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BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW

Non Quantitas, sed Qualitas

The Population Problem

Jubilee of the Pioneer English League

1877-1927

THE AMERICAN BIRTH CONTROL LEAGUE, INC

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BIRTH CONTROL PRIMER



What Have We Learned About Birth Control?

WE HAVE learned that Birth Control is the conscious regulation of the birth rate. The most practical method of Birth Control is the use of harmless mechanical and chemical devices for the prevention of conception. Abortion can be prevented by the use of these hygienic contraceptives. Because of the forces of ignorance, indifference, prejudice, and superstition the spread of knowledge concerning Birth Control is forbidden by law.

Why Is Birth Control Necessary?

The following reasons have been given

- I THE HEALTH OF MOTHER AND CHILD
- II THE HAPPINESS OF MARRIED LIFE
- III THE RELIEF OF OVER-POPULATION
- IV THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE RACE
- V THE PREVENTION OF POVERTY

This month we give

Reason VI —THE PROGRESS OF CIVILIZATION

It is necessary to abolish such obstacles as war, starvation and disease if the nations are to preserve their present civilization. But civilization begins in the home and is destroyed whenever the family becomes larger than the parents can support in comfort.

Overcrowded tenements, which give no chance for decency and morality for the growing children, are uncivilized. Child labor and scanty education, necessary when the father's wages cannot support the family without help from the children, destroy civilization.

A life of ill-health and hardship for the mother, with no opportunity for recreation or for larger interests, is not a civilized existence.

Crowded schools, double sessions, classes of 50 or 60 children for the harrassed teachers do not tend to progress in civilization. Civilization is only possible when mother and child are given the opportunity of happy and adequate living.

If we desire that civilization shall progress, we must eliminate bad conditions. The best remedy is through BIRTH CONTROL. The mother can then limit her family to the number for whom she can adequately care, and for whom the community offers good education and fair opportunity in life.

THE most civilized countries everywhere and the most civilized people in them are those with the lowest birth rate

—HAVELOCK ELLIS

BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW

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

VOL XI

JUNE, 1927

No 6

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OUR CONTRIBUTORS

- DR ALES HRDLICKA is head of the Anthropological Department of the Smithsonian Institute, Washington, D C
- DR ALLAN A HUNTER, a minister, friend of the Birth Control movement in California, is recently returned from several years residence in China
- NORMAN E HIMES, of the Economics Department of Cornell College, Mt Vernon, Iowa, is absent on leave for a year, writing a thesis on the Birth Control Movement for his Ph D (Harvard)
- ARNOLD H KANIAT, is a journalist Contributor to the "Journal of Psychology" and other magazines
- QUALITAS NON QUANTITAS, the subhead on our cover this month, is the motto of the Malthusian League of England, which in July will conclude the fiftieth year of its work

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EDITORIAL

WE ARE able to announce this month the preliminary plans for the World Population Conference. We give also in our news columns, a brief account of the program of the International Economic Conference, held at Geneva in May under the auspices of the League of Nations. Our readers may be disposed to wonder why the League which can devote three weeks conference to the World Economic situation, does not give equal attention to the World Population situation. The answer is to be found in the official program and the documents of the Economic Conference, which show that the statesmen and scholars who direct the activities of the League of Nations, do not realize that, even in the field of economics, population has a very important bearing. They do not, or they will not, grasp the fact that overpopulation underlies almost all the great international problems. But though it was left out of the agenda, it seems impossible that the three weeks conference did not bring out much discussion of overpopulation. If this unbidden guest did force its way into the economic deliberations, it will have prepared the minds of many representatives of the League to give a fair hearing to the World Population Conference, which three months later is to sit on the doorstep of the League. One great step forward has been taken this year, in the fact that scientists of all nations have taken the initiative in calling the first World Population Conference and in making Geneva, the home of the League of Nations, the place of meeting. When the League is awakened to the importance of the problem, it will find the material for its solution ready at hand in the proceedings of six Neo-Malthusian Conferences and of the World Population Conference of 1927.

GERMAN scholars are joining the rapidly growing number of scientists who are asking today to look forward and take steps to prevent

tomorrow's overcrowding. If the views of Dr. Albrecht Penck, Professor of Geography of the University of Berlin and authority on the Swiss ice ages, are representative of German thought, thinkers and statesmen of that country no longer believe that expansion into the territory of other nations will relieve the pressure of population, for they realize that that pressure is on the way to become a world-wide problem which will leave no "place in the sun" for any nation to seek. Dr. Penck is in this country to read a paper on "The Capacity of the Earth for Maintaining the Human Race" before a Congress on soil sciences at Washington, June 11-21st. He is quoted as predicting in 2227 a population of eight billion (the saturation point), and a continuous state of famine if constructive measures are not taken this far ahead to prevent the saturation point from being reached.

In estimating our supporters, we have not given enough weight to the researches of geographers. This is not the first time that the relation of soil to the population problem has been dwelt upon at their congresses. In December, 1925 and January, 1926 we published articles by Dr. Bissell, giving the substance of papers at an American geographic session on the exhaustion of the "black" soils and the limits of the potential supply of wheat.



CHINA still occupies the center of the international stage. There is consequently a continuous outpouring of speeches, articles and books dealing not only with the present crisis, but also with the internal conditions to which China's constant crises are due. The National Geographic Society has just published a book, "China Land of Famine," which is a companion story to Dr.

Wu Lien Teh's account of the pestilence problem in China, and *The Nation* has brought out Lewis Gannett's "Young China," one section of which describes the effect on labor conditions of the competition of inordinate numbers of workers. "China Land of Famine" is by Walter Mallory. He tells in detail the story of recurrent and hitherto unpreventable famine. He finds the Chinese always, even in non-famine years, on the edge of famine, because of their "abnormal birthrate." "On the coastal plains," he writes, "population saturation is reached and the Malthusian law of positive checks is in full force." He outlines a plan of relief in which Birth Control—"a conscious effort to lower the birthrate"—plays an important part. He observes that the present efforts at sanitation and the cure of disease "may mean that the man who is saved from cholera today may die from starvation tomorrow." He adds "the writer views this problem with such concern that he would even propose, as a department of work in every medical institution, the teaching of methods of contraception. In this way the birthrate might be lowered at the same time as the deathrate."



ANOTHER contribution to the study of overpopulation in China was made by Dr. Edwin D. Harvey, from whose address at Suffield, we give excerpts in this issue of the REVIEW. Dr. Harvey emphasizes the fact that at no time do the Chinese of the poorer classes have enough to eat. They live in a condition of semi-starvation—a fact to which he attributes much of the seething unrest of China and its liability to internal troubles and revolutions. In this address and in that by Rev. Allan A. Hunter, D.D. which we print this month, much stress is laid upon the outworn ideal, to which China still clings, of large families and numerous descendants. To change the religious ideas of a great and illiterate nation is a task of enormous difficulty. Yet even this great task can be accomplished, and is being accomplished, among the more thoughtful and better educated Chinese, who are impressed by the merciless logic of facts. The Chinese are beginning to realize that the flood of births, into a land of famine and poverty, means a terrifically high deathrate—the waste of millions of lives, not only of the unfortunate babies, but of older children and of men and women whose portions are diminished as population increases. It means also the degradation, the exhaustion and death of the mothers, and the young men and women who love their mother.

regard with indignation their sacrifice to this ancient ideal. Dr. Hunter regrets the scanty of Birth Control information in China. Surely, where there is so great a demand for the teaching, which was started by Margaret Sanger in 1922, there will be a response in the provision of more facilities.



THERE is another aspect of the Chinese situation—one that is emphasized by Lewis Gannett in his book and that was touched upon by Dr. Mallory and Dr. Harvey. This is the unsanitary conditions in which the vast mass of the Chinese people live their lives—the over-crowding of ridiculously inadequate dwelling places, the lack of sewerage, the unspeakably filthy surroundings in which the babies and little children as well as the older people have to exist. This lack of sanitation is aggravated by the pitifully primitive and intensive agricultural methods. The soil must yield the maximum that can be squeezed from it by the toilers and the farmer is driven to the use of fertilizers which are an invitation to the spread of disease. As for the factory workers, the pressure of numbers has depressed wages to such a level that men, women and children, down in many cases almost to infancy, are obliged to labor long hours to secure enough to keep themselves alive. It would indeed be difficult for those opponents of Birth Control, who so smugly deny the existence of a population question, to study modern China and persist in this denial.



IN MORE than thirty States, by proclamation of the Governors, the first Sunday in May was celebrated as Child Health Day, and from many a pulpit the Child's Bill of Rights was recited. This declaration which emanates from the American Child Health Association reads:

"The ideal to which we should strive is that there shall be no child in America that has not been born under proper conditions, that does not live in hygienic surroundings, that ever suffers from under-nutrition, that does not have prompt and efficient medical attention and inspection, that does not receive primary instruction in the elements of hygiene and good health, that there shall be no child that has not the complete birthright of a sound mind in a sound body and the encouragement to express in

fullest measure the spirit within, which is the final endowment of every human being"

The aspiration is noble and fine. But how can it be reached unless Birth Control, as a duty even more than as a privilege, is urged upon the mothers? How can "the complete birthright" be ensured for every child as long as women bear unlimited numbers of infants, at intervals far too short to allow of their full recovery from one childbirth before the beginning of another pregnancy? How can hygienic surroundings be secured for children in overcrowded homes, where the mothers must eke out the fathers' wages irrespective of the proper nutrition of each individual child in the troop? In short, how can the American Child Health Association begin its great task unless it puts in the forefront of its teaching BIRTH CONTROL?

THROUGH the appointment of Professor Allyn Abbott Young of Harvard University to the Chair of Economics at the University of London, the United States loses a good friend of Birth Control. We can hope, however, that our loss will be a gain to the movement in England. Professor Young is an Economist, he was a member of President Wilson's staff as economic adviser at Versailles and afterwards a member of the Dawes Commission. He is an ardent upholder of the quality rather than quantity idea of population, and consistently opposes unrestricted immigration not only from abroad, but also through the gateway of birth. Our best wishes go with him to his new sphere of work along with our congratulations to our comrades in England on this access to their forces.



Marriage Today and in the Future

By JOHN HAYNES HOLMES

II *

Love in Marriage

THE idea of Love as a definite function of sex, as an experience having a validity and a beauty of its own, is an idea which runs precisely counter to many of our most cherished traditions. Especially in religion is there an understanding of life which makes this altogether abhorrent to the spiritual mind. In Christianity, for example, there has always been the ascetic ideal which has presented the sex relation as something shameful and wrong, an evidence of the sinful nature of man, a token of the fall of the human race in Adam. It is true that its exercise is necessary to the continuance of the human race and thus to obedience to God's command to "increase and multiply." But an evil is no less an evil because it is a necessary evil. The true man of God will not indulge in it, and the ordinary man will so only as a means to the end of procreation. Nor is this idea confined to Christianity! We find it also in India, in the person of Mahatma Gandhi, for example, who teaches nothing more rigorously than the doctrine that there must be no intercourse between men and women even in the marital relation, except for purposes of

offspring. This idea always appears in any philosophy of religion which presents in sharp antithesis the flesh and the spirit. If we believe as Paul believed that "the flesh lusteth against the spirit, and the spirit against the flesh," then we must assent to the conclusion that the practice of the sex relation is a sin, except as a necessary means to the reproduction of human kind.

BUT MEN have never been willing to assent to this counsel of perfection. They have always insisted that the instincts of the body are not base, that these instincts, on the contrary, must have an essential quality of their own which is good and beautiful. A sort of divine common sense, in other words, has taught the race that, whatever theology may say, flesh and spirit are not antagonistic, but the two sides, so to speak, of the same great reality of being. So men have practiced love by an instinct as wholesome as that of procreation. In the beginning of course, this practice moved on the low plane of physical indulgence. As with the animals, it was all a matter of appetite. Man ranged abroad indiscriminately and promiscuously, and took his mate wherever chance allowed or impulse dictated. Then gradually the same experience transpired

*This is the second of a series of articles based on sermons by John Haynes Holmes. Reprints of the sermons in full can be obtained for 10c at the Community Church, Park Avenue and 34th Street, New York City.

with the lover that had already transpired with the parent. This lover began to discover the virtue of quality as contrasted with quantity as an end and aim of life. Rising constantly in the scale of being, he learned to measure experience in terms not of multiplicity but of intensity. He began to see that when love was practiced with anybody and everybody, it became a cheap and worthless thing, whereas, when it was guarded and controlled as something precious in itself, as a gift to be bestowed rarely and then with all the heart, it revealed possibilities of ecstasy and beauty never dreamed of in previous experience.

SLOWLY but surely, in other words, there dawned upon man's mind the great discovery that it is concentration and not dispersion of energy, singleness and not variety of purpose, a plumbing of the depths and not a skimming of the surface, which opens up the real secret of happiness. Whereupon man began to do deliberately, by definite intention, what certain of his animal progenitors, such as the birds and the higher mammals had learned to do blindly, by some unerring instinct of nature—namely, to seek a single mate with whom love might be an exclusive possession and experience. He did it feebly and haltingly in the beginning—the primitive appetites of the flesh were still strong within him. But the trend was there. There might be many mates, but there was only one at time. There might be a harem, but there was always a favorite wife. There might be a mistress, but one mistress for love as one wife for the family. Then came that final step which we are still in process of taking today—that climax of the whole evolutionary progress of the sexes—that the mistress shall be the wife and the wife the mistress, that we shall make the woman we love the mother of our children and the mother of our children the woman we love.

IT IS HERE that marriage appears in fulfillment of its function as the regulator and controller of the sex relation between men and women. From this point of view, marriage is not merely the proper condition for procreation, to the end of the best and highest interests of the human race, it is also the proper condition for sex intercourse, to the end of the best and highest interests of the individual. With marriage as the sanctification of love, there has come for the first time the full discovery of what was only suggested before, in the indiscriminate and therefore unsatisfactory conditions of free relationship—that love is an art, which must be practiced and mastered like any other art.

Sex experience, in other words, is so delicate a thing, it contains such depths of mystery and such potencies of beauty, it is so all compact of wonder and delight, that, like painting, or music, or the dance, it requires a life-time of concentration, of undivided devotion, to reveal its holy secrets. One cannot plunge into love any more than one can plunge into singing or oratory, by virtue of mere instinct, and expect to know what it is all about.

THERE is a technique of love as there is a technique of every other art. Margaret Sanger describes it beautifully in her recent book on "Happiness in Marriage." This technique must be mastered, if the art which it serves is to fulfill its possibilities. Its mastery is difficult, just as the mastery of the technique of any art is difficult. Therefore does it require a lifetime of devotion, and therefore, in turn, the cooperation of a single mate. But when it is mastered, by a discipline as terrible as it is rewarding, then are revealed the mysteries of the art which it has served. Instantly, in sex intercourse as in every other form of artistic experience, life is lifted from the physical to the spiritual plane. The sex relation, which I described a moment ago as an end in itself, is now discovered to be a means to a greater end. "The communion of bodies," as Havelock Ellis so beautifully puts it, "becomes a communion of souls." Two lovers are no longer two animals desirous of fortuitous physical union, but two spirits who have discovered kinship and yearn for permanent spiritual cooperation. Intercourse is no longer with them a matter of physical gratification as an end in itself, rather it is a matter of physical union in one body as an outward and visible sign of that inner spiritual union which marks the fulfillment of their being. They want now to live together, to talk together, to dream together, to aspire together, to achieve together, to suffer together, to die together, to be buried together.

TWO things have with these two become forever more impossible. The one is separation, they are what Plato describes so wonderfully as two hemispheres which live only as they combine to make the perfect round. The other is division of affection, the sharing of love with others, they are what Count Keyserling describes so vividly as two foci in a single elliptical field of force which can share their attraction with no third. In these higher reaches of sex experience, in other words, we have a relation which is permanent and exclusive. All of which means that the spiritual fulfillment implicit in the sex relation, that successful practice of the art of love through the mastery of the technique of

intercourse, necessarily incarnates itself at the end in the institution of monogamous marriage! Hence the futility, in the last analysis, of all our rules and regulations, our penalties of law and custom, for the protection of the marital relation. If it exists at all, it exists because of its own inherent worth and inner sanctity. We can say of it, as Voltaire said of God, that if it did not exist, it would be necessary to invent it.

Marriage, therefore, as an attempt to control and dignify the sex relation, has to do not merely with reproduction but with love, and from this standpoint may be defined as the method of regulating love to the end of purifying and exalting the individual personality. "Sexual intercourse," says Count Keyserling, "not only operates productively as regards the birth of children, but also in the case of the parents themselves." This shows why we get married. To beget and rear children, undoubtedly, and therewith to enrich the outer life of human kind, but also to practice the disciplined and consecrated ways of love, that we may enrich our own inner lives as individuals! Marriage, that is, has to do not only with parents but with lovers, and with both on the basis of the monogamous relation.

WITH this we would seem to have reached the end of our story. But not yet, I believe, have we completed our interpretation of marriage, or given any final and perfect answer to the question as to why, in spite of all enticements, we continue to get married. For sexual love, no more than reproduction, or both of them together, supplies the full content of the marital experience. Reproduction as we have seen, takes up only a small part of the marriage period. The same is true of intercourse. "No matter how great and enduring the love," says Count Keyserling, "the sexual element soon assumes a secondary role." In

many of the noblest marriages, as for example that of Robert and Elizabeth Barrett Browning, both of these elements played a secondary role from the beginning. And there have been marriages wherein, by reason of illness or physical separation over long periods of time, they never played any role at all. Yet these marriages were true—perhaps truer than most of these ordinary affairs which are all about us. There must be some final element in this relation which we have not yet discovered. There must be some crowning function which marriage fulfills above and beyond anything that is contained even in the miracle of birth or the ecstasy of love.

WE CAN best get at this last word in our story by noting the inevitable conflict that exists in the sex relation between reproduction and love, between intercourse for its own sake and intercourse for the sake of children. The one is mainly physical, the other spiritual, the one involves aggression and self-gratification, the other surrender and self-abnegation, the one serves the immediate needs of the individual, the other the remoter needs of the race. There is no married person, I imagine, who, if he be honest, has not encountered this conflict between his sex life and his parental life. How is it to be resolved? By what method can these contradictory motives be adjusted?

We may find some comfort in recognizing the fact that this conflict in the marital relation is only one particular phase of the perennial and universal conflict which has always existed between society and the individual. This conflict is so acute and seems to be so insoluble, that one wonders at times how men ever came to live in society at all. How happens it that individuals, in spite of every difficulty and trial, have insisted upon forming and maintaining social groups?

(To be Continued)



The Husband

HE sleeps so soundly, childhood seems
Returning to him unaware
With parted lips and tangled hair
I watch him, wondering of his dreams
Till wifehood dies
And motherhood looks through my eyes
But sometimes I in turn am child
When silence shouts athwart the dark,
And by the windows spectres stark

In livid stillness stand then wild
I turn me and
Clasp tight his strong unconscious hand
The blue tit's bell rings in the dawn,
And tender gold pervades the skies,
He neither child nor husband, lies,—
A sloth—not meriting my scorn—
But soon I seek
His shoulder where to lay my cheek

M. M. JOHNSON

China and Her People

Releasing Life in China

ONE HUNDRED grandchildren, one thousand great-grandchildren. That seems to be the proverbial ideal in China. If your progeny are sufficiently loyal to the family to multiply into the fifth generation before you die, your fellow-villagers will erect an arch or gate in your honor. The traditions and advice of the sages are all for increase of population.

But brute necessity today is driving a few Chinese to wonder whether after all it really is such a sin not to have many, many offspring. Too many mouths mean too little bread, traditions or no traditions. The River of Sorrow causes destruction because the supply of water is unregulated, may not a flood of folk cause like misery in congested districts of China? And even if food could be found in these terrible days of poverty, is it fair for a mother to be treated like a machine drearily adding to the family year after year. "My mother," exclaimed a Peking student angrily, "has had a baby about every year now that I can remember. She is getting desperate. What can I do to help her?"

A new impatience seems to be developing in at least one village visited by a student deputation last year. "We have heard there is a way not to have too many children. Tell us what it is," was the plea of a small peasant group. "The crops have been bad and the bandits have stripped us, we don't like to kill babies. But that will be necessary, as you well know, if we can't keep them from coming all the time."

The Tragedy of Ignorance

One tragedy in China is that the leaders are mostly ignorant of the technic of contraception. There are pioneers and at least one institute. But as yet there is no organized help available for the people who need it most, except in a few hopeful instances. When instruction is given by a far-sighted missionary doctor it takes infinite pains to see that the instruction is faithfully carried out.

In spite of the blind inertia of custom, however, and the preoccupation of Student China with politics, one was surprised with the responsiveness to the idea of Birth Control. In Canton students from Christian and non-Christian schools paid to attend lectures on the ethical implications of the movement that Margaret Sanger advertised a few

years ago in some student centres. In Peking a group showed genuine determination to work out methods of socializing Birth Control information and sharing it with the poor.

There are Chinese who now want practical scientific assistance in this vital problem. Our immediate obligation to China is of course to help free them from the unequal treaties and deal with them politically as equals. Even so, more ultimately necessary than this is the urgency to pass on to the potential leaders,—some of them students in our midst, others already on the field,—the best methods and ideas we have that will make for quality rather than quantity of life in the Far East. Is it not most of all in the sphere of the creation of new life that we must share our idea of self-determination?

[An address given by Allan A. Hunter, D.D., at the annual dinner of the Los Angeles Chapter of the American Birth Control League.]



Chinese Labor Abundant, Cheap and Soon Worn Out

CHINA has the greatest cheap-labor supply on earth.

Mills have sprouted like mushrooms along the coast and rivers of China. The first cotton mill came to China in 1890, there were 14 in 1906, with 400,000 spindles, 42, with 1,154,000 spindles, in 1916, 83, with 2,666,000 spindles, in 1923, and there is no reason to suppose that the number will not continue to double every six or seven years. China still imports the blue cotton cloth which has become the national uniform of her masses—a fantastic statistician once figured that China's annual consumption of cotton cloth would pave a roadway sixty feet wide to the moon. And the workers in these mills live in a manner that would shame a self-respecting pig.

All about the industrial outskirts of the great Western city which is the pride of the foreigners in Shanghai one may see the disreputable sheds, built of bamboo, mud, lime, and straw. Six or eight people live in one-room floorless huts, through whose flimsy roofs the rain leaks in a storm, whose walls, falling, or riddled with holes, afford no privacy. There is no drainage, no lavatories, garbage-heaps and cess-pools—or rather cess-puddles—surround the hovels. A big rain often floods the whole neigh-

borhood, and the ragged babies wade about coated with mud and filth. In smaller cities, where the concentration is not so great or so sudden, conditions are somewhat decenter. But while a few enlightened Chinese talk of decentralization, the factory owners continue to build their prisons in the over-crowded centers where they can be sure of coal and raw materials—Tienstin, Tsingtao, Shanghai, Hangchow, Wusih, Hankow, and the rest

Low Wages

Wages are desperately low. They can best be understood when translated into goods. A Shanghai cotton-mill worker would have to work two weeks to buy a hat, longer to buy a pair of leather shoes. A pair of sheets would cost a month's wages, an overcoat three months' toil, a daily paper one-tenth of the daily income, a ton of coal four months' earnings. Of course these industrial workers do not use coal, wear hats or shoes or overcoats, or buy newspapers—they live on a lower level. And yet these wages seem high to Chinese of the coolie type, there is no dearth of labor. It flocks in from the country, constantly replenishing the worn-out supply, for the working life of a Chinese mill-hand is generously estimated at from two to eight years.

In the cotton mills and silk filatures (where silk is reeled from cocoons which bob up and down in basins of boiling water) the vast majority of the workers are women and children. Men complain that they are discriminated against in Shanghai, which is true, largely because they are more likely to form unions and strike. The Shanghai Child Labor Commission found in 1923-1924 that of 154,000 workers in the mills it studied more than 86,000 were women and more than 22,000 were children under 12. In the silk filatures of South China nearly all the workers are women and girls. Often the children are brought in from the country by a contractor, who pays starving parents about a dollar a month for a contract which amounts to slavery, the girls live for years in his compound, eating his food, or in the factories, eating factory rice, working sometimes fifteen or sixteen hours a day, and often sleeping on the floor beneath their machines.

Babies in the Mills

It is the common excuse of the mill-owner that the mothers do not want to leave their children unguarded at home, and doubtless that is sometimes true. Walking through these dimly lit mill-rooms one sees baskets containing children, sleeping or

awake, between the whirring, clacking machines. Sometimes a tot of two or three sits cheerfully playing with cotton waste in the aisles through which the foreman guides the visitor. Girls a little older help their mothers tend the rows of spindles, and the deftness of five-year-old fingers is amazing. But when I asked ages of children smaller than my seven-year-old son, the foreman always replied monotonously "twelve."

From "Young China" by Lewis Gannett published by *The Nation*, N. Y. (25c)



Seething China

REV EDWIN D HARVEY, D.D. of Yale—the Yale in China Mission—who has recently returned from China, spoke at a dinner of the Men's Community Club at Suffield, Conn., on April 27. He gave a vivid picture of the effects of over-population in China. We give some excerpts of his address as reported by the *Hartford* (Conn.) *Times* of April 27th. Prefacing his talk by a brief description of "Seething China," he said—

"Such a topic is well justified by the conditions of the present situation in China. These conditions are an over-large population—a population in which there are many millions more than can well be fed. Ever and again you are hearing appeals from China from the International Famine Relief for emergency famine suffering. What you do not hear about is the unremitting state of famine among China's millions. It is almost impossible for Americans to visualize that there are millions of Chinese to-day who will have only one meal and that, of the thousands of deaths which occur, a large part of them could be traced to a lifelong condition of semi-starvation. Out of this condition of over-population have come many of the causes of the present unrest in China. This seething fomentation is fraught with threats, not only to China, but potential for the disturbance of the peace of other nations.

"Let us look at these conditions a little more narrowly. With an ever-increasing population in China, there has come a decline in just the arts of life which could support these people. I mention only three—the tea, the porcelain and the silk industries. The tea trade of China has been celebrated in history and romance, its value some time since was in the hundreds of millions of dollars per year, but for a generation or more the Chinese tea trade has shown a very alarming decline. The same is true of the

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The Anti-Birth Controllist

An Aspect of His Psychology

By ARNOLD H. KAMMAT

ONE OF the determinants of the anti-Birth Controllist's attitude is his delusion of infallibility. This is a trait he shares with all who are intolerant of dissent. (See the writer's articles on the delusion of infallibility in the *Psychoanalytic Review*, October, 1925, and July, 1926.) The anti makes much of such abstractions as morality, purity, virtue. Those who worship these abstractions identify them with certain ways of behavior. Other ways become identified with abstractions of an opposite character: immorality, impurity, vice. Dissenting parties appear to be composed of people who advocate evil things. These parties must therefore be repressed. The anti professes belief in liberty of expression. But he conceives liberty to end where license begins. Where is the dividing line? The propagation of his ideas, that is, ideas conducive to the maintenance of morality, this is liberty. But differing ideas must lead to immorality, their propagation is therefore deemed licentious.

The idea is rejected by the anti that morality might be defined so as to include ways of behavior other than his own. He is thus precluded from perceiving that ethical standards put forward by other schools of thought might bring into being superior ways of living. It therefore seems to him that his party represents the forces of good — the Birth Control advocates those of evil. He is certain of it. The Birth Controllists must therefore be silenced.

ANTI-BIRTH CONTROLLISTS are intolerant of the idea that those who believe in Birth Control should be permitted to practice it. Those who believe that sexual intercourse is sinful or meant for procreative purposes only, insist that those who grant sexual congress for its own sake a place in the love-life of the individual shall be denied preceptive information, and this because they, the antis, think congress immoral, or unnecessary (except for procreative purposes), or dysgenic. Those who wish to practice Birth Control must live as the antis think they should. It does not matter that the former regard Birth Control as healthy, socially constructive, and eugenic. It is enough that the antis think it is none of these things.

Antis regard Birth Controllists as entitled to no more freedom than that which they are willing to prescribe for them. Like most men, they subconsciously regard other men as beings who should

live as they want them to. Subconsciously they regard themselves the infallible masters of men. There are those who would proscribe not only the use of preceptives, but the examination of arguments in favor of this use as well. Witness Archbishop Hayes' pastoral letter of December 14, 1921, in which he says, speaking of the philosophy of Birth Control: "In the name of the Babe of Bethlehem stop your ears to that pagan philosophy. Keep far from the sanctuary of your Christian homes, as you would an evil spirit, the literature of this unclean abomination."

MOST people assume that all human beings ought to behave in accordance with whatever code they choose to draw up for them. This is indicative of a feudal attitude, of the existence of which within them moralists are not fully aware, concealed as it is by rationalizations. They think they want to regulate the lives of others for reasons labelled religious, sociologic, and patriotic. That the actions of others are prompted by egoistic considerations, the regulators regard as a certainty. But with their own party it is different. This party is unique in its altruistic and rational attitude toward things. A subconscious infallible and tyrannical attitude is implicit in these rationalizations. Most minds reject the idea that dissentient ideas might be more rational, and divergent ways of behavior more truly conducive to the public good than theirs, and that they ought therefore to be given a trial. Nor do they accept the idea that dissenters, not being the property of the people they disagree with, possess the right to live as their own outlook on things impels them to.

* * * * *

FOR AN explanation of the subconscious infallible attitude, one must go to the method of thinking and the education of men. Men bandy abstractions. They have much to say about truth, morality, purity, virtue. In order that these grandiose concepts may become intelligible to men, they must take on concrete shapes. This result is effected through their identification with a way of living, an institution, a creed. These then become synonymous with morality, purity, or some other abstraction. To the believer, in this case the anti-Birth Controllist, his creed and his moral code become the truth, the pure life. Now if his creed and his code be truth, they cannot be in error. And if

they be truth and purity and morality, they cannot help but solve all problems. All men must therefore be made to accept them, they must, by legal or extra-legal methods, be made to live them.

Then there is the factor of habit. A creed is but a habitual way of misinterpreting reality. The habit often has its roots in childhood. The anti, when a child, received his moral creed from parents, priests, and teachers. A great deal was unconsciously absorbed from the social environment. Now the conceptions of morality that an individual has harbored for years, that he has entertained since childhood, that he has perhaps never thought of questioning, carry with them, as do all conceptions that have had a similar evolution, an appearance of absolute verity. They seem to be true as a matter of course. He identifies these conceptions of his with the best in human knowledge and wisdom.

IT THEREFORE comes about that the expression of dissenting ideas is by the anti regarded as a challenge of his mental efficiency, his knowledge, and his wisdom, as a personal affront, in short. The result is a generation of intense inferiority feelings from which a hurried escape must be made. It is sought to effect this escape through an animated defense of his own, and a vehement denunciation of the dissenting idea. In the heat of the controversy it is an unqualified victory that is sought. The dissenting ideas must be shown to be synonymous with error, the anti's with truth. The anti's delusion of infallibility comes to his assistance.

The disturbance of the anti's self-esteem that is effected by the expression of dissenting views acts as an irritant. From irritability to hatred the step is short. The feelings of inferiority excited by the assaults of the dissenter intensify considerably the hateful sentiment directed toward him. The irritability and hatred seek to find an outlet in attempts at the persecution and suppression of the champions of the dissenting ideas.

The education of men is also in large part an education in feudalism. Intolerance and the repression of dissent have been customs in all societies. The possession of a moral, political, or theological standard is regarded (by its possessor) as a license for the regulation of the thought and behavior of others. This attitude is transmitted by each generation to the next. The feudal possessor of a delusion of infallibility is, in part, the product of a similarly constituted crowd psychology.

* * * * *

THE delusion of infallibility is an essential element in the makeup of the undemocratic attitude. The infallible person never needs to consult others in the regulation of matters concerning their

welfare. He always knows what is best for them and for humanity. Others cannot teach him anything; their ideas are erroneous, "immoral," "obscene." The infallible person, in this case the anti, draws up what he calls moral codes, he imposes duties. The dutiful attitude is to be oriented toward abstractions: the deity, morality, purity. But only ostensibly so. In reality, the dutiful is to be oriented toward the author of the code himself. He identifies his moral abstractions with his creed and his way of living. He frightens at the thought of the "immorality" that he feels must follow the adoption of any policy other than his. This is what the anti is intolerant of: that which is other than his. When he is solicitous about morality and virtue, it is his kind of morality, his kind of virtue, that form the object of his concern, and that he would fain induce or compel all men to swear allegiance to.

It is with the conservation of his own creed, and not that of some abstract principle of morality, that the anti is concerned. It is not for a "pure," "transcendental" principle, but for a set of habits that constitute his creed and his way of living, that the anti fights. Immorality is the name that he gives to forms of thinking and of conduct that challenge his conceptions of right and wrong. His definition is the one that is impersonal, his conception is identical with the "pure," "transcendental" principle itself, it is the "divine" principle. His conception is the infallible one. This being the case, dissenting conceptions are other than truth, they constitute error.



A VERY TIGHT LITTLE ISLAND

After the experiences of Bank Holiday crowds most people will hardly need the final report of the 1921 Census to assure them that this country is getting more and more full of people. All the personal experiences and all the newspaper accounts seem to agree—from Blackpool to Belle Vue all the recognized resorts were as crowded as they could be. Tales of woefully insufficient train accommodation perhaps prove nothing, at all holiday times the railway companies nowadays specialize with great success in late trains and badly organized excursions. But the truth is that, when we all turn out on the same fine holiday, we nowadays manage to make most places of resort and entertainment fearfully full up. The new Census Report tells us that, with an average of 649 people to the square mile, six years ago we had achieved "a density greater than that of any country in the world for which statistics are available." Bank Holiday provides a beautiful object-lesson of the truth of that proud distinction.

—Manchester (England) *Guardian*

Birth Control's Jubilee Year

By R B KERR

THE 26TH OF JULY, 1927, will be a great date in the history of the Birth Control movement, for it will be the 50th anniversary of the foundation of the first Birth Control society that ever existed—the Malthusian League of England

To tell the true story of the League it is necessary to go back to the year 1854, which saw the publication of *The Elements of Social Science*, written by Dr George Drysdale, a young Scotchman of 28. Before that date there had been a few books of limited circulation, but this book was translated into half the languages of Europe, and sold by hundreds of thousands. I remember how, in my student days, I picked up a copy of the 17th German edition on a Munich bookstall, and was immediately converted to Birth Control.

Among Drysdale's first converts was a young man called Charles Bradlaugh, who became the most popular English Freethinker of his time. He took up Birth Control with ardor, though in doing so he shocked even the Freethinkers, and he always said that his Birth Control views were a heavier load to carry than his religious scepticism. For many years the movement attracted little notice, but in December, 1876, a Bristol bookseller was sentenced to two years' imprisonment for selling Dr Charles Knowlton's *Fruits of Philosophy*, and in January, 1877, the publisher was prosecuted, but, on pleading guilty, was let off with payment of costs.

Then Bradlaugh and Annie Besant, a young woman of 29, stepped into the breach. They reprinted the pamphlet, advertised their intention to sell it, and notified the police of their purpose. On March 24th, 1877, they began the sale, and had sold 5,000 copies before they were arrested on April 5th. They were brought before the Guildhall magistrates, and so great was the excitement that a crowd of 20,000 surrounded the building. The case, however, was transferred to a higher court, the Queen's Bench.

A Historic Trial

On June 18th, 1877, the historic trial began before the Lord Chief Justice and a jury. It lasted five days, through which Bradlaugh and Mrs Besant eloquently defended themselves. The judge was favorable to them, but so bitter was the popular prejudice that the jury found them guilty. Even then the judge would have let them go free if they had promised to stop selling the book, but they absolutely refused to do so. They were each sen-

tenced to six months' imprisonment, to pay a fine of \$1,000, and to give recognizances for good behavior for two years. They applied, however, to the Court of Appeal, and had the sentence quashed on a technicality.

All this was a tremendous advertisement for Birth Control. Before and during the Q B trial 185,000 copies of *The Fruits of Philosophy* were sold. On July 26th, the Malthusian League was formed, with Dr Charles Drysdale, brother of George, as President, and Annie Besant as Secretary. It immediately started an active campaign, and was greatly assisted by the action of the authorities, who in the following spring prosecuted Edward Truelove for selling Robert Dale Owen's *Moral Physiology*. The jury disagreed, but on a second trial he was found guilty, and sentenced to four months' imprisonment and a fine of \$250. As a result huge meetings were addressed throughout the country by Bradlaugh and Annie Besant, who were both magnificent speakers. The largest halls were packed to suffocation. The League also began the issue of a monthly paper, *The Malthusian*, the name of which has since been changed to *The New Generation*.

The practical results of all this agitation were great and immediate, for, ever since the Bradlaugh-Besant trial, the birth rate, which had long been stationary, has fallen without a break. In 1877 it was 36 per thousand of the population, today it is under 18.

Recent Developments

Of late years the League has developed in many directions. It has sent out 94,000 free leaflets giving information about methods of Birth Control. The present president, Dr C V Drysdale, son of the first President, assisted by Dr Binmie Dunlop, has addressed many street meetings in the slums. In 1921 the League established the Walworth Clinic, which has become the mother of many others. In 1925 a motor campaign was organized by Mrs Drysdale and Mr John Sumner, and 800,000 leaflets were distributed throughout the country.

After the war, Maternity and Child Welfare Centres, conducted by the municipalities but subsidized by the Government, were established. There are more than 2,000 of them. The League at once saw that they would make splendid Birth Control clinics, and now the chief aim of all sections of the movement is to get these Centres authorized to give

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Children

THE former welfare worker sipped her drink, put the glass down with a little tinkle of the ice and asked, "Did you write that item today about Mrs. Blank?"

"No, I didn't write it but I saw it. What do you know about her?"

I always ask this woman what she knows about any of the unfortunates who get into the short stories from the police courts, because she usually knows much more interesting things about the characters than can possibly be told in the brief items in the paper. She is an interesting woman and very different from the ordinary conception of a welfare worker.

"Mrs. Blank is the woman I had in mind last year when I worked so hard for Birth Control," she said. "You remember how I was criticized and how I failed. I wanted a Birth Control station in Milwaukee and certainly did all in my power to have one. I kept thinking about Mrs. Blank while I fought

"SHE is the prettiest thing you ever saw, really beautiful, tiny, slender and graceful. Her eyes are big and expressive and she looks just like a darling little girl. I loved her and I was sorry for her."

"Her husband would not work. He is young and handsome himself but thoroughly incompetent. Just one of those fine looking men who are no good. He never did support her. She was married when she was 18 and when she was 19 she had her first baby. She had to go out to work right away. That was my first introduction to her."

"We kept the baby boy while she worked and the husband looked for a job. He was careful not to find one."

"In less than a year she had her second, a pretty baby girl but not strong—we had both of the children to care for then when Mrs. Blank got back to work."

"Her third child was born with a strange lung trouble. He was in a charity hospital for nearly a year, and I guess he will never be well. The father seemed to love the children, but not enough to make him find steady work. He never held a job for more than two months at a time, but I have never seen a woman who loved her children any more than that mother. It was pathetic the way she lived just for those children and worked—oh, how she worked."

"HER greatest love was for that hopeless little sufferer in the hospital, but she managed in some way to have beautiful dresses for the boy and girl too. They lived in a 2-room place that was a

disgrace on the outside, but you should have seen it in the inside. It was as neat as a pin."

"When the fourth came and the husband was still looking for work it was found necessary to take her children from her. They were put in the home for dependent children because she simply could not manage for them all. But she visited the home frequently and she always took toys and presents and pretty clothes to her children."

"I still can't see how she managed to do as well as she did. Of course she was an excellent worker and made good wages. I got some light on the subject when I missed some baby dresses from the nursery and then caught her taking some toys. I was heartsick. She was such a lovable, industrious woman. I went to her and explained that I could not permit things to be taken in that manner and she cried and gave back what she had taken."

"I HAD been working then for some months on the Birth Control clinic idea and thought it was going across. I talked to her about it and she was pleased. She said she loved her babies so much that she didn't want any more because she didn't want to spread her love out too thin."

"But my work flopped, you know and I got out of the welfare business and that is the last I heard of Mrs. Blank until I saw that item in the paper."

"It is so near Christmas, too. Now all four of the children I knew are in the home and she has a fifth, only a month old the paper said. I wonder what they will do with her?"

"I was talking to the police reporter," I put in at this juncture. "He says they are going to let her keep the baby with her until the trial. It is weak and needs a mother's care."

We had finished our drinks and the former welfare worker's husband had passed another round. That was the last said about Mrs. Blank that evening.

A few weeks later I saw my friend again.

"MR. BLANK was in court yesterday," I remarked. "He pleaded with the judge not to send his wife to prison. He said he would make restitution and his best line was, 'It will break up our happy home if you send her away.'"

"Well can you imagine that?" she said. "I hope the judge sends her away for a long time, just to break up his happy home. Prison will be such a rest for her."

LARRY LAWRENCE in Rich Man Poor Man Column of *The Milwaukee (Wis.) Journal*

THE VALUE OF PUBLICITY

A few weeks ago, Zoe Beckley, a newspaper woman who never fails to respond to anything that touches the interests of women, sent out a syndicated answer to an inquiry about Birth Control. We publish inquiry and answer below, together with a few of the letters her reply brought to the League. Letters are still coming in. Already we have received more than 125 of them. May other newspaper women be inspired to do likewise!

A Question

"Dear Zoe Beckley Will you please tell me if there is any place where I can get information regarding Birth Control. If a woman has four children and has poor health and little money, ought she to continue having them?"

—I P L"

The Reply

In our opinion it is wicked to bring children into the world without a reasonable guarantee of health, education and happiness. Children are what really sanctify marriage, and their welfare must be considered.

A sick mother cannot properly care for her children. A hungry cold and unkept child cannot be well, cannot be equipped with what is rightfully his as a start in life. A wanted baby is a joy.

When too many children arrive in a family it is not fair to the ones already there, nor to the poor little handicapped newcomer. Society is already overburdened trying to care for sick, mentally disordered, uncared-for children and people are coming by leaps and bounds to see that Birth Control is the only right and proper method for improving the well-known human race, and enlightened common sense will undoubtedly prevail upon the statute books before long.

Write for the information you need to Mrs. Margaret Sanger, care the BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW, 104 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

Some Results

New York

My wife and I noticed an article in "Zoe Beckley's Corner" of the *Binghamton Press* which advised writing to you for information regarding Birth Control. We recently lost our youngest child and my wife is in poor health and in no condition to have any more babies at present.

She has asked me to write to you requesting information about Birth Control. Any information you could give in regard to this will be very much appreciated by us.

New York

I seem to be in the same way having five children. I am in a very poor health and have little money. My husband is working, but the wages he gets all goes before we see it. Should I continue to have them?

Texas

I have four children and my husband is in very bad health. We are not in any position to have any more. My oldest one is seven and baby four months.

I am so easy to become pregnant. I have done everything I know of to keep from it without injuring my health.

"So Discouraged"

Pennsylvania

Will you be kind enough to send me Birth Control information? I have four children now which is all or more than our income will be able to provide for in any sort of a decent way. Then, too, I am never able to nurse my babies, and I have the worst time you can even imagine to get them to grow. I am trying my best at present to get my last baby started. He is now almost 3 months old and weighs only $\frac{3}{8}$ of a pound more than he did at birth. Have been doctoring with a specialist, too. I am so discouraged I hope I may never have any more, besides we cannot afford to.

Ten Children in 13½ years

Texas

I saw an item in the Zoe Beckley corner of the *Times*, referring a lady to you that did not want more babies. If you have any information concerning Birth Control, I

certainly would thank you to tell me how or where I could secure it. I have been married 13½ years and have had 10 children, all one at a time, and my baby is now 7 months old. I do every drop of work for all of us and keep them all dressed nice and clean, but I don't see how on earth I can keep it up on our income and my poor health if I have any more. I am a dead drag and a misery to myself. My feet and legs hurt so bad and swell so I can't hardly walk at times. Will thank you again for any information you may send.

In Fear All the Time

New Jersey

I have 6 children, 4 by a former marriage, one is 2 years old and one is 1 year old. I am in fear all the time of getting like that again as, since my last baby was born, I am not so well and could not nurse him. Only recently my husband had an accident that laid him up for a while and he lost his job. Now I have to work to help support my family of six children and if another should come I do not know what I would do. The babies I have are lovely and my husband just loves them dearly, but he does not know how I feel at times, after working all day, to come home, only to cook, wash, iron and sew till all hours of the night. A man does not know what a woman has to go through for her family. Perhaps you can give me some good advice. I am 40 years old.

Tubercular

New York

I am tubercular and two doctors and a trained nurse have told me by all means not to have any children, but the only information they gave me was to take douches of warm water which doesn't appear to me to be altogether safe. I am 33 years old and I have been married for the second time last September. I have a boy 14 years but I didn't live with my first husband after my boy was 10 months old so I am not very well posted as you might call it. I am in a very weakened condition with my lung trouble and I don't think it would be fair to my child if I should have one bringing it into this world under such conditions. I have to lie on the porch five hours every day and the doctors tell me if I became pregnant, with carrying the child and going through labor, that my lungs, are liable to go like a sponge.

Poor Circumstances

New Jersey

I am in very common surroundings, have four little children, not good health, cannot afford any help whatever. We have no modern improvements to make work easier such as electric lights, irons or washer. I have more than one can rightly do and no way it seems of making it better. I must work from early to late to sew and

care for the children. If I get sick there is no one to do for them and I cannot hire any one. I am sending a self-addressed and stamped envelope for a reply. I would appreciate it. I read an article written by Zoe Beckley in the *Camden Morning Post*.

Health Breaking

Oklahoma

Husband and I have been married eight years and we have five children and looking for another one in August. What I want to know is there any remedy that is not bad for the health that will keep me from having so many. We are poor hard working people hardly able to support the ones we have got. My health is breaking fast and only 26 years old.

Time to Stop

Florida

I am a married woman 34 years old and have seven children. There is only sixteen months difference between most of their ages. My system has been run down twice. The nurse says I don't have time to gain my strength between times. My last baby came at eight months, so if it is within your power to send me a safe remedy, I certainly will appreciate it.

New York

If you have any valuable information in regard to Birth Control, would greatly appreciate your sending me the same. As I have a large family, lots of work to do, besides being in poor health and hard of hearing, and poor otherwise. My oldest daughter is 12 and the youngest not yet 2 years old, and I think it is time to stop having them.

Discouraged But Hoping

New York

A mother with four children all under seven, becomes pretty discouraged when she thinks that there is a possibility of more. I am still young and know that there are years and years of uncertainty ahead of me.

Will you give me some advice?

New York

I have had three children in the last three and one half years, and any more would be a greater burden than I could care for.

My husband earns a small salary and we are paying for a home. It is a problem to make both ends meet.

If you can send me any information, it would be very welcome indeed.

The Mailbag

These Letters will answer your question "What Can I do for Birth Control?"

NOT ONLY the rich but the ordinary citizen in a small way of life can do something to help the cause of Birth Control to grow, and make the movement effective for human welfare even at this stage of its growth

The other day when the mail was opened we were struck by the number of contributions, made by individuals on their own initiative. We kept track for a short time and present our readers with a group of letters which will suggest to them that they also "go and do likewise".* Because some writers prefer not to be identified, we have used no names and have changed the State, where it was spoken of in the letter.

From the Secretary of a college class this letter comes

Last month our class in sociology gave a cafeteria supper and the money that we made from it we felt that we would like to give to certain organizations that we are interested in. The class is in sympathy with your movement and we would like you to use the enclosed check for \$86.70 in any way which you think best.

Next we present a letter from a Protestant minister, which is especially interesting, because it shows not only his own contribution to the movement, but the favorable response of his colleagues to his efforts.

We have a bill up in the State legislature now, and I have been working with our local representative, a clergyman and a friend of mine, and I think I have been able to get him to see it as I do. The big need is education. Few face this question fairly except when under compulsion.

At our county Ministerial Association meeting today, Professor — of — University, presented the subject of feeble-mindedness. I brought in the subject of Birth Control in this connection, spoke of the good I had been able to do with your literature, and every last man was interested. I only had four pamphlets, but had six requests for them. I was surprised to note how open-minded they were in regard to this subject. I had not had the courage to mention it in that group before. So you see the light is breaking. I am sending a check for "Great Thoughts on Birth Control", "Woman, Morality and Birth Control", "Laws on

Birth Control in the United States", "Lord Buckmaster's Speech", "Motherhood and Birth Control", "Some Reasons for Birth Control", "Medicine's Responsibility", "The Medical, Social, Economic, Moral and Religious Aspects of Birth Control."

A teacher in a denominational college writes

Please advise me with reference to the latest legislation or attempts at legislation relative to Birth Control. If you have material that would state the principles of your League, I would be glad to have the same. I want to mention your work and recommend it to my class in sociology. If I am not imposing on your good nature, I would like for you to mention two or three outstanding books for library reference.

A woman writes, "Since I stopped in to see you last August I have been spreading Birth Control broadcast." Another tells in concrete terms what she has done in securing medical cooperation for her neighborhood. She writes

I have interested Dr. — in our good work. Her address is — and she says that she will charge very moderately for supplies and fitting, and that where necessary she will do it for nothing. Send her a subscription blank to the BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW. Dr. — is very fine, and strictly a friend of women and their views and liberties, and I think you will find her quite a help to the cause, and being a woman doctor, she will be in a position to help many timid women.

Dr. — of — also is doing some very fine work and doing it cheap, in some needy cases for almost nothing. We, who are using methods prescribed by your Clinical Research Department are having splendid results.

Another writes

I wish to extend the thanks and appreciation several of my friends have expressed for the help and information they have received from you and the League. During the past several years I have purchased a number of your books which I have kept in circulation among my friends and acquaintances who needed help and showed interest in the teachings offered in them, and recently I believe that you have heard indirectly, if not directly from two of my co-workers who have had treatment and advice from Dr. —, an able and conscientious physician who has offices in the building in which we are employed.

*Our mothers' letters this month show what a woman who has a newspaper audience can do to spread Birth Control.

Dr —'s name, as I understand it, was referred to you by Mrs X, and through your efforts Mrs X is now given advice, the first scientific contraceptive she has been able to secure in the eight years of her married life. Mr and Mrs X are both tuberculous, and at the time of their marriage, which was the culmination of a sanatorium romance, they were advised that a single pregnancy may cost Mrs X her life. They are both well-educated and highly intelligent people and set out to secure such information as they needed from several of the leading physicians in this city. Mrs X's worst trouble is not her lungs. They are in a comparatively arrested state. Kidney, bladder and pelvic troubles are evidently the ones which would make pregnancy fatal. Not receiving the information they sought, they fortunately through friends obtained some help and they have been able to avoid having children. Naturally, when I mentioned the subject of Birth Control, Mrs X was immediately interested and lost no time in getting results.

There is one woman from whom we often hear. Her husband's work took her to various states and she made it her business to carry the message of Birth Control alike to Mexican peons and Wyoming ranchers. We will not quote her here, as her letters have appeared from time to time in the *BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW*. The woman who writes the following letter offers several kinds of service.

I would be pleased if informed by you, whether it would be welcome to get several poor women with large families as members of your League. As I take a walk every day with my children, I could just as well go from house to house and try to enlighten the women in behalf of Birth Control. Please let me know if the fee for membership is \$1 00 a year. More than that would seem rather much for the poor people I know. Through circumstances I am forced to live in the poor section of this city, and the misery I see here is unspeakable. Wherever you look, so many children in rags and raised like animals. The information how to protect themselves would be the most important thing for the average working woman.

This graduate nurse who wanted to help was brought in touch with local physicians. She writes:

I am a registered public health nurse doing generalized educational work in a small community and am constantly in need of correct and authentic information on Birth Control methods. I shall be glad to become a member of the League if that is required. Also I should like to know what authorities or facilities are available out here for securing such information.

The Secretary of a section of one of the great National Organizations of Women, writes:

Enclosed please find our check for \$10 00, which is our annual donation to the League. We cannot become members of the vast number of organizations we are asked to join, and are happy to do our little bit.

The country school teacher who writes the following letter was sent the names of local physicians on whom she could call for relief to mothers:

I am twenty-six years old and have been a teacher and social settlement worker in the rural districts of Minnesota for ten years and am at present in the Department of Education. I have worked with poor, overworked and over-burdened mothers until marriage has become distasteful to me, and I have so often wondered if there was not some way to help them. After reading your articles I thought perhaps there was some way and resolved to write to you.

Will you tell me of sources where I may get the information I need, books that I should read and how to prepare myself to teach this to the poor people I work with? I will be glad to answer any questions or give you any information you may care to have.

Seminar students and students writing theses on Birth Control often ask for advice. From the Secretary of a class in a theological school comes the following:

A class of about 20 students are studying the home and sex relations, educational methods, etc. We would like to have materials which would give us an adequate idea of what your organization is doing and what the laws are.

We are not opposed to the work of your organization. On the contrary we do want to know what help you can give through your organization to folks trying to solve modern conditions as we find them.

This group is composed of directors of religious education, preachers, social workers, Y M and Y W C A workers. Each member will be in a position of leadership.

A practical material thing you can do for Birth Control is to enclose a check, as small or as large as your circumstances permit. One donor writes:

Enclosed please find check for ten dollars. I trust that this may in some small way help to carry a message that will be an uplift in the lives of some poor suffering women.

From "our oldest subscriber" comes a check for \$3 00. He writes: "That will help a little. If

(Continued on page 190)

Book Reviews

THE MELTING POT MISTAKE By Henry Pratt Fairchild, 80, pp vi, 266, Boston, 1926, (Little, Brown & Co)

IN THE introductory words of the Editor, this book "answers, in the light of recent research, those questions that persistently arise regarding the effect of immigration on the vigor and permanence of our life as a nation" It deals with the following subjects Symbols, The factor of race, The factor of nationality, Group contacts, A nation in the making, A new menace, The meaning of assimilation, Americanization, Enforced patriotism, The meaning of America, The making of Americans, The duty of America

Eugenics, birth-restriction, and the internal problems of population, are touched upon but incidentally, if at all, in the book The volume may be characterized as a general discussion, mainly sociological and somewhat anachronous, of the perils to this country of further unrestricted European immigration While superior in some respects, it attaches itself nevertheless to the well-known line of more or less militant treatises published on much the same themes by Grant, Stoddard, and others in recent years

Perhaps the best chapter of the book is that on nationality and nationalism The author recognizes the consequential role played by this factor in the world of today There is also much to commend in the chapter on "A Nation in the Making", but following that there are some over-emphasized sections on "The New Menace," "The Duty of America," etc, which endeavor to show the peril of the later European and non-Nordic immigration to America

In these chapters are statements that must seriously impair the influence of the book One or two examples will suffice, though there are others Speaking of unrestricted immigration—such nevertheless as existed in this country, it may be recalled, throughout its entire history up to the time of the World War—Dr Fairchild says "The truth has long been recognized by students of the problem, and forcibly expressed by General Francis A Walker, that the ultimate outcome of unrestricted immigration is a progressive deterioration of the standard until no 'difference of economic level exists between our population and that of the most degraded communities abroad'" And on page 258 "There are, it should be noted a few foreigners whose attitude toward the United States is more positively destructive than that of those who simply cannot understand America because they are not Americans But much more dangerous are those who insolently regard the United States as a mere economic catch basin, to which they have come to get out of it what they can, confessing no obligation to it, recog-

nizing no claim on its part to the preservation of its own development or to remain permanently as a part of it One type of this group looks forward to a return to the native land as soon as America has been bled of all it has to offer"

No wonder that under the old conditions of immigration which, however, it may be recalled once more, existed from the beginnings until yesterday—this immigration "was slowly, insidiously, irresistibly eating away the very heart of the United States What was being melted in the great Melting Pot, losing all form and symmetry, all beauty and character, all nobility and usefulness, was the American nationality itself"

Such expressions as these may appeal to passions and bias, but hardly to reason, which sees how precisely this country, with its great immigration of the last 100 years, was built up and progressed until it rose economically, politically, and in many other respects to its present very high place among the nations of the world

Notwithstanding, the book is readable and on the whole represents a not unapt effort at a contribution towards the solution of the population problems of this country

ALAN HEDLICKA

"CHILDREN OF THE SUN" by James Rorty, Macmillan Company, N Y C \$1 75

IN "Children of the Sun," James Rorty, idealist and friend of Birth Control and all good causes, has brought together a collection of his earlier verse The poems are sad, pessimistic, satirical or flippant,—which is with him but another way of being sad, satirical or pessimistic,—but they lack something, something indefinable, something mature and poignant, that is to be found in verse of his not in this little volume In the first number of "The New Masses" for example, he had a group of autobiographical poems which are stronger than anything in "Children of the Sun" and have a depth of sincerity that is lacking here "Pioneers," the group was called, and who can forget the greatest of these pioneers, the great-grandmother from whom he came, "The Undying" whom he feels always in his own being

Not my hand but the hand of my great-grandmother
drives the spade and holds the plough,
Not my voice, but the deep voice of that old witch, my
great-grandmother

Mother of sixteen herself

in age she withered sweet,
And hard like a snow-apple, an old queen-witch who played
mid-wife to three townships, she wore
A man's hip-boots, one winter night, hearing a rumor of
birth on a far-distant farm, she trudged

Ten miles over drifted roads, she was old but not tired,
 she was in sight of the house when she broke
 Through the crust, did she call? The wind had risen and
 no one heard, like an old vixen she
 Dug herself in beneath the low pine branches
 Old women moan toward death in houses, preachers pray,
 but my great-grandmother
 Smiled in her last sleep Nothing in nature, not the
 winter night,
 Windy and fierce with stars was great enough
 To pity her
 She was eighty years old

M S B

"POPULATION" by A M Carr-Saunders, London, Oxford University Press, Macmillan \$1 00

"POPULATION" not only summarizes the high spots in Mr Carr-Saunders former book on "Population Problems" but contains much new material, especially on Birth Control and on population in its international bearings. As in the earlier volume the point of view is historical, evolutionary, and little space is devoted to qualitative problems, as compared with quantitative. Much of the anthropological, ethnological and biological data in the larger study are omitted, and a greater dependence is put on the work of American scholars.

A brief consideration of the census is presented to show that the rapid rate of population increase during the past century was the most cataclysmic change in rate of growth the human race has ever experienced. It was abnormal, not in the sense that economic conditions did not warrant a more rapid growth than previously, but in that population had never before grown on such a scale. This is the first thesis of the book.

The next is that populations have always been relatively stable considered in relation to skill in procuring the means of subsistence. The current notion that the limitation of numbers is a new phenomenon is disproved by data on natural and artificial checks from the days of prehistoric man through the middle ages. On the basis of these data, Mr Carr-Saunders believes the real question today to be whether the revolting and tragic early checks shall persist on whether they shall be replaced by scientific means of Birth Control.

An especially interesting section of the book is that on Optimum Density (i.e. the density which will give the largest income per head), which contains some sound economic reasoning overlooked by many writers on population. The analysis of the relation of population to wages and to unemployment is equally worthy of close reading. On the latter point—unemployment—however, there are points on which his analysis is not convincing.

The section on Population and International Relations is most interesting. There the author shows that friction points become established not simply because of over

population but from the fact of different rates of population increase. This leads to bullying of the small groups. Since "weak and unorganized nations—are permanent danger spots" there is but one remedy, in the author's view, and that is some sort of international guarantee.

Though the subject of checks on population permeates the whole work, the author gives a special section to Birth Control. Unlike many writers on population problems, Carr-Saunders understands the spirit of his time, his finger is ever on the pulse of the "Zeitgeist." He understands its tempo, its direction, its strength and its variations. We find no clap-trap here about contraception not working and not being "satisfactory." His study of the past has taught him that the Birth Control methods of today though not perfect are a long advance on the past. His estimate of the effectiveness of present day methods is shown when he says of the English birth rate since 1875 "While it is impossible to estimate the prevalence of contraceptive practices and of abstention from intercourse, it is probable that they account for the whole of the decline which the figures show."

Although this little book is intended as a primer, it contains more keen analysis, more sound reasoning, more high grade scholarship, more perspicacity, good judgment and uncommon sense than any other hundred odd pages on population that has been written of late.

NORMAN E HIMES

CONCERNING WOMEN By Suzanne La Follette, Albert and Charles Boni, New York, \$2 50

THE woman of today is getting very tired of books about women. She resents the idea that it is possible to write about women as though they were a class by themselves, more alike than differing. She longs for the time when it will seem as absurd to write a book "Concerning Women" as it now is to write a book "Concerning Men," unless such a book takes in all mankind and discusses humanity rather than a sex. Perhaps the time will soon arrive, and meanwhile if such books have to be written, and if there are readers who are still interested in discussions of that curious species of animal, the female homo, Suzanne La Follette's volume ought to have an honorable place among them, for in it she discusses problems which are very real, and points the way to solutions which may bring nearer the time when women will be recognized as part of the race and nation, as human beings on an equal footing with the human beings of the other sex. The chapters on "Woman and Marriage," the "Economic Position of Women," and "What Is To Be Done," while containing nothing very novel, form a good statement of present conditions, and are provocative of thought and reflection, if sometimes also of opposition and argument—which is also of value.

A G P

HUMANIZING EDUCATION, By Samuel D Schmalhausen New York, The New Education Publishing Company

THE title of this book is somewhat misleading It is not limited to a discussion of the education given in our schools and colleges, nor to proposals for its betterment It ranges over the whole field of the human mind—intellectual and ethical—its limitations and its tendencies In it Mr Schmalhausen concerns himself with the deepest questions of philosophy and with the commonest phenomena of everyday thinking by everyday people It is a stimulant, and an incentive to better living and better thinking, and it is safe to say that, even when he arouses antagonism by his statements, the author has a useful message for America, which he delivers with all the force of which his pen is capable

BOOKS RECEIVED

TOWARDS THE OPEN, by H C Tracy, E P Dutton & Co New York \$3 50

THE WORK OF CHILD-PLACING AGENCIES, Children's Bureau, U S Dept of Labor, Washington, D C

THE HARVEST OF THE YEARS, by Luther Burbank and Wilbur Hall, Houghton Mifflin, Company New York \$4 00

MEDICAL VIEWS ON BIRTH CONTROL, edited by Sir James Marchant, Martin Hopkinson & Co, Ltd London 6/8

THE BOOK OF LIFE, by Upton Sinclair, Upton Sinclair Calif \$2 00

THE WOMAN A MAN MARRIES, by Victor Cox Pedersen, M D, George H Doran Company New York \$3 00

MAN AN INDICTMENT, by Anthony M Ludovici, E P Dutton Company New York \$5 00

POPULATION PROBLEMS OF THE PACIFIC, by Stephen H Roberts, George Routledge & Sons, Ltd London 21 shillings

YOUNG CHINA, by Lewis S Gannett The Nation New York 25c

PERIODICITY OF SEX DESIRE—PART I, UNMARRIED WOMEN COLLEGE GRADUATES, by Katharine Bement Davis, Ph D Bureau of Social Hygiene, New York City

THE JAPANESE FOOD PROBLEM

Substitution of potatoes for rice as the main article of diet for the Japanese is being urged by some of Japan's leading economists as a solution for the empire's food problem, which is growing more serious as the population increases

Dr Ko Nasu, professor of economics at the Imperial University, in an address before the Institute of Pacific Relations, declared that while Japan now had twice the population she had fifty years ago, the total area of cultivated land had not increased in proportion

Lancet (London)—In the January 22nd number, A E Giles writes on "The Need for Medical Teaching on Birth Control" Dr Giles is of the opinion that Birth Control is a necessity on medical grounds in certain circumstances, and in some cases is expedient on economic grounds He underestimates the economic importance of Birth Control, but it is good to find a physician reminding his profession that contraception is a neglected part of the medical curriculum

Forum (New York)—In its May number, Dr E M East discusses Birth Control as the modern "Tabu" He meets brilliantly some of the stereotyped objections and then proceeds to mass the arguments for Birth Control given in the monthly *Primer Page of the BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW* These arguments are, to recapitulate, the health of mother and child, the happiness of married life, the relief of overpopulation, the improvement of the race, the prevention of poverty and the progress of civilization Is there any other movement which can advance such a showing of vital arguments as this

Survey (New York) — The number for March 15th publishes what purports to be a comprehensive outline of "Types of Service Suited to Unattached Clinics" Clinics are listed for prenatal care, infant welfare, health examinations, minor medical and surgical care, electric and certain other forms of therapy, nutrition, habit and posture, eye refraction and dental prophylaxis We cannot refrain from asking why the Birth Control clinic does not lead the list, since without Birth Control, prenatal care is incomplete, and with it the work of some of the other clinics would be considerably lightened by the change not only in quantity, but in the quality of our people



P R O P A G A N D A

To *The World Tomorrow*, which uses this cartoon in its April number the back fence is where "a piece in the paper" is magnified by gossip until it becomes war propaganda To us the back fence is the counter across which poor wives pass gossip on Birth Control methods they would be better without

The World Population Conference

Geneva (Switzerland), August 31 — September 3, 1927



THE WORLD POPULATION CONFERENCE, first of its kind ever to be held, will meet in the Salle Central at Geneva, Switzerland, on August 31, September 1, 2, 1927, under the auspices of leading scientists and scientific organizations of many countries. It will be, in effect, a conclave of many biological, sociological and statistical authorities of the world, who have gone far in the study of the population problem, but who have never before assembled at a common meeting table to exchange their views and co-ordinate their knowledge.

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

Its Purpose and Possibilities

One of the main purposes, therefore, of this Conference is to study the question from an international point of view. Such a conference must be strictly scientific, and accordingly eminent men and women in the fields of biology, economics and sociology will be invited to participate. By this procedure it is hoped that 100 or 150 leaders of scientific thought from various countries will be given an opportunity for mutual interchange of ideas and for the recognition of those aspects of the population question which are of equal interest to all Nations. Among the subjects to be discussed are Population and the Food Supply, the Biology of Population Growth, Optimum Density, the Differential Birth Rate, Migration and Its Control, Fertility and Sterility in relation to Population and the Work of a Race Biological Institute.

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



Council of the Conference

Chairman—SIR BERNARD MALLET

Hon. Treasurer—MR C F CHANCE 199 Piccadilly, London

PROF LEON BERNARD (France)	DR C C LITTLE (United States)
PROF A M CARR-SAUNDERS (England)	M LUCIEN MARCH (France)
DR A F CREW (England)	DR H W METHORST (Holland)
PROF E M EAST (United States)	DR WESLEY C MITCHELL (United States)
DR HAVELOCK ELLIS (England)	PROF A NICEFORO (Italy)
PROF H P FAIRCHILD (United States)	PROF RAYMOND PEARL (United States)
PROF CORADO GINI (Italy)	PROF W RAPPARD (Switzerland)
PROF DR E FISCHER (Germany)	SIR HUMPHREY ROLLESTON, K C B (England)
PROF DR GROTJAHN (Germany)	DR SANTOLIVIDO (Italy)
PROF J S HUXLEY (England)	PROF ANDRE SIEGFRIED (France)
MR J M KEYNES (England)	DR M A VAN HERWERDEN (Holland)
SIR GEORGE KNIBBS (Australia)	DR WHITRIDGE WILLIAMS (United States)

Membership of the Conference is by invitation. Application should be made to The Secretary, The World Population Conference, 10 Rue de la Bourse, Geneva.

News Notes

International

FROM May 4th to May 25th, the Economic Conference to which the League of Nations gave more than a year's preparation was in session at Geneva. Its hundreds of delegates represented all the States which are members of the League, as well as the United States, the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics, Turkey, Mexico, Ecuador and Egypt. The agenda was divided into two parts, general discussion of the World Economic Position, followed by detailed programs on Commerce, Industry and Agriculture. In an analytical program under these heads no reference is made to population in its relation to industry, food supply, or any other aspect of World Economics. The long list of documents, some of them elaborate and costly studies bearing on the subject matter of the Conference, contains but two small pamphlets of population statistics and a brief statement of the movements of population and the production of raw materials since 1913.

It does not seem possible that this group of men, representing such intelligence and familiarity with economic affairs, can keep out of their discussions the population question. We predict its outcropping in spite of the formidable agenda and hope to report results in our next issue.

A Memorandum to the League of Nations

WE SUBMIT that the League of Nations has not yet paid sufficient attention to the problem of over-population as a cause of war. In our judgment it is the most serious of all the causes of war because when it has been allowed to develop, no appeal to reason will be able to remove it.

In the case of other differences between nations, compromise is often possible, and often the mere postponement of a crisis will suffice to prevent a conflict. But where a nation has not room in its own territory for its own people it must seek an outlet in other countries. On this broad issue no compromise is possible, and postponement only makes the appeal to force the more imperative.

Today the population of many countries is growing so rapidly that unless the growth is checked a far-reaching struggle for the possession of the portions of the earth still partially vacant cannot long be postponed.

Already the government of the United States has taken steps to close its territories to unrestricted immigration. Asiatics are excluded entirely, the

number of European immigrants is strictly limited. This action, which the American people have taken to defend their own interests, conflicts with the obvious interests of at least two other important nations, Italy and Japan. Unable to settle in the United States, the constantly over-flowing populations of Italy and Japan are forced to seek new outlets.

These two cases are sufficient illustrations for the moment. They are threats to peace that no arguments can touch. The only way to prevent future wars for the acquisition of territory is to persuade the nations of the world to control the growth of their respective populations.

UNITED STATES

AN OPINION of far reaching importance was handed down by the U. S. Supreme Court on May 1st. It affirmed the constitutionality of the Virginia Sterilization Law which has already been upheld by the State Supreme Court. The law provides for the sterilization of insane or feeble-minded persons confined in State Institutions, and the decision of the Supreme Court disposes of the objections as to constitutionality of similar laws already in force in 23 States.

New York

A MEETING under the auspices of the American Birth Control League was held at Mrs. Juliet Barrett Rublee's, New York, on Thursday, May 5th. Mrs. Anne Kennedy, who has been organizing Birth Control service in clinics in the West and South, gave the story of her achievements, and Dr. James F. Cooper, Director of Clinical Research in New York City, gave a report of the work of this department for the past year. Pledges for the support of the work were called for and a large amount was raised.

Massachusetts

ON MAY 1, Dr. Cooper addressed an audience of 450, at an open forum of students and faculty of Williams College, Williamstown.

New Jersey

AN IMPORTANT STEP was taken when the Women's Republican Club of New Jersey, at its annual meeting at the Berkeley-Carteret Hotel,

Asbury Park, April 30, passed a resolution endorsing Birth Control. The resolution reads

Resolved, that the New Jersey Women's Republican Club favors the amendment of State and Federal laws to permit the giving of contraceptive advice, by physicians, when health conditions or poverty make such advice necessary and desirable

Pennsylvania

THE legislative secretary of the Birth Control Federation, Mrs. A. C. Martin sends us an account of the legislative work in Pennsylvania. We use her report in full, both for its general interest, for the suggestions of methods of work which it gives to other states, and for the picture it presents of the methods of the opposition. As is usual, only an insignificant detail of the attack—one speaker's statement—appeared at the hearing. This is the usual experience of states where Birth Control bills have been presented. It is not on intelligent argument against Birth Control that dependence is put, but on threats made to legislators, Protestant and Jew as well as Roman Catholic, of the withdrawal of Roman Catholic vote. We should learn from this also that we must make our vote count, and do large scale educational work among voters in every state where we have a bill to present. Mrs. Martin's report follows

Mrs. Martin's Report

In planning this campaign, the members of our Federation in charge realized that getting a bill into committee and holding a hearing was by no means the greater part of the legislative work. Long before the Pennsylvania Legislature convened, we decided that this bill, which would bring up much controversy, must not be peddled upon the floor of the House, asking one man after another to sponsor it. The committee scanned the political situation in the state, knowing that following the Pinchot regime the controlled vote would be more in evidence and stronger than ever throughout the session.

We decided that a man who had some strong political backing and who was sponsoring many important bills, who was, so to speak, a floor leader and fearless, would be the only person to whom we could possibly give the bill and ask him to sponsor it. It took many weeks to decide upon the suitable person. We finally chose a young and able lawyer in Philadelphia, who has been in the House of Representatives for several sessions and whose interest in Child Welfare and success in getting through certain Adoption Bills made him seem to us to be the man we should go for.

It was not easy to induce this man to sponsor such a bill, as he was one of the group of Philadelphia men who went in with the support of many Catholics, although he was a Jew. We brought pressure to bear on him through his own personal friends and through the Representatives of our social welfare organizations. Before the opening of the Legislature, we had our man. We not only had him, but we had had a prominent member of the Bar on our Committee visit some of the leading politicians, show them our bill, ask their interest and support. When we arrived in Harrisburg to do our lobbying, the bill had already been presented.

There had been no talk of Birth Control, the bill was put in quietly with several others sponsored by the same man, but at once the papers came out with the headline "Fight over Birth Control Expected at Harrisburg."

Methods of Work

We joined a clipping bureau at once in order to follow very carefully the adverse publicity which we expected, and we prepared to refute false statements. However, for several weeks everything remained very quiet. We organized our lobby, we were very careful to have no fanatics in our midst, we got our list of the 37 members of our committee, got our floor charts marked up, assigning certain members to certain people, giving out some literature to them, mostly Lord Buckmaster's Speech and Dr. Pusey's address. However, very soon the Cardinal gave his orders and at once we felt a difference among the members, especially the Catholics, with whom every committee in our House of Representatives is well salted.

The bill was referred to the Committee on Public Health and Sanitation, of which Dr. James J. Heffernan of Philadelphia, an ardent Catholic, is the chairman. Dr. Mudd visited Dr. Heffernan the day after the bill was introduced and explained to him fully what it meant. Heffernan seemed to be favorably impressed, but made no promises. Following the Cardinal's orders, Heffernan instantly began to lobby against the bill, calling it the Abortion Bill, stating that it was sponsored by a lot of druggists and last but not least, that it was sponsored by the Ku Klux Klan. This, of course, was what many of us who had been used to lobbying fully expected.

Support from Physicians

We were fortunate in having physicians who are interested in Birth Control appear at Harrisburg and lobby, also men social workers and married women of standing and well-known throughout the

State This put us on a substantial and respectable footing, and even our opponents complimented us upon the personnel of our officers and advisory council

Our bill was not left alone one day after it was on the calendar Several members of our committee were always present on the floor watching the chairman of the Health and Sanitation Committee, making sure when that committee would meet and urging its members who were interested in our bill to attend the meetings

Undoubtedly our bill has had about as much discussion as any piece of legislation offered this year We have been complimented on the dignity and dispatch with which the campaign was run by the committee in charge

Birth Control became quite a proper subject to discuss with any man, either in the Senate or House of Representatives It has been put by this campaign upon a very sound and respectable foundation and it is surprising how much intelligent interest we have found, both among the members who have thought of this subject previous to our campaign and among those who are our recent converts

We missed no opportunity to visit men of political prominence who were guiding the political destinies of our Representatives in Harrisburg While they were unable to come out and throw the weight of their political organizations back of this bill, they had an opportunity to know exactly what the bill meant, and realized that Pennsylvania, facing the enormous appropriations for public welfare, must do something to check the outpouring of the state's moneys into these channels, with no hope for decrease unless the dependents were checked at the source

Timeliness of the Bill

This has been a most fitting year to present Birth Control to Pennsylvania Never has the appeal for Mothers' Assistance Fund, for the care of the feeble-minded, insane and epileptics been so strong, and never has money been more needed

We had the support of the heads of the welfare organizations—many of them are on our Council We solicited the support of outstanding women in the state who are heads of the political organizations They helped us in many ways, were in favor of the bill but, of course, as it was not an Administration measure these women could not come upon our committee But they worked quietly with their Representatives in their counties and some lobbied for us All of this goes to prove to the men at Harrisburg that Birth Control is really of basic importance to the future of our State

Our Hearing before the committee was in the House Caucus Room on Wednesday, March 9th

The room was filled to capacity Dr Roswell Johnson of Pittsburgh presided for the Birth Control side, Dr Stuart Mudd, Mrs Edith Houghton Hooker, Dr James F Cooper were the speakers, Dr McGlinn of Philadelphia, a Catholic Gynecologist, on the opposing side His arguments were merely an attack on the American Birth Control League and on Dr Mudd and Dr Cooper, which did not seem to impress the audience Our newspapers in the eastern part of the state evidently had Catholic reporters who did not give us very favorable write-ups, although provided ahead with all necessary data

Follow-up Work

We had enough interest on the floor of the House to have dismissed the Committee This action was considered inadvisable by Mr Sterling, who sponsored the bill, and also by many of our friends at Harrisburg, as undoubtedly the bill would have failed on the floor and its failure would be given nation-wide publicity, which we did not consider would be helpful to the cause in this state or elsewhere Every member of the House and Senate received a letter from Dr Mudd Following this a copy of the report of the Hearing was distributed in addressed envelopes, and it was very gratifying to those of us present to note the interest with which this material was read Many of the members asked for extra copies

While our bill is dead, we have every reason to feel that Birth Control has made great progress in Pennsylvania We are about to open a state headquarters and have engaged field workers, so that by the time the Legislature opens in 1929 we hope to have committees in every one of our sixty-seven counties prepared to bring pressure upon their Representatives

Organizing for the next Bill

Mrs A C Martin, who, as legislative secretary of the Pennsylvania Birth Control Federation, wrote the story above, has now been appointed executive secretary Mrs Edith Ellicott Powers succeeds Mrs Edith M Pierce, resigned, as field secretary The Pennsylvania Federation and the South Eastern Pennsylvania League have opened combined headquarters at Room 925, 1700 Walnut Street, Philadelphia Mrs Dorothy R Jaffee is office secretary

On April 9, Dr Cooper spoke before a small but influential group of business and professional men at the St James Hotel, Philadelphia On April 19, Mrs Kennedy spoke before the sociology students of Swarthmore College Professor R C Brooks who arranged the meeting, expressed the hope that she would "give a talk every year"

Mrs Louis N Robinson, of Swarthmore, a very active member of the Pennsylvania Federation, is making the subject of her doctor's thesis for the University of Pennsylvania, "Practical Centers for Birth Control throughout the World." She has made a thorough European survey and is now working on the American aspect of the subject. This, with Mr Norman Himes' thesis* and one being prepared by a graduate student of Delaware College, makes three careful studies of the movement soon to appear.

California

THE second annual meeting of the Los Angeles chapter of the American Birth Control League, at present, about 500 strong, was held at the Brack-Shops last night. It has made considerable headway since that famous meeting held at the Woman's City Club a few years ago, when Dr Olga McNeil and Dr Percival Gerson undertook to debate against Pastor Seligman—the pastor holding firm to big families and the untrammelled laws of nature and getting hissed by the women for his pains. It was not until two years ago, when Anne Kennedy of the New York League addressed the Friday Morning Club that it reached the dignity of a recognized organization here.

At least thirty members of the Friday Morning Club were present last night, and any number of prominent social welfare workers. Rupert Hughes generally supports them with a witty speech—and he and his wife have helped finance them.

ENGLAND

MAY was a very important month in the Birth Control annals of England. There were two great national party conferences of women at which action was taken on the question. The first was the annual meeting of the Council of the Women's National Liberal Federation which took place at Blackpool, May 3 and 4, and the second the similar National Conference of Labor Women which was held at Huddersfield, May 11 and 12.

The Liberal Conference, in view of the reviving strength of the Liberal Party and of the almost unanimous support given to Birth Control, was a memorable event in the political history of England. The resolutions on the subject had been on agenda sent out to all branches, and the women were fully prepared for them. The first which was moved by Mrs Spring-Rice read—

Moved that a national policy on such matters as emigration and Birth Control was urgently required,

and that while emigration could only be a temporary cure for over-population, and by its process of selection might be a danger to the country, scientific Birth Control provided a means of increasing the efficiency of the nation.

Mrs Spring-Rice made an excellent speech in support of this resolution.

The time had come, she suggested, when these two questions should be considered as questions of national policy. Population had two great aspects—its quantity and quality. But what she considered much more important than the quantity of population was the question of the quality of the population. They could not help thinking of this when they realized how many millions of pounds were being spent every year in keeping up institutions for the feeble-minded, apart from the millions spent on giving health to people who could benefit by good health and education.

They must remember, too, that the more this was done, the more were the "socially inadequate," as they had been called, being given the power of reproducing their own kind—people who could not produce as much as they consumed. It was a duty on the part of everyone, therefore, to consider how far it was possible to avoid putting an unnatural burden upon those who were doing their best to pull more than their own weight. If we cared for the future of the race we must do our best to see that those who were born into the world had, at any rate, a certain quantity of the right sort of quality, as well as to care for them after they were born.

What she wanted to avoid, was the continuance of what was going on all over the country. In 900 cases of ordinary normal working women in a rather poor part of London 25 per cent of the pregnancies were wasted. Of these women 161 had between seven and fourteen pregnancies, or an average of eight, and of each of those eight three were wasted. Thirty averaged twelve pregnancies each and had only five living children, which meant that in each case seven were wasted. The larger the family got the larger was the proportion of wasted pregnancies and the larger was the proportion of deaths in childbirth. The slavery of these women to the demands of nature and to the environment in which they lived was appalling, and there was no excuse for the community not considering, for the same of the mothers, how best to save that wastage.

The resolution was seconded by Lady Acland, who spoke of the need for Birth Control to prevent the awful wastage of abortion. She asked the Federation, as a go-ahead party, to give a lead to the nation on this question. Immediately after her speech an attempt was made to stop the discussion by moving the previous question. This was defeated so overwhelmingly as to appear almost a unanimous vote. An amendment was then moved to the effect that Birth Control was an individual

*See Our Contributors.

not a political question, and two short speeches of the usual anti kind were made in support of this amendment, which was then very decisively voted down. The resolution was then put to the vote and carried by a huge majority. Lady Haworth then put the following motion which after a very short debate was carried with only two or three dissentient votes.

That this Council, realizing the harm that is done by the promiscuous and uninstructed "advice" already available on the regulation of families, records its opinion that information should be available to those who ask for it at the centres controlled by the Ministry of Health where the doctors are in possession of the medical history of the mothers and know to whom such information should be given, by these means enabling the poorest members of the community to obtain the information to which the wealthier classes already have access.

The action in favor of Birth Control by the National Conference of Labor Women will be reported by Mrs. Bertrand Russell. If received before we go to press it will be inserted as "Late News."

Another significant event in England was the defeat of Roman Catholic candidates in the Salford municipal elections of April. Salford, which is the twin city of Manchester, has been the scene of much controversy over the Birth Control Clinic opened there in March, 1926. Opposition to the Clinic was at once voiced by the Bishop of Salford, and under his leadership the Roman Catholic priests of Salford did all in their power to arouse public opinion against it. Nevertheless the Clinic has grown in popularity and usefulness, and now thirteen months later, the seven official Roman Catholic candidates were all defeated. As the Council has always numbered a large proportion of members who sit first of all as Roman Catholics to watch church interests, this overwhelming defeat caused much dismay, and the Catholics have been busy explaining. What they did not mention, was the indignation of the women voters at the opposition to the Birth Control Clinic.

A new Birth Control Clinic, started by a committee of social workers, was opened in Birmingham in April.

FRANCE

THE vital statistics for 1926 were published in Paris last month. The number of children born was 766,226, smaller by 2,737 than in 1925. The number of deaths was 713,458, larger by 4,579 than in 1925. The excess of births over deaths,

therefore, was 52,768, smaller by 8,036 than in 1925. There were last year 346,126 marriages, fewer by 7,131 than in 1925, and 20,006 divorces, only four more than in 1925.

The birth rate was 188 per 10,000 of the population at the last census taken in March, 1926, and the death rate 175 per 10,000. The deaths of children under one year were 74,698, or 97 per 1,000 of the children born, and 6,351 more than in 1925.

The high death rate in France is said to be the true reason for the check to the increase of those of French blood. Her death rate in 1924 was the fifth highest in the world, it was then 17.3 per thousand and rose in 1925 to 18.1 per thousand. This compares with an American rate of 11.9. The total deaths in 1925 in France were 708,919. Germany, with 22,500,000 more people, in the same year had 744,306 deaths.

High Male Mortality

French mortality is especially noted in males between the ages of 20 and 45. The use of intoxicants, war injuries (3,700,000 were wounded or mutilated in the World War), the injury to health through strenuous military training and the bad effects of inadequate housing or sanitary conditions are among the reasons assigned for this drain. But for the deaths in the war France's native population would now be 41,150,675.

The future offers hope for improvement in health conditions. Already there have been encouraging signs that France is taking remedial measures.

Infant mortality is on the decrease. The number of children under 1 year of age who died in 1925 was 64,280 contrasted with the 90,154 who succumbed in 1913.

GERMANY

THERE is considerable uneasiness expressed in the newspapers of Berlin over the population question. The increase of German workers to three and a half millions above the 1913 total, it is felt, is bound eventually to cause trouble in Germany, despite the enormous industrial comeback of the country since 1924.

This is the opinion of various writers, who use the fact as a point of departure for requesting restitution of the former German colonies. The former German colonies, however, being tropical, could not possibly provide a home for many hundreds of thousands of Germans.

BIRTH CONTROL'S JUBILEE YEAR

(Continued from page 174)

out Birth Control information. An immense advertisement was given to this demand in 1923, when one of our members, Miss E. S. Daniels, an official of the Edmonton Centre, was dismissed from her position for telling poor mothers where they could get Birth Control knowledge. There was a storm of protest, and large indignation meetings were held. About the same time the League appointed Miss Stella Browne, a highly cultured Oxford graduate, to address meetings of working women in behalf of Birth Control. Miss Browne has addressed about 150, with the result that there is now an enormous agitation among working women for the right to receive Birth Control instruction at the Welfare Centres.

Last year, in response to widespread agitation the House of Lords passed a resolution asking the Government to permit this instruction. Pressure from many sources is being brought to bear on the House of Commons and the women in the Labour Party are giving their party no rest to force a commitment on the subject, so there is little doubt that the hope of Birth Control instruction at Health Centres will soon be realized.

SEETHING CHINA

(Continued from page 171)

silk trade. Chinese silk used to be superior in quality and durability to any other silk in the world. The Chinese have adulterated the quality of their finished silk products in just the same way as they have the tea, and what has just been said about the tea and the silk has been equally true about the porcelain industry.

"Let us turn to other factors connected with over population and here again we come upon what has come to be a serious maladaptation in Chinese life. Up to within 100 years ago the Chinese family life was nicely adapted to their life conditions. The Chinese family life was patriarchal in its nature. Its social organization was supported by the strongest of religious sanctions, and, for the time being, it met all the needs of the Chinese people.

"It did, however, contain one essential weakness—the religious belief of the Chinese family over-emphasized the necessity that was upon Chinese women to provide male children for the maintenance of the Chinese family and religious system. It was taught in China that there could be no greater offense for a man or woman than to die without leaving a son to continue the family line and family ancestral worship. The logic of this doctrine was enormously to increase the number of children born into the world. It depressed the social and economic status of the Chinese women, it exhausted them physically, sending them to earlier graves than is necessary, and resulted in the creation of a huge Chinese population of inferior quality."

Pamphlets on Birth Control

GREAT THOUGHTS ON BIRTH CONTROL - - - - - 15

A wonderful collection of quotations from well known novelists, scientists, clergymen, physicians and other writers

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By Floyd Dell

Send this to your up-to-date friends, who like a bold challenge of established institutions

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LORD BUCKMASTER'S SPEECH - - - 10

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MEDICINE'S RESPONSIBILITIES - - - 05

By William Allen Pusey M.D.

Two very convenient pamphlets for your doubting friends

POVERTY AND BIRTH CONTROL - - - 02

By Alice Hamilton M.D.

An earnest presentation of an obvious cause of poverty by an expert

SOME REASONS - - - - - 05

By James F. Cooper M.D.

A most convincing argument

MOTHERHOOD AND BIRTH CONTROL 02

By James F. Cooper M.D.

Describes the charter of liberation for women

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An Appeal to all who think and feel to support Birth Control

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Dr Lorenz, "bloodless surgeon of Vienna," says science is injuring humanity by keeping the unfit alive. Nature tries to wipe out those not fit to perpetuate the species. Science prolongs their lives and adds unfit children to the population.

—*Milwaukee (Wis.) Sentinel*

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THE MAIL BAG

(Continued from page 179)

my good wishes could help, you would be rich. February 6th was my 90th birthday!"

Another correspondent writes

This afternoon I was in the reading room of the S M Library, and while there I noticed that the BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW was literally read to shreds, so I hasten to enclose check for renewal of the library subscription. I am sorry I neglected to do so when I renewed my own a few weeks ago.

The doctor who sends the following makes a practice of keeping the BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW before his profession. He has already subscribed for 10 medical libraries. "Enclosed you will find \$2 00 for which please add — Medical Society to your subscription list."

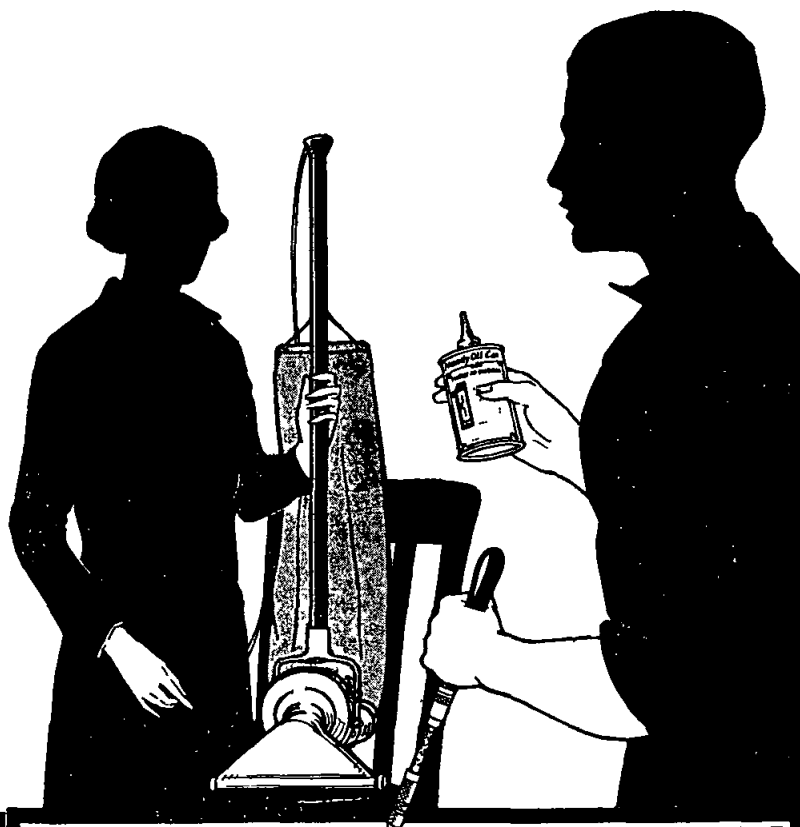
Moral support is not without its value to the cause. We get many letters of appreciation in the mail. The following from a clergyman who has worked among the poor is typical. He asks if certain poor women whose condition he describes can be helped and he adds:

Now I know very well that dissemination of such information may be against the law. Doctors, social workers, etc., have impressed this upon me. But I am perfectly willing to take my stand along with you, Dean Inge, Maude Royden and others and pay the penalty if necessary. These good girls and women must be protected. They must not be crushed. Your good name, Mrs. Sanger, will go down in history as one of the true prophets of a better life and one of the benefactors and liberators of womanhood. May God bless you in your noble work.

Finally, nothing could be more welcome than the expression of moral support and a desire to learn from one who used to be opposed.

I want to tell you of my sincere appreciation for the knowledge gained through your booklets and magazine. For years I have condemned the idea of Birth Control, and not until I was compelled to face it through sheer necessity because of an overlarge family of dependents, have I come to an understanding of it. I must confess I condemned it ignorantly. Your presentation of it, and your purpose in spreading information, has caused scales to drop from my eyes.

Could you furnish me the name of a physician in Connecticut who is cooperating with the League? Please send me also Dr. Knopf's pamphlet, for which I enclose 25c. Success to your organization, and to you personally, in your ambition to crush ignorance and spread the light.



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Parents have more children than they can support Children come too rapidly—another baby arrives before its predecessor is out of the cradle The mother is weakened and rendered unfit to care for the family The children are neglected, overcrowded, underclothed and underfed Illness follows—probably a funeral More expenses, greater struggle—a resort to charity—loss of self-respect and independence—another family wrecked

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To salvage one wreck means repeated contributions, and often failure in the end, for when there are too many children for the mother's health and the father's earning power family rehabilitation is an expensive and difficult process

To prevent it means one contribution — ten dollars will save one family It will bring enlightenment to the mother, so that she can limit her children in accordance with her own strength and her husband's wages and the family can maintain its independence and self-respect

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