

OCTOBER, 1925

Twenty Cents

# BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW



*Raymond Pearl*

ON

The Differential Birth Rate



On Rustic Trails and  
City Streets

BY

*Amy Yuengling*

# BIRTH CONTROL ORGANIZATIONS

THE AMERICAN BIRTH CONTROL LEAGUE, INC

Headquarters 104 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY

MARGARET SANGER, *President*

JULIET BARRETT RUBLER

MRS. LEWIS L. DELAFIELD

*Vice-Presidents*

ANNE KENNEDY, *Secretary*

FRANCIS B ACKERMANN, *Treasurer*

J NOAH H SLEE, *Assistant Treasurer*

## Directors

C C LITTLE, D Sc  
Mrs RICHARD BILLINGS

LOTHROP STODDARD, PH D  
Mu GEORGE H DAY, SR.  
Joan C VAUGHAN, MD

Mu ANNIE G PORRITT  
MRS. DEXTER BLADEN  
BENJAMIN I TILTON, M.D

Mu F ROBERTSON-JONES  
Mu THOMAS N HEFFURN

## National Council

Mrs Ernest R. Ades, N Y  
Mrs Oakes Ames, Mass  
Dean Thyra W Amos, Pa  
Joseph L. Baer, M.D. Ill  
Mrs Robert Perkins Bass, N H.  
May I Bigelow, M.D. Cal  
Alice Stone Blackwell, Mass  
Mr George Blumenthal, N Y  
Mrs John Winters Brannan, N Y  
Lowell Brentano, N Y  
Alice Butler, M.D. O  
Mr and Mrs Thomas L. Chadbourne, N Y  
William Hamlin Childs, N Y  
Mrs Stephen Clark, N Y  
Mrs Frank I Cobb, N Y  
Rabbi Rudolph I. Coffin, Ph.D., Cal  
Leon J. Cole, D.Sc., D.C.  
Herbert Croly, N Y  
Mrs Belle de Rivera, N Y

Theodore Dreiser, Cal  
John Favill, M.D. Ill  
William J. Fielding, N Y  
Mrs Simeon Ford, N Y  
Rev William H Garth, N Y  
Mrs Kate Crane Gartz, Cal  
Prof Franklin H Giddings, N Y  
Rabbi Sidney E. Goldstein, N Y  
Mrs Robert B Gregory, Ill  
Dr and Mrs Ernest H Gruening, N Y  
Alice Hamilton, M.D. Mass  
Mrs Learned Hand, N Y  
Frederick C. Heckel, M.D., N Y  
Florence Bayard Hilles, Del  
Prof Samuel J. Holmes, Calif  
Donald R. Hooker, M.D. Maryland  
Mrs John Swain James, Calif  
Dr Roswell H. Johnson, Pa  
Mrs Otto H. Kahn, N Y  
S Adolphus Knopf, M.D., N Y

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

William Allen Pusey, M.D., IN  
Mrs Enoch Raub, Pa  
Aaron J. Rosenoff, M.D., Cal.  
Mrs C. C. Rumsey, N Y  
Mrs Homer St. Gaudens, N H.  
Dr Elizabeth Severn, N Y  
Mary Shaw, N Y  
Reynold A. Spaeth, Ph.D. Md  
Mrs Willard Straight, N Y  
Kenneth Taylor, M.D., N Y  
Mrs Charles Tiffany, N Y  
Mrs Shelley Tolhurst, Cal  
Florence Guertin Tuttle, N Y  
Rev Stuart L. Tyson, N Y  
Prof John B. Watson, N Y  
Mrs Norman de R. Whitehouse, N Y  
Prof Walter F. Willcox, N Y  
Miss Mary Winsor, Pa  
Professor A. B. Wolfe, Ohio  
Mrs Pope Yeatman, Pa

## LEAGUE BRANCHES

### CALIFORNIA

#### ALAMEDA COUNTY

San Francisco

#### SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

### CONNECTICUT

### INDIANA

#### WAYNE COUNTY

### IOWA

### MASSACHUSETTS

### MICHIGAN

### NEW JERSEY—CAMDEN

#### RIVERSIDE

### OHIO—CINCINNATI

### PENNSYLVANIA

#### EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA

#### READING

### TEXAS—DALLAS COMMITTEE

### UTAH—OGDEN

#### SALT LAKE CITY

### BRITISH COLUMBIA

*President* Mrs H G Hill, Oakland

*Chairman* Mr Raymond H Arnold, San Francisco

*Chairman* Dr H B Brainerd, Los Angeles

*Secretary* Ruth Vincent, Denver

*President* Mrs George H Day Sr., Hartford

*President* Dr Amelia R. Kel'ar, Indianapolis

*President* Mrs W F Spangler, Richmond

*President* Mrs Edward A. Lingenfelter, Des Moines

*Temporary Chairman*, Mrs W E Cannon, Cambridge

*President*, Mrs William A. McGraw, Detroit

*Organizer*, Everett R. Meves, Camden

*President* Mrs L. A. Winkelspecht, Riverside

*President*, Dr Ralph Reed, Cincinnati

*President* Malcolm H. Bissell, Stratford

*President* Rev L. Griswold Williams, Reading

*Chairman* Mrs Albert Walker, Dallas

*Secretary* Mrs Hunter Ogden

*President* Mrs Lottie Newman, Salt Lake

*President*, Mr A. M. Stephen, Vancouver

## MIDDLE WESTERN STATES COMMITTEE

### Chairman

Dr John Favill, Chicago, Ill

### Secretary

Mrs Walter L. Benson, Winetka, Ill.

## NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

### NEW YORK CITY

*Chairman* Mrs Richard Billings

### SYRACUSE

*Chairman*, Mrs O H Cobb

### SCHENECTADY

*Chairman*, Rev Philip Frick

### ROCHESTER

*Chairman*, Mrs Thomas J. Swanton

### BUFFALO

*Chairman* Mrs S. Merrill Clement, Jr

### KEW GARDENS

*Chairman*, Mrs J. Bishop Vandever

### SMITHTOWN

*Chairman*, Mrs Frank M. Leavitt

### CEDARHURST

*Chairman*, Mrs John Scott Browning Jr

### FLUSHING

*Chairman*, Mrs Fenley Hunter

VOL IX

OCTOBER, 1925

No 10

## CONTENTS

### EDITORIALS

Congressional Work — Sex Determination — League of Nations —  
Sacerdotal Celibacy

MICE AND MEN, by C C Little

THE DIFFERENTIAL BIRTH RATE, by Raymond Pearl

'EARS POLITE'

GOLDIE GRASSHOPPER, by Eleanor Rowland Wembridge

ON RUSTIC TRAILS AND CITY STREETS, by Amy Yuengling

POEMS OF DESPERATE MOTHERHOOD, by Margaret Loring

Thomas and Florence Mayne Hickey

OW CONTRIBUTORS

PROBLEM, Verses by Ralph E. Cheyney

DEATH-IN-LIFE

Letters from Mothers

275

JAPAN AND AMERICA, by Keisaku Ishimoto

WARRIORS, a Poem, by Mrs E L Street

BOOK REVIEWS, by Hornell Hart and Malcolm H. Bissell

BOOKS RECEIVED

OUR CORRESPONDENTS' COLUMN

Birth Control in Medical Bodies—In Medical Schools—Un-  
natural—Our Laws Against Contraceptives

PERIODICAL NOTES

NEWS NOTES

New York—Colorado—Michigan—New Jersey—Great

Britain

India

COMING EVENTS

288

289

290

292

293

295

296

298

299

Published by THE AMERICAN BIRTH CONTROL LEAGUE, INC

Monthly on the first of each month

Subscription Price—\$2.00 a Year

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

# The BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE AMERICAN BIRTH CONTROL LEAGUE

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

MARGARET SANGER, *Editor*

MARY SUMNER BOYD, *Managing Editor*

---

---

VOL IX

OCTOBER, 1925

No 10

---

---

## EDITORIALS

**I**N December, the American Birth Control League will go to Congress for the first time with a Birth Control Amendment to Section 211 of the Postal Law. The great work to be done in the Fall will be to put all candidates for the Senate and House of Representatives on record for or against the bill before the November election and to follow up those who are elected and enlist their active support even before they take their seats in Congress. For this we need all the help our members and sympathizers in all states can give us. If you want to help, write to the Secretary at the League headquarters, who will send you copies of the bill with questionnaire to candidates attached. If you want to help in another way you can send a check. A dollar will help, five will make you a member of our Congressional Committee and ten will bring you our blessings and a monthly report from Washington.

**D**O we still really care whether it is a girl or a boy? Do "families consider a boy an asset, a girl a liability?" It is hard to believe that great numbers of people still feel this way about the relative value of the sexes, and yet the reception given by the English press to Mrs. Montieth Erskine's book, "Sex by Choice," would seem to indicate that they do. We have not read Mrs. Erskine's book, it may or may not have any value as a contribution to a subject that is now much discussed in scientific circles. Mrs. Erskine alone so far claims that she knows the secret of creating male or female, but medical science has gone part

of the way. It has reached the point of forecasting the sex of the unborn child.

Dr. Isaac Fried of the Jewish Maternity Hospital, New York, has according to the *Medical Review of Reviews* been able, by special blood test, to judge correctly the sex of many hundred children in utero. That science will soon go farther than this is the prediction of the English biologist Julian Huxley, who states in an interview in the London *Daily News* that in fifty years the problem of sex determination will be solved. He adds however, that this may not be an unmixed blessing and "believes that the result may easily be chaos" unless the direction of this power is under scientific control. With sex determination Professor Huxley links Birth Control as a subject which scientific bodies should be taking seriously, and recommends that "the controlling of these two very powerful factors in human history" should be in the hands of a Medical Research Council.

With science thus set on taking these important matters out of the haphazard control of nature, it is interesting to know the latest figures on the proportions of the sexes. In the United States (census of 1920) it was 104 males to 100 females. A compilation for Europe by Dr. Maurel has been given recently in the *Bulletin de L'Academie de Medecine* (Paris). It shows that most European countries since 1865 show an excess of boy babies. In France the latest figure is about 102 boys to 100 girls, in some other countries the excess is greater. Maurel believes that the age of parents, especially of the father, has some influence, since

figures from Norway show that the younger the father the greater the **proportion** of boys

**A**T the opening of the **Sixth** Assembly of the League of **Nations** on September **7th**, **Paul Painlevé**, the French **Premier**, who delivered the opening address **apologized**, according to press reports, "because greater efforts for peace had not been put forth" by the League. The way to help the peace movement in a fundamental way is still open. It is two years since France tried to have information about **contraception** read into the obscenity laws of the **nations** which are members of the League. The effort was defeated, mainly it is believed by the efforts of England, and since then England has gone far toward government support of Birth Control. So we may hope that she will soon be added to Holland as an **active** supporter of **Birth Control** in the League.

**T**HE Roman Catholic **opposition** in England, forced to try to meet in other ways some of the problems **demanding** Birth Control for their solution, has presented a program for the **relief** of **overpopulation**. The program, framed by Father Deegan of **Leicester** is given in our news from England. With the exception of one item it is based from **beginning** to end on self control.

**This mirage** of relief for **their miseries**—this program based on emotional **starvation**—is all the greatest of the **Christian** churches has to offer its children as the **alternative** for Birth Control. The self control which would **limit** a **marriage** to a reasonable **family** of, say, three children means that many years of married life must be passed in absolute celibacy.

**This church**, of any **institution** in the world, ought to know that such self control is a **mirage**. For more than fifteen hundred years the Roman Catholic Church has been trying to enforce celibacy not upon the rank and file, but upon a **picked** body of the holiest men in its membership. Its **experience** is told in one of the great source books of **mediaeval** history, Henry C. Lea's "**History** of Sacerdotal Celibacy in the **Middle Ages**."

**T**HE struggle began in the fourth century when the Church irrevocably **committed** itself to an **unmarried priesthood**. An **immediate** result was the **institution** of the Agapetae, a body of young women in platonic **relations** with the monks and secular **priests**. The Agapetae, it is hardly necessary to state, soon lost its **platonic** character and became one of the most scandalous **institutions** of the early **middle ages**. Nor was **this** the only scandal that followed in the train of sacerdotal celibacy.

The general **situation** in his lifetime is described by St. Augustine, **himself** one of those by whose efforts sacerdotal celibacy was imposed. He found everywhere "**ecclesiastics** surrounded by young female slaves and leading an **existence** which differed from matrimony only in the absence of the **marriage** ceremony." Like reports of **conditions** are given century after century. A stream of laws, **punishments** and **supervisory visits** by church **authorities** prove at once, says Mr. Lea, "the hopelessness of the attempt and the incurable nature of the disorders of which the church was at once the cause and the **victim**."

**I**N the **ninth** century after long continued and **vigorous** "cleanups," the **Council** at **Aix** found that the convents were often brothels and that in the **monasteries** the demand for **appropriate** and healthful affection led to fearful and unnatural **crimes**.

By the tenth century the decent parish clergy, **disgusted** with the **prevailing** sacerdotal looseness, began to take **wives**, sometimes, if they could find **like-minded** priests to perform it, with the **religious** ceremony, sometimes as concubines, but even in these cases in a permanent and honorable **union**. Sometimes all the priests in a **diocese** were married. In one case where a **higher church dignitary** protested they **replied** that "**marriage** was necessary to protect the church against the most **hideous vices**." In **certain Spanish provinces** indeed, for this very reason the **parishioners** compelled their **parish** priests to marry. Whether broken by **immorality** or **marriage**, the law was always, with whatever **penalties** it was enforced throughout the **centuries**, a dead letter with a large body of the clergy. The fight for sacerdotal celibacy was never fought to a successful conclusion.

Today the **priesthood** is a smaller class relatively to the whole population, it can perhaps be **recruited** from that small group who have a vocation for **asceticism**. In the Middle Ages not **ascetics** alone, but all peace-loving men and women sought refuge in the **religious** life. Of such as these is the worldly man and woman of today and with such **evidence** as this of the **impracticability** of **enforcing** celibacy, or such self control in marriage as amounts to **celibacy** on the rank and file, we can only agree with Athenagoras, one of the early fathers of the Church who opposed the **inauguration** of the **practice**, that "that law is not from God which **enjoins** upon us **practices** contrary to our **nature**."

Mr. Lea's study has a moral not only for Roman Catholics, but for all those who believe that sex and **population** problems can be solved by the **magic** formula Self-control.

# Mice and Men

By C C LITTLE, D Sc

**A** FRIEND of mine, a scientist who is interested in the breeding of mice for genetic purposes, was not so very long ago sitting in his laboratory with a box down on the floor at the side of him, and in the box were two mice, both of them very reputable gentlemen mice. One was a black mouse with a little white collar-like ring around his neck, and the other was a frowsy, somewhat battle-scarred old mouse who had spent his life in the cause of science.\*

My friend had been reading Burns and had read something about the best-laid plans of mice and men, when he fell into a doze and became a little deeper asleep and suddenly found, to his amazement that he was no longer sitting there in the chair but that he was in a white-walled room with a wire cover on it, and he looked up through the wire roof, and there sitting at a table beside the room that he was in were these two enormous mice, one the brown, frowsy scientific mouse, and the other a black mouse with a small white collar around his neck, and they were discussing things rather actively and the subject seemed to be on the question of limitation of offspring. The scientist down in the box listened and wondered what was going to happen to him, but couldn't help being interested in this discussion that was going on. The brown mouse said, "Well, I am greatly interested in religion. I want to learn what you people really do believe about this matter of Birth Control. I know it is hard for you to realize that I am honestly interested, but I am. Tell us about it."

**T**H E black mouse said, "Well, we believe that it is quite proper to limit the number of progeny by abstinence, by no sex intercourse of any kind"—he hesitated a little before using the term "sex intercourse" but he said, "We may as well be frank, by not indulging in sex intercourse. Of course there are special cases where it might be proper for husband and wife to live apart in order to bring that about, but we can't countenance this use of mechanical or other methods to prevent the production of children. It is wicked, it is wrong, it is sinful."

The brown mouse said, "Well, that interests me a good deal. You say that Birth Control by contraceptive methods is sin, and you say that Birth Control by celibacy or by continence = perfectly all

right. Now, do you believe, or do you not, that sex intercourse has any other function than the mere production of children? Is it under any other circumstances legitimate or proper?"

The black mouse said, "Yes, that is a question which sometimes is decided one way and sometimes another. Personally I see no objection to it under proper circumstances."

"Well," said the brown mouse, "we know, then, that you admit, to start with, that sex intercourse in itself may not be wrong if properly conducted, that is under the proper circumstances."

"Yes," said the white mouse.

"Now," said the brown mouse, "that is an interesting condition. Do I understand that you would say that it was quite proper for married people to have sex intercourse at a so-called safe period, physiologically. Is that proper according to your viewpoint?"

"Well," said the black mouse, "yes, that would be entirely proper. That is simply using a natural condition of affairs, that is simply using—"

**A**ND the brown mouse interrupted him and said, "That is simply using a natural period at which you can introduce into the situation a mental obstruction just as mechanical, as conscious, as planned and as real as any other contraceptive method ever thought of. There is no naturalness about that particular safe period. If you were not reasoning, if you were not using your reasoning, to utilize a physiological condition, that line of argument which you have advanced wouldn't be possible."

"I suppose so," said the black mouse.

"Then," the brown mouse went on, "if you admit that it is quite proper to use that information, why do you object to using other information? If you admit that sex intercourse under some circumstances is proper, and if you admit that you can use the safe periods physiologically, why do you object to the other methods? There is really no difference whatever."

The black mouse interrupted and he said, "Oh, but you have. You have a very great difference, because if you use any conscious means of contraceptive treatment, you won't have any progeny at all."

The brown mouse came right back and said, "As far as I know, there is no method entirely satis-

\* Excerpts from an address at the Sixth International Neo-Malthusian and Birth Control Conference

factory, and if the powers that be make it possible for the safe period not always to be safe, surely they can take advantage of a method that is not entirely safe."

There was a sort of an uncomfortable pause that followed that. They both got slightly cool toward each other. At that point the brown mouse seemed to become, as I said, somewhat impatient. He got up and delivered himself of something like the following statement: "It seems to me that you have mixed your logic. Either, to review very briefly, sex intercourse without offspring is right or wrong. If wrong, then you must not use the safe period or any other method, and you must discourage marriages in which sterility is known to occur. You can't be logical and allow intercourse under those conditions. But if it is right without that, then you admit its value. If you admit its value, you must utilize it to the fullest possible extent of its physiological and psychological possibilities. If it is right, have it right, and if it is wrong, eliminate it."

"By simply using safe periods, you do not utilize when the physiological knowledge which you and I have. You actually try to outwit nature, for it is that period undoubtedly in which nature says that it is not economical or normal to have sex intercourse. Look at all the history of the lower animals and you will see that. Evolutionarily there is no argument for it as a natural habit at that time. You, therefore, in advocating that time are really entirely illogical and you are not natural. It seems

a peculiar thing to me, as a scientist, that you take that viewpoint."

"If too you are going to make it natural psychologically, why insert the element of doubt and fear and uncertainty that comes with using a method like a safe physiological period? Why hint at the possibility of punishment? Why not use a more intelligent and more definite method?"

It seemed to me, as my friend told me this, that those two mice were depicting very clearly a condition that actually exists. We all know that the Roman Catholic Church does not hold a view very different from that which the black mouse outlined. We all know that they are attempting to explain this situation, to put it forward on the basis of what they honestly believe to be right. It seems, therefore, a question of right on our part to look into the logic of that situation, unemotionally, with all the intelligence and interest and tolerance that we can possibly bring into play, and if we do it seems to me that we must admit that if that Church or any other allows or sanctions sexual intercourse at any period other than for the production of children, that then that Church must, in the logical conclusion, see that to make intercourse safer and without the feeling of dread and fear and worry is better,—if they are going to enter that business at all, if they are going to admit it is right under any circumstances, it seems only fair to ask them to consider seriously the extension of their logic to its proper conclusion.

## The Differential Birth Rate\*

By RAYMOND PEARL, PH D

EVERY one who has thought seriously of the social implications of either the eugenics or the Birth Control movements has been puzzled and disturbed by the phenomenon of differential birth rates. If he has thought at all correctly about the matter he has perceived that in this phenomenon lies perhaps one of the greatest existing obstacles blocking the way to the fairly speedy attainment of at least some part of that earthly millennium of which both these modern gospels paint such a glowing picture. The wrong kind of people have too many children, and the right kind too few. It almost seems as though some perverse daemon possessed human kind, and made them do exactly the

opposite of what a really enlightened self-interest would indicate to be the right thing.

Thus recent figures on the relative fertility of different occupations in England and Wales show that the number of children per 100 married couples, when the age of the occupied husband is below 55 years are as follows: for teachers 95, non-conformist ministers 96, Church of England clergy 101, physicians and surgeons 103, authors and editors 104, policemen 153, postmen 159, carmen 207, dock laborers 231, barmen 234, miners 258, and general laborers 438. It is a long way from the 95 children per 100 married couples of the teachers to the 438 per 100 of the general laborers.

An instructive aspect of the figures in the United States census is brought out by comparing the birth rate in each state for native-born mothers,

\* Read at the Sixth International Neo-Malthusian and Birth Control Conference, New York City, March 26, 1925

with the estimated value of all property per capita of population of 1922 in the same states. The per capita wealth figures used are the official published data of the Department of Commerce.

It is at once evident when this comparison is made that generally in those states where the birth rate is high the average per capita wealth is low, the net correlation between the birth rate per 1,000 women and the average per capita value of all property when population (as of 1920) is held constant—in order to free the result of spurious correlation—is

$$\frac{r}{xy.x} = -0.615 = \pm 0.086$$

This is not only significant, but a relatively high correlation.

The evidence so far presented, of which a great deal more might be adduced, is, I think, sufficient to establish the first point in my argument, which is that in general there is a definite correlation between birth rate and poverty. But poverty in turn is a substantially accurate relative measure of the quality of the physical and biological environment of human beings. The environment of the very poor is hard in every respect, food, shelter, work and fatigue, recreation, all these elements are far harsher in their impact upon human beings stricken with poverty than upon people of wealth. The very poor man cannot control his environment to the benefit of his happiness and well-being except in a degree slight and insignificant as compared with that in which the rich man can control his

### ENVIRONMENT AND BIRTH RATE

Without for the present inquiring at all as to why the poor man came to be poor, or continues to be so, it is the plain fact that the very poor live in a physically and biologically harsh and inadequate environment, while something about the opposite of this is true of the very rich. So then the first point of the argument may be stated in this way: it appears to be generally the fact that there is an inverse or negative correlation manifest amongst human beings between the birth rate and the biological quality or adequacy of the environment for the maintenance of human comfort and well-being. The nature of this correlation is that the better the environment, the more comfortable and higher the standard of living, the lower the birth rate and vice versa.

My second point is that there are, I believe, grounds for supposing that it is the very harshness and inadequacy of the human environment which

*"The cure for the defects of Birth Control," says Dr. Pearl in effect, paraphrasing the expression of a political philosopher in regard to democracy, "is more, and more democratic Birth Control."*

is the inevitable and indeed necessary concomitant of real poverty, which tends both directly, and indirectly through psychological reactions, to produce a high birth rate. And, on the other hand, it seems to me to be equally clear that the probably super-optimal environment, biologically speaking, which even moderate wealth is able to command, tends both directly and indirectly to low fertility and even a good deal of actual sterility. Not only do the well-to-do have many other pleasurable outlets for nervous energy besides the sexual, but also they are generally acquainted with the best methods of contraception. Both of these factors tend to lower the class birth rate. All wealth is of course relative. I am not referring solely to the glittering opera patron of the metropolis. As compared with real poverty the environmental situation of what are called middle-class people—even the college professors—is biologically adequate.

The implication of the preceding paragraph is that there is a correlational nexus or pathway of the following sort: Relative wealth makes possible, and is correlated with a relatively favorable and easy environment for human existence. On the physical side this means better food, housing, etc. On the psychological side it means more avenues and opportunities of recreation, more varied intellectual interests, and generally wider outlets for nervous energy. These things in turn, it is suggested, correlate with a less active sex life, and with a lower birth rate. At the other economic extreme we have the opposite picture. Poverty correlates with a poor environment for human existence, with poor food and housing, and on the psychological side restricted opportunities for recreation, narrow intellectual interests, and generally few reliable outlets for the speedy and satisfactory relief of nervous tension. This situation correlates with more frequent sexual activity and a higher birth rate.

### THE POOR AND THE UNFIT

In support of this suggestion as to the correlations involved I have a mass of definite and directly pertinent statistical evidence, based upon the sex life of normal people in groups of the population of different economic, cultural and intellectual

(Continued on page 300)

## "Ears Polite"

*Under this head, suggestive of our self-conscious attitude toward sex education, the "Journal of Social Hygiene" publishes the excellent editorial which we reprint in part*

**S**EX education is being steadily adopted into more schools, **recognized** by more fathers and mothers as one of the inescapable **responsibilities** of parenthood. The **conviction** grows that **children** and young people have a **right** to be taught in sex matters, and that we must somehow tell them, early and frankly, what we have come to call "the facts of life."

Probably no one in this generation will do it thoroughly well. Old taboos do not indeed go easily. **Habits** of thought once set in childhood hold us—hold all of us—far longer and more firmly than we like to admit. What seem the blatant **indelicacies** and dangerous **experimentations** of the present are probably the result we should have known we would have to expect, for a **while**, from the clouded and **sporadic** sex teaching which is about the best we can yet do. But we shall do a great deal better. The parents and the teachers of to-day, the best of them, are themselves held by their own **childhood** ideas, old thoughts which they do not believe, reluctances they **disavow**, **attitudes** of the **mind** and tenuous cobwebs of old **misapprehensions** which their intellects reject but which fetter their freedom none the less. **While** we are so **handicapped**, our teaching is under **inhibitions** which make it come **uncertainly** and clouded even though the **inhibition** is **against** our judgment and our will, even though it is **without** our clear **consciousness**.

**W**E cannot yet stand wholly erect in the presence of great **sanctities** we have **insulted**. Too many **centuries** our race called the flesh **ignoble** and thought sex inherently unclean—thought only **celebrity beautiful** in the eyes of **heaven**—only **virginity** divine—the soul created to be good, and the poor body wrapped malignantly around it for its perplexity and its lifelong **trial**. When the teachers of **children** have moved far enough away from the **thought-inheritances** of those old days to be wholly **uninhibited** by them, then they can let the knowledge of the **physiology** of sex, and the **meaning** of love and **marriage** and parenthood and the **great creative emotions** unfold gradually in the **understanding** of little children with the **purity** of utter **naturalness**, and deepen in the thoughts of youth

into conceptions of **inspiring** beauty and **high obligation**, the **rich** and joyous heart of human life.

**W**E are still in an early stage of sex education. The way we **think** of it is still fairly truthfully expressed by the phrase above—"one of the inescapable **responsibilities** of parenthood." **While** we **think** of it as inescapable, and a duty, we have not gone very far, nor shall we succeed very well. Presently we shall see it, instead, as one of the **beautifully** natural **unfoldings**, like **looking** on and **stretching** a hand when the baby takes his first lovely, tottery steps alone. It will be like watching the school boy explore the great **universe** with his eager **mind** and catch one after another of grown men's **interests**—**sociology**, the great sciences, the great arts. It will be like the other **illimitable** **privileges** and **happiness** of parenthood, like proudly watching the **child** grow into a man and **stretching** a hand to **him** when he needs it, **rejoicing** to stretch it. It will not be a duty foreseen and deferred, or foreseen and accepted and **accomplished** once for all, resolutely. It will be an exchange of thoughts between the **children** and their fathers and mothers, a gradual **coming** to understand, a **transmission** of **ideals**, a **contagion** of **aspirations**, happening nobody knows when or how, but happening, permeating **childhood**.

We have not come to a real sex education yet. We are still very **self-conscious**, very **moralizing**. We meet emergencies, we scatter **warnings**, we deliver lectures. We are **midway**, fettered by the **unforgotten** thoughts of the **generations** behind us, **bewildered and unsteady** by the **dawning** thoughts of the **generation** ahead. And we are a closely corporate race—we humans. We have to move forward together.

**All** that we have ahead is not to be **arrived** at in a day. He who plants an oak tree and he who plants an idea must love the future more than the present, for both are of very slow growth.

---

*It still remains unrecognized that to bring a child into existence without a fair prospect of being able not only to provide food for its body, but instruction and training for its mind, is a moral crime both against the unfortunate offspring and against society —JOHN STUART MILL*

# Goldie Grasshopper

By ELEANOR ROWLAND WEMBRIDGE

## CHAPTER I

*"The tragic member of the irregular love triangle is the child who should never have been born"*

—A DEACONESS OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

GRACIE was the large brunette at one end of the chorus in the Bantam Burlesque, and Goldie was the small girl at the other end, who by much application of peroxide and lemon juice, had succeeded in becoming a gilt-edged blonde. Gracie was 19, had a big resonant voice, and did the sentimental songs, as well as the "coon-shouting" and "blues." Goldie was 17 and her voice was nothing but a rasp, squealed off-key through her nose. But she had that mysterious possession known as "a good line," did some funny eccentric dances, and the audiences at the Bantam were not particular about them music provided the girls were lively. As was to be expected, each girl admired her own accomplishments prodigiously, and expressed a voluble scorn and suspicion of her rival in a jealousy which added much thrill and excitement to their lives.

But each had other admirers beside herself. Gracie was often met after the show by a heavy man reported to be of great wealth in the tobacco business. No one knew much about him. But Goldie was in love with Jake, the solo saxophonist in the orchestra. He was sleek and shiny of ham, with narrow patent leather pumps, and the blackest of black eyes. He could sob on his saxophone in every trick position invented by jazz clowns, and he and Goldie had invented a few dances in which he would leap to the stage and dance with her, imitating her nasal wads on his instrument as they danced. This was really very funny, for both of them had streaks of the genuine comedian in them, as well as some acrobatic skill, and Jake in his way was a real musician. He relished the humor of Goldie's singing which was so poor that she made a feature of it, and the imitation of it with his throbbing horn was the very spirit of buffoonery.

It was just before Christmas and the Bantam was doing its biggest business, somewhat handicapped by the absence of Gracie, who had vaguely

disappeared, and was supposed to have gone off with her stout tobacco merchant. Goldie therefore had everything her own way. But in spite of the holiday gaiety, she was somewhat out of sorts, had a cold which took the edge off her singing, and a limp which prevented her dancing, and altogether was not making the most of her opportunity of being, for the present, so unexpectedly rid of her rival. On one desperately cold night, with the thermometer dropping lower hour by hour and the wind like a knife, Goldie crept down the back stairs of the theatre the moment her song was over, ran through the alley and into the street leading toward the lake. It was not likely to be frequented at this hour of a freezing night and she took some odd halting steps down the icy sidewalk—not an eccentric dance, but more in the nature of a stagger.

STUB KELLY the taxi driver, gliding slowly about looking for a late passenger, watched her with a sigh. These show girls with them theatrical dashes to the lake, from which some repentant escort was supposed to drag them, bored Stub, especially on cold nights. He looked back of him to find the escort. "She's soused, and so is he, likely. But that kind pay pretty well," he reflected, so he slowly followed the swaying Goldie, although he could detect no suitor in the offing. "Wonder where she gets her moonshine. It sure has got a kick," he mused, as he discreetly rolled along behind her, honking invitingly at intervals. "That girl's pickled. She'll freeze if her sweetie don't turn up." But still no "sweetie" appeared, and to Stub's surprise, Goldie suddenly struck off from the road and started over the dingy snow toward a tree on the dump.

The lake was frozen in great cakes which creaked and rumbled and cracked in the icy wind. One lone tree bent inward from the strong lake blast. Against its trunk Goldie stumbled and leaned, clutching it spasmodically, while Stub watched her and sighed again. If there was one passenger he hated worse than the kind he thought she was before, it was the kind he knew she was now. Like any tam-driver of experience he had them from tune to tune, and like them all, he dreaded them above all things, and wanted to beat a retreat at once. Goldie would never have been the wiser if he had, for she saw neither him nor anything in the

wide universe but her tree. Nor would anyone else have known. An anonymous call to the nearest police station would satisfy almost any taxi-conscience.

IT just happened that in such cases Stub was known to be Irish and a "softy," and for some reason the Goldies, as he admitted "got his goat"—in a world where not many things did. So he drove to the curb nearest the lake front dump and honked, mildly at first, then with more vigor. It was evident however, that Goldie did not hear him. He sighed again and climbed down from the seat and walked toward her. "Want some help, girlie?" he said gently. The words might have been those of a professional "gas-hawk," but they were not uttered in tones of blandishment nor was there a trace of coquetry in the stare which Goldie turned toward him. Her hat was pushed over her face, on which the paint stood out in purple patches against her livid cheeks. The wind howled and blew the snow in gusts off the blocks of lake ice, through which an arc light threw its blue glare on Goldie's distorted mouth. It was drawn back from her teeth, and twisted into a glance of agony, as she slipped down her tree toward the ice beneath it.

"How about a ride home, kiddo? Need your mother, don't you?" shouted Stub against the wind. Then he muttered "Oh Hell," picked her up, laid her in the car, and headed for the hospital with his foot on the gas.

"Found her by the lake," he explained to the night nurse, who gave her patient one look and told the orderly to "make it snappy." "She won't tell her name, but she looks like the kid who dances at the Bantam." "That Bantam!" snorted the nurse and shrugged her shoulders. She had met some members of its chorus before.

THE next morning found Goldie lying in a ward, very dazed and sullen. Her daze and sullenness were so complete that they amounted almost to a stupor. She looked neither to the right nor to the left. She would not speak to the nurses, nor answer when they spoke to her. She was filled with resentment so utter and absorbing that her face was aged and hardened by it. The Goldie of yesterday would not have wanted to look so old and pinched, but the Goldie of today did not care. She wondered that she lived at all, she was so enraged with life. The head nurse came in and looked her over, pushed her slightly to one side of the bed and laid a small bundle beside her. "Your son wants

you," she remarked briefly and left the two together. A spasm of rage rose up in Goldie's breast and almost stifled her. She wondered that they dared leave a child beside her, when they ought to know that she would murder it. But she did not move a muscle. She lay in the same apathy of resentment, while other nurses with other bundles hurried to and fro down the ward. There seemed to be a general commotion as of a frog pond on a spring evening when all the little frogs start chirping at once. From forty little throats came forty variations of the same refrain in which some shrill soprano croakings stood out against the lustier background of stout young baritones and basses.

SUDDENLY the unquenchable comedian in Goldie began to titter. "I bet Jake could do that on the old horn," she thought, and there was a little squirm at her side and a squeak as ineffectual as her own singing voice joined feebly in the froggish chorus. She was so startled at this sound that she forgot her rage for one instant, and involuntarily glanced into the bundle. There, swathed in blankets and with a towel slipping over his forehead—there was Jake blinking up at her with his shiny black eyes, playing a trick saxophone in his throat. Goldie was completely taken back at this apparition. She lay gazing at it in silence, then she twitched the towel still further over one black eye, "Jake on a jag—for the Lord's sake!" she whispered stannig. But she shut her eyes as she saw a nurse approaching.

Goldie still lay as in a trance, but with new and even more overwhelming sensations added to her daze. What preposterous little creature had the effrontery to be squawking at her side? She had hitherto ignored the very possibility of his existence. She had turned from the sometimes insistent warning of his advent, with a skill bred of years of ignoring all obligations which she did not mean to meet. She had run away from rent collections and food bills. She had escaped the installment agent by way of the back door, and the police, more than once, by the fire escape. It must be possible somehow to dodge a helpless little nobody who so dumbly but so persistently accompanied her like her shadow. But here he was—gazing at her with the fixed 111-focussed stare of the newly-born. "No one ever out-lamped me yet," she reflected and glared back at him as soon as the nurse was out of sight. The little black eyes did not waver. Then there was a prodigious yawn and his eyes shut. "Wore him out," thought Goldie turning away, much pleased with herself—but glanced back to

(Continued on page 300)

# On Rustic Trails and City Streets

By AMY YUENGLING

*Kitty Marron appears on our cover this month and Miss Yuengling tells the story of her experience as a novice in open-air selling. No one who has not tried it can realize the courage it takes to sell the REVIEW on the street, and no one who is not close to the work can estimate the value in contacts we could not make otherwise, of this form of publicity for Birth Control*

**T**HERE is a deep interest in Birth Control in this part of the State. On my motor trip home from the Conference I took a supply of literature. There is a trail along the route and some intensive spots in a particularly small area we covered mail box by mail box. It was wonderfully interesting to see how gladly people responded to the idea wherever we offered them literature. We could have talked with anyone of them for hours. We could but introduce the subject and let the paper or the leaflet tell the tale. I also furnished nurses and doctors at the hospital in Buffalo with some of the magazines and they are keenly interested there. One of them, Dr. Lothrop, spoke before the Erie County Medical Association a few weeks ago on Birth Control and also at the Homeberg Nurses' Club on "Restriction of Population," chiefly from the point of view of poverty and charity and taxation. We are just completing a big United Charities Drive for some \$600,000 and the speakers had to stress the point that they are most forward-looking in dealing with this problem of the need for charity. It was hard to get the money too.

I had a wonderful day at Macy's. I sold every one of the REVIEWS and to a wide variety of folks—men and women. I presume we all meet the same introduction in street selling—for a sharp-eyed and tongued Irish woman was my first inquirer—but she only spoke to say, "Was the likes of me lowering myself to have anything to do with that?" And I smiled and said, "Yes indeed." She just snorted and passed on! One thing I carefully watched was the eyes of the passersby and as I held the BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW high and where it could be read without effort, I observed that every pair of eyes focused directly upon it! Expressions were varied—some most friendly, some very cynical and the whole gamut between—as well as many poker faces.

Three very poor girls came to buy during the day to whom one could see the very words on the magazine were like a haven in a storm. One was an Italian girl only 27 years old, the mother of four children. She was so shabby and told me a story

much like the letters of Mrs. Sanger's. Another was a German girl, a worn-out mother physically and in her apparel too, and the third also a foreign type—I cannot now exactly recall but I would say a moron as well. Who ever says the poor do not want Birth Control or would not use it? Let them just sell the REVIEW on a busy street corner and be suddenly aware of those mutely appealing eyes at one's elbow—because they approach one so silently and apparently without warning. They do not come like the modern intellectual type, head up and smiling, saying, "This is splendid, I want to buy one of your papers," as did another of my purchasers. I gave the three poor mothers the address of the clinic, hoping that each had heart disease, kidney trouble or tuberculosis—anyone or all three! Surely they seemed worn enough to be tubercular and knowing what poverty means in scanty food—surely they might well be ill.

**I**T is an education to see folks from the angle of selling REVIEWS on street corners and talk with people with just that as an introduction! A young boy passed and stopped long enough to say that while he agreed in some of it, he could not go the whole way. I asked him how old he was and he said sixteen. I told him that with so open a mind at sixteen, he would sometime come to understand more fully what he was still unable to agree with at present. And he said, "Well, I'll see." One woman told me she had passed in front of me six times, each time hoping to get up enough courage to step up and buy a paper. She finally concluded that if I was brave enough to stand there, she could muster up enough courage to stop. She talked with me about an hour and in that time was amazed how easily they sold. I think she learned a deal from talking and watching others in that hour. She seemed to be a very splendid woman.

Men bought as freely as women—in fact I thought more eagerly.

Sometimes the steady flow of well-dressed and apparently self-centered women made me to

ponder upon some very **disturbing** thoughts that rose to my mind. One **incident** that is a **vivid picture** in my mind was of two rather young women, each **holding** on to a little **girl's** hand. They walked **behind** one another and spoke loud. One looked at the **magazine** pleasantly as she passed and called to her **friend**. "Oh, say, let's buy one." The other woman seemed cross and jerked at the arm of her little **girl** and **said**. "No, come on!"

I was a good deal pained to watch the **harrid** expressions of the folks as they passed all day long. The **business of living** seemed a drab and dull **affair** to most of them. Some lugged at bundles—there appeared uncomfortable and **it** was the unexpected to see a really **beautiful** and happy **facial expression**. Men **carried** armfuls of clothes past me. Boys

trundled carts of coats and **suits** past. The **busy-**ness of people just passing and **repassing attending** to **trivial details** of **living fascinated** me. From **bits** of **conversation** overheard, one could learn how simple were some of these **serious** problems of life being solved that day. One woman was **hunting** shoes—yet probably had more shoes at home **than** she could ever wear out. There was a **wedding gift** being sought. Would **this bride gain** the knowledge that would help her plan her **life to its** best ends — I wondered? Again **it** was **this being** sought, another tune that, just a ceaseless **activity** **it** seemed to me, where great and **important things** were **waiting** the power and strength of these same **minds**. I could not help but **recall** that old **saying**, "Nero fiddles while Rome burns." A good many seemed very busy doing **nothing**.

## Poems of Desperate Motherhood

### TOO LATE

**Sadie said**

Jim looked so swell,  
I thought that all was well  
Nobody told me how  
**His** folks was crazy now  
**Since** I have a son  
The **mischief's** done  
**I didn't** know **until** too late  
That love would turn to hate  
Why **didn't** you tell me  
It wouldn't have to be?

### AN OLD WOMAN SAID

"The last of my **children** is dead  
And buried today," an old woman **said**  
"There was eleven in all  
Counting from Mabel to Paul"  
The **neighbors** said, "She is brave"  
**When** each was **laid** in a grave  
"**Children** comfort the old,  
Is what **I** was told  
But now **I** have found  
**Having** 'em to lay in the ground,  
Is not the **Almighty's** way,  
But **devil's** play"

—MARGARET LORING THOMAS

### UNMARRIED

I will seek an **artist**  
I have heard  
That women in my **condition**  
Are much sought as models  
For **facial expression**  
**What** a sweet **picture** of despair  
I should make!

### INTELLIGENTIA

I thought I was **intelligent**  
**Having** spent some years  
Upon a **higher education**,  
How amusing was my **mistake**,  
**Since** any beast  
Is a master of the art  
Of procreation!

### DESERTED WIFE

I could  
**Rip** apart my **pink** opera cloak  
**With** the **ermine** collar  
For blankets  
But **I will wait**  
Perhaps **it** may be  
**Still-born**

—FLORENCE MAYNE HICKEY

## THE OVERLOOKED FACTOR

A man that owned a **fine** dog, and by a careful **selection** of **its** mate, had bred a number of **animals** but hittle lower than the angels, fell in love **with** his washer-woman, **mar-**ried her and reared a **family** of dolts

"**Alas**" he exclaimed, **contemplating** the melancholy result, "Had **I** but chosen a mate for myself **with** half the care that **I** **did** for my dog **I** should now be a proud and happy father"

"I'm not so sure of that," **said** the dog, overhearng the lament "There's a **difference**, certainly, between your whelps and **mine**, but **I** flatter myself that **it** **is** not due altogether to the mothers You and **I** are not **entirely** **alike** ourselves"

AMBROSE BIERCE

in 'The Monk and the Hangman's Daughter' (A & C Boni)

## PROBLEM

By E. RALPH CHEYNEY

One Park Avenue **mansion**  
Plus one Bar Harbor cottage  
Plus one Lake Como mlla  
To be **divided** by one lonely hittle boy  
Plus two parents and several servants

One East Side tenement room  
To be **divided** by  
One **Italian** boy  
Plus one colored boy  
Plus two **Armenian** girls  
Plus any number of adults

Equate

Answer

What except Birth Control?

Only **this** very **morning** **I** baptized a poor hittle mite born out of due **time**, and **which** one feels should never have been begotten to **its** **fleeing** dreadful slum **experience** and **sufferings**. To those who would condemn me for **this** **feeling** **I** would say "**Live** in a human hutch in a filthy and **hideous** slum for, say, twelve months"—**A** **Clergyman** of the Church of *England*

The *Sunday News* (London) quotes Count **Karolyi** as **saying**

"There are but three **solutions**—**other** than the fatal one of war—to Europe's problems. They are **emigration**, **Birth** Control or the **colonization** of Europe **in** Europe, **by** **which** **I** mean the **distribution** of the land to the people"

## OUR CONTRIBUTORS

**C C Little**, biologist and until recently preazdent of *Maine University*, is now president of the *University of Michigan* and president of the *International Pederatron of Birth Control Leagues*

**Raymond Pearl** is head of the Department of Biometrics of *Johns Hopkins Unversity*

**Eleanor Rowland Wembridge**, former professor of psychology at *Mt Holyoke* and *Reed Colleges*, is now psychologist of the *Women's Protective Association* of *Cleveland, Ohio*

**Amy Yuengling** is a former suffragist and an active worker for *Birth Control*

**Baroness Keikichi Ishimoto**, a Japanese feminist, u founder of the first *Birth Control organiza-* *tam in Japan*

**Malcolm H Bissell** is Associate Professor of Geology at *Bryn Mawr College* and president of the *Eastern Pennsylvania Brzth Control League*

**Hornell Hart u Carola Woerishofer** Professor of *Social Science* at *Bryn Mawr*

## "OUT OF THE MOUTHS OF BABES"

One of the mothers who came for help to the **Clinical** Research Department of the **American Birth** Control League, was sent there by her hittle boy, 11 years old—not led there by hand but led by **his** **influence**. He came in from school one day **holding** the folder "Can You Afford a Large **Family**" "See Mother," he **cried**, "What **I** found in the street You'd better go to that place There's five of us **kids** now and you ought to **give** us a **fair** chance"

"Oh, I don't know," the mother **replied**, nevertheless **reading** the leaflet eagerly

The next day she talked **it** over **with** a naghbor and they both decided to go **without** **making** too much of a parade of **it** before the chddren. In **spite** of **all** **their** **precautions** the boy met them in the doorway all dressed up

"Where are you **going**, mother?" he asked "Oh, we are **going** to the **dentist**. We've both got a toothache"

"No you're not, mother, you're **going** to that place Anyway, you ought to You ought to take a rest and come out **with** us **children** sometimes, instead of always **having** a baby"

So that's the way **this** mother came to the **Clinical** Research Department

Ad a **democrat**, **I** will agree to no attempt to coerce the people for **their** own good —ROBERT BLATCHFORD

# DEATH·IN·LIFE

"This is death And where lies life? We charge you to find it out"—ZONA GALE

Long hours and low pay are *the* lot of *the* poor man The lot of the poor *woman* is *heavier still—longer hours* and the *double* burden of *feeding and caring* for a household to whose numbers *her* own body adds year by year "A *death-like slavery*," one of them *calls it* and *they* look to us to *free* them and open the *doors* to a *fuller life*

## "I Wish I Would Never Wake Up"

Ohio

I have had **4 children in 5 years** and now I am **going** to have another my husband **is** sick and cannot work so I have to go to work and he stays **with** the children I work in an office **building** nights doing **cleaning** While **emptying** an waste paper basket I found a copy of **BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW** and have **decided** to **write** to you If **you** can tell me what to do not to have any more **children** please please let me know for I am so **tired** of this hfe **which** to me **is** **misery** Every **time** I lay down for the **2** or **3** hours sleep I get I **wish** I would never wake up Please help me if you can

## 'Unhappy and Forever Uncertain'

Washington

**Just** another to add to your countless **cries** of despair Why **in** the world dont they leave women hke you alone to **help** us Mrs Sanger I certainly need your help I have three babies only a year between oldes one and **twins**, 10 m old and know I am going to have another **in** 7 mos or so I sometimes **think** I'd rather **die** I have no fneuds as my people would throw up **their** hands in horror if I even said I did not want all the **babies** the Lord sends me My husband is deeply **superstitious** in that respect also and says I must not try to keep from **having** them, though he has neither **religion** or **superstition** to stay **him** in **his** **actions** He **drinks** (hootch) constantly and I never have any money We hve poorly and I cant even afford **the** **services** of an **abortionist** if I could I'd **certainly** go there Oh Mrs Sanger how can I take care of myself to keep **it** from **happening** again even if my husband would have know about **it** I just flounder around **in** the dark unhappy and forever uncertain Have not very good health, a second rate doctor at the **birth** of my first baby was careless and I always have **terrible** pains **in** my **side** **sometimes** **traveling** **thru** my body until I cannot stand One dr **said** **it** was a pust-tube but gave me nothing for it but douches no woman loves her babies more than I do But

I must be **with** them and I cant care for more cant dress the ones I have even reasonably Do you blame me for wanting to **die**? Im only **24** now Its too cruelly **bitter** I shall wait, oh you dont know how **anxiously**, and **if** you cant help me, every hope **is** gone

## A Plea

New York

Will you please listen to **my** plea I am a mother of seven **children** **4 living** and **3** that are dead My oldest **living** **child** is 6 years old, there are two dead **which** are older My baby **is** 6 months old and I have been **married** 9 years **With** my last child I suffered everything but death **with this** one I will tell you how **it was** When I was **just** three months **in** **family** way I began to suffer when I went to bed at **nights** I could not get up mthout help and the same way when I set down for any length of time, as the months pass I grew worse and just before he was born I could not walk any better than a **child** that was just **learning** to walk But when I got down, the ninth month I could not turn **in** bed could not use myself at all, and when he was born and I got out of bed I could not walk at all for weeks and when I began to walk I had to use a cane I have no health now, I have been to doctors and they tell me that I am having **children** too fast But they **will** not tell me how to prevent it

The only **thing** that some say, is to get **rid** of it when I **get** caught But that **is** not the **kind** of **advice** I want **Will** you please give me some **advice** I no you **will** **give** some good advice

My heath is **ruining** **will** you help me please **as** I need all my heath and stengt to raise the **4** children I have, We are poor and I cant afford help only to do the washing but I do the rest

I dont think I can stand to have another **child** Our **family** doctor tells me to try and not to have **anymore** if **possible—I** have tried to be **carefull**, but it dont do **any** good at all Please send me some **advice** before it **is** too late Your **Servant**

## "Days Unbearable With Suffering"

New York

I have bought & read your book "Woman and the New Race" and I agree with you in all you say, unless some thing is done on the order you advocate, we will always have divorces & miserable miscarriages as I feel most of it come from the very causes you say. Take my own case for instance, before my marriage a few weeks I fell from a horse & injured my spine, the Dr told me if I went on with marriage I took a grave risk but my fiance thought there would be no children. In eleven months there was a boy after months of torture, at birth we both all but died, after hours of agony, for three years I was an invalid then I went to — Hospital for an operation. In four years & a half after using the only method of prevention I know I found myself that way again with days unbearable with suffering the Dr said absolutely no more but when I asked what to do would not tell me a thing, so my husband used a method he heard of but it also had failed & once again I went through the torture of days & nights of continual suffering getting up in the morning & praying for death to end my suffering before night. But I lived & gave birth to a baby girl & again the Dr says I would hate to fight for your live again so dont let it happen. I am left just as much in the dark about what to do, as seemingly everything fails but my health is entirely shattered & my nerves a wreck & the suffering has unbalanced my mind. Do you wonder I avoid my husband & live in deadly fear of the companionship that should be a joy with the result our home life is spoiled because he don't understand why I avoid him, so I bought your book praying I would find help there. But you only say you cannot tell, it is against the law and I did so look for help from you so I wrote. If there is anything you can tell me do for I will keep it confidential & thank you all my life.

## "Deathlike Slavery"

Massachusetts

You might think that I have a lot of nerve but if you have no nerve you do not get anywhere. I am one of twelve children that was raised on a farm always had to work like a hired hand from a tender age of seven. Marry to get out from under the bonds of slavery to enter into a more and deathlike slavery. My mother never did tell me of the changes in a girls life. I remember very well the first time my menses came I was so scared and ashamed and do not know much today. I have three of the darlinest babies but oh the horror I hold I do not want anymore. I had rather die or go under the knife than to bring another one into this world. My husband is a poor working man he is not physical healthy. His father died when he was a babe with (T B) and oh it grieves me so to think

my dear Husband and darling little children may go the same way. Dear Mrs Margaret Sanger, do you or would you please help a poor ignorant mother out. I do not want another babe to come into this world to suffer as a lot do and as I and every other mother has. I hope to God you will help me for I am always living in fear that I will get pregnant again for what little I know does not help me out much and I do want to help my little daughter out if there is any way. We have tried one Dr he wont help. I have read your book Mrs Sanger and think it opens peoples eyes. But my husbands condition I did not know until we were married.

## Home and Field Work

Alabama

I am writing you for some information, I am the mother of 8 living children and have 1 dead. And I so afraid that I will get that way again, I don't know what to do. My baby is 7 months old. I have all my work to do, and work in the field besides. The children that are old enough to help have to work in the field so much that they don't have time to help me around the house much. My husband works at public works, so the children and I make a crop every year. We are renters, and we are trying to save up enough to buy a home, but look like the babies come so regular, and it takes so much. I know several remedies that some of my neighbors takes but I am afraid of them because some of them have lost their health by using them, and still they have the babies, but not so often. And looks like I just have all that I can possibly see after, but not as they should be looked after. If I could find a way to keep from getting that way I would be so proud. I have never taken anything to destroy any in the womb, because that is so sinfull, but I don't believe it would be a an to keep from getting that way. So if you can help me I will bless you as long as I live. Thanking you in advance now and all time, I am truly yours,

## "Age Comes Soon Enough"

Tennessee

My children are coming too fast. Can you tell me what to do? People tell me there is nothing safe, but I only hope and pray there is. There's other women who only have a few children, so why can't we who haven't the means to care for them? Honest to God, I'd rather die than bring more children into this poverty. Seems as if I just keep those I have clean and my house tidy. I help my husband outside quite a bit because we can't afford to hire anyone and I just can't hardly do it anymore. Im only twenty-four years old and I don't want to be broke down like an old person yet. That comes soon enough at the best.

# Japan and America

By KEIKICHI ISHIMOTO

According to our researches into the **population** question of Japan, there are but two **issues** **emigration** or **Birth Control**. The Japanese government concentrates on **emigration** but its encouragement of **emigration** leads to very small results. The reason is **mainly economic**, both **public** and **private**. She cannot by public economy, **provide** enough **steamships** to carry away her surplus population every year. And **private economics** do not **permit** **families** to establish themselves in other **countries** by their own efforts. England, on the other hand, does get results in **establishing** her surplus population elsewhere because she has enormous colonies, merchant **ships** and private wealth.

The Japanese Bureau of **Statistics** recently published figures on **marriages**, **divorce**, **births**, **deaths**, and natural increase of population.

These figures show that **marriages** are **increasing** but that the rate of increase is not so great considering the growth of population. For example, the number of **marriages** increased from 370,000 in 1903, to a little less than 520,000 in 1921, representing a ratio of 7.95 per 1,000 in 1903, but an advance only to 9.14 in 1921. Figures for age of marriage show that both men and women now tend to marry later in life and this means that they have begun to understand the economic **difficulty** of **keeping** a **family** when they have not enough income.

**Divorce** is decreasing, according to the government figures and this fact must be **considered** too.

## *Births and Infant Deaths*

As for the birth rate in Japan, figures show a steady increase in recent years. Until 1920, however, we had no very accurate data. The best researches we have seem to show that the **ratio** of births seems now to stand **still**, to be at the crest of the curve, and we feel confident that the **ratio** will go down **steadily**, if slowly, from year to year. The downward tendency will be due both to **economic** pressure and to the progress of **Birth Control** propaganda **within** our **nation**. In spite of strong government **interference**, the knowledge of **Birth Control** is **invading** Japanese society and **within** a few years the most **authoritative** figures will show the result.

We also have figures to show the **legitimate** and **illegitimate** births in Japan. The figures for **illegitimacy** are large compared with the total **births**, but fortunately the number shows a tendency to decrease year by year.

Unfortunately deaths increase at a **rapid rate**—from 19.9 in 1912 to 22.7 per thousand population in 1921. In view of the **improvement** in our **sanitation** this is a sad state of **affairs** but we cannot deny the facts. Yet in all the **countries** of Europe, **America** and **Asia** the death rate always **increases** when the birth rate increases, **notwithstanding** the unimprovement of **sanitary conditions**. This is expressed by Dr. Drysdale of England as the second law of population, i.e., the birth rate and the death rate increase together under all **circumstances**. The bulk of deaths in Japan or elsewhere is among infants under one year of age. This is a tragedy for the mothers and a great **economic** loss, **especially** in a country like Japan, where so much money is spent on the **ceremonials** connected with births and deaths. Estimating the **ceremonial** cost per child at \$50 per year, the total waste of money by **infantile mortality**, to say **nothing** of all the sorrow entailed, will be about a **million** and a **half** dollars per year, since the deaths of **infants** amount to 335,000 a year.

## *Increase in Japan and United States*

It is very **important** to **know** the net increase of the population as well as the rate. In 1921 the natural increase of our population was about 700,000. When it is compared with the total number of our people it is seen to be about 1.1 per cent a year. The rate of increase has seemed to stand **still** in recent years but the net increase is tremendous. It means the **addition** of a **city** like Boston every year in our small country. Since we cannot feed so many new mouths our people were **obliged** to **emigrate**. Thus arose the terrible trouble between our two **countries** and the "grave consequences."

**Americans** can understand our **plight** best by a study of **their** own population **situation**. According to recent data the population of the **United States** is about 120,000,000 with a yearly increase of 2,000,000, so that you yourselves add a city the **size** of **Philadelphia** every year and your rate of increase compared with your total population is about 1.7 per cent. Your ratio of increase, in other words, is much larger than ours and if that **ratio** is **maintained** for the coming twenty years, the **population** of the **United States** will be two hundred million. It is already about half the **population** of **China** and that suggests some **anxiety** as to the future of **America** and raises the **question**.

as to what troubles the **United States, like China,** may have **within its own boundaries** Considering your **population facts it is** surely a **far-sighted** policy to have some ban on **immigration** into your **country**

But **American** statesmen cannot **avoid** all future trouble **simply by studying** the tide of **immigration** from the east because the **population within** the country **is growing so rapidly** As long as **American leaders—statesmen, educators, business men and priests—fail to recognize** the importance of **checking the unlimited increase of population** within the country they will **fail** to reach the goal of their **national desires** as defined in the **Declaration of Independence**

### WARRIORS

**I** HEARD a woman's scream in the night—a shrill, sharp cry of **pain**

At intervals it came **with** an ever-increasing note of **agony**

One last **piercing** shriek, then **silence,—a** new soul was **delivered into** the world,

And **I** knew that in every corner of **this** great, relentless world, the **cries** of other women were **marking** the **birth** of souls

And **I** thought of the **armies** of women through the **ages** past, and the ages to come, of the tears they shed, of the moans of **travail**

And then **I** saw the earth spread out before me into one great battlefield, and the warriors were women

There was no **martial music** to **quicken** the pulse, no blare of trumpets to herald a **victory—their silent** steps followed the rhythm of **their** heart beats

A few there were out of the great army who marched joyously **with** head held **high**

These were the free

Others groped **their** way **blindly** through the dark, **clanking** their chains, **unknowing**

But the saddest were those who had caught a gleam of **light**, who had **dimly** sensed **their birthright**, the glory of free motherhood

These were the real warriors, fighting under the standard of **truth** and justice—ever and ever beaten back by the forces of Ignorance

To these, blended **with** the moan of **travail** was the moan of **despair**

They were bearing the **iron** cross branded in **their** souls

Mrs E L STREET

In Ireland there **is** so little sense of **compromise** that **a girl** has to choose between perpetual adoration and perpetual pregnancy —GEORGE MOORE

A **portion** of **infant** and child mortality represents no doubt the **lingering** and wasteful removal from this world of beings **with inherent** defects, **beings** who for the most part ought never to have been born and need not have been born under **conditions** of greater **foresight** These, however, are the merest small **fraction** of our **infant mortality** It leaves **entirely** untouched the fact that a vast multitude of children of **untainted** blood and good mental and moral **possibilities**, as many perhaps as one hundred in each thousand born, **die** yearly through lack of **sufficient** food, lack of **sufficient** good **air**, and lack of **sufficient** **attention**

The **plain** and **simple truth** **is** that they are born needlessly There are **still** far too many **births** for our **civilization** to look after adequately, we are still unfit to be trusted **with** a **rising** birth-rate These poor little souls are born **amid** tears and **suffering**, they **gain** such love as they may, they learn to feel and to suffer, they struggle and cry for food, for **air**, for the **right** to develop, and our **civilization** at present has **neither** the courage to **kill** them outright **quickly**, cleanly, and **painlessly**, nor the heart and courage and **ability** to **give** them what they need They are overlooked and **misused**, they go short of food and **air**, they fight **their** pitiful little battle for life **against** the cruellest odds, and they are beaten Battered, **emaciated**, **pitiful**, they are thrust out of life, borne out of our regardless world, **stiff** little **life-soiled sacrifices** to the **spirit** of **disorder** **against** which **it** **is** man's **preeminent** duty to battle There has been all the **pain** in **their** lives, there has been the **radiated** pain of **their** **misery**, there has been the waste of their grudging and **insufficient** food, and all the pain and labor of their mothers, and all the world **is** the sadder for them, because they have lived in vain —H G WELLS, "Mankind in the Making"

**Society** can overlook murder, adultery or **swindling**, **it never forgives** the preaching of a new **gospel** —FREDERICK HARRISON

# "Whither Are We Going?"

Reviews by HORNELL HART and MALCOLM H BISSELL

*Five authors ask this question Only two of them answer emphatically "Uphill" But all say Birth Control offers us the opportunity to catch and save ourselves from slipping downward*

THE DECLINE OF MAN, by Stanton A. Coblenz  
Minton, Balch & Co., New York

"Is civilization on the decline? Is man rapidly going the way of the tyrannosaurus, the mastodon and the sabre-toothed tiger?" Such, according to the wrapper of the book, is the question which Mr. Coblenz essays to answer. His volume is popular rather than scholarly. It has no index, it cites secondary rather than primary sources of information, page references are not given to the works of the authors quoted. As the wrapper states, Mr. Coblenz's argument is "by the analogy of paleontology." His thesis is that as various prehistoric species have been eliminated because of their racial senescences and their overspecialization, so man is likely in the course of time to disappear from the earth. He attempts to show that there has for centuries been a progressive deterioration in the mentality of the human race, that civilization, like the extinct species to which he refers, has become overspecialized in national, military, industrial, and urban development, that the "whirlwind progress of science" is putting greatly increased strains upon the unadaptable structure of the race and its civilization, and that we are headed toward the fate of the extinct civilizations around the Mediterranean.

The book is a part of the current literature of despair, and is quite carried away by pessimism. It is interesting to note that while the author maintains that "the mental downfall" of man has been in progress for centuries, he also asserts that science is now in the course of such "whirlwind progress" as to be in imminent danger of wrecking civilization. The two theses seem a little inconsistent. The main contention of the book is that overspecialization in society renders it incapable of adjusting itself in ways necessary to survival, yet the study of the evolution of human culture indicates that the outstanding feature of modern times is increasing flexibility in intellectual and social structures, and increasing power to adapt human purposes to their environment and the environment to human purposes.

While the author is exceedingly dubious as to the likelihood that the race will avert the doom which he forecasts, he ventures a program of reforms which he believes would help to meet the crisis if adopted with thoroughness. Among these reforms are eugenics, internationalism and socialism. Readers of the REVIEW will be particularly interested in the following

"Whether we favor it or not, whether we attack it with religious zeal or submit to it passively, Birth Control has come to stay—at least, among certain distinctive elements of the people, and the one point for us to consider is whether we are to allow it to equalize its work among all sections of the population. Birth Control does not mean race suicide, as the example of Holland will testify, but it does mean racial equalization and the limitation of numbers—a step necessitated, at all events, by the very laws of population. Even aside from the fact that general, world-wide, governmentally regulated Birth Control would tend to check the mental retrogression of the race by preserving the numerical balance between the intellectual and the non-intellectual, it would prove an important factor in encouraging permanent peace and a universal understanding among the nations, for it would cut the edge of that economic need and obviate that extreme pressure of population which are among the underlying causes of international disagreements." (pp. 244-245)

Books like "The Decline of Man" will help to rouse thinking people out of the uncritical optimism which has been a menace to human progress. Uncritical pessimism may, however, be an even greater danger. The reviewer believes that the earnest and thorough study of human history and pre-history justifies a constructive optimism, recognizing the progress of the past, the immense potentialities of the future, the dangers which menace the present, and the practical steps which may be taken to avert them. Among such steps is unquestionably the scientific development and application of Birth Control.

## Two Reviews by Malcolm H. Bissell

TANTALUS or The Future of Man. By F. C. S. Schiller. E. P. Dutton & Company, New York.

THIS is an appropriate companion volume to the little essays of Haldane and Russell entitled "Daedalus" and "Icarus." Like both of them, it is brief but thought-provoking, written with a keen sense of humor, and often flashing pithy epigrammatic sentences that compress a world of meaning into a few words.

Mr. Schiller, like Mr. Haldane and Mr. Russell, is fully convinced that man is an irrational and irresponsible creature and that the whole trend of civilization is dis-

tinctly downward at present. Indeed, this mew is shared by almost all senous thinkers today. But Schiller points out that disaster is not inevitable, and sees hope in a general realization of the importance of eugenics and a gradual and careful application of its principles, always in the spirit of the true scientist seeking more light. He rejects both Russell's cynicism concerning eugenics and Haldane's expectations of ectogenesis and drugs, but believes that much will be accomplished by advances in psychology. Incidentally he joins both of these authors in taking his fling at politics, education and religion as popularly understood and practiced. While defending what he calls "the paradoxes of Christian ethics," he thinks there is little probability of Christianity ever being taken seriously. "The proposal," he says, "to put Christian principles into practice would be bitterly opposed by all the churches in Christendom." Past and contemporary history unfortunately justify this conclusion.

The book makes no definite prophecies. It is, rather, a survey of possible means of escape from the impending doom of civilization. There seems little doubt of the truth of the author's conviction that "mankind has knowledge enough to avoid the dangers that threaten it," but Schiller himself does not seem very hopeful that this knowledge will be effectively applied. The human race has always simply "muddled through" and apparently that is about all it can be expected to do in the future.

Whether or not one agrees with Schiller—and in view of "Fundamentalist" activities, anti-evolution laws, opposition to Birth Control, politics in all countries, etc., it is difficult not to agree with him—"Tantalus" will not be laid aside after one reading. It is not only excellent mental stimulus, but a thoroughly delightful piece of writing as well. Its satire is of the genial and tolerant kind and all the more effective for that reason. The prologue is one of the cleverest things in the book.

WIRELESS POSSIBILITIES By A. M. Low E. P. Dutton & Company, New York

HERE is another stimulating little book of the "Today and Tomorrow" series. It confines itself to the possibilities of radio, but it presents a picture of a vastly different world in the future. Mr. Low gives us an insight into the uncanny possibilities of the mysterious ether vibrations which form the substance of radio communication. He shows us quite convincingly that it will be a commonplace of the not very distant future to sit in a room in London and see and hear a baseball game in New York, to sign a check at our bank while sitting in our office, and to delve deep into the now hidden mysteries of life processes. Space will be annihilated, and the Chinaman on the other side of the world will be as much our neighbor as the friend at our elbow. From such achieve-

ments it will of course be a short step to an acquaintance with other worlds and to the reading of thought.

The possibilities of destruction in war will be so appalling that one is led to believe man will have to abandon this primitive means of settling disputes as the alternative to total extinction. "War," says Mr. Low, "is of course a natural process, a little less educated and more unkind in consequence, than Birth Control." Apparently, therefore, Birth Control will of necessity become universal.

It is unfortunate that a book which is so stimulating to the imagination and which contains so much information of value to the non-scientific reader, should be so incoherently written. There is a great lack of smoothness in the form of presentation, the sentences break off from each other like successive explosions, and paragraphs begin and end at random. The effect is confusing and rather exasperating, and one finishes the book with an impression of a jumble of disconnected ideas. A little more attention to the rules of composition would add greatly to the continuity of thought and smoothness of style, as well as to the pleasure and profit of the reader.

QUO VADIMUS by E. E. Fournier d'Albe E. P. Dutton & Co., New York

WHAT I BELIEVE, by Bertrand Russell E. P. Dutton & Co., New York

TO E. E. Fournier d'Albe and to Bertrand Russell, in "What I Believe," the outlook for the future of man appears more hopeful than to many of the contributors to the Today and Tomorrow Series.

Mr. Fournier d'Albe's "Quo Vadimus" does not contemplate the possibility of man's extinction. In view of human adaptability to a wide range of climatic and other conditions and in view of the promises of science he believes that man is good for a thousand or for a million or many millions of years on earth. Indeed to him the development of the race is ahead of us, not behind us. Of man's development during the first half million years of his existence he has no exalted opinion. "In that period," he says, "man has evolved from an ape-like tree-dwelling ant-eater into a plodding illiterate monosyllabic tiller of the soil. The mental equipment of the representative man—the man representing the majority—is in many ways inferior to the dog or the ant. He is full of greeds and lusts and superstitions which place him on a level with the higher animal life or even below it."

Nevertheless Mr. Fournier d'Albe does not believe that man's backwardness so far, condemns him to remain a clod. He believes that in the elite, the educated few, of today is foreshadowed the whole race of the future. By

mechanical advances and by **social** readjustments, many of **which** are already under way, the race **is** to become a body of the elect of the earth. The **civilization** to be expected a thousand years hence he **describes** as follows:

"A globe **laid out like** a huge garden, **with a climate** under perfect control, the internal heat of the earth brought to the surface and **utilized** as a source of **never-failing** energy. **Portions** of the **interior** of the earth reclaimed and made **habitable**, all **machinery** and sources of power **wisely distributed** and made **instantly available** for all **legitimate** purposes. The earth's surface and the **rippling** ether in **which it swims** made into a vast playground of **human** thought and **emotion** and all **mankind** throbbing in **unison** to every great thought.

"The earth **will** have become a **sentient being**. It **will** be as closely **unified** and **organized** as the human **individual** **himself**. **Mankind** **will** be the '**grey**' matter' of the **brain**."

Mr. Fourmer d'Albe's **prognostication** is based upon no fundamental change in the line of our development, but **simply** an **acceleration** of our present **material** and **social** progress. He does not in his **optimistic** forecast **discuss** such **practical** problems as the already **threatening** pressure of **population** on the food supply. Some **indication** of his **belief** in the **solution** of this problem may however be expressed in the **following** vague reference to population control:

"It is not at all necessary to contemplate an **increasing** **population** of the globe. The **leadership** of the human race can much more **effectively** be **maintained** by **educating** **individuals** than by **increasing** their numbers."

In "What I Believe" Bertrand **Russell**, having told in **Icarus\*** how man may melt his own **wings** in the **crucibles** of his own **science**, outlines by what **lines** of development he **is still given** a chance to save **himself** from **falling**.

What Mr. **Russell** believes has **nothing** to do with God and the nature of the universe. It has to do **instead** with those rules of **social** conduct **which will** enable man to use his knowledge for the benefit of the race as a whole. He believes that in the use of **science** by an **enlightened** **social** morahy, not **dominated** by **superstition**, **militarism** or class **interest**, for the **realization** of the Good Life ruled by knowledge and love, the hope of **social** salvation **lies**. His chapter on **Moral Rules**, especially that part **which** deals with sex morahy, is **especially** excellent. So **is** his **analysis** of the **underlying** note of **active** malevolence based on **envy** and fear now present in man, and the measures by **which it** can be changed by the **development** of courage, hope and **security** to that benevolence **which** he regards as one great component of human love. Of **Birth Control** as one of the **agencies** of **social** salvation he has much to say, for example:

"To be **killed** suddenly and then eaten, **which** was the fate of the Aztecs' **victims**, is a far less degree of **suffering** than **is** inflicted upon a **child** born in **miserable** **surroundings** and **tainted** with venereal disease. Yet **it is** the

greater suffering **which is** deliberately inflicted by **Bishops** and **politicians** in the name of morahy. If they had even the smallest spark of love or **pity** for **children** they could not adhere to a moral code **involving** this fiendish cruelty."

In Fourmer d'Albe's forecast the accent falls most heavily upon **material** means of **survival**, in Bertrand Russell's it falls on men's **acquiring** "the same **domination** over their own **passions** that they already have over the **physical** forces of the external world." M S B

## BOOKS RECEIVED

From T Y Crowell (New York) **SOCIAL PATHOLOGY**, by A. Queen and Delbert M. Mann.

From Williams and Wilkins (Baltimore) **BIRTH CONTROL**, edited by Adolf Meyer \$3 00

From E. P. Dutton (New York) **HYPATIA**, by Dora Russell \$1 00

From E. P. Dutton (New York) **LYSISTRATA**, by A. Ludovici \$1 00

From Boni and Liveright (New York) **BEYOND THE PLEASURE PRINCIPLE**, by Sigmund Freud \$1 50

From Boni and Liveright (New York) **GROUP PSYCHOLOGY AND THE ANALYSIS OF THE EGO**, by Sigmund Freud \$2 00

From National Committee for Mental Hygiene. A STUDY OF CERTAIN AUTO-EROTIC PRACTICES, by Katherine Bement Davis. Parts I and II.

From the Eugenic Society of the United States of America (New Haven, Conn.) **SECOND AND THIRD REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE ON SELECTIVE IMMIGRATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**.

From G. P. Putnam's (New York) **SEX AT CHOICE**, by Mrs. Montith Erskine.

From E. P. Dutton (New York) **THE PASSING OF THE PHANTOMS**, by C. J. Patten \$1 00

From E. P. Dutton (New York) **NARCISSUS**, by Gerald Heard.

From Boni and Liveright (New York) **INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY OF PSYCHO-ANALYSIS**, by Sigmund Freud. \$4 60

From Hogarth Press (London) **COLLECTED WORKS OF SIGMUND FREUD, Vols II and III**.

From University of California (Berkeley, Calif.) **AGE OF PARENTS AND ORDER OF BIRTH IN RELATION TO LONGEVITY OF OFFSPRING**, by S. J. Holmes and H. Wilson.

From the University of California (Berkeley, Calif.) **THE SIZE OF COLLEGE FAMILIES**, by S. J. Holmes.

From Williams and Wilkins (Baltimore, Md.) **SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY**, by Knight Dunlap.

\* BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW for December, 1924

From **American Social Hygiene Association** (New York) **WHY THEY FAILED TO ANSWER**, by Katherine Bement Davis

From **Macmillan & Co.** (London) **THE ETHICS OF BIRTH CONTROL** **Report of the Special Committee of the National Council of Public Morals** **President, The Lord Bishop of Winchester** Price 2/6

From U S Bureau of the **Census** (Washington, D C) **BIRTHS, STILLBIRTHS AND INFANT MORTALITY STATISTICS FOR THE BIRTH REGISTRATION AREA OF THE UNITED STATES, 1923**

## THE MOTHERS' SIDE

Among all the **issues of current politics** there are few **which** mean more than **this** for the health and self-respect of women, and the **prospects** of the **children** whom they bring into the world. The **child which is born against its mother's wish** has only half a chance, the **family which overstrains its parents' income** must grow up stunted and starved in **body and mind**. The **middle class** long ago solved **this** problem for **itself**. Of the knowledge **which** may save the mother's body and assure to every **child** the nurture **it requires**, the **working class** stands in even greater need.—New Leader (London)

One of the main reasons why the woman of forty to-day is so **immensely** more **vigorous** than her grandmother must clearly be that the woman of forty years ago was often the mother of from five to ten **children**. to-day the average **might possibly** be two, but much more probably one. If the mother gains, there is no doubt that in all but the very **rich families** the **children** gain also, they are probably stronger and **certainly** better cared for.—*Daily News* (London)

The **amusing thing** is that men **think** the **question** should be settled by them. Each man decides how many shops he **will** run, how many bricks he **will** lay, how many **ems** of type he **will** set, how many **factories** he **will** build, etc.

But **ninety-nine** men out of **100** are agreed that a woman has no **right** to **decide** how many children **she shall** create, nurse and rear.

**Britain's national council** of public morals, headed by the **bishop of Winchester**, urges "a **five-children** standard for **British families**"

That would please the ghost of Theodore Roosevelt, but he would say "make **it** ten"

**British mothers might organize** a national **council** of family comfort, and say to the **council** of public morals "All right, five children if you say so, but be **kind** enough to see that we mothers have a decent **income** and a respectable **dwelling** to help us rear the five children. **Lacking** that, you may have the children and rear them"—**ARTHUR BRISBANE** in the *Indianapolis Star*

## OUR CORRESPONDENTS' COLUMN

### BIRTH CONTROL AND MEDICAL BODIES

We publish **below** a letter from the secretary of the Committee on Maternal Health, not only for the important **corrections** it makes in **editorial** and news notes in the June BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW, but for **its historical** statement as to the progress and present status of **Birth Control** in the **leading American medical bodies**

New York City

Editor, BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW

The **application** of over 7,000 doctors to the League for **information**, the attendance of some 700 at the International Conference, and the **sixty** or more **engagements** of your **Medical Director** to speak before **official medical bodies** are **evidence** of the **interest** of the **medical profession** in your work.

Now that doctors and the League are **trying** to understand each other's **point of view**, and **attempting** to **organize** research and **investigation** together, **it is desirable** that **excessive** claims should not **give** pause to the **easily** alarmed or **conservative** members of the **profession**.

In the first **editorial** paragraph in your July Issue, and also on page 212, the statement is made that Birth Control has been "**officially** accepted" by the two great national **organizations** of **gynecologists**. The two national **bodies** of **specialists** in this line are the **American Gynecological Society**, limited to a hundred members, and the **American Association of Obstetricians, Gynecologists, and Abdominal Surgeons**, which has many general surgeons among its members. The first, in 1924, named a committee to co-operate with the **Committee on Maternal Health** in the **Committee's investigation** of **Birth Control**. In 1925, it passed, by a narrow **majority**, a resolution to favor an amendment to the postal law by **adding** the **provision** that "standard **medical** and **scientific** journals and **reprints** therefrom and standard **medical** works **which** contain **information** with reference to the **preventing** of **conception** are not non-mailable under **this** section." The word "**reprints**" nearly caused the loss of the **motion**, which without it had a **fair** preponderance of approval. The second **organization** has not, to my knowledge, taken any **action**, and has two **stiff critics** of the League on its **Committee on Maternal Welfare**.

Your **writers** probably refer also to the action of a **section** at the last **annual** (May) meeting of the **American Medical Association**. This **association** is our **leading** medical organization, with a **membership** of 84,000. Before its **Section on Obstetrics, Gynecology and Abdominal Surgery**, **Birth Control** was brought up **incidentally** and in the **discussion** Dr. Cooper took part. The resolution I moved and **which** was approved, recorded that the **section** "recommend the **alteration** of **existing** laws wherever necessary so that **physicians** may legally **give** **contraceptive**

information to their patients in the regular course of practice" This will, as you say, go through the regular Committee course of such recommendations It cannot become the "official acceptance" or endorsement on the part of the great parent association without favorable action by the House of Delegates next May

Very truly yours,

ROBERT L. DICKINSON,  
*Secretary*

## IN MEDICAL SCHOOLS

Colorado

*Secretary, AMERICAN BIRTH CONTROL LEAGUE*

Am I correct in saying that the senior medical students of Harvard receive instruction in contraceptive technique?

Sincerely yours,  
RUTH VINCENT

With the exception of Johns Hopkins University, which has each year for the last three years offered one comprehensive lecture on Birth Control to its medical students, no medical college as yet gives even superficial instruction in this subject On his lecture tour this summer, however, Dr James F Cooper, Medical Director of the Clinical Research Department of the American Birth Control League, spoke before more than one group of medical students, who showed the same keen interest as was shown by practicing physicians —EDITOR

## "UNNATURAL"

Freiburg, Germany

*Editor, BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW*

It seems to me that Mr Toscan Bennett, in arguing in the June number of your Review, that all "civilization and progress" might equally be indicted as "contrary to nature" by the opponents of Birth Control, might logically have proceeded to instance monogamy itself, as a Birth Control measure of the first order, which, nevertheless our opponents will be the last to place in that category, or object to as contrary to nature

After the 30 years' war, the Elector of Hesse authorized the men of his state to take second wives, to bring up the population again, and this lasted a generation or so Civilization cannot restrict a man further than to one wife If it could, it certainly would, for as long as births are uncontrolled even the one is too many for the good of the race, as experience abundantly shows

MAX FERRARS.

## OUR LAWS AGAINST CONTRACEPTIVES

Punjab, India

*Editor, BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW*

A major portion of your magazine is occupied by articles explaining the necessity for Birth Control I would suggest that as this point is now certainly established to a great extent, a certain portion of your magazine should contain practical solutions of this problem

This problem was well-known in ancient India, and certain old medical books contain prescriptions, a certain dose of which would cause sterility for a certain period without injuring the system I think your chemists could find out such safe medicines I would have tried to find out and send some prescriptions to you but I don't know the names of medicines in English I wish there could be a centre for the study of this problem in India Nowhere is there greater need for it than in India

Yours faithfully,  
SUNDAR SINGH

Not a major part but the whole of our magazine is occupied by articles explaining the necessity for Birth Control If it were otherwise, if we should devote a portion to the practical solution of the problem—that is, to information about contraceptive measures—our magazine would be seized by the government and our editor probably put in jail By direct statement or by interpretation, information or materials for contraception are included in the federal and many state laws under the head Obscenity By Section 211 of the United States Postal Laws such matter can be sent by no common carrier The Federal Law thus prevents full freedom in getting supplies and disseminating trustworthy scientific information Nevertheless, if the laws of our 52 states and territories were liberal much local work could be done But in 26 states the teaching of contraception is forbidden either under the obscenity or under some special law By a few of these laws physicians are exempted and are allowed to give out information for the cure or prevention of disease It is under such an exemption that the Clinical Research Department of the American Birth Control League operates In the states and territories where no mention of Birth Control is made in the law, custom or prejudice often makes it possible for local authorities to prevent the founding of clinics In Chicago, for example, in a state with a liberal law, the authorities under Catholic influence persist in refusing to give a permit for a free Birth Control Clinic Until these laws are changed and their prejudices put to flight, the BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW can never be a vehicle for practical information on contraceptive measures —EDITOR

## PERIODICAL NOTES

The September number of *The World To-morrow* is a Race Betterment number. Birth Control as one aspect of Eugenics is represented by Dr. Rachelle S. Yarros—on its relation to democracy—and Dr. S. Adolphus Knopf—on its relation to religion. The column for Group Discussion by members of the Fellowship of Reconciliation contains a series of topics on Birth Control.

In its recent issues the Sunday Advocate of Bombay (India), has devoted more than a column to Birth Control, using the BIBTA CONTROL REVIEW as its main source of news and comment on the movement throughout the world. Another Indian paper which is giving publicity to Birth Control is The *Abrita* Bazaar Patnka, which published in full Dr. Pusey's address at the Sixth International Neo-Malthusian and Birth Control Conference.

In *Hijos con Permiso*—Children Without a Permit—an article in the South American moving picture journal *Cine-Mundial*, Miguel Zarraga tells Spanish readers something of the Birth Control movement in America.

Recent spokesmen for Birth Control in the New York *Times* are our good friends I. N. Thurman and Guy I. Burch. Mr. Burch furnished facts and figures further substantiating Dr. East's statements in the Williamstown controversy. Mr. Thurman came to the defence in reply to George Wanders' attack on Birth Control as a "vicious practice of infanticide."

"Scurrilous and misleading epithets," said he, "recklessly hurled at great movements, are even less becoming a student of sociology than a benighted politician pandering to the religious prejudice of his constituents. Is it necessary in these enlightened times to point out that one of the very reasons urged by advocates of Birth Control for legitimatizing Birth Control information is their abhorrence of the all too prevailing practice of infanticide under existing conditions?"

Rabbi Sidney E. Goldstein of the Free Synagogue asks, according to an account of a recent sermon reported in the New York *Times*, for more family life. He specifies as the three essentials for a happier and more democratic family life, comfortable homes, Birth Control and spiritual fellowship.

In an August number of *Colliers*, Margaret Sanger replies to an article in an April issue on the "negative" side of Birth Control. She asks, "Is race suicide possible?" and replies that our happy-go-lucky methods in the production of children add nothing to the permanency of the

race. Mere numbers, a large proportion of whom are dependents and delinquents, do not mean race survival, for they burden and deplete the race. "Increase of population," says she, "has nothing to do with progress, nor can a decreased birth rate, by any stretch of the imagination, be interpreted as an omen of national calamity."

The *Forum*, having finished a discussion of the Catholic Church, in August opened its columns to a series of articles on the causes of war. The most interesting of these articles so far is Dr. H. P. Fairchild's "Land Hunger of Mankind," in the September number.

Statistics from the National Bureau of Economic Research show that during the last 16 years the United States had forty-one million births and twenty-two million deaths. This means a real natural increase during that period of 19,000,000 and to these immigration added five and one-half million persons. In 1924 the birth rate was almost twice the death rate, for 2,645,000 persons were born as against 1,333,000 who died. In 1925 it is estimated that "ten babies will be born every two minutes and five persons will die."

## THE PINIES—THIRTEEN YEARS AFTER

THIRTEEN years ago Vineland (N. J.) Training School made its first study of "The Pinies," a large group of subnormal families who have lived for generations in a New Jersey district, known as The Pines. The Pinies are still there, are still adding to their numbers. Professor E. R. Johnstone, Director of the Vineland School, tells in *Eugenical News* the following later facts.

"I might say that since Miss Kite's study, we are constantly running across members of the 'Pinney stock' in the institutions for defectives, reformatories and the prison. Within the last year or two we have removed a mother and her three children by three different fathers, from the vicinity of Toms River, but there are other members of the family still mating and breeding.

"At the State Prison, as a member of the Parole Board, not very long ago I ran across one of 'Old Iz's' nephews and a few weeks later one of his nieces showed up in the Reformatory for Girls, several months ago, one who I believe is his grandson, was sent to the Colony for Males, and just a few months ago we received one of them. The stock is breeding right along."

An Arizona woman, Mrs. Ruiz Sanchez, a Mexican, 38 years old, has borne her twenty-fourth child in twenty-four consecutive years. "Only seven of the twenty-four," adds the news item, "are still living." What a price to pay—perpetual pregnancy for the mother and two out of every three of her children dead in infancy.

## News Notes

### UNITED STATES

#### New York

**T**HE fall term has opened and nearly every mail brings to the **American Birth Control** headquarters requests for literature on the subject of **Birth Control** from students in universities and colleges who are making social science their major subject and preparing the thesis on **Birth Control**

Some of the universities and colleges represented by these students are **Stanford University, Cal**, **Washington and Lee University, Lexington, Va**, **Wells College, Aurora, N Y**, **Hartford Theological Seminary, Hartford, Conn**, **Northwestern University, Ill**, **Miami University, Oxford, Ohio**, **Vanderbilt Medical School, Nashville, Tenn**, **Rollins College, Fla**, **Emory University, Ga**, **Yale, New Haven, Conn**, **Washington State College, Ida**, **University of Chicago, Ill**, **Springfield College, Springfield, Mass**, **Tufts College, Mass**, **University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich**, **Central Michigan Normal School, Mt Pleasant, Mich**, **De Pauw University, Ind**, **Johns Hopkins Medical School, Baltimore, Md**, **Y M C A College, Chicago, Ill**, **University of Minneapolis, Minn**, **Bussey Institution, Cambridge, Mass**, **Smith College, Northampton, Mass**, **Princeton University, Princeton, N J**

The **Seventh Annual Exposition of Women's Arts and Industries** held at the **Hotel Commodore, New York City**, is just opening as the **BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW** goes to press. A special and valuable publicity feature at this year's exposition is the radio lecture hour held each afternoon

Among visitors to headquarters of the **American Birth Control League** was **Miss Elsa Hacks**, trained in the **Edith Cavell School of Brussels**, one of the first public health workers in Belgium and the first **Edith Cavell** nurse to be given a **Rockefeller Foundation Scholarship** for Public Health Nursing. Before leaving America after a year's study in various schools of nursing she visited the **Clinical Research Department of the League** to round out her public health study and to put herself in touch in her work at home with European centers of information on Birth Control

#### Colorado

**O**N September 10th **Ruth Vincent** of the **Denver Children's Court**, spoke before the **Denver Women's Club**, the topic being "A Better Race" She

asked the **Club's** support in a request which is being addressed to the **University of Colorado Medical School** to establish a **Birth Control Clinic**

#### Michigan

**DR C C LITTLE**, President of the **International Federation of Birth Control Leagues** and member of the **National Council** and of the **Clinical Research Department of the American Birth Control League**, has been installed at **Ann Arbor** as **President of Michigan University**. In his first interview with press representatives who came to learn what the policies of the new president would be, he has given prominence to his advocacy of Birth Control. An **Ann Arbor** paper headlines his statement on Birth Control on the front page and the **Grand Rapids Press** gives the subject almost a column. Following as it does Dr Cooper's lectures in Michigan this summer, Dr Little's advocacy should act as a powerful stimulus to work in that state

#### New Jersey

**AMONG** addresses given by Mr **Everett R Meves**, organizer for **Southern New Jersey**, are the **Kiwanis Club** at **Ocean City** August 5th, the **Exchange Club** at **Trenton** August 6th, the **Absecon Umt** of the **New Jersey Women's Club** and the **Colored Republican Women's Conference** on August 27th and 28th. On September 10th he spoke before the **Exchange Club of Newark**, on September 14th the **Community Welfare Club of Passaic** and the **North Bergen Exchange Club** at **Umon City** on September 29th. On September 14th **Miss Elizabeth Grew** addressed a large evening meeting of the **Hebrew Ladies' Benevolent Society of New Brunswick**. A temporary Birth Control organization has been formed at **Summit, N J**, with **Mrs Kate G Pierce** as **Chairman**

### GREAT BRITAIN

**O**F the situation in England and particularly of her own work for Birth Control, **Rose Witcop** writes

"The ministry of health is itself divided on the question. Its chief lecturer of the ministry frankly advocates Birth Control practices in his weekly contributions to an outstanding health journal **Health and Strength**, and holds that it is compatible with the highest morality and makes for happy family life

The feeling is thus taking root that the working woman should know. Hitherto even in cases where pregnancy

would **seriously** endanger a woman's health she has merely been told to 'take care,' but **not** how she may take care

It is **highly** improbable however that the government will defy Church pressure in the matter. The only way of **meeting** the **situation** appears to be in the establishment of People's **Clinics** throughout the country. This is one of the objects of the People's **Clinic** for **Birth Control** and **Social Welfare** established in the southwest **district** of London where there is much poverty and **overcrowding**

We open daily from 10 to 6 and a **qualified midwife** is in constant attendance to **receive** the mothers, **advising** them **willingly** on various matters relating to their health. All **advice** is **given** free

Those who **desire contraceptives** are given the **minutest** instruction as to **their** use. If they cannot pay for these **articles** they are allowed to **rent** at the rate of 6d or 1/- per week according to their means. In cases where even so small a sum would strain their resources and there are many, the **articles** are given free, also

But it is an **interesting** point that **comparatively** few women will accept the **gift**. It is **gratifying** to record that **being** themselves debarred from **giving Birth Control advice**, **District Health visitors** are **sending** women down to us, thus **giving** us their **unofficial blessing**. Their recommendation is the more to be valued, since lurking in **their** minds must be the thought that the success of our efforts tends to put them out of work

One mother in fact who **specially** asked for the address of our **Clinic** was told good-humoredly that they couldn't **all** be sent

Several local **midwives** speak openly to their clients about our work and send the poorer ones to us. Recently a woman who was undergoing treatment at a West London **hospital** came to us on the express advice of the **hospital physician**

The local press **particularly** has **rallied** to our support and the Health Journal to which I refer above carries a standing reference to the **Clinic** in its **advice** column

Perhaps the appalling **housing conditions** in the **district**, account to some extent for our popularity. A **great** deal of publicity was **given** to the report of the local **Medical Officer of Health** who stated that no less than **eight** people were discovered to be **living** in one room. Another single apartment was **being** occupied by six persons, some of them tubercular. Is it not **high** time that the **officials** woke up to the **appalling situation**?

The **publicity** work is now done **entirely** by canvassers. We have had to abandon the more costly form of advertising and have engaged several paid workers who can thus **give their full** time to the work. Occasionally they are assisted by some voluntary workers, **chiefly** members of the Labor **Party** or the Women's **Co-operative Guild**

But our best **advertising** agents are the women whom we have helped. These **invariably** recommend others

The **distinctive thing** about the People's **Clinic** is that it is a movement of workers. And we are proud of this. The moral success of our efforts, handicapped as we were, has been an **inspiration**. Without funds or **financial** backing we have done a record work in the few months of our existence. We have now outgrown our temporary **premises** and are negotiating for a permanent headquarters in the **belief** that with such a **foundation** as we have laid, the Birth Control movement will come to our **aid** and assist us in **proving** that Birth Control **Clinics** can become the greatest factors in personal and **social well-being**"

The People's **Clinic** is one of the newest of the ten English Birth Control Clinics and is, like some of the others not yet firmly **established financially**, **deserving** of support by **friends** of the English movement. The address is 31 **Sinclair Gardens**, Kensington, London W 14

**GOOD** progress in all the **clinics** and continued pressure on the government is reported from England. Mr Neville Chamberlain **speaking** for the government says there will be no yielding on this point, but from **friendly M P's**, particularly the **faithful** Mr Thurtle, from county **councils**, from **individuals** and even from the press the demand **continues** and **intensifies** and there is no cause for discouragement

The **Birth Control Education League** affiliated with the **Malthusian League** have engaged a woman doctor and started contraceptive work on a small scale in St Pancras District. Thus the nucleus for an eleventh **clinic** has been formed. Of the work of the Wolverhampton **Clinic** the Hon Superintendent Mrs Ella Gordon writes to The **New Generation**

"The Wolverhampton Birth Control **Clinic** is the outcome of a year's strenuous propaganda in the Black Country. It is a very modest **institution**, and the work is **carried** on in two small rooms (rent, 6s a week) in a back street. There was no capital to start **with**, and we were warned not to venture **without** local financial backing. But a generous offer of voluntary service from a lady doctor in the **neighborhood** was too tempting to resist and the **clinic** was opened in May. A friend at the **Walworth Centre** **kindly paid** the rent for one year and her committee **generously** made a grant of money and sent a parcel of **requisites**. So we were very greatly encouraged. All our helpers are voluntary workers, thus we are carrying on at a **minimum** of **expenditure** because no **heating** (except gas **ring**) or **lighting** is **required during** the summer. Funds, however, are essential **if** we are to help the **pitifully** poor women who have begun to attend. We hope

to organize dramng-room meetings to raise money, but up to now no one will lend a room. There have been 40 cases during the first month, and 24 women have paid return visits, making 64 consultations in all. A worn-out little woman of twenty-six who has four children told us that her mother had let her have a shilling to pay for a visit. Another woman, Mrs S, came with a blind child of fifteen months in her arms, and it was as helpless as a baby of three months, and had been taken regularly to the maternity and child welfare centre. Three months ago Mrs S had a still-born baby and there are three other delicate children at home. The Minister of Health, judging from his reply to Mr Thurtle in the House of Commons, is content that such cases shall be referred from the national welfare centres to private and struggling institutions such as this! The popularity of our clinic is undoubtedly in a large measure due to the ability and charm of our medical officer."

The other clinics recently formed are making good progress. Among those who stand behind the clinic opened at Cambridge is Sir Humphrey Rolleston, Regius Professor of Physics in Cambridge University, who spoke in favor of Birth Control Clinics for poor mothers at a Conference of the British Medical Association early in the summer.

Shoreditch and Edmonton are among the County Councils which are demanding of the Ministry of Health the right to give contraceptive information at their welfare centres.

Alarmed at the steady march of Birth Control, Father Degan of Leicester has offered the first program which aims to relieve overpopulation. His suggestions are (a) delaying marriage till 25 years or over, (b) the encouragement of celibacy for strong-willed people, together with the offering of special privileges and honors to bachelors and spinsters, (c) self-control in the spacing out of births, (d) large scale immigration with the transplanting of whole villages overseas, three measures of self-control and one item that is on its face, impracticable.

This utopian program is all his church can offer and this is the church which boasts—not confesses—that the crowded slum is the home of Catholicism. "Nowhere," says the *Universe and Catholic Weekly*, "are there more dreadful slums than Glasgow and nowhere is there greater religious devotion than among the Catholic occupants of those slums." Another district where this church is probably strong is the slums of Norwich, where the medical officer has recently shown an infant death rate of 157.9 per 1,000 as against 71.1 for the city as a whole.

## INDIA

NEVER have the reasons why Birth Control is a crucial necessity in India been better stated than in a discussion in the *India Social Reformer* during February and March. An editorial statement for and against underestimates the population problem but concludes with what the writer considers an argument for Birth Control which has to be taken seriously.

"The wide prevalence," says he, "of too early marriages in India invests the subject of Birth Control with a special interest. It is no uncommon experience to see bright young girls in a few years after marriage broken down by too frequent child bearing to such an extent as to be hardly recognizable by their friends and relatives. Indian censuses have consistently shown a sudden decrease in the female population at the age-period round about 15, obviously due to the large number of young girls who die during their first delivery. The great disparity in some provinces between the proportion of the female to the male population is clearly due to the large mortality among young wives. The evil is becoming emphasized owing to the rise in the marriage age of girls not keeping pace with that of men. The strain of married life on the girl wives of grown-up men, is particularly severe. Unless the age of marriage rises rapidly, it will not be surprising if young married couples try to insure themselves against too frequent pregnancy by adopting methods of birth control."

FEROZ CHAND in a communication to the *Reformer*, taking up the discussion where the editorial left it, brings out other distinctly native problems which indicate Birth Control as the only cure.

"In your paragraph," says Mr Chand, "I read 'The question of birth control deserves consideration in India from the point of view of the intolerable physical strain imposed by incessant child-bearing on girl-wives, i.e., purely as a health measure.' To me this looks like an understatement of the facts. For some of the old checks on population have disappeared or are disappearing and require to be replaced. Amongst these are infanticide which has almost vanished, and compulsory widowhood which (thanks to the efforts of reformers like yourself) may in the future dwindle down. Then there is abortion. Perhaps this is not a big factor, at any rate no statistics can be available about it, but it has been held by some authorities that this thing is much more prevalent in India than in Europe. This might

also disappear and what is more it may one day disappear in favor of recognition awarded to illegitimate children. Again there are the vast hordes of our celibate clergy, the 'Sadhus'. If modern ideas are permitted by economic circumstances to have their full effect, this class will also be considerably reduced. Malthus in his *Essay* refers to another factor also, the division of the people into endogamous castes and occupations. I am not sure in what direction and to what extent this factor operates. The *Essay*, while referring to India, enumerates another minor preventive check, viz., the custom that the elder brother must marry before younger brothers are allowed to marry.

"But even more important than all these combined, is another problem which you have got to reckon with when considering the population problem and which may remove birth control from questions of purely individual health. I mean, you have to count your population under the graves also. We cannot afford to bear the shame of forever leading in the death-rate of infants. If we look at the figures of infant mortality, it would appear as though we had made infanticide illegal, but in reality continued it only in a different form. The complacent note struck by your paragraph seems to be due to your having considered merely the surplus birth rate, ignoring the birth and death rates. I prefer not to burden my letters with a cart-load of statistics, because I presume that everybody knows that our death rate for infants is almost the highest in the civilized world, and that seems to be inevitable as long as the prevailing birth rate continues. As Havelock Ellis somewhere puts it, the medal that bears 'More Births' on the obverse, reads on the reverse 'More Deaths'. Though we have heard much in eulogy of a stationary population from the Dean of St. Paul's, we know there is no country even in Europe that is enjoying the blessing. In fact any man who cares to look at the vital statistics of the leading European countries, since (say) the Bradlaugh-Besant trial, will find that family limitation, if it has affected the population problem at all, has done so under the heads 'birth-rate' and 'death-rate,' and not very much under the 'surplus birth rate,' which is the growth of population. That is the problem for India to consider also."

The following passage from the last census of India lends cold figures for measuring the baby death-rate which Mr. Chand deplors:

"It has been calculated," says the Census Report, "that every year no fewer than two million Indian babies die, while many of those who survive con-

tinue weak and feeble through unhygienic surroundings in their infancy. Indeed, although birth registration is still too inaccurate to make precise figures reliable, it may be stated with confidence that one in five, or perhaps even one in four, of the infants born in India dies within the first year of life. In crowded cities, particularly industrial cities, the rate is still higher."

## COMING EVENTS

**BEGINNING** in October Dr. Cooper will again be in the lecture field. His dates so far made are

October 7th	Newark, N. J.
October 8th	Tioga, Pa.
October 9th	Butler, Pa.
October 10th, 11th, 12th	Indianapolis, Ind.
October 13th	Champaign, Ill.
October 14th	White Hall, Ill.
October 15th, 16th, 17th	St. Louis, Mo.
October 18th, 19th, 20th	Kansas City, Mo.
October 21st	Ava, Mo.
October 22nd	Cairo, Ill.
October 23rd	Paducah, Ky.
October 24th, 25th	Jonesboro, Ark.
October 26th, 27th	Little Rock, Ark.
October 28th	Marshall, Texas.
October 29th	Martins Hill, Texas.
October 29th	Paris, Texas.
October 30th, 31st	Dallas, Texas.
November 1st	Dallas, Texas.
November 2nd, 3rd	Austin, Texas.
November 4th, 5th	San Antonio, Texas.
November 6th, 7th, 8th	Houston, Texas.
November 9th	New Orleans, La.
November 10th	Gulfport, Miss.
November 11th, 12th	Mobile, Ala.
November 13th, 14th	Montgomery, Ala.
November 15th, 16th	Birmingham, Ala.
November 17th, 18th	Atlanta, Ga.
November 19th, 20th	Nashville, Tenn.
November 21st	Gallatin, Tenn.
November 22nd	Snow Hill, N. C.
November 23rd	Plumtree, N. C.
November 24th	Forest City, N. C.
November 25th, 26th, 27th	Wilmington, N. C.
November 28th, 29th	Conway, S. C.
December 1st	Bedford, Va.
December 2nd, 3rd	Richmond, Va.
December 4th	Lacey Springs, Va.
December 5th, 6th, 7th	Fairmont, W. Va.
December 8th	Morgantown, W. Va.
December 9th	Martinsburg, W. Va.
December 10th, 11th	Baltimore, Md.
December 12th, 13th, 14th	Washington, D. C.

## GOLDIE GRASSHOPPER

(Continued from page 282)

find his shut eyes had been but a ruse. He was staring at her more fixedly than ever. "Rubbers worse than me," she mused. "I wish Jake could see the darned little mutt." Then it suddenly came over her what it would be like to have a big Jake show the shghtest interest and pnde in a little Jake.

The thought brought back her rage, resentment and self pity, and she threw herself over on her side—to gaze upon the face of Gracie catching sight of her aghast from the adjacent bed. The encounter was too sudden for either girl to have a chance to hide from the other. For once, the self-possession of both completely deserted them. With jaws dropping the two girls stared at each other, and when the words of abuse with which both were so familiar, rose automatically to their lips, they died unuttered. "Lyng side by each in the maternity ward sure cramps your style when it comes to mud-slinging," as Goldie afterwards truly remarked.

"How long you been here?" Goldie finally managed to ask. "Ten days—leaving tomorrow," answered Gracie. "Thought you'd run off and got married," said Goldie. "Going to the justice next week?" "To the justice?" burst out Goldie jealously, rising on her elbow, "How'd you work that? A shot-gun or the kid?" "The kid's dead," said Gracie. "Oh, dead, is it?" said Goldie sinking back, as if that answered all questions. "No such luck here. Look at what I drew," and she held up little Jake, whose black berry eyes still peered from his blankets, and who was sucking mildly at an imaginary milk supply. "Ever see anything worse than that to have wished on you?" she inquired sardonically. "Yes, I have," answered Gracie, "I've seen one dead," and she suddenly turned her face to the wall.

(To be concluded)

## THE DIFFERENTIAL BIRTH RATE

(Continued from page 279)

levels. This material, which I believe to be unique, I cannot present here but shall do so in a forthcoming book\*. Here it can only be said that these data are of a high order of accuracy, are directly and specifically pertinent to the point at issue, are far more extensive than anything which has hitherto been available, and clearly and definitely support the argument which I have made.

There is another aspect of this second point in my argument which I desire briefly to develop

\* The Biology of Population Growth, New York (Alfred A Knopf) Published October, 1925

Some early eugenic studies, especially those of Professor Karl Pearson demonstrated the fact that various sorts of obviously unfit persons had high fertility rates, while some equally obviously fit persons had low fertility rates. This situation he rightly regarded as racially unsound in principle. But a curiously inverted deduction from these results has become current. The doctrine seems to have gained wide currency that somehow high fertility in a group is in itself an indication of probable racial unfitness. In actual fact every group of persons that I can think of which does show high fertility seems to be quite generally regarded by eugenists as socially and biologically undesirable. They are alleged to be genetically unfit. It has even been maintained that there is a gene, or combination of genes, for poverty—that a man is poor only because he inherited stupidity, lack of ambition, or some other similar traits of character. Now, while I am certainly no violent environmentalist, I gravely doubt if such a position is tenable. The best evidence against it, I think, is the overwhelmingly common fact that the ranks of the rich and the well-to-do (which also generally mean the educated and cultured) are to a very large degree constantly being recruited from the ranks of the poor.

Yet it is apparently the poor, and not merely the morons and defectives, that have high birth rates. There are in the world a fair lot of rich morons and rich defectives (some uncharitable persons would even say a good many). But in my observation when morons are rich their birth rate is not high. It is just about that of the rich in general. And similarly the birth rate of the poor moron or defective is not greatly different, so far as I can learn, from that of the poor in general. The shocking comparisons of the fertility of the Jukes and other such degenerate and defective stocks are usually made with such groups as the Edwards family, or college men or women, who occupy an obviously different economic plane. Are the Jukes

## BOOKS OF VITAL INTEREST

ON ALL TOPICS

Sex, Psycho-Analysis, Psychology,  
Diet and Health

The Most Authoritative Authors

Havelock Ellis, Robie, Lory, Kraft-Ebbing, Forel, Kisch,  
Bloch, Malchow, Brill, Freud, Jung, Adler, Tridon, Lind-  
lahr, Father Kniepp, Gaze, Drew

Your Needs Always Fulfilled

I obtainable, we bare it, if unobtainable, we can get it.

DESCRIPTIVE LISTS SENT FREE

MODERN BOOK ASSOCIATION

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

4150 SANTA MONICA BOULEVARD

more fertile than a group of honest, and biologically and socially sound workingmen of *as nearly as possible the same economic status*\* This question I think has not received the consideration it deserves. Space lacks to present statistical evidence on this point here, but I hope to do so later.

Before leaving this second point of the argument I wish to make it as clear as possible, in order to forestall the otherwise certain misrepresentation of my views, that I do not regard economic factors as the only ones influencing human birth rates. Nothing could be farther from my position. I am merely trying to show that the evidence indicates that there seems to be generally a significant correlation between variations or differences in economic status and variations in birth rate. This fact has been pointed out by a number of students of the problem, notably the distinguished English statistician G. Udny Yule. But that other non-economic social factors such as religion, and various biological factors also may play a role and an important one in some cases no sensible person would deny.

The third point in my argument is that it is not only desirable in the eugenic interest of the races to cut down, indeed completely extinguish the high birth rate of the unfit and defective portions of mankind, but it is also equally desirable because of the menacing pressure of world population, to reduce the birth rate of the poor, even though they be in every way biologically sound and fit. This contention, I think, needs no extended argument. A wealth of evidence regarding the social and biological consequences of the growth of population has been collected, and convincingly and brilliantly presented by Dr. E. M. East in his recent book "Mankind at the Cross-roads." Another recent book of the same tenor that will repay reading is Swinburne's "Population and the Social Problem."

My fourth, and final point, is that the efforts of the eugenists to correct the evils of the differential birth rate, by endeavoring to induce the socially, economically, and in some part biologically, superior classes to reproduce more freely, as a sort of transcendental social duty, has not met with any statistically discernible success, and in my opinion is not likely to. When the issue which is to determine human behavior is drawn between the present comfort, happiness and well-being of the reproducers on the one hand, and the indefinitely future welfare of society in general, or the race or state, on the other hand, he would seem indeed a simple-minded, not to say fatuous, optimist who supposes that the latter will outweigh the former. It will do nothing of the kind. It was a worldly wise if not very altruistic sinner who first raised the question as to what posterity has ever done for us. As was

JOIN

# The American Birth Control League

Incorporated

## NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

104 Fifth Avenue

New York City

MARGARET SANOER  
President

FRANCES B. ACKERMANN  
Treasurer



Membership . . . . . One Dollar

## WHAT THIS ORGANIZATION STANDS FOR

*That children should be*

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

## WHAT THIS ORGANIZATION DOES

- 1 It publishes and distributes literature and conducts lectures
- 2 Operates a Clinical Research Department in New York City
- 3 Campaigns to amend state and federal laws
- 4 Organizes groups throughout the country

JOIN YOURSELF AND BRING ANOTHER  
MEMBER TO THE LEAGUE

.. .. .

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

Enclosed is my check for \$ (or dollar bill)  
which I send to the AMERICAN BIRTH CONTROL  
LEAGUE to aid its work

Also please send me enrollment slips and  
free leaflets

Name

Address

# NEW BOOKS

A N D

## Books That Are Never Old

---

MALTHUS AND HIS WORK . . . \$4 50

*By James Bonar, LL D*

THE CHARACTER OF RACES . . . 5 00

*By Ellsworth Huntington*

OUR CHANGING MORALITY . . . 2 50

*A Symposium*

THE PIVOT OF CIVILIZATION . . . 2 00

*By Margaret Sangcr*

LITTLE ESSAYS OF LOVE AND  
VIRTUE . . . . . 1 50

*By Haeelock Ellis*

ONE LITTLE BOY . . . . . 2 00

*By Hugh de Selincourt*

THE PROBLEM OF POPULATION . . . 2 50

*By Harold Cox*

MANKIND AT THE CROSSROADS . . . 3 50

*By Edward M East*

---

Order of the

BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW

104 Fifth Avenue

New York City

recently pointed out editorially in England "A man may be induced by patriotic motives to die for his country, but hardly to procreate children for her, unless he can be convinced that those children will find places to fill at least as good as that he occupies Rhetoric about race suicide, the decline of the empire, and so on, will never be accepted by the potential parent as a substitute for an economic guarantee "

But if it is not possible to make desirable people have more babies, why not try teaching other people how to have fewer? This is precisely the position of the Birth Control movement, and it seems to me to offer the only hope of altering for the better the existing differential inequalities in the distribution of the birth rate Many persons object to the Birth Control movement on the ground that it widens already undesirable class differences in the birth rate, because the intelligent and educated people all practice it while those with the high birth rates will not But will they not? I am not newly so sure of this as I once thought I was The tightest of legal barriers prevents now the diffusion of knowledge as to methods of contraception The poor in particular are shut off from learning what is the best information available in these directions At the same time the poor man is quite as keen as anybody else for the pleasures of sex As has already been pointed out above it is his chief resource as an outlet for the extra nervous tension begotten by the harsh environment to which he is more or less doomed Is it any matter of wonder, things being legally as they are, that the poor have a high birth rate?

Summing the whole case up, it seems to me that it stands about like this the Birth Control movement after a long and bitter struggle has attained a certain academic sort of respectability Harmless people are at any rate allowed to meet together and discuss it But in my judgment the time is hard upon us when a certain militancy in its advocacy, even at some possible expense of respectability, is called for The highest interests of humanity demand that the menace of population growth and of the differential birth rate shall be effectively met if our civilization is to persist in anything like its present form Entirely free and widespread dissemination of information about methods of contraception is the only way at once humane and intelligent of attempting to meet this menace which has yet been devised I am inclined to believe, from other studies I have made, that the birth rate will continue to fall even if Birth Control knowledge is not more widely disseminated But Birth Control offers a hope that this fall may be made more rapid and differential Why not try it\*



## When The Wife Says "Oil" Say "3-in-One"

She *should* know, as you do, that **only** a pure, highly refined, free-flowing oil like 3-in-One, will keep the swift-moving motors of her household mechanisms **running right**. Don't "gum up the works" with cheap oil. Use

### 3-in-One

*The High Quality Oil*

regularly on vacuum cleaner, sewing machine, fan, vibrator and other household appliances and save large repair bills

Penetrates thoroughly Won't burn out, even at very high speed Won't gum or dry out

From door locks to furniture casters, from phonographs to tools, wherever metal rubs metal 3-in-One prevents friction.

Most good stores have 3 in One in 1 oz, 3 oz and ½ pint bottles, also in 3 oz Handy Oil Cans The ½ pint bottle means economy Contains most for your money

**FREE**—Generous sample and illustrated Dictionary of Uses Request both on a postal.

THRECEIN-ONE OIL CO., 130 LE William St., New York  
Factories Rahway, N J and Montreal



THE  
*Birth Control Review*

IS

THE GREAT SOURCE OF  
ARGUMENTS SHOWING THE  
NEED OF BIRTH CONTROL

*Subscribe Now*

<b>Subscriptions</b> —for one year	<b>\$2 00</b>	<b>Bound Volumes</b>	<b>\$5 00</b>
Two New Subscriptions	3 50	1920 1921	5 00
Three New Subscriptions	5 00	1922 1923	5 00
Subscription for one year with one bound volume			6 50
With both bound volumes			11 00

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

■ I enclose check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_, for which please enter the following names as ■  
■ subscribers to the BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW

■ Name	Address
■ Name	Address
■ Name	Address

In addition please send me Bound Volume for 1920-1921, 1922-1923

.....  
*See that the Birth Control Review* is in your Public Library