

November, 1927

Twenty Cents

BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW

Fewer Children Better Born

“Standing
Room
Only”

*Is the Conquest of Pestilence to
mean the Triumph of Famine?*

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Birth Control the Ultimate Salvation of Mankind



A Few Facts Gathered from

“STANDING ROOM ONLY”

By EDWARD ALSWORTH ROSS

Pestilence, War, Famine, Infanticide and Abortion are the ancient regulators of population

Pestilence is conquered

How does this conquest react on War, Famine, Infanticide and Abortion?

Let us take stock of the results of a century of health measures *without* Birth Control

The Figures.

“Estimates put out in 1924 for the League of Nations give the population of the earth for 1800 as 850,000,000 and 1,800,000,000 now

“Daily 100,000 die and 150,000 are born Each sun beholds 50,000 more on our planet

“During the single year 1927 the world increase will be 20,000,000

“If the estimates of the great Australian statistician, Sir George Knibbs are right then in the lifetime of the average person born this year (1927) in the United States, as many human beings may be added to mankind as were developed in all the 1500-2000 generations during which the human race has been spreading over the planet ”

The New Hygienic Order has Given us

A General Death Rate Vastly Cut Down

Infant Mortality Lessened

Life Prolonged on the Average by 20 years

In old days a 20th of the population died each year, today an 80th

“Utilizing the life-saving means now available, a flourishing and enlightened modern population, which welcomed large families, might grow from its own loins at a rate which would double it in twenty years ”

REVOLUTIONARY RESULTS OF HEALTH PROMOTION

“Is fullness of days what it all comes to? By no means *Population growth* goes into high speed Without realizing it, the pathologists and sanitarians are greater revolutionaries than were Tiberius Gracchus, Danton, and Lenin They are putting out of action certain brakes which have contributed to keep peoples from *increasing their numbers so rapidly as to plunge them into a quagmire of miseries and difficulties* Their work is affecting the intensity of population pressure, the sharpness of the struggle for food, the outburst of

peoples and races, the volume of overseas flow, the attitude of governments toward immigrants, the quest for colonies to absorb the home surplus, the esteem of large families, the tradition that woman's proper place is by the cradle, the ancient chant, “Multiply and replenish the earth ” To expect these things to remain as they have been is to think as a child *They must change ”*

Are the triumphs of science over ill health and early death to be nullified by the enforced return of the days of Famine?

“Human beings must not breed as if they still were liable to be decimated periodically by hunger, otherwise ‘starving times’ will recur even in this age of steam and steel ”

“Humanity grows as a tree grows each year the growth ring is bigger On the other hand, as more and more of the globe's neglected resources are brought into play, the extensibleness of food production should decline, just as, the more you have stretched a rubber band, the harder it is to stretch it still further Imagine mankind as thronging to a vast spread dinner-table which can be extended fast enough to accommodate the 20 million extra guests which now appear every year But can the table be extended fast enough to seat the yearly 40 million new guests who will seek places 60 years hence? How about 120 years hence when each year 80 million more guests will want seats? Or 180 years hence when 160 million more will present themselves each year?

Is the conquest of Pestilence to mean greater conquests for War, blood - brother to Famine?

“There are good reasons for believing that the real enemy of the dove of peace is not the eagle of pride nor the vulture of greed, but the Stork ”

Must we return to infanticide and legalize abortion because our myriads are too healthy and live too long?

O R

Shall Birth Control* be made the foundation of all health measures and

The Ultimate Conserver of Human Life?

*The deliberate Limitation of the Birth Rate by Easy Sanitary Methods of Preventing Conception

BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW

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

VOL XI

NOVEMBER, 1927

No 11

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EDITORIAL

IN THE newspapers of every civilized country of the world—from Sweden to Spain, from India to Japan, throughout South Africa, Australia and New Zealand—news was carried of the world Population Conference at Geneva. It is easy already to see that the Conference has put a new note of seriousness into the popular discussion of questions of over-crowding, of emigration and immigration and of measures to regulate or control the increase of numbers, when such increase becomes a menace to the welfare of any nation and to the peace of the world. Both in America and in England, there were long reports of the papers and discussions, and many of the newspapers gave editorials on the questions suggested. It was no part of the work of the Conference to urge remedies. The groundwork had first to be prepared, and there was much to be done in regard to ascertaining the actual facts and correlating these facts into a coherent body of knowledge. But the newspapers were not bound by such scientific limitations, and the thoughts of many editorial writers naturally turned to Birth Control as a means of regulation. The London *Sunday Times*, in reviewing the Conference, quoted with approval a statement made by Professor Leonard Hill in a recent address. "A wise control of the birthrate throughout mankind," said the Professor, "is essential. Unless the propagation of the human species is regulated by human reason, rather than by animal instinct, world conflicts are inevitable."



MANY other English newspapers echoed the same sentiment. The *Manchester Guardian* carried a long editorial headed "Earth Planning." It emphasized the international character of the problem. "Piecemeal regulation", it remarked "can do no more than exempt a district temporarily from the chaos of the rest, there is no cutting loose from it. Another hurried reshuffling of the

inhabitants will answer the problem only for a time." "It is high time", it adds, "that the world took stock of its position. For too long the development of the earth has been left to chance or to the grim decisions of war. But there is in blind imperialism a danger even greater than that of war. The very aimlessness of it leads into a quag from which fighting one another will not save us all. We know now that the population which the world can best support is harshly limited and easily passed."

If we do not care to limit our numbers we must calculate carefully what in fifty years our numbers are likely to be. Then only can we be sure not to bequeath to our descendants an earth inadequate to their needs. For that purpose the prime requisite is knowledge. If the Conference at Geneva did little else, it established an International Union for the study of problems of population. At last there will be some coordinated attempt to treat the matter seriously. The Union makes possible a kind of tentative town-planning over the whole earth."



"ONE thing that makes me feel hopeless," said a sensitive woman recently, is that we seem to learn nothing as the world grows older. We are still torturing ourselves and others by the same cruel tabus and superstitions which existed in primitive races. Jacques Fischer* echoes her. "Mystery, sacred terror and tabu have had as their natural consequences the turning of us into a sort of semi-madmen, terrified from youth upwards by a false understanding and fetichistic brooding upon the idea of love, and we are left the worse for these hours of terror throughout our whole lives." We might have said the same thing ten years ago, even

*"Love and Morality, page 289"

five years ago, but we do not say it now. For tabus and superstitions are today being attacked and are yielding to the attack. The cruelest and meanest of the tabus is the tabu on sex questions. Birth Control is no longer outlawed, it is recognized as a mark of intelligence to believe in it, practise it and support it. Even in the religious body where tabu is still strong, it is the priesthood and not all the congregation, probably not even a majority of the congregation, that still bans Birth Control in married life. This we know from conversations with Catholics, from our memberships, and from the women who come to our clinical research department. The tabu on sex education and on the frank scrutiny of modern marriage is yielding also, with a swiftness that is startling. We are told that it was the frankness of youth that started the attack, but we find the older generation just as honest, unafraid and clean in its investigation of the sex tabus that held them spellbound and shamefaced during their adolescence.



THE decenter attitude towards sex is reflected in the literature that has come out in recent years. A few years ago what did we have? There were the works of scientists—Ellis, Westermarck, Freud, and other scholars. These were not widely read, every effort was made, indeed to protect the public from access to them even in the libraries that allowed them on their shelves. They were depressing even though illuminating reading. They taught us what our friend speaks of, the persistence of degrading and torturing tabus. Then there were the few attempts by such people as Dr. Malchow, Margaret Sanger and Dr. Robinson to teach some of the facts the laity should know. Such writings were always in danger of suppression and were often actually suppressed. Dr. Malchow was taken to court and his book, which is now a recognized text book was taken off the market. In those days the only writings that circulated freely were such compilations as a little book called "Wedding Customs" in which was collected and facetiously retold all that was depressing, belittling and obscene in the estimate of marriage through the ages. Other sources of knowledge on this subject were classical, literary, and even the greatest masters seem to have sought to keep sex in the slime. If this seems an exaggerated and unjust statement we can point to

a little book, "What Price Marriage?"—a collection of passages from the makers of literature in many countries.



FROM such sources as these—depressing historical facts, smutty stories and allusions by our great writers — a few years ago we got all we knew. But suddenly the subject came to be discussed in a different spirit and we find now on the market for all to read an output of books remarkable both for number and quality. It was probably largely the long and laborious work of the pioneers of Birth Control bearing fruit, but the change seemed almost overnight. Today, though in adolescent education there is still much to be done, for adults there is plenty of reading matter that frees sex from tabu and mystery, and presents it frankly and clearly as a scientific, a beautiful and a normal thing. We can, with no interference by the censor, read Marshall's or Baker's book on the physiology of sex, Fischer's physiological study of morality, Bolsche's study of love in animal nature. These are a few chosen from many that are enabling the ordinary adult to look behind the tabu and the shame, and to find that it is nothing but a shadow. When we complete what we have begun, when we have once learned to tell the young not part, but all the facts about the physiology of sex in human beings, we shall have thoroughly cleaned up that channel of the human mind which is now a sewer for vulgarity, fear, cruelty and obscenity.



AT THE close of the Population Conference, the following message was sent by Margaret Sanger to the BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW

"The Conference went off very well, as you doubtless have heard. So many people have written to you about it, that there is scarcely any need for my writing. But I will merely say that I am well pleased with its results. The Conference has accomplished practically all that it was intended to accomplish. Those who came to Geneva expecting a propaganda Conference were naturally highly disappointed, but as that was never my object, I, of course, have no regrets."

See Back Cover for Announcement of Cartoon Contest

The World Population Conference

By AN OBSERVER

International Aspects

MRS MARGARET SANGER, who first conceived the idea of the World Population Conference and who carried through the organization of it in a very remarkable manner, has every reason to congratulate herself heartily upon the magnificent result achieved. She remained behind the scenes during the proceedings, but her presence was felt the whole time, and when, at the final dinner, her name was mentioned, the whole of the members present rose to their feet spontaneously and drank her health with musical honors.

On the three heads, quantity, quality and distribution of population, men of thought and men of action have alike been disturbed, and the latter group at any rate is liable to approach these problems in many cases from a political standpoint, which is hardly likely to facilitate the finding of a solution. This danger of hasty and ill-judged political action was an additional reason, if one were required, for bringing together a Conference of scientific experts from many countries for an exchange of ideas on the population question in its various aspects.

The Conference was held at Geneva, for the obvious reason that population is essentially an international problem, and if a satisfactory solution is not found, we are likely to find ourselves in the not distant future faced by a probability of war. It is a subject, therefore, which ought to be discussed frankly and openly, at a common international center, for nothing can be lost and a great deal may be gained from such a discussion, which will enable the world to see precisely what the facts are, what conclusions can be drawn from these facts and what practical measures can be taken to deal with the situation thus disclosed.

The Delegates

More than 200 delegates of many nationalities were present, but they were by no means of equal value. From the United States and Great Britain came very representative groups of scientists, Germany, Czechoslovakia and the Scandinavian countries sent smaller but not less able groups of delegates, while the rest of the world was represented by a few delegates of some importance and a number of invited guests.

It must, however, be acknowledged that the

first two groups had such a high density of first-class scientific "population" that one found oneself surrounded by some of the salt of the earth, and the debates were an intellectual treat, such as it is rarely given to the ordinary mortal to enjoy. It is in those two groups of countries that the most serious work has been done on population problems. Is it because they are for the most part the so-called Nordic countries (and Germany is, at least partially Nordic), or is it because they are protestant countries, or are there other reasons? I do not know. I merely state the fact. On the other hand, a persistent rumor was in circulation to the effect that the absence of a distinguished French scholar who was a member of the Advisory Council was due to ecclesiastical pressure. I was not able to verify this, but I think it is worth recording.

The Programme

The programme was admirably drawn up so as to place before the scientific world and before public opinion the essential problems to be considered. Drs. Pearl, Fairchild and East covered the qualitative aspect of the subject. Inevitably these three papers raised in concrete form the question of the limitation of population, and it was not very surprising that the discussions revealed a somewhat sharp divergence of opinion on geographical lines. The Americans, British and Scandinavians admitted the need for a limitation of population, the Germans and Czechoslovaks did the same, but with rather less assurance, the French, while practising Birth Control at home preached at Geneva the importance of large families and the few Latin and Slav voices present were definitely against limitation. The general impression left by the debate, however, was that scientific opinion is mainly on the side of limitation, an impression which is partly, but not entirely, due to the inadequate representation of the opposite school.

Quality of Population

We then passed to the question of quality, and heard papers by Drs. Carr-Saunders, Crew, March, Grotjahn, Methorst, Lidbetter and Lundborg. There was very wide agreement among those who took part in the discussion as to the im-

portance of devoting attention to the "quality" of the population. There was, however, a difference of opinion as to the interpretation of the facts and more especially as to the practical measures which can be adopted. The difficulty is to draw the line, to define the fit and the unfit. But it was encouraging to see how general was the view that the quality of the population was an important question that deserved the careful attention of all nations. Even many of those who would leave "quantity" to look after itself rallied to this view in connection with "quality." They perhaps failed to realize that, as Prof Carr-Saunders said in his opening statement, "the most important immediate factor in producing differential fertility is found in the differential use of "family limitation." Consequently, one of the most important measures that can be adopted is to increase the means of "access to knowledge of effective contraception methods." The problems of "quantity" and "quality" are indeed inseparably bound up together.

Lastly we arrived at the problem of International Migration and its control, introduced by M Albert Thomas.

Problems of Migration

This gave rise to a most interesting discussion. There appeared to be general agreement that freedom of migration was a thing of the past. Divergences were disclosed as to the precise effect of migration on conditions in the countries of emigration and immigration, and as to the regulations which are necessary in present condition. While, for instance, it was claimed on behalf of Sweden that decreased emigration had caused increased unemployment, an Italian delegate said that in his country a similar phenomenon had produced no unemployment at all. On the other hand, several speakers thought that migration should be considered more and more from a eugenic point of view, a suggestion which came not only from the United States but from Germany as well, while others looked at the question from a purely economic and social standpoint.

Voices from Asia

Two voices were heard from Asia during the Conference. Dr R Kanta Das told us of the overpopulation in India, and said that the important question was: Can India increase her productive power? Dr Inui, of Japan, intervened in the discussion on migration, and drew special attention to extreme expressions of nationalism on this question on both sides of the barrier. It is no exaggeration to say that the problems under dis-

cussion at this Conference are particularly acute in the countries around the Pacific Ocean, and it is to be hoped that at future Conferences there will be a larger number of delegates from Asia, so that this aspect of the question may be more adequately dealt with.

Permanent Results of Conference

The discussions at the Conference showed above all the need for further research and further discussion by all nations on the population problem. This feeling found expression at a final executive session at which a Permanent International Organization was created to study population in a strictly scientific spirit, and a preparatory committee of ten members was appointed with power to add to their number up to a maximum of fifteen, the Conference indicating that it desired the Committee, in co-opting additional members, to give adequate representation to the social sciences and to ethnic groups not at present represented, such as Asian and South American and Slav countries. The Committee was instructed, not only to prepare the constitution of the new organization, but also to report on the possibility of co-operating with existing international organizations. The present members of the committee are Messrs Baur, Bernard, Crew, East, Gini, Sir Bernard Mallet, Messrs Mahaim, Pearl, Rappard and Welch.

I shall be very surprised if the World Population Conference does not prove to be the starting point of a movement which will lead, in a manner only dimly perceived as yet, to increased well-being for the people in all countries and to a lessening of the chances of war.



Because some nations breed more than they can feed, must they inherit the earth, forsooth? That is not the way to make civilization safe but rather a return to the Stone Age

—The Spectator, London

When we come to consider the terrible consequences which may result from one rash act on the part of a young couple, we do not understand how any right-thinking man or woman can wish to keep his fellow creatures in ignorance of information which may save an abortion, a miscarriage, or all the misery and deception which the birth of a child brings to an unmarried mother

—The Spectator, London

Clinical Birth Control Abroad

By HANNAH M. STONE, M.D.

PART I

THE progress of knowledge is greatly aided by the interchange of observations and data among those engaged in the various fields of learning. This interchange ordinarily takes place either through the medium of scientific journals and publications, or by means of conferences and personal contacts. In Birth Control, scientific publications are as yet infrequent, chiefly because of legal and social taboos, and the nature and results of the work carried on in the various clinics can at present be best ascertained through direct personal conferences with the clinicians in this field.

Birth Control at Geneva

The World Population Conference dealt primarily with national and international problems of population, limiting itself mainly to statistical studies of the differential birth-rate, of migration, of the effects of environment and heredity and to scientific investigations along similar lines. The question of Birth Control was only incidentally mentioned during the official sessions, and the medical aspects of it were practically not touched upon at all. Among those present at the Conference there were, however, a number of representatives of the Birth Control movement from various countries, many of them physicians. It was almost inevitable, therefore, that as a by-product of the population conference several Birth Control meetings and discussions should crystallize out. These meetings were unofficial and were held entirely apart from the general conference. One such meeting was limited to the medical representatives, another was more general in scope and included a number of other delegates from various nationalities.

Clinics in England

While abroad, I took occasion to visit Birth Control Centres in England and in Holland, and to interview a number of physicians actively engaged in clinical contraception in various countries. From these observations and interviews and from conversations with many of the delegates to the Conference I learned of the status of clinical Birth Control activities in various parts of the world. This does not constitute, of course, a detailed study of the general Birth Control situation

abroad, but represents merely a summary of its clinical aspect.

My first stop was at London. August is a very unsatisfactory month in which to visit London. Most activities are at a standstill during this month, and many of the individuals I had intended to interview were out of town. Many of the Birth Control Centres, too, were closed for the month.

I was able, however, to visit the Mothers' Clinic of Marie Stopes, and to have a long conference with Dr. Norman Haire who was formerly at the head of the Walworth Centre. Later, in Geneva, I met Dr. Dunlop, Dr. Blacker, Mrs. Farrar, the Hon. Secretary of the Birth Control Investigation Committee, and other English delegates, and learned considerably more about the extent and character of clinical Birth Control in England.

The Mothers' Clinic was not functioning on the day of my visit. Two secretaries were present, however, and they were very cordial in showing me around the place and in detailing the nature of the work, the problems met and the methods employed. Dr. Stopes was out of town, and I regretted not to meet her.

A Clinic Described

The clinic occupies an entire small house on a quiet side street near the centre of the city. Patients are generally advised by graduate midwives, and only cases showing some special abnormality are referred to the consulting physician. As far as I could learn no follow-up system is employed. Whatever data are gathered as to the results of the methods prescribed are merely obtained from patients who return to the clinic for additional materials. The inadequacy of such data was dwelt upon in my review of Dr. Stopes' report on 5,000 cases,* and the criticisms made then are apparently still applicable to-day.

An interesting item in connection with the Mothers' Clinic is the recent organization of a Caravan-Clinic as a part of its work. The Caravan has been lately outfitted and fully equipped for the examination and advice of mothers. It will be in the nature of a travelling clinic, making temporary stops of a week or so in the various towns.

*BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW, August, 1925

along its route. This venture is a new one, and its results will be watched with much interest. Dr Stopes herself is at present involved in a litigation with the editor of a London newspaper. The version I obtained of the incident is that the editor had failed or had refused to publish an advertisement of a Birth Control meeting, whereupon he was roundly denounced by Dr Stopes as incompetent and dishonest. Later the editor brought suit against her for libel. Dr Stopes, however, has been involved in legal altercations on several former occasions, and she will no doubt use this one to good purpose.

A New Departure

Dr Norman HAIRE, a very gracious host, outlined to me his work and his plans. At present Dr Haire is not connected with any Birth Control clinic, but a generous patient of his has recently donated a substantial sum of money for the purpose of organizing a clinic under his direction. This clinic is to be opened shortly as a general maternity and infant welfare station, and advice on contraception will be one of its many activities on behalf of the mother and the child.

An important development of Birth Control

work in England is the recent organization of the "Birth Control Investigation Committee." The committee is headed by Professor Sir Humphrey Rolleston, and counts among its members a number of outstanding British scientists, such as Carr-Saunders, Julian Huxley, F. A. H. Marshall, C. P. Blacker and others. The object of the committee is "to promote the scientific investigation of Birth Control." The members of the committee, as stated in their pamphlet "differ widely in their opinions as to the desirability of Birth Control, but are united in the realization that the practice is widespread, and that the scientific problems which it raises can no longer be ignored." The organization of this committee must be greeted with much enthusiasm and satisfaction. It is a reflection of the growing realization of the importance of the medical side of Birth Control and is a long step toward placing the subject of contraception on a level with other medico-sociological problems. From the roll of its membership and from the spirit in which it was organized we may confidently expect that this committee will make important contributions to the scientific development of Birth Control.

Part II will cover Holland and other countries

The Children's Charter

The child a birthright shall inherit
For natural growth in flesh and spirit

The child a-hungered shall be fed,
The sick child nursed and comforted,
The backward child with patience led,
The erring shall be claimed from sin,
The lonely child, bereft of kin,
Unloved, shall be taken in

In dire catastrophe and grief,
He shall be first to have relief

Betimes the way he shall be shown
To earn his bread and stand alone
None shall exploit him, yet ungrown
And this, his trust, shall be defined
The best of him, of heart and mind,
Is at the service of his kind

The Declaration of the rights of the Child, commonly referred to as "The Children's Charter," was officially adopted at Geneva by representatives of practically all the nations of the world. The formal document was transposed into verse by Miss Sidgwick and printed in "*Children, The Magazine for Parents*," published in New York

A Wail from Scotland

*Heigh O Heu, O what'll I do wi' ye?
Many O' ye and little to gie ye!
Black's the life that I lead wi' ye,
Heigh O Heu, O what'll I do wi' ye?*

*The best that can happen to a poor man
Is ae bairn dee, and the rest follow*

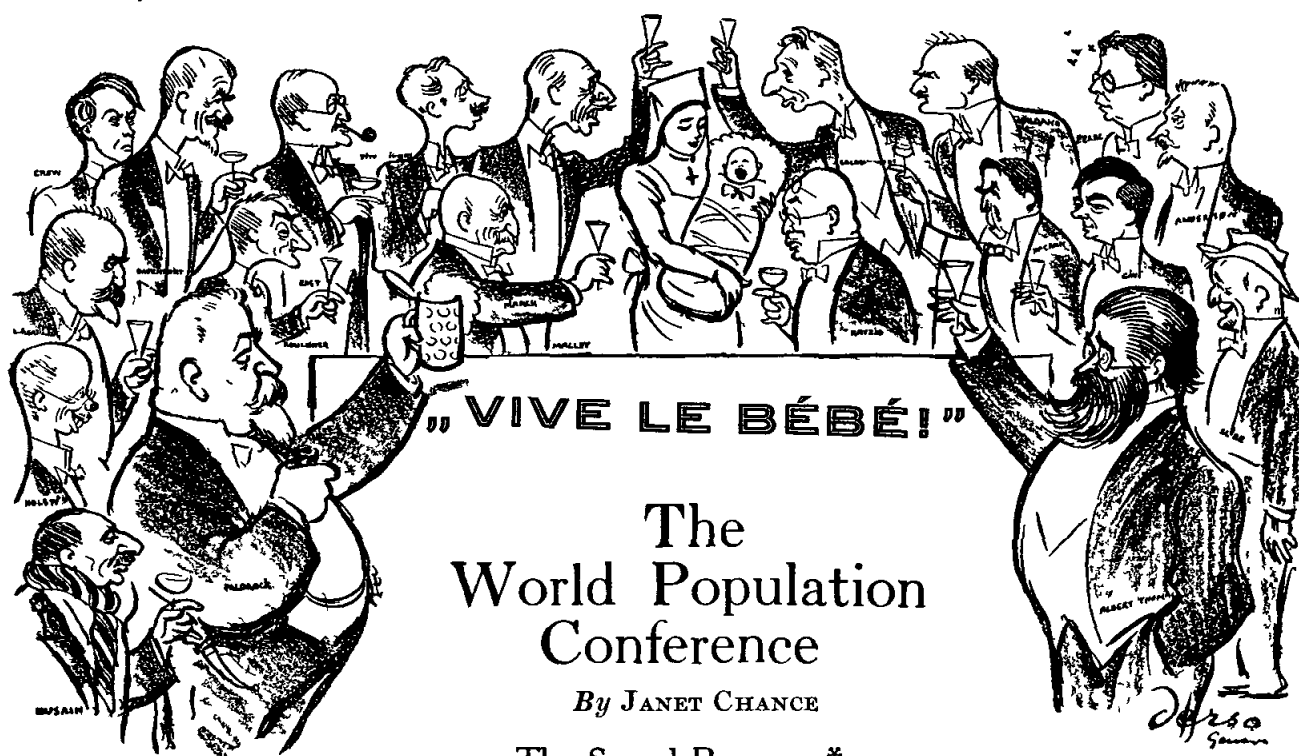
*Waly, Waly, bairns are bonny!
Ane's enough and twa's ower mony*

"The fundamental rights of childhood are a normal home life, opportunities for education, recreation, vocational preparation for life and moral religious and physical development in harmony with American Ideals"

CHILDREN'S BUREAU

It is probably no exaggeration to say that at present at least half the children brought into the world are not really wanted, but are conceived in self-indulgence or ignorance—surely no right spirit in which to consummate one of life's mysteries

—The Spectator, London



The World Population Conference

By JANET CHANCE

The Social Program*

"NO CONFERENCE was ever better organized," was the verdict of more than one member of the Conference held in Geneva from August 30th-September 2nd this year, and of more than one experienced and interested onlooker.

And of no side was this more delightfully true than of the social events planned for the gathering. These were not only carried through with a smoothness and efficiency that tempted one to forget they had involved any planning, but they were also, in their conception, of an unusually distinguished order.

On Tuesday, August 30th, the Republic and Canton of Geneva, the City of Geneva and the Rector of the University of Geneva honored the Conference by welcoming it to the city at a reception given at the Palais Eynard, the welcome being voiced by the Rector himself, M. Rappard. His speech on this occasion and his chairmanship of the dinner gave a note of peculiar interest and dignity to these occasions.

Personal Hospitality

To this public reception were added invitations of a more personal kind—the Reception and Din-

*The cartoon at the head to which Mrs. Chance refers represents the lighter side of the Conference. Needless to say the learned gentlemen represented are not drinking to the propagation of more babies but of better babies.

ner given by Mrs. Stanley McCormick at Chateau de Prangins, Nyon, and the cruise on the lake and Dinner given by M. Fatio.

The first of these made an unforgettable evening. The members of the Conference left the platform and the benches to fill some capacious charabancs and drive in the cool of the evening for some miles along the north shore of the lake. They drew up before the brilliant banks of red salvia at the door of the Chateau de Prangins and there a refinement of hospitality awaited them which, with its touches of daintiness in detail, gave a rare charm and friendliness to the evening. On the terrace and in the large rooms overlooking the lake dinner was served and it was followed by talk—much, loud and long talk—in the beautiful rooms of the castle and along its avenues in the dusk. And the talk was followed by dancing. Many were fortunate in having some discussion of peculiar interest, perhaps with a kindred spirit hitherto known only at a distance, perhaps with a stranger opening up fresh viewpoints on a common theme, and possibly even more fortunate in finding some expert in statistics who could also prove his or her skill on the floor of the ballroom.

Who could have taken more personal interest and care in his varied hospitality than M. Fatio? He personally invited the Conference on board the "Montreux," and came with his vast number of

(Continued on page 310)

Harmony in Marriage

A Sociologist Shows the Social Importance of Sexual Adjustment

IT IS something new for science to take cognizance of the art of living happily within the family. But Professor Hornell Hart in his new book, "The Science of Social Relations"* bases his work on the individual and the ways in which his personality comes into collision and forms adjustments with social institutions. First in importance of these relations is the family. Of this he writes —

Above all other social institutions thus far developed, the modern family has come closest to achieving an integration of the various forms of functioning involved in the relation between men and women. Under ideal conditions it provides an adequate opportunity for physical functioning, for parenthood, for companionship, for love, and for a home. It has social approval.

Professor Hart realizes that conditions are not always ideal. There are collisions between the individual and his duties and responsibilities as a member of the family. If there is to be harmony, there must be satisfactory sex relations as a basis. In a passage that is reminiscent of much that Margaret Sanger insists upon in "Happiness in Marriage", Professor Hart writes —

In sex life first experiences are of momentous importance. Intimate studies of divorce cases reveal the fact that conflict in sex matters is involved in an overwhelming majority of marriage failures, and that frequently the antagonism begins on the marriage night.

The first requisite to married serenity is that both partners be in harmony within themselves. If they are ashamed of the physical aspects of their love, if they regard the sex impulse as nasty, impure, and unworthy, they will be exceedingly likely to develop mental conflicts in connection with the marriage relationship. Similarly the church should progress beyond the furtive ashamed, repressive attitude which has characterized so much of our reformatory work. The motive of life is to function. Marital functioning is a normal and beautiful form of joy. The aim should be to emphasize its wholesome and constructive aspects and to release it from its poisonous and destructive perversions, rather than to thwart it.

According to the view now prevalent among biologists, sociologists, and psychologists, the physical as-

pect of sex is an underlying foundation of all that is beautiful in life. Art, music, literature, and religion itself are flames of beauty from this primeval fire. Philanthropy, ethics, and brotherly love borrow power from sex.

Yet the tremendous power of the sex drives makes the initial excursion a dangerous one. *The first principles for success in this relationship are gentleness, mutual understanding, and patience.*

Particularly in sex matters, force is the supreme blunder. A husband may compel his wife to conform to his wishes, but this coercion is likely to alienate her purposes from him and destroy the possibility of genuine harmony in the home.

In marriage, somewhat as during courtship, the physical phases of the relationship gain beauty and significance in proportion as they are not regarded as ends in themselves, but grow out of other relations between the personalities. As by-products they acquire new beauty, as mere activities for their own sake they become crude, dull and unsatisfying.

Only indirectly does Professor Hart show the importance of Birth Control. In describing the relations of the child to the home he writes of the menace of the unwanted child. This menace is directed against the welfare of the home, against the child himself and against society which is threatened by the warped human being developed out of the unwanted child.

Far more often than we are apt to recognize, the child coming into a family is regarded as a menace. This is true for several reasons. The first is financial. Budgetary studies have proved that it costs as much to rear a child to working age as it costs to build a house. Even the well-to-do hesitate to take on an unlimited number of such responsibilities. For the poor the menace often becomes crucial.

To illustrate the frequency with which mothers, and fathers also, regard the coming of a child as a threat to their own welfare and to that of the children already in existence, he quotes from some of the Mothers' Letters found in the pages of the BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW. He then goes on to show the results to the child of coming unwanted into the world —

Toward stimuli which are regarded as menaces the typical reactions, as we have previously seen, are apt

*The Science of Social Relations, by Hornell Hart. Henry Holt and Co. New York

to be grief, avoidance, and rage. Toward the child the resulting attitudes are neglect and abuse. Disease, death, delinquency, truancy, retardation, and psychopathic personalities are too often the products. Illegitimate children are particularly handicapped by an antagonistic social environment. The United States Children's Bureau reports that the death rates for ille-

gitimates in Boston and in Baltimore are about three times as high as for legitimate children.

Although Professor Hart refrains from drawing the moral, it is self-evident. Only by Birth Control, by the substitution of voluntary for involuntary parenthood can this menace of the unwanted child be removed.



As Ellsworth Huntington Sees It

THAT lusty little pamphlet which used to be thrust into our unwilling hands at street corners by zealots in its cause has a brand new cousin.

The pamphlet, you will remember, was called Birth Control. You still meet it in occasional centers of traffic, such as the entrance to Grand Central Station.

Now you will find it is wearing a high hat and taking on airs because of its kinship to a very learned tome, "The Builders of America," fathered by Professor Ellsworth Huntington, of Yale University, and Leon F. Whitney, of the American Eugenics Society.

Professor Huntington steps forth in favor of selective birth. He would make the arrival of a child in the family a matter of blessed privilege rather than of unfortunate accident.

"LET'S talk about Birth Control," he asks, "until foolish folk get over being afraid of it. Low grade intelligence, quite aside from any religious teaching, still believes birth control is wicked. We must drive out this ogre."

"Birth Control is universally practiced. And because we have not placed this control under a system of education and investigation, its practice is dangerous."

"The right to produce the men and women of the future should be a privilege based on health, on the ability to care for children properly and on an honest liking for children."

"The extent of birth control in the United States is proven by the fact that in 1790 the average family contained eight children. In 1927 the average family contains three children."

"There must be at least four children in a family if the type of that family is to be preserved."

"THE odium that has attached to eugenics as they affect the birth rate is a result of misinformation," contends Professor Huntington.

"People get the notion birth control means no children or, at the most, one or two children. Properly applied, it means nothing of the sort. It goes in for regulation to the extent that children are not born into disease, poverty or unhappiness."

"It advocates, whenever possible, not less than four children in a family. There are not enough if that family is to contribute its type and its talents to the future. Death, failure to marry or childless marriages bring about the end in one, two or at most, three generations."

QUOTING from Professor Huntington's "Builders of America," he says —

"What the world needs today is not the martyr, the hermit, the sacrificial warrior, the monk, the nun or the woman who dedicates herself to the service of the sick, suffering and degraded. What it needs most is bright, healthy, competent, strong willed, clear thinking children born of happy, hearty, high-minded parents."

"SOME day the world will doubtless frown on any family that has more than two children unless the older children rank high in all sorts of tests, but it will pay great honor to the parents of six children, all of whom are superior in mind and temperament."

The professor advocates the elimination of diseased, stupid and imbecile children, by permitting those who might have been their parents voluntarily to prevent bringing them into the world.

He looks forward to the time when, through the exercise of positive eugenics, Lincolns, Darwins, Edisons, Roosevelts will arise, not once in a hundred years among scores of millions of people, but once in a generation among one million people, with lesser abilities increasing in proportion.

JANE DIXON in *The Telegram* (N. Y.)

The Birth Control Handbills of 1823

By NORMAN E. HIMES

THE opinion is still very general that Birth Control propaganda, so-called, is a social phenomenon which had its beginnings in the last quarter of the nineteenth century. Nothing could be further from the facts. Although it is true that the popular advocacy of Birth Control, especially on social and economic grounds, was reinforced by the prosecution of Charles Bradlaugh and Annie Besant in 1877 for the publication of Dr Charles Knowlton's "The Fruits of Philosophy," it is clear that the decade of the 1820's produced an agitation of singular interest not only to the physician but to the economist and sociologist. Nor did the public demand for information become quiescent between 1830 and 1877, less noisy it did become after the death of Malthus in 1834, but the passing of the figure around whom the population storm raged, the widening of the suffrage and the passage of the New Poor Law merely poured oil on the troubled sea of social difficulties, the propaganda continued, and the distribution of Birth Control tracts went quietly on.

The Pioneers

We shall concern ourselves here with one phase only of the agitation of the 1920's. That phase is the handbill propaganda which seems to have been initiated by Francis Place—by trade a tailor, by avocation a schoolmaster to statesmen. Place, incidentally, was united by the bonds of friendship, and, to a limited extent by the cords of a common feeling with Thomas Wakley, the medical reformer who founded, and who for a number of years edited, *The Lancet*. It should be observed that Place's generalship in supervising the distribution of the broadsheets about to be described was but a small part of an organized, concerted attempt to bring a contraceptive technique to the working classes without extensive aid from the medical profession.

The question of the origin of the method recommended—whether introduced from France or independently hit upon here—need not detain us. But it may be mentioned in passing that although Place started the rumour that Robert Owen, New Lanark philanthropist, introduced the new preventive check from France, although his statement was repeated by T. J. Wooler, editor of a radical newspaper called the *Black Dwarf*, and although the Owen "anecdote" was reiterated in two separate publications of Richard Carlile (Place's Birth Con-

trol disciple), conclusive evidence has since come to light which would seem to demonstrate that if the —, as a contraceptive technique, had a French origin it was *not* introduced into England by Robert Owen.

James Mill, the eminent political economist, had no sooner broached the subject in his Colony article in the Supplement to the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* (1818) than the pros and cons of contraception seem to have been discussed in the inner circle of the Benthamite group. Place began his public advocacy of Birth Control in his "Illustrations and Proofs of the Principle of Population" (1822) but no mention was there made of methods.

The Handbills

It was not until the summer of 1823 that Place initiated a distribution of handbills among the general populace. Copies of these bills are preserved in what is known as the Place Collection at the British Museum. They exist in two forms, printed and manuscript. The three printed forms of the handbills are addressed respectively "To the Married of Both Sexes," "To the Married of Both Sexes in Genteel Life," and "To the Married of Both Sexes of the Working People." The first two were neatly printed on a single sheet about 5 by 9 in., while the third was a four-page pamphlet approximately 3 by 5¾ in. Still another draft, addressed "to the mature reader of both sexes," is preserved in manuscript on both sides of a single sheet 6½ by 7½ in. The handwriting in this manuscript draft is not that of Francis Place.

The handbills read as follows —

I

TO THE MARRIED OF BOTH SEXES

In the present state of society, a great number of persons are compelled to make an appearance, and to live in a stile, which consumes all their incomes, leaving nothing, or next to nothing, as a provision for their children. To such persons a great number of children is a never failing source of discomfort and apprehension, of a state of bodily, mental, and pecuniary vexation and suffering, from which there is no escape. This state of things pervades, to a very great extent, that respectable class of society called genteel. To those whose incomes depend on some particular exertion, which cannot be remitted, these distressing circumstances are from various causes, greatly increased. To

¹Part of an article in *The Lancet* (London) of Aug. 6th

those who constitute the great mass of the community, whose daily bread is alone procured by daily labour, a large family is almost always the cause of ruin, both of parents and children, reducing the parents to cheerless, hopeless and irremediable poverty, depriving the children of those physical, moral, and mental helps which are necessary to enable them to live in comfort, and turning them out at an early age to prey upon the world, or to become the world's prey

For these general reasons, cognizable by every body, it is of the greatest possible importance that married people should be informed of the methods used to prevent such tremendous evils

If methods can be pointed out by which all the enjoyments of wedded life may be partaken of without the apprehension of too large a family, and all its bitter consequences, he surely who points them out, must be a benefactor of mankind. Such at any rate are the motives which govern the writer of this address

The means of prevention are simple, harmless, and might, but for false delicacy, have been communicated generally. They have long been practised in several parts of the Continent, and experience has proved, that the greatest possible benefits have resulted. The people in those parts, being in all respects better off, better instructed, more cheerful, and more independent, than those in other parts where the practices have not prevailed to a sufficient extent

II

TO THE MARRIED OF BOTH SEXES IN GENTEEL LIFE

Among the many sufferings of married women, as mothers, there are two cases which command the utmost sympathy and commiseration

The first arises from constitutional peculiarities, or weaknesses

The second from mal-conformation of the bones of the Pelvis

Besides these two cases, there is a third case appli-

¹Description of methods follows

cable to both sexes. Namely, the consequences of having more children than the income of the parents enables them to maintain and educate in a desirable manner

The first-named case produces miscarriages, and brings on a state of existence scarcely endurable. It has caused thousands of respectable women to linger on in pain and apprehension, till at length, death has put an end to their almost inconceivable sufferings

The second case is always attended with immediate risk of life. Pregnancy never terminates without intense suffering, seldom without the death of the child, frequently with the death of the mother, and sometimes with the death of both mother and child

The third case is by far the most common, and the most open to general observation. In the middle ranks, the most virtuous and praiseworthy efforts are perpetually made to keep up the respectability of the family, but a continual increase of children gradually yet certainly renders every effort to prevent degradation unavailing, it paralyzes by rendering hopeless all exertion, and the family sinks into poverty and despair. Thus is engendered and perpetuated a hideous mass of misery

The knowledge of what awaits them deters vast numbers of young men from marrying and causes them to spend the best portion of their lives in a state of debauchery, utterly incompatible with the honourable and honest feelings which should be the characteristic of young men. The treachery, duplicity, and hypocrisy, they use towards their friends and the unfortunate victims of their seductions, while they devote a large number of females to the most dreadful of all states which human beings can endure, extinguishes in them to a very great extent, all manly, upright notions, and qualifies them to as great an extent, for the commission of acts which but for these vile practices they would abhor, and thus to an enormous extent is the whole community injured

Marriage in early life, is the only truly happy state, and if the evil consequences of too large a family did not deter them, all men would marry while young, and thus would many lamentable evils be removed from society

²Description of methods follows

Mother

WHAT secret have you kept that you cannot say?
What have your eyes to tell that they brood on me
now?

Your hand is peace on my brow

What have I lost? What have I thrown away?

Be still. Your words are all spoken, and my words

Turn into prose and falter at your smile

Hold me a while

Our hearts come close like wind-bewildered birds

There is a moon outside. It is a night for fun
From summer and from the city I shall take what I need
You will sit here and read
You are happier than I shall be when I have done

I am afraid. I think how the wind will put us apart

I wonder, will I learn the quiet in your touch?

Will I love someone so much?

Will I carry pain till it is peace in my heart?

—GEORGE H. DILLON in *The World Tomorrow*

Good Reasons for Birth Control

To the Scientists, Birth Control may be a matter to be decided upon after studies of population and statistics To the Mother, it is a matter of life and death to herself and her babies, of happy home, or miserable existence, of love and harmony between herself and her husband and children, or discord, quarrels, bickerings, nervous irritation, impatience and fretfulness Birth Control has its international importance as a solution for some of the problems of population, but to the individual man and woman in the home, its supreme value is that it provides a way out from misery into happiness

A Fit Mother?

In order that you may fully understand I will go into detail I am 33 year of age Have been married eleven years Six years ago I had one breast removed for cancer, which left me in a very nervous condition The other breast is giving trouble and the doctors are urging removal I am raising the baby left by my sister at birth three years ago, also have the invalid father of my husband to care for I have never had any children but had a miscarriage last July, due to my nervous condition. I do not want to shirk my duty to society but feel that if I do not protect myself I may leave a great burden on society I am a farm wife with all the duties attendant I will also state that we are poor and have all the responsibilities we can care for in a respectable manner

But What Can I Do?

New York

I am a mother of six children ranging in years from 14 to 2 years, and have undergone two abortion operations Am thirty years of age and live in terror of the future and more unwanted children We are people of very moderate means and it makes us hustle to make both ends meet, so to speak Luxuries are unknown to us, only the absolute necessities are all we can afford We realize that we have committed the crime of having too large a family, but what can we do when even the family doctor cannot be made to tell you the slightest idea of what to do We have tried since the birth of our third child to limit our family by trying out all different so-called preventive means given us by well-meaning neighbors and friends, only to find they are not always sure and always comes another unwanted child Of course we learn to love them, much as I have prayed they would be born dead, and that makes the hurt greater We have also practised continence, either of us and both, but of course it always ends in and causes all kind of quarrels and hard feelings

and it even brings up the subject of prostitution. And what woman, if she loves her husband would send him to such places to get what she could give and would gladly give if only she could feel sure there would be no more unwanted children from such intercourse?

I have brooded and worried over this state of affairs till I have become bitter and utterly discouraged, and how can a woman be a happy mother and a fit companion for her children in such a state of mind? My husband has also complained of late that he feels that using the preventive devices we have been using since the birth of our last child and practicing continence at times will drive him insane He says he feels terrible at times and I know that it must be such times that he is so cross and irritable that I can hardly bear to live with him Both I and the children have to suffer at such times and he joins me in asking you for any information you can give us on the subject I am thirty and my husband is thirty-seven I became a mother when scarcely sixteen years old and my second child came twenty-one months later and the third fourteen months after that My fourth then came twenty-three months after the third and then came my first abortion operation two years after and four years later came my fifth child Seventeen months again and then my last so far Since then I have had another abortion operation and will confess I do not like to do that as I know I am running an awful risk and do not care to leave my brood motherless But what can I do?

Wasted Babies

Canada

I love children and do not think that any home is right without them But on the other hand, where a mother gives birth to children every two years for a number of years, until she is left a nervous wreck and the children have not had the first chance of being healthy children—then it is a God-send to know that there are advanced civilized people in the world who understand these conditions enough to edit such a paper as the "BIRTH CON-

TROL REVIEW Ordinary people today look at you in horror when such a thing as Birth Control is mentioned, but I thank God I have at last found other people who do not look in horror at such a remark but consider it as an educational, essential thing for the betterment of the coming generation both physically and mentally. Now may I tell you my life story and ask for help in regard to my life? I am just twenty-six years old, have been married six years. I weighed eighty-nine pounds when I was married. Two months after I was married I became pregnant and I was happy to think I was to become a mother. After three months passed I had a miscarriage which left me in a nervous state for months afterwards. Four months after this miscarriage I became pregnant again. Taking more care than ever I managed to give birth to a ten pound baby boy. He was a lovely baby but had no vitality and died twenty-one days after birth. After all the days of worry, sickness and hopefulness I was left childless. I was under the doctor's care for four months after my baby died. I was pregnant two months when I had another miscarriage. Then I again become pregnant three months after this miscarriage and gave birth to a nine pound girl. She is nearly nine months old now and just weighs nine pounds and eight ounces. She has no vitality and will collapse at times as if she cannot fight for life. You have read my story of married life. My husband and I are happy together but I am only a nervous wreck. Please help me to lift the worry of continually being pregnant. I take holidays to build up and just when I begin to get my health back I find myself that way again.

Should Love be Denied?

New Hampshire

My husband and I have reached the point where we feel that if there is any sane and sensible and right Birth Control information to be had, we should procure it. We were married ten years ago last June. We have four children and another came prematurely at the sixth month just a year after the first child was born. My husband was in army Y M C A service twenty months and during that time I had quite a serious nervous breakdown. Gradually I worked my way out of it and the two younger children have come since then, just seventeen months apart. Our baby is now six months old. Since his birth the two older have had throat operations, the three older measles, and the girl a serious liver complication which meant three weeks in a hospital. She is still on diet and not back to normal health. Since my baby was three weeks old I have not been able to get good help, and with the work and anxiety, I have gotten pulled down where I feel much of the old nervous trouble.

I feel that I must have a chance to sort of catch up with myself and really get my household into good running order and not even think of having babies at present. For

so long a time we have just "gotten by," as they say, and not been able to live as we'd really like to do. We are living in our third home, not to mention the make-shifts of the war period. We have tried to solve the problem by living apart, but that makes more or less of strain. There is something which the father's love brings which helps the mother to carry her cares, and vice versa. The days seem harder and lonely when we keep quite apart. My husband is a teacher, we are both college graduates, but with all our knowledge we have not been able to solve this problem satisfactorily.

Three Crippled Children

Pennsylvania

I am writing to you as I have no one else to advise me, and have heard that you have helped others. I thought perhaps you would me, too. I have had seven children in less than ten years. I fell and hurt my spine and have to sit on a rubber-ring and am almost crazy with hemorrhoids besides. Three of my children have been cripples and we are poor people. Don't you think I have had my share? Most of my friends have one and two children. When I ask them what they do, they only laugh and say they can't get that way.

I was the only child, but my mother died and never told me anything I should have known. I have heard there are remedies, but don't know what they are. I certainly would appreciate any help from you, as I have seen your name in the papers with some of the greatest doctors. We have only one and he is too greedy for money to tell you anything, I guess.

Help me if you can for I certainly think I am deserving, if any one is. I believe I will lose my mind if I have to go through it again.

Letter Quoted by E. A. Ross

I would go to jail and to Hell itself if I knew I was helping the poor who do not understand Birth Control. Why should it be kept from us? Why can't we have the right like the wealthy people? Are we not human? Why all this mortification of the poor because we don't know any better. I always feel I have to help my mother, a mother that was devoted to each and every one of us but could not afford to bring us to where she liked to see us because she was worn out with work. She could just about feed and dress us with the earnings of a father's pay. Must we nowadays live the same way? Why not just have two or three children and bring them up right rather than have a dozen and treat them like lambs and goats out in the pasture?

The Motives of Birth Control Advocates

By THOMAS D. ELIOT

The Indictment

OPPONENTS of Birth Control seldom confine themselves to facts and arguments upon the merits of the question. They criticize unfavorably the personalities of its protagonists. Birth Control is called radical. The Birth Control propaganda attracts because it is interesting to people to feel radical, free, or wicked, and yet virtuous. People welcome the "moral" support of a group for something they at first felt guilty about.

Protestant tolerance of Birth Control is ascribed to the presence of wealthy parishioners in most Protestant churches, whom the Protestant clergy hesitate to offend, and (more charitably) to the philanthropic guise in which the wolf has clad itself. Some people are accused of favoring Birth Control merely because Catholicism opposes it.

Spreading the knowledge of Birth Control will relieve the consciences, or sub-consciencies, of those who live off the poor, or on their backs, it makes them feel that their exploitation is not what is making children in the slums suffer, for the families of the poor can, or could, avoid poverty by family limitation. "The doctrines of Malthus were adopted most enthusiastically by the middle classes, because they were thus enabled to shift the blame for the awful conditions of the working classes from their own shoulders. It was a very comforting doctrine for the exploiters and oppressors."*

Birth Control advocates are called shallow. "An ethics of sex that neglects to dig far beneath the surface of human life and conduct is foredoomed to failure and inadequacy. And fully ninety-five if not ninety-nine percent of the literature of Birth Control evades this difficult though imperative task."*

The propaganda of Birth Control is based upon an emotional rather than a scientific basis. It is pushed by a handful of highly vocal agitators, spread by immoral people, and backed by the prosperous few. Such people show a fundamental lack of faith in life, which is the essence of irreligion.

The Answer

Ad hominem "arguments" are apt to take the form of epithets or of imputed motives. They are easy to make and easy to deny, and neither the

assertion nor the denial may mean anything except a combat-attitude. The liberal and thoughtful manner of turning the other cheek is to examine one's own motives and the behavior of the group with which one identifies himself, and to approach the attitudes of both sides as objectively as possible.

Radicalism may be defined as drastic principle of change, advocated without due consideration of other modifying principles or tendencies. There are persons who, viewing Birth Control as a cure-all or the only key to utopia, may justly be called radical. But if radicalism be merely the new, the unusual, the violent, or the disreputable, Birth Control hardly answers to the description any longer, for it has been the usual thing among the well-to-do and satisfied classes. The element of novelty is found in publicly advocating contraceptives for the proletariat so that it be not so prolific, and in shifting it from the category of illegality, immorality and obscenity to that of non-moral means of ethical behavior.

Who are Radicals?

If it be radical to approve Birth Control, then such bodies as the Health Section of the General Federation of Women's Clubs (1920), the Social Service Club of Chicago, and the gynaecological section of the A. M. A. are radical.

Some of the radical agitators for Birth Control are doubtless in the movement because they enjoy all things radical and are "agin' the government." With them, it is a variety of what Gilbert Murray calls Satanism whatever the Church is against, they are for "Every movement has its lunatic fringe" (though it seems curious to quote Roosevelt in such a connection). But for every fanatic there are a dozen who hold balanced and reasoned conclusions and thousands of respectable people who simply take the practice for granted and say nothing.

Persons whose views on an intimate subject have changed do not so easily root out their earlier habitual attitudes, especially in the face of legal and religious stigmatization. If they therefore welcome the sense of herd-approval which they get from joining a like-minded group, who shall blame them? And if the philanthropic guise be not a disguise but a demonstrably valid phase of the movement, who shall blame its advocates?

On the other hand, the charge of insincerity brought against ministers, doubtless true in cases,

*Ryan, John A. p. 176

*(Cooper, John M. p. 31)

is itself hardly a sincere argument. It cannot be proved and it is irrelevant to the main issues.

The point that Birth Control as an "ism" may serve to lull the social-economic conscience of the acquisitive, scores a hit for the opposition. It is one of their strongest points. It applies, however, to a cold-blooded or self-deceived group. The charge of emotionalism is of an opposite sort, and applies fairly to those who, having never studied the economics or biology of Birth Control are swept away solely by pathetic case histories. Emotionalism, however, is characteristic of the early stages of many reforms, and a reform is not to be condemned merely because of the presence of emotionalism unless it infects the whole movement and its policies, or unless it goes contrary to scientific recommendations. In the absence of valid objections on economic and eugenic and medical grounds, human misery is a pretty sound basis for advocacy, and propaganda based upon misery need not be dubbed mere sobstuff, if the misery itself be verified.

Dublin is one of very few scientists who have adduced arguments against Birth Control which carry scientific weight. As a sociologist, however, he is to be respected merely as a highly competent statistician. Hoffman, though also a great insurance statistician, makes his protest in a vein of passionate personal prejudice as emotional as that of Father Vaughan or as any Neo-Malthusian leader.

Scientific Backers

If we considered representative such literature as some of that which appeared before Father Cooper's pamphlet, we might agree with him that it is shallow and fallacious. But papers such as those of Dr. Pusey, Dr. Yarros, Prof. Crawford, and Dr. Dickinson, and such as appear in Dr. Meyer's recent symposium and Dr. Blacker's booklet, are based upon real research, wide experience of human nature, and close thinking. If this be shallowness, make the most of it. *A tu quoque* defense is too easy only by definitely undermining the actual shallowness of the opposition can such a defense be justified as argument, or as proof of the relative depth of the brief for the affirmative. This is what the above essay has attempted.

The writer has not overstressed the "lunatic fringe" of the opposition, neither should the opposition, insofar as it is discriminating, judge the Birth Control movement by its insincere, shallow, selfish, emotional, or immoral advocates, unless they can prove that these are the dominant elements in its support and policy and results. We do not think they have proved this.

An analysis of the attitudes of some (not all) of those opposed to Birth Control reveals some motives and biases quite as irrelevant to the central issues and facts as those admittedly to be found in some Birth Control Lobbyists. Like the latter, they are rationalizing what they want, and what they want selects their arguments.

Psychological Conflicts

Those who accept Birth Control want freedom from guilt through removal of guilt. Those who reject it want freedom from guilt through removal of freedom.

The proponents want freedom in marriage without the guilt of hanging millstones around the necks of little ones, and also without the condemnation of the moralists. The opposition want technical freedom from taint and care less for ethically responsible freedom. Because of the alleged and assumed taint, they see in the Birth Control propagandist a sinister tempter, and they pray to be led away. In a sense, they admit tacitly a secret inability to resist the sin. Not feeling strong enough to say "get thee behind me," they must escape by the infantile method of destroying what they fear instead of mastering it.

Having more or less successfully repressed in themselves what they feel as sin, they still feel a subconscious sense of conflict whenever the subject arises in current experience. Whatever in the outer world seems to release this putative sin, or to tempt others with its pleasures without its penalties, while leaving the unconscious wishes of the righteous tantalizingly bound by their own code, is responded against with all the vigor which the repression (the "censor") would show against a recrudescence of their own temptations. Having made a virtue of necessity, they hate to see the necessity for their "virtue" removed.

The initiated in psychoanalysis will recognize this as the Comstock complex. It is a defense mechanism, an attempt to escape a partially suppressed conflict or fear by means of a death-wish against the Birth Control advocates who symbolize the ambivalently loathed-and-denied, "naughty-but-nice" temptation, and who thus serve as a conditioning stimulus to the suppressed responses underlying the sin-conflict. It dodges the issue.

Readings

- 1 Irwin, Mabel 'The True Birth Control', *The Arbitrator* Vol. I, No. 3, August 1918
- 2 Ryan, John A. "Arguments for Birth Control" *The Catholic Charities Review*, Vol. IX No. 5, May 1925
- 3 Ingram, John Kells, *A History of Political Economy* (American Edition), Macmillan New York City 1905
- 4 Cooper, John M. *Birth Control* The National Catholic Welfare Council Washington 1923
- 5 Dublin, Louis I., *The Excesses of Birth Control*, The Metropolitan Life Insurance Company New York City 1925

Book Reviews

POPULATION PROBLEMS OF THE PACIFIC, by
Stephen H. Roberts, Routledge, London, \$5 00

IT IS widely supposed that the population of the Pacific Islands has greatly declined in recent generations by reason of the vices of the white man. Mr. Stephen H. Roberts, an Australian who appears to know what he is talking about, shows that this is not true. The population did indeed decline in most of the islands for two or three generations after their first contact with European civilization. In the majority, however, it has more recently shown a tendency toward recovery, only a small minority still display the steady tendency toward depopulation which is so painfully marked in Marquesas. When the white man first arrived on the scene, the Pacific Islanders were already far on the road to decline. The islanders are not now and never have been any such idyllic people as imaginative travelers would have us believe. They were doubtless better five or six hundred years ago, but since the white man has known them, they have always been corrupt and degraded even according to their own best standards. War was the great reducer of population, three-fourths of the deaths (aside from those of infants apparently) being due directly or indirectly to that cause. But there was also much limitation of population through abortion and other unnatural practices. A great many children were killed at birth, the number being about two-thirds the total in Tahiti. "The maternal instinct seemed to be almost extinct." In the thirties of the last century three women, who happened to be questioned, quite unconcernedly admitted to having killed nineteen infants, two others had disposed of thirteen. Others had few children because of extreme licentiousness and the utter degradation to which they were subjected, little girls of seven being considered marriageable. Even if the children were not killed, they were in most places not really cared for, they simply had to look out for themselves. In part of New Guinea families are said to have been limited to a single child, although how extinction could have been avoided under such circumstances it is hard to tell, unless prenuptial children made up the balance. Everywhere the position of women was exceedingly degraded.

Today a certain degree of improvement is manifest, although the social conditions are extremely unsatisfactory. It looks as though a process of selection were taking place, whereby those who are least able to adapt themselves to a new civilization and in whom the parental instinct is weakest are being eliminated. What relation all this has to Birth Control it is extremely hard to say. Mr. Roberts assumes that a decline of population indicates a decline in other respects, and that an increase is a favorable sign. His facts seem strongly to support this conclusion. Possibly a knowledge of scientific Birth Control,

if it could be introduced among such people, would help to weed out the more licentious elements and those in whom the parental instinct is weak, but people of that sort appear to be just the ones who are least willing persistently to practice such control.

ELLSWORTH HUNTINGTON

THE SCIENCE OF SOCIETY, by William Graham Sumner and Albert Galloway Keller. Vols I and II. New Haven. Yale University Press. 1927. \$4 each.

THESE are the first two in a four volume work. Readers of this *Review* will find an interest in many sections of them. Both volumes are thoughtfully written, crammed with interesting materials and yet simple and clear in outline. The viewpoint is definitely Darwinian in basic principles. The primary problems of any and every society are found to be two. Self-preservation and group self-maintenance. In solving these, every social group must work out an adjustment to its environment. In consequence, the man-land ratio, or the number of persons per unit of territory constitutes the primary key to social organization and institutions.

In achieving their adjustment to habitat men are moved primarily by four stimuli: hunger, sex-love, vanity and ghost-fear. In response to these stimuli a social group works out customs or folkways whereby they are enabled to preserve and perpetuate themselves. Group self-maintenance thus gives rise to industry, property and government, all rooted in hunger. Closely related is religion, rooted in ghost-fear. Group perpetuation gives rise to marriage and the family, while vanity or the interest in self-gratification affects all activities and gives rise particularly to games, etiquette, dancing, fashion and ornamentation.

The authors thus make the economic problem fundamental. While they do not accept any doctrinaire theory of economic determinism, they support the contention that, in general, the activities connected with self-maintenance are so essential and so readily tested by the ever-present struggle for existence that all other activities must more or less conform to them. In other words, there is among the other folkways and mores a "strain toward conformity" with the industrial folkways. It thus appears that the initial importance of an innovation in the folkways is its effect on the man-land ratio. Whatever alters this ratio affects cultural evolution as a whole. "The progressive increase of population is that change in the elements of the societal situation which is the immediate and usual stimulus to readjustments productive of effects on all details of the societal structure, functions, and relations" (p. 67).

With such a basis it would be expected that our authors would devote considerable attention to the population problem on its quantitative side. Their discussion is marked by a valuable study of the importance and role of the standard of living, the respective effects of over-population and under-population and the significance of growing population or rising standards for social dynamics. The modern problems are untouched, except by implication. They admit the dysgenic tendencies of present Birth-Control practices and point to it as "the most weighty criticism which could be made on existing society" (p. 76). They insist that no society has ever risen to the level of an all-round conscious population policy. Primitive societies had various means of limiting their numbers, but these were folkways which grew up slowly and gradually became traditional. Likewise, in our own day, family limitation has begun among the more thrifty, ambitious and far-sighted and is spreading by imitation to the lower orders, but it is not a part of a population policy approved by society at large after conscious deliberations.

On the whole, this division of the work is well done, so far as it goes. The most glaring omission is the absence of almost all reference to questions of population quality. It would seem that a comprehensive science of society ought to include also some discussion of migration, and race conflict and amalgamation.

The chapter on sex differences and sex labor specialization will no doubt strike many readers of this journal as rather old-fashioned. Some will label them "German-made" and have done with them. They seem to the reviewer, however, essentially sound. The position taken is that the differences between the sexes are profound and ineradicable. Woman is less strong physically, less alert, enterprising and creative mentally, more passive in temperament, works at a lower and more monotonous level of energy, and is permanently handicapped and differentiated by primary sex functions and child-bearing. These natural differences are shown to have worked out into differences in the sex codes and mores in well-known ways. These sexes are held to be complementary in the struggle for race maintenance, as well as perpetuation. Man has dominated woman, for the most part (hen-pecked husbands are not peculiar to our own society), partly by virtue of his greater strength, and partly by virtue of the fact that his role as hunter and warrior made him the creator and wielder of weapons. The old question of the relative ability of the sexes in the arts is asked and answered as would be expected. Women geniuses are rare, and usually second or third rate, not because of lack of opportunity, but because nature intended matters to be that way.

To all of which there is one obvious and very important supplement, namely, that the qualities of the sexes overlap with respect to every trait and qualification, except

the primary sex traits. Even here, inter-sex types show that the crucial differences may sometimes get badly confused. In the light of modern hormone theories, the complementary nature of the sexes, while not upset, is sometimes reversed. That is, the differences between two men may be greater than the differences between a man and a woman so far as their fitness for social roles is concerned. The sexes complement each other, but the roles are reversed. These cases, however, do not represent the rule. It is still true that women must bear children and be home builders. Many now succeed in escaping, but this does not alter the world plan. It may be, as the authors say, a pity that this is so. It may be a hard and cruel fact. But blame should be placed, not on innocent male man, but upon the evolutionary processes that produced bisexuality.

These sections serve to give an idea of the viewpoint of this work. Other sections of volume one present a detailed study of the main features of both industrial organization and regulative organization. The analysis is marked by clarity and logic, the headings follow each other in systematic order and the discussion is illustrated by numerous instances, patiently gleaned from a wide range of anthropological literature.

Volume two is devoted entirely to Religion. The viewpoint and mode of handling data are vividly reminiscent of Spencer's *Principles of Sociology*, but the materials are much more abundant than in Spencer's "Data." The striking contribution here is the primary importance given to the luck element. There is a large element of chance in life for ignorant people this element is extraordinarily large and colorful. It is there that lurks the mystery that finally turns the tide of events. It may manifest its potentiality by various signs and symbols, through oracles and sooth-sayers. In last analysis, the luck of life reflects the attitudes of the gods. Hence by prayer, sacrifice and formula we may win the gods to our hopes and ambitions. This is a real contribution of first-rate importance. The arrangement of sections in this volume seems less clear than in the first. These authors, like most others, evidently found the wealth and variety of religious practice to be too vast and intricate to be treated in perfect clarity. It is probably an impossible task in the present state of knowledge. Moreover, as in the first volume, current problems are touched upon only incidentally or by implication.

When the two volumes that are to follow these first two are out, we shall have one of the most solid contributions yet made to sociology. Less brilliant and suggestive than Sumner's *Folkways*, conservative in tone, and little impressed by recent developments in cultural anthropology in this country, it is, nevertheless, a work of very substantial value.

F. H. HANKINS

SOCIAL ORIGINS AND SOCIAL CONTINUITIES

By Alfred Marston Tozzer, The Macmillan Company, New York

THIS very interesting volume embodies a course of lectures delivered by Professor Tozzer before the Lowell Institute. It is consequently adapted to general reading, and it deserves a place in every popular library, for which reason it seems a pity that the title is not more attractive. Professor Tozzer explains simply and clearly how the conventions and ideas that have governed and still govern communities of human beings came into existence. He traces the origins of tabus and superstitions—sometimes arising out of the necessities of savage or barbarous life, often due to the ignorance of the savage mind and the fantastic explanations supplied for incomprehensible phenomena. If the time ever comes that mankind will really carefully examine its prepossessions and the ideas and opinions that have been handed down and accepted, there will be a liberation from a network of restrictions and prejudices. Especially will this be true of sex, marriage, and reproduction, which have always been surrounded by a mist of ignorance and a host of tabus. Fortunately of late years some small progress has been made towards the substitution of reason for superstition in these great and allied fields. The publication of this volume is another step on the way out of the darkness of the savage into the light of true civilization.

UPTON SINCLAIR. *A Study in Social Protest*, by Floyd Dell. New York, George H. Doran Co. 1927. 194 pp. Price \$1.50.

IN this penetrating study of one of the leading figures in the literary and intellectual life of our time, Floyd Dell has thrown an illuminating shaft of light upon the complex and often enigmatical personality of his subject. The man, the litterateur, the propagandist—each of these phases of the many-sided and controversial Sinclair emerges from a perplexing background as an understandable entity. And the interpretation is no slight performance, for no contemporary of international prominence has proven such a paradox, to the public as Upton Sinclair. Here, in effect, are combined the impractical visionary and the effective realist, the esthetic poet and the incorrigible muck-raker, the inhibited Puritan and the exponent of a more abundant life, the patron of fads and fallacies and the skeptic. In fact, every one of Sinclair's outstanding traits seems to possess an ambivalent or equally formidable opposite, excepting only his rather curtailed sense of humor. And I am not sure but that even this characteristic has not been counterbalanced by a mellowed humor in his recent sweeping novel of the American scene, "Oil."

Probably no more pertinent illustration can be given of this propensity of Sinclair's than to cite the fact that he

is by temperament an ascetic, but at the same time no other publicist has more emphatically advocated the principles of sex enlightenment in general and rational Birth Control in particular.

In these days of intimate biographies and discerning psychographs, I know of no more lucid exposition of character, and keen analysis of its development and unfoldment, than this achievement of a difficult subject by Floyd Dell.

WILLIAM J. FIELDING

A Champion of Birth Control

BIRTH CONTROL is fast becoming a vital social problem. Those interested in the world's problems of today, or taking part in any of the humanitarian and scientific endeavors to solve our social difficulties must acquaint themselves with the many arguments for and against a wider dissemination of contraceptive knowledge. Particularly so the physician, for contraception is fundamentally a medical problem, and it is the physician, as Dr. Dickinson has said, who should be "in control of Birth Control."

The older writings of Malthus and the more recent studies of Pearl, East, Cox, and others have emphasized the imminent danger of a world overpopulation, and the urgent need for a general birth restriction. The eugenicists, like Havelock Ellis, Little, Wiggam and others have stressed the peril to civilized races from the uncontrolled propagation of the racially unfit, and have urged a more generalized dissemination of Birth Control knowledge to offset the possibility of racial deterioration.

A number of leading physicians, on the other hand, among them several former presidents of the American Medical Association, have openly favored the extension of contraceptive knowledge primarily from the viewpoint of public health. They have claimed that dependable Birth Control knowledge is an important factor in conserving and improving the health of parents and offspring in very many instances, and that the dissemination of this knowledge would prove a forward stride in the direction of preventive medicine.

These various angles of Birth Control have been presented authoritatively and convincingly by Dr. S. Adolphus Knopf in the third, revised edition of his booklet on the subject. Dr. Knopf's interest in Birth Control was aroused over twenty years ago as a result of his observations on tuberculous families. He is rightfully and deservedly considered one of the pioneers of the Birth Control movement, and remains today one of its leading medical exponents. His essay is a very valuable contribution to Birth Control literature, and will no doubt stimulate a great deal of thought and discussion on the subject.

In the sixty-six pages of his booklet, Dr. Knopf has accumulated a surprising wealth of facts, figures, argument and opinion in support of his contention that

thoughtless procreation is distinctly dangerous to individual and public health and public welfare. He forcibly points out the need and indications from the social, racial and individual viewpoint for regulating the birth rate, and, in addition, effectively refutes many of the objections ordinarily raised by the opponents of the movement. Besides a complete statement of his own views and opinions, Dr Knopf has gathered in his pamphlet a number of succinct and pertinent quotations regarding Birth Control from many leaders of thought in medicine, sociology, economics, religion, and so on. These quotations come either from published articles or from personal letters to the author. It is highly significant of the trend of modern opinion to find such an array of outstanding men and women in various fields of human endeavor and learning favoring the dissemination of contraceptive knowledge.

In several passages Dr Knopf emphasizes the importance of Birth Control as a medical problem. "Wise laws concerning Birth Control," he says, "should be helpful to the physician in his high calling to keep the mind and body of his patients in the best possible condition," and he advocates the abrogation of "all federal and state laws forbidding Birth Control information," and the establishment in all larger communities of "Birth Control clinics, under strictly ethical medical supervision, and under state and municipal auspices." This program, if enacted, would surely be a most important step towards bringing contraceptive knowledge to that class of the community which is most in need of it, and towards putting the entire problem on an ethical, scientific and far-visited basis.

Dr Knopf's name is already indelibly written in the annals of his specialty—tuberculosis. His contributions to the subject have been an incalculable aid in the fight of mankind against this disease. Now his efforts on behalf of Birth Control should prove another valuable factor in promoting human welfare. When the history of the movement comes to be recorded, Dr Knopf's name will be found among those who have done most to lend the subject the benefit of their knowledge and their wisdom, and the dignity of their authority.

—From the *Medical Journal and Record* (N. Y.)

The Medical Social Economic Moral and Religious Aspects of Birth Control. By S. ADOLPHUS KNOPF, M.D., formerly Professor of Phthisiotherapy, N. Y. Post Graduate Med. School and Hospital, etc. Third Edition, Revised. New York: American Birth Control League, 1926. Page 66.



"Aw-wo, Constance! I seen your reading the 'Ladies' Home Journal' last night!"

"That wasn't no 'Ladies Home Journal'! That was the 'BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW'!"—Judge

Periodical Notes

Journal of Heredity (October) A study of the twenty-fifth anniversary records of Harvard graduates by Dr. Frederick Adams Woods, formerly of Massachusetts Institute of Technology, shows that the graduates listed in "Who's Who" are seldom childless but tend to have larger families than those who have made no mark on the world. "Combining the records" says Dr. Woods, "I feel practically sure that those who have the most children are the ones on the average who achieve the most success." Dr. Woods' study is an important contribution to the discussion of differential fertility.

Plain Talk (October) the first number of this new magazine, which announces itself as dedicated to "Tolerance and to locking horns with Intolerance" contains an article by Will Durant, "If I Were Mayor" which has a bearing on Birth Control. In the city of which Dr. Durant was mayor a biological committee would be the most important of his advisors and they would make of motherhood and paternity not a burden on the family and the community, but "a rare honor and distinction."

The Yale Review (October) *The American Mercury* (August) and *The Churchman* (September 3rd) have published as articles cross-sections of the material in Huntington and Whitney's "Builders of America." *Asia* (October) publishes an article by Dr. Huntington on density of population in hot climates.

The Pictorial Review (September) publishes an article on "The Fun of Being a Mother" written by Kathleen Norris. It is an exhortation to the rich and prosperous to have more children, which they can—the rich and prosperous of whom she writes—we will agree, well afford. Our quarrel with Mrs. Norris is based on the fact that she makes her exhortation the occasion of a general attack on Birth Control, which to her means that children are "pushed aside for clothes and beauty parlors and golf clubs and travel and jewels." It seems impossible that Mrs. Norris is ignorant that the real class for whom the Birth Control movement is organized knows nothing of those luxuries she enumerates and does not ask to know them. All the mothers of this class ask is not to have more children than they can feed and house and clothe and offer some happiness and a start in life. An article written with such total disregard of the real meaning and object of the Birth Control movement is fundamentally sophistical and insincere.

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Jacob Rus has described a block in New York City, 200 x 300 feet, in which is a warren of 2,244 human beings, and in another block are 4,000 human creatures.

—PRINCE HOPKINS

News Notes

UNITED STATES

BIRTH CONTROL has been discussed on the platform of another great American medical body. At a meeting of the American College of Surgeons held at Detroit, October 7th, Dr Hugh Cabot, dean of the Medical College of the University of Michigan, is reported to have stated that economic conditions make Birth Control inevitable. "Sudden changes in economic conditions bringing about difficulties in wage earning are bound to result in the practice of Birth Control," he said. "Private opinion on the morality of the practice cannot attempt to combat the force of economic conditions."

New York

THIS is the fourth year of the Women's Activities Exhibit. Each year the American Birth Control League has had a booth and each year we have had a larger crowd of interested persons who asked questions, took literature or stopped to read the placards telling of maternal and infant mortality, the reckless propagation of the unfit, the support given the Birth Control Movement by eminent persons, and above all, the address of the Clinical Research Department. Though the audience was not representative of the whole nation, as at the Sesquicentennial, it did represent the most cosmopolitan city in America, and Germans, French and Japanese were among those who asked for information about the movement during the six days (October 3-8) the exhibit was held at the Hotel Astor. Never before was the demand for cards to the Clinical Research Department so great.

The Birth Control booth was in the charge of Mrs J Bishop Vandever, who showed her devotion to the cause not merely by giving her name but by being on the spot both day and evening during the whole week. Those who assisted her were Mrs F Robertson Jones, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the League, Mrs Frances B Ackermann, Mrs Richard Billings, Mrs Dexter Blagden, members of the Board of Directors, Miss Henriette Hart, organizer for New Jersey and three members of the board of the New Jersey Committee. Dr James F Cooper and Miss Mary Pokrass represented the Clinical Research Department, Mrs Robert Huse and several members of the staff represented headquarters. As in former years many stories of suffering

and poverty were poured out to those who served in the booth, but of them all none was more moving than the simple statement of one of the male attendants at the Exhibit Literature and a Clinical Research Department card for his wife was offered him, but he explained in unclear speech that he was not married. He had a cleft palate and other handicaps and he said simply, pointing to the card, "This should have been known to my mother before I was born."

Pennsylvania

THE secretary of the Pennsylvania Birth Control Federation, Mrs George A Dunning sends the following report of six months progress. Following the legislative campaign last April, though our Bill did not pass, the interest in the Birth Control movement in Pennsylvania became so widespread that it was necessary to open a State Headquarters. We were fortunate in securing a desirable office at 1700 Walnut Street, which was officially opened May 1st, 1927. Mrs A C Martin, who was legislative secretary, is acting as Executive Director, Mrs Edith Ellicott Powers as Field Secretary, and Mrs Dorothy R Jaffe as Office Secretary.

Professor Roswell H Johnson, of the University of Pittsburgh, and former President of the American Eugenics Society, has succeeded Dr Mudd as President of our Federation. Realizing the need of state-wide organization, it was decided to center our efforts on building up committees in as many counties as possible and to avail ourselves of every opportunity to give talks on Birth Control. Meetings have been held and addresses made at Philadelphia, Doylestown, Elkins Park, Lansdowne, West Chester, Wilkes-Barre, Williamsport, Bellefonte, Muncy, State College, Towanda, Jersey Shore, Sewickley and Pittsburgh. Constant demands are coming from women's clubs, business associations, etc., for speakers and literature.

Mrs Norton Downs has accepted the chairmanship of the Finance Committee and includes among her workers some very prominent women in Philadelphia, Reading, Williamsport, Wilkes-Barre, and Pittsburgh. A minimum budget of \$15,000 per year has been decided upon and the Finance Committee has systematically outlined the proportionate shares for the various counties.

A complete file of correspondence received and

sent, reports, and record of daily activities in headquarters is systematically kept. A card file, county by county, has been made of members and contributors, and a cross file, both alphabetically and by counties, has been made of between 600 and 700 physicians throughout the state who have expressed a desire to co-operate in this movement. We gratefully acknowledge the help we have gotten through the offices of the American Birth Control League and the Committee on Maternal Health in compiling these lists. A letter is being sent to all these physicians from Dr. Norris W. Vaux, of Philadelphia, asking them to assist in securing the endorsement of the County Medical Societies for the Birth Control Bill to be presented at the next legislature.

Several of the County Fairs have had Birth Control Booths, where literature was passed and posters displayed. There was an unusually good attendance and interest shown at the Reading Fair, where many new members were secured.

At one of these fairs, the Birth Control Booth held a Better Babies Contest.

The Federation is offering a prize of \$100.00 each to a graduate and an under-graduate of a college in Pennsylvania who will submit the best essay on "What Pennsylvania Pays for the Superfluous and the Unfit." The judges for this contest are Dr. Francis D. Tyson, of the University of Pittsburgh, Dr. Isaac M. Rubinow, Director of Jewish Charities in Philadelphia, Dr. Susan B. Kingsbury, of Bryn Mawr College.

On November 16th, the Federation will give a dinner at the Bellevue Stratford. Dr. Mudd, now on the Board of Directors of the American Birth Control League, has been forced by pressure of work to resign as President of the Pennsylvania Federation, and Dr. Roswell Johnson has been elected to succeed him. There have been many additions of outstanding physicians and laymen to the Board and Council during the Summer. The present Board is made up of

Roswell H. Johnson, M.S., University of Pittsburgh, president, A. Lovett Dewees, M.D., G. Victor Janvier, M.D., Floyd E. Keene, M.D., Lawrence Litchfield, M.D., Stuart Mudd, M.D., Joseph Stokes, Jr., M.D., Norris W. Vaux, M.D., vice-presidents, Mrs. George A. Dunning, secretary, George A. Sloan, M.D., treasurer, Mrs. Norton Downs, chairman of Finance Committee, Mrs. A. C. Martin, executive director, Mrs. Edith Ellicott Powers, field secretary, Mrs. Dorothy R. Jaffe, office secretary.

The Council of the Federation includes Mark W. Acheson, Pittsburgh, Mrs. E. Page Allinson, West Chester, Mrs. Calvin Armstrong, Lock Haven, Brooke M. Anspach, M.D., Phila., Kate W. Baldwin, M.D., Phila., H. C. Bazett, M.D., F.R.C.S., Phila., Mrs. Horace Forbes Baker, Pittsburgh, Mrs. Robert Mills Beach, Bellefonte, Mrs. W. P. Beeber, Williamsport, Ludwig D. Bernstein, Ph.D., Pittsburgh, Mrs. Edward W. Biddle, Carlisle, W. W. Blair, M.D., Pittsburgh, Franklin N. Brewer, Phila., Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Bright, Reading, Lida Stewart Cogill, M.D., Phila., Neva R. Deardorff, Ph.D., Bryn Mawr, Karl de Schweinitz, Phila., George L. de Schweinitz, M.D., Bethlehem, Miss Florence Dibert, Johnstown, Rabbi W. H. Fineshriber, Phila., Mrs. E. B. Forbes, State College, Rev. Roger S. Forbes, D.D., Phila., Malcolm Z. Gearhart, M.D., Reading, Mrs. John White Geary, Chestnut Hill, Rabbi Jos. H. Goldenson, Pittsburgh, Rev. Frederick R. Griffin, D.D., Phila., Annie Bartram Hall, M.D., Phila., Hornell Hart, Ph.D., Bryn Mawr, Mrs. A. F. Hardt, Williamsport, Stevens Heckscher, Phila., Mr. and Mrs. Clarence G. Hoag, Haverford, Barton Cooke Hirst, M.D., Phila., Mrs. Julian Kennedy, Jr., Sewickley, Mrs. Horatio Gates Lloyd, Haverford, Mrs. L. F. Lambert, Coatesville, Mrs. Alexander Laughlin, Sewickley, John E. Livingood, M.D., Reading, Baldun H. Lucke, M.D., Phila., Rev. J. Archibald MacCallum, D.D., Phila., Hester H. Muhlenberg, M.D., Reading, J. Prentice Murphy, Wayne, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur E. Newbold, Jr., Chestnut Hill, Mr. and Mrs. Allen S. Olmsted, 2d, Rose valley, Henry K. Pancoast, M.D., Phila., Anna M. W. Pennypacker, Phila., Mrs. James G. Pontefract, Sewickley, Dr. George Earle Raignel, Phila., Mrs. Clarence Renshaw, Pittsburgh, Florence H. Richards, M.D., Phila., Homer J. Rhode, M.D., Reading, Dr. and Mrs. Louis N. Robinson, Swarthmore, Isaac M. Rubinow, M.D., Ph.D., Phila., Mr. and Mrs. J. Henry Scattergood, Villa Nova, Mrs. Jay Schamberg, Phila., Frances R. Sprague, M.D., Phila., Alfred Stengel, M.D., LL.D., Phila., Mrs. Julius L. Stern, Wilkes-Barre, Mrs. William Thaw, Jr., Pittsburgh, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur H. Thomas, Haverford, Mrs. Marmaduke Tilden, Jr., Jenkintown, Mrs. Francis T. Torrance, Pittsburgh, Mrs. Helen Glenn Tyson, Pittsburgh, David Wallerstein, Phila., S. Burns Weston, Phila., H. C. Westervelt, M.D., Pittsburgh, Mrs. Harry Whitney, Kennett Square, Mrs. J. Pryor Williamson, Wilkes-Barre, Miss Mary Winsor, Haverford, Mrs. Pope Yeatman, Chestnut Hill, Dr. and Mrs. Edwin Zugsmith, Pittsburgh.

New Jersey

ON September 5th, Miss Henriette Hart, Secretary of the New Jersey League, spoke before a select group of women at the residence of Mrs F G Lloyd in Bernardsville. Mrs Otto Wittpenn, introducing the speaker, very ably pointed out the close interrelation of economic, physical and mental depression in large and overburdened families and urged the women to endorse the work which the League is undertaking towards the effective alleviation of this serious and ever growing problem. During the past month, Miss Hart has made valuable contacts with the leading social service agencies in Newark and Jersey City. Animated group conferences of social workers are taking place and close co-operation is assured. Opportunity has been given to study some of the neediest cases which have come to the attention of the welfare societies. Patients have been referred to the New York Clinic. On Tuesday, September 4th and Friday, September 7th, the New Jersey Birth Control League officially acted as Hostess at the Birth Control Booth at the Woman's Industries and Art Exhibit at the Hotel Astor. Among the hostesses were women of prominence such as Mrs Percy H Ingalls and Mrs A C Sherman of Orange, and Mrs Edward Ellis of Maplewood. Mrs Zachariah Belcher of Newark is president of the New Jersey League and Mrs Dwight Kirkby is treasurer.

Kansas

THE following interesting note is from the *New York World* of October 2nd

"Large families are so scarce in Kansas that the Kansas Free Fair at Topeka has decided to dispense with the award of a trophy to parents having five children or more, which has been given for several years

"In announcing the winners of prizes in the 'fitter families' contest today, fair authorities explained that awards will go only to the two groups for smaller families—one group consisting of parents and one child, and another of parents and two to four children"

Wisconsin

NOT only throughout the nation, in the magazines and his book, "Standing Room Only," but locally Dr Edward Alsworth Ross lets no opportunity pass to keep the subject of Birth Control before the public mind. The *Madison Journal* reports him as stating at a recent luncheon meeting of the American Business Club that "Birth Control is inevitable and will be accepted universally despite opposition by churches and other

influences" As to possible misuse he said "In its larger aspects its benefits will far outweigh its evils, like other things like universal education and the equality of woman"

ENGLAND

THE Women's section of the British Labor Party has been defeated in its efforts to secure Party recognition for Birth Control. The question was debated with vigor and bitterness at the Annual Conference which was held at Blackpool, Lancashire, early in October. Last year it was turned down by the Executive, but the women secured its recommitment. This year the Executive simply reaffirmed its former decision that Birth Control should not be made a party issue.

The women again made a spirited fight. The question was already political, they asserted, because the Minister of Health had refused to permit Birth Control information to be given at the Health Centers, even in cases where it was plainly needed and where the women demanded it.

The refusal of the Party to favor the women's demand was due to the fact that a large part of its membership is Roman Catholic and in the name of religion and morality these Labor Catholics demanded that the women be debarred from scientific information. One of the speakers Mr Jack Jones, M P, against Birth Control indulged in the kind of obscene witticism at the expense of motherhood that used formerly to be quite common. His remarks raised such a storm in the Conference that proceedings were suspended until he had withdrawn the offensive remarks.

After an earnest plea by Arthur Henderson not to force this issue into the party policy for fear of causing a fatal breach in the ranks, the Conference voted to turn down Birth Control by 2,885,000 votes to 275,000.

The matter will not rest there, for the following day it was announced by Mr Ernest Thurtle, M P, a prominent Labor man, that he intended, during the next session of Parliament, to reintroduce his bill to authorize the giving of Birth Control information at Health Centers. He hopes thereby to get a vote on the subject—for the first time—in the House of Commons.

From a letter received from Dr Charles V Drvsdale President of the Malthusian League we learn that the League has decided to carry on its work, until success shall have attended the movement to secure freedom for the giving of Birth Control information at the Health Centers. The position at the present time is that the Minister of Health in the Baldwin Cabinet has refused to permit the giving of such information, but has ex-

pressed his willingness to have patients referred to other sources. The House of Lords in April, 1926, voted in favor of the removal of the ban. The House of Commons has not voted on the question, and the Health Ministry has paid no attention to the vote of the Lords. Dr. Drysdale's letter suggests that he is hoping that the ban may speedily be removed—before Christmas possibly. "Personally", he adds, "I do not much mind either way, (whether the League is continued or not) as I am so sure of the victory of Birth Control that I want to devote all the time I can spare to writing on the science and philosophy of the subject, instead of in organization." He adds that Mrs. Sanger had expressed the feeling that the League was still needed—"an additional reason for carrying on."

ITALY

NEITHER the severe penalties against Birth Control in the new code, personally dictated by Mussolini, nor the Dictator's own example in becoming recently a father for the fourth time can be considered successful for the realization of Mussolini's desire, publicly stated last June, that Italy should soon be able to put five million fully armed and trained soldiers in the field. Last month the Central Office of Statistics at Rome reported that in the first five months of 1927 there were only 500,000 births as against 535,000 in 1924—a drop of 7,000 births a month. The figures showed moreover that the decrease was progressive, each month showing a larger decline than the preceding month. Is it possible that the mothers of Italy will decline to raise its population in the next twenty years from forty to sixty millions, as Mussolini has bidden them to do, and will refuse to bear soldiers who will kill and be killed for the glory of Fascism?

JAPAN

OFFICIAL figures for the first three months of 1927 give births, 708,936, deaths, 325,248. This shows a net increase of population for this period of 383,688—a rate nearly fifty per cent above that of the preceding year. If the same rate of increase continues throughout the year Japan will add 1,500,000 to her people in 1927 as compared with an addition of 943,671 in 1926.

The net increase of last year, and the astonishing figures for the first quarter of this year have started a discussion of Birth Control—as one means of holding the population down to the food production point, and it is interesting to note that while three years ago any public advocacy of Birth Control was decided to be illegal, now many high officials are discussing and advocating it, including Ichiro Hatoyama, chief secretary of the Cabinet.

Birth Control Study Column

Believing that there is no better way to advertise our Book Department than to tell our readers how they can get the most out of our books, we shall from time to time publish Selected Book Lists on one or another aspect of Birth Control. This month we present

A Reading List on Population

Problems of Overpopulation—\$2.00. This is Vol. II of the Proceedings of the Sixth International Neo-Malthusian and Birth Control Conference. It is a complete and satisfactory introduction to the whole case for population control.

Mankind at the Crossroads, by Edward M. East—\$4.00. Professor East is an expert on the food supply. He has made a scientific contribution which, should add 50,000,000 bushels to the annual output of one of our staple crops. As an expert he knows the possibilities of expansion and the limits of the food supply and he here shows how the race is on the way to prove the truth of the Malthusian Law.

The Problem of Population, by Harold Cox—250. Written in a style so attractive and lucid as to tempt even the unwilling reader, this book covers the wide field of human life—economics, international relations, race improvement and morality.

Population, by A. M. Carr-Saunders—\$1.00. An abridgement of the author's great book on the population problem.

Population Problems in the United States and Canada—\$4.00. Edited by Louis I. Dublin. The papers presented at the combined meeting in 1924 of five of the leading American sociological, economic, statistical and agricultural societies. The writers are unanimous in their support of the Malthusian Doctrine. The introduction by Dr. Dublin alone is opposed and this introduction is especially interesting as the classic presentation of the whole case against the restriction of population growth.

The Biology of Population Growth, by Raymond Pearl—\$3.50. In the books so far listed, the biologist's point of view was lacking. This is supplied by Dr. Pearl's book, which is, in part, the record of his research in the laboratory. Though in parts highly technical, Dr. Pearl's book nevertheless gives a vivid picture, even to the general reader, of the way in which unrestrained population increase inevitably overhauls the food supply.

Standing Room Only, by Edward Alsworth Ross, Century Company (To appear Oct. 1). No student could do better than to start his study with Dr. Ross' book. It discusses the bearings of the population problem on modern health and social movements and shows that as long as this problem is disregarded all other efforts to improve the condition of human beings will be either nullified or rendered absolutely harmful.

Correspondence

Here are letters from two of our good friends, which appeared in the October number of The Forum. It will be noted that Dr Mudd and Prof Bissell in their criticism of Dr Sutherland's attack on Birth Control follow lines similar to those indicated in our September issue

G B S on Birth Control

Dr Bissell quotes from Bernard Shaw

Editor of The Forum

Those last-ditch defenders of morality and civilization who are so gallantly resisting the rising tide of Birth Control, sometimes pick strange allies. Fancy one of these embattled heroes, whose thinking is based on the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church, quoting Bernard Shaw as an authority to be respected! It would be interesting to know in just what connection Shaw made the statement quoted by Dr Sutherland as an indictment of Birth Control. Isolated sentences can often be made to do strange tricks. Shaw, as a matter of fact, has clearly stated that he is in sympathy with the Birth Control movement. On the occasion of the Sixth International Birth Control Conference in New York, in 1925, he sent a message of approval and good will, from which I quote the following:

"Birth Control should be advocated for its own sake, on the general ground that the difference between voluntary, rational controlled activity and any sort of involuntary, irrational, uncontrolled activity is the difference between an ameba and a man, and if we really believe that the more highly evolved creature is the better we may as well act accordingly."

In view of these words, Dr Sutherland's attempt to picture the eminent Irishman as a hater of Neomalthusianism is a bit odd. But then, one rather expects oddities from the opponents of Birth Control.

MALCOLM H BISSELL

Bryn Mawr, Pa

More Fallacies

Dr Mudd points out "the fallacies of 'The Fallacies of Birth Control'" by Dr Hallsday Sutherland in the June issue of The Forum

Editor of The Forum

The reading of Dr Sutherland's article was begun with some trepidation. Had some serious objection to the effort to secure better distribution of Birth Control information been overlooked? Reading was continued with genuine relief,—if opposition is driven to such faulty logic as this, the case for Birth Control is indeed strong.

Dr Sutherland devotes much of his article to deploring excessively small families. With this most of the advocates of Birth Control are in hearty agreement. But in America at least, the struggle is rather against restrictive legislation that does not and never will restrict the

well-to-do and influential, but only the miserable and unenterprising, it is against the outlawing of Birth Control information which suppresses only proper and scientific application of the newer knowledge of contraception, permitting the spread of faulty information through underground channels.

Dr Sutherland would have us believe that contraception causes vague physiological deficiencies, sterility, neurasthenia, and fibroid tumors of women. Fortunately such a statement is sufficiently ludicrous to carry its own refutation. Were it not, the many eminent physicians who are avowedly chapions of Birth Control, the thousands of doctors who use it in their practice as needed, and the satisfied patients so helped in clinics and private practice are abundant disproof. No one will deny the damage done by ignorant and pitiful attempts at contraception. But it is precisely these misinformed attempts and the even more disastrous practice of abortion that must be done away with by the establishment of clinics where modern scientific methods of contraception may be given those who need it under medical supervision.

Dr Sutherland seems to feel that over-population does not exist in any country in the world. Has Dr Sutherland never heard of China or of India? Or does he regard recurring plagues and famine as the "natural" and "ethical" means of reducing population?

Dr Sutherland does not feel that Birth Control will benefit the race. What does he imagine will be the outcome of our present system of forcing by law the unfit to multiply excessively and disproportionately whether they will or no?

Despite the imprecations and laments of dogmatists and reactionaries, we do not live on a flat earth or in a geocentric universe, heretics are no longer burned at the stake. The history of mankind has been a struggle upwards and not a plunge downwards from primal perfection in Eden.

STUART MUDD, M D

New York

We are rapidly coming to the end of our present civilization. Our resources are going and the earth will soon be flooded with population. That means destruction. One great scientist says —

"The saturation of the earth by humanity will be witnessed by the grandchildren of human beings now alive."
—FLOYD PARSON as quoted in the *N Y Evening Graphic*, July 2

Books Received

THE LAND OF SINGING WATERS, by A M Stephen J
M Dent & Sons, Ltd Canada \$1 50

BEATRICE, by Arthur Schnitzler Simon and Schuster
New York \$1 50

THE LONDON CHILD, by Evelyn Sharp The Bodley
Head London 7/6

LOVE AND COURTSHIP, by Catherine Booth-Clibborn
George H Doran Company New York \$1 00

I PRONOUNCE THEM, by G A Studdert Kennedy
George H Doran Company New York \$2 00

THE RELIGION OF A DARWINIST, by Sir Arthur Keith
Watts & Company London 2 sh

MAN IN THE LIGHT OF EVOLUTION, by J Arthur Thom-
son The Lindsey Press London 1/6

MORNING THUNDER, by Nalbro Bartley George H
Doran Company New York

THE GOSPEL OF EVOLUTION, by J Arthur Thomson
G P Putnam's Sons London

PITFALLS OF MARRIAGE, by Walter M Gallchan The
George H Wales Company London 3/6

THE DRIFTING HOME, by Ernest R Groves Houghton
Mifflin Company New York

THE FAMILY AS A SOCIAL AND EDUCATIONAL INSTITU-
TION, by Goodsell Macmillan New York

THE DOCTOR LOOKS AT LOVE AND LIFE, by Joseph Col-
lins George H Doran Company New York \$3 00

WIT, WISDOM AND ELOQUENCE, by Anglo-Saxons Fore-
most Wits R L Gray, Staunton, Va Orators and
Logicians

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

Of The Birth Control Review published monthly at New York N Y for
October 1 1927 State of New York Country of New York

Before me, a notary public in and for the State and county aforesaid personally
appeared Mrs. Mary Sumner Boyd who, having been duly sworn according to law
deposes and says she is the Managing Editor of the Birth Control Review and that
the following is to the best of her knowledge and belief a true statement of the
ownership management (and if a daily paper the circulation) etc. of the aforesaid
publication for the date shown in the above caption required by the Act of August
24 1912 embodied in section 411 Postal Laws and Regulations printed on the
reversed of this form to wit:

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

Publisher—American Birth Control League, Inc. 104 Fifth Ave. N Y City

Editor—Margaret Sanger 104 Fifth Ave. N Y City

Managing Editor—Mary Sumner Boyd 104 Fifth Avenue New York City

Business Managers—None

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

American Birth Control League Inc. 104 Fifth Ave. New York City

Non stock corporation

Margaret Sanger President 104 Fifth Ave. New York City

Frances B. Arkermann Treasurer Bronxville N Y

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

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

MARY SUMNER BOYD

Managing Editor

GEORGE MENKES

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THE WORLD POPULATION CONFERENCE

(Continued from page 291)

guests down the lake on Thursday evening, and took them ashore to visit Madame de Stael's Chateau and there himself gave from the steps of the Chateau a description of her life and household at Coppet. Dinner was served on board on the return journey. And on the following day M. Fatio did the Conference a further kindness by giving members the benefit of his historical knowledge, in several visits to places of interest in the city.

A Tribute to Margaret Sanger

The Hospitality Committee also arranged a series of Progressive Lunches at the Restaurant Besson, and a daily tea at the Salle Centrale, which gave opportunities for fresh introductions or a continuance of discussion.

The dinner at the Hotel des Bergues was a closing ceremony of both dignity and splendor, shot with moments of humor and feeling.

M. Rappard, M. Holsti, Sir Bernard Mallet and others gave the occasion its oratorical dignity, the caricaturist, who had designed the menu card, and Mr. Reiland, its humor, and Margaret Sanger was the cause of an outburst of spontaneous enthusiasm. It was well-known to many that the Conference owed to her its origin and driving force, and with the events of the three days behind them to prove—to those who needed proof—that it had been both her intent and her achievement to organize a scientific conference, even those who had felt shy of association with such a pioneer spirit were delighted to acknowledge her work, and new friends and old together gave expression to their feeling in rising, cheering and singing to her "For she's a jolly good fellow."

For, of course, not a few of the members of the Conference were inspired by a consciousness of the gravity of the world population problems and many were already enthused by the conviction that with the controlling and exalting of parenthood alone will be found man's next advance in shaping this world to his ideal.

It was not to be desired that this spirit should be reflected in a scientific conference.

Disraeli is said to have advised Queen Victoria against making a certain bishop Archbishop of Canterbury on the ground that he was a man of enthusiasm, and if an Archbishop must not be enthusiastic, what may a scientist be?

It was not for the generation of enthusiasm that the World Population Conference was called together at Geneva. But such enthusiasm was there and, having found a momentary outlet at the dinner, it also found a more sober one in a small

gathering which met on Saturday at the Hotel Beau Rivage in Mrs. Rublee's drawing-room, when Margaret Sanger met the women of her staff and a few other friends, and received from them a book in memory of the months of work under her leadership. Mrs. How Martyn spoke for all when she expressed the loyalty and devotion with which everyone who has worked with Margaret Sanger becomes inspired and Thit Jensen told Mrs. Sanger that could she have spoken to her in her own Danish tongue, her words "would have gone to the skies." But to her hearers, she needed no greater oratory, her English caught up the thought that was in everyone's mind when she told Margaret Sanger how deep a debt she owed her, "you are for me a great soul."

Dr. Aletta Jacobs was warmly welcomed and questioned on the state of Birth Control work in Holland and the gathering became a symposium of information and suggestion for Birth Control throughout the world, Dr. Sundquist speaking for Sweden, Mrs. Farrer for England, Dr. Furth for Germany, Senora Cozzonis for Spain and Dr. Das for India.

Books Received

MUCH ADO ABOUT WOMEN, by E. S. P. Haynes. The Cayme Press. London, England.

WHOLESOME MARRIAGE, by E. and G. H. Groves, Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston, Mass. \$2.00.

SEX AND REPRESSION IN SAVAGE SOCIETY, by Bronislaw Malinowski. Harcourt Brace and Company. New York.

THE EXTENT OF CHILD DEPENDENCY AND DELINQUENCY IN SEVEN PENNSYLVANIA COUNTIES, by Neva R. Deardorff, Ph. D., U. S. Government Printing Office. Washington.

TOWARDS HEALTH, by J. Arthur Thomson. G. P. Putnam's Sons. New York. \$2.00.

SELECTED PAPERS ON PSYCHO-ANALYSIS, by Karl Abraham, M.D. The Hogarth Press. London. 30s.

THE SOCIAL SERVICE REVIEW, by Alice Channing. U. S. Children's Bureau. U. S. A.

MOTHER INDIA, by Katherine Mayo. Harcourt, Brace and Company. New York. \$3.75.

SEX PROBLEM IN INDIA, by Prof. N. S. Phadke, M. A., Taraporevala, India. Rs. 6.

BEING WELL BORN, by Michael F. Guyer. Bobbs Merrill Company. New York. \$5.00.

SOCRATES OR THE EMANCIPATION OF MANKIND, by H. F. Carlile. E. P. Dutton & Company, New York.

MEANWHILE, by H. G. Wells. George H. Doran Company. New York.

BUILDERS OF AMERICA, by Ellsworth Huntington and Leon F. Whitney. William Morrow and Co. New York.



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