

September, 1926

Twenty Cents

BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW

A Conscious Control of the Birth Rate

Passing the Buck to Posterity

By VILHJALMUR STEFANSSON

THE AMERICAN BIRTH CONTROL LEAGUE, INC

Headquarters
104 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY
Telephones
Chelsea 8901 2 3-4

OFFICERS

MARGARET SANGER
MRS LEWIS L DELAFIELD
MRS JULIET BARRETT RUBLEE

President
Vice-President
Vice-President

MRS FRANCES B ACKERMANN
MR J NOAH H SLEE
BEATRICE W JOHNSON

Treasurer
Assistant Treasurer
Executive Secretary

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MRS RICHARD BILLINGS
MRS DEXTER BLAGDEN
MRS GEORGE H DAY Sr.
REV WILLIAM H GARTH

MRS THOMAS N HEPBURN
ANNE KENNEDY
ANNIE G PORRITT
MRS F ROBERTSON-JONES

BENJAMIN TILTON, M.D.
MRS WALTER TIMME
JOHN C VAUGHAN, M.D.

NATIONAL COUNCIL

CLERGYMEN

Rev Ernest Caldicot, N Y
Rabbi Rudolph I Coffee, Ph.D., Calif
Rev Philip Frick, N Y

Rabbi Sidney E Goldstein, N Y
Rev Oscar B Hawes, N J
Rabbi Louis Mann, Ill

Rev Karl Reiland, N Y
Rev Edgar S Wiers, N J
Rev L Griswold Williams, Pa

SCIENTISTS

Dean Thyrsa W Amos, Pa.
Leon J Cole, Ph.D., Wisc
Edward M East, B.S., Ph.D., Mass
Franklin H Giddings, Ph.D., N Y
Samuel J Holmes, Ph.D., Calif
Roswell H Johnson, M.S., Pa.

E C Lindeman, Ph.D., N Y
C C Little, D.Sc., Mich
William McDougall, Ph.D., Mass
James G Needham, Ph.D., N Y
Wm F Ogburn, Ph.D., N Y
Raymond Pearl, Ph.D., Md.

Walter B Pitkin, Ph.D., N Y
Horatio M Pollock, Ph.D., N Y
Lothrop Stoddard, Ph.D., Mass
J E W Wallin, Ph.D., Ohio
John B Watson, Ph.D., N Y
Walter F Willcox, Ph.D., N Y
A B Wolfe, Ph.D., Ohio

PHYSICIANS

Joseph L Baer, Ill
H B Brainerd, Calif
James F Cooper, N Y
John Favill, Ill.
Alice Hamilton, Mass
Frederick C Heckel, N Y
Donald R Hooker, Md.

Amelia R Kellar, Ind
S Adolphus Knopf, N Y
Lawrence Litchfield, Pa.
Earl Lothrop, N Y
Elizabeth Lord Love, N J
Adolph Meyer, Md
Ida Monosson-Friedland, N J

Abraham Myerson, Md
Wm Allen Pusey, Ill.
Ralph Reed, Ohio
Aaron J Rosanoff, Calif
John B Solley, Jr., N Y
Hannah M Stone, N Y
Kenneth Taylor, N Y
Stuart Mudd, Pa.

OTHER PROFESSIONALS

Alice Stone Blackwell, Mass
George Blumenthal, N Y
James E Brooks, N J
Jessie P Condit, N J
Herbert Croly, N Y
Mrs Belle De Revera, N J
Theodore Dreiser, Calif
Ernest Gruening, N Y

Florence Bayard Hillea, Del.
Roswell H Johnson, M.S., Pa.
Sinclair Lewis, N Y
Judge Ben Lindsey, Colo
Owen Lovejoy, N Y
Robert M Lovett, Ill
James M Maurer, Pa.

Elisabeth Severn, N Y
Mary Shaw, N Y
Mrs Georgianna Tucker, N J
Florence Guertin Tuttle, N Y
Ruth Vincent, Colo
Mrs Albert Walker, Texas
Mary Winsor, Pa.

LAY MEMBERS

Mrs Ernest R Adee, N Y
Mrs Oakes Ames, Mass
Raymond H Arnold, Calif
Mrs Robert Perkins Bass, N H
Mrs Walter L Benson Ill
Mrs John E Berwind, N Y
Lowell Brentano, N Y
Mrs John Scott Browning, N Y
Mrs W E Cannon, Mass
Mr and Mrs Thomas L Chadbourne, N Y
William Hamlin Childs, N Y
Mrs Stephen Clark, N Y
Mrs Frank I Cobb, N Y
Mrs John Dey, N Y
Mrs John Allen Dougherty, D C

Mrs Boyd Dudley, N Y
Mrs Simeon Ford, N Y
Mrs Kate Crane Garts, Calif
Mrs Robert B Gregory, Ill
Miss Florence Halsey, N J
Mrs H G Hill, Calif
Mrs Fenley Hunter N Y
Mrs William Swain James, Calif
Mrs Pierre Jay, N Y
Mrs Otto Kahn, N Y
Mrs W W Knapp, N Y
Mrs James Lee Laidlaw, N Y
Mrs Arthur L Lawrence, N Y
Mrs Frank M Leavitt, N Y
Mrs Sinclair Lewis, N Y

Mrs Edward A Lingenfelter, Iowa
Mrs Stanley McCormick, N Y
Mrs William A McGraw, Mich
Mrs L Newman, Utah
Mrs Enoch Rauh, Pa
Mrs C C Rumsey, N Y
Mrs Homer St Gaudens, N H
Mrs W F Spangler, Ind
Mrs T J Swanton, N Y
Mrs Charles Tiffany, N Y
Mrs Shelley Toihurst, Calif
Mrs J Bishop Vandever, N Y
Mrs Henry Villard, N Y
Mrs Norman deR Whitehouse, N Y
Mrs Pope Yeastman, Pa.

Preliminary Announcement
of
THE WORLD POPULATION CONFERENCE

To be held August 31, September 1, 2, 1927
at the Conservatoire de Musique, Geneva, Switzerland

THE World Population Conference, first of its kind ever to be held, will meet in the Conservatoire at Geneva, Switzerland, on August 31, September 1, 2, 1927, under the auspices of leading scientists and scientific organizations of many countries. It will be, in effect, a conclave of the medical, biological, sociological, ethical and statistical authorities of the world, who have gone far in the study of the population problem, but who have never before assembled at a common meeting table to exchange their views and coordinate their knowledge. The attention of all those interested in the various technical phases underlying the problem as a whole is called to this international meeting and their cooperation is earnestly requested.

ITS PURPOSE AND PLAN

The chief purpose of the World Population Conference is to establish an international view point from which the question may be studied. Such a conference must be strictly scientific, and accordingly eminent men and women in the fields of medicine, biology, economics, sociology and ethics will be invited to participate in round table discussions. By this procedure it is hoped that some 150 or 200 leaders will be given an opportunity for mutual interchange of ideas and for the recognition of the common elements of the whole population question.

It is planned to have each section of the conference presided over by eminent authorities in each particular field and to so arrange the meetings that all branches of science represented will have an opportunity of contact with each other.

It is hoped that from this conference will come the establishment of a permanent international organization for population fact finding and the adoption of some common point of view which will tend toward a solution of the problem.

ITS POSSIBILITIES

The nations of the world are keenly aware of their individual population problems, they are generally cognizant of the population problems of their near neighbors and all distant countries. It is known that the question of population growth holds possibilities of menace to the future of civilization—and yet the world population problem is one of the few great issues of today which have not been the subject of concerted international action.

It is possible from such a conference as is to be held in Geneva in September, 1927, to collate all available knowledge on the subject, and to get the scientific interpretation of this knowledge necessary to stir the citizens of the several nations to a sharp realization that the problem of one is the problem of all.

It is possible that from such a conference will come an international movement which, through its findings, will help in the solution of other financial, economic, and health problems which are today the cause of grave concern.

President

C C LITTLE, A B, Sc D, S M
President, University of Michigan

Honorary Secretaries

MRS MARGARET SANGER, U S A
C V DRYSDALE, D Sc, F R S E, England

Honorary Treasurers

MRS JULIET BARRETT RUBLEE, U S A
C F CHANCE, Esq, England

Conference Secretary

MRS EDYTH HOW MARTYN, Geneva

Program Committee

EDWARD M EAST, B S, Ph D
HENRY P FAIRCHILD, A B, Ph D
FRANKLIN H GIDDINGS, Ph D, A M

C C LITTLE, A B, Sc D, S M
WESLEY C MITCHELL, Ph D, A M
RAYMOND PEARL, A B, Ph D, Sc D

WHITRIDGE WILLIAMS, A B, M D, Sc D

BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW

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

VOL X

SEPTEMBER, 1926

No 9

(Copyright 1926, American Birth Control League Inc)

CONTENTS

EDITORIAL	265	BOOK REVIEWS	
EXPERIMENTAL BREEDING OF YOUNG MAMMALS, by <i>Beatrice W Johnson</i>	267	TOLERANCE by <i>Hendrik Willem Van Loon</i> , FREE THOUGHT IN THE SOCIAL SCIENCES, by <i>John A Hobson—Norman Thomas</i>	278
A scientist demonstrates that more living young result when births are spaced for rest and recuperation		CHRISTINA ALBERTA'S FATHER, by <i>H G Wells—Nalbro Bartley</i>	278
PASSING THE BUCK TO POSTERITY, PART I, by <i>Vilhjalmur Stefansson</i>	269	AN AMERICAN TRAGEDY by <i>Theodore Dreiser</i> , DARK LAUGHTER, by <i>Sherwood Anderson—Ivan Bloch</i>	279
With due allowance for modern improvements in agriculture and as yet unworked sources of food the author gives careful estimates as to how long the race can stave off the Great Hunger		THE ISLAND OF THE GREAT MOTHER, by <i>Gerhart Hauptmann—Anne Kennedy</i>	280
A BIRTH CONTROL CLINIC IN HUNGARY, by <i>Rosika Schwimmer</i>	272	BIRTHS, STILLBIRTHS AND INFANT MORTALITY STATISTICS IN THE UNITED STATES	280
The story of a pioneer among Birth Control clinics and the circumstances that led to its establishment		PERIODICAL NOTES	281
THE PRESENT STATUS OF THE CHURCH ON BIRTH CONTROL, by <i>William H Garth</i>	273	THE NATION'S BACKBONE," a Story, PART II, by <i>Louis Adams</i>	282
A PIONEER OF BIRTH CONTROL, by <i>Anne G Porritt</i>	274	PRESSURE—THE STORY OF THE SOUL OF JAPAN (Reprinted by permission of <i>Liberty</i>)	283
One of the bravest of early feminists made Birth Control part of her program for equality		CRITICS AND CHAMPIONS AT WESTMINSTER (Reprinted from the <i>New Generation</i>)	284
NORMAL FAMILIES	276	NEWS NOTES	
Letters from mothers of healthy families who ask Birth Control as a right		New York	285
		New Jersey, California, England	286
		Japan, China, New Zealand	287
		COMING EVENTS	289

BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW

PUBLISHED BY

THE AMERICAN BIRTH
CONTROL LEAGUE, INC

104 FIFTH AVENUE

NEW YORK CITY

MARGARET SANGER, *Editor*

MARY SUMNER BOYD, *Managing Editor*

The BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW is published
on the first of the month.

Single Copies—Twenty Cents Two Dollars per Year
Canada and Foreign \$2.25

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

OUR CONTRIBUTORS

VILHJALMUR STEFANSSON is a scientist and Arctic explorer, discoverer of Wrangel Island

BEATRICE W JOHNSON, laboratory research worker for the American Birth Control League was formerly assistant in biological research to Dr C C Little, President of the International Federation of Birth Control Leagues and President of Michigan University

WILLIAM H GARTH is an Episcopal clergyman and a member of the Board of Directors of the American Birth Control League

NORMAN THOMAS, speaker and writer, ran as Socialist candidate for governor of New York at the last election.

NALBRO BARTLEY is a critic, a writer of novels and short stories

IVAN BLOCH is a social worker and journalist

ROSIKA SCHWIMMER is a Hungarian feminist and pacifist

Subscribers are urged to send notice of change of address at least three weeks before it takes effect.

Birth Control Review

VOL. X

SEPTEMBER, 1926

No 9

EDITORIAL

THIS summer the National Woman's Party knocked in vain at the doors of the International Suffrage Alliance in Congress in Paris. The International claims to stand for full equality for women and the Woman's Party based its demand for admission on its general platform and on certain specific planks not included in the program of the strong American group, the National League of Women Voters, which is already a member of the Alliance. Its exclusion was, the Woman's Party claims, the refusal to accept certain essentials to women's equality. But what, we ask, of the lack of Birth Control on the programs of both these American organizations? The British women's organizations have accepted Birth Control. Why are we still knocking at the doors of both American groups? Why has the means of striking at "the tap-root of woman's subjection" not been made part of the Woman's Party program? Why is it not part of the ameliorative program of the League of Women Voters? Until it is, neither of these bodies can claim to be the full expression of either the welfare or the rights of women. They will represent a minority and a minority which will never become a majority until all women are emancipated from the slavery of mind and body that follows from excessive child-bearing.

It is a significant fact that Frances Wright, one of the greatest of early feminists, whose life is outlined in this number of the REVIEW, made Birth Control a foundation demand for women's freedom. It is a fact still more significant, because it gives a hint of the vast waste of women's lives and women's mental and physical vitality through unregulated child-bearing—the waste of a large part of what women might contribute to society—that Mary Wollstonecraft, first and greatest of feminists, died in child-birth.

JUNE and July numbers of the *Dearborn Independent* contain a two-part article giving the substance of lectures against Birth Control delivered in Detroit by Father John A. McClorey, a Catholic priest. This is the Father McClorey who constituted himself an antidote to President Little of Michigan University and has kept his views on Birth Control before the public in the press of middle western states. There is nothing new in the round trodden by Father McClorey in these lectures. He has brought together all the offensive and many times disproved charges. There is neither space nor need to answer him in a magazine devoted to constructive work for Birth Control. The *Independent*, however, is another matter. Though not, we understand, a Roman Catholic publication, it has editorially taken sides with Father McClorey. To its readers the case for Birth Control has never been presented and its present editorial attitude shows unwillingness to hear this side. We trust that in deference to freedom of speech the *Independent* will take sober second thought and open its columns to a reply, we would suggest a reply by a minister, one whom a mistaken interpretation of religion does not force to urge the race to turn out a swarming multitude of sickly souls to minister to the "extrinsic glory" of a Moloch-God. The acceptance of Catholic opinion as the final word on Birth Control is mediaevalism not independence and we can only hope that the *Independent* will justify its name by presenting both sides.



THERE is one passage in Father McClorey's address that we do want to take up. He states that if Birth Control prevails among Protestants the world is going to be made Catholic "by the birth route." He adds "Let my non-Catholic brethren recognize and prevent this most likely Catholic monopoly of the earth. We Catholics should like

to be important in the world but not at the cost of Protestant race suicide." We do not think that his non-Catholic brethren need be alarmed by this "Catholic menace" for the reverend father is reckoning in ignorance of the laws governing the movement of the birth rate. The very first and most important of these is that as the birth rate goes up so too does the death rate. What Birth Control among non-Catholics and unregulated births among Catholics would mean is a rising survival rate among Protestant infants while the Roman Catholic death rate remained the same, or if the church actually succeeded in enforcing discontinuance of Birth Control among Catholics who use it now, an increase of the Catholic infant death rate. With this also would go, for the Protestants, a decrease and for the Catholics an increase, of miscarriage and still-births.



THE working of this law of births and deaths is brought out in a very concrete and vivid way by Miss Johnson's study of controlled and uncontrolled births among mice, which is published in this number of the REVIEW. Another lesson from a section of the birth rate is to be learned from a study now being made by the American Birth Control League of women among Mrs. Sanger's correspondents who have had eight or more pregnancies. Twenty letters taken at random from this group show but four mothers keeping all their children to grow up. Five had kept two-thirds or more of their children. Of the rest, one kept 12 out of 19 (7 dead), another 7 out of 14 (7 dead), others 6 out of 14 (8 dead), 4 out of 11 (7 dead), 8 out of 15 (7 dead), 6 out of 12 (6 dead), 4 out of 8 (4 dead), 6 out of 17 (11 dead).

It is apparent how enormous the loss is, often fifty per cent or over. Another had four living children out of 11 and the last born was defective. Another mother of ten had lost only one child, her last, but her next to last was defective. This deterioration of the later born is a striking thing. The mothers have no vitality left to give their younger children and the succession is with startling frequency, sturdy children, sickly or defective children, children who do not survive infancy, still-births and miscarriages. "I have got so I cannot carry them to term," is one of the commonest of expressions among the "breeders" as more than one of these women calls herself.



UPON the heels of Father McClorey's attack comes Father McGuire's resignation from a Beacon club because Mrs. Sanger was allowed to

speak there, followed by his refusal to meet her in debate.

It is this attitude of crushing intolerance, this unwillingness to listen and refusal to learn that has caused the recent Mexican reaction against the Catholic Church. President Calles' decree of July 3rd is an attempt to make effective the efforts Mexico has been making for two generations to shake off the strangle hold of a mediaeval institution which has opposed every effort to improve the condition of the people and to make the government democratic. If the decree contains certain extreme repressive measures against the church this is only an indication of the intensity of the struggle. The church has been able to render null and void the democratic measures of former governments, so this government is turning her own weapons against her. Most of the measures in Calles' decree, such as the secularizing of church property, the divorcing of church and state are already in force in such Catholic countries as France and are perfectly in accord with democratic ideals. With the yoke of mediaevalism thus thrown off we can anticipate a splendid development of the government work for Birth Control already begun in Mexico.



BIRTH CONTROL is making steady progress among non-Catholic clergy. Its most recent advocate at a church conference was the Reverend Lynn Harold Hough of Detroit, who stated before the Northern New York Methodist Episcopal Conference that he believed "the scientific control of fecundity" to be "not un-Christian, but a very Christian-like thing to do in that it will prevent nations from stepping on the toes of other nations and prevent over-crowding within the nation with its attendant dangers of famine and insurrection."



ON our first page we publish in full the preliminary announcement of the World Population Conference. This notable conference, the first scientific international congress on the subject ever to be held, is the outcome of the decision of the Sixth International Neo-Malthusian and Birth Control Conference to place the world-wide problem of population before the League of Nations in Geneva and to base the case for Birth Control before this tribunal on population pressure. Plans are already well under way and there is just a year in which to perfect them. News of what promises to be the most notable world congress of the century will be published in the REVIEW as the program matures.

Experimental Breeding of Young Mammals

By BEATRICE W JOHNSON, A M

This report is the result of an experiment with young mice, carefully studied in the scientific laboratory of the Clinical Research Department of the American Birth Control League. It is written for lay readers of the REVIEW who will be interested in knowing that the League is attempting scientific experimentation under controlled conditions. It is not a technical scientific treatise. That type of report is being reserved for a biological journal and will be published by Dr C C Little and Miss Johnson as joint authors. Dr Little acted in an advisory capacity during the experiment described.

1 Object

THE object of this experiment was to determine the effects of forced breeding as contrasted with controlled breeding of young mice. With this in view about fifty young adults of breeding age were obtained from Dr C C Little's laboratory in September, 1925.

2 Maternal

These mice are all pedigreed stock which have been inbred for at least eight years in his laboratory. Contrary to the popular notion, inbreeding does not produce deterioration, unless the inherent potentialities of the stock are bad. These animals are, therefore in spite of long inbreeding, in excellent condition. They are a very homozygous lot of animals, and thus inasmuch as their inheritance is relatively definitely known, any variation which appeared would be more likely to be due to experimental causes rather than to unexpected natural changes which might crop up in a genetically unknown stock.

3 Introduction

Theoretically it is possible for mice to give birth to young every three weeks. For example, a female mouse may have a litter on May first, and while nursing these young for the usual three week period may have another litter developing 'in utero', giving birth again on or about May 22nd.

An attempt was made, therefore, to keep this cycle going at top speed and to have mice reproduce every three weeks. Such mice are referred to as "forced." In contrast to this a control series was run in which mother mice were given a chance to recuperate from a previous litter before they were mated again. Three weeks were allowed to elapse after weaning the former litter before the mice were bred again and if impregnated, three weeks were required for development 'in utero'.

This means that at least nine weeks would elapse between litters from the control animals. Only a fraction of this experiment can be reported now because of reasons given below.

At the outset it should be stated that although female mice can theoretically reproduce every three weeks, practically they do not do so when bred in many cases. In other words, there is a multiplicity of factors involved, such as metabolic condition of the mouse, stage of ovulation, fertility of the male, and so on. Thus, although females were bred immediately after parturition, young did not always result. For example ninety-six of these mothers were bred, but only twenty-eight produced litters at the earliest expected date.

4 Results

One thousand, six hundred and eighty-four mice were born since the beginning of the experiment. Of these mice, forty-six litters comprising three hundred and nineteen mice were from control females, and ninety-six litters comprising six hundred and two mice were from experimental females. It often happened that "forced" mothers had young not exactly three weeks after their previous litter, but four, five, or six weeks afterwards.

These litters furnish interesting material for study of growth curves, but for this present writing these will be excluded from the report. Detailed study on individual growth curves will serve as material for a purely scientific and later report. It is desired to consider at present, simply those litters which were true "forced" litters, that is, the result of a nursing mother who had, at the same time, another litter developing 'in utero'. These will be compared and contrasted with young whose mothers had free nursing period (three weeks) a recuperative time of three weeks before breeding for the next litter and thus a total of nine weeks (three weeks pregnancy period for the second litter) between litters.

TABLES OF THE TWO GROUPS

Control or "Recuperated" Mothers			"Forced" Mothers		
Number of Young in Litter	Living Young	Dead Young	Number of Young in Litter	Living Young	Dead Young
4	4	0	10	5	5
9	9	0	7	5	2
11	11	0	8	4	4
6	5	1	3	0	3
9	7	2	2	0	2
9	9	0	8	8	0
8	7	1	5	0	5
8	6	2	4	4	0
9	8	1	3	0	3
9	4	5	8	5	3
4	4	0	11	5	6
6	1	5	4	4	0
8	4	4	8	8	0
5	0	5	4	3	1
7	7	0	9	5	4
7	3	4	4	3	1
5	5	0	5	4	1
7	7	0	3	3	0
			5	0	5
			7	5	2
			5	0	5
			8	7	1
			7	6	1
			10	7	3
			2	0	2
			6	1	5
			8	4	4
			3	0	3
18 Litters	101 Living	30 Dead	28 Litters	96 Living	71 Dead

In a total of 46 combined litters, the average number of mice per litter was 6.48. The forced females had an average of 5.96 young per litter and the control females had 7.28 per litter. The infant mortality was significantly higher in the forced litters than in the control series.

	Control	Forced
Percentage infant mortality	22.9	42.5
Mice per litter	7.28	5.96

Thus in twenty-eight litters which were forced, although 167 mice were born, only 96 survived. In case of the controls, however, where the mothers were allowed to recuperate from the strain and physiological effect of a former pregnancy before they were allowed to breed, of 131 young born, 101 survived. In other words, *more young resulted* from controls even with their fewer litters, than did in the case of the forced animals with their larger number born. The physiological energy and effort wasted in the case of the forced females is obvious.

It might be suggested that the differential mortality was due to some other factor than merely the forced pregnancy. This chance has, however, been reduced to a minimum because the females were all

of approximately the same age (young adults), and were, because of their continued inbreeding in the laboratory, of as nearly the same genetic constitution as is possible to obtain under observation. They received the same diet and care throughout the experimental process. The diet used has been found adequate in vitamin content and has been used for over ten years with no record of rickets or metabolic disturbance of any sort in raising over 50,000 mice.

It is planned to study the growth curves of these individual mice with a view to comparing the progress made by young resulting from "timed" and "forced" pregnancies.

Summary

More living young resulted from fewer controlled pregnancies than from many forced ones.

(Continued on page 290)

Passing the Buck to Posterity

By VILHJALMUR STEFANSSON

PART I

A HUNDRED and twenty-seven years ago the clergyman Malthus enunciated his famous doctrine that population was sometimes bound to outrun food supply, and that squalor and world starvation would follow. That was an inexorable truth, but he dressed it up and unintentionally disguised it with many absurd side issues. One by one these frills have been torn away, and each time the cry has been raised that Malthusianism is dead. It is not dead, but only naked of its original garb. Its truth is marching on.

According to the false Malthusianism of Malthus himself, we should all have starved to death some time ago. England, according to the unmodified Doctrine, should have entered upon the final epoch of chronic hunger (or resulting wars and pestilences) somewhere around 1845, and the rest of the world either a little earlier or somewhat later.

But here we all are, alive, prosperous, and sceptical of the various prophets of doom. We seem to conclude, easily, that because we never yet have had a world famine, we never will have one. In that respect we may be a bit like the colored man who was so cheerful in April because he had always noticed that if he lived through March he lived through the rest of the year.

THE Neo-Malthusians tell us, grimly, that the starvation sentence pronounced on humanity by Malthus has not been reversed, or commuted, but only stayed. They say the advance of population upon food supply cannot be checked. To their mind, comparison with an advancing giant falls short of the truth.

World population is rising as a tide. We build against it dikes, as they do against the sea in Holland, but there are many breaches in the wall and we are being forced to realize that every one of our protective devices (with perhaps one exception) is but a stopgap.

I have invented myself, or at least advertised, one of these stopgaps for postponing world hunger. That has led me to study all the others. Suppose we examine them and see how inadequate they are, and why. When we come to the fifth act of the drama, we shall consider what chance there may be of providing for it a happy ending.

The world population problem presents two denouements—either we shall eventually starve, or if

we find unlimited food, we shall in the end trample each other under foot when there is no longer standing room on the earth.

THE vital statisticians, who are wrestling with Neo-Malthusianism, base their estimates of the growth of world population on statistics showing increases of the past.

But reliable census figures for the whole world have never existed since the time when Noah took tally of his passengers leaving the Ark. We estimate there are about 1,800,000,000 mouths to feed just at present—but the emphasis is on the word *estimate*.

Apart from doubtful Roman attempts, the taking of censuses on a national scale is a modern pastime. Sweden began it in 1749. Finland was next, in 1751, and then came Denmark, Norway and Spain. The United States was pretty busy having a war during the last quarter of that century, but we got into the game promptly thereafter and had our first census in 1790. We were ahead of Great Britain and France, which had their first complete counts in 1801. Various other countries straggled along through that century, and Russia did not have a census till 1897. Turkey, China and many others have not had one yet. Something like forty per cent of the world's population is known to us only through estimates.

IT is, then, a little hard to guess just how fast the human race is multiplying, since we do not know how many people there were at any time in the past, and do not know how many there are at present.

The simplest way to look at the Malthusian question would be to consider how long it takes a population to double. Since we can do no better than to assume something, we draw our conclusions from single countries and assume that the world as a whole would present a similar picture if only we had all the facts.

Finland has doubled three times from 1749 to the present in spite of emigration, the United States has doubled seventeen times since 1790, but that is partly thanks to immigration. The only known country that has not doubled its numbers in the last century is France. It seems reasonable, therefore, to assume that world population has doubled at least twice in the last hundred years.

BUT it has been noticed that if you ignore both immigration and emigration, considering only excess of births over deaths, the various peoples are increasing less and less rapidly. It is therefore logical to suppose that total world population may next time take more than a century to double twice over. Let us be conservative and say it will be able to double only half that often, or once per hundred years.

That's a nice round figure, 100 per cent increase in 100 years. On the basis of that we shall arrive at some fairly interesting comparative conclusions about the various schemes for increasing the food of the world, and about how many years each scheme is good for in warding off Malthusian world starvation.

If we find that all the schemes together suffice to produce unlimited food, we shall next consider the alternative. How soon will our globe have to hang out the sign of "Standing Room Only?"

THERE are many things we now know which Malthus did not foresee. Through these we understand why his calculation was wrong as to the exact decade in which England, for instance, would begin to starve.

Some of the ideas which put Malthus and his contemporaries off the track, are now so strange and out of date that we can scarcely conceive that anyone could ever have held them. One such was about what we now call prairies.

In Europe treeless grasslands, such as those of Hungary and Russia, were supposed to be incapable of supporting anything but a nomad population of stockmen, while, west of the Atlantic, as Professor Barrows of the University of Chicago has shown, the prairies of the United States and Canada were considered to be wholly worthless as late as 1818, twenty years after Malthus first announced his Doctrine. Apparently it was supposed that they would not support even domestic cattle.

BUT the prairies of Europe, the two Americas, and Australia, have since become the great wheat fields of the world. Similar grasslands in Siberia and Africa are fast being turned to cereal production.

This increase of food was not dreamed of by Malthus and, of course, changed the time element of his calculations.

Thanks, partly, to increased and increasing wheat, we did not starve to death as and when predicted, but we *are* catching up on the wheat supply and it alone cannot save us from the Malthusian doom.

The developments in farm machinery and transportation were equally unforeseen by Malthus. He did not even suspect the possibility of mowers and binders and threshing machines, of steamships and railway trains and motor trucks. Neither did it occur to him that fertilizers could be made directly out of the air, as the Norwegians are now making them on a large scale with water power, and as the United States is about to do through such great projects as that of Muscle Shoals.

WE are now in a position to produce any year, if we want to, much more food than the year preceding. A sure promise of higher prices would bring at once a considerable increase in wheat or corn or potatoes.

But the fact is that we are producing each year only a few per cent more food than we are consuming. If production were for some reason kept from increasing beyond the present yearly output, the normal, steady increase in population would overtake the food supply in a few years, and world starvation would start—say, in 1935.

But there are several ways of fending off hunger yet a little while beyond that.

To begin with, we don't need to eat all the food we do eat. The doctors agree that more people suffer from overeating than from undereating. This remains true even when you consider famines in distant lands and the hunger of the poor in our cities. Surely, if we were put to it, we could find some means of restraining the appetites of many if not most of our gluttons, to the limit at least where the quantity of food they eat would not ruin their dispositions, derange their kidneys and turn thirty per cent of our people corpulent.

THE food saved by the avoidance of gluttony could, with the efficiency genius of which we boast, be distributed among the underfed, taking good care of them and leaving a surplus which would allow for, say, a five or ten or fifteen per cent increase in the world's population. That would give us all a lease of life, so far as hunger is concerned, up to, say 1945.

We could also save much direct waste that comes from our extravagant and slipshod ways. As one profitable hangover from the war publicity, we still have among us the saying that an average French family can live on what an average American family wastes.

Perhaps some continental slogan may later have it that a Chinese family can live on what a French one wastes.

BUT there must be a limit to that kind of economy somewhere, and I doubt any sort of family can be found to live well on what the Chinese waste. But the limit is at least nowhere near present American or English practice.

The possible fruits of mere economy of this sort may therefore allow for another fifty or hundred millions of population increase and stave off world famine till, say, 1955.

A conceivable, though a grim and reprehensible, economy is that of ceasing to feed so many animals that are not economically useful—cats and pet dogs and race horses and parrots and the like. Doubtless most people would think of this as nearly if not quite the ultimate niggardliness, to which we would be driven only just before starving ourselves. I mention it here merely because it can be classified rather as an economy than as a productive measure.

Anyhow, this last economy is of small account. Perhaps it might provide for a ten million increase of world population, thus moving the starvation date ahead one or two years, or down to, say, 1956.

THE next thing that suggests itself, and perhaps the most obvious, is the cultivation of unused ground. The English turned their parks into potato fields during the war. More obviously, we could bring under the plow much vacant land in every country that now lies idle merely because we haven't got around to plowing it.

The authorities differ as to how much the cultivation of unused lands would add to our food supply. Let us say anything from twenty-five to fifty per cent. From the ultimate Malthusian point of view, it matters little which percentage you choose, the only difference is that the final moment of necessity is staved off by a few decades if the highest estimate proves the truest.

Sticking to the figures we have been using, rather to seem concrete than to be exact, we may assume that cultivating the last acre of the world's unused lands would enable us to support anything up to five hundred million people more. That would bring the world to universal starvation about thirty-three years from our previous date of 1956, or in 1989.

JUST because exactness is ridiculous in such calculations as these, we are taking pains to be ridiculously exact.

And, critical reader—please do not begin at or near this point to pick flaws in our argument. Perhaps we shall get around to the objection you have in mind before we come to the end of this article.

It is variously estimated that the available fresh waters of the world will irrigate anything from ten to twenty-five per cent of the various deserts that are not now available for cereal production because of inadequate rainfall. Irrigated deserts are usually fruitful and pleasant to live in, as we know from American experience in Utah and California. Irrigation, therefore, not only adds to the food supply, it relieves the congestion of our cities by permitting relatively dense rural communities with consequent social advantages approximating those of a city.

More interesting, because less understood than irrigation, is the new science and art of dry farming, which is likely to do even more for the conquest of the deserts. There are agricultural experts still living who remember the time when the best methods of wheat cultivation then commonly used would not avail unless the rain were at least twenty inches per year. The same regions now produce good crops regularly with rains varying from twelve inches even down to seven.

SOME of the discoveries in dry farming are so simple as to be explainable in a paragraph, and the marvel therefore is, as in so many other cases, that "no one ever thought of it before." When the sun strikes a plowed field of ordinary coarseness, for instance, it sucks out moisture at a great rate. But let the upper quarter or half inch, or perhaps an inch, of the soil be pulverized very fine, and the sun is defeated. A large part of the moisture remains in the ground until it is needed by the roots of the growing wheat. Such discoveries, and others more complicated, have made dry farming one of the chief agencies in postponing the dreadful day of the realization of the Malthusian forecast.

Irrigation and dry farming together will make productive, large so-called deserts in every continent and may increase the world's total food by, say, twenty-five per cent, which enables us to say with some confidence that the Great Hunger is not due till we have added 25 years to 1989, or about 2009.

(To be continued)



A Birth Control Clinic in Hungary

By ROSIKA SCHWIMMER

TWENTY years ago a group of forty people, men and women, started a Birth Control Clinic, and they found the following situation to exist in Hungary

Legally physicians were permitted to give contraceptive advice if it was for the safety of the mother. Legally the sale of contraceptive apparatus was forbidden except on physicians' prescriptions, but in spite of this legal situation, the sale was perfectly open. Every drug store window had everything that was to be exhibited with the name of it and with the price of it and nobody ever interfered.

One of my earliest recollections of rules of behavior was as a child, being a pupil in a Catholic convent—going to school in a Catholic convent although not a Catholic—the nun who taught behavior told us two things. "If you go on the street and you meet boys, drop your eyes, children." The second was "If you pass a drug store window please don't look at it!" We hadn't the slightest idea why we shouldn't look at it and I remember telling my parents—because I had parents who were accustomed to receive our confidence—and our parents told us keep our eyes at the level before us and to look at any window we would like to.

Many, many years later my mother told me that she went to the convent and asked why we were not to look at drug store windows and the nun said, "Because those things are exhibited." She didn't realize that children wouldn't know what the things meant and their curiosity was just awakened because they didn't know what they were. I tell that only as an illustration that legally that was prohibition, but in life nobody cared for that prohibition.

Catholic Opponention

Socially we found that Birth Control, or as we called it, Neo-Malthusianism, was practised in the classes who could afford to get the necessary things. The question was handled socially as the question of religion. Intellectual people are not religious nor do they pretend to be religious. Roman Catholicism is the state religion and the people of the masses must be religious. You must keep religion in the masses. It was the same thing in Birth Control. We practise it and we want it, but for the masses, they must not know, they mustn't do it.

We found the press very open to any discussion along any study about the necessity of Birth Control except the Catholic press, but the Catholic

press is very unfortunate in a country where Catholicism is official. Nobody cares for it and Catholics themselves do not read it.

In regard to physicians, we found that every decent physician in the country was and is in favor of Birth Control theoretically and in practice. Dr. Drysdale, who has favored us with, I think, two visits, can testify to it. When we found opposition by physicians, it was invariably the case of disreputable physicians whose whole practice was based on illegal operations. One case was that of a rather famous physician who performed abortions, which are illegal in Hungary.

A Women's Bureau

We started the first Birth Control clinic in Budapest. This was simply a place which we called advice and information for women. We said women could come in with any problem of their lives—individual, ethical, moral, financial, legal, medical, professional or whatever problem they might have.

It was twenty years ago yesterday to the day that we started that. I was there on the first day with all our group. I must never speak of it as mine because we were a group of forty. The first question came up, it had nothing to do with Birth Control, was "How many children have you?" It was immediately evident that that was the woman's trouble. We told her, "You must not have another child." We found out that whatever question came up, whether it was housing difficulties, or difficulties in marriage, or difficulties in other relations, hardly anything came up where we didn't have to go down to that question of why have you so many children, or why do you go on having children? We found it was by the practice of life, and we found that it was such a fundamental question that we must make it one of the biggest issues of all our work. So we started, as Dr. Drysdale's literature will prove, and the biggest medical authorities in our country stood with us and by us in our education of the public and the State authorities.

The State authorities had always had the dream of thirty million Hungarians. I don't know why but that was the slogan. We were sixteen million in all and we must arrive at thirty million. Now in that fight for thirty million Hungarians the State tried to make rules and make new laws prohibiting more and more and making it difficult to

(Continued on page 289)

The Present Status of the Church on Birth Control

By WILLIAM H. GARTH

SO far as the Protestant Church is concerned and the Hebrew Communion, there is no organized opposition to Birth Control. So far as the Roman Catholic Church is concerned, they are organized against us. The Roman Catholic opposition is the chief opposition with which we have to contend at the present time. I have always ventured to hope that some day the Roman Catholic Church may see fit to modify its position, even as it has modified other positions in the past. There was a time when they were perfectly willing to persecute men who maintained that the world was round. Now they certainly do not persecute people for that belief. Possibly on Birth Control they may so modify their position as to recognize the good work that it is doing.

In the Protestant Church I am compelled to say that England is at least a decade ahead of us here. I speak as an Episcopalian, and I tell you that I have not yet succeeded in getting the subject introduced into the Church Congress, or into any leading gatherings of clergymen of my own church.* In England, however, for some years the matter has been very seriously discussed. I think the thing was largely precipitated by the remarks of that famous physician and churchman, Lord Dawson, the king's physician, when he came out so strongly five or six years ago for Birth Control.

In the Protestant Church, and I have no doubt in the Hebrew Communion too, there is an ever-increasing number of clergymen and laymen who are out for this thing. You know that every movement is at first ridiculed, then it is said to be con-

trary to the Bible, and then it passes into the third stage—"Why we have thought so all along." Well, we have passed the ridiculous stage, we are about finishing with the people who seem to think that Birth Control is contrary to the Bible, and if the editorials and newspapers and the attitude of the physicians, as indicated in the great meeting of yesterday and throughout the land, convey anything, we are coming to the stage "Why we have thought so all along."

One thing I would like to say, and it is for the encouragement of all of us. You remember that on one occasion a young reporter came to Henry Ward Beecher and said "Mr Beecher, I am willing to report your sermons and correct the grammatical errors for so much a month." And Mr Beecher said "Why, did I make any grammatical errors?" The young reporter said "Yes, you made, I think, a score, yesterday." Mr Beecher looked at him a minute and said "Young man, when grammar gets between me and my message, it doesn't stand a chance."

When ecclesiastical organization or authority gets in the way of human need, human suffering and the possibility of alleviating human suffering, that ecclesiastical authority doesn't stand a chance, and I don't care whether the headquarters of the ecclesiastical authority is in Rome, or in Canterbury or in Tibet. The reason I have for saying this is because I recognize the work that is being done by our clinic in New York City. Of the people, the mothers who come for help, one-third are Hebrew, one-third are Protestant, and one-third are Roman Catholic. It is an indication that human need will pay no attention whatever to ecclesiastical authority, when it is possible to find a right way to alleviate the suffering.

* Since this paper was read at the Sixth International Birth Control Conference, the Episcopal Church has taken official notice of Birth Control. See *BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW* for January and April.

Profusion

The incoherent rambler-rose
Has uttered too much bloom,
Her pink-white parlance overflows—
The incoherent rambler-rose
Stammers in petals, all she knows,
Her thoughts have no perfume,
The incoherent rambler-rose
Has uttered too much bloom

—MAY LEWIS in the *Forum*

A Pioneer for Birth Control

By ANNIE G PORRITT

MARY WOLLSTONECRAFT died in 1797, but when the eighteenth century came to an end, there was in England a little girl of five years old, who was destined to carry on the torch which the great pioneer of woman's cause had to drop when at thirty-eight years of age, she came to her untimely end. Frances Wright* was born in Dundee in 1795. Dr. Waterman in his new life of this great warrior for human liberty tells of her family and early years in England. She was brought up amid all the advantages that money and education could bestow, but none of these could compensate for the fact that she lost both father and mother before she was three years old, and from that time she found herself in an ungenial and even hostile atmosphere. Her active enquiring mind, met by repression, made of her from the first a rebel against conventions and against the current modes of thought and opinion.

Dr. Waterman has spent much time and devoted much faithful labor to an examination of all available papers. He was aided by Dr. William Norman Guthrie, grandson of Frances Wright, who is in possession of the family papers. He learned all there was to be ascertained of the facts of Frances Wright's life. But his biography is a book about a woman with whom the author has never become acquainted. He did not in all his research get to know her, to feel her as a living, breathing, feeling human being, and consequently his book lacks the living touch which true biography must have if it is to deserve the title. Nevertheless, in spite of the fact that Frances Wright remains in these pages a shadow and that the reader is never able to feel the charm of her presence, or thrill with the magic of her oratory, we are very grateful to Dr. Waterman for rescuing her from something like oblivion, and enabling her to take her place among the heroines of the nineteenth century, who blazed the trail for the victorious women of the twentieth.

Love of Democracy

Frances Wright's rebellion against the accepted had one very curious development which enormously affected her life. During her girlhood, it was customary in England to belittle and slur over the War of Independence and to affect a contempt for America and all its people. Frances refused to accept this estimate, and set herself to read American history and to study the institutions of the United States. The result was to fire her with zeal for the new country in which she seemed to recognize the fulfillment of her dreams of liberty and equality. To the horror of her more conservative friends, in August 1818,

at the age of 21, she and her younger sister Camille, took the bold and unusual step of crossing the ocean to America, without chaperon. The step was made a little less awful by the fact that there were friends of the family to whom they brought letters of introduction, but despite this mitigation, the boldness and unconventionality of the proceeding must have startled every friend in England.

Visit to America

This first visit to the United States resulted in a book in which Frances gave full rein to her enthusiasm for the *Land of Liberty*. Instead of the carping criticism of other writers who had visited America and written of their travels, there was nothing but praise for the people and their government. This book established Frances Wright in American popular esteem to a degree which gave her a remarkable advantage later when she went on the platform to advocate reforms. For the first enthusiasm was followed in later visits by a perception of how far short even America fell of the high ideals of liberty which had been built up out of the writings of the poets and philosophers of the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries.

Before her emergence as a reformer, Frances Wright had had other experiences which enhanced her fame and quickened her judgment. One reader of her American book who appreciated her enthusiasm and endorsed her favorable opinions of the United States, was General Lafayette, the hero of the Revolutionary War. In 1821 there began what was to be a life-long, and for some years a very close friendship between the enthusiastic young Scotch woman and the aged General. In 1824 when General Lafayette visited America, Frances and Camilla Wright were again in this country, and were with him in many of his journeyings. With Lafayette, she was welcomed by Jefferson to Monticello, and by Madison to Montpelier. One has to keep in mind the prestige attaching to Miss Wright from these visits and this association, when one is inclined to wonder at the mildness with which the newspapers afterwards treated her heterodox opinions.

Anti-slavery Ideals

The first effort for reform made by Frances Wright concerned slavery, to her a great blot on the American escutcheon. She did not undertake a crusade against the evil, but sought to discover a way in which it could gradually be ended. Thus began her colony at Nashoba, where she hoped to train slaves for freedom while encouraging them to buy their way into liberty. Dr. Waterman gives a long chapter to this great experiment, and goes into detail as to the causes of its failure. Suffice it here to say that the experiment failed, partly because of the faultiness of the material with which Frances Wright had to

* Frances Wright, by William Randall Waterman, Ph.D., Columbia University, New York

work, and partly because she rashly tried to introduce a system of communism which had nothing to do with the extinction of negro slavery

In the meanwhile there had grown up a friendship between Frances Wright and Robert Dale Owen, and when she relinquished Nashoba she transferred her interests to New Harmony, there to throw her energies into the publication of the *New Harmony Gazette*. It was at New Harmony that she came into the realization of her own genius. It was not the written but the spoken word, which was to thrill great audiences and to make her name famous on two continents. Apparently a Fourth of July oration delivered at New Harmony was the first appearance on the public platform, and her first audience was the sympathetic one of New Harmony.

This first attempt was quickly followed up. In the summer of the same year Frances Wright was delivering a course of public lectures in Cincinnati. The shock that such unladylike conduct gave to her friends and to society can hardly be realized. Mrs. Trollope, who was then in America, commented on the violent sensation caused by the announcement of the lectures. "That a lady of fortune, family and education, whose youth had been passed in the most refined circles of private life," she wrote, "should present herself to the people as a public lecturer, would naturally excite surprise anywhere but in America, where women are guarded by a seven-fold shield of habitual insignificance it has caused an effect that can hardly be described." But when she had made the effort and, well guarded by a party of gentlemen, had actually attended the lecture, she was full of the "splendor, the brilliance, the overwhelming eloquence of this extraordinary orator." It was no wonder that the lectures were well attended. Not only was there the natural curiosity to see a woman on the platform, but the interest aroused was real and deep and was no doubt heightened by the beauty, the grace, the charm and the youth of the orator.

A Lady on the Public Platform

From this time on until the end of her life in 1852, Frances Wright occupied herself with schemes for the betterment of the world. In 1831, she married M. Phikepal d'Arusmont, who had been associated in the Nashoba experiment. The following year her only child, Frances Sylva, was born. During these years much of her time was spent in France and England, but in 1836 she was again in America lecturing.

Unlike some of the other pioneers of the woman's movement, Frances Wright did not limit herself to the one subject of woman's freedom. She longed to sweep away all exclusive privileges, all monopolies, all exemptions of

one class as compared with another. She demanded liberation for the negroes, for the oppressed among the working classes, for all who suffered under any form of bondage. And for all men and women she demanded first of all education. Probably her greatest achievement was the creation of public opinion in favor of universal free education—something that in those days was unknown in either New York or the Southern States.

In making the demand for universal education she constantly emphasized the revolutionary doctrine that women should enjoy equal educational advantages with men. She urged the folly of leaving the "most important and influential" half of the race in darkness and ignorance. She declaimed against the injustice which deprived women upon their marriage of all the property they possessed, merged their legal identity with that of their husbands, and left them entirely at their mercy.

Birth Control

But all these demands were conservative and mild compared with the audacity with which she put forward the right of woman to control her offspring. Her attention was probably called to Birth Control through her association with Robert Owen and his son Robert Dale Owen, but while the subject had been vigorously agitated in England by the group of men with whom Owen was associated, who had accepted the theories of Malthus, Frances Wright stands first among women to labor in this field. She was convinced that there could be no greater evil than bringing into the world children who could not be properly provided for and she was not afraid to speak her conviction to a shocked world. It was too much for that world. As Mr. Waterman phrased it, "Frances Wright had fallen hopelessly from grace. Almost anything might be believed of such a traitor to the modesty of her sex."

Fortunately for herself, Frances Wright was unaware of her fall. She was too much absorbed in her ideas and in her desire to teach the people who were groping in ignorance to have time to consider how badly she was breaking through all conventions. So she went forward in spite of opposition and abuse, speaking, teaching, writing, always looking forward to a better and a happier world. Years have passed since her death—almost three-quarters of a century—and this brave, beautiful, inspired woman has been badly neglected by the common people whom she loved, by the women whom she desired to liberate and enlighten, by the historians who have traced the course of the reforms which she so eloquently advocated. It is well that at last we have an authentic story of her life, albeit that it does not give the insight into her soul that we would have desired.



NORMAL FAMILIES

A Refreshing Group Who Have Not Yet Overbred

Why should not these families remain normal instead of being forced to grow beyond their resources and their health? Why should they not be allowed to control their prolificacy before they become objects of pity?

Help Me to Choose the Time

Missouri

I am 17 years old. We were married 5 months ago. When I was married 2 weeks I became pregnant. When I saw how easy it was for me to become pregnant I was worried because I was in fear of having a large family. I'm really happy now because I'm going to get a little baby. I know now that after you help me I can choose the time to get another. If it wasn't for you how unhappy I'd be. I'd be worrying about having the baby because after I'd have it I'd maybe find myself pregnant again because I love my husband so much and I respond to him easily. Oh, I'm so happy now and I wish you all the good luck God could give.

injure my health. Almost willing for no sexual union at all or that is the only way I know to express it. You understand what I mean of course. I would do anything on earth for my husband. He is so good I feel like it would be an injustice to us both to bring several children into the world and not able to support them nor educate them, though I will avoid abortion if possible though I didn't know it was so dangerous. We are poor, my husband works all the time, we live on a small farm. I have lots of work to do myself. I can vegetables of all kinds to live on through the winter. Makes it hard on me but I am happy, I can tell the world that happiness is something can't be bought with money. Will you please answer my letter in some way. Will close by thanking you. I have always wanted to know something about the human body.

All in Good Shape

North Carolina

I am married to one of the best men in every way I most ever heard of. Though we are poor and not able to raise a large family, we have 2 sweet boys, one is 3 years old the other one is 16 months old. They are fat and healthy, never been sick any, I mean bad sick. Their father and myself are in good health so far as I know. I was 27 years old when I was married, didn't suffer so very hard when they were born but we don't want any more because we are not able to do a good part for any more. We are so happy with our boys. I know there never was a couple any happier than we. I had a miscarriage last month. Didn't know there was anything wrong, lifted something I suppose caused it. My baby is so heavy to lift, guess he will weigh 30 or 35 lbs., think that was the greatest cause. I am weakly when pregnant, am in good health except then. My husband don't want me to have any more. He is ignorant like myself and don't know what to do. He is willing to do anything that won't

An Ideal Family

North Dakota

We have been married five years and have two children only twenty-one months apart, the oldest two and a half years, and the baby nine months, so instead of having any more babies we both want to raise them with proper care. We feel that we have an "ideal" family. If you can give us any advice it will be very much appreciated,—and let your good work continue.

Full of Pep

South Dakota

I'm a young woman and have good health and would like to keep it and I have 6 nice children, all healthy and full of pep. I think 6 is a large enough family for anybody. I wanted all my family in a stairway, then be done. You know like I do that you cannot sleep with a man without getting more family unless something is done.

We Have Enough Now

Michigan

I have been married ten years and have had five children and two miscarriages in seven years. My first baby died at eight days. Have three girls, 5½, 3 and 1½ years and one boy 3 months old. They are all fine, healthy children but all bottle babies. I have no milk after the first two weeks. The first abortion was caused by sudden shock when my nephew died five years ago. The second was last February and March and was a twin to the boy I now have. Both of these occurred during the first two months and have not injured me, but I have all I can do to take care of such young children. I have an excellent doctor and have had two weeks in a hospital at each of my last confinements. We manage to pay the hospital bill but we still owe the doctor twenty-five dollars on the last baby girl and seventy-five for the boy.

We expect to move on a farm early this spring and though it will be a fine place to raise the children we now have, I do not care to have any more. The care of the children and the farm work would be too much for me, so I probably could not give enough strength to another baby. I am small, five feet tall and weigh 110 pounds. I have never done anything to prevent conception except to have separate beds for myself and husband. He is very considerate and never expects any intimacy during pregnancy and for some months after childbirth. In fact, there were only a few times between one birth and the next. We think we have enough children now, since we have our boy, at least until they are old enough to take personal care of themselves. My first confinement and baby's death was on a farm where I could not have proper care and there was no good doctor for several miles, so I certainly do not want children unless I could have hospital care and my doctor who has taken such good care of me these four times.

Healthy Bright Babies

Mississippi

After having read your book I thought that you could help me. I am a young mother with three healthy, bright babies all under three years of age, and I feel like I have my hands full for the present—we are only farming people with moderate means. I think we have all that we can raise and educate as they should be, so after reading your book I thought I would write you and see if you will tell me all about Birth Control.

Why Can't You Give That Advice?

North Dakota

I have finished reading your book "Women and the New Race." While I agree with all you say, I was very much disappointed when there was lacking the much needed information. I believe in Birth Control, but cannot control without committing murder, and that I will not do.

I have three fine healthy girls, the oldest seven years and the youngest three years. Was not married until twenty-nine years—I do not believe in kid marriages. We think that we now have all the children that we can care for and educate properly. My husband only receives \$1,200 per year, house and fuel furnished. I have a growth or injury to my womb which makes it undesirable to have any more.

What I can't understand is why can't you give me that advice in a personal letter. No one has any right or business to know what you write in your friendly letters or what my friends write to me. If it is some article on the market, can you not give me the name and address so I can write personally?

Have lent your book to several of my friends, and am going to try to have the W C T U here take it up and study.

A Home and an Education

Kentucky

I have been married two years and six months and have one baby nineteen months old and will have another in about two weeks. My husband and I are happy together, both love children, were both raised in a large family, twelve children in his and ten in mine, and without me going into details you will understand that we both know the many home comforts as well as education that large families are deprived of.

My husband works for a salary, and we would both like it very much to own our own home and educate our children in comfort but there is no chance unless you are kind enough to tell me of a reliable contraceptive to prevent any more children from coming into our home until we have the means of support at least.

A Travelling Man

Alabama

I am just twenty-one years old. My husband is a travelling man. We have one child, a year old, and as I go around with him I cannot see how I could with any more children. At least until this one gets up some size. But by then I hope to be settled down in a little home and I will admit I will want more children then.

Common Sense

New York

I have borne three in four years and this is all I want to have, at least for some time to come. I have managed my home and family without outside help. But common sense will tell anyone that it is impossible to have children this close year after year without neglecting your present children and husband.

Book Reviews

Freedom for Our Minds

TOLERANCE, by Hendrik Willem Van Loon New York, Boni and Liveright

FREE THOUGHT IN THE SOCIAL SCIENCES, by John A. Hobson New York, Macmillan and Co

FROM two very different angles these two books attack the problem of freedom for our thinking. Mr. Van Loon is concerned almost exclusively with limitations on the liberty "to know, to utter and to argue freely, according to conscience"—to use Milton's great phrase—which are imposed by social authority: clan, tribe, church or state. To the intolerance of the Ku Klux Klan or the snobbery of some racial or social group he gives scant heed only in passing.

It is his interesting and, in the main, convincing thesis that "intolerance is merely a manifestation of the protective instinct of the herd." The remedy for intolerance is the education which brings understanding, above all it lies in the removal of fear.

In a series of sprightly and rather superficial chapters Mr. Van Loon traces the forms intolerance has taken among Greeks and Romans, under the dominion of the Catholic Church, and during the periods of renaissance, reformation and political revolution. He has an oddly assorted list of heroes who, usually as a by-product of other labors and sometimes quite against their own theory and practice, aided in the advance of tolerance. It includes, among others, the Protestant reformers—no willing friends of tolerance, they—Erasmus, Rabelais, the Anabaptists, Arminius, Montaigne, Spinoza, the Sozzini family, Voltaire, Frederick the Great, Lessing, Tom Paine and Thomas Jefferson. It does not include, strangely enough, the early Quakers who by precept and example, by what they endured and what they achieved did more to advance the cause of civil liberty for us English-speaking folk than any equal number of men and women in any period of history. The reader who is fascinated by Mr. Van Loon's "human interest" stories ought promptly to add Mary Agnes Best's "Rebel Saints"—the story of these early Quakers—to his list.

Mr. Van Loon is a sort of geological optimist who leaves us with the hope that in a few thousand years man may conquer his fear. And then for the first time genuine tolerance will be possible.

As a whole the book is readable and valuable. It is rich in what I believe the younger generation calls wise-cracks, most of which come off pretty well. It has numerous interesting ideas, but it hardly impresses this reviewer, at least, with being the first rate contribution to the history and philosophy of tolerance which Mr. Van Loon might have made had he set himself to the task.

Mr. Hobson's book is of a different sort. He started out by examining the disinterested pursuit of knowledge and the difficulties in its way. The first part of the book is a keen analysis of such obstacles to social thinking as arise from the "bias of metaphor," taboos in the social sciences—readers of this magazine don't need to be told of the power of some of those taboos—the effect of organized interests and of personal and economic biases in promoting wishful rather than accurate thinking.

The second part of the book shows how these factors operate in the making of economic science. Here we get from a master hand a review and criticism of various forms of economic thought and their weaknesses in relation to those tendencies which lead our thinking astray or put it in chains to our interests and fears. "Proletarian economics" as well as capitalist comes in for its share of this criticism, but the Socialist will on the whole like this section of the book better than the Rotarian.

The same sort of examination is made of free thought in politics and ethics. The theory of Nordic supremacy comes in for some shrewd thrusts and along with it the even more dangerous doctrine of absolute national sovereignty.

In spite of all difficulties Mr. Hobson closes with hope for the survival value of free thought. One could wish that to Mr. Hobson's stores of knowledge and information was added some consideration of the bearing of behavioristic psychology on his thesis. Watson might have been something of a make-weight to McDougall to whom Mr. Hobson frequently refers, usually critically. This omission, however, does not keep the book from being a noteworthy contribution to the difficult task of removing our doubts as to whether history, economics and the like can ever earn a right to be called sciences.

NORMAN THOMAS

CHRISTINA ALBERTA'S FATHER, by H. G. Wells
New York, Macmillan and Company

MORE in the style of "Mr. Polly" and "Kipps" is this satirical tale of Christina Alberta who "wants and wants and wants" and her father, little Mr. Preemby. Mr. Preemby has always been intrigued by legends of the lost Atlantis, the Pyramids and so on. At a London seance he is hailed as Sargon, King of Sumeria returned to earth and valiantly endeavors to recall the golden days of his supreme reign.

More interesting is Christina Alberta's attempt to live her own life in London, believing that "a moment of glory is better than none" and that only broken, desolate souls try to believe in religions such as Buddhism, Christianity and this fantastic Sargonism.

Christina Alberta states her revolutionary ideas as to motherhood. Many modern women actually fear children

lest they descend upon them and devour their very existence. She advances the theory that motherhood does not always stifle egotism but sometimes intensifies it. Women may have children at the expense of losing intelligence, becoming "mere creatures of instinct messing about with napkins."

Bobby, her lover, regards Christina Alberta as "the boldest enterprise in living" with which he has ever met. He decides a third sex will be the outcome of her sort of women, women not desirous of wifehood and motherhood nor wishing to be pretty, useless parasites but those wanting to be individuals with the right to love. Nor can he visualize a future which does not include Christina Alberta and, of necessity, a forging ahead in his work as novelist in order to keep pace with her vital, capable self.

NALBRO BARTLEY

AN AMERICAN TRAGEDY, by Theodore Dreiser
Boni & Liveright

DARK LAUGHTER, by Sherwood Anderson. Boni
and Liveright, New York

TO comment at this time on Dreiser's "An American Tragedy" seems a bit tardy when so much discussion has already been aired by the press and the public. However, one may take for granted that the book has been widely read and that one may discuss it without going into many details. The story is very simple. Clyde Griffiths comes from a family of little means but high spiritual attainments in their being street-preachers. Fired by some ambition, the boy works in a hotel where he becomes acquainted with young men, more or less versed in the ways of life. Clyde is forced to run away, having figured in an unfortunate automobile accident. He finds work in a distant city, in the collar factory of an uncle. There he meets a girl, Roberta Alden, whom he seduces. Both apparently ignorant of certain dangers, the girl becomes pregnant. At this time, Clyde leaves Roberta for the more brilliant and glamorous company of the daughter of a society scion. They try to find ways to prevent the imminent tragedy, but the doctor to whom Roberta applies is unwilling to attend to her wishes. In despair, Clyde sees but one way out, and taking Roberta to a lonely lake, drowns her by causing the boat to upset after striking her a blow. The trial is long and ends with Clyde as a death-house inmate. The efforts of his mother are futile.

The work is long and much has been said on that score. But a study of Dreiser's method will show that length becomes a necessary implement. Dreiser's style is noted by the absence of style. There are few passages which when read will be euphonic. Long paragraphs that are breath-taking without the occasional relief of punctuation, alliterations, repetitions of words which would cause Flaubert to grind his teeth. And yet, there is a tremendous crushing power which sweeps and scatters

together. Like a destructive landslide, the ponderousness of the work rides over one's mind, stamping it indelibly. One reads the book and obviously sees the "ands" which could be removed, one feels "Why didn't Dreiser shorten this conversation, why did he go to such length in describing this scene, why didn't he condense this paragraph into one concise sentence?" And then? Four weeks later the impression of that particular passage is still a deep and throbbing one. A method by which ideas are pounded, pushed, tearing and groaning is perhaps not one which pleases stylists, but it has the right effect. No doubt there are places where Dreiser "out-Dreisers" himself, where he repeats "and" every two words for sentences. These are extremely tedious, but others such as the chapter in which Clyde commits Roberta to her death, the description of the lake, the weird sounds of the birds, have a gripping poignancy.

Many critics contend that the second volume is better than the first. It seems that to separate the work in two parts is a rather delicate attempt for the work as a whole. There are tedious parts in the first volume, just as there are marvelous ones in the second, but each is too much of the whole to be taken for its own worth. The work is intense—intense in the emptiness of Clyde's life, in the weakness of his mental being, in the ponderousness of the trial and the rapidity of the last days.

Dreiser is a writer of steel. Molten steel which runs like writhing tentacles of a tortured octopus, steel which then becomes gray and hard and then bent shrieking into shape, that is the American Tragedy.

DARK LAUGHTER the laughter of women prostituting their bodies to lust of men prostituting their abilities and ideals to the dollar of men married to frigid wives of young healthy men sickened of the carnage of war. Dark laughter all!

Bruce Dudley is a newspaper man who leaves his wife and work, wandering to the south, then into a wheel factory in Ohio. He dreams on. The wife of the owner of the factory is attracted to Dudley—he reminds her of a man she had seen in Paris and upon whose memory she likes to dwell. Dudley is likewise drawn to this woman she will beget child of him. They both are tired of dark laughter and they leave with one another away from it!

In reading Anderson's words, one has the feeling of being a white beach upon which a relentless sea is beating. Each wave brings with it a piece of flotsam, but as it recedes it takes the bits of wreckage away again. As it beats again, it is with more and more flotsam until at last it deposits a definite dark line slashing the whiteness of the sand. A rhythm which beats incessantly with growing vigor and renewed forces. And this line reads: You, you, you are prostituting yourself to something whatever you may call it. Dark laughter.

Sherwood Anderson has been named the American Dostoevsky. In "Dark Laughter" he has become Sher-

wood Anderson, with his own definite beat, his own rhythm. The book is one of wealth, vibrant with freshness, with beauty and with life. Each time a paragraph is re-read, new illusions spring out. The words are so simple and their arrangement so logical. The book is prose-poetry, it has its strength in rhythm, in unspoiled virility. One feels as though one has been amidst a forest of huge living trees, each full of sap, but with the struggles of living in a miasmal swamp. "Dark Laughter"

To discuss the relative merits of writers is a hazardous enterprise—it is one with which American critics are obsessed. *this* compares with *that* as the best, the biggest, the most something, therefore to say that Anderson is the greatest American writer is perhaps a bit forward. He certainly is among the very best and one can say without hesitancy that he sees life with more clarity, with less of false veils than any other American writer.

IVAN BLOCH

THE ISLAND OF THE GREAT MOTHER, by Gerhart Hauptmann. Translated by Willa and Edwin Muir. Viking Press, New York.

IF this fantasy of a matriarchic state were an established fact, the opponents of Birth Control would find one of their arguments torn to shreds, that is the argument that if motherhood were voluntary, women would not bear children.

This shipwreck on the Pacific which counted among the survivors one boy and many women developed an island colony, organized and conducted by women. The book carries the reader through the election of president and a council of mothers and the development of community life, finally revealing the pivot on which the book is swung—the spiritual and physical beauty of motherhood and man's part in the creation of it. The mating instinct is developed into a religious ceremony that shows no conscious need of the male. The female becomes the divine arbiter of her own destiny. No woman displays the slightest consciousness of the paternity of her children and the mothers accept this condition as an evidence of immaculate conception, although older members of the community voice reservations and doubts privately. As male children are born in increasing numbers, they present a real problem to the council of mothers. It is finally decided that a portion of the island be allotted to them and designated Manland, so that the only male who has free access to the entire island is the youth who survived the shipwreck.

This theme is carried through with many allusions to Greek mythology and the supernatural. The wonderful natural beauty of the island is emphasized, as well as the

great physical beauty the women attain in the freedom of their environment.

The day comes for the dedication of a new temple. The holy mothers visit Manland to investigate the life developed under their control. To quote the author: "The horizon of Manland was wider. This happened because a mother is synonymous with the family. Therefore, the spirit of the mother is turned inwards, being absorbed in the family, children, house and hearth. The boy—the youth—the man is a creature for himself alone. He can travel free and untrammelled. The female life imposes intensity on the physical as well as the spiritual." The dedication of the temple is postponed, as the mothers cannot decide to include the Manlanders. This segregation creates dissatisfaction among *Les Dames*, and open revolt and the burning of the temple. The final chapter finds the standard of Man planted firmly in the center of the Isle des Dames.

The beauty of the book is in its effort to establish the mating instinct of man and woman as stronger than the social customs and regulations imposed by either sex and to show that man and woman are necessary parts of the complete life of human society.

ANNE KENNEDY

Birth, Stillbirths and Infant Mortality Statistics for the Birth Registration Area of the United States, 1923, Bureau of the Census, Washington, D. C.

The ninth annual report on this subject by the Census Bureau shows a birth rate of 1,792,646 or 22.4 per 1,000 population in the registration area, which includes about 72 per cent of our total population of the United States.

The general death rate in the registration area in 1923 was 992,237 or 12.4 per 1,000 of the population, that is, but little more than half the birth rate.

While our deaths for the population as a whole are keeping well behind our births, what of our infant deaths in relation to births? We lost by stillbirths in 1923 3.9 for every 100 live infants and by death before the end of the first year 77.1 per 1,000 born.

In the five year period, during which the statistics have been gathered from approximately the same area, the birth rate has hovered between 22 and 24, the death rate between 11 and 13. The infant death rate since 1919 has appreciably diminished, the lowest rates being in 1921 and 1923. It still remains too large and will continue to remain so as long as our average for "completed" families is as high as 6.4 children per family, as it is shown to be in another section of the report.

The figures for 1922 and 1923 differ from each other by a very small decimal and the report year by year shows little indication of race suicide in the United States.



Periodical Notes

In *Current History* (New York) for July, our friend Dr E M East again presents the population problem, this time in the pages of a periodical which reaches a very large and conservative reading public

The *New York Times* Sunday magazine features an article by Dr Max Schlapp, of the New York Post Graduate Medical School, on the economic cost of the unfit Dr Schlapp believes that civilization is developing an "inferman" faster than a "superman", that by our "social sentimentalism" we have been "extending the lives of the defective, the enervated and the generally diseased" He makes no definite constructive suggestion, but a general reference to the fact that we have "permitted the strays and the stumblers to multiply without restraint" would seem to point to Birth Control as the first step towards a cure of social deterioration

The *Western Mail* (Cardiff, Wales), also has an article on the menace of the unfit which is not so vague as to the cure Among the four means of meeting the menace recommended by the author, John Jenkins of Swansea, is "Birth Control among all classes," especially the poor who do not now have access to it

In *The Nation* (New York) of July 14th, M S Lea pictures the old days of pre-Protestant Christian Guam when marriage and child-bearing had no relation and a woman was married as a cow is bought, if she had already proved her fecundity "A woman," writes Miss Lea, "who was capable of bearing a great many children was looked upon as a paying investment by the young buck who chose her to be his wife She was sent in early adolescence to the living hall of the island bachelors with the purpose of testing her fecundity, and she went every year until she was twenty-five years old or thereabout and usually possessed a large and active family to help her with her farm by the time she was married The more children she possessed the more desirable she appeared in the eyes of homing men, for their number denoted her popularity and charm as well as her actual money value"

The *Sunday Advocate* of Bombay, which includes each week a Birth Control page, has been printing a series of articles by Professor N S Phadke on the negative aspects of Birth Control In the issue for May 2nd, he discusses the relative merits of sterilization and Birth Control, for curbing the multiplication of the unfit, and shows the difficulty and danger of legal compulsion in regard to this matter

In *The Nation* for May 12th, there is an interesting account of the effect of new standards of sex morality in Moscow, as observed by Paul Blanshard The freedom of divorce, under Bolshevik rule has scarcely affected "the family as a voluntary love-union of a man and a woman," but "the family as a compulsory union of two people who stay together out of habit or for fear of social stigma in separation is being destroyed slowly" Children are rated as equals whether born in or out of marriage, and fathers as well as mothers are held responsible for illegitimate children Birth Control appears to be little known or understood, but abortion was legalized in 1920, and this operation is performed for women in the government hospitals As there is insufficient accommodation for all who apply women are given preference in proportion to their need The cause for the largest number of abortions—67 per cent—was overcrowded homes

The World's Children (London), international clearing house for information on national movements in behalf of children, reprinted in its July number the "Baby Bureau" passage from Margaret Sanger's article in *Holland's Magazine*, which is to be found in the April BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW It takes the imaginary dialogue to be a fair and vivid presentation of what a baby has a right to demand of life

Liberty (New York) is having a series on Birth Control We reprint this month excerpts from the first article by Roderick O Murchison The second, "The Empty Cradle of Harvard," by Brenda Ueland, deplors the small families of the middle class native American and the large families of the poor, particularly of the foreign-born It does not urge extending to these classes, who need it most, the same information that has lowered the birth rate among the prosperous

From the *Critic and Guide* (N Y), comes this epitaph on the grave of the first of three wives of Squire Barke who died in the English village of Clavering in 1670

"Here lyeth buried Mary, wife of Haines Barke, of this parish, Esq, by whom he had issue fouer sonnes and nyne daughters, six of them died in their infancy, the last was still born, and within 5 days after his birth she died, and as she was fruitful in children soe was she fully indued with the properties of a good woman and a faithful lovyng and obedient wife to her husband, who happily enjoyed her neere 16 years until the 16th daye of Dec 1653 She died in the 36 yeare of her age"



“The Nation’s Backbone”

By LOUIS ADAMIC

PART II

THE only result that immediately followed Joe’s sudden decision was that he continued to sleep in the garage where he had been compelled to spend the nights during Minnie’s confinement. He explained to Minnie that he liked to sleep in the garage, but he realized that the explanation was unsatisfactory.

Then it occurred to him that he could sleep on his fishing-boat. One day he told Minnie that there was some stealing going on in the Fish Harbor, in fact, that an unknown culprit had stolen several things from his smack—which made it necessary for him to stay on the boat nights for a while, a week at the most.

This was a temporary solution of his problem, but after a week of his sleeping on the boat, especially when Minnie began to urge him to stay home some night, he realized that he would have to invent some other scheme.

He thought of asking his family doctor about Birth Control, but he got no farther than the doctor’s door. He could not tell how the doctor would take it. Maybe he, too, would consider it sinful to keep unborn children out of the world.

So Joe continued to sleep on the boat nights. He told Minnie of prowlers, sinister characters, Japs and Mexicans, whom he and other fishermen had seen sneaking around Fish Harbor. Just then a boat owned by one of Joe’s friends burned up mysteriously early one morning and Joe utilized the incident for a justification of his continuing to sleep on the smack on the nights he was in port.

In the day time he took care not to be alone with his wife for more than a few minutes at a time. He always found some excuse for leaving the house when it appeared that he and Minnie would be alone awhile.

One night Joe suddenly awoke and realized that he had been dreaming—dreaming of Minnie, but not of the woman who at the moment was alone in the house with her seven children, but of the seventeen-year-old girl he had married seven years before. She had been a pretty girl, her olive-tinted cheeks flushed with health and life, her lips so nicely curved, red and full.

He smothered the thought and cast it from his mind, or rather he thought he did. He fell asleep again, but then awoke from another dream in which Minnie had once more played the principal role. During the day he caught himself thinking of Min-

nie every once in a while, and what was more, he seemed always to be thinking of her in a very tender mood. He banished these disconcerting thoughts, but never for long. They always returned to him.

For several nights he slept fitfully and then only to dream of the seventeen-year-old Minnie. He began to wonder and ponder anew how to regulate his future relationship with her. Joe was still firmly set against having any more children. He could not support any more, that was reason enough, no matter what anyone thought as to the propriety of a relationship between man and wife in which conception was, premeditatedly, not the object. He must have a talk with Minnie. Yes, he would tell her what he had been thinking of lately. He would have a talk with her soon, maybe tomorrow, or—or next week sometime. He hated the thought of it being necessary to discuss the matter with his wife, for Minnie was a good, God-fearing woman. There still coursed in his poor bewildered brain the notion that his idea was utterly sinful, a sort of conspiracy against God and nature. Yet he must do something about it.

Then, a week after the first of these dreams had crept upon him from nowhere and saturated his consciousness with memories of Minnie’s charms of seven years before, there occurred in San Pedro harbor an unusual thing. Unusual, that is, for Southern California, where, as it is known throughout the civilized world, the climate is a copy of that of paradise itself. This extraordinary thing that happened was a storm, a severe gale carrying with it bitter cold and sleet. It came up unexpectedly from the northeast late that afternoon and swept over the harbor with unheard of ferocity, that played the devil not alone with the shipping in port but with Joe’s Birth Control, indeed, it smashed his scheme entirely.

Joe got home just in time to escape the fury of the wind and sleet.

“I’m glad you didn’t get caught in this, Daddy,” remarked Minnie.

“Yeah,” said Joe, “just beat it in by coupla jumps.”

They stood with the children by the windows watching the wind whip the rain around the corners.

“You an’t gonna sleep on that boat ag’in t’night, are you, Daddy?” Minnie asked then, trying to seem casual.

(Continued on page 289)

Pressure—the Soul of Japan

By RODERICK O MURCHISON

(Reprinted with Permission from the June 26th Issue of 'Liberty')

MALTHUS or Mars? Birth Control or war? Which will Japan invoke to settle her population problem?

The choice of the Japanese people, in the conviction of many of her leading thinkers, lies between the two.

They have outgrown their borders, and can neither raise enough food on their own land to feed themselves nor produce the materials to clothe themselves.

In a land that is four-fifths mountainous or otherwise unfitted for farming, with a total area only slightly larger than the State of Montana, sixty million people are crowded, while every hour there are being added, through excess of births over deaths, eighty-five new mouths to feed.

Japan's Quandary

More babies are being born within the narrow limits of Japan each year than are being born in the entire continental United States. The latest available statistics show that in the United States between 1910 and 1920 the births over deaths averaged 739,000 a year. In Japan between 1920 and 1925, the births were 754,000 each year in excess of deaths. In America in 1920, 1,508,874 babies were born. In Japan in 1924, 1,998,520 babies arrived.

As far as arable land area is concerned, Japan is one-fortieth the size of the United States. Like every other nation, Japan necessarily must live upon the products of her soil or become industrially developed, like England, to be able to live as an international middleman. Such, however, is not within the limit of probability for Japan.

With a great lack of all raw materials and coal, Japan has lagged, after her first great spurt into the modern world, until today the problem of feeding her people is upon her, permitting no time for industrialization. Her capital is limited, her people are untrained.

Japan has made the great mistake of laying aside those things she could do well. She is attempting to manufacture things in which she cannot compete with others either in price or in quality. The war brought that about. In those days other nations were too busy fighting to manufacture, and they bought eagerly the shoddy output of Japan, boosting wages there which will not now go down, and encouraging the extension of plants which lie idle.

Throughout the country unemployment is increasing. A recent industrial census showed 40,000 persons out of work in Tokyo, despite the fact that the municipality is employing some 50,000 laborers on reconstruction jobs that were begun purely and solely as relief works.

Even were her population standing still, Japan would be in no enviable position, but her people are increasing at a rapid rate. To give a comparison between her position and that of America, let us suppose that all the people of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, and West Virginia—were poured into the State of Montana. To these add all the people of Illinois, Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Wisconsin, and Kentucky, plus the people living now in Montana, and the congestion there would be what it is in Japan today.

Every year afterward adds a new population equal to that of Maine, at which rate Japan's population is increasing.

Japan cannot support her growing population for many more years. She must either educate her people to exercise Birth Control, or the Japanese must emigrate at the rate of a million annually, for her surplus will soon reach that figure.

Forces Against Birth Control

Against Birth Control is now arrayed all the conservatism of the East—all that has ever been taught Japanese wives as the prime duty of bearing sons, all the weight of Shintoism, which has preached the doctrine of the necessity of carrying on the family, and all the weight of Buddhism, which preaches "Thou must not kill" even the insect on the highway. Today the police forbid the advocacy of Birth Control in public, not one prominent leader dare advocate it, as yet not 1 per cent of the population know just what is meant by the phrase.

Without Birth Control, however, where are the Japanese of the future to live? They cannot stay at home and starve. No people as brave as the Japanese will die or suffer without a struggle.

At least a million a year will have to be placed somewhere for the next twenty years. These cannot go into the waste places of Canada or Australia without a war in which Japan would have to face the British Empire.

But unless the Japanese have only one baby in the future where they now have two, where will the other one go without having to fight for his place in the sun?

The problem of the surplus population of Japan is the problem before the world demanding solution.



Critics and Champions at Westminster

On account of the general strike detailed accounts of the debate on Lord Buckmaster's motion were much delayed. We reprint this month from the "New Generation" for June-July part of F W Stella Brown's excellent resume of the debate and the legislative history of Birth Control in both houses of Parliament during 1926

THE last two months have brought conspicuous proof that the women of the Labour Party have no intention of overlooking the action of the Labour M.P.'s who voted against the Birth Control (Local Authorities) Enabling Bill, of February 9th. They have been explicitly censured in vigorous resolutions to the Labour Women's Annual Conference, which is now called for July, at Huddersfield, and have had to run the gauntlet in both the Labour Press and their constituencies, as well as by post.

In the May issue of the *Socialist Review*, we have a statement by Dr Drummond Shiels, Labour M.P. for Edinburgh East, which is rather significant. Dr Shiels was one of the M.P.'s whose name appeared in a type-written list of parliamentary supporters of Birth Control information at welfare centres, widely circulated by the W.B.C.G., among both its members and sympathizers as well as to certain organs of the press, last November. He made no public repudiation, yet on February 9th, though present in the House, he abstained from voting.

His defence is considered "temperate and well-reasoned" by Mr E. J. Strachey, Editor of the *Socialist Review*, who contends that the alternative policy now recommended by Dr Shiels, of restricting Birth Control information and help to working mothers who are definitely diseased—i.e., at the medical officer's discretion—"has much to commend it." But the hereditary editor rather gives himself away in the pathetic plea: "Could not some member of the House, preferably perhaps not a Labour member on this occasion, be induced to introduce a bill of the scope described by Dr Shiels?" Keep the Catholic vote, in short, and "let the credit go."

Dr Shiels makes a useful point in regard to the necessity of appliances and "fitting" as well as theoretical instruction. But we may well ask why, if he feels deeply on the matter, he did not himself bring forward such a suggestion, before now? There is always question time!

A Health Proviso

Now for his real objection: "Under Mr Thurtle's Bill, a young married woman, in perfect health, with no children, and with every qualification for motherhood, would be entitled to demand this information."

The medical profession will do well not to persist in attempts at dictature in this matter. Their own low birth rate is widely known, and such incidents as the lamentable Axham case have not enhanced their reputation for general fair play and disinterested expertise—quite apart

from sexual matters, on which the majority of the profession in Britain are *either* very timid or very uninformed.

On April 28th, a Birth Control Resolution was introduced by another legislator—"not a Labour member on this occasion." I regret to say—in another place, commonly regarded as far less open to democratic and humanitarian considerations, and far less in touch with the realities that cramp the majority of human lives, than the elected House.

A Magnificent Plea

Lord Buckmaster put the case for his resolution (which was quoted *verbatim* in the *New Generation* for April), with the most comprehensive vision and the most touching eloquence. He quoted many of the cases with which our members will be familiar, both in England and in America. He stressed the fact that the resolution is *permissive* and not *compulsory*. He dealt with the essential Catholic objection, in terms which I trust, his hearers will never forget.

Lord Salisbury opposed. It is significant that the pivot of his speech was a protest against the danger of breaking up the maternity and child welfare work now being done, through difference on this measure, among the professional and lay helpers. A purely practical point was stressed, and then the noble Marquess wandered from the Mothers' Union to the right of husbands, and thence to the extinction of the white race (via France of course). He was followed by the Primate of All England, full of "sympathy" and subterfuge. He was obviously in a muddle as to the facts of the information given at Welfare Centres, and otherwise accessible, and he wished to restrict information at the discretion of doctors to "abnormal cases," while insinuating that Birth Control exaggerated the frequency of such cases.

Lord Balfour of Burleigh was the next speaker, and he made excellent use of the most recent news from the Clinics and from Holland. He also exposed the cruel and indecent absurdity—under present circumstances—of sending working women to the out-patients' departments of general hospitals. Lord Fitzalan supported Lord Salisbury with a list of medical opponents, and a recommendation of the French law of 1920.

Earl De La Warr, one of the very few Socialist Peers, made a refreshing speech, much to the point. He protested against the view of women "as the property of men."

(Continued on page 289)

News Notes

UNITED STATES

New York

THE following full statement comes from the organizers of our booth at the Sesqui-Centennial, now in its first month

During the month of April a representative of the League interviewed Mr Wilson, one of the executives in charge of the Educational Department of the Centennial, asking for space in the building of Social Economy and Education Mr Wilson reported, after consideration had been given to our application by the executives, that they considered Birth Control one of the new and liberal educational principles for Race Betterment and they were glad to give us space to erect a booth

In Section B15, we have built a booth with a frieze of healthy babies, supporting the world, this was painted by Mr Copeland of the Philadelphia School of Applied Arts In this booth we have placed a series of charts, prepared by Elizabeth Watson These charts present facts and comparative figures on the population of the world and the natural resources that are being so swiftly consumed to support the immense increase in population during the last one hundred years Educational leaflets are distributed and books are on sale Every day a fifteen minute talk is given in the small auditorium of the Educational Building on some aspect of the subject of Birth Control

We invite all our friends to visit the booth when they come to the Centennial We have arranged with speakers of note in several states to use the auditorium on the week allotted to that state Great interest is shown by visitors in our literature and many express satisfaction in seeing this subject placed in an atmosphere of dignity and importance

The Centennial will continue until December Margaret Sanger will be in Philadelphia for a week in September and in constant attendance at the booth Mrs H G Hill of California is to be a guest during September We have secured the co-operation and assistance of the Philadelphia Branch through the following committee Mrs H W Moorehouse, Mrs Stuart Mudd and Prof Malcolm Bissell

The following monthly schedule has been arranged with especial emphasis on state co-operation August—Minnesota, Ohio, Colorado, California, September—New York, Michigan, Iowa, Florida, October — Pennsylvania, Connecticut, New Jersey, Massachusetts, November—Maryland, Texas, Kentucky, Indiana

Hostesses for the League are Mrs Robert S Huse (N J), Mrs Fanny Pope (Mich), Mrs E A Lingenfelter (Iowa), Mrs F H Hazard (N Y), Mrs B F Paine (Fla), Mrs Faith Reike (Ky), Miss Ruth Vincent (Colo), Mrs Elizabeth McManus (Cal), Mrs Geo A Dunning (Pa), Mrs Geo H Day, Sr, (Conn), Mrs Oakes Ames (Mass), Mrs Edith H Hooker (Md), and Mrs Albert Walker (Tex)

Mrs Sanger was a speaker on August 5th before the Vassar Institute of Euthenics Her address on the multiplication of the unfit was featured in Poughkeepsie papers and published almost in full in the *Evening Star*

THE Beacon Kiwanis had Mrs Sanger as guest and speaker at its luncheon on July 10th The meeting was interested and sympathetic, but it proved the occasion for the resignation of the chaplain of the club This is the Reverend Father McGuire, rector of a local Roman Catholic Church, who ten days later sent in his letter of withdrawal in which he declared among other things that Mrs Sanger "advocates a code destructive to the family and to society" Father McGuire has refused Mrs Sanger's invitation to debate, taking the familiar Roman Catholic position that the subject is not debatable

Mr H C Loeffler of the League of Red Cross Societies, who visited headquarters of the League recently, has been working in Paris for the last three years He reports a growing interest in scientific discussion of Birth Control The important men of education and medicine are appreciating the deep significance of a controlled birth rate and Mr Loeffler feels there will be a very vital interest in France in the Population Conference to be held in Geneva next year

Dr Germinal Rodriguez, delegate of the Argentine government, was another visitor He is in the United States for the purpose of studying social welfare Dr Rodriguez who is assistant physician of the Children's Hospital at Buenos Aires is very anxious to know about the work of the League in both the medical and educational field

Most of July was spent by Dr James F Cooper, Medical Director of the American Birth Control League, in California, where he and Dr Percy Clark, Jr, of Cornell University, who is also touring in behalf of the League, were heard by many lay and medical audiences in as many as a dozen cities in the south and central part of the state In August, Dr Clark has a heavy program to fill in

California, Washington and Oregon Dr Cooper's program for Oregon and Washington, which is given on another page, began in the last days of July, when he spoke at Reno, Nevada and at Eugene, Oregon While Dr Cooper covers the medical profession, Dr Clark is particularly fortunate in getting a hearing before business and professional men's clubs

New Jersey

PROFESSOR MALCOLM H BISSELL of Bryn Mawr College addressed the Kiwanis Club at Cape May on July 14th He reports that the members of the Club were very sympathetic and approved our program On July 27th Professor Bissell addressed the Kiwanis Club of Wildwood at Hotel Fenwick

California

BETWEEN July 12th and July 20th Dr Cooper addressed good meetings of county medical societies at San Diego, Orange and Riverside At Riverside also he spoke before a picked group of 65 laymen Judge Ellis of the Superior Court presided On July 22nd he was in Pasadena, where he was heard at an informal meeting of 41 physicians at the Professional Building

A debate with a Roman Catholic priest was the culmination of Dr Percy Clark's full program for California On July 8th and 10th Dr Clark was heard by clubs of business and professional men at Indio and San Bernardino, sandwiching in between these dates an informal talk with a group of university professors at Los Angeles On the eleventh he held one of his largest meetings, when he spoke before an audience of 300 under the auspices of the Civil Liberties Union, at Los Angeles

On July 13th and 14th he lectured at Bakersfield before the Exchange Club and at Delano and Selma, (Exchange and Rotary Clubs) and the next day at a meeting held under the chairmanship of Mr James E Emerson, pastor of the local Congregational Church Other business clubs heard him at Taft and Santa Clara

In San Francisco he spoke five times, before the Public Spirit, the Optimist and the Commonwealth Clubs, leading up to his debate on July 29th with Father Orisen J MacMullin under the auspices of the San Francisco Open Forum, by an address before a sympathetic Protestant audience, the Men's Bible Class of the First Christian Church of Oakland

Dr Clark is already booked twenty days ahead, sometimes for two addresses a day

ENGLAND

IN the early spring the Liberal Summer School sent to Liberal Associations throughout the country a full questionnaire on the population problem, including Birth Control and the propagation of the unfit Since the whole subject is of interest to us we publish this section of the questions and replies in full It is a significant fact that the first question is the only one which received an unqualified and unanimous "yes"

Q—Assuming that methods of Birth Control are available which are without danger on medical grounds, do you consider that instruction in these methods should be given in state or rate-aided clinics for those who ask for it?

A—Yes

Q—Do you consider the fact that the birth rate is higher in some sections of the community than in others constitutes any danger to the community? If so, is the remedy wholly to be sought in education and propaganda, or could legislative action be brought to bear indirectly upon the situation (*e g*, by lightening taxation in the case of desirable parents)?

A—"Danger to the community" is, perhaps, a strong phrase to use, but it is felt that the continuance of higher birth rates among the less well-to-do classes is certainly undesirable It is thought that there is no real remedy other than the growth of enlightenment, but that the remission of oppressive taxation, where this militates, as it does, against marriage at a reasonably early age and against the rearing of even small families, may do much to help The conditions under which proposals for family endowment are to be put into operation are, in this connection, worth considering, and more imaginative legislation in regard to housing than is at present in operation is also to be desired

Q—Are you in favor of direct legislative action designed to prevent the multiplication of either of the following classes Those suffering from grave hereditary deficiencies affecting (a) mental characteristics, (b) physical characteristics?

A—There is a general feeling that "something should be done," but the limits of the problem and the nature of possible remedies have as yet been imperfectly explored It is most important that questions of this kind should not become, in the narrow sense of the word, political

Q—Do you consider that the system advocated in Germany and elsewhere should be copied in this country, whereby those contemplating marriage would be required to appear before a registrar some time in advance of marriage, and would then be given a pamphlet drawn up under government auspices advising that persons suffering from cer-

tam named disabilities should, in the interests of the children they may have, first consult a qualified doctor?

A —(By a majority) yes

On another page we publish Miss Brown's very clear and vivid story of the status of Birth Control in parliament and in labor bodies. Since that was written the government has not been allowed to lose sight of the issue. The subject has been kept alive in the House of Commons by the discussion of the report of the Minister of Health. In comment on the scope of the Welfare Centers Sir M. McNaghten said that doctors who believed on medical grounds that further pregnancy was undesirable should be free to give direct advice without penalty. It was impossible to argue with people who had a religious objection to Birth Control, and he agreed that it was important that the Minister of Health should not alienate those who at present gave voluntary support to these centres. At the same time, the Minister should recognize that public opinion moved, and the fact that the House of Lords, which was regarded as the repository of Conservative principles, had, despite the Government Whips, passed a resolution urging that the ban should be removed was the strongest possible evidence of the trend of opinion.

From a correspondent comes the following comment on the Catholic vote in the House of Lords:

"British Roman Catholic periodicals have naturally been much concerned over the recent vote of the House of Lords in favor of Birth Control. It was stated by the *Catholic Times* of May 21st, that the Catholic Federation sent a special letter to each Roman Catholic peer ten days before Lord Buckmaster's motion, asking him to attend and vote against the resolution. There are forty Roman Catholic peers in the House of Lords, but only seven were in attendance. The Roman Catholic papers are therefore pointing out that it was the indifference of the Roman Catholic peers which made possible the passage of the resolution. Evidently Birth Control cannot arouse a fighting opposition among the Catholic laity, whether it be composed of peers or commoners."

The English press is still commenting on last year's birth rate, which comparison proves to be actually lower for England than for France (18.6 as against 19.6 for France). This is as it should be in a country where, according to the statement of R. G. Hogarth, President of the British Medical Association, the death rate has been cut about in half in the last fifty years. Mr. Hogarth, who is senior surgeon of Nottingham General Hospital, held that this decrease would have been nothing short of a calamity if the birth rate had not gone down in proportion. He added, in effect, that that being the case, increased longevity and still more

improved mental and physical health were ends important to the state, "not in view of distant military contingencies, but for the immediate purpose of rendering the people more efficient citizens, more valuable producers of wealth, parents of a healthier stock, and themselves more contented with their lot."

The months roll on and the Peoples Clinic at Fulham Cross, London, of which Rose Witcop is head, has been in operation twelve months and more and has made its first annual report. This shows that 2,000 mothers have been given contraceptive advice and 400 of them, too poor to pay have been given free supplies.

JAPAN

THE following United Press despatch from Tokio tells of a new advocate for Birth Control: "Birth Control for Japan, without calling it such, has now a powerful advocate in the *Osaka Mainichi*, the most widely circulated daily in the empire."

The *Mainichi* is a very recent convert, as a short time ago it was among the many papers denouncing Mrs. Margaret Sanger, the American Birth Control apostle, for coming to Japan to preach her gospel.

The result of the recent census, showing that the population had increased during the last five years by an average of 700,000 a year, despite a great earthquake death list, stirred the *Mainichi* to its new stand."

William T. Ogawa of Tokio, founder of the first Birth Control clinic in Japan, is translating "The Pivot of Civilization" and "Woman and the New Race" into Japanese.

CHINA

FOUR hundred million, the current population estimate for China was too low. Figures compiled roughly by the postal administration, not covering the whole country but representing the first attempt at a census, add another 36,100,000.

NEW ZEALAND

ONE race is just facing its population problem and facing it before it has reached the proportions of a problem. These are the Maoris, up to now few in numbers, famed for their beauty and the grace and kindness of their civilization. Has contact with our civilization brought our curse of numbers upon them and will their British rulers aid them to lift the curse by Birth Control? This is the problem as the following statement shows. It is quoted by the *Manchester Guardian* from A. T.

Nagata, a leader of their tribe and called "the ablest man in New Zealand irrespective of race"

"No man who desires to build his legislative proposals on a sound basis can neglect a phenomenon which is introducing a new factor into the economic, social, and political world of New Zealand to-day—I refer to the rebirth of the Maori people. The Maori race is now increasing, not very fast as yet, but steadily increasing. This fact must be realized by the legislator. The material coming forward is strong, vigorous, keen, enthusiastic, not bothering its head very much about the ills and grievances of the past, but standing with eyes turned forward, not behind. These young people want to go forward, nor is it any wonder, because, sooner or later, the accumulated result of civilization, education, and contact with the white people was bound to find outlet. It is a problem to know how to provide for an increase from within of our population with land ever a diminishing factor. Education may bring about the adaptation of this new human material to the economic changes in the country, but the problem must be faced. It is not yet acute in the Waiaapu, we shall be able to provide probably for another generation. The same applies between East Cape and Cape Runaway, but south of Gisborne men have been driven by their landlessness to seek land for themselves elsewhere. The race is now clamoring for land. The time has arrived for the State now to take stock, and in taking stock to note the weaknesses and consider how they may be overcome. That is the duty of the government."

THE following is Dr Cooper's itinerary this month. The full story of his meetings has not yet reached us

August 2nd	Salem, Ore
August 3rd, 4th, 5th,	Hotel Benson, Portland, Ore
August 6th	Longview, Wash
August 7th	Aberdeen, Wash
August 9th, 10th	Olympia, Wash
August 11th	Tacoma, Wash
August 12th, 13th, 14th,	Olympic Hotel, Seattle, Wash
August 16th	Port Angeles, Wash
August 17th, 18th	Bellingham, Wash
August 19th	Mt Vernon, Wash
August 20th, 21st	Everett, Wash
August 23rd, 24th	Yakima, Wash
August 25th	Walla Walla, Wash
August 26th, 27th, 28th	Spokane, Wash

A COMING EVENT

The Woman's Activities Exhibit which has grown to be a national event is having its annual

show this year at the Astor Hotel, September 28th to October 1st. Mrs Sanger is on their Exhibit Committee and the American Birth Control League has taken space similar to what we had last year. Mrs Clara Carter of New Jersey and Mrs J Bishop Vandever of Kew Gardens, N Y, will be in charge.



On Blights

Rev John A McClorey, in the *Dearborn Independent* July 10th, calls Birth Control a "World Blight." Perhaps this is true, but in our opinion a world blight is needed for almost everything that lives to keep it in check.

Each female human at maturity is provided with 3,600 ova, almost everyone of which would grow into a human being if fertilized. Out of 1,700,000,000 people on this earth about half or 850,000,000 are females. Multiply this number by 3,600 and you get 3,060,000,000,000 possible humans within the next 50 years. Isn't a blight needed for that squirming mass? The male spermatozoa in number is probably 1,000,000 times as great as the female. Without some form of blight we could have in 50 years a male possibility of 3,060,000,000,000,000. Blight is surely needed there. Nature is not afraid of world blights. Did you ever note the thousands upon thousands of tree seeds that are perfected and fall to die for every one that finds a good place to grow—and lives? "World-blights" are necessary. One of the greatest naturalists that ever lived, Louis John Agassiz, said, "There is not a single living species on the earth, but which, unchecked, would devastate it." Were it not for world-blights we would now have no world. The present outlook for the human race is gloomy. Sanitary experts have made Japan increase 7,000,000 per year faster than ten years ago. If these experts get into China, what then? Her 400,000,000 have held about even for centuries. On Japan's ratio she will increase 60,000,000 per year. Japan needs Birth Control this minute. The whole world will need it if the "bug-killers" get into China. Nature is a frequent user of blights to check down her teeming millions. The rabbit blights the forest, the weasel blights the rabbit. Cattle blight the buffalo grass, and poison weeds and wolves blight the cattle. House cats blight the mice, but, lest the mice be completely exterminated the tomcats are told to blight the kittens—and the kittens "turn in" whenever the Toms find them.

Salmon on the Atlantic coast live 30 years. No reason for blighting an Atlantic salmon. Everything is against him. The Pacific salmon have an easy life, so they're blighted to keep them from getting too numerous. They live through one spawning, wither up and die. If they had not done this they would have crushed out every other

form of Pacific marine life The Lord knows how to blight Not a single food of man but is blighted This may be a mark of special esteem but to us it looks like intent to *check*—a real blight Song birds live on weed seed Ever see any blight on their food? No!—From the *Jefferson County Union*, Ft Atkinson (Wis)

Editor, Atlantic City, (N J) Press

I come from a part of Ireland where it was not uncommon to see families of ten and even fifteen No one knows of the squalor and suffering of these poor people who had a veritable army to feed on an insufficiency There is only one reasonable logical side to the Birth Control question

MICHAEL O'ROURKE

I thought to lift one of the little toilers to ascertain his weight Through his thirty-five pounds of skin and bone there ran a tremor of fear, and he struggled forward to tie a broken thread I attracted his attention by a touch, and offered him a silver dime He looked at me dumbly through a face that might have belonged to a man of sixty, so furrowed, tightly drawn, and full of pain it was He did not reach for the money—he did not know what it was There were dozens of such children, in this particular mill A physician who was with me said that they would all be dead probably in two years, and their places filled by others—THERE WERE PLENTY MORE Pneumonia carries off most of them Their systems are ripe for disease, and when it comes there is no rebound—no response Medicine simply does not act—nature is whipped, beaten, discouraged, and the child sinks into a stupor and dies

—ELBERT HUBBARD

"The whole bias of teaching (in the Middle Ages) being in the hands of the priesthood, the attitude towards the handing on of the sacred torch of life from one generation to the next was one that represented the torch as poison gas—an unavoidable evil and the root of all sin We have not yet shaken ourselves free of that attitude of defilement and from it spring many of our social troubles of today"

SYBIL NEVILLE-ROLFE,

General Secretary of the Natural Council for Combating Venereal Disease (England)

CRITICS AND CHAMPIONS AT WESTMINSTER

(Continued from page 284)

for their enjoyment, and mere machines for the production of unwanted children" Lord Rathcreedan, in a humane and reasonable speech, gave illustrative cases of the toll of unrestricted motherhood on woman's lives and health, from his own observations in South London, and among the wild tribes of North Africa and the peasantry of Tsarist Russia He was followed by Earl Russell, who scored heavily off the Archbishop "If he thinks the

embargo does not exist, is he going to vote for retaining or removing it?"—and "Hang your sympathy, buy a pie" "The clothes in which we are sitting here tonight, the electric light under which we are sitting, the plumbing and the sanitary conveniences in our houses are interferences with the course of nature" Lord Wrenbury's speech dealt mainly with the psychological case for Birth Control in married life The Lord Chancellor, liberty's inveterate enemy, was suavely optimistic "I do not doubt that a doctor, if consulted, would give that advice" "Everyone, at least, has a panel doctor" Lord Buckmaster summed up, his magnificent plea should be published in pamphlet form

A BIRTH CONTROL CLINIC IN HUNGARY

(Continued from page 272)

disseminate Birth Control information and to acquire the things that you need in the practice of Birth Control

In that fight the State asked the expert advice of Professor Taufor, the greatest authority in our country, and he said that we were right who said that no laws must be made to make it more difficult to obtain this information He said, let's have laws that make it legal to give advice to every one We didn't succeed in getting these laws but it was a great asset to have that document, that when the State had asked advice from the experts in whom the State trusted, to have those experts belonging to our circle, working with us! *

* Excerpts from a report to the Sixth International Neo-Malthusian and Birth Control Conference

"THE NATION'S BACKBONE"

(Continued from page 282)

Joe turned, but only to stare at her bewildered "Gonna be cold t'night," she added

Joe said nothing for a while and turned to the window again

"I dunno," he said then, clearing his throat nervously

* * * * *

Joe slept in the house that night and every night for nine months thereafter, except, of course, when he was out fishing off the coast to provide for his growing family And a little over nine months after that un-Californian bit of weather in San Pedro Harbor, the Lord—who, in His mysterious way, as already said, is interested in healthy and properly married young couples with the view of continuing the human species on this earthly ball in general and this grand melting pot in particular—conferred upon Joe and Minnie another blessing, their eighth descendant

The American Birth Control League

Inc

MARGARET SANGER, *President*

104 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY

Telephone Chelsea 8901



WE ASK YOU TO HELP SUPPORT OUR WORK
BY BECOMING A CONTRIBUTING MEMBER



OUR AIM

- 1 To teach the need for Birth Control
- 2 To make it legal for physicians to instruct married persons in safe methods of Birth Control
- 3 To open clinics where the best contraceptive information shall be obtainable by all who need it.

"There is no other subject of such importance as Birth Control. Knowledge of it marks a new and happier phase in the history of civilization"

—H E WELLS

* * *

"The only practical instrument by which eugenics can work is Birth Control"

—HAVELOCK ELLIS.

* * *

"There could be no greater contribution to the morality of the world and to marital happiness than Birth Control"

—WILLIAM ALLEN PUSEY, M.D., *President of the American Medical Association, 1924-25*

* * *

"It is not a question of introducing among the poor an effort to prevent excessive child-bearing. Such efforts are made all the time now. It is a question of introducing safe and sane methods, and of spreading among them the knowledge that such a limitation of the number of children is possible without the risk of death or invalidism. It is a question of offering to the poor who need it most, the knowledge and the power which has long been the possession of those who need it least"

—ALICE HAMILTON, M.D., *Harvard Medical School*

... ..

FILL IN AND SEND WITH YOUR DUES TO
ROOM 1905, 104 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY

Name

Street

City

State

Date of Joining

Amount

CLASSES OF ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> A—\$100 to \$500 | <input type="checkbox"/> C—\$25 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> B—\$50 | <input type="checkbox"/> D—\$10 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> E—\$2 to \$9 | |

\$10 or over includes a Years' Subscription to
THE BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW

CHECKS SHOULD BE MADE PAYABLE TO THE
AMERICAN BIRTH CONTROL LEAGUE

"SOME CREDIT"

"Hand one of those special medals for heroism," says a recent news item, "to Jim Ahearn of Jersey City who at 20 finds himself the father of triplets. 'Some credit,' the item adds, 'goes to Mrs. Ahearn who is only 18.' The newspaper displayed a portrait of the father with the three children—the mother being at the time 'very weak but expected to recover'."

"Every man and woman should have a knowledge of Birth Control for his or her own sake"

—CLARENCE DARROW

EXPERIMENTAL BREEDING

(Continued from page 268)

Therefore, in the group where some sort of limitation of reproduction (continence) was utilized, the mouse population was larger. It is obvious that in the case of these mice uncontrolled breeding would lead to extinction of the race faster than would some sort of controlled breeding.

This should be interesting news for the "calamity howlers" who seem to feel that Birth Control in the case of human beings is fast tending toward the wiping out of the race. Obviously the important factor is not the number of individuals born, but the percentage survival.

It also suggests a stimulating thought in the direction of whether physiological energy of rapid fire breeding is not, in many ways, simply a great and useless waste which could be obviated.

BOOKS OF VITAL INTEREST ON ALL TOPICS

Sex, Psycho-Analysis, Psychology,
Diet and Health

THE MOST AUTHORITATIVE AUTHORS

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

Your Needs Always Fulfilled

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

DESCRIPTIVE LISTS SENT FREE

Modern Book Association

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

4150 SANTA MONICA BOULEVARD



Every Squeak Says: "3-in-One Oil"

Squeaks are like aches and pains—indications of trouble.

When any mechanism about the house squeaks, the trouble is lack of oil. Try the certain remedy,

3-in-One

The High Quality Household Oil

This highly refined oil compound goes right to the seat of trouble—penetrates the closest bearings—lubricates perfectly

All locks, bolts, hinges, window pulleys and catches need 3-in-One occasionally. Sewing machines, talking machines, vacuum cleaners and washing machine motors need 3-in-One frequently.

The oil you use is such a small item in the household expense that you can well afford the best. 3-in-One is the most widely sold bottled oil in the world. Ask for it by name and look for the Big Red One on the label.

At all good stores in 1 oz., 3 oz. and ½ pint bottles and in 3-oz. Handy Oil Cans. The ½ pint bottle is the economical size.

FREE—Generous sample and Dictionary explaining 79 uses for 3-in-One in the home, alone, sent free on request. Use a postal.

THREE IN ONE OIL CO., 130CP William St., New York
Factories Rahway, N. J. and Montreal



Books by Margaret Sanger

Happiness in Marriage

In this book Mrs Sanger dwells a good deal on the various angles of the sex problem which play so vital, and often so tragic, a part in the marital relations. It is a clear, sincere and compelling exposition that cannot but prove of inestimable value to the multitude of young people who often marry in haste and repent at leisure. To quote the *New York Times* "Mrs Sanger is engaged in an enterprise to help people be happy." The book will tell you how.

Price \$2 00



Woman and the New Race

All socially minded people of enlightenment, all those interested in the improvement of mankind and the progress of humanity will welcome "Woman and the New Race." It is an important contribution to the literature on the question of voluntary motherhood by one of its foremost American champions. It is written in a brilliant interesting style.

Price \$2 00

The Pivot of Civilization

This book is a distinct surprise, a delightful surprise. It is even-tempered and analytical, it shows a background of detailed knowledge which instead of unbalancing the picture, brings out both breadth and perspective, and it has style, a vivacious style shifting from the boldly didactic to the subtly persuasive, yet always clear and to the point.

Price \$2 00



WHAT EVERY GIRL SHOULD KNOW

New enlarged English Edition

\$1 50

WHAT EVERY MOTHER SHOULD KNOW

60

ORDER (adding 10 cents
for postage) FROM

Birth Control Review

104 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY