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BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW



BIRTH CONTROL ORGANIZATIONS

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NOVEMBER

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The BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE AMERICAN BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW

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

MARGARET SANGER, Editor

ANNIE G PORRITT, Managing Editor

Vol VIII

NOVEMBER, 1924

No 11

EDITORIAL

HE visit of Margaret Sanger to England in October was short, but of great importance She left New York on September 27, with the intention of returning within a month She had thus only a couple of weeks in England for the important work she had set herself to accomplish Her mission concerned the arrangement of the programme of the Sixth International Birth Control and Neo-Malthusian Conference which will be held in New York March 26-31, 1925 Mrs Sanger felt that this Conference will be of as much importance to the Birth Control Movement in England as to the movement here and that she had a right to expect English support It was therefore with the view of consulting the leaders and supporters of the English movement that she undertook the voyage When the Conference assembles, it will be found that—largely as a result of Mrs Sanger's visit— Englishmen of the highest standing in the scientific and medical world will be present to lend their aid The Fifth International Birth Control Conference was held in London in 1922 American delegates then took a full share in the proceedings contributed a large number of the papers, and Mrs Sanger was the most prominent speaker at the public meeting held in connection with the Conference Mr H G Wells was chairman of that meeting, and among the men who attended and spoke at the sessions of the Conference were Lord Dawson of Penn, the King's physician, Sir W Arbuthnot Lane, J Maynard Keynes, the Economist and E W MacBride the Biologist December 6, Mrs Sanger will speak at a public meeting to be held in Carnegie Hall There she will tell of her mission to England and its success She will recount what has been accomplished in this country during 1924 and what is planned for 1925 Few people realize the extent and scope of the work that is being done The subby the American Birth Control League ject is of the most vital interest, individually for the prevention of suffering, socially for the sweeping away of poverty and slums, and nationally for the abolition of war and the substitution of peace and goodwill between nations

ERY great encouragement is accoung to the advocates of Buth Control from the fact that doctors are definitely tackling the problem and considering it from its practical as well as its theoretical aspects Dr William Allen Pusey, President of the American Medical Association gave an enormous impetus to this tendency when he devoted a portion of his presidential address to the support of Birth Control And now Di Morris Fishbein, Associate Editor of the Journal of the American Medical Association, makes his contribution in the October issue of the American Mercury It is true that Dr Fishbein is not enthusiastic for Birth Control But he brings no arguments whatever against it In fact, he tacitly accepts all that has been said concerning its desirability and concerning the danger to civilization of uncontrolled reproduction His pessimism is an indictment of the medical profession rather than of the advocates of Birth Control He thinks that physicians have as yet failed to perfect "any method of Birth Control that is physiologically psychologically and biologically sound in both principle and practice" If this be true, and the most enthusiastic believers in Birth Control admit that the ideal contraceptive is yet to be discovered, what does it mean, except that doctors have hitherto neglected this field of research? The average doctor knows little more about Birth Control than "the man in the street" It is not taught in the medical schools and with a few eminent exceptions no research has been made into methods and results, no clinical data collected and no experiments conducted with a view to improving methods exceptions include the Dutch clinics, for which the claim is made that they have perfected an appliance admirably fitted to the women who use these clinics, the English clinics which as yet have only a few years of work behind them, and the research bureau under the direction of Di Dolothy Bocker established by Margaret Sanger in New York list How long have doctors worked on tuberculosis? Was cancer conquered after two veris' work?

R FISHBEIN is also pessimistic concerning Birth Control because he is convinced that it will be impossible to get people of the "lower stratum of society" to practice it He cannot imagine these "males" and "females" having recourse to "complex mechanisms in the name of humanity" Perhaps he is right Probably consideration for the future, would have little power to move them But what does move them, and move them deeply, is the thought of their own happiness and well-being and the fear of having children who must go hungry and uncared for Of these motives the seventy thousand "piteous letters"—as Dr Fishbein well calls them— which Mrs Sanger received last year, give ample evi-And of their readiness to take great pains to avoid conception Dr Bocker's clinic can furnish, in the short twenty months of its existence, some three thousand cases in evidence Whatever Dr Fishbein may say of his fellow men among the poor and not a few of Mrs Sanger's letters come from husbands—the women at least are poignantly eager to make any sacrifice of present ease and pleasure, for the sake of securing themselves against muchdreaded, unwilling motherhood Before pronouncing his opinion on Birth Control, it would have been wise for Dr Fishbein to go and see for himself—at the only clinic in America where records of Birth Control are available—whether poor women are willing to use such methods as have been discovered, and just what percentages of success and failure have been arrived at But though Dr Fishbein has failed to give due study to Birth Control in practice—he shows either ignorance or malice when he writes of his medical confrere as Miss Bocker, showing how little value he attaches to her remarkable work—he does look forward to progress in the future He sketches lightly the experimental work that has been done in X-ray sterilization of white rats, pointing out the danger of using such method without much more research than has yet been devoted to it He seems really impressed by the possibility of immunizing women for a longer or shorter period by means of injections, such as are familiar in regard to typhoid fever and other di-He devotes nearly a quarter of his article to a discussion of this possibility, and ends up by stating that if science is able to develop some such method as this, permitting individuals to be sterilized temporarily with their own consent, and renewable after a definite period—a method that will not depend for its effectiveness on any mental or physical action of the persons concerned at the time of sexual activity—a feasible method of Birth Control will have been found Rejecting the implication that no "feasible method" already exists, we shall be the first to welcome the improved method which Dr Fishbein here outlines as possible

IN a recent issue of the New York World, Rowland Thomas discusses the problem of juvenile delinquency, as illustrated in the many cases that come before the courts He quotes Judge Talley of N Y General Sessions, as saying "The United States has become the most lawless nation on earth and its adolescent children are responsible for this unenviable distinction" But, in Mr Thomas's opinion, the responsibility is not on the children, but on the parents "Every child, without exception," he writes, "has a father and a mother Why should not these parents be held directly responsible for making their children behave themselves?" A little parable illustrates his meaning "An automobile," he continues, "holds fewer and smaller potentialities of social destructiveness than an uncivilized or vicious adolescent. It is not a free agent It cannot roam the world without a guide and guardian An unruly car cannot beget a flock of little automobiles inheriting or imitating its antisocial tendencies And the evil communications of one fractious young runabout cannot corrupt the good manners of a whole neighborhood of docile Yet we forbid any citizen to own an automobile without a license, and hold him to very strict accountability for its conduct-inflicting on him, not on his charge, condign and drastic punishment for defective brakes, poor lights, and even such trivialities as letting a motor smoke, or failing to see a traffic signal—while we let anybody who has the hunch become parent of a child and punish the child, not him, if it turns out a bad child Why not a statute—a constitutional amendment if necessary -making parents criminally liable for the behavior of their offspring?" Before such a statute could be passed, Birth Control must be accepted by society as the only method by which really responsible parenthood can be ensured

UR readers and friends in and near New York are urged to keep in mind the Public Meeting in Carnegie Hall, on December 6th The meeting will be free, and everyone is invited. It is held to celebrate the ending of the third year of work of the American Birth Control League, which was organized at the close of 1921 It is hard to realize the change that has come over public opinion since that date Birth Control, the very name of which was then taboo, has become the theme of public and private discussion all over the world Statesmen are beginning to see in it a remedy for poverty, unemployment, sickness and war Men and women look to it for salvation from crushing family burdens, and lovers of children see in it the ending of Child Labor and of the exploitation of child life But the victory is not yet won Come to the meeting, and help us to go over the top with Birth Control, while your help is still needed and of value

The Genesis of Divorce

By Percy Clark, Ph D

THE following article is the result of several years experience as assistant to my father, a doctor in Chicago, Ill, in a large free clinic, from two years of experience as a preacher in central New York State, and several years work upon the psychology and physiology of birth control

Early last spring I was asked to give a talk in a large city of up-state New York I spent an evening while there with a young married couple, friends of mine They had two children only eighteen months apart In the course of the evening I told them my mission there—to give a talk on the subject "Some statistical aspects of the Birth Control question " When the young husband took me back to the hotel he asked what I knew about Birth Control During our talk he said that he felt that in his own family life something had to be done He went so far as to say, indeed, that for weeks he had been considering the advisability of finding whatever sexual satisfaction was indispensable outside the home, so that neither he, nor his wife—especially—need fear the consequences

The sequel to the story was written last August at the home of Dr W F Robie, in Baldwinville, Mass, when I was there on a visit of three or four days. One evening he picked up a pile of letters from his desk, and without telling the names of the authors, read a few of them, to show the number and kinds of letters he received in less than a week. One was from a young wife who said that she was 26. She had two children only eighteen months apart, and was expecting a third when the second would be only 15 months old. Three babies in less than three years! She felt she was doing her duty by bringing three children into the world, at least for a time, and longed for strength, health, and time to devote herself to them.

Her greatest dread, she said, was the coming of this third baby, not because of the pain and suffering which she faced, but because of the possibilities afterward. She dreaded her return home from the hospital, and said in her letter that, when her husband approached her, she thought she would scream. From other details in the letter I was sure the author was the young woman mentioned above. When I told Dr. Robie I knew the author of the letter he was chagrined at what he felt to be a breach of professional confidence, until I explained that I told them to write to him in the first place.

What a basis for misunderstanding, mutual recrimination, ultimate infidelity, and final separation exists in such a situation! It is not an isolated one It is typical of hundreds of others, indeed many thousands of others. And these young people are both college graduates

Nearly Shipwrecked

Several years ago in a middlewestern city a young husband told me the story of his honeymoon After a brief courtship of only a few weeks he had married. The bride's mother had died very suddenly only a short time before, and they were married sooner than they had expected to be, in order to make a comfortable home for her. For a wedding trip they took a summer excursion from Chicago to Duluth and thence to Detroit, by boat. The second night of their married life the groom made very natural advances to his bride who jumped up, and after throwing on some clothes, ran up on deck to jump overboard "to think that she had married a man who wanted to do such a thing to her!"

They lived for eight days on that boat, the one feeling she had married a moral pervert, the other hating himself and fearing that perhaps he was abnormal

I told that story to a doctor of philosophy whose graduate work had been in the field of psychology, just a year ago. I prefaced it with the remark that he would probably say when I had finished that he didn't want to tell me what he thought to my face, but that there was no law against thinking

When I had finished he looked at me rather quizzically for a moment, and then told me the story of his courtship

Saved Through Knowledge

His wife was a Wellesley graduate A few weeks before they were to be married, through a chance remark of his wife-to-be, he found that she knew absolutely nothing of the meaning of married life. In as considerate a way as possible he told her. When he had finished she said that, if that was what married life meant, they had better call it off. Quite nonplussed he pleaded for a week in which to consider the matter before making up their minds. At the end of that time the bride-to-be had succeeded in orienting herself, and was capable of entering upon a married life of mutual happiness and understanding.

Had her husband failed to tell her before their marriage, she might have spent weeks and even years, perhaps, indeed, her whole life, beating her heart out against the bars of the cage formed by her marriage vows, condemned to a life of un-

happiness and misunderstanding

Their fate might well have been similar to that of the young couple who spent so miserable a time on the excursion boat, each of whom has told me personally that they would give ten years of their life to be able to completely forget the first ten days of their honeymoon

A few years later, either or both of these couples might have found themselves in the position of the first couple—children being born to them faster than the mother's strength makes advisable, faster than the father's earning ability makes just to the new child, and to his older brothers and sisters. They might find themselves, indeed, on the verge of a final disruption of the life which once held so much of promise

Three Problems

The stories typify three problems—first, that of adjustment after several children have come—second, bitter misunderstanding immediately after marriage because of ignorance—and third, the seeds of the second situation, which were fortunately discovered, in this case, before marriage

The answer to the question of how to avoid the third situation is sound sex education in the home and in the school. The answer to the question of how to prevent the second situation from ever developing is this—each clergyman or public officer at a wedding should take very definite steps to determine that at least one of the young people, and far better both, have a reasonable understanding of sex and its relation to marriage

I have read innumerable books on sex education and by far the greater number do more harm than good Some are poor drivel and rot, written with salacious titles because they can then be sold

at a profit

The chief trouble with our sex education is that we leave it to the back-alley school Whatever is said about it elsewhere is thoroughly steeped in the spirit "it's naughty, but it's nice" And I am not far removed by the ravages of time from the period of my life 10 to 15 years ago, when the instruction of all my boy friends in sex matters was gleaned in just that way As the son of a doctor, I fared somewhat better It had, however, always been hard for me to talk about the subject until three years ago when the second story of the three told here was told to me by the young husband, a high school classmate of mine When I realized that, if, as a boy, I had told him even what little I knew, it might have saved him and his wife so many hours of anguish and vain regrets and I vowed that never again would I let the feeling of diffidence keep me from doing whatever I could to destroy the hard shell of fanatical ecclesiasticism which for centuries

has encrusted all our sex thought and teachings

The answer to the problem of how to prevent the third situation from developing—too many babies, too close together—is Birth Control

Advantages of Birth Control

Let me hasten to explain that Birth Control does not mean abortion. It is diametrically opposed to it. No one is more strongly opposed to abortion than am I. Birth Control means the sane, unselfish use of harmless means that make it possible for young people to have children when they want them

The advantages are this—it will make it possible for young people to marry at an earlier age, thus having the privilege of each other's company for from two to five years longer. They can marry at an age when it is easier to change their mode of life, and adapt it so that it fits in smoothly with that of another. And marrying earlier will do away with much of the extra-marital sexual relations to which young people might otherwise be tempted.

Many people claim that the young people of to-day already know too much about Birth Control It may be true that they know some means, perhaps more than one, as the number is almost legion But the ways which are sure, and at the same time harmless, can be counted on the fingers of one hand

It is high time we faced matters squarely There are thousands of people to-day in our sanatoriums with nervous disorders, the result of a neurotic condition induced and aggravated by the misunderstanding of sex How many families are there in which the husband and wife live in real happiness and mutual understanding, the fruit of a perfectly adjusted sex life? How many children are there doomed to neglect, undernourishment-physical, mental and moral—because they have too many brothers and sisters? How many are there, indeed, doomed to a life of misery and suffering, because they came into the world with a nervous or physical deformity? And this because their mothers had not a full store of vitality with which to endow them before birth

Drifting Apart

And who can blame the parents who drift apart when they see the children, which they already have, fed only just above the minimum of undernourishment, clothed just above the lowest limit of decency? Indulgence in the most elemental and most powerful of all our instinctive passions might bring their children to know actual want

The result of this fear is self-imposed celibacy, an attempt as disastrous as would be an attempt to stem Niagara Irritability, misunderstanding, mutual recrimination, a feeling on the part of the

(Continued on page 333)

Advertising Birth Control

By Annie G Porritt

HERE is a touchstone which unfailingly reveals human nature This is the advocacy of Birth Control If any one doubts this, he should have been in attendance at the Birth Control booth in the Women's Activities Exhibit at the Commodore Hotel, New York City, at the end of September The Exhibit, which was promoted by the New York Business and Professional Women's Club, lasted over six full days, and the 124 exhibitors included the greatest possible variety of business enterprises, professions, social and political organizations and educational bodies The place of the Exhibit of the American Birth Control League was in the last of these categories Birth Control in practice will undoubtedly be the cornerstone of social welfare work But the purpose of the Exhibit was not to help the tens of thousands of suffering women who have to wait for the amendment of the law, but to educate the public in the meaning and principle of Birth Control, in order to gain support for the movement and for the bill which will be introduced early next year in the New York Legislature

Workers and Visitors

The Exhibit was opened to the public on Monday, September 22, at 11 a m It opened amid all the confusion and incompleteness usually attendant on such occasions This was, nevertheless, of little consequence, as visitors were few during the first hours, and indeed the whole week saw a similar thinness of attendance until after lunch-time There was, however, a full force of Birth Control workers, who labored heartily to make the booth tell its own story, that it might be approved by Margaret Sanger when she made her visit of inspection a little later The whole-hearted devotion of some of Among those the volunteers was an inspiration who were in almost constant attendance were Mrs George H Day, Sr, Chairman of the Committee in charge, Mrs Polly Randall, and Mrs J Bishop Vandever Others who gave part time were Mrs Fenley Hunter, Mrs H J Tiedemann, Mrs Lewis L Delafield and Mrs F B Ackermann Members of the staff of the League also freely gave of their spare time, and Mrs Anne Kennedy, Miss Pauline Daniel and Miss Anna Lifshiz did excellent work, especially during the evening sessions

As a rule, the visitors to the Exhibit were friendly to Birth Control, and many who did not stop to talk voiced their approval as they walked

past But there were many who regarded the subject in a narrow personal light, and seemed to think that if they were not personally in need of Birth Control information, there was no need for them to trouble themselves with the subject. They failed to see that Birth Control is a world-wide need, that it is the key to much of the misery and unrest of the present day, that its adoption would mean an end to most of the countless demands for charity, and to a large part of the taxation now levied to support the delinquent, defective and dependent members of the community, and that it would go far to insure world peace

Such people, when offered a leaflet by one of the workers, replied "No, thank you, I am past all need of that," or "I am not married," "or "I cannot even have one child, and I would like one" One "youngish" lady added to her assertion that she was not married, "but I have had lots of chances" This narrow view, however, often gave way to a larger conception after a conversation with one of the workers The assertion that the subject did not interest them was met by the quick reply "Then you pay no taxes, you have never been asked to contribute to a charity, and you have never been touched by the plight of a sick and overburdened mother or a neglected child" Of course this brought an emphatic protest and then it was easy to explain the scope and purpose of the American Birth Control League

R C Friends and Enemies

Many of the visitors were Roman Catholics and it was interesting to watch their reaction when they saw the booth Some passed on, turning their heads Others—not many, but there were such stopped and denounced the League as murderers and assured us we were "all damned" But other came and chatted, said that they considered the prevention of conception solely a woman's question, and not one in which the priests ought to concern themselves They assured us that they were in sympathy with our work no matter what the Church might say They bought our literature, and even joined our membership One Roman Catholic gentleman, after a long talk with one of the workers, went to fetch a lady whom he wished to interest Others smiled frintly as they passed but seemed to fear to be seen talking with us

Two much interested visitors were gentlemen newly arrived from Holland One a remarkably handsome young man, said that he had just finished his military training and emphatically corroborated the statement that the Dutch army recruits have improved in physique and in average stature since the institution of Birth Control clinics in Holland. He marvelled that the United States should still be without such clinics as they had in his own country, and said naively—"I thought that the Americans were a people of common sense, but no, that cannot be if they penalize Birth Control"

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Foreign Interest

There were Japanese visitors to the booth Some were interested and very friendly, but one solitary gentleman who was evidently out of sympathy with the movement in his own country, read the words "Birth Control," gasped until his jaw dropped, and walked quickly away as if afraid of contamination One French lady stopped to speak of almost universal Birth Control practice in her own country and of the vain efforts of the Government to turn back the current A couple of women who had recently been in Germany said that Birth Control was strongly demanded by women there We suggested that Birth Control if it had been put in practice in the nineteenth century might have prevented the World War They agreed and hoped that the nations would adopt it in time to avert another such stupendous calamity

If the Red Cross were making an exhibit and trying to interest people, they would not feel that the Red Cross should be grateful to them for mere empty approval of its work Yet very many of the visitors to the booth seemed to think that they had done something for which we ought to be very grateful when they told us that they were in favor of Birth Control and that they thought our work was good It did not seem to occur to them that belief in Birth Control carries with it an obligation To believe in a movement and a responsibility which will do so much for humanity is not enough without active support and help in every way possible to the believer Work, influence, money are necessary for its success and everyone, who believes, owes it to himself and to humanity to give whatever help he can

The Women's Activities Exhibit is an annual affair. This is the first time that the American Birth Control League had a booth, and it is interesting to note that when one of the great Women's Colleges was approached for an Exhibit, inquiry was made as to whether the leaders were progressive—sufficiently progressive to admit Birth Control to the list of the Activities. Finding that Birth Control was represented, the college also took its place among educational exhibitors.

The Modern Greek Mother

By George Saranton

CERTAIN English historian of the War of Greek Independence referring to Lord Byron's disappointment, says that, had the poet lived to hear the detailed story of the siege of the heroic Missolonghi, he would have admitted that modern Greek mothers did give birth to men We are hearing a good deal about the ancient Greeks but we do not hear much about their mothers, or, for that matter, about those of their successors, the Greeks of our own time The modern Greek mother! Is she different at all from any other mother? Hardly She is, however, a woman of some characteristic attributes First, she is not wholly of the same racial stock as her more fortunate ancestress, she has been subjected not only to the trials common to all the Greeks, male and female, but to the additional one of being denied almost any degree of education

She, the average Greek mother, that is, and not the member of a small privileged group who knows her French and her piano very well, is usually the parent of eight and sometimes ten children. She has been married quite young, she has been occupied before marriage with her humble trousseau

and picturesque home work and, in some cases, with work outside of the home such as domestic service or light agricultural labor She has had only a small opportunity for courtship, the Neohellenic custom being to let the girl's parents or close relatives look after the "mere man" question She is invariably patriotic and incurably pious, when mairiage comes and with it children, she gradually becomes a household fixture As in classic Hellas, so in Greece today, a wife is primarily a home-maker, the degree of her extradomal interests being in-The emancipated, athletic woman of finitesimal ancient Greece has hardly a direct modern representative, but the pious, superstitious woman of pagan days still survives Before marriage and even after, the woman of today will frequently invoke the graces of some saint, mostly Saint Catherine, the patroness of love and marriage With most of the country girls, it is the unfailing custom to bake a cake with salt as one of its chief ingredients on the eve of the Saint's day, November 26 This they eat and then drink great quantities of In the troubled sleep which follows, they

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The Minister's Plea

By Anna Allen Ballantine

"Fill the cup and fill the can, Have a rouse before the morn,

THE fame of the Rev David Harding had gone abroad throughout the land His personality and his work were topics of conversation among all classes of people, and he was a remarkable man, remarkable for his simplicity, directness, earnestness and undaunted allegiance to his somewhat peculiar views He was called by some a theorist and a sophist, for he was the advance guard of the radical idea of restricting pernicious and criminal propagation, and he did not hesitate to disseminate his views and plead his He was a cause at every possible opportunity. He was a vigorous type of manhood in his early forties, and had devoted himself body and soul to working in the slum and slime of miserable tenement life, and to reclaiming the derelicts of humanity that floated by him on the swift tide of time But he did not rest content with what chance and Fate thrust under his notice He stretched forth and deliberately sought new miseries and mysteries, notwithstanding the strain upon his sympathy and energy that this entailed He tried to make plain to those amongst whom he labored that a blind, indiscriminate obedience to the law of Nature was oftentimes a mistake, and even a crime, that "God helps those who help themselves," not those who drift ignorantly along and let Fate decide unwisely for them How often had he prayed in solitude "Let me, Oh God, be the instrument of power and knowledge in Thy hands to show these poor creatures the way to clean living, and to pave the way for a better and nobler race in the years that are to come!"

A COMMITTEE from a well known Educational Society in the City of New York had waited upon Dr Harding and invited him to address a meeting to be given in his honor, and for the express purpose of spreading his views. He had accepted, and it had been arranged that everything he said was to be taken down in writing and printed in pamphlet form to be spread broadcast through the country. As his utterances on this occasion were to have so much publicity, he had given the matter a great deal of time and thought, for he had now reached the point where he considered himself responsible to his Maker for the enlightenment of the ignorant masses

As he looked over the work he had done, the individual cases he had relieved and the number he had started forward to solve life's problems in a healthful and intelligent manner, his heart grew

Every moment dies a man, Every moment one is born"

sick within him at the thought of the vast field yet to be covered "I must have workers," he cried "I must have trained men and women to go forth and sow the seed of clean living and decency among the people" His zeal in the matter had become feverish, and he was in a fair way to develop into a fanatic upon the subject so close to his heart

He had prepared an elaborate address to deliver at the meeting of the Society, and had compiled facts and statistics to bear out his assertions. The typewritten manuscript he was to read lay on his desk and on the day he was to deliver it in public he sat down and read it over for the last time. When he had finished he rose, and saying to himself, "Yes, I am quite sure that covers it all," thrust the notes in his pocket, and entering his car, found himself whizzing downtown to the hall where he was to speak. And then, all at once, in the twinkling of an eye, it came to him what he should say, and he took his carefully prepared manuscript out of his pocket and tearing it in pieces opened the car window and threw them out

A HALF hour later he was standing on the platform in the great hall, with a surging sea of faces before him, and a feeling of exaltation took possession of him He gazed earnestly out upon the throng

"My friends," he began, "We are face to face with a situation with which we are not able to cope by adhering to the old regime Let us burn our bridges behind us and start afresh I plead with you today not only to regulate your own lives by the rules that religion and experience would dictate, but to try and spread this knowledge and power among the ignorant where so much misery abounds, The poor creatures, whom I am most anxious to help, because they think race-suicide a sin, go ahead bringing into the world diseased, half starved children, many of them doomed criminals from birth It is from these ranks that our hospitals, workhouses and prisons draw the majority of their in-I had prepared a carefully written address of statistics to deliver before you, but I have changed my mind and will instead relate to you an experience which has come to me in this work

It is the sordid, tragic history of a family I have known the larger part of my ministerial life, and I think it will prove a convincing argument in favor of my so-called rash views 314 Burth Control Review

TIGHTEEN years ago when I first graduated From the Theological Seminary, a young couple came to me who wanted to get married The man was a strong, athletic looking chap, with buoyant spirits and an evidently ambitious nature He was very much in love with the young girl he was to wed, who was slight, quite refined in appearance and had a gentle, confiding way about her that was very pleasing Well, I married them, and, as for a while, they attended the church where I was assistant minister, I saw quite a little of them The husband was a carpenter, and when he could work his pay was good But, as you all know, the building trade is a precarious one, on account of the many strikes which may be called at any time and must be Knowing this, James told me that it was his intention to save when he had a position, in order to tide over the unemployed weeks or months So far, so good, but Nature, when she goes blindly and ignorantly forward among blind and ignorant people, will demand her own no matter what the cost So, less than a year after I married the couple, a son came to increase the burden and responsibility of the man, and weaken the physical strength of the woman who had been none too strong in the beginning

"When I would go to the little flat to make my visit there was no longer a neat, trim figure to open the door for me and bid me welcome. After a long wait, during which I would hear the screaming wails of the baby who was fed without proper knowledge, the mother would appear in an old gown of some kind, and wearily ask me to step inside. No discussion would be possible on any topic save the one of the child, and my advice would be asked in regard to diet, clothing, etc. Of course, I knew nothing of these matters and told her so, advising her to take the doctor's counsel, to which she wisely remarked that if she consulted him twenty times a day his bill would be rather more

than James could pay

"James, on the other hand, wished to avoid these questions, his wife's constant fretting and worrying and her pale, drawn face which compared pitifully with the bright young girl of a year before only way to do this was to stay away from home, and he stayed away Work became slack and the baby grew sick, so what money had been saved had to be expended The neglected, overworked wife grew complaining and bitter and the husband grew hopeless and morose The home, once so neat and tidy, was now unkempt and desolate But, my friends, instead of taking warning by the mistake they had made in bringing a child into the world before they could take proper care of it, they went ahead and duplicated the mistake, and less than two years after her marriage the wife gave birth to her second child

T would make too long a story for me to tell you of the decline and fall of this family Of its growth in number until there were seven, beside the parents, to be fed and cared for And as it was manifestly impossible to feed, clothe, train and educate seven children on the money the father made, they were allowed to run wild and often half dressed, make vicious acquaintances in the streets where they played and formed pernicious habits Seeing the hopelessness of the situation, James took to drink, and his wife soon followed his example, for when she was intoxicated at least she could forget her miseries and the hopes she once had experienced Bitter want would often assail them now The neighbors would help, but soon grew tired when they saw that their loans did not benefit the children, but went to increase the profit of the saloon around the corner The children grew to despise and dislike their parents, of whom they were ashamed and afraid, and the oldest—a boy of seventeen—took it upon himself to earn a little money in the streets in order to keep the family from actual starvation It was a common sight now for me, when I went to that home, to see the mother lying in a drunken stupor in one room, her face bloated beyond the recognition of what she had once been, and the father in another room lolling back in a chair, ordering the older girls to do their mother's work and swearing at them profusely the while—as a means of keeping them in order and of relieving his feelings

I EXPOSTULATED with them both, and tried to make them see the end which must inevitably come But to no avail 'If only it were not for the children!' was the eternal wail that met me With such a number as that all must suffer, and the cause was a lost one

"Finally the father lost his job through drink, and it was only by some contributions from myself and the efforts of Paul, the big brother, that the family was kept alive Poor boy! he tried his best, but poverty and the reckless, conscienceless precepts imbibed at home made a victim of him, and he fell, as nine young men out of ten would have fallen under similar circumstances

"One dark, cold night, with thoughts of the miserable ones huddled together half frozen on their wretched beds, the devil took possession of him An opportunity presented itself, as if it had just been awaiting his decision, and he held up and robbed an old gentleman of quite a sum of money and some valuable jewelry Being unused to the business, however, and having to put up a fight, he killed the old man, and even then he did not escape

That night he slept behind the bars of iron that prove a lodestone to so many poor creatures who come into the world handicapped from the start Given the seed of inordinate craving, or disease, or imbecility, or degeneracy or crime of any kind in a parent, and God help the offspring of that parent. For that seed will grow and grow until, like the deadly Upas tree, it will destroy body and soul of the innocent victim of those who had no right to become parents, and who became so not according to Nature, but against all the laws of Nature as I read them "

NOT a sound could be heard in the breathless stillness of the hall as Dr Harding paused for a moment to control his feelings. The magnetism and earnestness of the man held his audience as by a cord. He continued slowly—

"This was the beginning of the end The young man received what was undoubtedly a fair trial in

the eyes of the law On account of his youth, and the fact that the murder was unpremeditated, he escaped with his life, but only last week he was sent to the grim prison up the river for twenty long, weary years, and God alone knows what kind of a man he will be when that prison sends him back into the world

"My friends," he cried, in conclusion, and his voice trembled with emotion, "you have heard my story and you know my views. I am pleading with you on behalf of countless unborn children, to let them rest in their dreamless sleep. And if my plea is answered and it were possible for them to speak, I am sure their childish voices would cry out in thanks to you from the silence of the Great Unknown."

Large Families as a Menace to Child Welfare

A Report by an Expert

THAT children from large families are handicapped mentally, morally, and socially, is the conclusion reached in a study of a representative group of approximately 600 families in a typical Iowa city, as reported by Hornell Hart, Ph D, to the Iowa Child Welfare Research Station

In a representative sample of children from practically completed families in Davenport, Iowa, the mental test ability of the children is inversely correlated with the number of surviving children Children with no living brothers or sisters tend to have mental test quotients about 15 points higher than children with 11 living brothers and sisters, and the average mental test ability decreases fairly steadily as the size of the families increases The effect of this differential fecundity is to reduce the average mental test ability of the rising generation in Davenport below what it would have been if all families had been of the same size and each parent had had children of the same average intelligence as at present, by an amount equal to approximately one-fourth of the difference between the mental ability of the average skilled laborer and that of the average unskilled laborer

School progress (in excess or defect of the amount to be expected from mental-test ability) is at a maximum in families of four or five living children, and at a minimum in families of ten children or over. The difference between the average residuals for these two groups is such that the average child in the very large family loses about one-third of a year through conditions other than mental test ability associated with large families.

The larger the family the greater the tendency

is for the children to leave school at the earliest possibility

Of families with seven or more living children, 14 per cent are chronically dependent, as compared with three per cent among families with six children or less

As far as can be ascertained from teachers' ratings, children in large families are less energetic, less kind, less sincere, and less honest than children from small families. This conclusion is fairly certain for energy, but not so decisive for the other characteristics.

Contrary to general impression, children without brothers or sisters compare very favorably with children having brothers and sisters. Birth order, as far as it was studied in this inquiry, appears to have very little significance

In general, this study shows that a reduction in the size of the larger families would tend to raise the average mental test ability of the rising generation, to promote more rapid school progress, to reduce premature leaving of school, to reduce the amount of dependency, and to increase the energy, kindness, and other desirable characteristics of the children

The complete results of the Davenport survey are in the hands of the Iowa Child Welfare Research Station at Iowa City, Iowa

Man's progress is largely measured by his increasing control over natural conditions and natural forces. Man is still struggling that he may the more completely subdue the elements of nature, that he may compel the forces of nature to do his bidding—Ezra Thaier Towne

Keeping up with Mencius

By Helen Ward Bromfield

ITH the exception of the Mohammedans, approximately one-fifth of the population, the Land of the Little Blue Gown still observes, in a mutilated, slip-shod sort of way, the philosophy of Confucius from which the Golden Rule was extracted some time since The lore of the Sage of Shantung was broadcasted six centuries B C, but the text of it had been handed down from time immemorial, Zoroaster of the Persians preaching it to his people as divine revelation a thousand years be-Chaotic fragments of old superstitions are indiscriminately woven into the doctrines of today, acting as barriers to the advancement of science, and fog on the road of progress, yet they are as blindly adhered to by the mindless masses as were the platitudes that fell from the lips of yellow hermits to harass for centuries, in their appalling ignorance, the hapless yellow millions that followed in their wake From his pinnacle of egotism said the disciple Mencius "Three things are evil, and the greatest of these is to have no posterity'

Hariti, the Goddess of Pestilence, so the devout votaries of Buddhism assure us, was converted by the gentle philosophy of the Great Teacher into a Spirit of Benevolence Possibly they attribute to atavism the frequent reversion to her former state when she is called upon to preside over the destiny of her four hundred millions of subjects in time of famine—gaunt, lean, hungry, dirty, emaciated millions, because "the greatest of three evils is to have no posterity"

Positive Checks to Population

Passing lightly over the T'ai P'ing Rebellion of 1860-64 in which more lives were lost through disease and famine than the total exacted by the Great War in Europe, the reports of the next famine of note estimate that in 1876 from nine to thirteen millions of human beings perished from hunger, disease and violence—In the sections most generally affected it was assumed that seven-tenths of the population had disappeared

That was before the days of railroads in China, and because transportation facilities were lacking, the grain of Manchuria and Mongolia was prevented from reaching the starving population, even had there been an organization to meet the requirements. This particular condition was ameliorated in the famine of 1920-21 when the Government granted free transportation of such grains as the United International Famine Relief Committee were able to secure in Manchuria

It is the usual story of absence of rain for a per-

nod of two or three years, supplemented by improvidence—supplying more mouths than the land could feed, denudation of forests, cultivation of poppy in place of grain, and neglect of river channels which gradually silted up. The provinces affected in these repeated catastrophes are identical, five of them comprising an area of approximately 300,000 square miles and affecting a population as great as that of the United States

Chinese Famines

There is nothing spectacular about a Chinese famine It is like a war of attrition Individuals lie down and die in their isolated huts and villages They are not given to assembling into groups and scrambling mobs Death by starvation is not accompanied by clamor The preceding stages are listlessness and coma In the famine of 1921 the conditions were exceptional As early as August of 1920 a large number of poor families had begun to migrate over to Kansu, where, although the mountains walk, it was hoped that they retained mois-Into this mountainous country these hungry hordes repaired, selling their cattle and farming implements as they proceeded There were long trains of people on the trek and the road over which they travelled was indicated by their dead In the face of the hottest summer Shensi had known in twenty years, the women and children, in their famished condition, were easy prey to disease and the torrid climate The certainty of death had they remained where no rain had fallen in three years, was their incentive The extremely poor left first, and as autumn and winter approached and the struggle became acute, families were broken up and every possession disposed of Not only was the poor furniture of the pauper class for sale, but wellto do disposed of their treasured belongings Carved tables and chairs, lacquer and ancient scrolls were humbly submitted to the despised foreigner in the hope of securing food to fortify the family against the three tsai-han tsai (calamity from drought,) ch'ung tsai (calamity from insects,) feng tsai (calamity from wind) Even the plains of Chengtu, famous for marvelous engineering skill in irrigation, were helpless against the continued lack of precipitation

The Spring of 1921 found the foreign missions essaying the role of Yuan Yin—"the Goddess of Mercy looking down from above the sound of prayer" The ordinary poor had disappeared from their farms and villages Dust rifts were gamboling in the river beds By April and May the trees

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along the roads were alive with humans clinging to branches while they stripped them of leaves and tender shoots. Mile upon mile they trudged to secure these precious twigs which were carried home and made into soups and stews, and, mixed with any grain they were fortunate enough to possess, moulded into tasteless famine bread

Famine Food

These famine breads left much to be desired The food of natives of Shantung, upon which they had miraculously existed for many months, was such substance as wheat bran and chaff, leaves of cabbage that had been thrown away, gathered and dried, then boiled, outer hulls of corn ground with elm leaves, chaff of millet, bran with a little red millet, thistles, sweet potato vines, mulberry leaves and chaff, ground corn cobs

Reports and letters from Foreign and Chinese Relief workers were often similar to the one quoted below It is from a Chinese worker in Lung P'ing Hsien on the southern border of the Chengting district

"Shihchiachwang, April 23, 1921—Some days ago a band of about a thousand robbers (t'u fei) raided and looted more than fifty villages here in the area where we are at work. Entering the houses of the villages they stole all articles of value, smashing the furniture and dishes, carrying away girls and women, and in the case of well-to-do families, took away men also to be held for ransom

When the raiders departed the villages were left almost without human life. Not only poor people but middle-class farmers possessing thirty or fifty mow of land were left without resources. Some of these in distress offered their land for sale, but there were no buyers, for the members of the wealthy families who had not been kidnapped, had fied."

Difficult Relief Work

In May of 1921 the Peking Committee's Relief Drive realized the sum of \$2,419,234 00 and this sum was distributed among the various cities. The funds raised were administered by the various International Famine Relief Societies, and in the famine stricken provinces they were at that late date caring for five and a half million people.

"We had hundreds sleeping in the lee of our wall last night to hold their place in line as well as to keep out the cold," wrote Dr Wilder of Hantan "The line was 242 yards long this morning"

Special messengers were sent out by the Relief Committees to all hiers that could be reached asking them to refrain from sending carts drawn by oxen or mules as there was no way to control the soldiers. Looting from the famine refugees by the soldiers was one of the problems with which the famine workers had to contend, particularly in

Shuntefu Wheelbarrows were pushed as far as seventy miles, and toothless old women hobbled on their gnarled, bound "lily" feet distances of thirty miles and more, leading children, cripples and blind, to receive the dole of coarse millet

In the land where the greatest of three evils is to have no posterity and no thought of numerical regulation enters the minds of their creators, belated measures were taken to prevent the sale of human beings by their parents and relatives number were saved by relief workers through the donation of small grants of grain There were other cases where the opportunity was lost through lack of the necessary food supply One of the magistrates posted an official proclamation prohibiting this nefarious traffic Several dealers were A Catholic arrested and thrown into prison priest in Tze-chow reported that in his district 112 people were known to have been sold in 33 villages

Selling the Children

Mr Ramsen, of Shuntefu, remarked that in th five districts he visited there were at least 5,000 persons sold In the district of Ninchin the traffic became so extensive that there were practically no children left Parents were found trying to sell their children, and, failing purchasers, endeavoring to give them away The refuges provided by the foreign missions were filled to overflowing Shuntefu the Catholic sisters alone picked up five hundred abandoned babies These conditions prevail openly in time of famine, surreptitiously at all The streets of every Chinese city are filled with human scum, usually with a flock of dirty, unsightly progeny in tow You must see a Chinese beggar to appreciate how dirty a human being can get in only fifty years You must wander through the lanes and byways to realize the filth of over-You must have lived on the China population coast to understand that when a native steamer is wrecked and sinks with a thousand lives on board, probably not one of the lot will have sufficient identity to warrant an attempt at communicating with As insignificant as the crushing of an ant hill in a cavalry charge is the extermination of an equal number of the daughters and sons of Han Plague wipes them out by thousands A scourge of cholera appears and is of less moment than a dust storm Louse-borne diseases sweep their towns and villages It is the will of the Almighty Droughts, floods and locusts come and the bare fields yield up their harvest of skulls

The housewife labors in the field or over her loom with an infant strapped to her back from dawn until dark. Children of three and four themselves scarcely able to toddle have younger arrivals fastened in papoose fashion to be carried the whole

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A Tour for Birth Control

A Report by Anne Kennedy

EAVING New York City early in July for I the west, I found Chicago indulging in one of her usual summer orgies of heat The blistering pavements failed to quell my ardor for information on the Birth Control situation in Illinois I found the Mid-Western Committee, with Dr Favill, Chairman, planning an organization campaign for the winter months The Illinois Birth Control League have opened offices on North Michigan Avenue, and are expecting a report on their case re the Clinic, from the Appellate Court Dr John Allen Pusey, the President of the American Medical Association, said that the press had surprised him by headlining Birth Control when reporting his address before the Association in June, and that there had been many favorable comments on his In Milwaukee the Mayor was away on his vacation but his friends quoted him as saying he would aid the opening of a Birth Control Clinic A survey of the public health offices and social agencies showed that there was a need for such a clinic in the city

Reaching Iowa, I found Des Moines busy with a re-called legislature considering the Child Labor Amendment, and a Republican Party caucus met the Governor and many of the women politicians, as well as candidates for the Legislature It was interesting to note how freely the women worked in this political convention, with less appearance of following a game, but more of the seriousness of voters Birth Control was discussed The Iowa state with candidates and legislators law permits the opening of a Birth Control clinic A committee has been formed to do educational work and to work toward the establishment of clinics

Colorado

Denver has an interesting group of women who are educating many of the medical profession in Birth Control through literature and personal interviews, hoping to get their support and coopera-With Ruth Vincent of the Juvenile Court, I interviewed the Mayor and some prominent They were all in favor of having health officials Margaret Sanger present the social side of Birth Control I interviewed Congressman Vaile on our suggested Federal bill, and his comment was favorable to its restriction to the medical profession Mr Vaile is deeply interested in Birth Control and it was he who introduced the bill lifting the Comstock ban last session This bill lacks the safeguards of the bill proposed by the American Birth Control League, and Mr Vaile assured me that such safeguards would greatly aid in securing the support of Congressmen. The new medical school and hospital connected with the University of Colorado received a large donation from the Rockefeller Foundation. The Denver group felt there was a possibility of getting an experimental Birth Control clinic considered by the hospital Board of Trustees, a clinic which should share in this large donation.

It was only a 28-hour ride to Salt Lake, where the press carried full news of our International Conference and of the clinical work being done at the National Headquarters in New York City I secured an audience from the House of Bishops, and found that the Mormons are more interested in quality of population than in numbers The Unitarian Church of Salk Lake City was offered as a meeting place for Margaret Sanger, when she makes her western tour next winter

California

Upon my arrival in San Francisco, after crossing the Nevada Desert, it seemed like the "promised land" I found many groups and individuals interested and ready to cooperate The Alameda County Branch of the American Birth Control League, a strong Committee of influential men and women, has been formed in Oakland Business Clubs of Oakland asked for a speaker on Birth Control at their weekly luncheon, and the Business and Professional Women's Clubs of both cities gave enthusiastic support to our educational campaign for their State Berkeley was registering her large classes of students at the University of California, but I interviewed deans and professors, and interested them in the World Conference on Birth Control in March next year fessor S J Holmes of the Department of Zoology is giving much thought and study to the question of Eugenics and Birth Control Mrs Sanger will address the women students at Berkeley on her trip San Francisco social agencies and the Health Department gave me data showing the great need for practical Birth Control in their city It was interesting to note how eager the press of northern California is for facts on Birth Control The papers gave liberal space to news on this subject

Vancouver

A wire from Vancouver, regarding the Canadian Conference decided me to take the train for Seattle

This city, on Puget Sound, seemed to embody the freedom and fine spirit of our American institu-I found that Dr Paul A Turner of the State Board of Health had made a survey of the birth rate in the State of Washington He found Birth Control being generally practiced by the native stock, but expressed alarm at the increase of the foreign born. Seattle has the lowest death rate of any city in the country A group of professors from the University of Washington met with me at luncheon. We discussed the history of Birth Control and the future program of the American Birth Control League Among this group I found Prof A B Wolfe, from Ohio University, who complimented the League on the Review and its scientific appearance, as well as on our educational literature.

The night boat brought me to Vancouver early in the morning of one of British Columbia's few days of intense sunshine I met with the group that was organized after Mrs Sanger's lecture there last year They are arranging a Canadian Conference, and we discussed details as to program and publicity, with the assurance that all of the Canadian Provinces would be interested return to San Francisco I found that Raymond H Arnold, Chairman of the San Francisco Birth Control Committee, had arranged a full schedule It seemed to me that the educational effort, begun by Margaret Sanger many years ago, was commencing to bear fruit. It was touching when someone in an audience asked me to give a few personal details about Margaret Sanger's work for this great cause When I finished, a man asked the privilege of the platform, and in simple words gave a new picture of our leader During a strike in one of the industrial centers of Massachusetts, the children were suffering for food and Margaret Sanger was one of a group who went to bring them to New York to be cared It was cold, and the children were shivering as they waited to board the train She took off her coat and scarf and put them around the children, encouraging them with stories and cheering words This vivid picture brought tears to many eyes, and gave me fresh inspiration for work in this cause for women and children

Southern California

Los Angeles, I found still talking of the success of the Birth Control session in the State Convention for Social Workers at Long Beach Dr John Haynes was Chairman of this session and Dr Aaron J Rosanoff was one of the speakers, at this, the best attended session of the Conference Mrs Elizabeth McManus is the Chairman of the South California Branch of the American Birth Control

League Under her leadership, and with the support of a fine group of prominent people, Birth Control should become an established and practical part of social work

In San Diego, I had a surprise in finding one of our Rochester women and League members doing press work. The newspapers of the city gave full news of the League's activities. The Metaphysical Library sells our literature and a lecture was given under its auspices. Everywhere in California I found interested cooperation, personal friends, of the movement, contacts that had been made years ago, and the desire on the part of everyone to crystalize work along practical lines. Educational work will be carried on during the winter by the three Committees in the State

Texas and Eastmard

It was a long ride from this play-ground of America on the Pacific Coast to the cotton fields of Texas I found the Texas women sympathetic and interested They knew of the work through Mrs Sanger's books and the newspapers Houston and Dallas were interested in my investigation of the State law When they found there was no restrictive law against the doctors giving contraceptive advice, they immediately wanted to start an educational campaign for clinics, and are anxiously awaiting for Mrs Sanger to tour their A Committee was formed in Dallas with Mrs Albert Walker as temporary chairman Mrs Walker is well known as head of the Dallas Public Health work It was reported by friends of Mrs Ferguson, nominee for Governor, that she is interested in Birth Control Unfortunately I was unable to meet her personally as she was not in the city while I was there

St Louis, Cincinnati and Pittsburgh have individuals and groups who are looking forward to our International Conference with keen interest, and many prominent social workers, ministers, and medical men are arranging their schedules to be in New York for the sessions of the Conference

Fifteen states and nineteen cities were visited in this tour for Birth Control In summing up what most impressed me was the need that public officials should recognize Birth Control as an essential part of the great program for national health. It is impossible for effective work to be done without this, Ameliorating evils is not enough—they must be prevented. Social workers almost unanimously believe that Birth Control must become part of the social program. Medical men are gradually growing in confidence in their public stand on Birth Control. Everywhere the press is alive to the issue and its treatment of the subject is dignified and sympathetic.

Birth Control Review

WHY MAKE CHARITY CASES

Ought We to Force These Families into Pauperism?

There is nothing that self-respecting people abhor more than the disgrace and misery of being on charity. Yet there are thousands of families whose incomes barely cover their needs. With one or two children a man can just support his family in comfort. With more the family faces poverty, destitution, lack of food, overwork and consequent sickness. Then comes the dread moment when the parents must have resort to charity. Most practical social workers know that it is the too-rapidly increasing family that fills their case records. Yet society still refuses to allow these women access to Birth Control information. What are YOU going to do about it?

A Devastating Flood of Babies

Colorado

I was married in May, 1917, and as I was not very strong my first child, a girl, was born at eight months In seventeen months I lost a seven months pair of twin boys. In sixteen months more another little girl came to us and six months ago, a boy. I am very sickly and suffer terribly during the entire time I carry my children

Sometimes we have no help at all during confinement, my husband caring for me and the baby and doing the housework until I am up. Then afterwards I am so weak I am not able to care for the children as they should be My husband helps me what he can, but he is not strong either and can hardly make a living for us. He is bothered with rheumatism. Three years ago I thought I would lose him, and he has been unable to work at all much of the time since that. We are very poor and were it not for the kindness of relatives in helping us I do not know how we would get along

I would like your advice as to how to keep from becoming a mother as we do not see how we can care for any more I also have three sisters-in-law who are doing the same as we are, only two of them have not been married as long as we have The third has six living children which they are unable to feed and clothe without help If you can help me I will be very grateful to you, for my-self and for them

Where the Money Went

Nebraska

I don't want any more children for I have two pair of twins My oldest twins are five years, one child three years old and my youngest twins one year old I am only twenty-two years old I have lost my health by having my children I have to work so hard, for we cannot afford to hire help When my first children were born I was torn terribly, my nurse said it was the worst tear she had ever seen. When I gave birth to my third child I got tore a little more and we are not able to have me operated on, so when I work hard I feel like I am all cut to pieces

I sure had to suffer for my babies About two months before they were born I was shocked with awful pain and each one would last for about two minutes I would have about five each time and they came three and four times a day We always had to have the doctor twice before they were born We had a lot of money when we had our first twins, but we had it mostly all spent before we had any more children It takes money to raise children. The last two times our children came we had to borrow money to pay nurse and doctor bills

I have to doctor all the time and one of the little babies is puny and sickly We doctored it for months and he is a year old now and too weak to sit up He seems to be in misery all the time We both do all we can for him

I love my little family and would like to raise them decent, and my husband says we could soon have a lot of money again and a home if we did not have to have any more children We can't borrow any more money and when I am sick in bed when confined, my husband has to wash clothes and do housework and keep out of the field, to help me But this year he has to work and raise a good crop, so he can't do my work We will have to starve or go to the poor farm if we have to have any more children So please tell me what to do so I won't have any more My husband quarrels with me when I try and keep away from I have heart and kidney trouble I do hope that you will do something for me and I sure will help you all Don't stop your wonderful work Help everybody that needs help My children and housework is always neglected It makes me feel so bad, and I worry so over my children and afraid I will get more that I am getting gray headed

"We Would Be on Charity"

Texas

My husband is an ex-service man unable to work because he was gassed during the war, and has developed tuberculosis to the stage of hemorrhages of the lungs and night-sweats. We have no means of livelihood save his government compensation, and it is so little we are unable

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to save anything at all We have one child and expect another in the summer If my husband's health never gets better, I may be compelled to earn our living Can I do so if our family keeps on increasing? No, we would be on charity Two children are all and more than we shall be able to provide for I might be able to care for these two and my husband if I do not have several, and them the delicate sickly little ones they would be sure to be with my husband's health in this condition, and I myself not overly strong and extremely nervous

"Too Many for Our Means"

Massachusetts

We have been married going on five years and have three children, a boy and two girls, and expect another addition to our little family next month. Now we did not expect the last little girl, and were astomshed and some afraid when we first knew the one yet to come to us was on the way We are very poor, American people, and can't afford to bring up so many—unless unexpected luck should come to us, which is unlikely—even now, and certainly later when they get older and more expensive We might be able to do fairly well by the first two, but now we have too many for our means and income, and are fearful lest there might be others to follow, as time goes on, in spite of all we try to do The fact is we don't know much of anything, about these things, either of us We have received much advice from many sources, but it has not seemed to have availed us much

"Maybe Suicide Would Be Best"

Arkansas

I am the mother of eight children and I will say the last two of them especially were not wanted We are hard-working people and have more than we can care for As anyone knows, a family of seven is too many for one woman Three of our babics died in infancy We have tried several ways to avoid so many but nothing seems to help We have one baby now two years old and one seven months old, and of course it is not necessary to tell you that my health is broken and my mind burdened I keep away from my husband all I can but it seems that one can't all the time I am so afraid I will get that way again I generally do about the time my babies are eight or nine months old I have got to where I am afraid to try anything Sometimes I think maybe suicide would be best, as most any woman had rather be dead than to live such a life as this Husband and I are both anxious to learn what to do I feel you are a friend to womankind, so I come to you for advice

"Five Children and Not Five Cents"

Indiana

I married young and had children very fast till I had five and had to take in washings and any kind of work I could do at home to get along, putting my children to bed hungry at times My husband was taken up for mur-

der once, but got out After that he stole an automobile and some brass, and then for murder again, and went to prison for life, leaving me with five children and not five cents in money

I had to put my children out and work and try to help keep them Then I met a man whom I loved and he begged me to marry and bring my children home

In about a year I was to become a mother for this man, but at two-and-a-half months I miscarried and almost died. It was not long till I was in the same shape again and I miscarried, taking me to the hospital, where both nurses and doctor said they didn't think I would live

I am in bed right now with a miscarriage I bought one of your books some time ago and I and my husband both have been reading it and he begs me to write and see what you can do for us We just rent, and me being sick so much is sure bad, so if there is anything you can do, for God's sake try and let me know what it is I would just as leave die as have to go through this kinc of life

"Can Barely Make a Living"

Colorado

I am the mother of three children, the oldest one six years, the second three and the third one two years old, and I am expecting the fourth one by the fifteenth of this month

I am only 23 years old and weigh only a hundred pounds. Three years ago we left Chicago on account of my health having tuberculosis. We came to Colorado and worked two years as beet laborers. Now we are only renters on a ten-acre farm and can barely make a living

I am afiaid of bringing sick children into the world So please write me what to do to keep from hiving more children. Excuse my writing. My parents were too poor to let me to go to school

"It Is Wrecking My Life"

Illinois

This spring is my third veri of married life. In the first year we lost our first child, the second, a sweet little girl, is now mine months, and the third will arrive before she is a year old. I do love children, but I cannot bear to think of the fourth year, if it should mean the same again. It is wicking my life. What can one do? My own mother was the mother of ten, and many were our needs and wishes and very few our comforts.

Eleven in Fourteen Years

North Dakota

I was married when I was 18 vents and am now 32, and have seven living children, and have had four miscarriages. Some of my babies were fourteen months apart. We are poor. I am never able to have help only for a limited time and I am a nervous wreck and so miscable during pregnancy. Please write to me. May God bless you and your work.

Johann Ferch, Austrian Pioneer

By EMILY F RIEDER

In the international Birth Control movement one of the outstanding figures is certainly Mr Johann Ferch of Vienna. He is a man in the vigor of his best years, a self-made man who developed a mania for reading—a mania which his childhood home, overcrowded with children and anxious, worn parents had made it impossible to indulge but for which his later work as printer and proof-reader gave him many facilities. His love for the human race, his deep sympathy with suffering, seen through the idealist's eye—these traits and his own experiences have produced this selfless helper in the cause of the suffering mother and of all children in misery

In my long conversations with this untiring enthusiast and his helpmate, who presides over the three Stations for Advice to Mothers established in Vienna, the key to this pioneer's character became clear to me, as he passed through his successive stages of apprentice, printer, thinker, always seeing around him the constant fight against poverty. All this found expression in his early articles and books

As a Writer

The little book which reveals him best is Bekenntnisse eines Freimauers (Confessions of a Freemason) The whole book, which has not, I think, been translated, is worth reading Especially interesting to lovers of peace are those passages dealing with his three years of military service and his observations on the pernicious influence of the service on natures not protected by idealistic armor

As a Lecturer

But it is as a lecturer that Johann Ferch's success lies with the big mass of the public who read little. He has made a unique collection of slides on the need of Birth Control among the great mass of industrial workers. Some of these are beautiful, showing how happy the life of children should be and in some cases is, but others show how too often, alas! it is not happy. I am bringing this presentation of the need and justification of Birth Control to London, for Birth Control is the international common cause and we must make it clear to others that, until political franchise for woman spells complete enfranchisement as mother, all talk of change of status from chattel to independence is futile

To one accustomed to English audiences, the responsiveness of a Viennese audience is a revelation

Pictures are received with murmurs of pleasure or indignant protest, and the ardent advocate is listened to in rapt attention, for all Vienna knows, and the provinces know that Johann Ferch, living meagrely on his pay in a small government post, and what the sale of his books provides, never accepts a single krone for his lectures. The receipts go to pay for the upkeep of the stations for Advice to Mothers. The lecture halls are crowded beyond the doors and Mrs. Ferch lectures to the overflow

At the Clinics

At the stations, Mrs Ferch, with the voluntary aid of two or three other ladies, inquires into each case, and, if the circumstances warrant, makes out a form to some accredited doctor of the district, in sympathy with the Birth Control movement. Here the mother can have expert advice, and at a very reduced rate, for the station bears part of the expense

It need hardly be said how remarkably this movement has grown here, those who know that the Roman Catholic Church is strongly represented by the Clerical Party will recognize how remarkable this growth is In Vienna, women paraded the streets bearing posters and banners asking to have removed from the statutes Artikel 144, an old law which the new republic had retained, in deference to old custom and prejudice Strange to say, these demonstrations by the women were not interfered Even more interesting is the fact that one of the Mothers' Advice Stations in Vienna is officially, not "housed" but allowed the use of a set of consulting rooms in one of the Municipal Health Centers

The founders and sustainers of this humanitarian work are hoping to get to the International Birth Control Conference in March 1925, but I fear the fearful financial depression in Austria may make this an unrealizable dream. In that case the two all-but-adopted children, on whom the parent affection of this couple of lovers of the human race centers, will rejoice, for every holiday and Sunday is spent with those lovers of the young, to whom children have been denied!

Many will rise up and call them blessed

EDITOR.

Nors—In our July issue we printed an article contributed by Mr Ferch in which he described his work for Birth Control in Austria, and the extension of the work in Germany The misery caused by the war makes both Austria and Germany fertile ground for Birth Control, but Mr Ferch's success has been little less than phenomenal We hope that his slides may soon be shown in America.

Book Reviews

A Review by Frank S C Wicks

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CONFERENCE ON CHRISTIAN POLITICS, ECONOMICS AND CITI-ZENSHIP, Longmans, Green and Company, New York

I N ancient times it was believed that if besiegers learned the real name of a city its mere pronunciation would open its gates. Today in England a magic word has been discovered, the use of which will open the gates of the Kingdom of Heaven on earth. It is "Copec," which may be translated, "Conference on Christian Politics, Economics and Citizenship."

The members of the conference have the conviction that the Christian faith, rightly interpreted and consistently followed, gives the vision and the power essential for solving the problems of today They feel that the social ethics of Christianity have been greatly neglected by Christians with disastrous consequences to the individual and to society They believe that in the teaching and work of Jesus there are fundamental principles, such as the universal Fatherhood of God with its corollary that mankind is God's family, and the law, "that whose loseth his life findeth it," which, if accepted, not only condemn much in the present organization of society, but show the way to its regeneration In the light of these principles the constitution of society, the conduct of industry, the upbringing of children, national and international politics, the personal relations of men and women, in fact, all human relationships, must be tested To all of this, we say, "Amen," and if it moves in that direction we are willing to shout, "Glory Hallelujah!"

Wanted A Margaret Sanger

At the meeting in Birmingham last April there was a facing of social problems. Of interest to us was the session devoted to "The Relation of the Sexes." The subject was discussed with extreme delicacy and some appearance of timidity. On the subject of Birth Control the debate ended with innocent resolutions in which the churches were urged to investigate thoroughly the question. It means something that the question is opened and made a subject for investigation. It is to be regretted that some Margaret Sanger could not have been on the spot to present the case clearly and boldly

Professor Lofthouse said that, in respect to the limitation of families, all are agreed that marriage ought normally to involve parenthood, that a marriage where there are no children loses something precious, and refusal to have children based on self-indulgence, or shirking of duty, is indefensible "Some would go further," he said, "and say that marriage exists primarily for the production and rearing of children. What then if the birth of children is feared on physical or economic

grounds? For such fears there are often too abundant reasons Is all physical intimacy then to come to an end? Some would say, Yes, others, No" He thought the use of contraceptives justifiable only when they are the sole means of avoiding serious harm, and ended with the wise observation that "We cannot conquer vicious desires by ignorance, but only by motives of self-control and self-respect"

Studdert Kennedy's Warning

In discussion, Rev G A Studdert Kennedy begged the churches to be careful how they asked for celibacy He could not believe that to bring children into the world as they are brought today was in accord with the law of God Yet he believed the matter of contraceptives to be a damnable scandal that is playing the very devil with the nation, and he anxiously inquired "Can we control buthcontrol? The way these things are advertised is the surest way of getting them into the wrong hands"

Mrs E F Wise moved a resolution that the Conference refrain from expressing any condemnation of those who, with due sense of moral responsibility, approve of the practice of using contraceptives, and said that Copec ought to face facts because "in every class this question of birth-limitation in marriage is agitating countless At present the information is being given in an undesirable form We can not stand aside, nor can we condemn without adequate investigation" Mis Wise adduced a resolution of the Women's Co-operative Guild Congress in favor of clinics for instruction in methods of birth-control, and said that this Congress represented a great mass of the more responsible working women, and in the face of their demand we must see that much desired instruction is given decently She added that those who know the conditions of working-class motherhood know what it must mean to have another child coming when one has not enough food for those already there, and we have no right to say that God's law is a child every year

A Doctor Speaks

The voice of medical science spoke through Dr Charks Gray who said that "in another ten vears the majority of married women would be using contraceptive methods For the majority of people, abstinence is not only unhealthy but undesirable for other reasons. Condemnation of contraception would not affect the spread of migular relations. If one's natural instincts are suppressed the energy must be used in less satisfactory directions."

Of course church conservatism found voice. The Rev Mr Tunnichffe said that one part of the Church of England holds that if God call us to a state of celibacy we should accept the call, let physiological and psychological considerations be what they may "

A Review by Annie G Porritt

ADOLESCENT INTERESTS A Study of the Sexual Interest and Knowledge of Young Women, by F I Davenport, Ph D, Archives of Psychology, New York SALVAGING OF AMERICAN GIRLHOOD, by Isabel Davenport, Ph D E P Dutton & Co, New York

R DAVENPORT presents in these two books the results of a careful study of the need of sex education for girls and a constructive programme for filling this need The study is based on the spontaneous questions of a group of 160 girls in a city training school for The girls themselves made the request for a course of lessons, and supplied the questions, on Dr Davenport's suggestion, in order to enable her to give, in a short course, exactly the information they were desirous of having The group was fairly typical of the American middle-class girl All had high school education, and had been from three months to almost two years in the training school All had had a year of biology, as a prerequisite for entering the training school After examining and carefully classifying the question-work in which Dr Davenport secured the assistance of Professor Leta S Hollingworth of the Psychology Department and Miss Caroline Stackpole of the Biology Department of the Teachers' College, Columbia University, Dr Helen Montague, Psychiatrist of the N Y Children's Court, and Mrs Ella S Stewart, social worker of Chicago—the first study "Adolescent Interests" was published study the attitude of mind and the state of knowledge of this group of young women is carefully analysed, and this analysis is repeated and taken as the basis of the more constructive sections of "Salvaging of American Girlhood "

Girls Still in the Dark Ages

It is difficult in a brief review to give any full idea of the scope and value of Dr Davenport's work This is no fancy picture of what girls are supposed to know, but presents an accurate picture of the state of mind of girls of fair education And what a state of mind! Dr Davenport comments "If we did not know these questions to have been asked by high school graduates and prospective teachers of the twentieth century, they might well be taken as representing the inquiries of untutored women of the dark ages" It is not only ignorance that is shown in these questions. It is something worse. It is superstition and evil traditions that still cloud the minds of our girls about themselves and their bodies the present day," writes Dr Davenport, "are evidently being taught just those superstitions and trained into just the same unwholesome attitudes that we of the older generation were subjected to in our girlhood, while in every other phase of individual and social hygiene

our American world has undergone an evolution so great as to recreate our outlook on life. One of the questions that called forth this observation was "Is there any decent way of looking upon this matter of bearing a child"? What kind of preparation for motherhood are we giving our girls when they can still ask a question like this! The fault is not with the girls. It is the older generation that Dr Davenport arraigns. In fact she brings the indictment against the whole of society that continues not only to allow girls to be brought up without "any provision for the instruction and training of girls for motherhood, but actually taboos such instruction as unclean"

A Constructive Programme

In her constructive programme, Dr Davenport pleads for an ideal of health for girls such as has already been formulated for boys This must include "free, normal, unrestricted development of the girl-child's body in the interest of her own future well-being" She wants this ideal to include the normal functioning of a girl's sex organs, with a healthy comprehension of what this functioning should be Many of the questions took for granted that menstruation was in the nature of a sickness and that suffering was what every girl and woman must expect The programme does not call for sex education-of the kind that has been offered to girls just as they reached puberty It demands full instruction in the regard to the names and uses of the parts of the body for little children, teaching always correct names and dignified treatment for each "All that stands in the way of the early habituation of children in everything that is comprehended under this first part of the prepubertal programme," she writes, "is a false and inherently unclean psychology" It is just as simple, she urged, to habituate children to the use of the correct terms for processes and organs as it is to accustom them to the use of the correct names for automobile and father and mother Continuing the programme as the girl grows, Dr Davenport lays stress on the necessity of providing such instruction as is needed not only for the satisfaction of legitimate curiosity but also for practical guidance in living The programme is carefully outlined and should be studied by every one who has anything to do with the upbringing of girls

Birth Control is accepted by Dr Davenport as a necessary part of her programme of early marriage, which she acknowledges is only possible if both husband and wife can earn their living. She protests against a false ideal of Birth Control which is birth prevention rather than Birth Control, and which brings about the childless family, and threatens the continuance of the old American stock. She urges that girls should be trained for marriage and motherhood and that boys should equally be trained for marriage and fatherhood. She looks forward to a community in which the only people left unmaried will be the feeble-minded, who would find no mates if both boys and girls were properly instructed in regard to parenthood.

Every child has a right to a happy, joyous childhood—Bulletin of U S Burfau of Education

THE PEOPLE'S CORPORATION By King C Gillette, Boni and Liveright, New York City

HERE is a new Utopia, pictured by a man of affairs Mr Gillette is described by the publishers as "an inventor, organizer and executive of the first importance in the industrial world," and he approaches his problem from the point of view of the economist. He is concerned with the reorganization of the life of the nation, and he pictures a future for the world when profit shall have ceased to be the motive for work, when need and usefulness shall govern production and when all waste and duplication of effort shall have been eliminated. It is a pleasant picture and Mr Gillette shows himself more practical and less of a dreamer than most of his Utopian predecessors, for he indicates a practicable method, without injustice, violence or revolution, of attaining to the new order

There is one serious omission in his scheme for a new world. He contemplates the taking over by the new State of all expense for the maintenance of children, without also providing for some check on the too rapid proliferation of the masses. It would be too much, however, to expect of the author that he should introduce this knotty and difficult question into his dream of a world without poverty, without crime and almost without suffering

AGP

THE Children's Bureau makes no stand for Birth Control Such a stand would hardly be possible for a Government Department so long as the Federal law classes the prevention of conception with obscenity Nevertheless much support for Birth Control can be extracted from many of the publications of the Bureau, and especially from two of the most recent "The Promotion of the Welfare and Hygiene of Maternity and Infancy," which describes the working of the Sheppard Towner Act, and "Foster-Home Care for Dependent Children" In the first of these pamphlets, the Buleau presses for more scientific knowledge concerning maternal and early infant mortality An initial inquiry set on foot by the Bureau shows "that the number of still biths is appalling," and that the reduction of infant mortality "is primarily dependent upon factors connected with deaths during early infancy or those occurring at birth, or during the first month of life" In a large proportion of these cases, further investigation will undoubtedly show that without Birth Control it is hopeless to expect any great reduction in these deaths Babies and mothers die because the mothers were not in a fit state for pregnancy and child-birth, and because they were not instructed to avoid conception until they were able to bear healthy infants with safety to themselves

The second pamphlet gives the minima for foster homes into which adopted children should be introduced. These are an assured income, parents not too advanced in age, parents with a wholesome attitude of appreciation of the needs of the young in matters of companionship, recreation and reasonable freedom from restraint, of good

physical and mental health, industrious and thrifty, with at least average education and intelligence, and they "should enjoy the respect and endorsement of their paster and neighbors as law-abiding and respected citizens" When will the community have sense enough to set up similar standards for natural paients, instead of encouraging the least worthy members of society to "increase and multiply" to the limit of their ability? Anotheir recommendation made by the Bureau is that "three or four children per home should be the maximum," a maximum which the pamphlet goes on to say "may well be reduced". No recognition here of the supposed benefit of being one of a family of ten or twelve children.

PERIODICALS

The New Republic for September 24, in discussing "World Peace and World Politics" comments on the neglect of the "underlying frictions between nations which make war likely" in all the millions of words that have been uttered during the past few months about the abolition of war. These underlying frictions are summed up as "competition for world markets, competition for raw materials, the pressure of excess population, and diffused imperialism." The first two, competition for market and raw materials, arise out of the necessity of feeding a population larger than a country can well support

New light on Roosevelt's attitude on Birth Control is thrown by an article in *Physical Culture* (New York) for September The article gives the correspondence between Robert L Wolf and Roosevelt on the one hand and G B Shaw on the other Mr Wolf challenged Roosevelt's quotations from Shaw and faced him with the question whether he had ever really read what Shaw had written on the question of Birth Control He then sent Roosevelt's answer to Shaw, and received from him a long and detailed reply giving his exact position and attacking that of Roosevelt The correspondence is most interesting, and we commend it to our readers

Social reformers in India are disturbed over the lack of The Modern Review (Bombay) balance of the sexes for August in an article entitled "Social Purity" states that in India as a whole males greatly outnumber females, and that this disproportion becomes alarming in the large cities, in which men outnumber women by almost two to The consequence is widespread prostitution, which still further depletes the ranks of women fit for domestic The Indian Social Reformer (Bombay) for July 26, attempts to explain this disparity. It attributes it partly to early marriage-very young mothers tend to have boys as their first-born and many of these young wives are left widows before they reach the age when female births are more likely to be numerous But this explains very little, and the Reformer adds "The conclusion is irresistible that the low sex ratio in several castes is due to the deliberate destruction of female infant life, either by act ve or passive means" Parents have more children than they

can support Some must perish and they prefer to keep alive the boys, as of more consequence and entailing less expense

Writing in the Birth Control Supplement of the August issue of the issue of the Indian Nationalist (Bombay) Professor N S Phadke, President of the Bombay Birth Control League, tells of social reform in regard to marriage in India Up to now he holds that social reform has had as its object the happiness of the individual When it adds Birth Control to its program, it will develop "a sense of truly social, or rather racial responsibility "

In the Survey Graphic (New York) for October, Professor George W Kirchwey, the criminalogist, who got his practical knowledge of criminals as warden of Sing Sing, analyses the Loeb-Leopold case He points out that "defective heredity and disintegrating experience in life" are two elements that go to the making of the criminally ab-But in this article he fails to advocate Birth Control to free society of a larger share of criminality by preventing the birth of those with defective heredity, or those who would be most hable to disintegrating experience of life.

"Are You Women Fit to be Mothers" in the October number of the Cosmopolitan (New York) is a popular presentation, by Dr Max G Schlapp, Director of the Children's Court Clinic of New York City, of a possible explanation of one cause of mental sub-normality theory is that strain and exhaustion during pregnancy may cause disturbance of the mother's ductless glands, and this may affect the development of the unborn child. The lesson surely is that women ought to be able to avoid child-bearing under conditions of strain and exhaustion, and so prevent the coming into the world of idiots, misfits or inefficients

The current number of the Quarterly Journal of Economics contains an article by C P Wright of the Food Research Institute of Stanford University on the five most important recent books on the Population question. These are the volumes by Professor East, Harold Wright, Harold Cox, Carr Saunders and E B Reuter Wright makes a general survey of the whole question and gives high praise to East and Harold Wright for their masterly treatment of the problems involved.

BOOKS RECEIVED

From G P Putnam's Sons, New York. WHAT IS Man? by J Arthur Thomson.

From the Children's Bureau, Washington, D C Fos-TER-HOME CARE FOR DEPENDENT CHILDREN, THE PRO-MOTION OF THE WELFARE AND HYGIENE OF MATERNITY AND INFANCY

From American Social Hygiene Association, New York PABENTS AND SEX EDUCATION, Part 1

From Longmans, Green and Company, New York, THE PROCREDINGS OF C O P E C

OME objectors to so-called birth control infer that O couples who practise it are necessarily selfish and out for a good time without responsibilities. That is true of a minority of all marriages But it is absolutely untrue of countless marriages in which birth control is practised Sheer thrift is one of the greatest causes of birth control, not selfishness or frivolity Foresight is absolutely essential to any kind of happiness and even sanity -and what lack of foresight brings about, in this particular respect, may be seen by any one who cares to go into the slum hospitals

Young couples with a small income simply cannot have large families, and to answer that you know of some splendid labourer's wife who has had 13 children, and brought up 12 of them when her husband was only earning £3 a week, is begging the question. Society would have to be different from what it now is if the clerk's wife. the doctor's wife, and all the other middle and upper middle-class wives in three-roomed flats and tiny villas up and down the suburbs are to have 13 children-and only lose one of them-and not go quite mad with anxiety, despair, and toil.

The position is this The educated classes know all about the means of birth control-or know how to find out. The uneducated and the poor do not know, and there is a party who object to the knowledge being imparted to them Imparting that knowledge does not mean compelling them to use it. The proposal merely is that the poor shall be told what the rich know-and then decide for themselves -- Newcastle Sun, England.

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

Of The Birth Control Review published monthly at New York, N Y., for October 1 1924 State of New York, County of New York

Before me, a notary public in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared Margaret Sanger who, having been duly sworn according to law deposes and says that she is the Editor in-Chief of The Birth Control Review and that the following is, to the best of her knowledge and belief a true statement of the ownership, management, etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24 1912, embodied in section 443 Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form, to-wit

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

Publisher-American Birth Control League, Inc. 104 Fifth Ave. N Y City Editor-Margaret Sanger 104 Fifth Ave., N Y City Managing Editor-Annie G Porritt, 104 Fifth Ave., N Y City

2 That the owner is (If the publication is owned by an individual his name and address, or if owned by more than one individual the name and address of each should be given below if the publication is owned by a corporation the name of the corporation and the names and addresses of the stockholders owning or holding one per cent or more of the total amount of stock should be given)

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Margaret Sanger President, 104 Fifth Ave. New York City
Anne Kennedy Secretary 104 Fifth Ave., New York City
Frances B Ackermann, Treasurer Bronzville, N Y

3 That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are (If there are none, so state.) None.

are (If there are none, so state.) None.

4 That the two paragraphs next above, giving the names of the owners, stock holders, and security holders, if any contain not only the list of stockholders and security holders sat they appear upon the books of the company but also, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation the name of the person or corporation, for whom such trustee is acting is given also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affiants full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bons fide owner and this affiant has no reason to believe that any other person, association, or corporation has any interest direct or indirect in the said stock, bonds, or other securities than as so stated by him

MARGARET SANGER

y him MARGARET SANGER, Editor

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 16th day of September 1924 EDITH HUSTEL, (My commission expires March 30 1926)

(SEAL)

OUR CORRESPONDENTS' COLUMN

DEAR MRS. SANGER

Wyoming

For years I have been interested in the subjects of heredity, environment and all matters coming under the head of social service, but only recently have I been able to get hold of your book, "Woman and the New Race," and some other of your literature—I've seen hundreds of well-paid charity workers dealing out money and clothes, when it seemed to me that what women needed was information—how to stop having big families they did not want

Conditions I have seen on these lonely homesteads are appalling—terrible poverty, no doctor for many miles, no religious influences, just lawless and godless, half-clothed children, fed on salt pork and corn meal, living in caves or boarded houses hardly fit for a horse, poor school, if any Why do we send millions away to foreign countries, when our own children are hungry and ignorant? The new West should be helped as the mountains in the South Medical missionaries are needed, prayers are needed as much as pills, for the people are soul-sick

I saw a family in Wyoming in a sheep wagon—eight children, two years apart. Horses got lame, and they stayed in a hut all winter, one baby born there, the father confined her. Two little rooms. She had no breast milk, and the baby at five months was fed corn meal. They had no milk and only melted snow. They were a hundred miles from a doctor. I could not reach them for months, on account of snow and bad roads. I killed the poor horse, lying there blind with broken leg, starving, and I felt like killing the parents.

They were both well-educated people, she a school teacher Poor things! They wanted a home and heard about the wealth in the West, and with their little brood started out—utterly irresponsible. The store-keeper gets a check from the county to feed them, and there they stay and breed—no school, no doctor. They were using stones to kill rabbits for meat—had no ammunition, no furniture, just rags and filth.

Could I interest a woman's club? No Sheppard-Towner office? No, they only lecture Could I touch the heart of the Red Cross? No, they only work with the insurance companies—lives that have value Welfare workers stay close to the good hotels and closed cars I go in a wagon and freeze in this rich country I can't stand it to see and know the suffering and not to help

I am interested in the lonely homesteader farm women, because I know them and their problems. When I visit a family, the wife invariably asks me—"how can I stop having these children" and although I am nearly fifty years old and married and know a good deal about nursing and medicine, I cannot answer the question

Then, because I was in France during the war as a Red Cross worker, I am interested in the soldiers' wives These sick boys—mental and physical wrecks—marry and have children Of course, we know that a woman with real intelligence would not marry a sick soldier and bring chil-

dren into the world, but the doctors do not give them any advice, either in this State or Colorado In every small town there should be some one who could give this information, or, if this is impossible, it should be allowed to go through the mails

VERA JANE PEASE

GRATEFUL CORRESPONDENTS

Along with the thousands of piteous letters of entreaty there come, every now and then, cheerful letters full of happiness and gratitude We give herewith some extracts from two of these letters

Oklahoma

I received the literature and I cannot express my thanks in words. You realize this work is needed, but you cannot realize fully what the knowledge means to one whose very life is being choked out by ignorance in this line. No one knows how it is needed out in the country in the poor class of people. The farm women have less chance than the poor ones in the cities. They do not complain because they cannot. This class is ignorant as well as poor, she is shunned because she has too many children and is dressed poorly.

No one knows how many children there are in the country Nearly all mothers do as I do, do not go only when they have to and then leave the children at home, if they can I am asked many times if I have any children.

There are so many worse cases than mine here around me They do not know anything can be done I have been among this class of people ten years and I know their condition. The girls and boys who are filling the cities, and especially the smaller towns are coming from the farms

How can these people learn? Or will we have to wait until the clinics reach us?—O A H

Illinois

DEAR MRS SANGER

I am one of the many women you have helped, for which I can never thank you enough I am the mother of two fine boys, the youngest is past two years old, and to think that, but for your kindness and wonderful work, I would have been the mother of three children and probably expecting to become the mother of another I did not regain my strength after the first one, and was almost a wreck after the birth of the second and if I had more, just think how little of a mother I could have been to any of them! I would almost do anything for you in my gratitude, yet there seems to be nothing I can do at the present time, except tell other unhappy mothers about your wonderful work. We will help the cause of Birth Control all we can

I can answer the question why the Catholics fight Birth Control You see it takes so much money to run their church Every officer from the priest up to the Pope must live like a prince, and if there weren't Catholic people to work and give their earnings, how could they live?—E D

News Notes

UNITED STATES

New York

 ${f A}$ TEA in honor of Baron and Baroness Ishimoto was given at her home on October 6th, by Mrs Lewis L Delafield, First Vice-President of the American Birth Control League There were about thirty present, and many others, who would have liked to be there, had to send regrets as they were not yet back in the city The Baroness gave a short talk on the "Progress of the Birth Control Movement in Japan" She laid stress on the fact that it was of the greatest importance, in view of the influence that it would have upon government and popular opinion in her own country, that the International Birth Control Conference to be held in New York next spring, should be successful She promised the cooperation to this end of the Japanese Birth Control League Among those present were Mrs Richard Billings, Mrs James Lees Laidlaw, Mrs Philip J Deane, Mrs Robert Adamson, Mrs Robert McL Marsh, Mrs L L Delafield, Jr, Mrs J B Vandever, Mr and Mrs F Robertson Jones, Mrs Colgate Hoyt, Miss Ethel Stebbins Borrowe, Mrs Webster Hill Browne, Miss Mayo, Dr J C Vaughan and Mr J Noah H Slee

The whole week of September 22-27 was occupied with the Exhibit of the American Birth Control League at the Woman's Activities Exhibit at the Commodore Hotel An account of the work done there is given elsewhere in this issue

On September 27, Mrs Sanger sailed on S S Majestic for England Her mission there was to arouse interest and secure speakers for the Sixth International Birth Control Conference which will be held in New York, March 26th to 31st She returned to New York at the end of October She was accompanied by Mrs Juliet Barrett Rublee

Baroness Ishimoto made several addresses, while in New York State She spoke on the Japanese Population question at Vassar College, and she spoke by invitation to the Gamut Club of New York City and to various other organizations

California

FOLLOWING the visit of Mrs Anne Kennedy, Executive Secretary of the American Birth Control League, there was formed at Oakland on September 17 the Alameda County Birth Control League The organization meeting was held at the Hotel Oakland and the following officers were elected —Mrs H G Hill, President, Mrs Frank Law, Vice-President, Mr Raymond H Arnold, Corresponding Secretary, Miss Martha Chick-

ering, Financial and Recording Secretary and Mrs L H Montgomery, Treasurer The League has asked Mrs Sanger to address them on her trip West in the coming winter

On September 30 the new San Francisco Committee held a meeting in San Francisco, at which Raymond H Arnold, Chairman, presided The meeting discussed plans of work and means to bring the subject of Birth Control before local groups and organizations The officers of the League are —Raymond H Arnold, Chairman, Mrs L S Rehbein, temporary Secretary-Treasurer

The Southern California Branch of the American Birth Control League completed its organization at a dinner held on October 3 at the Paulus Restaurant in Los Angeles Mrs Elizabeth Mc-Manus presided Dr Aaron J Rosanoff was made Chairman of the Clinical Committee, Mrs Gustav Bjorkman, of the Press Committee, Dr Jennie Spencer, of the Committee on By-Laws, Miss Levy, of the Committee on Arrangements It is the desire of the Branch to organize a Birth Control Clinic in Los Angeles

Connecticut

THE Yale-Cambridge debate, held at New Haven on October 13, had for topic —"Resolved, that we pity our grandchildren" The affirmative was taken by one Yale and two Cambridge men, and the negative by two Yale and one Cambridge man The real answer to the question can only be given when it is known whether our children will practice general Birth Control or whether our grandchildren will be swamped by too great an increase of population

Iowa

THE Iowa Branch of the American Birth Control League was organized September 17, 1924, at Des Moines Mrs Edward A Lingenfelter was elected President The other officers are Dr Carrie Harvison-Dickey, 1st Vice-President, Mrs R S Zuch, 2nd Vice-President, Mrs J A Wagner, 3rd Vice-President, Mrs Carl Garves, Recording Secretary, Dr Jennie Coleman, Corresponding Secretary, Mrs J A Blum, Treasurer, and Mrs Eugene Manheimer, Auditor In Iowa the law strictly forbids open dissemination of Birth Control information, but makes an exception for regular practitioners of medicine and for druggists in legitimate business The methods of Birth Control can be taught in medical colleges and in medical works

Missouri

AT a meeting of the Mother's Craft Circle of the Health Center of St Louis, held at the Soulard Library on September 17th, Mrs Anne Kennedy spoke on the Public Health Aspects of Birth Control At the conclusion of the address a resolution in favor of Birth Control was passed with one dissentient vote Mrs H F Hagadorn presided

New Jersey

MR EVERETT J Meves, secretary of the Birth Control League of Camden, N J, is circularizing candidates for the New Jersey legislature on the subject of Birth Control He spoke in several towns of the state during October meeting at Camden, on October 10, he writes "Last Friday noon I spoke at a shop meeting at the Nelson and Hall Company, under the auspices of the Y M C A, the workmen in the shop, of whom about half are Catholic, having expressed a wish for a speaker on Birth Control Today at noon I went back at their request to answer questions and enter into a discussion A number of intelligent questions were asked, which were answered to the apparent satisfaction of everyone Two Y M C A secretaries were along today and one a week Both of them, within my hearing, told the general secretary that the meetings were fine, and that the talks were surprising, especially in view of the delicacy of the subject The leader of these shopmen and the most intelligent man of the group, who is a Catholic, told one of the Y M C A secretaries that he had been against Birth Control, but that my talk a week ago had given him an entirely new idea of it, and that he has had to do some very serious thinking about it." During October Mr Meves also spoke on Birth Control at Riverside and Merchantville

A resolution on Birth Control was presented to the Federation of Women's Clubs at New Brunswick on October 8th

At Trenton, on September 30, Mr Everett J Meves of Camden, cooperating with the American Birth Control League, presented resolutions to the Democratic and Republican State Committees Both parties were asked to include in their platforms the conservation of human life by means of Birth Control The resolutions were received with courtesy, and the delegates accepted literature on the subject

Texas

FOLLOWING the visit of Mrs Anne Kennedy to Texas, a Committee on Birth Control was organized in Dallas on September 30 Mrs Albert Walker, who is in charge of the city public health work, was elected chairman The committee is under the auspices of the American Birth Control League

West Virginia

BIRTH Control is being increasingly practiced in Wheeling, according to facts presented by Mr C E Gethens, Superintendent of the public schools of this city Mr Gethens is quoted as stating that in 1887, 37 years ago, the official number of children of school age was 10,500 It has now fallen fallen to 10,000, although there are at least one-third more families in the community

CANADA

INTEREST in Birth Control, which was aroused last May when the Ontario Health Officers Association held its Conference in Toronto, seems to be growing At that Conference—as recorded the Review for July—Dr Hastings, M O H for Toronto, and Dr Hill, M O H for London, Ont, took open stand for Birth Control Later advocates include Dr Laurie, M O H for Port Arthur, Dr James Roberts, M O H for Hamilton, and J J Kelso, whose work as head of the Department for Neglected and Dependent Children is known throughout the world Mr Kelso is chiefly interested in preventing the birth of children who would mevitably be a burden to themselves and the community Dr Hastings, who started the interest in the subject, also takes his stand on his assertion that "there are countless little beings who should never be allowed to come into the world" Dr Hastings welcomes controversy on the subject, because controversy awakens interest and is thus a A few months ago no one in Toronto took any interest in the subject. Now the newspaper print long articles on it

ENGLAND

 ${
m THE}$ uncertain course pursued by Mi Whentley Minister of Health in the British Cabinet is not proving easy Mr Wheatley tried to placate the Labor Women, who came to him in deputation by stating that women who needed Buth Control would be referred from the Health Centers to hospitals and private physicians This expedient did not work, and complaint was made that the information could not be obtained by the women who Then Mr Whentley promised an enneeded it For this promise he is being bitterly attacked as exceeding his powers and invading the prerogative of the medical profession. Hospitals are mostly private undertakings and the Minister of Health has no authority to compel them or any private practitioner to give Buth Control informa-What the women asked was that he should permit—not compel—the giving of such information at Maternity and Health Centers



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PRINTERS TO THE BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW

RUSSIA

MR J S COLEMAN, who is educational Director of the Ukraine Farming and Machinery Corporation, sends us the following interesting account of the progress of Birth Control in Soviet Russia —

The writer has just returned from a business trip to the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics While in Moscow he took up on the side, for the Editor of the Birth Control Review, the work of effecting a Birth Control organization for spreading Birth Control information and education in Soviet Russia

He was fortunate in meeting on the trip going over Prof Peter Tutyshkin, who was returning to Russia after a ten-months' stay in America Dr Tutyshkin is Professor in the Medico-Pathological Institute in Moscow, head of the Clinic for Mentally Defective Children, and also a practising physician. He had been sent over by the Soviet Government to do medico-pathological research work in the United States and was returning to Russia highly pleased with the results of his visit

The writer found Dr Tutyshkin a specialist in the field of social eugenics—and hence, vitally interested in Birth Control He was anxious to get a Birth Control Movement launched in Soviet Russia While some preliminary work had been done in this field, no attempt to form an organization had been undertaken

Upon arriving in Moscow the work of effecting such an organization was taken up in earnest, Dr Tutyshkin's apartments being used both for committee and general meetings Fnally, on Wednesday evening, August 19th, after a number of preliminary meetings had been held, the writer and Dr Tutyshkin, assisted by Jessica Smith, formerly of the Birth Control staff, and Prof Harry F Ward, of the Union Theological Seminary, and his wife, met. There was initiated the first step toward effecting a permanent organization by the appointment of a committee of four doctors, Prof Peter Tutyshkin, Chairman, and three other leading physicians of Moscow Dr S Nekrasol, Dr J Tutyshkin, and his daughter, Dr T Finjagina It is the work of this Committee to call a large meeting to form a permanent organization for Birth Control in Moscow and later in all the Republics The reason an immediate organization was not effected was that many of the leading doctors, teachers and social workers of Moscow were away on their summer vacation in Crimea and the Caucasus

After discussing Birth Control with a number of physicians, teachers and laymen, with Dr Tutyshkin kindly acting as interpreter, the writer is able

to report that conditions in Soviet Russia are most favorable for the launching of a Birth Control movement there. He found some indifference to the plan, which was to be expected in so large a city, but no opposition to a permanent organization was noted, in fact, most of the people interviewed were enthusiastic over the idea of realizing voluntary parenthood for the mothers of Soviet Russia by the use of scientific methods of Birth Control.

Not only was this true of the laymen with whom he talked, but particularly was it true of the Moscow physicians. Dr. Tutyshkin stated that in conversing with his colleagues he has not found a single opponent. They all expressed warm approval of the proposal. He was sure he could count on the cooperation of the entire medical profession.

Furthermore, what is exceedingly important to the success of the Birth Control movement in any country and especially in Soviet Russia, where there are no laws against the giving of birth control information, woman's freedom has been pushed forward to such a point that about two years ago Madame Alexandra Kolentai, Russia's leading feminist, secured the repeal of the old statute laws of the Czar's regime, which made abortion a criminal offense. Now even abortion can be effected without government interference or punishment. The advantage taken of the repeal of the above law indicates a keen desire for birth control and a sane need of birth control information on the part of the mothers of Soviet Russia This information will make abortion, resorted to on account of poverty and distress of these recent years, no longer necessarv.

So the field is quite in harvest. The workers are many but their equipment in this particular field is very scant. Prof Tutyshkin told me that there were several things that they were in dire need of for carrying on this work successfully.

First, is the need of scientific material and literature from America dealing with Birth Control, eugenics and allied subjects.

Second, the need of contraceptive material and appliances for actual use for their patients

Third, they would welcome any financial support for carrying on the educational propaganda work

Prof Tutyshkm and his committee expect to be able to send at least two delegates from Soviet Russia to the International Birth Control Conference to be held in New York in March, 1925 Further, they expect to bring with them to that meeting an invitation to Mrs. Sanger, President of the American Birth Control League, to come to Russia for a series of lectures to the end that the movement there may take on enthusiasm and growth and become one of the largest and best in the world.

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COMING EVENTS

ORGANIZATIONS in thirteen states, distributed geographically from coast to coast, have invited Mrs Sanger to speak The invitations are as follows

CALIFORNIA.

Los Angeles The Friday Morning Club, Mrs Shelley H Tolhurst, Chairman, Pub-

lic Affairs Committee

Berkeley University of Califorma, the women students

Alameda County Oakland Branch of the American Birth

League

San Francisco Social Service League Civic Center

Colorado Springs Open Forum Colorado,

Denver Open Forum

Terre Haute Open Forum Indiana. Des Moines Federation of Wo-Iowa.

men's Clubs

ChicagoILLINOIS, Chicago South Shore

Temple Men's Club

The New Thought MASSACHUSETTS, Boston Forum, Rudolph Frederick,

President Roxbury Boston Young Men's Hebrew Association

Wednesday Morn-St Louis MISSOURI.

ing Club

PENNSYLVANIA. Bryn Mawr Liberal Club

Dallas Birth Control Dallas TEXAS.

Committee

Salt Lake City First Unitarian UTAH, Church

Arrangements have also been made for Mrs Sanger to speak before the Unity Forum, in Montclair, N J, on the evening of November 23 subject will be civilization and population Forum is an organization for the frank and free discussion of all vital problems by experts sustained by the Unity Church, of which the Rev Edgar Swan Meiers is pastor Mrs Sanger is also scheduled to speak at All Souls Forum, Summit, N J

A PUBLIC meeting under the auspices of the American Birth Control League, to celebrate the completion of the third year of its existence, will be held at Carnegie Hall, New York City, on the evening of December 6th All League members in New York are urged to attend, and the meeting will also be open to the general public The record of achievement for 1924 will be presented, and it is felt that this record will enlist new and active support for a larger and more important program for 1925 The new program includes the organization of the SIXTH INTERNATIONAL BIRTH CONTROL CONFERENCE, which will be held ın New York March 26-31, 1925 Statesmen, scientists, medical men and social workers will attend this conference from all parts of the United States, from England, from the Continent of Europe and even from countries as distant as China, Japan and India Their work will be the laying of a real basis for the solution of international problems through the general adoption of Birth Control It is the first time that such a Conference has been held in the United States, and there is good reason to hold that it will be the most fundamental and fruitful Conference ever held in America

THE MODERN GREEK MOTHER

(Continued from page 312)

believe they will see their future husbands

The modern Greek mother, as a rule, does not like to give birth to a girl, because, in view of the deplorable practice still prevalent, of financial accompaniment in favor of the bridegroom, marriage from the girl's parents' standpoint, or from that of the eldest son in the family, becomes a matter of far-reaching and not seldom very onerous importance. Clearly, it is not the introduction of the Birth Control idea that is desired here—Greece, moreover, is by no means overpopulated—yet one cannot help thinking that it might be of some benefit. As it is, when for some reason she does not wish to become a mother more than twice or thrice, or when she pathetically hopes and prays for a boy, all she can do is to rely on saintly intervention and various superstitions.

Excepting a small number of wealthy women in the cities the women do not have any knowledge of the Birth Control movement. Like the Roman Catholic Church, the Church of Greece (a branch of the Eastern Orthodox Communion) is an inveterate opponent of the mere idea and it can be readily seen that the relief and power resulting from the legal application of the proper methods are inaccessible to the great majority of the mothers of Greece. Somewhat like the woman of Homeric times they usually rely on the Christian counterpart of Hera, the pagan goddess, "the badtempered consort of the sire of men and gods"

THE GENESIS OF DIVORCE

(Continued from page 310)

husband that his wife no longer loves him, a feeling on the part of the wife that all she means to her husband is the gratification of his sexual impulses the side of his nature she has been taught to regard as the lowest and basest—resulting finally in com-

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The question of Birth Control is to be one of the burning questions of the next twenty-five years. The New York State League of Women Voters in their convention a few months ago favored, by a convincing majority, the adoption of a legislative measure permitting the dissemination of birth control information.

And through it all runs the thread of its importance in relation to the question of divorce. Do you realize that, if the present increase in the divorce rate continues, by the end of the century possibly sixty per cent of all marriages will end in divorce rather than by death? The church, as the consecrating organization of marriage, the church which adds so much of beauty, dignity, and reverence to the bonds of marriage, must face the situation squarely and strive to find the answer to the question, "Wherein lies the genesis of divorce?" A partial answer to that question, at least, is given here.

KEEPING UP WITH MENCIUS

(Continued from page 317)

day long, stooping under the burden of weight almost equal to their own. Huddled together like rodents for warmth in winter, sweltering when the summer days pour out their suffocating heat upon the shadeless land, never tasting a wholesome meal from birth until death, ignorant of all but sweltering or freezing, starvation and drudgery, here we have the living example of continued disregard for the law of supply and demand. In this chaotic melange it has occurred to no one that order is nature's first law. In fear and superstition they only resterate the egotist Mencius. "Three things are evil, and the greatest of these is to have no posterity."

OUR CONTRIBUTORS

Mrs. Helen Ward Bromfield, Writer and Press Correspondent, long resident in Shanghai.

Dr. Percy Clark, Ph.D., formerly pastor, now Member of Faculty of Cornell University.

Hornell Hart, Recently Director of Child Welfare Department, Des Moines, Iowa. Professor of Social Science, Bryn Mawr.

Madame Andre Rieder, German writer and advocate of Birth Control

George Saranton, Greek, writer and translator of books on Greece, teacher of Modern Greek, N Y

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