

March, 1927

Twenty Cents

# **BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW**

*"We want children of choice rather than of chance"*

**The Problem of Youth:  
Who is Responsible?**

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**Birth Control in Family Social Service**

# THE AMERICAN BIRTH CONTROL LEAGUE, INC

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# BIRTH CONTROL PRIMER



## What Have We Learned About Birth Control?

We defined Birth Control as the Conscious Regulation of The Birth Rate

We showed that there were three means of regulation and that the best of these for the greatest number of people was the use of harmless chemical and mechanical devices called contraceptives

We showed that the forces of ignorance, indifference, prejudice and superstition prevented by law the spread of this method of Birth Control

We showed that Birth Control was a preventive of Abortion, and we gave Reason No 1—*The Health of Mother and Child* and Reason No 2—*The Happiness of Family Life*

In answer to the question

## Why is Birth Control Necessary?

We give this month Reason No 3

## THE RELIEF OF OVERPOPULATION

Birth Control will enable the nations to free themselves from the terrible danger of war. It will make it possible for each nation to limit its population to its own boundaries and resources. It will ensure the maintenance of a high standard of living, a standard which would include not only sufficient food, but also decent housing, and open spaces for health and recreation.

The population of the world has doubled in the last ninety-two years. At the present rate of increase it will have doubled again in 1983. It is impossible for the food and housing resources of mankind to keep pace with such an increase in the number of mouths to be fed and families to be sheltered. The alternatives before mankind are —war, famine, pestilence and BIRTH CONTROL.

Energetic, high spirited people will not submit to starvation. They demand room for expansion, if their population is increasing too rapidly for their own limits. Germany's over-population was one of the fundamental causes of the Great War. Japan at the present time is increasing in population far beyond the capacity of her soil to sustain. Italy is rapidly becoming over-populated and there is difficulty in finding expansion room for her 440,000 of yearly increase. These nations are already seeking outlets for their over-population. If peaceful expansion is denied them, is it not inevitable that they should resort to war?

Overpopulation in the past has been constantly checked by high mortality rates caused by disease, famine and war, and by abortion and infanticide. We are lowering these rates, but to lessen the number of deaths without controlling the number of births is simply to prepare for a world explosion through the ever increasing pressure of population. For World Peace the first requisite is the prevention of over-population through BIRTH CONTROL.

**I**T IS certain that if the population of the United States continues to increase for more than another century as it has during the past century there is no means by which the present standard of living can be maintained except by importation of foodstuffs from other lands — which will need their foodstuffs even more than we. And looking forward 200 or 300 years which is a shorter span of time than that elapsed since the settlements of Jamestown and Plymouth it seems necessary to recognize not only a stationary population in this country and throughout the world. Whether this stationary state will be one of misery for the majority of the people as in China and India today, or one of well-being and happiness will depend largely upon voluntary restriction of population.

—O E BAKER, Economist,  
U S Department of Agriculture

# BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW

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

VOL XI

MARCH, 1927

No 3

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## BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW

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# Birth Control Review

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## EDITORIAL

WE commented in November on Mrs Morrow's charge in the *Cosmopolitan* that Birth Control had made unchastity easy for young people. We publish this month the opinions on this subject of a group of people intimate with the problems of youth. The dreadful warnings come largely from fundamentalist pulpits—the Cotton Mathers of the day—or from magazines which cater to the worst instincts of youth and lightheaded maturity, and make of the charge just another scandal to headline. It is these that bring Birth Control into the discussion. Thoughtful writers, social workers among girls and boys in trouble, tell us that, where there is any attempt to control, it is on nostrums and the Birth Control methods spread by gossip that young girls depend. These fail lamentably and, as in old times, the great problems raised by adolescent lapses are still illegitimacy and abortion. Such figures as those given by the Salvation Army Maternity Homes, where 42 per cent of the unmarried mothers cared for are between fourteen and fifteen years old, are appalling and so is the increase or secret abortion reported by others



THE upheaval of the war tore both old and young loose from their implicit faith in the old ethical standards and a certain number of young people are running without rudders and suffering for it. But the consensus of opinion is that the responsibility should fall on the home which gives them no sympathetic understanding, on the community which does not provide proper recreation, on the school and the home which do not teach the fundamentals of sex education. In the main, however, what we see in the great body of young people today is not immorality but—what has always been almost synonymous in the eyes of an old-

er generation—the adoption of habits new to their elders and therefore wrong. The increasing likeness between girls and boys in work and play, in dress and looks, was at first bitterly criticised, especially the dress and appearance, but it is a significant fact that the elders who criticised have now passed to full adoption of the young people's dress. When looked at closely the crime was found to be nothing worse than common sense.

Those who have greatest faith in the young believe that the same thing is true of other innovations, that they are not attacks on the foundation of society but are instead a new and ampler structure of morality in process of building on foundations still sound. The scandal here and there is the passing dust that rises from a worn-out building in the wrecking process. In the end the moral atmosphere should be clearer and the ideals of conduct higher. And already, in building toward this higher ideal, two groups of young people, whose aims cannot be called radical since they represent established religious groups, have recognized Birth Control as an essential part of a higher morality. These are the Interdenominational Bible Students Conference and the Interseminary Conference of Theological Students, which a year ago demanded that family limitation be made part of the program of social reform of the Protestant churches.



FIGURES of great interest have been given out by the California Board of Health. They show many more marriages during 1926, but far fewer births than in 1925. Last year the registrar of the State board commented on an actual fall in the number of births over the year before, which he regarded as an encouraging sign. This year the decrease of births is still greater and it is accompanied by a phenomenal increase in the marriage

rate The figures for 1925 and 1926, as compared with 1924, are 1926—82,500 births, 6,600 marriages, 1925—85,492 births, 55,081 marriages, 1924—86,899 births, 55,677 marriages The analysis of these figures is instructive for it shows a few hundred less marriages in 1925 over 1924, while births decreased by over 1400, and in 1926 a very large increase in marriages (1100) with a birth record no less than 3000 short of the year before



**W**E BELIEVE that this is one case where Birth Control can be held directly responsible for encouraging marriage by removing fear of overlarge families No state has in recent years had a more thorough education in Birth Control than California In all parts of the state lecturers of the American Birth Control League have spoken—among them Mrs Kennedy, Dr James F Cooper, Dr Percy Clark Groups have started clinics in Los Angeles and other cities For two years State Conferences of Charities have thoroughly discussed the subject Leaders of medicine like Dr Henry G Brainerd of Los Angeles, leaders of the Church like Rabbi Coffee and social workers like Miriam Van Waters have never lost an opportunity to urge the giving of contraceptive instruction and have allied themselves with organized efforts to establish clinics Next year figures should be even more interesting in view of the many extra marriages If the birth figure still goes down, the circumstantial evidence will be convincing that a large number of people married because they felt secure in the knowledge of how to limit their families



**I**N New York, the law forbids the giving of Birth Control information except for the cure or prevention of disease Our organization, in its Clinic, keeps strictly within the law, and to avoid any opening for criticism we do not send young men and women to the Clinic before marriage Nevertheless we have a great respect for the young people, who, as shown by the letters printed in our pages this month, having learned from their parents' experience and their own miserable childhood in large and poverty stricken families, do not want to risk the happiness of the home they are about to establish by entering marriage unprepared The first

step to be taken is that offered by our Bill in the New York Legislature This would enlarge the scope of our Birth Control work to all married people If this bill passed, it will be legal in New York, for young people to secure Birth Control information immediately after marriage This will be a distinct advance upon present conditions, when women have to be turned away no matter how great their need, if they are not actually diseased or in danger of disease if they bear more children

A young married woman, visitor to the Birth Control booth at the Woman's Activities Exhibit, once said that instructions in sex hygiene and Birth Control ought to be given as a matter of routine immediately after the marriage ceremony This is a demand which is reflected in the eagerness with which adolescent girls and boys, at exhibits and in at least two colleges we have heard of, demand sex instruction It is reflected also in the indignation the young people of today feel that they must enter marriage with no knowledge of Birth Control



**T**HE AMERICAN BIRTH CONTROL LEAGUE is not prepared to endorse Judge Ben Lindsey's suggestion of companionate marriages But our sympathies are with Judge Lindsey in the storm which has burst out at his suggestion of a calm and dispassionate discussion of present conditions, and of the possibility that our marriage laws do not conduce to the highest morality "Because I care so much for the sanctity and permanence of the American home," he stated "I am bitterly opposed to 'free love and so-called 'trial marriage' as they exist under the present marriage code" Surely an investigation entered into in this spirit ought not to be feared by any honest opponent of change How much this new departure of Judge Lindsey's and his outspoken advocacy of Birth Control had to do with his defeat in the contest over his election, we cannot tell A man has a right to an opinion on even such questions as Birth Control and the marriage laws, especially as this opinion in no way affected his efficiency as the "children's judge" The contest, he asserts, will be carried higher, even as far as the U S Supreme Court, and we hope that his opponents have not succeeded in putting an end to his great usefulness on the bench In the struggle that still lies before him he has the sympathy and good wishes of the Board of Directors of the American Birth Control League

# An Experiment in Constructive Family Help

(Summary of a report on a year's experience in securing instruction in contraceptive methods for a group of clients of a metropolitan bureau of social service The full report is on file in the office of the BIRTH CONTROL

REVIEW The authenticity of the report is vouched for by the letters which are published with it )

## PART I How the Work Was Done

A GREAT bureau of Social Service in one of our largest cities is today securing normal living for more families than ever before in its years of work. This has been made possible by increased insistence upon determining fundamental causes of disability and being content with no form of treatment that failed successfully to combat these causes.

One of these fundamental causes has been the inability of parents to limit the number of their children, and this is the story of the *first effort made by any agency caring for dependent families to give the mothers the means of controlling their fertility*. The story covers a year's study of 48 cases.

### The Problem

Family case work has always known, and usually been defeated by such situations as the following. A certain father has strength and skill enough to earn just the amount on which, say, three children can be raised in health and decency. The social agency finds him with four or five children and no reason to believe that there will not be several more.

Or it may happen that morbid hereditary traits of mind or body occur in one or both parents and the children, one after another, show the same disquieting symptoms. Or it may be that a mother, weak in physique or intelligence, is unable to care adequately for her home and unable to train her children, who, as they reach a certain age, become delinquent or refuse to remain at home.

In addition to any one of these cases, or with a combination of them, the case worker may find between husband and wife such discord as makes ugly the whole family life. This may be only the simple result of such factors as those already mentioned but it is very often found to be based upon the refusal of the woman to live as a wife, because she dreads the care of more children, or is heart-sick to think of anything further being withdrawn from the meagre lives of the children she has. It is perhaps very little realized how often, in families of low cultural standard, the wife's refusal to her husband brings forth abusive, indecent language, un-

founded accusations of infidelity and rough demands or even use of physical force in the presence of children. It is not only that the family peace is ruined, but fine feeling in sex matters and ideals of married life are irrevocably shattered for these children.

### The General Dispensary Fails

The organization whose experiment is the subject of this report has seldom, if ever, been able to heal and reconstruct such situations, if the man and woman could not be given some assurance of normal married life without the fear of more children. Previous to the fall 1922 reliance had been placed on the gynecological clinic of a leading hospital,

### Editor, BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW

I have long been a believer in the need for Birth Control advice and help for families in touch with family case work agencies.

My experience enabled me to recognize that this is a serious problem in most homes where, either through lack of information or means, the mother is unable to cope with the problem by herself. Therefore I was intensely interested in the experiment made as related in this report. So far as I know, this is not common practice among family welfare agencies, although I hope that the day may come soon when more agencies, doing a high grade of work, will recognize that this is distinctly within their scope and function.

At first I thought it would be desirable to give the name of the agency which made the experiment, so that those interested might be able to communicate with it for further information. Further thought made it clear that at the present time such efforts might still be frowned upon and the withholding of the agency's name seemed justified.

I wish, however, that the issue of the BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW, carrying this article, could be placed in the hands of every family case worker in the country. I think that it would stimulate them to think on a subject which is of great importance to them.

MAURICE T. KAEFF,

Director N. Y. Training School for Jewish Social Workers

for contraceptive care. The dispensary service had long been found unsuited to the great majority of cases, partly because the clinic left the responsibility largely with the husband, who in many of the most urgent situations felt too little concern to inconvenience himself, and partly because the mothers in need of this advice in most cases also required thorough gynecological care, which should be closely related to the special instruction. Dispensary reports of such needs were negative or so scant that assurance from other authority that the patients were receiving a full measure of care seemed necessary. Arrangements were therefore made with a woman physician of high and unquestioned professional standing and sympathetic insight into the nature of the problems dealt with. She agreed to see the patients twice weekly for a small fee, to give them a thorough local examination, to recommend gynecological treatment if needed, and to give contraceptive care. Gynecological work was to be referred to the dispensary to which reference has already been made.

### A Woman Gynecologist to the Rescue

Only such patients were sent to the physician as clearly realized their need and seemed willing to take the trouble to follow directions. Overpersuasion was avoided, careful approach was made, so that religious feeling should not be wounded and both the woman and her husband should understand and approve the plan. A registered nurse connected with the organization conducted the woman to the physician's office.

The physician made gynecological examinations only. She equipped the patient and assured herself that before the patient left the office she was able to adjust the equipment for herself. A copy of the health and marital history, as given by the patient, was sent back to the organization, with recommendations for medical examination other than gynecological. Medical or other supplies were given through the nurse. At first patients returned only in case of possible pregnancy or exceptional local condition, or if treatment or observation was necessary before contraceptive measures could be recommended. Later it was arranged that all patients return for observation every three months. The experience of the first five or sixth months made the case workers feel the value of contraceptive instruction in working out family problems.

The strong points in the procedure followed proved to be

1 Responsibility for effectively carrying out instructions was placed with the woman, who felt the need more than the man, and could be trained by the nurse to persevere in following instructions

### Editor, BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW

I have just read the report with intense interest and great distress. The whole document bears the marks of a thorough and genuine piece of social work and I certainly think it ought to be published. Your plan of omitting the name of the city and the organization is wise, for communities are sensitive to such criticisms, and I have no doubt substantially the same facts could be gleaned from any of our American cities. This compilation of information ought to serve in breaking the bulwark of ignorance and prejudice which stands in the way of a true birthright for every child.

OWEN R. LOVEJOY

2 The women patients gave facts more freely and were more impressed by the advice of a *woman* physician

3 Whether or not because the physician was a woman, more note was made than previously of faulty local conditions. It was felt that these women, whom life had subjected to more than usual strain and neglect, needed especial consideration of this sort, and the workers were very much impressed by the quality of care they were receiving from the special physician.

4 Apart from the local conditions, it was satisfying to receive recommendations from her also for other medical study of the patient.

5 The convenience and dignity of going to a private office was especially gratifying to the patients.

6 The workers were satisfied that recommendations — the most extreme of which involved sterilization — were made with a full appreciation of the domestic and social situation as well as the medical.

The weak points in the arrangement were that the organization was not acting in unison with its constituted medical resources, and it did not feel free to refer patients from the special physician to the dispensary, asking that the latter share her plans for the patient so that contraceptive and gynecological care be accomplished in close relation to other medical treatment. In such cases as were referred, patients were given neither examination nor treatment. Such inaction appeared entirely unjustifiable. Better cooperation was imperative if the full plan for the patients' health, worked out by the special physician, was to be followed.

### The Dispensary Fails on a Second Trial

To consider these difficulties a meeting was held, during the sixth month of the experiment, between the superintendent of the dispensary, members of its gynecological staff, the superintendent of the social service organization and the person in charge



of this phase of the work. In respect to contraceptive advice the dispensary physicians did not agree as to the particular desirability of a woman physician being in charge of such work, nor did all of them fully seem to understand and appreciate the urgency of the instruction. They felt that such work should not be done in separate clinics nor instructions given by nurses.

They agreed, however, to give instructions to the women, in case husbands would not accompany them or take responsibility. A plan of referring letters and procedure was worked out with the assistance of the dispensary social service staff, whereby patients were to be sent accompanied by the special nurse, with the clear understanding that both gynecological examination and contraceptive advice were to be given and that the measures of Birth Control advised were not to depend on the cooperation of the husband.

Five patients were taken to the dispensary for contraceptive instruction. One of these was later sent to the special physician and in the figures that follow is included with that group and omitted here. Of these five only one was given a local examination. All were told to use ———, and to have their husbands use ———. Such advice and care was not what had been agreed upon. The dispensary physician further showed the low standards they set for work in this field by stating that a nurse could give the instructions just as well as a physician. Dissatisfied with this procedure, no more patients were sent to the dispensary for Birth Control instructions.

Owing to causes over which the organization had no control, very little of the medical follow-up work recommended by the special physician was referred to the dispensary for several months. Later, early cases that had not of necessity been discontinued were referred, all new patients were referred immediately and a system was established by which it is hoped in the future to have recommendations followed out before the patient is returned to the special physician three months after her first visit.

### The Nurse's Follow-Up

Forty-four patients in all were taken to the special physician, making a total of seventy-one calls, and four to the dispensary. The nurse saw each mother twice a month during the first year and once in three months during the second. For supplies the women came to her office, and if they could arrange to see her in the office once or twice a month, this was done. If not, she went to their homes.

This close follow-up is considered necessary for the majority of patients from poor homes. They are tired women, often not strong, with much work to do and few or no conveniences. In most instances it is almost a hardship to them to take this extra care of themselves. Some, in addition, are quite dull and easily discouraged and some of the husbands are anything but considerate and helpful. The 48 women in our study made 112 calls to the office and the nurse made 118 calls in the course of the year.

(End of Part I)



## Youth Immaculate

(An Attic Monument)

How quiet at the gate of death you stand  
Bearing your gifts and yet with feet so still  
A messenger, I think, just past the sill  
Tranquilly comes with gentle, welcoming hand

Greek girl—Charicleia are you named or Elene?  
Years, years ago within the unseen door  
You entered. As a morning comes no more  
You went. But this clear light you leave with me

The Messenger forever now I know,  
Whether He waits a soul immaculate,  
Or one who beats with fury Heaven's gate,  
Comes tranquilly with gentle hand and brow,

Oh, Messenger beyond desire fair,  
It never yet was heard at that still gate,  
"You come too early" or "The hour is late"  
The silence welcomes. Chiding is not there

Oh silence of the waiting heart without,  
Dear silence of the Word within the gates,  
Your truth is one and each the other meets  
In peace that earth can neither know nor doubt

ELLEN CHATER

# Citizenship and Birth Control\*

By STUART MUDD, M D

**A**MERICA'S citizens will be our children and our children's children. Of what sort shall they be?

The course of evolution through the ages of the past has been in the main upward. The progressive trend has been maintained largely through the fact that those individuals and species most successful in the struggle for existence have on the whole survived, have on the whole produced more descendants than the unfit. In the processes of adaptation, resulting from the long struggle upward, the capacity for rendering mutual aid has attained great survival value, and success in the biologic sense has reached its maximum with those forms which have attained the ability to co-operate for the common good, for instance the lichens, the social insects and man. In the case of civilized man himself with his quickened conscience, other qualities, ethical, intellectual, aesthetic, have come to be more highly valued than mere ability to survive and leave great numbers of progeny. These things are as they should be.

Among domesticated animals and plants improvement has also been the rule. Here conscious selection of the best as progenitors has brought sure development along desirable lines.

How is it in present human society? Here natural selection scarcely operates, furthermore, it is unthinkable that Christian civilization should return to the primitive struggle for existence in which only the fittest survive. Indeed, many influences combine to produce the opposite effect, namely increase of the unfit, decrease of the fit. Organized warfare on a vast scale destroys thousands of those best fitted to be fathers of the next generation. Disease, as in the influenza pandemic and in epidemics among military forces, is sometimes dysgenic in its action. Economic pressure often results in far too great a reduction of precisely those families in which inheritance and environment should combine to produce children of high native capacity and sound training. It is most unfortunate that low incomes and high cost of living should so reduce the numbers of those children best able to maintain the general standard of intelligence and capability, and from among whom many leaders should be drawn. Furthermore, those families on the whole more suc-

cessful are exacting higher standards of living, if these are incompatible with the rearing of considerable numbers of children, contraceptive information is readily obtainable and is now fully and all too generally utilized in such families.

It is far otherwise among the unsuccessful. They cannot and do not restrict their families within the limits their health and income require. Information as to means of family limitation which can be had in a dozen ways by those who have the position and means to command it is withheld from those who need it most. These are prevented by law from obtaining medical advice in such clinics and dispensaries as are available for relief of most other ills. This is in effect class legislation of the most oppressive kind. It is essentially undemocratic. Its ill effects contribute to poverty and disease, delinquency, defectiveness and crime, to the overcrowding of slums and institutions for care of the wards of the state. In the future with the growth of our population to the saturation point it involves the danger of the crowding out of the fit by the unfit, whose health we protect and whose immoderate procreation we necessitate.

To withhold from the unsuccessful the knowledge that is available to and all too much used by the successful is contrary to sound biologic principle. It is precisely opposite to the means by which evolution has been maintained progressive and by which desirable plants and animals have been produced. It is unworthy of the democratic principles of our country. It is disastrous in effect. We need more children better born. Even more we need the equal privilege of willing parenthood for all.



## UPON A MOTHER OF MANY CHILDREN

*The physician who sends us these verses writes, "This is not without relevance in our own time despite all advances in obstetrical procedure"*

Let all chaste matrons, when they chance to see,  
My numerous issue, praise and pity me  
Praise me, for having such a fruitful womb,  
Pity me too, who found so soon a tomb

ROBERT HERRICK, 1591-1634

\*This article in pamphlet form can be obtained from the American Birth Control League

# 1924—1926

By ANNE KENNEDY

*I Return From My Trip Through the Middle West with a Keen Sense of the Strides  
Taken By B C Sentiment in Two Years Time*

IT HAS been extremely interesting to compare the attitude toward Birth Control in the last half of 1926 with the attitude in the first half of 1924. Cities in the United States that in 1924 banned the subject from platform discussion and private interviews are gradually slipping into the realization of the great social value of Birth Control. Women's clubs whose presidents two years ago, greeted me coldly and refused to consider a lecture, today ask me to lunch with the chairman of the infant welfare or public health division and arrange a date when Birth Control can be brought before the members as a departmental study.

One club president in a middle western city called me by telephone and said "Can you make your subject literary enough to present to this Browning society that meets next Tuesday?" Women are not afraid to utter the words Birth Control, they do not lose 'caste' with their club sisters if they say, "Oh it will have to come, just like suffrage!"

ONE afternoon recently, I was invited to meet a group of women who talked on current topics and sewed on woolen samplers, it was in the north-west and I was introduced as from New York City. The women were important wives of important men and my hostess was painfully nervous about her New York guest and introduced me with the words "She will tell how to control babies." When I gently corrected my hostess and said, "Birth Control," there was some murmuring, and a woman who kept her eye steadily on her sampler said "Why Sarah, everybody talks Birth Control now, especially during the Community Chest drives. We'll never get anywhere with our welfare work without it!" The bug-a-boo had vanished with this little group—and I found it the same in all the important social groups in this same city, the words Birth Control were spoken fearlessly and represented intelligent and courageous thinking.

When I met with the medical staff of the prenatal clinics of that state, the leading gynecologist said, "It's time we physicians accepted our responsibilities, I, for one, will cooperate. I will see that the dispensary staff in the University hospital advises and instructs patients in contraception. I am ready to accept this as a medical problem."

The president of a state medical society said, "I have a patient whose home life has been wrecked because I told her not to have more babies. I feared she might not live through another pregnancy. I have stopped advising her. I confess I didn't know a safe method, but I want to know all there is to know. What is the most effective method? Of course nothing is 100%, but I will see that our society has a discussion of this at our next meeting!" I doubt if this conversation could have taken place in 1924. One of the division chiefs of a very famous clinic said "I am grateful for your call and will take advantage of all this information." Cooperation from such sources was indeed a triumph.

IN a city in another state I interviewed the president of a large university who was a trustee of the important hospital of that city and president of the board. After I had explained the object of my call—the installation of a Birth Control clinic in the hospital, he said "I have always believed in Birth Control because of its human value. Please arrange a meeting for me with the division chief of the hospital. I think I can answer for the trustees." He was kindly, courteous, helpful—this was 1926.

A Birth Control Committee in a western city wanted to get the cooperation of an influential man and an appointment was made for me to see him. At the hour exactly, I gave my name to the switchboard operator, then to the page at the door to his suite and finally to his secretary. When I was ushered into the presence of this man,—the president of the largest hosiery company in the world—he looked up at me nervously and asked "Did you tell them your business?" I said "No, I did not know it was necessary." This answer seemed to find a humorous response, for his irritation vanished and he told me frankly that he wanted to see a Birth Controller at 'close range.' It had taken courage, he confessed, to consent even to see me, but it proved not too difficult to get his interest and sympathy and to make him understand by analogy with his own business problems. This hosiery magnate represented the mental path in Birth Control which so many travel—antagonism, ignorance, timidity, curiosity, discussion and finally the real-

(Continued on Page 92)

# Youth and Morality

## ARE OUR YOUNG PEOPLE GOING ASTRAY?

A College President, Who is also President of the  
International Federation of Birth  
Control Leagues

**I**NSTINCT present through scores of generations makes it easy for young people—and in fact for older people — to be polygamous (i.e. unmoral)

Fear of social taboo, of disease, or of illegitimate progeny act as deterrents temporary or permanent of the expression of instinct

Knowledge of methods of avoiding disease or progeny will some day present to youth the problem of deciding whether or not they will be moral by deliberate choice and on the basis of conviction rather than because of the fear of consequences of any other line of behavior

**I have ample confidence in the inherent strength, courage, and idealism of Youth and am perfectly willing to trust it to decide wisely and nobly**

It will, of course, be necessary for us to sympathize with Youth to help it develop its power of sound judgment and to strengthen its convictions as they seem to waver. If more people of middle age or older would employ these tactics instead of expecting the worst of Youth we should be a happier and I believe a more intelligent civilization

C C LITTLE

### *Life Saner, Healthier and Happier*

As I draw near the end of a long life, I look back on the generations I have watched and decide that human nature is much the same no matter what conditions surround it. Whether the young people go buggy-riding, bicycling or automobiling their technique is the same. We talk out loud now of what used to be whispered about in corners, and I think the greater frankness is far better

From what I can observe in the contacts I have with grandchildren, great nephews and nieces, and with a large group of working girls in a Club, I believe that the increased interest in outdoor life and sports, the possibilities of education and recreation open to all, have made life saner, healthier and happier for all.

Knowledge of Birth Control, I am convinced, would be a help toward chastity, in that it would make young people feel they could marry early, if they could both go on working until they felt they could support a family. If precautionary measures can ever take the place of the too frequent abortions, which are still performed, it will be a blessing to the race

Our children are full of good sense, courage and vision, ready to lead a fuller, richer life than we have ever known. Let us help open the right door for them

DORA G S HAZARD

### *Margaret Sanger Speaks*

**T**HERE is a wholesome reaction today against prudishness and priggishness in youth. This is indeed a healthy sign. But there is another opposite extreme. Laxity in speech and behavior, roughness and rudeness of manner, is not pleasing to men, rough and uncultured though they themselves may be. The noisy, conspicuous girl who in a group or party is seeking always to attract attention to herself is usually in this very act confessing her failure to hold the interest she so flamboyantly seeks to arouse. She only attracts to herself the same type of response.

The girl who is elusive, whose manner suggests that beneath a quiet exterior she is concealing qualities of strength and more endearing charms is bound to attract men of more sterling worth, who themselves have learned deeper and truer values of life, who seek in a woman finer and more profound beauty than a cheap and gawdy exterior, which so often conceals an empty head.

Gossip and questionable stories are incongruous and unsuitable for any girl's conversation, and create a bad impression with men, even though they may tolerate them. Nevertheless, such talk inevitably lowers the girl's moral standard in the eyes of her male companions. If she indulges in or tolerates loose coarse language concerning phases of life all humans should respect and reverence, the whole exalted tone of romantic lovemaking is vulgarized, and an element of cheapness and discord enters into a relationship that should be kept clean and poetic.

The younger generation today too often confuses haste with frankness. With the decay of etiquette and the advent of the new freedom of expression, haste and hurry, tactless frankness and bad manners in all phases of life, there can be little doubt that courtship is becoming one of the lost arts. But it is an art upon which most of the enduring happiness and stability of subsequent married life depends. It must not only be recaptured, but developed, refined and recognized as of primary and central importance in the technique of love.

MARGARET SANGER,  
*in Happiness in Marriage*

### *A Chance for Some Nation*

I HAVE little patience with those who hold up their hands in horror at the thought of the general dissemination of knowledge of Birth Control methods, with the idea that it would cause general sexual immorality among our young folk

There are and always will be a certain percentage of young folk fully grown sexually and infantile mentally. Proper training in the home and in school as to the purpose and the sacredness of the sexual relation may aid many of these young folk to restrain themselves. But as for fear of illicit parentage — how often does this fear alone restrain young folk whose sexual maturity exceeds their mental development?

And I believe that it is far better for those who will not be restrained to be able to avoid parentage than it is for them to be as they are today — keeping the abortionists busy, keeping the foundling homes full, and continuing to bring disgrace upon themselves and their parents when found out.

The poor and the ignorant need knowledge of Birth Control more than do the well-to-do. Would the average poor mother and father just as rapidly as physiological processes allow bring children into the world if they knew how to prevent it? Much of our trouble is due to bringing children up under conditions imposed by poverty, they have wrong psychological and physical conditions from the start, and they in their turn hand them on.

I make the claim that if some nation — even some fairly small nation — today made possible and mandatory eugenics in its fullest meaning, and practiced it religiously for one hundred years, at the end of that time and possibly sooner, that nation by its sheer brain power would rule the world. Just a few slightly-super men, born from time to time, have changed the history of the world from time to time. What would the nation do which bred many super-men in a generation?

HOWARD E. DAVIS

### *Running True to Form*

Most intelligent people nowadays recognize that neither men nor women should be forced into parenthood. Dissemination of knowledge in regard to Birth Control is something therefore that the world owes to human kind. Certain people fight every enlargement of our liberty. They are now opposing Birth Control. There can be no doubt that often a new freedom means for a short time — license. The pendulum swings wide and wild. Gradually people accommodate themselves to this expansion of thought and action — the pendulum stabilizes itself again. It is possible that with the knowledge of Birth Control, there has appeared among young people a certain amount of license. I say — possible. If there be license, my own opinion would be that it is due to other causes. I admit,

however, that I am in no position to know — as indeed extremely few people are — that such license exists. But if it does exist, it means only that human nature is running true to form. The brief seethe will, however, soon subside. Men and women, having accustomed themselves to their new freedom, will treat it with that sense of its preciousness with which we treat all fought-for liberties.

INEZ HAYNES IRWIN

### *Thoughtless Moths*

I always feel that any such remarks as that young women are ready to be unchaste as long as they can avoid pregnancy, are not based upon actual observation of the habits of young people, but upon a kind of rationalizing of what one *supposes* might be the case. It assumes a careful planning out among young couples as to what they intend to do, which does not seem to be the way their minds work. It is hard for thoughtful people to realize the unthoughtful, impulsive character of the way the young people whom I see in Juvenile Court behave.

Many of them think they know how to avoid pregnancy, just as they have always had superstitions and old wives tales of how this might be managed. But when they are sufficiently excited, or slightly tipsy, or over-persuaded, or lose their heads in one way or another, they no more plan what they will do next than an angry man plans a fist fight. It is an impulsive affair, bred of instinct, lack of other recreational outlets, no training in restraint, no pattern of good behavior in their parents, no foresight for the future whatever. To believe that they go on their escapades with careful planning for all possible emergencies, and then, creatures of impulse and careless of the future, manage their amours with a foresight they show in no other act in life, seems to me ludicrously out of keeping with the characters I know. In cold blood they never make a plan — how can I believe they do so in excitement?

It is a difficult if not impossible matter to prove either way. And it makes all the difference in the world what age and what intellectual type one is talking about. But since the intellectuals are the minority in this world, it seems safe to say that these creatures of an hour, these young moths trained for nothing but flying toward a flame, are not coolly carrying out a campaign of unchastity based upon the latest Birth Control information. The ones I see are unchaste to be sure, as were their elder brothers and sisters and their parents before them.

But I will even go so far as to say, that if now and then one of them fails of bringing an illegitimate baby into an already over-crowded and vicious home, a home that will produce more low standards as it produced theirs — and if such a baby is not born because now and then they have practiced Birth Control — I for one am glad of it!

ELEANOR R. WEMBRIDGE

### *Ignorance Is Not Virtue*

The endless—and financially profitable—discussion of the depravity of the male and female youngling seems to ignore the thought that the latter are insisting that ignorance and innocence cannot be synonymous. If the facts of sex life are now an open book in the hands of the younger generation, is it quite fair to berate them for their initial misuse of the same—and to make the sweeping statement that all youth is headed for disaster and downfall? Not while the middle-aged muddlers and firebrands escape uncensored or explain away their “experiences” under the pretext of fate, self-expression, whatnot. The young generation but reflects the older—much as each may resent the fact.

The present moral revolt has been brought about by the older generation. Its underlying causes are woman's increasing economic independence, with the realization of hitherto denied possibilities, and the honesty of the better

minds as to the future of civilization if allowed to drift in its present degenerate, unscientific and highly sentimentalized state. If the old ways are proving inadequate, dangerous, there must be new ways found and followed.

All revolutionary movements are destructive in order to be effective, debris precedes development. In the throes of this moral situation the younger generation is struggling, as is the older, to seek endless knowledge, to gain experience—and to carry on. Why not an honest sharing of blame and praise on the part of those who criticize? If the two generations could be united in sympathetic understanding, each would gain from the other's viewpoints, and the synthetic impression that the world is going to the dogs in the hands of our children would change to the truth that young and old are making, have made and will make mistakes in order that this may not come to pass.

NALBRO BARTLEY

## Nineteen Points for Parents

*As Outlined by Miriam Van Waters of the Los Angeles Juvenile Court*

IN THE *Survey Graphic* for January, Miriam Van Waters lays down, on the basis of long and profound knowledge of wayward youth, nineteen commandments for parents who would understand and guide their children. Her rules are in the form of “Thou Shalt Nots” for the parents she knows best are parents who do not understand and by not understanding are the responsible, or contributory cause of the child's ruin. Parents, says Mrs. Van Waters may be bad.

- 1 If they are not oriented in the modern world
- 2 If their imagination is colored by an uncritical belief in the vague rumors of scandal about young people. Such parents have no sense of proportion, are ready to accept the worst because it fits in with their theories. They are the largest contributing factor to the breakdown of reputation, even of their own children.
- 3 If they accept fate blindly and cannot see behind present handicaps the background of latent strengths.
- 4 If they repudiate a child in dire need.
- 5 If they have a warped view of authority and are unable to make use of the social resources to which they have applied for assistance.
- 6 If they labor under the delusion that law enforcement is only for those who live below the minimum economic standard, and in their particular case advice is an insult.
- 7 If they do not realize that with adolescence comes a tremendous pull of loyalty toward friends outside the family group.

8 If they do not face the idea of family formation for the next generation.

9 If they permit a thwarted love-life to color their relationship to their child.

10 If some human impulse, however good in itself, becomes hypertrophied and grows at the expense of parental feeling.

11 If they become prematurely stabilized, so that they lose a sense of proportion and cannot distinguish between major and minor values.

12 If they make a faulty characterization of a child.

13 If the goal they place before the children is too immediate and too easy, or is so concerned with money and “comfort” that the children become bored with life.

14 If they are parents only spasmodically, and then usually at the wrong time.

15 If they cannot shield a child from premature exposure to adult anxiety or preplexity.

16 If they build up in the child a feeling of inferiority.

17 If they permit the family atmosphere to become infected with his (or her) inferiority complex.

18 If, in an attempt to inculcate habits of obedience they succeed merely in creating rebellion.

19 If they will not let a child grow up but do all the talking, make all the decisions and meet all the issues.

Following up these “commandments” Dr. Van Waters again directly puts a large share of the blame for wayward youth on the parents in her article in the *Survey Graphic*, on the girl who tells the court “I'd Rather Die than Go Home”—(February).

# Birth Control the Only Guarantee of Peace

By JEAN STAVNIK

**BIRTH CONTROL** is not only a social necessity within each country, it is an essential condition, if we are to secure humanity against that greatest of scourges, War

The age of dynastic wars is over. In the 17th and 18th centuries wars were not caused by economic necessities, they were caused rather by the desire of reigning families for leadership and expansion in Europe. The wars between the French and Austrian, the Prussian and French houses were essentially dynastic. The people had no feeling in the matter, war was considered the sovereign's affair and of little interest to the nation as a whole.

The 19th century saw national wars, wars for political independence. This independence having been realized the wars of the future will be essentially economic. Hereafter we shall have no more dynastic wars and no more national wars, in the political sense, the dangers of war in the future will lie in the economic problems.

**NOW**, of all economic problems the demographic problem—the problem of space—alone cannot be solved by treaty. We may grant a country which lacks raw materials the coal or other minerals necessary for its industrial development, but we cannot increase the space that country occupies on the map if it grows too narrow for her population. The over-populated state is offered two alternatives: to make a war of conquest or to let the surplus of her population emigrate. Today the possibilities of emigration are growing smaller and smaller and the states which suffer from over-population are becoming more and more aggressive on account of the pressure on their boundaries from within, which increases almost from day to day.

These general considerations are easily illustrated by actually existing conditions. The two possible centres of conflict are to be found in Italy and Japan, two over-populated countries.

**ITALY** has a birth rate of more than 700,000 a year, she has a population of 40,000,000 which she can scarcely support. Up to now emigration relieved the pressure, but the possibilities of emigration are growing less. Furthermore the rebirth of national sentiment discourages emigration be-

cause emigrants generally forget the mother country and become citizens of the country of adoption.

In such a state of affairs we see the Italian government becoming more and more imperialistic. It searches high and low for pretexts for war with other countries in order to get their colonies. It tried to provoke war with Turkey in order to take a part of Asia Minor. It tried to pick a quarrel with France in order to get its hands on Tunis. It tried to invade Albania and make it an Italian colony. It is very much to be feared that the Italian population problem will precipitate a grave international crisis. The other scene of possible conflict is the Far East where much the same condition exists.

**THE** only really efficacious means of preventing these future conflicts is *Birth Control*. As long as countries do not understand that it is much more to their interest to have a healthy, stationary population in proportion to their space than to increase their members and debase their standard of living, so long the danger of war will remain in the world.

The glorification of numbers is entirely due to military considerations. Every country which has obligatory military service urges a larger birthrate in order to sustain larger and larger armies. And what is true of individual states is true of the Vatican also. The systematic hostility of the Roman Catholic church to Birth Control comes only in part from religious scruples. Since the Vatican has always stood on the side of monarchy and militarism against republicanism, it is only natural that she should now be putting her strength on the side of militarism.

The American public must not lose sight of the fact that in Europe the *opposition to Birth Control* comes in the last analysis from *military circles* in every country which sees in Birth Control a threat against recruiting and against obligatory military service.

\* \* \* \*

"Supporters of unlimited increase in population recognize that their agitation for more children for the battlefields will be answered by curses from the mothers"—

JOHANN FERCH

## THE NEW HOPE

*In these letters the new generation speaks These are not the the down-trodden, over-burdened, hopeless and despairing women of a few decades ago They are young women who have heard of the new emancipation of motherhood, and who intend to have children indeed, but only when they are ready for them, and only so many as they can reasonably hope to rear and educate Such motherhood is the hope of our race and of the world It opens out a vista of a new and better future when little children will not have to suffer and when men and women will be free to build up happy homes What further vindication does Birth Control need?*

### Not Afraid to Have Children

Michigan

I know you can help me and that is why I am writing to you I am sending you a dollar for I want to join the Birth Control League Like most girls, like every human girl I want to be married but to live plainly and as simply as we can would only make two ends meet I earn the minimum salary and he earns less as present My mother had fifteen children She died at the age of fifty I am not afraid to have children, but I know through your help I will not have to suffer as she did

I am a teacher of little children as you can see by my address I have taught for five years I love my work, it is a noble task I hope to teach in a school in New York City next year for that is where I shall make my home We are of the same age, twenty-seven and tired of a lonely life I have not lived in a home for over ten years This is my first love and it promises much happiness if I can only have a little wisdom This has weighed heavily on my mind for a long time until today a friend told me to write to you, I am interested in girls and women

### A Terrible Wrong

Ohio

I fully agree with you that it is a terrible wrong to bring children into the world when you are not prepared to give them the proper care I am one of a family of nine children All my life I made known nothing but struggle and hardships My poor mother and father were old way before their time and were deprived of all life's pleasures because of so many children My oldest sister, who is thirteen years older than I, is the mother of seven living children, and my other sister, who has been married five years, is mother to two children We have all of us been compelled to quit school at an early age and go to work I work hard all day and study almost every eve-

ning in order to be better fitted for the business world I expect to be married in a short time to a good honest man, but like myself, he is poor This means that in order have our own home I will have to continue working for two or three years I really want to keep on working because I have tried so hard to be a success in my work and now that my dreams are about to be realized, I would hate to see them fall through I am not satisfied to stand still but want to keep improving myself In short, I want to be "some one" So please let me know of your Birth Control methods and I will be forever and ever in your debt I am a worthy girl and I feel confident that you will help me and if it is your wish I will help others

### "To Insure the Lasting of Our Love"

Michigan

I am a young (23 years of age) graduate from the University in the course of Mining Engineering I am at present working I am engaged, and have been for a year and a half to a girl classmate We are planning to marry as soon as we can, but I am afraid that we shan't be able to until the end of this year We have tried to insure the lasting of our love, and the future wellbeing of our intended children, by careful planning My mother is a champion of Birth Control, especially as applied to the unfit, but comically enough, she does not know much about contraception I have asked her about this, and the only means that she knows about is the safe period She thinks that this is a sure method, but from my reading in some of the newest medical encyclopedias I know better It is also rather impractical as I understand

I wish that you would do me a very personal favor and tell me how I can obtain information about the best methods of contraception I am in the wilds, and a long way from any medical authorities except a country doctor, who probably knows, or would tell me very little I shall be here for some time, probably



## Happy to Have Wanted Children

California

I have just finished reading your book "Woman and the New Race." It is very instructive and ideal, but I am ignorant about contraceptives. I am twenty-two years and engaged to be married this fall, but I know we will not be able to care for children for a couple of years, as wages are low and prices high. But I certainly love children and hope to have at least two, but I want to bring them up right and educate them.

I was an orphan from the age of seven, lived with my aunt until I was sixteen. I have worked hard for a living and I hope that I will not have to bring children into the world to struggle for a living. I will be very happy to know that I can have as many children as I can care for properly, and not bring unwanted children.

I think this will be a better world when Birth Control is practiced and all women are informed and advised about contraceptives.

## To Build a Dream Home

New Jersey

I have none to advise me, therefore I am appealing to you. I am twenty years old and I am engaged to be married to a young man twenty-four years old. We have planned and worked together to pay for a lot and are making plans for our home. We have figured everything out and have come to the conclusion that we can only build this dream home if I keep my position for at least two years. Without doing this we cannot build and without at least a home to start with we will not get married. Is it possible for us to get married and not have children for a couple of years? I know there are safe methods to prevent pregnancy and that is what I want you to tell me.

## Looking Forward

New York

I am a young girl 21 years old and I expect to get married soon to a young fellow the same age as I. I do not feel as if I wanted any children for a few years yet. But how could I prevent having them? I surely would be thankful if you could give me a little information. My mother has seven children from 25 to 6 years old. She had always worked too hard. Besides taking care of us children she had to work in the store until lately when she has had to give up work altogether. I told her she shouldn't have had so many children but she says it couldn't be prevented. After reading your books it seems as if you could help me for I don't know where else to turn for help. Please answer soon.

## To Bring Them up Properly

Illinois

Will you kindly extend to me some advice and help? I am to be married in May and my one great fear is that I will bring into the world children that can't be properly taken care of. I am one of ten children, my father earning very little and live up to the time when we children grew up to take care of ourselves was but one of hardship and want, my mother the sufferer. My sisters, one married five years, has four small babies, one married three, has two. Neither is in the position to take care of more. The one with four babies is experiencing great difficulty in making ends meet, her husband is out of employment. I just cannot and must not bring into this world children to whom I can offer nothing but poverty and want. I first want to make sure I can bring them up properly and give them what they need and should have. My life was very hard, first want and then hampered by lack of education, I must do better for my children.

## Injustice to Children

New Mexico

I am engaged to be married in a short time and before I take the step, I wish to know how to control childbirth. I have read your book, "Woman and the New Race." Will you please tell me more about contraceptives, how to use and where to obtain them? I am 22 years of age and the oldest of a family of nine children, one of which died at birth. I know the injustice and suffering to both the children and mother of bearing more children than the parents are able to properly care for. I wish to avoid in my own life, what my mother endured through ignorance and lack of understanding. I shall be eternally grateful to you if you will give me or tell me where to obtain this information.

## A Wrong to Dear Little Children

Minnesota

My mother has eleven children and I have a sister who already has six. Now I am engaged to be married, but it is terribly hard for me to face the future, since to me it is very wrong to bring so many dear little children into the world whom one cannot care for, and give them the individual training a mother should give her children. I dearly love children and hope that I may have three or four or even more if everything taken into consideration is for the best. If you can tell me how to control birth, I will have more courage and feel better prepared to face the future.

# Birth Control in Every Aspect

## A NEW YORK SYMPOSIUM

THE symposium held under the auspices of the American Birth Control League, at the Colony Club in New York City, on January 17th, answered briefly, but in a very satisfying manner, the many questions from many angles, which an audience representing varied interests might be expected to ask. From her experience as a Hospital Social Worker, Mrs William A McLaren told of the physical frailty, the poverty and other evidences of ill equipment for life with which hospital workers grow sadly too familiar. Families that come to them are already too large and their size is one great cause of their illness and trouble. The volunteer worker who meets these families has herself access to 'bootlegged' Birth Control information. Free public clinics fear to give this to the poor for whom help can come only from a concerted effort by social workers and physicians to change the law and to perfect clinical methods of Birth Control. Mrs McLaren told of an intelligent working woman whom she called Jessie, who asked her where she could find "classes in Birth Control for the poor."

Mrs Ernest R Adey, President of the Board of Managers of the Babies' Hospital, generalized the case of Jessie as representing the crying need of Birth Control for respectable working class mothers who should have this protection from poverty and illness.

As a Probation officer and Chairman of the New Jersey Conference on Social Welfare, Mrs H Otto Wittpenn, spoke of the heavy burden the taxpayers have to carry in the large families of the irresponsible and inefficient.

Mrs James Lees Laidlaw, member of the World Court, speaking of the ending of war as the "cause above all causes" said that the 'explosive population,' the nation crowded to bursting point, was more and more recognized as one of the foundation reasons for war.

The relation between Birth Control and the standard of living was touched upon by Mrs Vladimir G Simkhovitch, head worker of Greenwich House and member of the Committee on Maternal Health, who told of the small families of the second generation of Irish settlers in Boston. Their parents had taken what the Lord sent, but they, as they rose in the social scale, had learned to have as few or as many children as they wanted. This to her, is what Birth Control means — the right to have either more or less children, as health and family circumstances dictate.

The point of view of the medical profession was expressed by Drs John C Vaughan and Walter Timme. Dr Vaughan spoke of Birth Control as the great preventive of abortion, putting the present figures for the criminal operation in the United States at about 2,000,000

a year. He also answered the popular criticism that there is no 100% proof contraceptive. He told briefly of researches now being made and of the strides already taken in working out much more effective methods than in the past and entirely doing away in scientific circles, with many harmful methods formerly used.

Dr Timme, specialist in endocrine medicine, and professor of Neurology at Columbia University, stated, as a student of the unfit, that many of those juvenile delinquents whose defects social workers laid to bad education or to slum living were in reality incapable of education and were themselves creators of the slum. Of 30 life prisoners recently studied in Dannemora Prison, all were there, he held, on account of constitutional inferiority, an inferiority which none of them was prevented from handing on to another generation.

Other aspects of the population problem besides war were brought out by Dr Wm F Ogburn of the department of Sociology of Columbia University, who restated in new forms the always impressive — or appalling — figures. World population doubled in 60 years, and more vivid still, a population in New York City in 100 years as large as the total population of the United States today — all this if measures of control are not taken, the greatest of these measures being Birth Control.

"Whatever helps" in the opinion of Dr Karl Reiland, rector of St George's Episcopal Church, "is God." "The greatest thing to seek" he also held, "is that which advances human life." Tested by these two standards he held Birth Control to be a part of a religious interpretation of civilization.

The case for labor was presented by Norman Thomas, director of the League for Industrial Democracy, who characterized the present state of law and public opinion as a hideous hypocrisy and selfishness which makes of the right to regulate the size of the family a class privilege.

A splendid summary of the whole case for Birth Control was the paper by Professor Wm Pepperell Montague of the Department of Philosophy of Columbia University. "Six Points for Six Minutes," he called it. His points were (1) The dignity and freedom of the human spirit, (2) the sweetening and deepening of marriage, (3) the amelioration of poverty, (4) the prevention of war, (5) the prevention of the unfit, and (6) the creation of a voluntary, responsible and free parenthood — or as he called it, "the American plan of parenthood."

The surprise of the meeting was a distinguished visitor from China, Dr Hu Shih, Dean of the National University, who told of a spartan method of Birth Control practiced in the sterile mountainous regions of China.

## Susan and Her Clothes

By FANNY M SHUTTS, M D

"AUNT MARY?" I looked up to see Susan at the door of my study. Susan is my niece. I am proud of her. Proud of every crisp blond hair on her trim bobbed head, and of her lithe, young body, and of her neat, short gowns. She is a marvelous, self-reliant, efficient, radiant, and intelligent young woman. She is reacting to her environment. She is questioning life. She has the right to question it. She wants the whole of her life. She should want it.

Susan and I are chums. We talk over the ideas that come rushing into that vibrant brain of her's. She knows her bodily reactions for what they are, and frankly recognizes them as womanly, and some day to be fulfilled. She does not fear them. She controls them, awaiting the day of their fulfillment. I answered her baby questions as I now answer the budding woman questions. The growing things about her aroused her curiosity, and little by little I unrolled the scroll of life for her trusting mind.

"WELL SUSAN, what now?" Did you have to divert a petting party, or is Julia jealous of you?"

"What to you think of all this talk about the disgraceful mode of dressing today, Aunty?"

"To tell you the truth, Susan, I cannot believe that the morals of any country hang by such a slender thread as a few more inches on the bottom of a skirt, or a few less at the neck or sleeves.

"Havelock Ellis says 'The word morals essentially means custom. That is what morals must always be to the mass, and indeed to some extent for all, a discipline.

"There is a small body of individuals ahead, alertly eager to find the road, with a flair for all the possibilities the future may hold. When the majority, blind and automatic and unconscious follows after, to tramp along the road these pioneers have discovered, it may seem a dull road. But before they reached it that road was interesting, even passionately interesting. The reason is that, for those who in any age are thus situated life is not merely a discipline. It is, or may become, really an art."

"I fully believe that 'There is an inherent upward urge in all life that moves on as steadily as the stream of life itself'.

"AS TO the clothing, I sometimes wonder how it ever started. Don't you? Possibly eons ago some primitive woman slept in the sun beside her man, and as she slept the sun sank behind the sand dunes, and a cold wind wandered up the valley. She shivered and wakened. The man still slept beside her. She looked as the ashes of their fire, and then her hand fell on the fresh skin of the prey that had filled them to satiety. She pulled the skin toward her furtively, and placed it over her shoulders, holding it about them as she dropped to sleep. To dream of what?"

"True modesty is not a thing of clothes for woman can be just as modest in beautiful nudity as in flowing robes. I want you to read Havelock Ellis on 'Sexual Education and Nakedness.' You will find it most inspiring and elevating, and I am sure that you will 'Learn to gaze on the naked body as you gaze at a beautiful flower, with joy in its strength and health and beauty'.

"We wear clothing partly because of custom, and we select becoming clothing in order to make ourselves pleasing to others. Too heavy clothing reduces the ability of the nervous system to react to cold, for nature soon begins to discard any organ or function that we do not use.

"I LIKE the present mode of women's dress. The average gown that one sees on the street is both convenient and healthful. Possibly the danger of too tight elastic bands about the body is the one most to be guarded against today. You should have seen the clothing that your mother and I wore. Your clothing is much more healthful and more easily kept clean and sweet.

"And now run and dress for dinner. Did you ever think why a bath and changing to fresh things pep you up? You come home tired and inclined to fuss. You undress. You stretch a little, and turn on the water in the bath tub. You listen. It might, yes it might, be a little brook purling over stones. See the birch trees bend to it. Hear the squirrels chatter in their tops. A good scrub, and a dash of cold water," 'Gee its cold' 'Funny why the Prof got on my nerves today' 'You get into your most becoming dress'."

"BUZZ BUZZ (The Phone 'Whv yes John, I'd love to go. I feel like a MILLION' And you do, because every tired hungry cell in your body has had the food that it craves. Run on, dear."

## Book Reviews

**THE REVOLT OF MODERN YOUTH** by Judge Ben B Lindsey and Wainright Evans Boni & Liveright, New York

**T**HE author, with his co-worker, Mrs Lindsey, has for years stood waist deep, so to speak, in the mire of human depravity, with outstretched hands to those who through accident or mistake have become engulfed. There is no reproach awaiting such, just love and sympathy and a generous effort to find a way out of difficulties.

The problems with which he deals are those arising out of the indiscretions of adolescence and the revolt to which he refers is a tendency on the part of the youth of both sexes to repudiate the social laws relating to marriage.

The book is based on the personal experience of the author told in the form of anecdotes, perhaps the best evidence of a state of facts. The facts revealed will probably be a surprise to many of his readers, they present a serious problem in social economics. He represents that a high percentage of the youth of high school age are sexually intimate, with a certain percentage of natural consequences.

The author conceives that the worst phase of the situation arises out of the social taboo that fall on the female when a child is born out of wedlock, he would have the world view the situation in a tolerant spirit. He suggests that parents could be helpful by a timely disclosure to children of the natural law and thus deprive the information of the enticing charm that is associated with secrecy and mystery. He feels that there is less danger in this course, for he finds that many are led into trouble through ignorance. Parents of course dread to deal with the subject and let matters drift, but apparently the children acquire such information from their school associates, and of course in an indescribable way. It is interesting to note how the author gains the confidence of the boys and girls so that they make full disclosure. Just a kindly loving talk in his private office and the assurance that he will not betray their trust.

Heretofore religious and social laws have demanded that youth conform to their dictates. Now it appears that the young people have revolted and demand that marriage shall hereafter be a voluntary partnership determinable at will. The author suggests that the lesser of the two evils would be to make divorce less expensive and matrimonial bonds less binding.

For the married people he urges full and unrestricted information concerning "Birth Control" as a means to the end of lightening the burdens of the marriage relation and as such tending to stabilize the social order.

JAMES L STEWART

**OUROBOROS OR THE MECHANICAL EXTENSION OF MANKIND**, by Garett Garrett E P Dutton and Company (Today and Tomorrow Series)

**M**ACHINES are commonplaces in our age. We take them for granted. Most of us, directly or indirectly, get our living from them. But the world they have made is, after all, a new and strange world. And it is gradually becoming evident that it is an unstable world, a world based on endless multiplication. The instability is not yet generally appreciated, but each year more and more people are forced to think about it.

Mr Garrett has been thinking a lot about it and has set his thoughts down in a very provocative little book. He is both fascinated and appalled by our machines. He sees the Machine as the modern counterpart of the fabulous serpent, Ouroboros, that swallowed its own tail. Man created the machine to ease his labors and enrich his days, and unknowingly he has become its slave. More and more he has given up tilling the soil to dwell in dense masses and tend machines, while someone else feeds him. He must keep his machines busy or he starves. But there are more than enough machines to supply all normal demands of wear or breakage. New consumers must be found. Hence an orgy of advertising and selling on the installment plan, seeking of foreign markets, hunting out buyers. And still we go on adding new machines. They are multiplying in China, Japan, Italy, Russia, to compete with machines in Britain, France, Germany, America. What will be the end of it all?

Mr Garrett paints no cheerful picture. But he is not altogether despondent. He sees increasing misery, lower wages, higher food prices, unemployment, war, starvation. Agricultural regions will exploit manufacturing regions as manufacturing regions have exploited agriculture. Eventually, a new principle of co-operation for mutual benefit must replace the "balance of trade" philosophy.

It is difficult to find fault with Mr Garrett's logic. But it is a pity that he does not emphasize the inevitable conclusion it leads to—the necessity of a stationary population based on low birth rates. That means Birth Control.

M BISSELL

*The next generation, will be physically superior to their forefathers, and therefore will have greater resistance to disease. America will be the most healthy country in the world. This race will be benefited by the present prosperity, in that the mothers of today are able to give their children better food, warmer clothing and greater educational advantages than ever before—Dr Ales Hrdlicka, of the Smithsonian Institute, in the Herald-Tribune (N Y)*

## Margaret Sanger's Victory

**T**HIRTEEN years ago, Margaret Sanger realized the abysmal ignorance of the girls of those days concerning their own bodies, and the disastrous consequences of this ignorance when they faced the duties of wifehood and motherhood. In her new periodical *The Woman Rebel*, she began a series of articles designed to enlighten women concerning their physical organization and functions. The United States Government, outraged at such audacity, intervened. *The Woman Rebel* was forbidden the mails, and Margaret Sanger was arrested and indicted under the Federal mail laws. The case dragged on until 1916, when it was dropped by the Court. A year later Margaret Sanger was again arrested, this time for giving Birth Control information at her Brownsville Clinic, but this was under N. Y. law and constitutes an entirely different story.

Another year passed, and then came the war. The wisdom of some of the men called in emergency to the aid of the Government, and the need to protect the troops from disease and incapacity brought about a complete change of attitude, and the U. S. Government itself began to issue and circulate, as widely as possible, information on much the same line as that initiated by Margaret Sanger in *The Woman Rebel*. Since then there has been an abundant outpouring of literature of sex education, much of it good, some very good, but none better than Mrs. Sanger's original work which was branded by the U. S. Government as obscene and unavailable.

<sup>1</sup>Healthy Happy Womanhood      <sup>2</sup>The Wonderful Story of Life  
<sup>3</sup>Man-power and Keeping Fit  
<sup>4</sup>The Enlightenment of Children with Regard to Reproduction

A full list of books and pamphlets for parents, boys, young men, girls and young women is published by the U. S. Public Health Service. With greater magnanimity than was shown to Margaret Sanger in 1917, we are glad to recommend them to our readers. They deal with Sex Education in the School and in the Home, with the problems of young women with the explanation of Reproduction to young children and with the disastrous consequences of venereal diseases. Good as they are, those for girls, and women and children are superfluous for those of our readers who have read and studied *What Every Girl Should Know* and *What Every Mother Should Know*.

The issuance of such literature is not confined to the United States Government. Full lists of works on Sex Education for all ages and both sexes may be secured from the American Social Hygiene Association and the public demand for such literature has been recognized by many publishers, not only in the United States but also in Canada and Great Britain. The disadvantage under which the more conventionally educated mothers, with their unfortunate sex inhibitions, still labor in tackling the education of their children is well illustrated in a little pamphlet by Dr. Edna E. Ashcroft which reaches us from Ontario. After a strong admonition to use the proper scientific terms in referring to organs and functions, Dr. Ashcroft goes on with a fanciful and by no means scientifically accurate story when she reaches the crucial point of describing the genesis and development of the foetus and the birth of the baby. She overloads her paper with difficult scientific terms, without daring to give an equally scientific account of conception, gestation and birth.

## A Magnificent Plea for Birth Control

Dr. Knopf's treatise on Birth Control,\* already in its third edition, is a revised and much enlarged version of an address delivered before the Medical Association of the Greater City of New York on December 21, 1925, and later published in the *Medical Journal and Record* (January 6, 1926). It is heartening to think of such an address as presented to the members of a profession, culpably indifferent or hostile to one of the greatest and most beneficent reforms of the age, by one of the most famous and authoritative of their own colleagues. In its present form, the booklet promises to take a place beside the remarkable prize essay on "Tuberculosis" which Dr. Knopf published some twenty years ago, and which has been more widely printed and distributed, perhaps, than any other single writing on the subject. For this eminent phy-

sician has a positive genius as a pamphleteer. More than any other writer of whom we know, he has the capacity to present the widest range of information in the smallest possible space. In the case of this study of Birth Control, the title is staggering for a booklet of only 66 pages. Yet it is no exaggeration. The "medical, social, economic, moral and religious aspects" of the question are all here treated with admirable concision, but adequately and with helpful citation of authorities. This book is the whole law and gospel of the subject. Especially noteworthy are the illustrations, the picture on page 35 of Hindus bathing in the Ganges is more convincing than any hundred pages of argument on excess population. All in all, this essay by Dr. Knopf is the most useful statement on the subject of Birth Control now available. It is pleasant to note that "all benefits derived from its sale go to the treasury of the Birth Control League (104 Fifth Avenue, New York)," where copies may be procured.

—From Unity

\*The Medical, Social, Economic, Moral and Religious Aspects of Birth Control. American Birth Control League, 104 Fifth Avenue, New York City.)

## Periodical Notes

*Jewish Social Service Quarterly* (Philadelphia)—In its December number the quarterly has a discussion of Birth Control. The editor has an illuminating article on the interest shown by social workers on the subject. A general statement of its international and eugenic importance is made by Morris D. Waldman, managing director of the United Jewish Charities of Detroit and an account of an experiment with a group of cases is given by Harry Lurie, director of a Chicago social agency. We wish to congratulate the Jewish Social Workers of America on this pioneering work.

*Liberty*—In the January 22nd issue, Marquis Kim-ichi Komura of the Japanese Foreign office attempts to answer Roderick O. Murchison's article on the population problem of Japan. Speaking for the Government, Marquis Komura maintains that the safety of Japan depends, not on limiting population, but on "well concerted conscious efforts for the thorough industrialization of the country." Industrialization, says he, is to be coupled with the buying of raw materials from abroad in increasing quantities. To one who knows the history of the "thorough industrialization" of Europe, which has been not the means of relieving over-population but the foundation cause of the appalling increase of population in the occident, it seems as if the Japanese government, in repudiating Birth Control while it encourages industrialization, is rushing the country to its ruin. Furthermore, in this very program of industrialization the Japanese government is openly depending on increased importation of raw material from countries which are not increasing but each year decreasing exportation to meet a clamorous home demand.

*The Modern World* (Baltimore)—In its February number, three contributors follow the prevailing fashion and comment on the tendencies of the younger generation. C. Colburn Nash, concludes that the future is safe, "for Youth (even the 'abandoned youth' of today) has ideals and what is of greater importance, ideas." Marguerite Cusachs, believes that the new generation is now making awkward efforts "to get out of a rut" and that from these efforts will come a world on a more practical model—"about as much like the old as a 1927 automobile is like the buggy of 1857." Neither is Huntington Cairns discouraged. He holds that the problems of the younger generation are due to defective education, and that their recognition of this is at the bottom of their revolt, which he hopes will be a step toward constructing a better and more practical system.

## Books Received

*THE NORMAL CHILD*, by B. Sachs, M.D., Paul B. Hoeber, New York \$1.50

*SEX HYGIENE*, by Julia Kinberg Von Sneiderin, M.D. and Alma Lundquist, M.D., translated by Mary E. Collett, Ph.D., Henry Holt, New York \$1.75

*BIRTH CONTROL LAWS*, by Mary Ware Dennett, Frederick H. Hitchcock, New York \$2.50

*FATALISM AND FREEDOM*, by C. J. Herrick, W. W. Norton, New York \$1.00

*BIRTH CONTROL*, by Johann Ferch, translated by Christian Roland, Edited by A. Maude Royden, Williams and Norgate, London 3-6

*MOTHERS IN INDUSTRY*, by Gwendolyn S. Hughes, New Republic, Inc. New York \$1.00

*THE WOMAN HOMEMAKER IN THE CITY*, by Bertha N. Nienberg, U. S. Bureau of the Census, Washington, D. C.

*L'EDUCATION SEXUELLE*, by Jean Marestan, Marseille 8 fr.

*SEX EXPRESSION IN LITERATURE*, by V. F. Calverton Boni and Liveright, New York \$2.50

*THE EGO AND THE ID*, by Sigmund Freud, Hogarth Press, London 6 sh.

*THE NEW BARBARIANS*, by Wilbur C. Abbott, Little Brown and Company, Boston \$2.50

*FURTHER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE THEORY AND TECHNIQUE OF PSYCHO-ANALYSIS*, by Sándor Ferenczi, Hogarth Press, London 28 sh.

*THE HUMAN HIVE, ITS LIFE AND LAW*, by A. H. Macmurdo, Watts and Company, London 7-6

*HUMANIZING EDUCATION*, by Samuel D. Schmalhausen, New Education Publishing Company, New York

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If the propagation of children without regard to their maintenance be either a virtue or a necessity, and if afterwards the only alternatives are their maintenance in an asylum on the one hand, and their maintenance in the degradation of a poverty-stricken home on the other, we should not hesitate to give people who act as Rousseau acted, all that credit for self-denial and high moral courage which he so audaciously claimed for himself. It really seems to be no more criminal to produce children with the deliberate intention of abandoning them to public charity, as Rousseau did, than it is to produce them in deliberate reliance on the besotted maxim that he who sends mouths will send meat, or any other of the spurious saws which make providence do duty for self-control, and add to the gratification of physical appetite the grotesque luxury of religious unction.

—VISCOUNT MORLEY

# Two Aspects of Large Families

## EXTRACTS FROM OUR CONTEMPORARIES

### A LETTER FROM A VICTIM

Born and reared in a Baptist minister's home, I know what a farce some religion is

I was the child of my father's third wife. The other two wives, with several of their fifteen children, had died

My mother had sixteen children

"If they lived, they lived, and if they died, they died," and very little thought was given to the matter

My childhood was a sad and dreary affair. We did not know what Christmas was. We thought we were lucky if we got a little meat and corn bread. As for clothes—Adam and Eve had nothing on us

We were constantly told that this world's a wilderness of woe, and were admonished to expect all of our joy in the next world

Father's selfishness in having so many children cut me out of most pleasure

Father's death put upon my shoulders most of the burden of caring for a family of twelve younger brothers and sisters

What little education I had was secured through my own efforts, at odd moments

I never knew anything about love—never even had a sweetheart

Today, I am an old sour, gray-haired, bitter bachelor

I have contemplated suicide not once, but scores of times. The only thing that has kept me from putting an end to my miserable existence is my desire to see safe and reliable Birth Control knowledge taken out of the realm of the obscene and regarded, rightly, as scientific fact

As far as the moral side of the question is concerned, any one who wants Birth Control knowledge for immoral purposes can get it now, because that kind of person is willing to go any length, pay any price, in order to obtain this knowledge. It is only the respectable, legally married people, without means, who are denied this knowledge

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It is an easy matter for a minister of the gospel to stand in the pulpit and urge other men to "lead clean, pure lives." If the minister is a man of learning he secures and uses Birth Control knowledge. If he is ignorant and poverty-stricken, as my father was, he simply begets scores of children that he can't even feed and clothe, much less educate, and murders three, four or even five wives, in the process of keeping himself "unspotted from the world."

Aren't the lives of women and children worth just a little something?

—From *The Courier-Journal* of Louisville, Ky

### HONORED FOR WHAT?

Father of 28 children and soon to become the father of the 29th, L. C. Gentle, 65, of Atlanta, Ga., practices what he preaches. Today he preached against Birth Control. "Bunk" is what he called efforts to keep down population.

Gentle, who claims to be champion papa of the South, including the Panama Canal zone and the Virgin Islands, is spending a few days at the home of one of his 18 living children, L. C. Gentle. Today he and his Baltimore son went to Washington to see President Coolidge. Yesterday he called on Governor Albert C. Ritchie and was congratulated upon his paternal prowess. "The only happiness in life," he declared, "is to have children—as many as you can. It makes a man feel good to know that he has raised a large family and has given them the best he could."

—S. F. Examiner

President Coolidge and the House paused today in their consideration of important affairs of State long enough to pay tribute to America's champion father—Reuben Bland, a seventy-two-year-old farmer of Robersonville, N. C., whose children number thirty-four.

—N. Y. World

In regard to Col. Reuben Bland of Robersonville, N. C., who has sired thirty-four children since he entered wedlock, we must say his feat leaves us cold.

When such proud papas present themselves at the White House, there to be congratulated by the President of the United States and when later they present themselves at the Capitol, there to be applauded by the House of Representatives, we wonder why somebody doesn't stand up and ask, "Where is Mamma?" For it is obvious that the burden of this brilliant performance does not fall on the party of the first part, there in Washington bowing to his plaudits, but on the party of the second part, somewhere back home, busy at her second partish tasks, and if she were called to testify, it is likely that her remarks would cause the late Roosevelt a great deal of pain. Col. Bland, one reads, has been married twice. That means that one of the Mrs. Blands must have borne at least seventeen children. And we submit that any man who has caused a woman to bear seventeen children should be the object not of Congressional applause but of Congressional investigation.—Editorial in *N. Y. World*

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Bernard Shaw says mothers should be paid for having children and adds, "I would not have a baby for less than \$10,000." He underestimates it.

If he were a woman, with only a man's courage, and had had ONE baby, he wouldn't have another one for a million dollars.—Arthur Brisbane in *N. Y. American*

## News Notes

### UNITED STATES

**A**CTIVE members of the American Birth Control League, Inc elected under the amendment to Article IV, Section II of the Constitution raising the number from 48 to 150, include all members of the National Council, whose names are to be found on our inner front cover, and the following

Mrs Margaret Sanger, N Y, Mrs Juliet Barrett Rublee, N Y, Mrs Frances B Ackermann, N Y, Mr J Noah H Slee, N Y, Mrs F Robertson Jones, N Y, Mr Richard Billings, N Y, Mrs Richard Billings, N Y, Mrs Dexter Blagden, N Y, Rev William H Garth, Islip, L I, N Y, Mrs George H Day, Conn, Mrs Annie G Porritt, Conn, Dr Stuart Mudd, Penn, Dr John C Vaughan, N Y, Mrs Walter Timme, N Y, Mrs Martin Knapp, Syracuse, N Y, Mrs Donald Hooker, Md, Dr Sidney Goldstein, N Y, Mrs J Bishop Vandever, N Y, Mrs Zelma Brandt, N Y, Mrs J Scott Browning, N Y, Mr I N Thurman, N Y, Rev F C S Wicks, Cal, Mrs A H Cobb, Syracuse, N Y, Mrs Albert Walker, Texas, Mrs Robert J Thorne, S C, Professor Edmund G Howe, Ala, Mrs Edmund G Howe, Ala, Mrs George D Pratt, Jr, Conn, Mrs Roger E Stewart, N Y, Mrs Ernest G Vietor, N Y, Mr Raymond Curtis, Garrison, N Y, Mrs Dwight Morrow, N Y, Mr Thatcher M Brown, N Y, Mrs Thatcher M Brown, N Y, Mrs Arthur W Lawrence, N Y, Mrs Wilton Lloyd Smith, N Y, Mrs Wm H Reid, N Y, Mrs Walter E Sachs, N Y, Mrs George W Handy, Vermont, Mrs Warren Thorpe, N Y, Mrs S Thompson, N Y, Mrs H Otto Wittpen, N Y, Mrs Clara W Carter, N J, Mrs Lewis L Delafield, N Y and Mrs Anne Kennedy, N Y

### New York

**O**N February 2nd, the American Birth Control League's bill to amend the penal law relating to physicians instruments was introduced in the Assembly by Representative Walter Gedney of Rockland County. The bill, which was introduced as No 656, final No 1178, was referred to the Committee on Codes of which Mr Gedney is a member. It reads

§ 1145 Physician's instruments. An article or instrument, used or applied by physicians lawfully practicing, or by their direction or prescription, for

*the contraceptive treatment of married persons or for the cure or prevention of disease, is not an article of indecent or immoral nature or use, within this article. The supplying of such articles to such physicians or by their direction or prescription, is not an offense under this article.*

The proposed amendment is in *italics*

There will be a hearing on the bill at Albany on March 1st. Friends of Birth Control are urged to write their representatives and to attend the hearing. Several important meetings have been held within recent weeks. On January 25th, Mrs F Robertson Jones spoke at the Hotel Astor, before the Political Study Club. Following her address the club both endorsed and offered to send a representative to the hearing on the New York bill.

The most recent of the winter series of parlor meetings was held on February 3rd, at the home of Mrs Philip Golden Bartlett. The speakers were Mrs William A MacLaren, vice president St Luke's Hospital Social Service, who spoke on "Birth Control in Relation to Social Service," and James F Cooper, M D, of the Clinical Research Department, American Birth Control League, on "Birth Control from a Medical Standpoint." Mrs Richard Billings presided.

On February 6th, the distinguished Chinese Nationalist and Educator, Dr Hu Shih, gave an address at the home of Mrs George Rublee, vice president of the American Birth Control League on the social and political problems of the Chinese. He stated that support of family limitation was spreading fast in China, Chinese women were in favor and he believed that it would soon be a definite government policy.

A brief and unpremeditated, but effective, public utterance for Birth Control was made by Kitty Marion, at a Mass Meeting at the Town Hall, New York City, to discuss plans for relief of housing congestion. Questions being called for after the decidedly pessimistic speeches on the possibilities of relief, Miss Marion elicited a round of applause and a demand for educational literature when she asked "whether until the problems which have been discussed tonight are settled, it would not be well to instruct those suffering from bad conditions, in the knowledge of Birth Control."

One Argentine and seven Japanese social workers have been among visitors at headquarters this month. Among the Japanese were Kohei Saitoh with a letter of introduction from the Tokio Department of Justice, R Okumura, General Secre-



tary of the Young Men's Christian Association, Kobe, Miss Michi Kawai, and Miss Malsuyo Takizawa, graduate students at Bryn Mawr

### Connecticut

**A**CTIVE work in support of SB 145, the bill repealing the present law against the use of contraceptives, is being done throughout the State. A hearing on the bill before the Joint Judiciary Committee of House and Senate, will be held about the middle of March. Another bill, similar to one introduced in 1925, was unofficially introduced this year by a friend of the movement. Both bills will be considered at the hearing. Efforts are now being made to secure support of the bill in the constituencies, through pressure on the Representatives and Senators.

### Pennsylvania

**D**R STUART MUDD, president of the Pennsylvania Birth Control Federation sends the following report of progress

The Birth Control movement in Pennsylvania has passed through its first formative stage and is now vigorously engaged in a campaign toward the first of its specific ends, namely amendment of the nineteenth century statutes regarding contraception, which now hamper physicians and others working for social welfare in this state. We feel that to those who have thus far given us moral or financial support is due an account of what has been done and is now under way.

Work in the winter and spring of 1926 was largely given to expanding and strengthening the local organization. A number of persons of strategic importance in welfare, medical, social and business life joined our council, valuable contacts were made, meetings were held, and our membership was largely increased.

In the summer of 1926 Miss Elizabeth Grew, then our organizer, conducted a campaign in Reading and in the fall another in Pittsburgh. Subsequently she worked in Lancaster and York. The existing Allegheny County Birth Control League has increased its activities and coordinated them with our own. A very strong organization has been formed in Berks County under the leadership of Mr and Mrs Stanley Bright of Reading. Educational work is still in progress in Lancaster and York.

Delegates from the Allegheny County League, Berks County League and our own organization, now the South-eastern Pennsylvania Birth Control League,\* formed on January 9th, the Pennsylvania Birth Control Federation. Responsibility for guiding and financing legislative, educational and organization work throughout the State will

\*Dr Mudd is also President of this league, which covers the counties of Chester, Delaware, Montgomery and Philadelphia.

henceforth be shared by these several local leagues and such other local organizations as are formed and admitted. Financial responsibility devolves upon each local organization in proportion to the ratio of its population (1920 census) to the total population of the organized counties of the State.

The resignation of Miss Grew on grounds of ill health was accepted in December by the executive and organization committees. State organization work is now being conducted by the Field Secretary (Mrs Edith W. Pierce). Mrs Pierce has for many years been engaged in organization and welfare work. In Philadelphia as an employee of the City she was for several years the pioneer in contact work between municipal departments and all citizens' organizations.

An amendment to existing statutes which would allow physicians the legal right to give contraceptive advice in private and public practice has been drawn by Mr Stevens Heckscher and Mr Allen S. Olmsted and approved by the several local organizations. Our immediate objective is to secure favorable action on this amendment by the General Assembly of 1927, so that clinics may be opened under the direction of physicians in the principal centers of population of the State. The Legislative Secretary is Mrs A. C. Martin. Mrs Martin has had wide experience with various types of organization work both nationally and locally since 1913.

The proposed amendment has been ratified by two of the first medical societies to which it has been submitted, namely, the Main Line Branch of the Montgomery County Medical Society and the Berks County Medical Society. The secretaries of these organizations have kindly consented to sign letters asking endorsement, to be sent to the secretaries of all other county medical societies in the State.

### In a later letter Dr Mudd reports

The amendment has been introduced into the House of Representatives by the Hon. Philip Sterling, an able Philadelphia lawyer and one of the strongest floor leaders in the house. The amendment has been referred to the Committee on Public Health and Sanitation as House bills No. 455 and 456, to amend each of the existing laws against contraception. These bills are now in subcommittee. Please ask that every member see personally if possible and if possible get his or her physician to see his legislators personally and explain to them the meaning and importance of these bills. If it is not possible to see legislators personally, write, but write *explaining*, not advocating the bills. They are doctor's permissive bills and would give physicians the legal right now denied them by the Pennsylvania law to use prevention of conception in cases in which it is in their professional judgment desirable. Now they can only legally use cure (abortion) in such cases as cannot be allowed to go through with pregnancy. I give the text of one bill the desirable con-

ditions for contraception may be either economic or medical in our bill, as you may see. The bill reads

*Section 2* Any person who sells, lends, gives away or in any manner exhibits or offers to sell lend or give away or has in his possession with intent to sell lend or give away or advertises or offers for sale, loan or distribution any instrument or article or any recipe, drug or medicine for the prevention of conception or for causing unlawful abortion or advertises or holds out representations that it can be so used or applied or any such description as will be calculated to lead another to so use or apply any such article recipe, drug medicine or instrument or who writes or prints or causes to be written or printed a card circular pamphlet advertisement or notice of any kind or gives information orally stating when where how of whom or by what means such an instrument article recipe, drug or medicine can be purchased or obtained or who manufactures any such instrument article recipe, drug or medicine is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be liable to the same penalties as provided in section one of this act

It is proposed to amend this section by adding —

*Nothing contained in this section shall prohibit, curtail or in any manner affect the sale or supply of contraceptive drugs, preparations or appliances by manufacturers, dealers or druggists to lawfully practicing physicians or to other persons upon the written prescription of lawfully practicing physicians nor shall lawfully practicing physicians in public or private practice be prohibited from giving their patients information, advice, prescriptions or recipes concerning contraception or the use of contraceptive drugs preparations or appliances*

The symposium on Birth Control was a splendid success. The Ball Room of the Benjamin Franklin was filled. The manager of the hotel said there were more than a thousand there. Mrs. Mudd estimated 550-600 people. All the speeches were splendid. Mrs. Hooker was inspired. Dr. Cooper was fine. Mr. Burritt's main thesis was that there is already too much Birth Control in certain quarters and too little in others, that we must have open study and discussion, get accurate clinical results and deal scientifically with the facts.

Officers of the Pennsylvania Birth Control Federation are: President, Stuart Mudd, M.D., Vice President, Roswell Johnson, Ph.D., Secretary, Mrs. George A. Dunning, Treasurer, Malcolm H. Bissell, Ph.D. The full list of council members will be given next month.

In the latter part of January, Dr. Cooper spoke before a lay meeting of 150 people at the home of Mrs. Bright, at Wyomissing, and at a meeting of the Berks County Medical Society at the same place.

Speakers at a Birth Control symposium under the auspices of the Federation to which Dr. Mudd's

letter makes reference and which was held at the Pennsylvania Conference on Social Welfare, on February 11th, were: Mr. Bailey B. Burritt, General Director, Association for the Improvement of Condition of Poor, New York City, on "Birth Control and Family Welfare"; Mrs. Edith Houghton Hooker, M.D., Baltimore, Md., author and lecturer, on "The Relation of Birth Control to Social Hygiene and Economics"; Dr. James F. Cooper, Medical Director of the Clinical Research Department of the American Birth Control League, New York City, on "Medical Aspects of Birth Control." The Chairman of the meeting was Mr. Stephens Heckscher, Chairman of the All Philadelphia Conference on Social Work.

Additional testimony as to the excellence of Dr. Cooper's speech is given in a personal letter from Mrs. Moorhouse. She writes:

"I have had the pleasure of hearing you speak several times, and think that this was your very best address. The Federation is most grateful to you, and I am sure you could feel how deeply interested the big audience was."

#### New Jersey

MRS. P. B. P. HUSE, executive secretary of the American Birth Control League on February 7, addressed a group of 65 members of the Lakewood Section of the Council of Jewish Women.

#### North Carolina

THE reactionary forces which gained a fleeting advantage in Tennessee, when the Legislature passed the Anti-Evolution bill, are showing themselves active in North Carolina. As usual the advocates are posing as the champions of morality and purity, and under high-sounding names are demanding the suppression of scientific knowledge. In North Carolina the Reverend Oscar Haywood, a fundamentalist minister, who was elected to the Legislature from Montgomery, introduced a bill against Birth Control, more drastic and reactionary than anything now embodied in State law. This bill would not only take away from physicians the right they now have under the State law to prescribe contraceptives in case of disease. It would penalize the use and even the mere possession of any contraceptive device, and would make the giving or selling of such devices a felony. The bill was defeated, citizens and physicians being rallied in opposition, so the danger is past for the time being. Mr. Haywood threatens, however, to keep up the

fight and to run for the governorship on his "morality" issue. There is no possibility of the forces of reaction being permanently successful, but the price of liberty is eternal vigilance and the friends of Birth Control cannot afford to allow themselves to be taken unawares or to permit the passage of this unwise, even if unworkable legislation.

### Illinois

**THE CIVIC SECRETARY** of the Chicago Woman's Aid sends word that Birth Control Clinic Centre Number Five, the founding of which was announced in the January REVIEW, has quarters at 1258 Taylor Street. Dr. Olga Ginsburg is in charge. A Sixth Centre, (The Mary Crane Centre) has been started by the Illinois League, at Hull House, 818 Gilpin Street, with Dr. Mathilda Lichner in charge.

### Colorado

**FRIENDS** and admirers of Judge Lindsey's work both for the young person in trouble and for the cause of Birth Control are distressed to learn of the decision of the State Supreme Court making void his election to the Juvenile Court of Denver, which he founded. An effort is being made to carry the case to the United States Supreme Court.

### CANADA

**ON** January 21st, Anne Kennedy was in Toronto where she spoke before a meeting of 500 women, members of the Toronto Women's Labor League.

### IRELAND

**BIRTH CONTROL** propaganda and advertisements are to be classed as immoral, according to a recommendation by the Evil Literature Committee. The recommendation will be presented to the Dail where it is assured of an overwhelming majority. It is proposed to create a board of censors with power to prohibit the sale or circulation of books or newspapers containing demoralizing matter.

### FRANCE

**ROUSED** by the renewal of government attacks on Neo-Malthusians, a group of lovers of free speech have undertaken the publication of a quarterly free speech bulletin called "*Pour la Liberte d'Opinion*," whose object is the abrogation of laws against free speech. Two laws are named, that of

1894 against a free press and that of 1920 forbidding the giving of Birth Control information. The punishment set by this law, under which it will be remembered the Humbert family was imprisoned and fined, is one to six months in prison together with a fine of from 100 to 5,000 francs. The editor of the new quarterly is Leon Marinont, 53 Grande Rue, a Marsons-Alfort, (Seine).

### PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

**BALTHAZAR B. BUNAG, M.D.** who described his controversy with Father Haberstroh of Rizal in the January Review, sends us the following letter:

"You asked me to keep you informed of the development of the movement in the Philippine Islands. While there is no public movement as yet, because of the ignorance of the public and the restriction which makes it illegal to circulate literature, yet there is at present a bill before the Legislature, amending the existing law to make the restriction more severe.

"I criticized this bill in one of the local papers on October 30, 1926, and stated that in my opinion, Birth Control cannot be stopped by any laws. It is done privately and secretly and the persons practicing it are those needing it for the betterment of the family by substituting quality for mere quantity. The editor of the paper in his editorial admits the force of the movement, but says that in a country like the Philippines to practice Birth Control is a crime, though he believes that such a measure is good in countries like China and Japan. Even the fathers of the bill say in an interview that it is against freedom of conscience, but that they feel that in spite of this fact it should be passed for the good of the Nation.

"Instead of forbidding the practice, I then suggested a better measure, that before encouraging the increase in population the economic condition of the Islands must be first put on a sound basis. I urged that all our food, all things needed as primary necessities of life be raised from our own soil, making our resources adequate to maintain our population. When the Islands are ready, according to my proposition, the Government should grant a pension to any poor family having 10 or more children.

"Employees should be given increases in salary whenever their wives gave birth to a new member of the household. The unmarried and the couple bearing no children, should have a fixed salary. Women working in any shop, either government or private firm, should be given pay and increase during pregnancy without service for two months before and two months after delivery. I emphasized that the adoption of this suggestion into law would mean quality and quantity without infringing the people's rights. Such a law would put it up to the Nation to meet the consequences of its anti-Birth Control policy."

# Ignorance is the Root of all Suffering

A SUGGESTIVE CALENDAR FROM THE DAILY PRESS

Compiled by GUY I BURCH

JAN 21ST "The large numbers who have settled in France and the enormous waiting list of those seeking to come to the United States show that the problem of surplus population will recur to perplex the overpopulated nations of Europe and the Governments of the New world"—*Times (N Y) Editorial*

JAN 21ST "France suspends all naturalization laws to stop labor protests on Alien workers The doors were officially closed against immigration several weeks ago French labor leaders demand that a large proportion of foreigners be sent home"—*Times (N Y)*

JAN 23RD "Despite her loss of 2,000,000 men in the World War and the reduction of her population by several millions at Versailles, Germany today has 1,700,000 more abled-bodied men of working age than she had before the war"—*Times (N Y)*

JAN 25TH "In a special message sent to the Legislature tonight Governor Smith admonished the lawmakers that unless preventive measures were found and applied, the State's hospitals for the insane would be more overcrowded by 1935 than they were in 1923, when the \$50,000,000 bond issue was decided upon as an emergency measure"—*Times (N Y)*

JAN 27TH "\$25,000,000 plan to rebuild slums now taking shape"—*Times (N Y)*

JAN 30TH "The population of Italy from 1922 to the end of 1925 increased from 38,790,000 to 40,550,000 This increased the difficulty of feeding the dense population, and a certain unrest in the foreign policies of the Fascists may be explained by this urgent population problem"—*Herald-Tribune (N Y)*

"War may break like hurricane, says Mussolini"—

—*World (N Y)*

Jan 23rd "Mussolini plans monster air fleet by spring that can paralyze an enemy at start of war"

—*Times (N Y) Jan 25th*

JAN 30TH Although the Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor alone "spent \$1,282,000 in 1926 for the needy, between 250,000 and 300,000 school children in New York City are suffering from malnutrition, according to Dr Louis I Harris, City Health Commissioner"—*Times (N Y)*

FEB 4TH "Within the last three years, according to our Moscow correspondent, 3,000,000 peasants have migrated into towns The Ministry of Labor reports a million trade-union members out of employment \* \* \* The Russian mujik is desperately poor There are 20% more of him than required by the land now under plow \* \* \* The famous Russian birth rate was sure to swallow

up the gains (in the acquisition of the landlords holdings) in a comparatively short time, and now it is reported that the thing has happened"—*Times (N Y) Editorial*

FEB 6TH "'It is remarkable,' says Constance E McGuire, 'that taking into account the increase of population (in Italy), in the last years, as compared with 1921-22, (there was not an increase but an actual decrease of consumption' Italy's standard of living, at least in material goods, has declined under the Fascist regime"

—*Times (N Y) Book Review*

FEB 7TH "France warns Duce to cease aggressive tactics in Balkans Proposal by Paris to strengthen Corsican garrisons taken as reply to 'Italy must expand'"—*Herald-Tribune (N Y)*

FEB 7TH "More life terms for crime urged 'The reason for the failure (of our system of punishment)' said Supreme Court Justice Louis D Gibbs, 'is that we deal too much with the effects of crime and not enough with its causes Ninety-nine per cent of the criminals brought before me came from poor homes, and east side and west side tenements that should have been wiped out long ago"—*Times (N Y)*

FEB 7TH "On July 1 next it is the estimate of the Census Bureau that the population of the United States will be 118,628,000 This will represent an increase over the 1920 census returns of a trifle short of 13,000,000 Next July 1 will be first three-quarters of the current decade, and if the same ratio of increase be assumed for the last quarter, the census of 1930 should register a population of 123,500,000 with an increase since 1920 of 17,250,000 It will be greater by 3,500,000 than the gain in population between 1910 and 1920 in face of a declining birth rate and the sharp curtailment of immigration"

—*Times (N Y) Editorial*

1924-1926

(Continued from Page 75)

ization of the great humane object behind the movement The opportunity for this interview would not have been offered in 1924

Step by step the work is advancing Clinics are being established and contraceptive information will be available to many more women in the next twelve months Prejudice is breaking down under the quiet persistent program of the League and as a better understanding has grown of the aim of the movement, a new era has dawned in which scientists and laymen together are making the world see Birth Control in its rightful proportions

## CORRESPONDENCE

## WORK IN CHINA

Editor, BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW

Since I returned to China, I have written a book on Birth Control in Chinese. I sent one of these books to you and received your answer last year. After that, I started a Birth Control Movement in Canton. A warrant for my arrest was issued by the health authorities in Canton, last year, for violating one of its ordinances, which prohibits the issuing of any drug preventing conception. Now I have organized a Birth Control Society in which the leading members are college professors, and we are going to spread the movement and fight this ordinance.

Soviet Russia has great influence in the northwestern and southern part of China, especially in Canton. Mr. Borodin, a Russian, is high adviser to the Cantonese government and is very influential. Mme. Borodin, says she knows you. Can you give me a letter to her? I beg you to do everything to help the Birth Control Movement in China, and inform me of any new method which has been discovered.

I debated with our people in the newspapers on the question, "Is Birth Control to blame for population decrease and race suicide?" Have you any good argument for answering this questions?

Thanking you for your cooperation and information, I am

Sincerely yours,

JANG OI WON

## A LETTER THAT CONCERNS US

Editor, Springfield Student

At the beginning of the term several students contributed toward a subscription to the BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW with the understanding that it was to be placed in the reading room of the Library where all would have an opportunity to read it.

The following extract of a letter from the Librarian is herewith offered as an explanation of why the BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW is not yet in the library.

Dear Mr. B

A short time ago you wrote Mr. Burr regarding a subscription to the BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW. The matter was brought up at the Library Committee meeting today. Owing to the present crowded condition of the reading room, the Committee feels that we do not have room for the magazine at this time.

This commendable attitude of the Library Committee is appreciated. Nevertheless, it is felt that at least those students who contributed toward its subscription would like to become acquainted with this publication and room has, therefore, been secured in the commodious quarters of the General Secretary of the Student Association in which the BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW will be displayed and from which it may be borrowed.

O K B

AMERICAN BIRTH CONTROL LEAGUE, Incorporated	
STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSE	
January 1st to December 31, 1926	
<b>INCOME</b>	
Contributions	\$28,717.03
Memberships	3,351.20
BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW	8,307.11
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$40,375.34</b>
<b>EXPENSE</b>	
Salaries	\$17,807.64
Postage	3,380.92
New Jersey Expense	1,823.15
Field Work and Publicity	3,769.24
Printing and Stationery	1,174.06
Washington Expense	2,768.46
Sesquicentennial Expense	1,668.93
Rent and Light	2,898.67
Telephone and Telegraph	787.01
Office Supplies and Expense	529.81
Conference Expense	827.30
Auditing	390.00
Clippings	188.30
Collection and Exchange	26.29
Advertising	24.70
Insurance	15.32
General and Miscellaneous	199.03
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$38,349.83</b>
<b>NET INCOME, year Ended December 31, 1926</b>	<b>\$2,025.51</b>

AMERICAN BIRTH CONTROL LEAGUE, Incorporated	
Publishers of BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW	
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS	
January 1st to December 31, 1926	
<b>Sales and Subscriptions</b>	
Sales	\$1,509.55
Subscriptions	5,777.98
Advertising	744.40
	<b>\$6,522.38</b>
<b>Publication Costs</b>	
	<b>\$5,913.87</b>
Gross Profit on Publication of Review	608.51
<b>Literature Sales</b>	
Sales—Proceedings and Miscellaneous	4,194.62
Less Cost of Sales	3,241.27
Gross Profit on Literature Sales	<b>953.35</b>
Total Gross Profit	<b>1,561.86</b>
Add Contributions	<b>6,745.25</b>
<b>GROSS INCOME, Year Ended December 31, 1926</b>	<b>\$8,307.11</b>

## Books Worth Owning

### Birth Control — Facts and Responsibilities

Edited by Adolf Meyer M D

Former Price \$3 00 now - - \$2 00

This Volume contains telling arguments and pleas for Birth Control by Margaret Sanger Raymond Pearl E M East C C Little Eleanor R Wembridge and others

### Eugenics and Birth Control

By J Rutgers M D

Former Price \$2 50 now - - - 1 50

First hand information and unanswerable argument from the founder of the first Birth Control Clinics in Holland

### As a Doctor Sees It - - - - - 1 50

By Ben Zion Liber M D

Stories from Life told with sympathy and keen insight

### An Outline of Marriage - - - - - 25

By Floyd Dell

An amusing and chat-ening inquiry into an old and honored institution

### Birth Control—What it Is—How it Works—What it will do - - - 1 50

A valuable set of papers from the New York Conference of 1922 A Birth Control Library in itself

### Proceedings of the Sixth International Birth Control Conference

Set of Four Volumes - - - - 5 00

Single Volume - - - - - 2 00

These four volumes cover all the vast field of Birth Control They include its international aspects vital for the peace and prosperity of the world the Problems of Food and Overpopulation the Medical and Eugenic Aspects and the Religious and Moral questions involved in Birth Control The authors number among them some of the best known names in these various fields in Europe and America This is the most complete and satisfactory presentation of Birth Control so far existing It should be on the shelves of every library public and private

## Books by Margaret Sanger

Happiness in Marriage - - - - \$2 00

Mrs Sanger's new book

Teaches how to avoid the pitfalls that so often ruin hopeful married lives

Woman and the New Race - - - 2 00

More widely read than any other book on Birth Control

The Pivot of Civilization - - - 2 00

The Guide Post at the Crossroads

What Every Girl Should Know - - 1 50

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What Every Mother Should Know - 60

Order (adding 10c for postage) from

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New York City

## THE THIRD IN THE TRIANGLE

"My experience with delinquent girls has quieted for me the scruple which turns some religious people against Birth Control, the fear that if contraceptive methods were known and in common use there would be more immorality For in these cases I have found the real crime, the unforgivable crime, to be the bringing into the world of a helpless child to bear the brunt of the guilt It is the third in the present triangle of immorality that is the great argument for Birth Control I cannot see this third, the victim, as some moralists seem to do, as an argument against Birth Control—*A Deaconess who works among unmarried mothers*

\* \* \* \* \*

## AS TO AGE AT MARRIAGE

That the ideal age for marriage is about 29 for the groom and 24 for the bride, that deviations of four years on either side of the ideal age for the groom, or of two years on either side of the ideal age of the bride, make no appreciable difference, that marriages in which the bride is under 21 years of age, or the groom under 24 become rapidly more dangerous as younger ages are considered, that marriages in which either party is 19 or younger are from 10 to 100 times as risky as are marriages at the ideal age, and that marriages of persons over 38 years of age are from two to five times as likely to result in domestic difficulties as are marriages at the ideal age such are outstanding conclusions with regard to Philadelphia marriages as indicated by age data collected from the Domestic Relations Court and the Marriage License Bureau of that city

HORNELL HART AND WILMER SHIELDS

In *Journal of Social Hygiene* (N Y)

\* \* \* \* \*

## THE PILLARS OF THE FAMILY

Brought before Magistrate Dreyer in the Municipal Term Court for failing to send his sixteen-year-old daughter, Margaret, to continuation school, Joseph Ferrante, of 2011 Third Avenue, stated that Margaret, although suffering from tuberculosis in an advanced stage, was needed for the support of the family, which included himself, his wife and eight children She was able to do a small amount of sewing at home and this was an important part of the family's income, as he himself had heart disease and was unable to work The burden of supporting the family, he explained, rested on the shoulders of his wife and his ailing daughter

—*Herald-Tribune* (N Y), Nov 5th

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# MARCHING ON

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## *The American Birth Control League*

*announces the introduction of bills in favor of Birth Control in three  
State Legislatures*

**NEW YORK**  
(Int Bill No 1178)  
Referred to Codes Com

**PENNSYLVANIA**  
(House No 456)  
Referred to Com on Public  
Health and Sanitation

**CONNECTICUT**  
(Sen Res No 145)  
Referred to Judiciary Com

*Never before has there been such Legislative Activity on the question*

**We hope to win in all three states**

**To accomplish this we need YOUR help**

**We ask you who live in one or other of these three  
States to WRITE TO YOUR REPRESENTATIVES IN  
BOTH HOUSES OF YOUR LEGISLATURE AND  
URGE THEM TO SUPPORT THE STATE BILL**

*Write at Once, and Get Your Friends to Write*

**READ OUR NEWS COLUMNS FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR STATE-BILL**

**Write to us if you feel that you can help us in any way If  
you can ATTEND THE HEARING at the State Capitol,  
let us know and we will notify you of the date**



## *The Victory*

*can only be won through work and devotion*

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**A M E R I C A N   B I R T H   C O N T R O L   L E A G U E**  
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