it probably exerts a restraining power yet today. Moreover, it is likely that a free knowledge of voluntary parenthood means would lead to greater sex looseness on the part of certain types of women—particularly some widows and divorcees. However, it must be recognized that chastity on the part of a woman is largely the result of her parentage, rearing, education, environment, the customs and times of her country, and the like. Furthermore, chastity based on fear of motherhood out of wedlock is at best a low form. To be of much real value chastity must be the result of voluntary individual self control and social discipline. It is admitted that the degree of check effectuated by the fear of illegitimacy is one impossible of exact measurement. All that can be done is to study objectively and impartially the factors and tendencies making for and against promiscuity, if Birth Control is in vogue.

The examination of such factors and tendencies naturally divides itself into three chief parts. The aprioristic argument that Birth Control tends to increase sex looseness by removing the fear of illicit children, or, the opposite, that it makes possible earlier marriages and hence lessens sex promiscuity, the comparison of the illegitimacy rate among Birth Control and non Birth Control countries, and finally a comparison of the sex morality of the classes practicing voluntary parenthood with those procreating unrestrainedly within the same country.

The ability to avoid unrestricted procreation, thru the dissemination and use of contraceptive knowledge among all classes, may, just as plausibly, and perhaps more cogently, be said to raise as to lower the moral tone of a community. In deed, there is much to be offered in favor of its elevating power. It is axiomatic among practical moralists that early marriage lessens sex looseness and raises the general moral sentiments of a community. Luther well recognized this fact when he advised those who could not readily remain abstinent to marry early. The Hebrew leaders were strong advocates of early marriage, and today early matrimony is comparatively prevalent among the Jews. Dr. Forel, the noted Swiss sex psychologist, favors early conjugality to diminish promiscuity.

MOREOVER, ALL STUDENTS of social life know late marriage and celibacy are conducive to promiscuity. This is especially true among the groups living in enforced celibacy, or the single state. It is only necessary to instance garrison and seaport towns, frequently visited by soldiers and sailors, to have this cogently demonstrated. Recently, too, European and even American university towns and cities have revealed somewhat similar conditions. The allied army of occupation in Germany has greatly increased sex immorality and the amount of venereal diseases in the occupied regions. For the normal person marriage is the natural life after the period of maturity, celibacy, on the other hand, is the abnormal.

Birth Control for all, it is felt, would conduce to this normality for a larger number of persons, and hence lessen rather than increase promiscuity, by indirectly allowing earlier marriages. Matrimony without capability of voluntary parenthood carries with it the likelihood of children within a short time. The coming of these little ones, however much they might be desired and welcomed at a more propitious time, would certainly prove a burden, often a grievous one, if they arrived too shortly after matrimony and before the young couple were so situated as to be able properly to care for them. With the knowledge and use of contraceptives, on the other hand, this same couple could postpone the advent of the little ones until they were able adequately to take care of them. Doubtless, this fear of inopportune children raises the marriage age of many young couples. Proof of this is readily seen in the check industrial depressions exercise upon the marriage rate and age. It is further indicated by the usually higher urban than rural matrimony age, as it is generally admitted that it is more expensive to rear children in cities than in country districts. In this connection, also, it should be remembered that it is usually marriage, not sex promiscuity, which brings to the male the responsibility of supporting children. If, however, conjugal relations could be entered into and yet the man be reasonably certain of the ability to postpone the arrival of children until he and his wife were in fairly easy circumstances, marriage would have the advantage over promiscuity.

THE HEALTH of a people, it is seen, if not actually bettered, is not injured by the proper use of scientific voluntary parenthood knowledge. Inseparably connected with the health of a nation, acting like a cankerworm, is the poverty class. The bold aim of modern social economists and social reformers is the abolition of the poverty class as a class. Doubtless, sporadic poverty will always exist. However, many of our best sociologists and economists are agreed that there is no valid reason why the self-perpetuating poverty group cannot be extirpated. The only way in which this can be done is by raising the standard of life of those in the poorer classes.

The elevation of the standard of living of the poverty group will without doubt depend chiefly upon two things. In the first place upon increasing the total amount of the social or national income, and next upon such an alteration in the present distribution of the social income as will give the unskilled working classes a larger share of that income than they now receive. Of the two possibilities, the second is much more important. This is true because it would make no difference to the poverty classes if the social income were doubled, or even trebled, if their share were no larger than before. If the increase in wealth went to the middle and upper strata of society, little would be done to abolish poverty.

The abolition of the poverty class, then, must depend chiefly upon a larger portion of the national income going to that class. An important factor in the determination of wages, and hence the income of the unskilled workers, is the relation between the supply of and demand for manual labor. When the

supply of unskilled labor is greater than the demand for it, the inevitable outcome is a low wage for that class. When the demand is greater than the supply, wages will be high. Usually, too, these unskilled laborers are the most difficult and the last to organize, they are, therefore, denied the benefits of collective bargaining. From the unskilled workers the poverty class is chiefly recruited.

The diminution of the size of the poverty class is one of the prime necessities for the elevation of the standard of life of that class. This means a lower birth rate for the poor,—a condition already accomplished by the middle and upper classes through family limitation. Voluntary parenthood through the use of contraceptives is now legally denied all classes, but effectively kept from the poorer classes only. Hence the removal of all legal obstacles to the free dissemination of contraceptive information, and the encouragement of its use, is an important requisite for lowering the birth rate of the poorer classes. Those classes do not and cannot obtain that information in spite of the law, as do the other classes. Moreover, it would probably be necessary to establish Birth Control clinics along with public health departments where contraceptive information and materials could be obtained at cost or free.

IT MUST NOT be assumed that the free obtainment of Birth Control knowledge and materials would result in as great a decrease in the birth rate among the poorer classes as has occurred in the middle and upper classes, or as great as is desirable—a mistake made by some advocates of voluntary parenthood. This is the case because children are often economically valuable to their parents, if the latter are poor. Furthermore, people of that class are more improvident and careless of the future than those of higher social strata. Educational campaigns among the lower classes aiming at the creation of a social atmosphere unfriendly to reckless procreation would be valuable,—indeed, necessary. In addition it is believed the strict enforcement of compulsory education and child labor laws, preventing children from being economically valuable to their parents, would possess immense value. Moreover, if motherhood pensions are paid, they should be so graduated that they do not encourage reckless fecundity among the lower classes.

As just indicated, a variety of factors would enter into the diminution of the birth and survival rate among the poor. For voluntary parenthood to be possible, scientific Birth Control must become in vogue in the poverty classes. Throughout this brief study family limitation has been traced from primitive man to the present day. It would seem that the following conclusions, which were stated at the beginning of this paper and which may be iterated here, are justified.

First, some form of family or population limitation is as old as the human race.

Next, the population of the world has increased stupendously during the past century, notwithstanding various crude forms of family limitation. This growth makes the population problem one of profound significance.

Concluded on page 186

Cultus

By Charles Woodvine

MARY HAD GONE to school to the missionaries but after her husband, Chief George, had been laid to his last rest, she followed the customs of her people and reverently placed all his belongings on his grave. He would need them in that far country and, besides, if any single article were missing, who could say what dread thing might happen? So out on the wind swept point she had exposed his rifle and his fish nets and his cross cut saw, together with all the precious household goods which had been her own as much as his.

She missed the gramophone most of all. Of course she missed the sewing machine and the kitchen range and the galvanized washtubs, to say nothing of the pots and pans and cutlery, but a gramophone is almost a mark of caste on the Pacific side of Vancouver Island. She still lived in the little frame house with its brave white paint, but she found refurnishing it to be a slow and expensive process and there were ever so many things of more immediate need than a gramophone.

"Cultus" Charley, the little Cockney, from his rocky holding on the opposite side of Muchalat Arm, was wont to cast covetous eyes on Mary's house as it shone bright against the trees. He was building a log cabin for himself and making slight headway, for he was a poor hand with an axe. In fact he was a poor hand generally. Born and bred in the East End of London, he was a typical product of its swarming slums.

He had followed the sea, but not as a sailor. A berth as deck steward fitted him better and in such capacity he had knocked about the ports of the world. Finding himself in Victoria one day he had shipped for a trip up the west side of the Island. There had been a party of settlers aboard, bound for the Nootka country, and their talk of quick money to be made from fruitlands had fired Charley's avarice. In his mind's eye he pictured a coastline bordered with smooth green fields which called to the casual voyager to stop and claim them for his own.

So at Friendly Cove he deserted the boat and bought a small camping outfit at the trading post. Then, for a watch which a sea sick passenger had not yet missed, he acquired a canoe from a wrinkled old squaw and away he paddled in search of his Eden.

STRIKING EASTWARD in the direction of the dim hills he had entered the narrow fiord known as Muchalat Arm and skirted its forbidding shores. He found that where ever a stream had built out an acre of flat ground at the base of the steep slopes, there an Indian always sat in possession. When night came he camped on a hillside which was a little less precipitous than the average and in the morning he could not find the courage to venture on. Perhaps also a desire for human companionship kept him on the spot, for across the scant mile of salt water he could see five or six Indian houses, the largest of which was painted a dazzling white.

Without waste of time he began a cabin and in the first rush of his enthusiasm he lost himself in his work. Towards the middle of the morning he looked up from a tree which he was struggling to drop and was startled to find that two Indians were standing not a dozen feet away and watching him intently.

"Well, wot d'yer think o' me?" he demanded.

"Cultus," gravely replied the nearer Indian.

"Cultus," impassively echoed the other. "Gim me," he added and, taking the axe from Charley's hand, with a few well placed blows he brought the tree crashing.

"Thanks, ol' top," said Charley passing around a box of cigarettes.

The Indian pointed to the huts on the opposite shore. "Bime by you come," he said. "Give you fish."

When the day's work was done Charley paddled across in the twilight. The entire population came to the shore to meet him and in trying to wave them a jaunty greeting he upset the canoe. His friends of the morning fished him out of the water and as they dragged him up the bank he again heard that strange word "cultus." Every Indian in the little group seemed to be sagely remarking it to his neighbor.

AS THE DAYS went by Charley found the building of his cabin more and more arduous. It was beyond his strength and beyond his skill and beyond his perseverance. And always when he straightened up from his work to wipe his streaming face, there was the little white house across the water, mocking him with its neatness.

So it came about that Charley began his courtship of Mary, but she would have none of him.

"What for Injun say you 'cultus'?" she demanded.

"I dunno," he answered. "What is 'cultus' anyw'y?"

"Dat mean no good," she informed him bluntly.

"Blyme it, Myry," he gasped, "can't yer give a bloke a show?"

Despite his unceasing rebuffs, Charley was far from giving up his quest and each day he came across in his canoe as persistent as ever. Now by this time the summer had arrived and most of the Indians, men, women and children, were away on the mainland picking hops. So Mary, being lonely, allowed Charley to continue his visits. She despised him for his worthlessness and for his little weazened face and his pipe stem arms and legs, but he was not bad company when he refrained from love making. And she found in him an attentive listener when she told of the former glories of her establishment.

"Dat gramophone," she lamented one day, "it sing so sweet."

"Never you mind," Charley comforted her. "I'll buy you another."

"You?" she replied with contempt. "You got no money."

"But I'm going aw'y pretty soon to work," he answered.

"Where?" she asked skeptically

"A long w'ys," he replied "M'ybe to Port Alberni, m'ybe Nanaimo Going on the Princess Maquina—you know—big steamboat Going to get a job and when I come back, so 'elp me, I'll bring you a bloody, bleeding music box"

"Huh!" snorted Mary, unconvinced "You git money, you git drunk No buy nothing"

"You wyte and see," he pleaded

"Cultus! cultus!" she taunted him

IT WAS LATE in the fall when Charley returned His face bore traces of recent dissipation, but he brought Mary a gramophone

She, before wasting thanks, examined the instrument critically It was smaller than the one which had formerly been her pride and it was plainly the worse for wear, but when she slipped a record into place, music was forthcoming A satisfied smile spread over her broad face as she settled down to enjoy an orgy of melody

Charley felt that this was the time to strike "'Ow about it, Myry," he asked "Going to marry me now?"

Mary held up an ecstatic countenance "To morrow," she said, "me—you—git canoe—go missionary" Then she tried another record

Mike Muskrat and family, paddling toward Gold River, heard the tinkling of the music and made a landing to investigate They were told of the approaching wedding and demanded a potlatch

So Charley built a great fire of driftwood on the shore and Mary brought out fish and bacon and coffee Other Indians arrived from all directions and the merriment was continued until the day had faded and there was darkness on every side

The gramophone was grinding out the "Suwannee River" when Charley heard a canoe grate on the stony beach He turned and from out of the shadows he saw emerge a very old Indian, tottering along with the aid of a stick The new comer was squat and bow legged and of inconceivable hideousness Moreover he seemed to be laboring under some great emotion, for his features twisted and contorted as he came toward the fire He made directly for the gramophone, which he picked up, still playing, and attempted to carry away

Mary was on him in a flash She laid hold of the machine and fought to tear it from his hands There was a short struggle, but Mary was the stronger and she recovered the gramophone and sent her antagonist sprawling

The old man slowly regained his shakey legs and, turning from one to another of the assembled Indians, he launched into a piteous appeal in the native dialect Charley could not understand the words but he saw Mary's expression change from anger to unbelief and then to fear Finally he saw her snatch up the gramophone and thrust it upon the old Indian with horror

Whereupon "Cultus" Charley slipped quietly from the fire light and made for his canoe For at Friendly Cove, where he had left the steamer on the morning of that very day, he had found that gramophone on a new turned grave

The Logic of the Situation

An Address Before the International Birth Control Conference

By Herbert M Magoun

THE IDEALIST frequently chases rainbows He delights in chasing them Oftentimes he is certain that a pot of gold awaits him at the end of his run Disappointment only seems to whet his appetite and stimulate his ardor Those who venture to disagree with him he regards as pessimists or as sadly lacking in sentiment Practical common sense he has little use for It stands in the way of his theories and his precious theories outweigh all other considerations Idealists include those who would abolish war They forget that war has always been the result of economic pressure of some sort, due either to an excess of population or else to a lack of material things of which the inhabitants of some region less favored than another near by have felt the need

Human greed, like the urge of animal hunger, has thus driven many a people into war, and it will continue to do so until the cause is removed An adequate supply of what is needed, combined with a change of heart to correspond, is a part of the process, but it is not all of the requirement, and it never can be all of it while present conditions prevail

Physicians who would abolish disease are idealists, for men continue to eat foolishly, and so store up in their systems vast amounts of waste material, and that waste material fur-

nishes an ideal lodging place for germs and other things inimical to human welfare Meanwhile in other parts of the world, men, women and children are starving for the lack of food equivalent to what such people waste! Excesses are harmful, including an excess of food

Famine men do not speak of abolishing It is too elusive It depends on too many circumstances The element of chance in agriculture is too great And the teeming population of parts of our teeming planet furnish too many mouths to feed with what they have as an available supply of sustenance

Looking at things as they are one cannot but see that the idealist's dream of a warless world, and of one free from disease is a dream of Utopia which many seem to imagine is a sort of heaven somewhere, not knowing the word itself means literally "nowhere" It was originally intended to suggest the impossible, not a place of delight in reality, although the fact was obscured

Impossible the idealist's dream certainly is, so long as present conditions are allowed to persist, for the abolition of war and disease can only mean, on the present basis, the enthronement of famine This can be shown beyond dispute,

if one will but consider the matter on a logical basis. It will be explained shortly.

TO EXCHANGE WAR and Pestilence for the sword of gaunt famine the world over would hardly be suggestive of progress, but that is exactly what idealists are virtually seeking to do. An exception must be made to that statement, for there are idealists who are practical and offer an adequate solution of the difficulty. They are assembled in this convention. They advocate doing something that will make the abolition of war and the prevention of disease possible without at the same time plunging mankind into a condition far worse than that from which men now try to escape.

Many will dispute this, and some will even consign persons of the sort here assembled to a climate more than tropical, and, what is more, such people are common. They little know how short sighted and foolish they are, or to what an extent they stand athwart the path of progress and serve to render impossible the very ideal they seek. If they could succeed, they would really be the enemies of mankind, not the friends that they profess to be so vociferously. To leap from the frying pan into the fire does not better one's condition, but that is what many idealists are trying to have us do, and that is why they are our foes and not our friends, regardless of their protestations. If any such are listening to these words, their indignation is doubtless being stirred to the depths. Until they have heard me through, however, it may be well for them to control their choler, for the case will be presented to the present assembly as a jury, and the point will be proved. Let them refute it if they can. Otherwise let them hold their peace and not presume to criticize men and women who are wiser than themselves.

We will attend to the matter in detail. Suppose we start with a single human pair and allow the population to double once in fifty years. That is a decidedly conservative estimate, taking the entire world into consideration. If we begin with two, we shall have four in fifty years and eight in one hundred years. That is all, because a century can only mean four times as many as we started with, on the basis laid down. A second century will therefore mean but thirty two persons in all at its close. A third will end with one hundred and thirty eight, a fourth with five hundred and twelve, and a fifth with two thousand and forty eight.

"Well," you say, "it has taken five hundred years to obtain a paltry two thousand or more and what does it all amount to?" Listen, and you will soon find out. It may take a little patience, but it will profit you in the end.

Please verify the computation. Two times two are four. Twice that makes eight. Four times two is therefore the story for the first century. The rest is merely four times eight, then four times thirty two, then four times one hundred and twenty eight, and then four times five hundred and twelve.

WE WILL NOW DISCARD the forty eight, that leaves but two thousand. Our multiplications for the next five hundred years will thus be exactly as before, except that we must place three ciphers after each number. The final result

will accordingly be two millions and forty eight thousand. That will be the population at the end of one thousand years on the basis followed. To make it easy to go on we will call it only two million.

The third five hundred years will offer no changes in our figures save only the added ciphers. The two millions of our first thousand years are but a drop in the bucket, so to speak, of the world's population, but fifteen hundred years will require six ciphers after our amounts, and that means at the end two billion and forty eight millions. Forty eight million people cannot be wiped out without making a ripple in the world's affairs, but we will drop them just the same and charge them up to the world war. Two billion will answer every purpose and make our computation that much easier, for we will go on and complete a period of twenty centuries.

The figures will not change apart from the ciphers, of which there will now be nine. That means two trillion and forty eight billion as the inevitable population of the earth in only two thousand years on the basis laid down. The result is uncontrovertible, for figures will not lie even if statistics will. The world war was called "impossible" and "out of date" before it happened, but it came for all that and some of us felt it. My own boy came home with a wound stripe as well as a *croix de guerre* and suffering made me think.

Now notice another thing. If we include those discarded forty eights, we shall obtain a number more than one hundred and fifty billion more than we did, and then one hundred and fifty billion may be perhaps one hundred times the present population of the earth. Surely our allowance has been ample and the results are conservative.

"But," you say, with a fine show of indignation, "no such increase has ever happened or ever can in the population of the world." You feel free to blame me for the suggestion as well as to criticize me for making it? Are you honest enough to tell why there has been no such increase? Can you think of any possible reason apart from war, pestilence, famine and earthquakes? And you would blithely abolish war and pestilence, leaving to earthquakes and famine the task of keeping the population within bounds that the earth can feed. That means famine for all mankind. Can you dispute it?

You can—on one condition. If the world will practice Birth Control and keep the births on a par with the deaths, then you may abolish war and banish disease without producing something far worse. But—so long as births exceed deaths, just so long will war be inevitable in the long run, for grim necessity will compel men to fight for food or die of starvation.

Before the war Russia was increasing her population at a rate that meant a doubling in twenty five years, and Japan is said to be increasing hers at the rate of about six hundred thousand a year. They do not want so many, and it is a common sight in their street cars to behold mothers nursing children two or three years old. That is their way of warding off too rapid an

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Birth Control Not Abortion

An Address Before the American Birth Control Conference

By John C. Vaughan

MADAM CHAIRMAN and Fellow Workers

Various estimates, made by those entitled to know, place the number of abortions performed each year in the United States at from 500,000 to 3,000,000. This wide range in numbers is due partly to the difficulty in gathering statistics and partly to the difference in opinion as to what should be classified as abortion. I feel therefore that we should use an arbitrary and exact definition of abortion, one allowing no chance of misunderstanding or side stepping, one so clearcut at both ends that our foes, as well as our friends, will know exactly what we mean when we use the word "abortion." To me abortion means the termination of the intra uterine development of a fertilized ovum, and, using the word as so defined, I would like to have the following statement introduced as a permanent plank in our platform:

The bringing about of an abortion should never be necessary, can never be moral, and must rarely be legal

I am aware that to reach the level represented by such a plank a great deal of educational work will be needed—for the male, as well as for the female, more frequent and careful examinations must be made of possible and prospective mothers, and more control and understanding must be taught to the fathers.

With this understanding of the term abortion, it should be easy to explain the difference between abortion and prevention of conception, but before going into this I will briefly state a few general facts regarding human reproduction, which it is necessary to keep in mind. These facts are—First, Each girl baby at birth has in her ovaries roughly 50,000 cells of a certain type. These cells are the direct offspring of the fertilized ovum from which she grew and are therefore the direct descendants of her male and female parents. Her relation to them is merely that of a host. They receive nothing from her during their life except environment. At puberty these cells commence to be thrown off at the rate of one a month. One of these cells, fertilized, is capable of developing into an individual. Hence each woman warehouses the possibilities of 50,000 new human beings within her at the time she reaches puberty. Yet how few of these can she bring into actual existence even under the most favorable circumstances!

The male germ cells, on the other hand, are multiplying all the time in countless millions, and as only one male cell can enter the ovum on fertilization, we see that whereas not more than one female cell in 5000 has any chance of developing into a human being, of the male cells only one in many millions has the possibility of so developing. Therefore, if for any reason we find it advisable to keep apart the male and female elements, we are only doing on a very small scale for the betterment of the human animal what nature is constantly doing in the most lavish manner. It can also be seen that

these cells, both male and female, which are kept apart, are incapable of developing into human beings. Unfertilized they are no more worthy of consideration than the many cells shed from our skin each day, than the cells lost in menstruation, or those composing the hair which we shed or cut away.

I see no reason why the interposition of some moral, chemical, or mechanical means to keep the male element away from the female element can be considered immoral, nor why such an interposition should be made illegal. Any means used to keep the male and female elements from uniting is a preventative or contraceptive. But when once fertilization has taken place, then all the possibilities of a new soul, a new individual, are opened up, and an individual life is started that should be covered by the same protective laws that cover all human beings. The same laws that protect adults protect children. It is no less a crime to kill a baby than it is to kill an adult. Why should it be any less a crime, why should it be more moral or legal to destroy a life in its intra uterine stages than it is after these stages are over and the baby has been born? And I say again that from the time the ovum is fertilized until the infant passes out of the uterus any destructive interference with it must be considered abortion, and that abortion should never be necessary, can never be moral, and must rarely be legal.

It can readily be seen that the definition we have adopted brings within the classification of abortion the many cases of so called delayed menstruation that are brought about by manipulation, medication or some one of the common devices so well known to those in the medical profession.

Time does not allow me to enter into the discussion as to whether it is more or less moral, or whether it should be more or less illegal to destroy an individual prenatally, or to destroy it after birth by allowing it to come into a world where it cannot have the freedom of mind and body that alone can develop a soul. But I will take time to state that as long as children, brought into the world, are throttled by poverty, racked by inherited insanity, snuffed out by inherited diseases, wasted by wars and by our social system, thoughtful mothers choose abortion, when they feel it necessary, unless they are given some better alternative.

No one can doubt that it is better to prevent crime and immorality than it is to attempt to cure the criminal, and as abortions have steadily increased regardless of the fear of death and of threats of punishment, both legal and religious, I maintain that there is only one safe and scientific way in which to handle the situation, and that is to prevent abortion from being necessary. Therefore I demand that we be given the right to instruct those who find it necessary for any reason to refrain temporarily or permanently from having children and that we be given freedom and help in order that we may find the best methods of prevention of conception.

LITTLE MOTHER

IT WAS IN the Victoria and Albert Museum in London I had stopped with my little daughter before a case containing some eighteenth century doll houses, in which every detail had been perfected with the most painstaking care. She was lost in admiration in a perfect wonderland of delight as she examined these little miniature ladies and gentlemen, who looked so proper and were so properly arranged in their very proper houses. My interest was greatly enhanced in watching her features become radiant with childish enthusiasm. After we had stood for several moments before the case I became aware that some little figures were timidly approaching us.

Turning I saw a pitiful little group of five children, of wretched appearance and stunted growth. With their hands held tightly together, they resembled a chain that needs every link to make it durable. The eldest was a girl about ten and beside her and reaching to her shoulder was a boy about eight. A girl six, a boy about four, and the youngest, who appeared scarcely three completed the group. They looked unspeakably ragged and forlorn, five little stray kittens, who had been frightened by the great world and crushed into a state of silent submission. One felt instinctively that they were grateful for crumbs thrust under the table and came to look upon them as their share at the feast of life. Poor little ones! Already the spirit of childhood had been crushed out of them and in its place had been planted a passive humility.

They did not dare to approach too near the magic dolls or the other visitors. I beckoned them to come nearer and they advanced a few steps, but cautiously. I addressed the eldest. "Have you seen the pretty dolls?" Unused to being noticed she drew back instinctively with fear then "Yes'm," she gulped. "But come closer. You cannot see them well," I urged as gently as I could. She looked at me suspiciously as she was accustomed to eye strangers but being somewhat assured by my tone she drew her little flock about her with mother instinct and stepped forward again but still avoiding conversation with us.

I WAS PERSISTENT and eager to know the story of this little mother who guarded her charge so jealously. "You have come a long way?" I questioned. The others were absorbed in the magic before them but never once relaxed their hold on each other's hands. She became a little more friendly. "Not very far. Daddy says it's about three miles." And then she added confidentially, "You see we come often." "Alone?" "Of course!" she answered with a look of surprise. Would one expect her to need a guardian, she who was the care taker of the family? "But you do not walk?" I asked. "Oh, yes, you see it is not far and then brother and I can carry baby. I looked at their miserable little buttonless shoes and dared not ask if these poor little waifs were motherless. All unconscious of my trend of thought my little friend became communicative, anticipating my question. "You see mother has three little ones at home. There's Violet, she's two and the twins. They just came. Mother named them Lilly and Rose." I began to understand.

"And was your mama glad to get these little flowers?" An

expression of pain crossed the sensitive little face. Then with a brave little attempt to conceal a tear that trickled down her cheek she responded in a low tone. "You see mommy is not strong and she gets so tired. And Lilly can't live the doctors say." It was all clear now. These last little flowers in an overcrowded garden. The frail little lily that never would raise its head. The little white mother, who had forgotten how to smile and these poor little babes already thrust into a cold world. What would become of them if their parents were to be crushed by the burden? I wonder.

"THE MOTHER INSTINCT"

"It is disgusting to hear childless social matrons tell us how we should raise our offspring. It seems that some women in order to push themselves into the limelight are willing to say almost anything that is crosswise with nature. God gave women the mother instinct, and women who bear children know better how to raise them than these childless women who specialize in writing books about how growing children should be brought up. I have had no trouble in raising my brood. Eleven are dead, but it is God's will that they were taken from me. And so I do not complain about that."

From an interview in the International News Service, dated from New Orleans, May 13th, and purported to have been given by Mrs. Jacob Caranek, a Czecho-Slovakian by birth, who is hailed by the newspapers as the "champion mother." She has had 21 children, and lost eleven of them—an infant mortality rate of over 523 per 1,000. (The infant mortality rate of Birth Control New Zealand is about 48 per 1,000.)

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If a woman becomes weary, or at last dead, from bearing, let her simply die from bearing. She is there to do it.

—MARTIN LUTHER

THE LOGIC OF THE SITUATION

Continued from page 182

increase in the family, but it is a broken reed on which to lean.

An honest and open minded consideration of the matter forces one to the conclusion that Birth Control is the only logical way of meeting the situation, if a way is to be opened for the abolition of war and the banishment of disease on our planet. Nothing short of that will do. Nothing else is practicable. If it involves some increase of immorality, it will also involve a decrease of the number of criminals born to curse the world. In any case it offers the only road to a peaceful future. That is the logic of the situation.

Book Reviews

A Review By Virginia C Young

PARENTHOOD AND CHILD NURTURE, by Edna Dean Baker,
M A The Macmillan Company, New York

This is one of the books that one closes with the feeling of having spent a few quiet days in a country house with a wise and kindly friend and adviser who has herself, and begets in others, a deep and lasting respect for 'The Fine Art of Being a Parent'

There are various more pedagogical and learned treatises on the various side lines of this greatest of subjects, but books like this one would seem to have been written for the special questions and needs of those every day women who are startled to find themselves, rather suddenly expected to be the mothers of a new Race For these women this book will prove educative, helpful and encouraging

No longer may the careers of marriage and parenthood be entered upon in the light-hearted and haphazard fashion of those pre historic days before the World War, which swept the better if not quite the larger part of a generation off the face of the map Not only do most of us feel an utter incapacity to meet even a few of the unsolved problems with which we find ourselves confronted, but many of us are eagerly and a little wistfully urging that the young ones must do it! And it is indeed true that there are heaping up problems aplenty to be solved by the babies in their perambulators

Yet, there rests no small responsibility upon those who must guide these young feet in 'paths of pleasantness and peace,' and in a sense never realized before the mothers of today must be the teachers and guides of a whole Race of Law makers and Commonwealth builders

Let us then buy copies of books like this one, and pass them on, being careful to read them first! There are solemn writers who have made thoughtful and conscientious men and women hesitate to assume the responsibilities of parenthood, the author of this book has done a better thing she has made us afraid of being less than the wisest and best kind of parents! All honor to those who refrain from bearing any but the best in brain and body for the meeting of such colossal tasks as lie just ahead, all honor as well to those who prepare themselves to be the New Order

Dr Frank Crane says "We could attain any Utopia, and hasten the Golden Age and hurry the Millennium if we would only begin with the Babies"

A Review By Juliet Barrett Rublee

THE REVOLT AGAINST CIVILIZATION, by Lothrop Stoddard,
Charles Scribner's Sons, New York

"A re examination of the problem of social revolution," Dr Stoddard explains, is the purpose of his new book The volume is full of interesting facts, theories and suggestions and is written in a forceful and vigorous style which carries the reader to the end, whether he finds himself agreeing with Dr Stoddard's opinions or not

The existing trend towards social revolution Dr Stoddard attributes chiefly to the quality and quantity of human beings in the world today He points out that the mediocre and inferior outnumber so vastly the superior and increase proportionately so rapidly that unless immediate steps are taken to bring about a better balance between quantity and quality we shall have very serious problems to face in the future He makes out an eloquent case for the supreme importance of heredity as compared with environment. He assumes with great positiveness, and without regard for the large body of authoritative opinion that, recognizing the primal importance of heredity, holds also to the modifying and moulding power of environment that heredity and not environment is 'the basic factor in life and the prime lever of human progress' He gives quotations from Galton, Woods and others, bearing out this position

Existing world conditions, Dr Stoddard believes, are much more serious and alarming than is generally recognized 'We have among us,' he writes, "a rebel army, the vast host of the unadaptable, the incapable,

the morons, the discontented, filled with instinctive hatred of civilization and progress and ready on the moment to rise in revolt' He points out that in every civilized country today the superior elements of the population are virtually stationary or actually declining in numbers while the mediocre elements are rapidly increasing" In New York for example, the birth rate on the East Side is over four times as great as the birth rate in the smart residential section" He also emphasizes that "the great majority of even the most civilized populations are of mediocre and low intelligence" and that "intelligence is today being steadily bred out of the American population" The danger of revolution, he feels, exists chiefly in three types of men—the 'undermen,' the 'disinherited,' and the misguided superior" The "underman" rebels against civilization because it is too far ahead of him. He knows he can never keep up with it The disinherited" is he who, though capable of success, has a grudge against society owing to some injustice against himself or some crime he has committed against society the "misguided superior" is the man of marked intelligence who in revolt against obvious evils joins the forces of revolution In order to fight these enemies of civilization there must be an improvement in the quality of the race This can be effected in two ways through the more rapid multiplication of the superior and through preventing the propagation of the unfit The first step recommended by Dr Stoddard is "the prevention of all obvious degenerates from having children" The mere presence of hordes of low grade men and women condemned by their very natures to incompetency and failure," he writes 'automatically engenders poverty, invites exploitation and drags down others just above them in the social scale Here is the need for action most apparent' The first steps, he believes, and steps that need to be taken with no loss of time, if we are to prevent a universal revolt against civilization, are segregation of defectives appreciation of racial principles, wise marriage selection, Birth Control these are the main items in the programme of race purification'

The book is courageous and full of fine enthusiasm and vigor of thought and spirit It is written with ardent conviction and sincerity, and will be read with interest by many who do not share in the pessimistic view it presents of the condition of the world

A Review By Edward G Punke

SOCIETY AND ITS PROBLEMS, by Grove S Dow

In his book Society and Its Problems, Prof Dow has attempted a brief survey of modern society and its most pressing problems together with the best present day opinion relative to them and their treatment He has treated such things as population the family, the state, religion and ethics, education social interest, control and organization poverty, immorality, crime, and the defective classes

This book is really an extensive revision of Prof Dow's 1920 edition He has availed himself of the wealth of social material furnished by the 1920 census Considering the difficulty of the task he has produced a worthwhile book It will be found particularly valuable for classroom use, for which he primarily intended it It will also be of much interest to the general reader, though the style, now fairly readable, might have been improved It contains however, little or nothing new

I feel, moreover, that on a few points Prof Dow assumes a positiveness unwarranted by the present state of our information For example, in his chapter on 'Variation, Heredity, and Eugenics,' he implies that Mendel's Law makes it certain the whites of the United States cannot absorb the negroes but that any extensive mixture would create a mulatto race. I doubt if the historical examples of Portugal, Italy, and Northern Africa warrant so sweeping a conclusion Furthermore it is doubtful if his idea of encouragement of segregation of the negroes and whites will make for an amelioration of the negro problem. Perhaps, absorption and gradual extinction of the negroes is the ultimate solution, and extensive south European immigration into the South would most likely accomplish that.

Again, with regard to the family and divorce, it does, I feel, no good to speak of the family as sacred. Like other social institutions, it is valuable so long as it promotes society's best interests and when this is no longer done, it must be so altered that it does. Moreover, I believe with Prof J P Lichtenberger that a high divorce rate flows naturally from a high family life. If a low divorce rate means a low standard of wedded life we don't want a low rate.

Then in the matter of race restriction Prof Dow appears to take a lukewarm position. Many sociologists deem family limitation vitally important, particularly for the working classes and colored folk.

In conclusion, I want to iterate the statement that Prof Dow's book will be one of much practical value in the classroom and to the general reader. It should be widely read.

The Maternity Center Association, New York, has issued a set of twelve brief talks to mothers, under the title "A Fair Chance for Your Baby and You". The advice given in these talks is excellent—as far as it goes. But to any one who knows conditions of life for the poor, it is a mockery to talk of a 'fair chance' either for baby or mother, unless parents are instructed in what is really the first essential for such a chance—the proper spacing of births. There is nothing in these talks to aid the woman who has recently given birth to a child from an immediately recurring pregnancy, and no amount of good advice will ensure health for mother and infant, when babies come too rapidly and when there is consequently overcrowding and poverty in the home, as well as depleted health and strength for the mother. With the addition of a plain talk on the necessity of Birth Control and proper instruction in regard to this vitally important matter, as soon as this can be given under the law, the set of leaflets would indeed prove a charter of health for both mothers and babies.

PERIODICALS

In *The Changing East* (*Saturday Evening Post*, August 12) Mr Isaac F Marcossion, in describing modern Japan, tells of the tremendous popularity of Margaret Sanger during her recent visit there, and at tributes it to attempts at government repression of her propaganda. He also gives a brief sketch of the romantic career of her host and hostess, Baron and Baroness Ishimoto. It will be recalled that Mr Marcossion described Margaret Sanger's visit in an earlier article (May 27) when he told of his audience with the Crown Prince.

The Ladies Journal of Shanghai, Vol VII No 6, is printed entirely in Chinese, but the illustrations indicate that a considerable portion of it is devoted to Margaret Sanger and her views on Birth Control.

The Eugenics Review (London) for July contains an article by Harold Cox on "The Reduction of the Birth Rate as a Necessary Instrument for the Improvement of the Race". Mr Cox makes a plea for the immediate tackling of the problem of over population, and especially over population by the unfit, as a patriotic duty and a duty that this generation owes to posterity. "Our individual span of life is short," he writes, "the world is ours only for a tiny scrap of its long history. But our race goes on and out of gratitude for the many good things we have inherited from the past, it is our duty to improve the inheritance of the future." In the same issue there is also an article by Dr C V Drysdale, entitled "A Guiding Principle for Practical Eugenic Reform". Dr Drysdale is President of the "New Generation League of England," and was also President of the International Birth Control Congress which was held in London in July. He sees in voluntary Birth Control reinforced by sterilization, either voluntary or compulsory, of the manifestly unfit, the best means of general eugenic improvement—negative eugenics as contrasted with the almost impossible programme of positive eugenics advocated by some scientists. It is worthy of note that the Eugenics Education Society of England has taken a more advanced stand on the subject of Birth Control than the Eugenists in America, and has come out openly in support of the principle.

The July number of the *Woman's Outlook* of Manchester, England, devotes special attention to the subject of Birth Control. This magazine is the official organ of the Woman's Cooperative Guild—the largest and most influential woman's organization in Great Britain. The Cooperative

women were deeply interested in the Birth Control Congress in London, and this magazine contains an account of Birth Control activities in England under the auspices of the Malthusian League with a forecast of the programme of the Congress. It also prints a resume of the annual report of the Dutch League, with its wonderful story of progress in checking infant mortality and improving the quality of the Dutch population. In addition there is a sympathetic review of *The New Motherhood*—the English edition of Margaret Sanger's *Woman and the New Race*—with a picture of Mrs Sanger and a short biographical note.

IT IS certain that there is an immense amount of remediable misery among us. Unless this is effectually dealt with, the hordes of vice and pauperism will destroy our modern civilization as uncivilized tribes of another kind destroyed the great social organization which preceded ours.—HUXLEY

THE first essential in any civilization is that the man and the woman shall be the father and the mother of healthy children, so that the race shall increase and not decrease.

—THEODORE ROOSEVELT

BOOKS RECEIVED

From Oxford University Press (American Branch) *THE POPULATION PROBLEM*, by J Carr Saunders

From J L Nichols and Co, Nashville, Ill. *SAFE COUNSEL*, by B G Jefferis and J L Nichols. To which has been added *The Story of Life* by Ozora S Davis and Dr Emma F Drake

From the British Society for the Study of Sex Psychology *THE SEXUAL LIFE OF THE CHILD* by Eden Paul, M D

From the George H Doran Co New York *LITTLE ESSAYS OF LOVE AND VIRTUE*, by Havelock Ellis

From the Macmillan Company *SOCIAL CIVICS*, by William Bennett Munro and Charles Eugene Ozanne

BIRTH CONTROL IN RELATION TO POVERTY

Continued from page 179

Moreover, the modern, scientific form of family limitation is through the use of contraceptics. Their employment does not necessarily—though it may and often does—lessen the rate of increase of the whole population. Further, they do not lower the moral tone or impair the health of their users. On the contrary, their proper utilization may, and sometimes does, elevate the morals and better the health of those employing them.

In the fourth place, a diminution of the rate of increase, and particularly of the birth rate, among the poverty class is a prime necessity for the elevation of the standard of life of that class, and for its final abolition.

Again, the free dissemination of contraceptive information and materials to the poverty class is an important requisite in lessening birth and survival rates of that class.

Finally, in addition to the free dissemination of contraceptive information and materials and instruction in their use, other means, such as the strict enforcement of compulsory education and child labor laws, the discouragement of irresponsible procreation, and the like, will be required to diminish the birth rate and rate of increase of the poverty group to a salutary point.

AMERICAN BIRTH CONTROL LEAGUE, Inc

MARGARET SANCER, President

MRS LEWIS L DELAFIELD and JULIET BARRETT RUBLEE, Vice Presidents

FRANCES B ACKERMANN, Treasurer

ANNE KENNEDY, Executive Secretary

CLARA LOUISE ROWE, Organization Secy

PRINCIPLES

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

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

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

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

We hold that children should be

- 1 Conceived in love,
- 2 Born of the mother's conscious desire
- 3 And only begotten under conditions which render possible the heritage of health.

Therefore we hold that every woman must possess the power and freedom to prevent conception except when these conditions can be satisfied.

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

Instead of being a blind and haphazard consequence of uncontrolled instinct, motherhood must be made the responsible and self-directed means of human expression and regeneration.

These purposes which are of fundamental importance to the whole of our nation and to the future of mankind, can only be attained if women first receive practical scientific education in the means of Birth Control. That, therefore, is the first object to which the efforts of this League will be directed.

AIMS

THE AMERICAN BIRTH CONTROL LEAGUE aims to enlighten and educate all sections of the American public in the various aspects

of the dangers of uncontrolled procreation and the imperative necessity of a world program of Birth Control.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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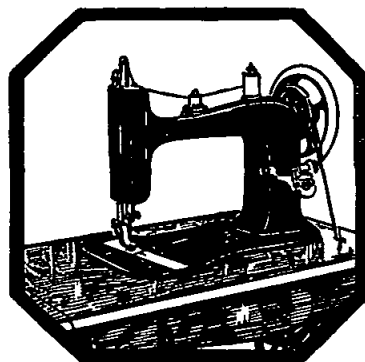
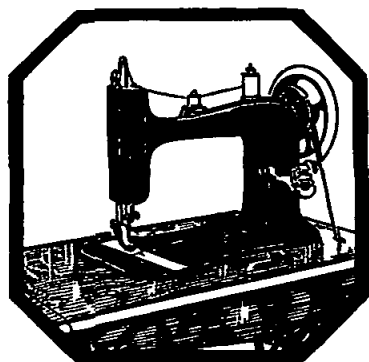
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