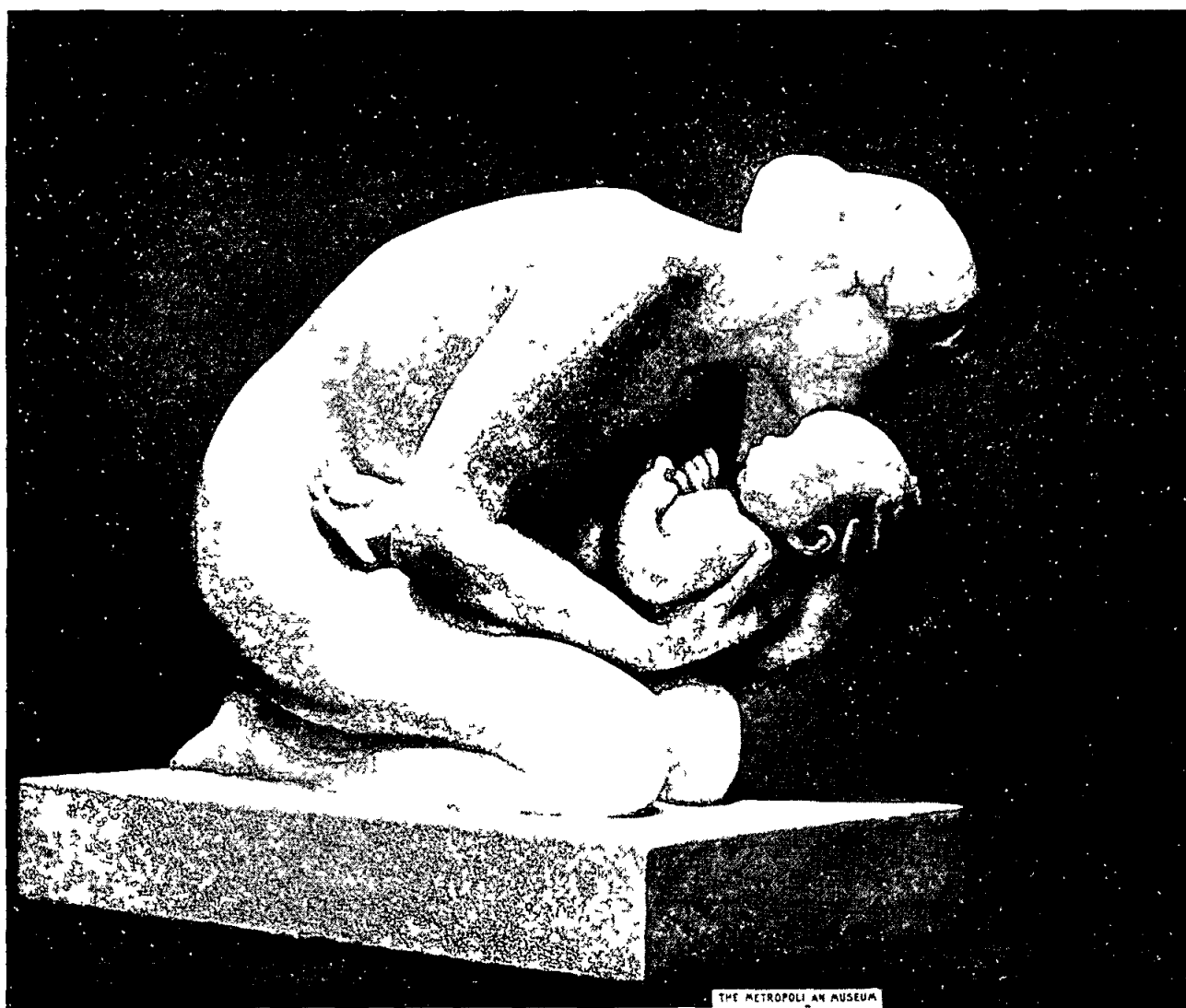


JUNE, 1924

Twenty Cents

# BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW



*Courtesy of The Metropolitan Museum of Art*

# BIRTH CONTROL ORGANIZATIONS

THE AMERICAN BIRTH CONTROL LEAGUE, INC

Headquarters 104 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY

MARGARET SANGER, *President*

JULIET BARRETT RUBLEE

MRS LEWIS L DELAFIELD

*Vice-Presidents*

ANNE KENNEDY, *Secretary*

FRANCIS B ACKERMANN, *Treasurer*

J NOAH H SLEE, Sr., *Assistant Treasurer*

*Directors*

C C LITTLE, D Sc  
MRS RICHARD BILLINGS

LOTHROP STODDARD, Ph D  
MRS GEORGE H DAY, Sr  
JOHN C VAUGHAN, MD

MRS ANNIE G PORRITT  
MRS DEXTER BLAGDEN  
BENJAMIN I TILTON, MD

MRS F ROBERTSON JONES  
MRS THOMAS N HEPBURN

*National Council*

Mrs Ernest R Adee N Y  
Mrs Oakes Ames Mass  
Dean Thyra W Amos Pa  
Joseph L Baer MD Ill  
Mrs Robert Perkins Bass N H  
May I Bigelow MD Col  
Alice Stone Blackwell Mass  
Mrs George Blumenthal N Y  
Mrs John Winters Brannan N Y  
Lowell Brentano N Y  
Alice Butler MD O  
Mr and Mrs Thomas L Chadbourne N Y  
William Hamlin Childs N Y  
Mrs Stephen Clark N Y  
Mrs Frank I Cobb N Y  
Rbbi Rudolph I Coffee Ph D Cal  
Leon J Cole D Sc Wis  
Herbert Croly N Y  
Mrs Belle de Revera N J

Theodore Dresser Cal  
John Favill MD Ill  
William J Fielding N Y  
Mrs Simon Ford N Y  
Rev William H Garth N Y  
Mrs Kate Crane Garitz Cal  
Rabbi Sidney E Goldstein N Y  
Mrs Robert B Gregory Ill  
Dr and Mrs Ernest H Gruening N Y  
Alice Hamilton MD Mass  
Mr Learned Hand N Y  
Frederick C Heckel MD N Y  
Florence Bayard Hilte Del  
Donald R Hooker MD Maryland  
Dr Roswell H Johnson Pa  
Mrs Otto H Kahn N Y  
S Adolphus Knopf MD N Y  
Mrs Arthur L Lawrence N Y  
Mr and Mrs Sinclair Lewis N Y

Professor E C Lindeman N C  
Judge Ben Lindsey Col  
Lawrence Litchfield MD Pa  
Owen R Lovejoy N Y  
Mr Robert M Lovett Ill  
Mrs Stanley McCormick N Y  
Profes or W McDougall Mass  
Mrs Wm A McGraw Mich  
Rabbi Louis L Mann Ill  
Dr Henry O Marcy Mass  
Mr James H Maurer Pa  
Adolf Meyer MD Md  
Abraham Myerson MD Mass  
James G Needham Ph D N Y  
Professor Wm F Ogburn N Y  
Raymond Pearl Ph D Md  
Professor Walter B Pitkin N Y  
Horatio M Pollack Ph D N Y

Mrs Enoch Raub Pa  
Aaron J Rosanoff MD Cal  
Mrs C C Rumsey N Y  
Mrs Homer St Gaudens N H  
Dr Elizabeth Severn N Y  
Mary Shaw N Y  
Reynold A Spaeth Ph D Md  
Mrs Willard Struight N Y  
Mrs Charles Tiffany N Y  
Mrs Shelley Tolhurst Cal  
Florence Guertin Tuttle N Y  
Rev Stuart L Tyson N J  
Mrs Norman de R Whitehouse N Y  
Prof Walter F Wilcox N Y  
Miss Mary Winsor Pa  
Professor A B Wolfe Ohio  
Mrs Pope Yeatman Pa

*LEAGUE BRANCHES*

ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PA *Vice-President* Mrs G Oakley, Philadelphia  
READING *President* Rev L Griswold Williams, Reading, Pa  
OHIO—CINCINNATI *President* Dr Ralph Reed, Indianapolis  
INDIANA *President* Dr Amelia R Kellar, Indianapolis  
WAYNE COUNTY *President* Mrs W F Spangler, Richmond, Ind  
MICHIGAN *President*, Mrs William A McGraw, Detroit  
MASSACHUSETTS *Temporary Chairman* Mrs W F Cannon Cambridge  
CONNECTICUT *President* Mrs George H Day, Sr, Hartford  
COLORADO *Secretary* Ruth Vincent, Denver, Col  
BRITISH COLUMBIA *President* Mr A M Stephen, Vancouver

*MIDDLE WESTERN STATES COMMITTEE*

*Chairman* Dr John Favill, Chicago, Ill  
*Secretary* Mrs Walter L. Benson, Winetka, Ill  
NEW YORK STATE, LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE  
NEW YORK CITY *Chairman* Mrs Richard Billings  
SYRACUSE *Chairman* Mrs O H Cobb  
SCHENECTADY *Chairman* Rev Philip Frick  
ROCHESTER *Chairman* Mrs Thomas J Swanton  
BUFFALO *Chairman* Mrs S Merrill Clement, Jr  
KEW GARDENS *Chairman* Mrs J Bishop Vandever  
SMITHTOWN *Chairman* Mrs Frank M Leavitt  
CEDARHURST *Chairman* Mrs John Scott Browning, Jr

## BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW

104 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK, N Y

VOL VIII

JUNE, 1924

No 6

### CONTENTS

THE WORLD WE LIVE IN	163	Acute Cases in Moral Medicine by E F Burke— Dorothy Bocker MD	178
Judge Fisher's Opinion—The Bobbed Haired Bandit Two Kinds of Parent—A Pernicious Tradition—Standards for Fair it		Studies in Evolution and Eugenics by S J Holmes— Leon J Cole	179
<b>Birth Control and Public Policy</b>	165	Chinese Migrations by Ia Chan	180
The Judicial Opinion of Judge H M Fisher in the Chicago Birth Control Clinic Case		PERIODICALS	180
<b>CHILD LABOR AND BIRTH CONTROL, by Gertrude Webb</b>	169	THE BOBBED HAIRED BANDIT	181
Will Child Labor legislation by checking exploitation of children cause demand for Birth Control		BOOKS RECEIVED	181
<b>THE CRUX OF MALTHUSIANISM, by Knut Wicksel</b>	171	MARGARET SANGER'S OWN CORNER	181
A Swedish Professor shows the need for Birth Control		FIFTH PICTORIAL REVIEW AWARD	182
<b>WAR AND BIRTH CONTROL by Rev D H Edwards</b>	173	VIRGINIA ANTI-BIRTH CONTROL BILL—A Protest	182
FAMILY MARRIAGE AND BIRTH CONTROL by M R Samey	173	NEWS NOTES—New York	183
An Indian view of Birth Control		New Jersey	184
<b>WHY DON'T YOU HAVE CHILDREN by Alice Mary Kim</b>	175	Pennsylvania—Virginia	185
ball (poem)		National—England	186
<b>AN OLD SONG RE SUNG by Elma Ehrlich Levinger (poem)</b>	175	France—Germany	187
<b>Tuberculosis and Birth Control</b>	176	Denmark—Russia—Japan	188
Letters from Mothers who are entitled to relief		OUR CORRESPONDENTS COLUMN	189
<b>BOOK REVIEWS</b>		An warning Mr D Mackenzie and Mr W F Pearce	189
His Religion and Hers by Charlotte Perkins Gilman— William Pepperell Montague	179	THE INTERNATIONAL BIRTH CONTROL CONFERENCE	189
		LESS CLIPPINGS	190
		Sixteen Children—Two Taken Out Birth Control Upheld	

Published by THE AMERICAN BIRTH CONTROL LEAGUE, INC

Monthly on the first of each month



Subscription price, \$2 00 a year

Entered as Second Class Matter March 11 1918 at the post office at New York N Y under the Act of March 3 1879

# *The* BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE AMERICAN BIRTH CONTROL LEAGUE

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

MARGARET SANGER, *Editor*      ANNIE G. PORRITT, *Managing Editor*

---

VOL. VIII

JUNE, 1924

No. 6

---

## The World We Live In

JUDGE FISHER'S opinion, delivered in the Chicago Birth Control case, has more than a legal interest. In fact there was no law involved, as the Statute Book of Illinois contains no mention of Birth Control. The license for such a clinic, which had been asked for by a group of the Illinois Birth Control League, was refused not on legal grounds, but because the Health Commissioner took it upon himself to decide that Birth Control was against Public Welfare. In asking for a mandamus to force the granting of the license, arguments were used to prove that Birth Control was not against the interests of the people, but was, on the contrary, highly conducive to the welfare of the city and of the nation. Judge Fisher accepted these arguments, and, in his opinion, he summarizes them and emphasizes those he considers of most importance.

The Opinion was rendered on November 23, and it was then open to the advocates of Birth Control to proceed with their plans. Unfortunately the opponents of Birth Control threatened to appeal the case, and it seemed best to the group promoting the clinic to wait until the case was finally settled before actually opening its doors. This gave time for the formation of an opposing group, and the beneficial effect of Judge Fisher's pronouncement was weakened by delay in acting upon it. If the clinic had been opened just as soon as the license could be secured—under the mandamus granted by Judge Fisher—the Birth Controllers would have been in possession of the citadel, and in the best position to resist any further attack. We strongly hope that there will be no further delay in establishing this beneficent institution. Such delay gives opportunity to the Roman Catholic opposition to work for the passage of a law against Birth Control Clinics. We urge the Chicago group to proceed at once to the opening of the clinic.

THE *New York World* performed a great and valuable public service when it pointed out, on May 8th, the real lesson of the "Bobbed-Haired Bandit" case. The editorial, which we reproduce in full, showed up Cecilia Cooney not as a heroine but as the victim of the neglect of her heartless mother and father and of an order of society which encourages unfit parentage. Cecilia was the youngest of eight children, and long before her birth there had been ample opportunity for the social agencies, the courts and the municipal charities to realize that it was a crime against humanity and society for such parents to bring more children into existence. Yet far from impressing this upon Cecilia's father and mother, or from making it physically impossible by segregation or sterilization for them to continue to reproduce their worthless selves, the social (or is it anti-social) agencies merely relieved them of the care of their children and turned them loose to add some more to the burden on society. Cecilia for the present is unable to do further harm. It would be interesting, however, to trace the doings of the rest of the family and their descendants, and to know whether the Great City of New York, with all its store of modern knowledge, is preparing for our descendants another Jukes or Kilkirk family.

THE parents described by Gertrude Webb in the article on Child Labor and Birth Control which we print this month are not the parents who appeal for Birth Control information. The fathers and mothers with whom the American Birth Control League comes into contact are anxious for the best welfare of their children. They may have been obliged to send the youngsters to work because otherwise they could not maintain the family. But it is with pity and regret that they see their children compelled to leave school and to go to work to earn

money Much of the demand for Birth Control springs from the desire of fathers and mothers to care properly for the children they have already brought into the world They want to give them a good education and to secure for them a fair opportunity in life This they cannot do, if there are too many children in the family, and it is most reluctantly and with sad hearts that they see themselves obliged to send their boys and girls to work to help to maintain their too large families

**I**T may be that there are such parents as those described by Miss Webb She has been an active social worker and she writes from her own experience Perhaps she has been especially unfortunate in this experience On this point we should like to have the opinion of our readers We should like to know what other social workers have to report Is it true that there are many parents in this great and wealthy country who are willing to raise large families for the sake of the gain that accrues from the work of the children, who look upon the children as a means of support for themselves, without regard to the welfare and happiness of the growing boys and girls? We asked this question of Owen Lovejoy, General Secretary of the National Child Labor Committee His answer was as follows

It seems to me the author is rather harsh on parents, for while there may be some of this class, I seriously doubt whether there are any considerable number who contemplate the earning value of their children at the time their children are born, or before

To this criticism Miss Webb replied

I did not intend to give the impression that parents actually and consciously calculated the value of children before they were born But I do believe that those parents who accept with indifference or with eagerness the idea of child labor encourage a frame of mind, which accepts a large family as a source of gain to themselves rather than as a responsibility

What is the opinion of our readers on this question?

**A** PERNICIOUS tradition and one which was used to prejudice popular opinion against both Eugenics and Birth Control, disappears with recent investigations of the genealogy of Abraham Lincoln The old idea was that Lincoln came of a poor, shiftless, worthless father, and that he was a rare flower which in some mysterious way had blossomed on a weed The newer knowledge, for much of which we have to thank Ida

Tarbell, shows that on the contrary Lincoln came of fine, hardy stock In fact, his family history cannot possibly be used as an argument in favor of large and unlimited families His father was one of five children—a very moderate family for those days He himself was the second of three children, his only brother dying in infancy His own family consisted of three sons, of whom one died at eleven years of age, and another at eighteen Robert Lincoln, the sole survivor, has an honorable record in United States history which is known to all The question, so often asked as to whether Birth Control would deprive us of our great leaders, receives no support from the instance of Abraham Lincoln His parents worked hard, and were in no way undesirable There would have been no reason for prevention in his case Poverty and struggle, especially in a new country, are not necessarily evil, if parents can feed, clothe and house their children, and bring them up with high ideals and an eager hunger for knowledge and education—all of which his parents did for Abraham Lincoln, in addition to giving him a rich heritage, spiritual, moral, intellectual and physical

**B**IRTH CONTROL would have to be applied drastically indeed if society demanded for natural parentage a standard as high as is now demanded for foster parentage The demand for suitable children for adoption—alas, most children that need homes are adjudged “unsuitable” on account of poor health or heredity—is greater than the supply Many institutions, from which such children are drawn, have waiting lists of people, with comfortable homes, who desire to adopt a child Consequently exacting rules are laid down before the would-be foster parents are accepted The parents must come up to certain standards as to their financial and moral status They are required to state how much money they are prepared to spend on the education and upbringing of the child They are asked what kind of an education they propose to give to it In fact they are presented with a questionnaire that requires many intimate details, and that must be filled out to the satisfaction of the institution before the child is handed over But why should an adopted child have so much better a chance than natural offspring? Why permit, and almost compel parentage for men and women who could not fulfill a single one of the requirements which form the minimum for adoption? The child equally deserves protection, whether its parents be the chance father and mother of our present system, or the carefully chosen foster parents which the new standards of social work now demand

# Birth Control and Public Policy

*Judicial Opinion of Judge Harry M. Fisher*

IN August, 1923, the Illinois Birth Control League made an application to the Mayor of Chicago for a license to open a Birth Control clinic in the city. The request was referred to Dr. Harman N. Bundesen, Commissioner of Health, who declared himself opposed to Birth Control and resisted the granting of a license on the ground of Public Welfare. Strengthened by a favorable opinion from Mr. Frank M. Pudden, Assistant Corporation Counsel, who stated that there was no law in Illinois to prevent the maintenance of such a clinic, the League applied to the Courts for a mandamus. The case came before Judge Harry M. Fisher of the Circuit Court of Cook County, and the decision was rendered on November 23rd.

Judge Fisher's opinion was reprinted by the Illinois Birth Control League in pamphlet form and it is through the courtesy of this League that we reproduce it here. It marks another onward step in the Birth Control movement, for it sets a judicial seal of approval on several of the chief arguments of the advocates of this great reform.

## THE OPINION

*The People of the State of Illinois*  
ex rel *Helen G. Carpenter,*

VERSUS

*William E. Dever, Mayor, and Herman N. Bundesen, Commissioner of Health, of the City of Chicago*

The petitioner in this case prays for the issuance of a writ of mandamus against the Mayor and the Commissioner of Health of the City of Chicago, to compel them to grant a license, under the provisions of the City Ordinance, for the maintenance of a clinic to be known as "Parents' Clinic."

The petition sets forth *in haec verba* the application made by petitioner for a license, correspondence between petitioner and defendants, and their refusal to issue the license. In the application the nature and kind of treatment to be given to patients in the proposed clinic is stated to consist of "approved methods of contraception and advice consistent with family welfare in each case."

The location for such a clinic is alleged to have been selected at 1347 North Lincoln Street, in the city of Chicago, and a named physician, whose qualifications are not questioned by the respondents, is to be in charge.

A demurrer to the petition was filed and on argument the only question raised was the sufficiency of the application. The demurrer was overruled, and, by leave of Court, an answer was filed. The answer raises various

questions of law, which were disposed of by the Court's ruling on the demurrer and counsel for both parties agreed that such matters be treated as surplusage and that the case should proceed to trial on the only issues of fact tendered by the answer, namely (1) That there are no approved methods of contraception, (2) That the practice of contraception is injurious to health.

A trial by jury was waived and the cause submitted to the Court.

## The Witnesses

A number of eminent physicians testified on behalf of petitioner, to the effect that there were generally accepted and approved methods of contraception, that two specific devices, which they named, were reasonably reliable and generally approved by the profession, that their use was not injurious to health, and that contraception was a medical as well as a sociological problem. The physician to be in charge of the proposed clinic testified that only married women whose physical, mental, or economic conditions required it, would be given advice and treatment there, that no effort, by advertisement or otherwise, would be made to attract patients, and that, in the main, treatment and advice would be given to persons referred by physicians and social agencies. Only one witness took the stand on behalf of respondents. He testified that he is a physician in the employ of the City, that he specializes in neurological diseases, and has in the past engaged in general practice of medicine. On direct examination, he testified that the methods of contraception referred to by petitioner's witnesses were injurious to the health of the users, but on cross examination, he admitted that they were not injurious per se but only when improperly applied, that improper use of contraceptive devices was generally due to advice promiscuously received from laymen, that proper medical advice would minimize the injurious effects, not only by discouraging the use of admittedly harmful devices, but also by removing the dangers incident to improper use of instruments not otherwise harmful.

This same witness testified that many cases present themselves in which, from a purely medical viewpoint, contraception is decidedly indicated, that, in such cases, medical examinations are necessary, and often surgical operations are advisable to effect sterility.

## The Testimony Analyzed

From a consideration of the foregoing testimony, it was difficult for the Court to follow the reasoning of the learned counsel for respondents on an issue raised by his argument, namely that the service proposed to be rendered by the Parents' Clinic did not constitute medical

*treatment or advice* such as is contemplated by the ordinances regulating clinics, therefore, it would not be a clinic within the meaning of the ordinance, and if the things proposed to be done there were otherwise lawful, no license was necessary. He supported this argument by the rather surprising assertion that contraceptive methods were now so universally known to laymen that advice as to their use no longer constitutes medical or expert advice.

No more complete answer to this broad statement can be made than is to be found in the testimony of his own expert, above recited. The further argument, that contraception is a sociological question, if true, does not make it less a medical one.

From all the evidence adduced, the Court is forced to the conclusion that the establishment of a public place where medical treatment and advice is given comes within the definition of a *clinic* under the ordinances of the City of Chicago, and that it may not be operated without license. The Court is equally satisfied, from the evidence, that there are generally approved methods of contraception which are not injurious to health when applied under proper medical instruction and guidance, such as is proposed to be given in the clinic in question, if permitted to be established, and that if legally permissible, the establishment of a clinic for the examination and the giving of advice to mothers, properly in need of it, would be distinctly in the interest of public health.

### Why the License was Refused

Having decided all questions of fact raised by the pleadings and argument (on what the Court regards as undisputed testimony) in favor of petitioner, the proper question for the Court now to determine is whether or not there is any reason in law why no license should issue.

The standing and character of the people who propose to establish this clinic, and the qualification of the physician to be in charge of it, are not questioned.

In a letter of the Health Commissioner, addressed to the petitioner, which is set forth verbatim in the petition, the refusal of the license is based upon a number of technical objections to the application (which have been disposed of adversely to the respondents by the Court's ruling on the demurrer) and upon the additional ground, that "the purpose for which it is desired to establish the clinic is against public policy, tends to corrupt morals, and is unlawful." In support of that, the Commissioner makes reference to Section 211 of the Penal Laws of the United States, which declares as non-mailable any article which may be used for the prevention of conception or any written matter in connection therewith, and, also, to Sections 2672 and 2673 of the Chicago City Code of 1922, which prohibit the dissemination of information on contraceptive methods, by hand bills, circulars, newspapers, or other publications, and points to these enactments as expressions of a public policy. He also cites

biblical passages, which he interprets as divine commandments for unlimited procreation.

Under our system of government, courts cannot be called upon to judicially interpret the Bible or to lend or withhold their processes to enforce biblical injunctions. However much the courts may respect religious doctrines, they must look to the law of the land alone for guidance in their judicial action, leaving the enforcement of purely theological principles to the power of moral persuasion of the ministers of the church. The Court is, therefore, spared the necessity of interpreting the biblical quotations relied upon by the Health Commissioner.

### The Law Does Not Forbid

As to the provisions of the federal statutes and the city ordinances, above mentioned, it is clear that the only matters they seek to repress are promiscuous distribution of written information of birth-preventive methods. If the legislative bodies desired to do more, they would, without doubt, have incorporated their prohibitions in direct language in these statutes and ordinances. Surely, it is not possible to read in these enactments an intent to prohibit oral advice or scientific treatment by competent medical authorities. It is as reasonable to believe that these provisions were prompted by a desire to safeguard health by making it necessary to seek information on the subject from competent sources, as by a desire to prevent the spread of contraception. If the latter were the prime motive, literature advocating contraception would be repressed. As it is, only such as describe the methods are prohibited.

It is past dispute that there is no law specifically prohibiting oral instruction on birth-preventive methods or medical aid in applying mechanical devices to accomplish the desired results. But it is argued for respondents that the purpose of petitioner, in establishing the clinic in question, is not so much with a view to giving medical advice or treatment to married people standing in need of it, but, generally, to advocate the claimed social value of what is now commonly termed "birth control."

### An Unsupported Contention

Nothing in the petition filed in this case, in the application for a license addressed to the Health Commissioner, in the correspondence between the petitioner and the defendants, and nothing which appeared in all the evidence before me, gives the slightest justification for this contention on the part of the learned corporation counsel. But, even if that was admittedly the motive prompting the petitioner's action, still the Court is at a loss to see how that should defeat her right to have the relief prayed for, if, otherwise, she is in law entitled to it. Counsel for respondents does not contend that the advocacy of birth control, whether done orally or in writing, if methods are not published, is prohibited either by law or by any principle of public policy. Like any other social problem, its value to society may be freely advo-

cated by its proponents within or without a clinic. It may be done in the privacy of a home or an office, from the public forum, by discussion in the press, or by any other method of conveying thought. Those who believe birth control a public benefit may as freely advocate it as those who, on moral or religious grounds, may point to it as a public menace. Both sides to the controversy have perfect liberty to place their views openly before the public. Whatever question of right there may be involved does not go to the advocacy of the theory of birth control as a social benefit, but to the giving of information as to the methods to be employed to effect control. The only real question to be decided is *whether or not the applying of contraceptive devices or giving instructions on methods to be used by married people whose circumstances in life make limited families advisable, is contrary to public policy*.

### Public Policy in the Courts

Public policy is, in its nature, so uncertain and fluctuating, varying with the habits, fashions, and mode of thought of the day, that it is difficult to determine its limits with any degree of exactness.

In *Story on Contracts*, § 546, it is said

It [the expression *public policy*] has never been defined by the courts, but has been left loose and free of definition in the same manner as *fraud*. This rule may, however, be safely laid down, that wherever any contract conflicts with the morals of the time and contravenes any established interest of society, it is against public policy.

*Spence vs Harvey*, 22 Cal 340

*Pueblo & A V R Co vs Taylor*, 6 Colo 1

*McNamara vs Garrett*, 68 Mich 454

*Bouvier's Law Dictionary*, Vol III, page 2765, gives this definition

Public policy. That principle of law which holds that no subject can lawfully do that which has a tendency to be injurious to the public or against the public good. "It is a variable quantity, it must and does vary with the habits, capacities and opportunities of the public" it is manifested by public acts, legislative and judicial, and not by private opinion, however eminent.

### More Precedents

In *Wakefield vs Van Tassell* 202 Ill 41, our Supreme Court says

It has been well said that public policy is a variable quality, but that it is only variable in so far as the habits, capacities and opportunities of the public have become more varied and complex, and that the principles to be applied have always remained unchanged and unchangeable. "The relations of society become, from time to time, more complex. Statutes defining public and private rights multiply rapidly, and public policy often changes as the laws change and therefore new applications of old principles are

required" (*Darius vs Darius* 1 R 36 (h D'n 364)

It is not the interest of the parties alone which is to be considered the true test, but in each particular case, under the facts, the judicial inquiry is, will the enforcement of the condition be inimical to the public interests. And on page 47, in the same opinion, the Court quotes with approval the following from *People vs Chicago Gas Trust*, 130 Ill 268

Public policy is that principle of law which holds that no subject or citizen can lawfully do that which has a tendency to be injurious to the public or against the public good.

But what the public policy to be applied to a given case is is not to be arbitrarily determined by the personal views of the judge. What might appear to one as being against public policy, would to another be excellent public policy. Before an act is condemned as against public policy, the principle justifying such condemnation must be found in the Constitution, statutory law, or judicial pronouncement in conformity with the common law.

*People vs Hawkins*, 157 N Y 1

*Hollis vs Drew Theological Seminary* 95 N Y 166

*Cross vs U S T Co* 131 N Y 343

*Dammert vs Osborn* 140 N Y 40

*Hartford Fire Ins Co vs C M & St P R R*, 70 Fed 201

*U S vs Trans-Missouri F R*, 58 Fed 58

*Swann vs Swann* 21 Fed 299

*Vidal vs Girard's Ex'rs*, 43 U S (2 How) 127

### Power Must Not be Stretched

It is, therefore, a safe rule for the guidance of courts to refrain from applying the power to declare an act contrary to public policy, in the absence of legislative enactment, unless precedent is found in former judicial decisions of respectable authority. As was said by the court in *Hollis vs Drew Theological Seminary*, *supra* "It should be exercised only in clear cases and generally within limits already defined by decisions of acknowledged authority based upon rules of the common law."

I do not mean to be understood that acts heretofore unknown, which the legislature has not foreseen and prohibited, or upon which the courts have not had occasion to pronounce judgment, may not be so clearly a violation of public morality or injurious to public interest that the courts would pronounce them as being contrary to public policy, but the courts should certainly refrain from declaring a thing immoral and in violation of a policy of the State where reasonable minds differ as to its morality or immorality, or as to its public benefit or detriment. Particularly is this true of acts which a large and respectable portion of the community regard not only as moral and proper but as a decided benefit to society. Such acts, if they are to be prohibited at all, should be prohibited by legislative action and not by judicial interpretations.

The question of birth control, though, as a matter of public and open discussion it is of very recent origin has

occupied the minds of eminent scientists and profound students in every land of the universe. Its most enthusiastic advocates see in it the salvation of the race. Many, whose public interest is keen and genuine, view with alarm the constant decrease of births to parents whose moral, physical, and material conditions of life are such as make them best fitted to raise families, and a corresponding multiplication of issue to parents who, through physical, moral, or economic handicaps, are the least fit to raise large families. The suffering endured by mothers, unable to prevent the coming of unwelcome children, is graphically described. The effect upon society of the continued increase of this type of children is said to be most threatening. Unfortunately, but for the feeble efforts made by the public schools, society does little to change the condition of its children from that which is predetermined for them by the condition of their parents. Those who are born with sound and healthy bodies and minds are often condemned to lives of stunted development by the moral or economic position of their parents. The child of the drunkard, the immoral woman, the gambler, the user of narcotics, or general antisocial individual is, with rare exceptions, compelled by law to grow up under the influence of such a parent. Still we demand of such a child the same degree of obedience to law, loyalty and devotion to the ideals of our Nation, as we expect of the child born to parents to whom nature has been much more kind.

### Is Ignorance Better Than Knowledge?

It is universally admitted that ignorance of contraceptive methods prevails mostly there where smaller rather than large families should be most desired. The sad fact is pointed to also, that for want of knowledge of preventive means, criminal abortions are resorted to in astonishingly large numbers of instances, with resulting deterioration of the health of the mothers and even death.

On the other hand, it is earnestly contended on behalf of respondents, that knowledge of methods of contraception would remove, to a great extent, the only restraining influence against sex immorality, on the part of unmarried women. The fear of resulting pregnancy is said to be a great deterrent to immorality. I fear that argument proceeds from an assumption that there are circumstances where ignorance more than knowledge can be relied on to bring greater good. That cannot be true. In fact, so far as this case is concerned, the logic of this position is destroyed by the very argument of counsel for respondent. He boldly declares that methods of contraception are so generally known that medical advice is no longer necessary on the subject. In this statement he is supported by his witness. If this be true no added harm can come to the cause of sex morality by scientific supervision and control. In fact, if petitioner's position is accepted, it would serve the cause of morality. She would have the world know that contraceptive methods are unreliable and injurious to health, except when used under proper

medical advice, and that such advice should be given only to married people standing in need of it.

### Morality Not Based on Ignorance

I am loath to subscribe, however, to the proposition that knowledge of birth-preventive methods would materially lessen morality among our young women. If true, it would be sad to contemplate the weakness of our moral sense, of the influence of home environment, and of our moral and spiritual teachers, the clergy included.

The young woman who refrains from sex impropriety, simply because she fears pregnancy, will seek and obtain information on the subject sufficient to allay her fears. On the other hand, the girl in whose consciousness is deeply imbedded a respect for morality, will neither seek the information nor yield her principles upon obtaining it. Morality, in a healthy state of society, must depend upon the acceptance of it as a principle of life, and not upon fear and ignorance.

### A Praiseworthy Desire

The desire to establish the clinic in question is an earnest one. The men and women supporting it sincerely believe that they are rendering a great public service. They believe that the application of modern science to the saving of lives in being, and those who are to come as a result of the natural instinct for motherhood, will keep mankind as numerous as it would be had the normal processes of nature with its child mortality and devastating epidemics not been interfered with by science. They urge that, at least until some means can be found of compensating parents by removing the economic difficulties that each new child adds to the poor, none have the right to compel new births where they are not welcome and the added burden is feared.

By offering the opportunity of obtaining knowledge on contraceptive methods the use of them is left entirely to the wishes of the patients. The mother who, by natural instinct or through religious devotion, desires a large family, cannot be affected by this information, but the mother whose physical or economic condition makes child-bearing dangerous or difficult, is only doomed to suffering by lack of it.

At least in the light of the honest difference of opinion on this subject, courts should not by judicial pronouncement, without legislation, condemn such an earnest movement as immoral and against public policy.

The prayer of petitioner will be granted and the writ of mandamus is ordered to issue as prayed for.

*Healthy infancy and childhood for most children are only practicable if the mother's health is satisfactory. The domestic life of a woman is as dangerous as the industrial life of the husband.* —SIR ARTHUR NEWSHOLME, Late Principal Medical Officer of the Local Government Board, England, and Lecturer on Public Health at Johns Hopkins.



# Child Labor and Birth Control

By GERTRUDE WEBB

**T**HE demand for Birth Control will undoubtedly be very greatly quickened by the passage of the Child Labor Amendment now before Congress, and the enactment of advanced and stringent Federal Child Labor laws. Such laws will act as a check on what, I believe, is the mainspring of most of the desire still existing for large families. There are in this country, unfortunately, parents—mothers as well as fathers—who look upon their children as a source of income and support. In such families, every new arrival is welcomed as an additional asset, and as soon as the baby fingers can be directed, the children are called upon to help with home work.

These families do not desire Birth Control, for the more children they have, the sooner the father can give up his daily toil, and sit back in idleness while his children support him, or the sooner the bank account will assume the proportions necessary to allow him to return to his native country, sometimes leaving behind him, as damaged goods, the children who helped him to earn the money. In very many cases of child labor, it is safe to say that it is not the heartless employer who drives the children to work, but the parents.

## Testimony Against Parents

This state of things was clearly revealed in the scandals concerning Child Labor recently brought to light in New Jersey and New York. The *New York Tribune* for January 11, 1924, reported a hearing held the previous day before the New York State Welfare Commission, sitting at the City Hall, New York, to hear arguments concerning the need for more legislation for the protection of children. It was then testified that babies, as young as two or three years old, were made to work in home industries, and that many children below the legal age of employment worked long hours in these industries before and after school. The witnesses, who included visiting teachers and members of the National Child Labor Committee, testified that the reason for the employment of young children was in most cases the greed of the parents, rather than actual necessity.

Similar evidence was given by Mrs. Florence Kelley of the National Consumers' League. She asserted that all that was said about the question being a choice between sweated home work and starvation was "pure sob stuff." The work of the babies did not support anybody. The earnings of these little children were so small that they did not

compensate for the extra sickness in the family. But all that the parents were able to perceive, was the actual money—however small—that was received for the work.

## Responsibility of Employers

Employers and mill owners are usually held responsible for the presence of children in the factories. In some cases this is probably true, but even for these child-laborers the parents are frequently to blame. Employers would often prefer to dispense with all children under sixteen, for they know that young children are poor workers. This attitude of the mill men of Massachusetts and Rhode Island was described by Harold Cary in his articles on Child Labor in *Collier's*, *The National Weekly*. Mr. Cary interviewed mill presidents and men interested in the cotton industry in Fall River. He was told that the employers did not particularly want children in the mills, but that the parents wanted them to work, and that barring the children out of the factories would cause trouble and might precipitate strikes.

One of the witnesses against the parents was Mr. Richard K. Hawes, counsel for the Cotton Manufacturers' Association and member of the Fall River School Board. He disapproved of the presence of children under sixteen in the factories. He wanted them in the schools and he desired better school facilities to take care of them. But the parents took them out of school at the earliest moment that the law permitted, and sent them into the factories.

## Social Workers on the Stand

A similar verdict was rendered by the social workers of the city. "Most of the parents regard the children as assets to be used," said one of these workers, as quoted by Mr. Cary. "That you know is the case with some of the farmers in this country, and it is the case with many of the mill employees or, at least, with enough of them to give us this child labor situation. They judge their children by how regularly they turn over the pay roll into the family purse. 'Johnny, he good boy, bring home envelope always,' the mother says, although the case where the family is actually needy and where there is even that kind of reason for the work of the child, is very rare indeed in this town."

Most of the parents who thus exploit their children, are of foreign birth. But the child laborers grow up American citizens—largely illiterate, dull in mind from early toil and enfeebled in body, often

victims of tuberculosis, and very often either as dependents or delinquents, imposing charges on society in revenge for the burden laid upon their baby shoulders

I am not here primarily concerned with the evils of Child Labor. These are now generally conceded, and much will be heard of them from Child Welfare organizations during the campaign which will follow the passage of the pending Child Labor Amendment to the United States Constitution, when this amendment is submitted to the Legislatures of the States for ratification. My present concern is to point out the kind of parents in this country who still desire large families, and to contrast these parents with those who are practising or demanding Birth Control.

### A Contrast in Parents

On the one hand we have fathers and mothers who care nothing for the future of their children, or for their welfare and happiness during their childish years. They are indifferent that they grow up over-worked, puny and miserable, illiterate, prematurely worn out with labor, unable to take their places in American life and citizenship, probably victims of disease, and, even more probably, inmates during some part of their lives of hospitals, sanatoria, almshouses, reformatories or penitentiaries. Such is the attitude of a large proportion of the parents who are still obeying the precepts of some of the churches, who are keeping the moral law laid down by these ecclesiastical authorities, and who are increasing and multiplying without a thought for the welfare of their children.

On the other hand are the parents who place first the good of their children, for whose coming they feel their full responsibility. They are deeply convinced that it is morally wrong to have children unless they are able to give them adequate care, housing, food, clothing, education and opportunity to make good in the world, to be good citizens, and in their turn good fathers and mothers. The vast majority of men and women in all the countries of the world are not in a position to do this for unlimited numbers of children, and as the sense of responsibility towards one's offspring becomes keener, so the demand for Birth Control becomes more insistent.

### Fruits of Birth Control

A policy may be judged by its fruits—"Do men gather grapes of thorns or figs of thistles?" So judged, how can there be a moment's hesitation as to whether Birth Control, with a few well-cared for boys and girls, or the policy of increase and multiply, with a miserable flock of over-worked children, is the moral, the humane, the truly civilized

basis of living? Much stress has been laid on the high character of the individuals and classes who practise Birth Control, on the fact that it is here we find the clergy, the university and college professors, the doctors and lawyers and all the most honored and respected members of society. Stress can also be laid on the fact that it is among the parents of unlimited families that we find the exploiters of child labor, the selfish men and women who use their children only for their sordid personal gain.

In time, perhaps, such parents could be taught how evil and unprofitable it is to use their children only as so many little hands for earning paltry sums of money. But such a process of civilization and moralization is slow and uncertain, and in the meantime little children are suffering and perishing. The law is a stern, and for many people, the only effective schoolmaster. These parents must learn through legal restrictions that the nation will not permit the exploitation of its children. They must learn that children are an expense, a liability, a grave responsibility and not a source of profit. Then they will discover that they need Birth Control. There will be a new demand from them—a demand for means to prevent the coming of children, since they are no longer permitted to exploit them.

### A Happier Future

It would be a cause of rejoicing to every thoughtful and sympathetic social worker that such parents should not have children. Who would wish to condemn a precious little baby to the unkind fate of being born to unloving, harsh and exacting parents, who care for it only for the profit it can bring to them? Society will gain, for the children of these parents do not add to the wealth of the nation—they are social burdens and not assets, and it would take a very warped judgment to assert that the cause of morality would suffer by the curtailment of such families. Can any one uphold as highly moral such parents as deliberately desire large families, in order to exploit the children for gain as soon as the baby fingers can string a bead or pull a petal for an artificial flower? The world will be more moral and far happier when these parents, finding themselves closely restricted in regard to the use they make of their children, are driven to the use of Birth Control to limit the number of their offspring.

---

*Mann laws and divorce laws, houses of refuge for girls and institutions for dangerous boys are manifestations of disease in the social order that wise people are trying to correct in a measure by enforcing laws providing for the sterilization of morons, for eugenics, and birth-control —*  
GERTRUDE ATHERTON

# The Crux of Malthusianism

By PROFESSOR KNUT WICKSELL (Sweden)

*A Paper Read at the Fifth International Birth Control Conference*

**T**HERE has always been some uncertainty about the real meaning of the Malthusian doctrine, and this, no doubt, depends upon some faults in the doctrine itself, grand and all-important as it may be in the general effect.

In the first edition of Malthus' book—by the way, quite another work than the later editions, and one that in several respects well deserves to be reprinted—there is no uncertainty whatever. Its contents can be given, as it were, in a single syllogism. Malthus said "If a people were to live under happy circumstances it would double the number of its population at least every twenty-fifth year. Now a people cannot double its number every twenty-fifth year, or anything like. Consequently no people can ever be happy, the great mass of it, and under a system of equality the whole of it must needs be wretched." In the last two chapters he then tries to console us for this rather gloomy view, saying that people really have no business to be happy on earth, but only to prepare themselves for the future state.

In the following editions, Malthus, as everybody knows, tried to mitigate those terrible conclusions of his in pointing to the possibility of a moral restraint—late marriage and chastity in the single state—as a way of checking population without misery or vice. But the amelioration was not a very essential one, because Malthus himself did not believe much in the effectiveness of that moral restraint.

## Malthus and Arthur Young

In his polemic with Mr. Arthur Young, in 1806, printed in the Appendix of his *Principle*, he has in this respect some utterances which should not be forgotten.

"Mr. Young," he says, "has asserted that I have made perfect chastity in the single state absolutely necessary to the success of my plan, but this is surely a misrepresentation. I have said what I conceive to be strictly true, that it is our duty to defer marriage till we can feed our children, and that it is also our duty not to indulge ourselves in vicious gratifications, but I have never said that I expected either, much less both, of these duties to be completely fulfilled. In this, as a number of other cases, it may happen that the violation of one of two duties will enable a man to perform the other with greater facility, but if they really be both duties and both practical, no power on earth can ab-

solve a man from the guilt of violating either. This can only be done by that God who can weigh the crime against the temptation, and will temper justice with mercy. Whatever I may have said, in drawing a picture *professedly* visionary for the sake of illustration, in the practical application of my principles I have taken man as he is with all his imperfections on his head."

The difference in the results seems, therefore, not to be very essential, in practice the alternative would be very much the same: misery or vice.

It would be easy, of course, to drive those reflections of Malthus into absurdity. If indeed, God, according to Malthus, is likely to be rather indulgent towards unchastity in the single state, why should He be so very particular about the use of contraceptives in the matrimonial state? Even there the temptation is very great indeed. Why should not God in this case "weigh the crime against the temptation" and be willing to "temper justice with mercy"?

## Malthus a Hindrance

Of course it is preposterous to place a question of the greatest social bearing solely under the narrow aspect of ecclesiastical morals. If there were no other objection to a loose sexual life than the wrath of God, a *modus vivendi* might perhaps be got at. Unfortunately there are other consequences, the scourge of venereal disease, the unspeakable abjectness of the phenomena of prostitution and so forth. But on those things Malthus does not speak a word.

To my mind this half-heartedness of Malthus has been the great hindrance to the success of his doctrine. At any rate for the next three-quarters of a century the practical application of his teachings almost totally failed, except perhaps in France, not because of people being ignorant of what he had said but because they did not care for it. And when the propaganda of the Malthusian League took up the doctrine on more rational lines, almost another half century had to be spent in order to convince people of the rather obvious truth that late marriage is not a blessing, and the use of contraceptives the only real way out of the dilemma.

During all this time another side of the Malthusian problem has been almost completely neglected, namely, the question not of the proper *way* of working out the limitation of numbers required, but the deciding of the proper *amount* of that limitation.

For a good many people, even among Malthusians, this latter question does not exist at all. They will say: If parents only limit the numbers of their children according to their power of supporting them, the proper amount of population will come of itself, but that is not always true. Circumstances may be such that it is comparatively easy for parents to breed and keep a rather great number of children, but when those children are grown up, there may eventually be a frightful state of over-population. For instance, in Sweden, the relative smallness of mortality amongst children seems to prove that most children with us are kept by their parents tolerably well, if, of course, in a very simple way of living. But nevertheless we have, for many decades, had a constant need of emigration, and if that is stopped, as in fact it was during the war, the consequence at once shows itself in a tremendous amount of unemployment.

### What is Over-Population?

On this point I am of a somewhat different opinion from the present Malthusian League and Dr Drysdale himself, although I may not quite have fathomed his arguments. They seem to believe that as long as there is a sufficient parallel between this decrease of mortality and the simultaneous decrease of natality everything is good and well, and nothing more is to be required. But this view seems to me to be somewhat superficial. The parallel in question cannot be but occasional, because there is no necessary connection between present mortality and present natality, or at any rate only a very small one.

I, therefore, think that we must attack the problem in a more direct way and ask ourselves, What would be under present circumstances or those of the near future the *best* amount of population? In other words, I would say that over-population exists as soon as the present number could be *diminished with advantage*, and from this point of view I venture to say that there is at present no country in Europe, even France not excepted, where the conditions of the people, as well in the moral as the material respect, would not be immensely ameliorated if its number were reduced to one-half. In regard to the Swedish population, I have tried to research this question in detail, and I came to the conclusion that we would be, in all respects, far better off if the present population of six million were going back to something like three and a half million. Then the extremely small lots of arable land available for the present farming population would be extended so as to give full occupation for each family of farmers. And one of the most important of our natural resources—our forests—which now are in a great danger of a rapid exhaus-

tion, would then raise themselves anew at the same speed at which they are hewn down by the axe. In respect of other countries, I have not been able to make any detailed research of that kind, but I really think that it would be possible to carry through the same demonstrations for them, I lean to the opinion so often uttered by the late Dr C. R. Drysdale that even the France of his time was "terribly over-populated."

### Stationary Population

Furthermore, looking at the statistics of the present time, for instance, in Sweden or in Germany, there seems to be a very great probability that the countries of Europe will, at no distant time, change their present continuous increase of population into a more or less stationary state, and then even go back in numbers. The poorer classes are in this, as in other things, sure to imitate sooner or later the social customs of the well-to-do classes. The figures of Berlin, for instance, taken before the war, did show, if I am not mistaken, a greater falling off of natality among the laboring population than among the well-to-do classes, and the well-known statistician Professor L. Bortkiewicz, of Berlin, predicted already in 1914 that the population of Germany would come in twenty-five years to what he expressed as the critical point, where deaths and births keep one another in equilibrium so that the German population from that date would become stationary just as the present French population. Of that space of time now only seventeen years remain, and the circumstances of the war have no doubt made the prediction still more probable. However, my opinion is, that the English population and that of my own country will still sooner have to come over to the stationary state.

In this, of course, there is nothing to frighten us, because the stationary state apparently is the only *normal* condition of any people, but the question is: Will that stationary state be got at in the *present* number of European populations, or will those populations at first have to go back from their present state? For my part, I believe the last, and I would exhort Malthusians, if things are coming to this, not to be frightened out of their positions by the general outcry which is sure to arise when in the future populations are actually going back. From what I have said before, it would follow that such an event by no means is necessarily to be regarded as a token of degeneration, but much more as a token of regeneration, and of the coming of a new and happier generation.

---

*Life is an end in itself, but it should not be allowed to increase until its quantity deteriorates its quality*

—S. J. HOLMES

# War and Birth Control

By REV D H EDWARDS, of Paterson, N J

IN ancient and medieval times, wars were conducted in the name of religion or for the honor of royalty. Modern wars are entirely due to the pressure of population. Germany, Great Britain and Japan have been forced to expand to make room for surplus human beings, they are an appropriate illustration of the "biological necessity" of war. Nature never intended the British Isles to feed and support fifty millions of human beings, nor the Japanese Empire to maintain almost seventy millions, and Imperialism is the logical result.

It is useless to attack or denounce Imperialism, while blindfolding ourselves to its cause. Nor will religion and education curb or prevent Imperialism, as long as the population of the earth increases at the present rate. Unless we can teach the race to control its fecundity, we labor for peace and human improvement in vain. I often preach upon the necessity of the Golden Rule toward the unborn, I have often said that the greatest sin of the race is not mentioned in the Decalogue, namely, blind fecundity, and the older I grow—I have just landed in the thirties—I am more and more amazed at the utter stupidity of politicians, clergymen, educators, etc., upon this vital problem. Civiliza-

tion seems to me to be organized to preserve, propagate and multiply the unfit, the unwelcome and unwanted, aided and abetted by Christianity. Where it is possible (and where it is not I leave it alone) I try to link the Gospel of Galilee with the Gospel of the Laboratory.

One of the most vivid illustrations of Peace and the absence of the pressure of population is at our doors, and I have not seen it mentioned anywhere. When we refer to the fortless, soldierless, boundary between the United States and Canada, we do so with a great measure of self-praise, as though the Heavens had endowed the Americans and the Canadians with a super-abundance of good-will. But what if the pressure of population were as acute on that border as it is on the European borders? Put two hundred millions on the Canadian side and three hundred millions on the United States side, and what would happen to our good will? It would be as rare as on the Franco-German border. Keep the cradles of the world a little less crowded, and progress and general improvement will take care of themselves.

With the purpose of your League and the work which it is attempting to do I am in hearty sympathy, and I wish you increasing success.

# Early Marriage and Birth Control\*

By M R SAMEY, M A, M D, D P H

(Ex-District Health Officer of Tippera)

AT the prompting of my friend Professor Gopalji Ahluwalia, founder of the Indian Birth Control Society, Delhi, I write this paper for the Fifth International neo-Malthusian and Birth Control Conference. I do not essay to be exhaustive or *ex cathedra* in this, but merely attempt to make heard the voice of the 315 odd millions of this sub-continent in the council of the world. It is always pleasant to get out of the meshes of parochial interest and, unhampered by racial considerations actuated by political expediency, to speak out and give a bit of our minds in the halls where is articulated a babel of thoughts and tongues.

It is coming to be recognized that the larger interests of humanity cannot be encircled by the ring fence of little national interests. Science has deserted the cloister and has set with a vengeance

out on excursion to the hearths of the million.

The efforts of the Malthusian League to bring home to the multitude the heavy responsibilities of unlimited parentage and place at their disposal preventative measures are indeed praiseworthy, especially in view of its being a thankless task.

Men are separated by their opinions. But Pascal has said they will never be strong enough to do without compassion. This sentiment of compassion is at the foundation of all great movements, and the Birth-Control Movement is one of magnificent magnitude.

Bacon says, "In youth wives are our mistresses, companions in middle age, and nurses when we get old, so that a man has always reasons in favor of matrimony." Hufeland considered that the married state is an indispensable requisite for the moral perfection of mankind. He contended that it prevents debilitating dissipation on the one hand, and cold and unnatural indifference on the other,

\* A Paper presented at the Fifth International Birth Control Conference in London in 1922

that it moderates and regulates enjoyment, whilst it promotes domestic joy, which is the purest, the most uniform and the least wasting of any, the best suited to physical as well as moral health. Statistics show that married people live longer than single. There is no doubt that bachelors take less care of their health than married men, having no partner in life to keep, so to speak, a strict eye upon them. They also, generally speaking, have no one with whom they can share their trials and sorrows, so making the burden of them greater to bear.

### Matrimony Inevitable

No less a philosopher than Bacon holding his brief for matrimony at all times, held that the protagonists of celibacy and belated marriages on economic grounds miss much grist for their mills. Marriage must, then, be accepted as the only course of wisdom for an even tenor of life.

Matrimony then being inevitable, why not early, to avoid sowing wild oats in youth? The office of a parent is an exalted one, no doubt, and a period of apprenticeship must be served for the discharge of the onerous duties of the high office. The bewildered youth asks how to shoulder the consequences of half a century of wedlock? What about the baker's dozen of children that must be the upshot of the union?

I concede that it is most wicked to usher immortals into existence, and then leave them to suffer for the necessities of life, and, above all, to let them grow up ignorant and depraved. The higher we can carry those in the scale of improvement who owe their existence to us, the more perfectly we fulfill our duties to them, and obey the commands of God, uttered through the institutes of nature. The remedy lies in our own hands. The Malthusian League places in our hands effective measures of contraception, quite harmless and safe.

### Indian Traditions

The Hindu *shastras* were fully alive to the pernicious effects of prolific progeny and placed so many safeguards and effective checks on copulation in wedlock by way of astral and calendary restrictions as to admit of hardly a couple of days in the month. Then the practice of knowing one's wife from motives of passion was sternly discountenanced and progeny was the prime motive of legalized wedlock. Only the first-born son was known as such (*putra*), and the rest *kamajas*, or "passion products." The highest meritorious ritual was the practice of "man and wife" sharing the same bed yet avoiding carnal pleasure, and known as the "Great *Asidhara*." Promiscuous intercourse was abhorred and debarred, and *Varna Sankara*, *Jathi Sankara* were sedulously guarded against.

The eugenic idea which Sir Francis Galton perfected to a science is thoroughly portrayed in the "Mahabharata the Great," The Iliad of India. The Great Vyasa, the author of the above, procreated from the Dowager Consorts Royal of Santanu, Amba, Ambika, and Ambalika the Great Pandu, Dhritarashtra and Vidura the Good. The first-born Dhritarashtra was blind, owing to his mother having embraced Vyasa in disgust with eyes blindfolded. Pandu was the victim of nervous tremor, the teleology of his mother having quaked in embrace, and Vidura, born of a substitute Sudra woman, was the very emblem of purity, reverence and knowledge.

### Present-day India

These instances are of the past, and this country is content to rest on its oars. But what we do we see to-day in India? Poverty, stark, naked, undisguisable, stinks in the nostrils with an abominable stench tenaciously.

Compulsory marriage of girls at their pre-puberty stage only saddles girl-wives to boy-husbands. With a mill-stone around their neck, these boys plod on in the wonderful Indian 'Varsities to come out fully emasculated for the burdens, trials and temptations of life.

A horde of children of cheap-jack appearance throng their hearths and as a positive nuisance a female progeny has come to be looked upon. They must marry their daughters, and match-making is tying a Gordian knot.

Dockers being paid better than doctors, and miners better than masters of arts, these sorry specimens of humanity throng the office purlieus to be pitched out neck and all in these days of Inchcape Committees and vigorous application of the retrenchment rod.

Any measure that essays to grapple with the "poverty problem" must be hailed with delight in India, and scientific Birth Control is a legitimate step in this direction. China and India believe the doctrine of strength of numbers. The multiplication of helots in the Empire is condemned by the ultra-politician Gandhi Mahatma.

Human life cheapens in value, and the labor market is glutted by this unrestricted procreation of species. The formation of the Indian Birth Control Society comes as a harbinger of relief, and is better late than never.

But the logic of facts is eloquent, and the Indian middle class which is hard hit by the present economic slump will readily take to anything that holds out a way of relief from the thralldom of poverty. The might of theew and sinew that neo-Malthusian measures impart to the helpless middle classes will be hailed with delight.

# Why Don't You Have Children ?

By ALICE MARY KIMBALI

Why don't you have children,  
You young women?  
Don't you know there's nothing like motherhood,  
And children an' a home,  
Be it ever so humble, as the old song says  
I have five children—  
Two of 'em is bad an' two is good an' one is an idiot

Tim and Joe, the two bad ones, won't work  
Back there in Pennsylvania they began it the year their  
father died,  
Staying late nights at the pool hall,  
Takin' drinks on the sly at the village saloons,  
Lyn' abed mornin's till the crops spoiled and the  
machinery rusted  
I don't know's I blame them

They was young and the place was dismal,  
Dismal, even for me, a played-out old woman, with life  
behind me  
The farm wouldn't grow nothing but wild mustard and  
snake grass and yarrow,  
And the house wasn't fit for a barn  
With its crazy, crooked backbone,  
Leaky roof,  
Splintery, softwood floors pulling rags off the mop,  
Yellow wall-paper that peeled and tore,  
Rain-soaked plasterin' tumblin' off,  
And the mouldy smell that come up the sink from the  
drain,  
An' a terrible stillness  
That seemed like a living thing, invisible,  
Peering at us  
We sold out and come to the city,  
Tim and Joe expecting to make a new start  
But their old shiftlessness hung 'round their necks  
They never could take hold, somehow  
So they sit in the kitchen the whole day long,

Playing cards an' swearing,  
An' begging the three dollars I bring home nights to buy  
them drinks

One of my good children is a girl,  
Laura, the next to the youngest  
She works at a dressmakers',  
Makin' hmin's for lovely waists  
She gets twelve a week,  
An' cries at night, because she can't afford pretty things  
To catch her a beau  
She's been skipping lunches to buy her an apple-green  
blouse,  
Like one they made in the shop for a fine lady,  
So she ain't herself when she curses me  
For bringin' her into the world  
She'll be twenty-nine, come June, an' she ain't never had  
much girlhood  
I always have a time with her in the spring

Another good child is my boy, Robert,  
Robert, with the honest face  
And the kind blue eyes  
He is chauffeur to a rich woman  
He makes forty a week, I guess I ain't sure  
He pretends it ain't quite that much—being afraid  
I'd ask him for more of it,  
An' he wants to get married an' make him a home  
He's been a lovin' son to me or was,  
Before he got bitter—  
Bitter through and through—  
Because the grocery bills and rent ate away his wages  
His girl, she's been a-waiting five years now

Why don't you have children,  
You young women?  
Don't you know there's nothing like motherhood,  
An' children—an' a home,  
Be it ever so humble, as the old song says?

## An Old Song Re-Sung

By ELMA EHRLICH LEVINGFR

*Rockaby, Baby, thy cradle is green*  
(Down in the graveyard thy low bed is seen,  
You came unwanted, and yet, strange to say,  
Mother wept wildly when you went away)

*Father's a nobleman, Mother's a queen,*  
(Father is stupid and hungry and lean,  
Mother is weary from child-birth and pain,  
Afraid that a baby is coming again)

*Betty's a lady and wears a fine ring,*  
(Betty, who danced like a bud on the wing,  
Betty now dances in town far away,  
Her cheeks are too glowing, her laughter too gay)

*Johnny's a drummer and drums for the king!*  
(A bullet left Johnny a sodden, crushed thing  
But Johnny knew glory and mother knew pain—  
Besides she's expecting a baby again)

# TUBERCULOSIS AND BIRTH CONTROL

*Letters from Mothers Who are Entitled to Relief*

*Millions of dollars are now being expended in the fight against the Great White Plague. Yet not one of the anti-tuberculosis organizations has come out openly for Birth Control as a necessary part of their campaign. Tuberculous women are still permitted to bear weak and puny babies, at the almost certain cost of the mothers' lives, and the probable perpetuation of the disease in their children. Women beg for salvation and are refused. How long will it be before these societies, freeing themselves from the timidity, fear and prejudice which now bind them, take an open stand on the necessity of Birth Control instruction for these women?*

## Two Generations Tuberculous

New York

I am 22 years old and am the twelfth child of a family of 14, and unfortunately my mother had consumption, and five of my brothers and sisters have died from the same disease. There are only five of the family left, and my sister and I are both in poor health. Every one thinks I have consumption too, but I have not gone to the doctor for examination.

I married a man 39 years old, two years and six months ago, and I have had two children since. My children were just 15 months apart. I used to weigh 130 pounds before I was married, and now I only weigh 98 pounds. I feel very much overworked, as we cannot afford to hire help. And now I am in the family way again, and my baby is only six months old today. I honestly believe I will take poison, before this one comes, because I do not want any more, as we cannot support any more properly.

My husband drinks very heavy at times, and it takes almost all he makes. He blames his drinking on discouragement over having children every year. At times he is very mean to me, when I am in the family way, for he blames me for it. It certainly is discouraging to think that I must bear children when my strength cannot stand to care for any more. I do everything I can to keep from having any more, but nothing seems to do me any good. I know of no doctor in this city who would help me, but maybe you will be kind enough to help me out of my trouble.

## Heavily Burdened

Florida

I was a school girl, and married a telegraph operator in 1917. During the War he served as a wireless operator.

Since our marriage so much responsibility has been thrown on us that it seems as if with all our struggles, we can hardly make ends meet, and we do not waste one penny.

My husband's father died a year ago and left his mother and four little sisters for us to care for. His mother is suffering from Bright's disease, and is not able to make any means of support.

For two years before this happened, I had to help my mother, who is almost an invalid, and two little sisters.

I work as a clerk for the same road my husband is with, and we two together are trying to send those six little girls to school, so that a few years later the older ones will be able to help themselves.

I just don't see how I could stop work and have children now—knowing that the little sisters would go wanting and suffering. They scarcely have enough of the necessities of life now.

I am really not strong enough to be a mother anyway, as I cannot sweep a room without expectorating blood from my right lung which was left unhealed after whooping cough and pneumonia, which I had at the same time about six years ago. Any kind of work that causes exertion has the same effect.

## Life Not Worth While

Kansas

Living isn't worth while for us who have our home full of little ones so close together, and who live a life of dread of having more so soon again. I doctored for four years to ward off tuberculosis, but one doctor said that I could never expect to rid myself of it, if I kept on having children every two years or less. But when I asked him to tell me something to do that I might not have any more, he advised me to use a douche. But I soon learned that was not certain, as one baby was born soon after.

I am just 27 years old. I have a boy 5, a girl 3, and another girl one, and I am praying and hoping something may happen soon or in six months I will have a fourth child. I would do anything to gain knowledge of a reliable contraceptive.

## Results of T. B.

British Columbia

We are just ordinary work-a-day people, and have been married some time. There have been two children, the first still-born. The second, born eighteen months after, is just over two years old, and has been under the care of a children's specialist from three months old until a few weeks before her second birthday. So you may



imagine, apart from seeing the little soul suffer, and having the care of it, it has kept us pretty busy to make ends meet. The reason of all the trouble is my own health, which is very poor, the result of T B, which although cured, has left my whole vitality undermined. So you may imagine that, although I love children and know that a certain number are necessary to keep the old world jogging along, still I know it would be most unwise to have more, and I live in constant fear.

### Poor and Tuberculous

Kentucky

I am a young woman of twenty-four and have two children, both being girls. I am not strong and my husband is said to have tuberculosis, and being poor, we are not able to raise a large family and care for them as we should. I would be so glad if you would kindly tell me how to avoid having more children. I know that this is causing you lots of trouble, but it would be a kind deed to me, for I am a poor woman and have bad health—both me and my husband—and we can't raise a large family and give them anything like the care they should have.

### Unfit Parents

Mississippi

I am only twenty-one years old and am pregnant for the first time. I and my husband are both from tuberculous families, and neither of us very strong. So please tell me how we can keep from having children so rapidly, for I know we cannot care for a large family.

### Children Sick and Defective

Ohio

I have two children, one eleven and the other seven. The eleven-year-old one has been sick most of his life, and now has some spots of T B on his lungs. It can be helped or cured if taken in time. The seven-year old one is a helpless invalid. She has the brain of a ten months old baby and no more physical ability. A clot on the brain.

You can readily see that I want no more children, so I am writing to you for help and advice. We are people in very moderate circumstances. My husband makes not quite two thousand a year.

### The Road to the Grave

Arkansas

My grand-daughter has a baby—came nine months after her marriage, and she was was pregnant again when her baby was only two months old. Her health is bad. She has had lung trouble, and you know that if this keeps up her health will be completely gone in a year or so. She is anxious to know the right way to keep her health, and control pregnancy, except when she wants a baby.

### Tuberculosis, First Stage

Iowa

I have been married two-and-a-quarter years, and have one child. Since he came, the veins in my legs ache—knees to hips. It seems like big bunches form on them. How I do suffer from them!

When I was a couple of months along with baby, I went to a specialist, as my doctor advised, on account of having such high temperature. He examined me for tuberculosis and sent a sputum test, and found I had it in the first stages. I hope for no more children, as I do not want to have a child who maybe might have it.

Financially we cannot afford, as we lost some of our cattle, and I had diphtheria, and had a nurse five weeks, and live six miles from town, so the doctor's bill counted up like everything. I wish you could help me.

### A Loving Couple's Despair

New Jersey

I am only twenty-two years old, have been married four years. My husband is a consumptive. Also his mother is consumptive and a cripple. His father has the palsy so bad that he cannot wait on himself. We have the care of this aged couple, and we have one child two and one-half years old, who is very puny and sickly. I am looking for another in a few months.

We live in a three-room house in the country and are in the poorest of circumstances. My husband and I are in despair to think that I must bear consumptive children into the world. Please find some way to help us. We love each other dearly and feel that we couldn't live apart. But he said that if we didn't find some way, we must separate, as he could not live many years at the best, and could not have me burdened with a crowd of sickly children.

### Sick and Discouraged

Oklahoma

I am 24 years old and have been married four years. I have got three babies—one 3, one 2, and a baby eight months old. I am very nervous and sickly after my children. I had a hemorrhage while carrying my last baby—spit up two gallons of blood in an hour. I had a doctor. He said "You must be careful. If you get that way again, you will die." But he wouldn't tell me anything to do to prevent it.

My husband is a farmer and has got consumption. After my babies, we can afford help only for about ten days, until I am on my feet again. I know I will die if I have to have another child. We do not own a roof over our heads, and I am so discouraged I want to die if nothing can be done, and I can see no relief, unless you can give it to me or tell me where to get it. I can't sleep at night for worrying. Is there an answer for a mother like me?

## Book Reviews

### A Study of the Faith of our Fathers and the Work of our Mothers

*His Religion and Hers*, by Charlotte Perkins Gilman  
The Century Co., New York and London, 1923

**T**HIS book by America's leading feminist philosopher defends a thesis that is original and full of interest

Traditional religions are "his" religions—made by man the hunter and fighter, and therefore built upon the fact of death and upon the sterile visions of another world in which the dead live again. Mrs. Gilman would have a religion that is "hers" as well as "his," made by women the creators of new life and built upon the fact of birth and upon the fruitful visions of a better life for us and our descendants here in this world.

It is probably true that the morbid other-worldliness of the religions of the past is partly due to the interest in death which is a central fact in a community in which hunting and fighting predominate. And it may well be, as Mrs. Gilman says, that when woman comes into her own and acquires the power to impress upon our culture her peculiar interest in creating life and aiding and directing its growth, religion and morals will be profoundly and favorably modified. The author works out a strong argument for her position, and the only criticism which the reviewer would offer is that she somewhat overstates her case, and fails to take sufficient account of the deep-rooted tendencies of human beings, regardless of their sex, to compensate for the failures and tragedies of the natural order by dreams of a supernatural realm in which all wounds are healed. Whether true or false this dream will continue. It is as old as sorrow and it will last as long. Its effects upon our moral life are mixed—sometimes good and sometimes evil. Used as a supplement to reality and a stimulus to its duties, religion is good. Used as a substitute for reality and as a means of escape from duties, it is unqualifiedly bad.

#### *A Serious Shortcoming*

There is one aspect of Mrs. Gilman's book that is pretty certain to be offensive not only to the readers of this magazine but to progressive-minded folk generally. Though a life-long evolutionist, our author has failed to realize the most significant lesson that evolution teaches viz., that all the higher and distinctively human interests originate as a means to the lower interests, but develop to the stage where they are ends in themselves, for the fulfillment of which the original interests serve as means. This is true of all art and of all science. Evolutionary psychologists generally agree that the arts and sciences began as aids to purely material ends, and all evolutionary moralists agree that their normal use and value far transcends the humble needs which gave them birth. Sex passion, with the romantic and chivalrous devotions that accompany it, is an example of a human interest that

may have originated merely as a stimulus to the reproduction of the species, but which, like art and science, has developed to the stage where it is for the individual a primary value without which the species itself would hardly be worth preserving.

To all this Mrs. Gilman seems quite blind. She condemns as abnormal and excessive any use of the sex function except for procreation. If Nature had agreed with our author as to what was desirable and "normal" she would have stopped evolution at the stage of the reptiles or lower mammals, for they alone restrict their love to the purely material end of reproducing their kind.

Of course, if Mrs. Gilman had *thought through* her idea to its concrete meaning for actual life, its absurdity would have been obvious, for it would mean that if a young married couple desired to have not more than four children, they would have to agree to dissolve their marriage on its physical side and live as celibates for all except four months out of the forty years during which they might expect to be together. Mrs. Gilman would advocate this in the name of *Nature*! A more preposterous violation of Nature, and one more certain to destroy not only the spiritual values of marriage but the very institution itself it is impossible to conceive.

"His Religion and Hers" contains many good ideas and its style is clear and sparkling. We may hope that it will go into a second revised edition, and that its author, ardent evolutionist that she is, will in her revision display a keener realization of the meaning of evolution for the interpretation of human love. In the meantime the book will serve the Birth Control movement as a horrible example of the need of education in the essentials of psychology and ethics.

WM. PEPPERELL MONTAGUE,  
Columbia University

### Acute Cases in Moral Medicine \*

**T**HE title is intriguing. What is moral medicine? Is there such a thing as medical religion?

It is difficult to maintain a judicial attitude in the face of such poor logic as is displayed in this book. The blind prejudice that attempts to solve medical problems with methods bound around with theological assumptions results in a product so naive that it takes one back to medieval times and procedures.

But bolder attempts to cramp the progress of science by theological dogma have been made in other faiths. Hence not much weight need be ascribed to this which can appeal to reasoning people, be they Catholic, Protestant or Jew, as simply an evidence of the stupidity of those who expect people to accept such teaching.—D. B.

\* By Edward F. Burke, M.A., Ph.D. The Macmillan Co., New York

## The Eugenic Aspects of Birth Control

*A Review by Leon J Cole*

**O**BJECTS in the immediate foreground commonly appear larger and more important, and consequently receive the greater share of attention. It is so with the birth control movement. The misery and economic distress often consequent on large families resulting from uncontrolled fecundity are evident to anyone who is willing to face the facts at all. The obvious remedy is to control the size of the family to accord with the strength of the mother and the earning capacity of the father or whatever else may determine the family income. The specific information necessary for such control has not been generally available, especially in those sections of society where its need is greatest. This fact has led a number of public spirited and philanthropically minded people to devote their time and energies to do what they can toward correcting the condition. The undoubted progress of the Birth Control movement amply attests the awakening interest in the subject and a much saner and healthier attitude of the public is already manifest.

### *The Race and the Birth Rate*

In the urgency of the immediate need, less attention has been directed towards the more remote biological effects on the race as a whole which are consequent on any alteration in the birth rate, and especially on any differential which may be introduced into it. If we are to look ahead of the present and the immediate future, this phase of the subject can not be ignored and consequently the problem is one which should be of interest to all who are concerned in the Birth Control activities. The views on birth control of a biologist who has devoted much study to eugenics and racial progress are therefore very timely. In his recent book on "Studies in Evolution and Eugenics,"\* Dr Holmes devotes only two chapters specifically to birth control, but these are written in his usual spirit of scientific inquiry and fairness.

### *A Biological Fallacy*

The book is in considerable part a collection of previously published essays, but it presents an unusual unity and coherence for such a collection. It is written so far as possible in non-technical language and constitutes a very readable introduction to the broad principles of heredity and evolution in their relation to eugenics. The two chapters dealing with birth control are headed by questions—"Is birth control an aid or a menace to eugenics?" and "Will birth control reduce fertility?"

Dr Holmes points out the biological fallacy as well as the futility of the doctrine which holds that racial advance must be through the crude selective action of wars and pestilence and that unlimited fecundity is necessary to this end—that the struggle for racial supremacy must

really be a race for high fecundity. He says, "When mankind in general gets to be sufficiently enlightened to appreciate the effects of unlimited fecundity, it will, I believe, pay little heed to the preaching of this doctrine. It will simply balk. It will reap the rewards of present freedom from over-crowding and let the future take care of itself, as considerable sections of civilized mankind are now doing." But while recognizing its benefits and inevitability Holmes says, "The trouble with birth control is that it is practised least where it should be practised most." He emphasizes the point that there are strata of society to which voluntary birth control will not effectively reach, and stresses the need, in order to help counteract the fecundity of these undesirables, of the development of a social conscience on the part of the classes more favored by nature which will recognize the responsibility for larger families where circumstances will permit. That portion of society which unduly restricts fecundity for purely selfish reasons will automatically eliminate its genetic contribution to posterity.

### *The Positive Side of Birth Control*

This positive side of birth control has not received the attention and consideration it deserves, and while he is speaking more from the standpoint of eugenics than philanthropy, Holmes raises a very practical point when he maintains that, "The birth control movement would gain greatly in moral force if it placed more emphasis upon the responsibilities of those who take into their own hands the regulation of the birth supply. There are multitudes of people of good inheritance whose financial circumstances easily permit them to rear fair-sized families, but who are suffering their lines to become extinct through ignorance or wilful disregard of one of the most fundamental of all duties. Birth control is a biological innovation of great moment in the history of the race. Mankind has evolved without it, although at the cost of much suffering and loss of life. Its unwise employment for a few generations would have a disastrous effect on our racial inheritance which it has taken untold ages to build up. If so powerful an instrument for good or for ill is placed in the hands of human beings there should be some endeavor to induce them to use it wisely. If the Neo-Malthusians presume to undertake the role of guiding the unenlightened public in this regard they should do something more than simply preach restriction."

To one interested in other biological-social problems besides birth control, there is much in the book which will furnish interesting and informative reading.

*In the last analysis the stability and especially the advance of society does not depend upon those who are compelled to, but on those who want to follow a higher concept of life, a life of idealism, religious or otherwise*  
—ARTHUR W MYERS, M D

\* "Studies in Evolution and Eugenics," by S J Holmes, Ph D, Professor of Zoology in the University of California. New York, 1923, Harcourt, Brace and Company.

CHINESE MIGRATIONS, with Special Reference to Labor Conditions, by Ta Chan, A M U S Department of Labor, Washington, D C

THE United States Government, which in the Federal Mail Laws classes Birth Control with obscenity, and makes information concerning it unmailable, has apparently set its seal of approval on Birth Control for the Chinese. In this pamphlet, emigration from China is definitely attributed to pressure of population, and yet the writer finds that, in spite of emigration extending over many centuries, the condition of the people in the home land has not been improved, but that congestion of population remains as a cause of poverty and low standards of living. Mr Ta Chen's summing up of the subject is somewhat pessimistic. He writes—"Cultural advancement presupposes leisure. But due partly to this pressure of population, in China today an immense number of people are busily engaged in making a bare living, and there is little opportunity for self-improvement. The struggle for existence is severe, and the struggle for achievement among the general populace is almost negligible. Livelihood for the wage-earning classes is on the verge of minimum subsistence, and little surplus energy is available for seeking anything higher. Advance in civilization is therefore hindered. When education reaches the great masses and fundamental laws of population are generally understood, families will be smaller and the material wants of the people can be satisfied with proportionately less effort, so that poverty may be diminished and the cultural level substantially raised, the needy may no longer be forced to emigrate in large numbers, and the socio-economic welfare of the people will be materially improved." And these good results are to be brought about, be it noted, by decreasing the size of the families.

#### PERIODICALS

*The Thinker*, Chicago, for April, contains the final article of a series on Birth Control by Margaret Sanger. The first installment appeared last October. The publication of these articles is in keeping with the progressive character of the magazine. Another series running through the issues is on "Pioneer Thinkers," by the Editor. In April, Mr Flower gave an especially excellent account of Socrates, illustrated by a well chosen selection from the sayings of the great Greek philosopher.

John C Gebhart, of the New York Association for the Improvement of the Condition of the Poor, in *Social Hygiene* for April, describes the effects of syphilis on mothers and their offspring. The article is a summary of pre-natal work done in a colored district in New York, a district in which the maternal and infant mortality rates had been abnormally high, due to the wide prevalence of syphilis. He shows that pre-natal treatment of syphilitic women has resulted in lowering the death rate of both mothers and infants, but that even with such treatment the rate remains much higher than for the non-

syphilitic. His article, in fact, shows the great need for contraceptive instruction for the syphilitic. But of such need he makes absolutely no mention.

Another article, in the same magazine, discusses Dr Max Schlapp's researches into the causes inducing congenital malformations and deformities in children. Dr Schlapp is strongly inclined to the opinion that "unfavorable home surroundings and external conditions inducing mental disturbances in the mother may have a decided effect upon the physical and mental characteristics of her offspring." Surely there could be no stronger testimony to the need of Birth Control, the lack of which so often creates these unfortunate conditions.

*Equal Rights*, the organ of the National Woman's Party, in its issue of May 3rd, published the letter from Florence Garvin which appeared in our April number, but did not publish our reply.

Problems of sex and of the position of women are receiving much attention in *The Indian Social Reformer*, although as yet this progressive magazine has not accepted the idea of Birth Control. The Editors take the view that a redistribution of wealth must precede the taking of any steps to check over-population. In the issue for March 23, they argue strongly for the protection of girls both inside and outside of marriage, and give hearty support to legislative proposals for raising the age of consent. It is only one step forward to the advocacy of the right of a woman of adult age to control her own body and its supreme power of reproduction.

Professor Reynold A Spaeth, of the School of Hygiene and Public Health, The Johns Hopkins University, has an excellent article in *Equal Rights*, the organ of the National Woman's Party, for April 19, on "Differences Between Men and Women." In it he faces frankly the disadvantage to woman workers of pregnancy and maternity. He thinks that the experiment of giving Birth Control information to industrial workers by industrial physicians might be worth trying, but asserts that an educational campaign in regard to the responsibility of bringing children into the world is also needed. Professor Spaeth is a member of the National Council of the American Birth Control League.

In the *Edinburgh Review* for April, Sir Henry Rew, K C B, contributes a somewhat reassuring criticism of recent pessimistic forecasts of world over-population. Taking Professor East's book as a basis, he points out possibilities of food increase which have been hitherto overlooked. But while he postpones the date of congestion, his conclusions are similar to those of Professor East. "The march may be slow," he remarks, "but the direction is sure. To take no thought for the morrow—even if the morrow be remote—is foolishness. Those who believe that man's intelligence, if aroused and guided, may help to postpone, or avert the evil day, are in duty bound to inculcate prudence and advocate restraint."

## THE "BOBBED-HAIRED BANDIT"

*A Noteworthy Editorial from the "N Y World"*

FOR some months now we have been vastly entertained by the bobbed-haired bandit. Knowing nothing about her, we created a perfect story standardized according to the rules laid down by the movies and the short-story magazines. The story had, as the press agents say, everything. It had a flapper and a bandit who baffled the police, it had sex and money, crime and mystery. And then yesterday we read in the probation officer's report the story of Cecilia Cooney's life. It was not in the least entertaining. For there in the place of the dashing bandit was a pitiable girl, instead of an amusing tale, a dark and mean tragedy, instead of a lovely adventure, a terrible accusation.

In the twenty years she has lived in this city she has come at one time or another within reach of all the agencies of righteousness. Five years before she was born her father was summoned to court for drunkenness and neglect, the Charities Department recommended then that her older brothers and sisters be committed to an institution. *That did not prevent her parents bringing, with the full consent of the law, three or four more children into the world.* Cecilia herself, the youngest of eight, came at four years of age into the custody of the Children's Society. Six months later, on the recommendation of the Department of Public Charity, she was turned back to her mother, who promptly deserted her.

She was next taken to Brooklyn by her aunt and for ten years or so attended parochial school. At the age of fourteen her mother brought her back to New York, took her to a furnished room, stole her clothes and deserted her. A year later, aged fifteen, Cecilia became a child-laborer in a brush factory in Brooklyn, and was associating at night with sailors picked up on the water-front. At sixteen Cecilia was back in New York, living with her mother, working as laundress for a few months at a stretch in various hospitals. At twenty she was married, had borne a child, had committed a series of robberies, and is condemned to spend the rest of her youth in prison.

THIS is what twentieth-century civilization in New York achieved in the case of Cecilia Cooney. Fully warned by the behavior of her parents long before her birth, the law allowed her parents to reproduce their kind. Fully warned when she was still an infant, society allowed her to drift out of its hands into a life of dirt, neglect, dark basements, begging, stealing, ignorance, poor little tawdry excitements and twisted romance. The courts had their chance and they missed it. Charity had its chance and missed it. Schools had their chance and missed it. The absent-minded routine of all that is well-meaning and respectable did not deflect by an inch her inexorable progress from the basement where she was born to the jail where she will expiate her crimes and ours.

For her crimes are on our heads too. No record could be clearer or more eloquent. None could leave less room for doubt that Cecilia Cooney is a product of this city, of its neglect and its carelessness, of its indifference and its undercurrents of misery. We recommend her story to the pulpits of New York, to the school men of New York, to the lawmakers of New York, to the social workers of New York, to those who are tempted to boast of its wealth, its magnificence and its power.—*New York World*, May 8, 1924

## BOOKS RECEIVED

From the Century Company, New York. MAHATMA GANDHI, by Romain Rolland.

From Boni and Liveright, New York. THE PEOPLE'S CORPORATION, by King C Gillette.

From the Department of the Interior, Washington, D C. SCHOOLS AND FEEBLE-MINDED AND SUBNORMAL CHILDREN.

From the Macmillan Company, New York. SOCIAL PROBLEMS, by Ezra Thayer Towne.

From Roode Bibliotheek, Amsterdam, Holland. DAS GEBURTENPROBLEM UND DIE VERHUETING DER SCHWANGERSCHAFT.

From Archives of Psychology, New York. ADOLESCENT INTERESTS, by F I Davenport, Ph D.

From R A Giesecke, Dresden, Germany. THE SEXUAL LIFE, by J Rutgers, M D.

From E P Dutton and Co., New York. ICARUS, by Bertrand, F R S.

## MARGARET SANGER'S OWN CORNER

*A Correspondent writes* "Do you think it is wrong for me to bring myself around when I am not yet three months overtime?"

*Answer* When you use the term "bring myself around," you are referring to abortion. I believe that repeated abortions, however early they are brought on, have a very bad effect on a woman's health. I do not advise it even by skilled hands, unless it has been recommended by your physician. I strongly advise you against taking drugs for any such purpose. Drugs are frequently useless and always injurious. They injure the mother and if they fail of their purpose, as they often do, they are apt to injure the child. The practice of abortion gets you nowhere, for pregnancy comes again more easily after abortion than before, and it becomes necessary to go through it all again. Abortion is not the right means of controlling the size of your family. One of the strongest reasons for urging Birth Control is that the scientific prevention of conception makes abortion unnecessary, and will thus do away with this evil thing.

M S

## THE "PICTORIAL REVIEW" AWARD

MANY letters are pouring into our Headquarters, commending the suggestion of Margaret Sanger's name by Mr Rokahr, as put forward in his letter printed in the April REVIEW. To us this is not a personal matter. If it were, no mention of it would be made in these pages. The selection of one of the leading advocates of Birth Control as the recipient of the award would be of vast importance, for it would mean the recognition of Birth Control as a great forward movement for human welfare. This view is taken by many of our correspondents, as is illustrated by the following extract from one of these letters:

I so appreciated the suggestion of Theodore Rokahr, printed in your columns, regarding the *Pictorial Review* award, that I wish to urge you to mention again this award, and to suggest to the members of the Birth Control League that they get behind this recommendation. Not only would the \$5,000 help the movement, but whatever attendant publicity was secured would be desirable.

E. E. CRAIG

Another correspondent—Eric Widdas—sends us a copy of his letter to the *Pictorial Review*. The letter is long and contains a full statement of the case which he presents. We give the following extracts:

Supposing that a great catastrophe were heading toward this country, or the world, a calamity overshadowing all other evils that have swooped down upon humanity combined, that this swiftly advancing disaster, with its train of butchery and bestiality, was easily preventible if the people knew of it, and of the simple expedient to avoid it. And then one intelligent woman's foresight became aware of the approach of this horrible condition. Making sure that her convictions are substantiated by scientific fact, she goes forth alone to tell of the swiftly approaching calamity to those who can be of the most assistance in warding off this monstrous evil—laughed at, scorned, jailed, abused—still she fights on alone.

A few scientific men check up on some of the data to disprove it, and, as they accumulate the facts, they in their turn become alarmed, and add their warnings until to-day there is a well organized, active body of women and men, extending the world around, doing increasingly positive work in an effort to prevent this calamity from overtaking humanity.

My choice for the honor you offer is an American woman who has done more to prevent and alleviate unnecessary suffering, both physical and mental, amongst the women, children and, yes, even men, than any other person in America, who has kept more misery away from homes (thereby conserving human happiness) and saved more women's lives than any other woman in America.

## VIRGINIA ANTI-BIRTH CONTROL BILL

*A Protest by A. T. McAtee*

THIS bill is another of the laws that place large classes of the population in the ranks of criminals, a state of affairs that is certainly not good for any commonwealth. Why not be frank and recognize the fact that the majority of citizens undoubtedly do resort at times to one form or another of birth control? Is it wise therefore to brand them as criminals?

Birth Control certainly is practised by civilized persons everywhere and by this token is no crime. Only departures from normal practice so extreme as to be anti-social constitute crime. And birth control under modern conditions certainly is not anti-social. We have too many people already, the entire world has too many. Would you encourage unrestricted breeding, leading surely to crowding, poverty, starvation and all the ills that overpopulation brings? I am sure the Virginia legislature has no such tendency, but the facts should be faced that sexual intercourse will not cease, and hence overpopulation will surely result unless birth control is practised.

The bill seeks to prevent a thing which is really necessary for the greatest good to the greatest number under modern conditions. Is it better to breed like guinea pigs, and almost equally irresponsibly, so far as the fate of the offspring is concerned, or to limit the number of children to what can be properly reared and educated? The last point touches Virginia in a tender place, the Old Dominion being one of the states with a startlingly high percentage of illiteracy. Better far to encourage birth control and prevent any increase in the army of illiterates, which is certainly not being given a square deal at present in this land of supposed equality of opportunity for all.

From a humanitarian standpoint also can any one deliberately vote for a bill which, if it has any effect, will increase the wastage of mother and child life? One of my neighbors, for instance, has had five children in rapid succession, three of which have died, the last just recently, the mother at the time carrying the next arrival. What a waste of energy, health and life, what a harvest of sorrow, suffering and death! Would it not be far better for families to have only two or three children spaced far enough apart so that all could be given proper attention, thus assuring their survival barring accidents, and preserving the health of the mother? The affirmative is the only humane answer to this question, and carries with it an obligation not for the suppression, but for the encouragement, and teaching of Birth Control.

I sincerely hope that the bill referred to will be consigned to the oblivion it so thoroughly merits.

*As noted in our News Columns, this bill was withdrawn*—EDITOR

## News Notes

### UNITED STATES

#### New York

April 21 A Birth Control meeting was held at Pleasantville, at which Mrs Ethel Watts Mumford was the speaker Florence Harmon Dock, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Republican Federation of Pleasantville and Chappaqua, was hostess

Mrs F Robertson Jones and Mrs Anne Kennedy attended the Annual Convention of Women Voters at Buffalo, April 25 to May 2 They conducted a vigorous campaign of education among the delegates on the subject of Birth Control A round robin dinner was arranged for them by Mrs John J O'Connor, National Chairman of the Child Welfare Committee, at which the subject was discussed from every angle Women from all parts of the United States were present and joined in the discussion The consensus of opinion was strongly in favor of having the League study methods of amending the present State and Federal laws affecting Birth Control, and also the principles of the movement Many of the State Chairmen of Child Welfare will doubtless take up the subject during the coming year, so that they may be more fully informed at the next Annual Convention A resolution was introduced in the Convention by Dr Rachel Yarros of Chicago, that the Social Hygiene Committee should include the study of Birth Control and Sterilization in its programme This motion was defeated, owing to the feeling among the national leaders that the delegates were not sufficiently informed on the subject An account of the Birth Control Debate by one of the delegates will be given in our next issue

April 29 The Syracuse chapter of the American Birth Control League met at the Hotel Onondaga Mrs O H Cobb, Chairman, presided Mrs Martin H Knapp accepted the chairmanship of the organization committee for clinical research work Mrs F R Hazard accepted the post of honorary chairman of this group It was decided to make a thorough canvass for members of the committee, which is now the largest in New York State

May 5 A Birth Control meeting was held in Kew Gardens at the residence of Mrs J Bishop Vandever The meeting was well attended by people from Richmond Hill, Forest Hills and the immediate vicinity The committee arranging this meeting consisted of Mrs J Bishop Vandever, Chairman, Mrs Maguire, Mrs Quanger, Mrs Sage, Mrs Irvin, Mrs Epstein, Mrs Yepson, Miss Fowler and Mrs Kelley Mrs Sanger and Dr Garth were the speakers

## What Every Girl Should Know

By

MARGARET SANGER

NEW REVISED EDITION

Margaret Sanger was first in the field in giving highly necessary instruction for girls

The revised edition of her book still holds the highest place among books of this character

This book has the endorsement of physicians educators clergymen social workers and mothers

Price, \$1 60 (covering postage)

Order from

BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW

104 Fifth Avenue

New York City



SO many married couples yearn for children that thousands of copies of a new book by Dr H Will Elders are being distributed without cost to childless women Any family interested in overcoming conditions of nature that hinder the gift of children should write for this free book today It describes a simple home treatment based on the use of Steriltone, a wonderful scientific tonic that has had marvelous success all over the country in relieving constitutional weakness

Every woman who wants to live a normal happy life with little ones around her should consider it her first duty to know what Steriltone is and why it should be so wonderful an aid to her Read this little book which is sent without charge or obligation in a plain envelope It unfolds facts that most women never have had explained to them Simply send name today to Dr H Will Elders 2001 Ballinger Bldg St Joseph Mo

Be Informed on the Question of

## BIRTH CONTROL

### COMBINATION OFFER

Send check for \$5 00 and receive the following books and pamphlets

**BIRTH CONTROL - - \$3 00**

What It is

How It Works

What It WILL DO

(Proceedings of the First American Birth Control Conference)

**ONE LITTLE BOY - - \$2 00**

*By Hugh de Selincourt*

**WOMAN, MORALITY  
and BIRTH CONTROL - 20**

*By Margaret Sanger*

**Booklet dealing with love  
life of woman - - - 25**

**Booklet striking a new and  
bold note for love and  
marriage - - - - 20**

Order from

**BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW**  
104 Fifth Avenue New York City

May 6 A meeting was held at the residence of Dr David R Telson, 734 Ocean Ave, Brooklyn, at which there were present about 30 doctors Dr Dorothy Bocker, director of the clinical research department of the American Birth Control League, discussed the technique of contraception The doctors present were enthusiastic in regard to this work

May 10 Dr Tsuda of the Medical University of Kyoto, visited the New York City Birth Control Research Bureau He expressed interest in the World Birth Control Conference to be held in this country in 1925, at which delegates from Japan will attend

FROM the convention on "Youth's Standard of Living," held in New York, Caroline Abrams of Brookwood Labor College, Katonah, N Y, sends the following interesting news note

"When people are faced by facts which show that hundreds of little children at the age of four are forced to spend their days in stuffy tenement rooms, helping their mothers on artificial flowers, or other work which they are forced to do to keep themselves alive, when faced by the fact that ninety per cent of the tenement children of New York City suffer from rickets, and the fact that fifty per cent of them are undernourished and never get enough to eat, it takes a peculiar sense of justice to consider it a crime to make available for the mothers of these children the information of how to limit their families These are facts and not 'sob stuff,' however, which American youth is ready to face even if the older generation is not

"At a recent convention held at Bear Mountain, N Y, a hundred and fifty delegates, representing thirty organizations of New York (among them the Christian Endeavor, the Young Men's and Young Women's Christian Association, the Young People's Socialist League, etc), adopted a statement of principles in which, among other things, they declared 'We feel that the medical profession should be allowed by law to give such knowledge to parents as will make it possible for them to limit their families to the number which, under the present economic conditions, they can maintain in health and happiness' As a further aim for social adjustment the conference favored a social order based primarily on production for use rather than for profit"

### New Jersey

EVERETT R MEVES, secretary of the Camden Birth Control League and widely known advocate of birth control, made a strong argument for the Malthusian idea at the Y's Men's Club Fifty-



four members were present. The subject was "Birth Control—a factor in World Peace."

Mr. Meves is reported by the *Camden Post* as having quoted Professor Ross, of the University of Wisconsin, as regretting his invention of the term "race" suicide, made famous by Theodore Roosevelt. He had neglected to consider the decrease in death rate along with the decrease in birth rate.

"Before 1800 it was estimated that there were 1,000,000,000 people on the earth and in 1900 there were 2,000,000,000 people. Scientists have computed with some mathematical accuracy that the world will support, counting all of the land inhabitable to man, a population not to exceed 5,200,000,000 people, a number which will be reached within 150 years."

He stated that the same population condition obtained for England, Italy and Rumania. He explained that the Neo-Malthusian League was based on the science of mathematics and that it forwarded to the League of Nations a recommendation that birth control be incorporated as a prerequisite to membership in the League of Nations, as no nation without compulsory regulation of its population could continue to live at peace with its neighbors.

Numerous authorities recited by Mr. Meves made his address most convincing and brought the question of birth control to an elevated position in the minds of his hearers. He concluded with the statement, "Whatever plan for world peace is presented it carries within itself the seed for its inevitable failure unless it contemplates as one of its principal tenets birth control as the national policy of the nations of the earth."

### Pennsylvania

A debate was held on May 11th, under the auspices of the Friendship Liberal League of Philadelphia, on the motion "Resolved, that the Birth Control Movement is a Menace to Labor." Mr. A. J. Carey, affirmative and Mr. Everett R. Meves, of Camden, N. J., negative. Mr. Meves completely routed his opponent with a vast array of scientific arguments for this vital principle.

### Virginia

Mr. Ozlin's bill, introduced in the Virginia Legislature, which aimed to make it impossible to secure information or material for Birth Control, has been withdrawn from the calendar at his request. It was not discussed on the floor of the House. It did not come to a vote in the House, nor did it reach the Senate. This report has been received from the Virginia League of Women Voters. Thanks are due to the Virginia members of the American Birth Control League, who waged an active campaign to induce Mr. Ozlin to withdraw his bill. We congratulate them on the effectiveness of their work.

## FUNDAMENTAL

### or the Beginning of Things

An interesting radical and scientific pamphlet by that realistic writer, Dr. P. A. Kane, modern view on the subject, twenty-five cents. Originally published in *THE CRUCIBLE*, an agnostic weekly, one dollar per year.

Send 10 cents for sample copies

**RAYMER'S OLD BOOK STORE**  
1330 First Avenue - - Seattle, Wash

## A WAY OUT

By

**MAY PIERCE GUEST**

is the only short story published giving the near tragedy of the break-up of a happy marriage, averted by a knowledge of Birth Control.

**TWENTY CENTS A COPY**

**ORDER TODAY**

Published by

**BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW**

104 Fifth Avenue

New York City

## PREKONSOL

REG. U. S. PATENT OFFICE

**INSTEAD OF SUPPOSITORIES  
INSTEAD OF DOUCHES**

PREKONSOL is a safe soluble paste—a soothing remedy for leucorrhoea. It dissolves instantaneously. PREKONSOL can be used when a soothing or antiseptic douche would ordinarily be used.

**PRICE—\$2.25, Postpaid**

**THE PREKONSOL COMPANY**

52 Chambers Street

Boston, Mass.

**ARE YOU DISCOURAGED?**

You want to see a better world  
 You want to banish poverty  
 You want happier women and children

**BUT** You pay more taxes

You give more and more in charity  
 And you see no improvement

**STRIKE AT THE ROOT OF THE EVIL**

**JOIN THE  
 AMERICAN BIRTH CONTROL LEAGUE**

*And help the movement to check the coming of unwanted children with its train of ill-health, misery and poverty*

I enroll as a member of the American Birth Control League Enrollment \$1.00

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

National Headquarters 104 Fifth Avenue, New York City

MARGARET SANOFER,

President

FRANCIS B. ACKERMAN,

Treasurer

**BOOKS OF VITAL INTEREST  
 ON ALL TOPICS**

**Sex, Psycho-Analysis, Psychology,  
 Diet and Health**

**The Most Authoritative Authors**

Havelock Ellis, Robie, Long, Kraft-Ebbing, Forel, Kisch, Bloch, Malchow, Brill, Freud, Jung, Adler, Tridon, Lindlahr, Father Kneipp, Gaze, Drew

*Your Needs Always Fulfilled*

If obtainable, we have it if unobtainable, we can get it

DESCRIPTIVE LISTS SENT FREE

**MODERN BOOK ASSOCIATION**

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA  
 4150 SANTA MONICA BOULEVARD



**Marstin press**  
 80 Fourth Avenue

STUYVESANT  
 1 7 1 2

**PRINTERS TO THE BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW**

**NATIONAL**

It is encouraging to note that students of sociology at many of the Universities, ranging from Texas to Maine, from Washington to Mississippi, are writing to the American Birth Control League. They ask for a history of the organization and the movement, and also for literature pertaining to all aspects of the subject. These requests indicate that the next generation will be informed on the subject of Birth Control and will be able to appreciate the importance of the principle.

**ENGLAND**

A REPORT on the Relation of the Sexes was made at the Conference on Christian Politics, Economics and Citizenship, known in England as Copeck, at Birmingham, on April 8th. The report was the work of a special commission of 22 members, headed by Professor W. F. Lofthouse. Its outstanding feature was its treatment of the problem of Birth Control, a subject which was warmly discussed after the presentation of the report. Rev. G. A. Studdert Kennedy, who recently made a visit to the United States, and while there took pains to get into touch with the American Birth Control League, led the discussion. He urged the churches to take the leadership in the movement, and to raise it to a higher and more moral plane. "The way these things are advertised and sold," he asserted, "was the best possible means of getting them into the hands of the wrong people in the worst possible way."

A resolution was submitted by Mrs. E. F. Wise, who also pointed out that information on conception control was being disseminated in an undesirable form, a fact which was largely the fault of the churches who had shunned the question. "The churches," she urged, "could not stand aside, nor could they condemn without an adequate knowledge of the facts. Her resolution, which was passed by the Conference, read: "In view of the difficulty of the moral issues involved in the practice of conception control in marriage, and especially the use for this end of contraceptives, the Conference urges the Churches here represented, either severally or unitedly, to investigate thoroughly, and to consider, with the intention of offering definite guidance to perplexed consciences, these and other relevant questions regarding marriage and parenthood. It would meanwhile lay emphasis on the privileges and obligations of Christian parenthood."

Mr. Charles E. Pell, whose book "The Law of Births and Deaths" has aroused a good deal of controversy, and Mr. R. B. Kerr, editor of *The New Generation*, held a debate on Birth Control at the St. Pancras Reform Club, March 23. Mr. Pell

contended that the birth-rate automatically falls as the death-rate is lowered, and that there is therefore no need for contraception. Mr Kerr took the position that the falling birth-rate is largely due to voluntary control, and that the teaching of contraception is necessary to bring down the rate of increase of the less desirable elements of the population. The majority of the audience showed itself to be on the side of Birth Control.

On May 9th, a deputation headed by Mr H G Wells, and including Dr Elizabeth Sloan Chesser and Dr Frances Huxley, waited on Rt Hon John Wheatley, Minister of Health, to ask that Birth Control information be given at welfare centers and pre-natal clinics. The deputation was cordially received but the request was refused.

"You will be glad to hear," writes an English correspondent, "that we are hoping that another clinic will be opened in the summer in North Kensington. The premises have been found, and a separate committee has been formed. It will be affiliated to the Walworth Welfare Center. The interest in the Walworth Center has grown enormously in the past twelve months, and things there are going smoothly."

### FRANCE

THE following measures, most of them very recent, are provided by law for the aid of large families in France: (1) Reduction of various taxes in proportion to the size of the family, (2) lower rents in the so-called "cheap houses" and priority in the assignment of dwellings in those houses, (3) special facilities in acquiring rural property on a small scale, (4) reduction of the compulsory military service by one year in the case of boys who are the oldest of five children, (5) reduction in railroad fare, (6) scholarships in proportion to size of family, (7) financial aid from the National Government for each child under 14 years, beginning with the fourth, (8) assistance to women in confinement, (9) so-called "birth" premiums, (10) payment of salaries to civil employees of the national, departmental and municipal government and some members of the military profession in proportion to the number of children in their families.

Medals are to be given to mothers of large families, having been provided for by a recent enactment.

### GERMANY

THE Institute for Sexualwissenschaft in Berlin, which was established by Dr Hirschfeld and which has hitherto been conducted by him, has been taken over by the Prussian Government. Hence-

### PECK & STERBA

6 West 24th Street New York City, N Y  
Telephone—Gramercy 3469

**RHEUMATOL**—A remedy that has proved successful in the most severe cases of rheumatism 8 Ounce Box \$2 00  
**DR. BRUNNENGRAEBER'S HAY OR ROSE FEVER TOXINE**—Eight injections two months before rose or hay fever season Whole Treatment \$5 00  
**LEUCORRHOL**—Superior to suppositories—is a safe efficient and dependable antiseptic Tube \$2 00 Applicator 50c Extra  
**SPATON**—Easily soluble effective disinfecting tablets \$1 50 a Dozen  
**RECTANOL**—An approved pile cure \$2 00 per Tube  
Information confidential Mail orders filled

### SANI --- CONE

VAGINAL Reg U S PATENT SUPPOSITORIES

Sanitary necessity for women Conveniently used  
Always ready for use Of proven merit  
Non poisonous No douching necessary  
In boxes of one dozen Every purchaser satisfied

Price, \$1 00, postpaid

STANDARD PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANY  
Hasbrouck Heights New Jersey, U S A

**SEXOLOGY** Complete descriptive international catalog of Sex Books sent to adult readers  
Special catalog of Advanced Sex Books for members of Professions

Send 10 Cents postage for International catalog

**THE BOOK LEAGUE** 47 West 42nd Street  
Established 1899 New York City

## DO YOU WANT TO HELP

Banish Misery and Suffering from  
Hundreds of Thousands of  
American Homes?

If You Do, Subscribe to the

**BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW**  
And help in the fight for Liberated  
Motherhood and Children Welcomed  
and Happy Because Desired

SEND THIS COUPON IN TO DAY!

BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW,  
104 Fifth Avenue, New York City

I enclose \$2 00 for one year's subscription

Name

Street

City

State

(Sample copies sent on request)

## RATIONAL LIVING

DR B LIBER, Editor

*A Magazine devoted to health conservation and exposing dishonesty in all healing professions*

**Current Issue**—Good and Evil, by S D Schmalhausen—Mind and Vision, by Mary Dudderidge—The Healers, novel—Monotony, Fatigue, Rational Healing, Stammering, by E Tompkins—Children and Parents—Painful Menstruation—Vegetarianism—20 Illustrations—40 cents

**Rational Healing**—The Age of Innocence, by S D Schmalhausen—Philosophy of the Hike, by W H Hull—The Center of Eyesight, by Mary Dudderidge—Labor and Health (Mining)—Child Care—Normal Sex Life—Vegetarianism—The Healers, novel—Health Book Review—Editorials—Illustrations—40 cents

**Deba's on Chiropractic**—20 cents

**The Truth About the Abrams Methods** (Best Investigation)—What is Cancer, How to Prevent and Cure it?—20 cents

All four numbers together **One Dollar** instead of \$1 20—Regular subscriptions, \$2 00

*Second Enlarged Edition of*

### THE CHILD AND THE HOME

By B Liber

Most modern ideas on the bringing up of children, by a physician and teacher—Common Errors—Practical Advice—Instances from Life—Sex Health and Food Problems—For parents and all interested in children—Praised and discussed by Anatole France, G Stanley Hall, Upton Sinclair, Bolton Hall, Heywood Brown, by many educators, teachers, intelligent parents, by the liberal, radical, conservative, white and colored, medical and lay press in U S, Europe, Australia, Japan—320 pages

Cloth, \$2 50, paper, \$1 50 Together with subscription to **Rational Living**, cloth, \$4 00 instead of \$4 50, paper, \$3 00 instead of \$3 50—Address

**RATIONAL LIVING**

61 Hamilton Place

New York, N Y

## PULVOSAN

### VAGINAL DOUCHE POWDER AND GENERAL ANTISEPTIC

The Vaginal Douche has been taught for centuries for its importance to the general health is so vital that no woman can afford not to practice it It is as essential to bodily purity as is a sponge a tooth brush or a towel and in fact a thousand times more so

**Bodily Purity means bodily Health** PULVOSAN as a vaginal douche not only promotes cleanliness but it alleviates pain reduces inflammation and their constant secretion and often acts as a general invigorator and tonic to the entire system

Female troubles are nearly all fought and cured by the vaginal douche A small quantity of PULVOSAN added to a syringe full of water and used daily will correct Leucorrhea and other vaginal disturbances It destroys putrid odors and produces the clean sanitary sensation desired by women of refinement

PULVOSAN is a thorough antiseptic and prophylactic agent and can be used wherever an antiseptic solution may be desired A small quantity dissolved in water makes an excellent wet dressing for wounds a mouth wash or sore throat gargle

**PRICE, ONE DOLLAR PER BOX**

At Drug Stores

or will be mailed postage prepaid on receipt of price

## TABLAX COMPANY

Pharmaceutical Laboratories

336 East 166th Street

New York, N Y

forth it will be conducted as a State Institution The object of the Institute is to provide wholesome sex instruction, to carry on research in regard to the science of sex There is a Birth Control Department through which Birth Control information of a medical and scientific character can be freely obtained The support by the State of such a department marks a very definite onward step in the movement for Birth Control

## DENMARK

**MRS THET JENSEN** is lecturing throughout Denmark on many subjects that concern women In her lectures she includes Birth Control as one of the fundamental problems of society, of the home and of the individual

## RUSSIA

**A LETTER** from Mr W T Conrow, dated from Kemerove, Siberia, tells of efforts to spread the knowledge of Birth Control in that great country Mr Conrow wrote of having obtained some copies of Mrs Sanger's pamphlet and continued

One copy I gave to a young Russian who is a graduate of Cornell and at present holding a very responsible position in Moscow He said it might be used for educational purposes here in Russia, because it could be easily reproduced in Russian and it had the virtue of clearness and simplicity He also told me that here there is no governmental opposition to such a thing but that the medical profession offered much opposition There is much need for enlightenment upon the subject—in this part of the country at least—but the Communist party is working to enlighten the people even upon this subject and they will no doubt be able to do much good

You may be interested to know that we are attaining considerable success in our efforts to create a modern industrial life here There are no real hardships We are well fed and except for insufficient space we are well housed The mines are operating very successfully and will probably do much better in the near future The chemical plant is beginning to operate The people are working with energy and spirit and the future seems full of promise

## JAPAN

**BARONESS ISHIMOTO**, who is one of the leading spirits in the Birth Control movement in Japan, is making a visit to the United States One of her objects is to get again into touch with Mrs Sanger and to secure more information for her work in her own country

## OUR CORRESPONDENTS' COLUMN

**T**WO correspondents, Mr D Mackenzie, Editor of *The Equitist*, of Phoenix, Arizona, and Mr W E Peirce, of Victoria, B C, write to protest against an assertion made in the March Review. Both object to our claim that "while other organizations are dealing with the twigs and branches of the evil (war) the American Birth Control League is attacking its root," and both resent the statement that the pressure of population is "at the basis of all wars that can, in any true sense, be described as inevitable." Each puts forward the reform in which he is chiefly interested as the real cure for war.

Mr D Mackenzie asserts that the root cause of wars is "a breach of the fundamental law of human association which is the real Golden Rule, to wit: As much work as others give unto you, give ye so unto them." To secure the observance of this law he recommends a unit of exchange based on work, instead of on results—the reform to which *The Equitist* is devoted.

Mr Peirce also believes that the conditions that bring about war are caused by the use of a "currency that will not permit the producer to consume all he has produced" and adds that "not until we have removed that 'cause' shall we be able to consider in any seriousness the question of Birth Control."

**T**O both correspondents we make the same reply — There is no economic reform that could bring peace and prosperity to mankind, so long as the immediate response to such reform is an increase in the number of human beings, out of all proportion to the resources available for their support. No reform in the currency or in the medium of exchange will make women healthy and happy, if they have to bear child after child, irrespective of their desire or their strength. All economic reforms—however desirable and necessary they may be—will fail to bring peace and prosperity to mankind, unless man begins by reforming himself, by setting men and women free from slavery to their own reproductive instinct and making them rulers over themselves and their own fate, as well as rulers over the material world of economics.

### The International Birth Control Conference

To All Our Friends and Readers

The great event of 1925 will be the International Birth Control Conference at which delegates from all the world will be present. Already Japan, India and China are interested. Delegates are expected from England, Germany, Austria and Holland. South America is sending enquiries and Mexico is anxious to be represented.

The Conference will be held in New York City. The date and place of meeting will soon be announced.

For lovers of good reading who are  
also students of life, we recommend

### LITTLE ESSAYS OF LOVE AND VIRTUE

By

HAVELOCK ELLIS

Price, \$1 60 (covering postage)

BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW  
104 Fifth Avenue New York City

Help the Cause by sending for this

### FREE LITERATURE

and pass it on to Physicians, Educators,  
Social Workers and your friends

☐ **Can You Afford a Large Family?**

Addressed to the father, the mother and  
to those about to be married

☐ **The Greatest Need in America**

Containing authentic appeals from  
mothers proving the most vital problem  
in American Life to-day is that of reck-  
less child bearing

☐ **One Hundred Years of Birth Control**

An outline of its history

☐ **Books worth reading on Birth Control,  
Population and Sex**

A catalogue

### BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW

104 Fifth Avenue

New York City

Date

Name

Street

Town

State

# THE PIVOT OF CIVILIZATION

By MARGARET SANGER

(Introduction by H G Wells)

On this pivot hinges the whole future of mankind. Shall it be weighted down with increasing numbers crowding each other in too limited space, scrambling for the necessities of life? Or shall mankind assume control of its own destiny and make the future glorious beyond the dreams of Utopia?

## BIRTH CONTROL IS THE SOLUTION

Price, (covering postage) \$2 10

Order from

**BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW**  
104 Fifth Avenue New York City

## C A R B O Z I N E ANTISEPTIC TABLETS

*Always ready for use  
Douche not necessary  
A sanitary necessity for women.*

CARBOZINE TABLETS are a pleasant, agreeable and harmless antiseptic of excellent merit. Leucorrhea, putrid menses and all offensive discharges become clean and odorless at once. Insert one half tablet a day to insure sanitary menstruation.

Write us regarding your health problems.  
All letters confidential. Information free

AGENTS WANTED

**CARBOZINE LABORATORY**  
3121 S Broadway St. Louis, Mo

## Press Clippings

### ELSIE CLEWS PARSONS ON BIRTH CONTROL

**D**ISCUSSION of contraception has been active in the last decade or so, but curiously enough its significance aside from contributing to directly saner ways of life has been little realized. Birth control makes possible such clear-cut distinctions between mating and parenthood that it might be expected to produce radical changes in theories of sex attitude or relationship, forcing the discard of many an argument for personal suppression for the good of children or the honor of the family, and forcing redefinition of concepts of honor and sincerity between the sexes. In such redefinition reciprocity in passion, emotional integrity, and mutual enhancement of life might share in the approval once confined to constancy, fidelity, and duty, virtues that are obviously suggested by the hit or miss system of mating and reproducing our social organization has favored. With little or no self-knowledge or knowledge of men, a girl often marries in order to find out how much she cares or whether or not she qualifies, and then when her experience has but begun she finds herself an expectant mother, and maternity begins to supersede other interests. She may become a parent without the assurance of being well-mated, if not, more tragically, with the certainty of being mismated. Advocates of the monogamous family would do well to consider how essential to an enduring union, at least in our society, experience in love may be, together with restraint from child-bearing before experience is achieved.

That neither such considerations nor other changes in the theory of sex morality have yet come to the fore in current discussion is perhaps because the technique of contraception is still in the experimental stage, perhaps because in popular consciousness the morality of contraception in itself is not fully established. How is it going to be established? I doubt if through rationalism or rationalistic propaganda. Social changes, we begin to know, are rarely due to deliberation, in any society. In our society they are due mainly to economic causes. Housing congestion in New York will in time affect birth-control legislation in Albany, and fear of an overpopulated world will drive church as well as state into a new attitude toward multiplying to the glory of God.

### EDITORIAL

**T**HE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS, because it is a huge national organization engaged in practical politics, is wary about the issues it selects for attention and support. It can work for better babies, but it cannot work for fewer babies or even for more wisely spaced and distributed babies. It can stand for law enforcement and, in a fairly general way, for peace. It can be enormously useful in certain progressive fields. But no one need hope that it will be able to support a revolutionary feminist program or fight for a measure that might give offense to any large number of respectable middle-class women. All of which explains why the recent convention of the League at Buffalo refused to include birth control among the planks of its 1924 platform—*The Nation*, New York, May 14, 1924.

# Valuable Hint For Housewives



Do you know that you can make an excellent Polish Mop out of an ordinary mop and a little 3-in-One? It's easy to do and costs very little

Just cut off the strands of any mop about eight inches from handle and moisten slightly with

## 3-in-One *The High Quality Household Oil*

Allow a short time for the oil to permeate the strands thoroughly before using

With this home made economical Polish Mop, it is so easy to clean hard to reach corners, under beds, behind radiators. Out comes the dust and lint, clinging to the mop as if to a magnet

Shake off the dirt out doors and your Mop is ready to go after another load. Floors and oilcloth always shine after a visit of your 3 in One Polish Mop. Cleans and polishes simultaneously

3 in One Dustless Dust Cloths are just as easy to make as Polish Mops and they pick up dust just as well. Use any soft cloth, permeated with 3 in One

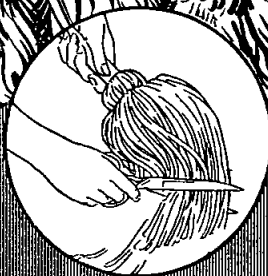
This great oil compound has 79 uses in the home alone—lubricating all light mechanisms—cleaning and polishing woodwork and metal—preventing rust and tarnish. All these uses and many others are explained in a Dictionary of Uses which is wrapped around every bottle and sent with every sample

**FREE**—Generous sample and De Luxe edition of Dictionary. Request both on a postal

3 in One is sold at all good stores in 1 oz, 3 oz and 8 oz bottles and in 3 oz Handy Oil Cans. Ask for 3 in One by name and look for the Big Red One on the label

**THREE IN-ONE OIL COMPANY**  
130CP William Street, New York, N.Y.  
Factories: Rahway, N.J., and Montreal

HR 219



# WILL YOU BROADCAST BIRTH CONTROL

*This is an opportunity for every advocate of Birth Control, BARRING NONE—to co-operate effectively*

*Your personal effort is the power that sends this humane message of help to a waiting and wanting world*

*IF YOU ARE interested, will you prove it to-day?*

*Will you place on the coupon below at least one of the numbers and faithfully fulfill its agreement*

## What You Can Do

- |   |        |
|---|--------|
| 1 Pledge a yearly contribution toward the maintenance of our Headquarters   | \$     |
| 2 Pledge a yearly contribution toward our free distribution of educational literature   | \$     |
| 3 Send a contribution toward our Legislative campaign   | \$     |
| 4 Give a copy of Woman and the New Race and The Pivot of Civilization, by Margaret Sanger, to your local Library (Regular price \$2 00 per volume ) | \$3 50 |
| 5 Enter your own subscription immediately to the BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW   | 2 00   |
| 6 Enter a subscription to the BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW for your doctor, minister, or local library  | 2 00   |
| 7 Become a member of the American Birth Control League  | 1 00   |
| 8 Enroll your neighbor as a member of the League so she will also know about our work thru the News Letters sent to members                         | 1 00   |
| 9 Come personally to Headquarters and volunteer your spare time in assisting with the voluminous and important work to be done                      |        |
| 10 Send for copies of our free literature and pass them on  |        |

## Help Us To-day!

AMERICAN BIRTH CONTROL LEAGUE, Inc.,  
Margaret Sanger, President,  
104 Fifth Avenue, New York City

I can help most effectively by plan numbers

\$

Name

Street

Town

State