

October, 1928

Twenty Cents

# BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW

*In the Creation of New Life There Should be Full Scientific Knowledge and Deliberate Planning*



CHILD PLAYING THE BAGPIPES

School of Andrea della Robbia

—From the *Victoria and Albert Museum* (London)

# THE AMERICAN BIRTH CONTROL LEAGUE, INC

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# TEN GOOD REASONS *for* BIRTH CONTROL



**SIX ARGUMENTS**—Woman's Rights Married Love. The Health of Mother and Child, the Welfare of Children, the Abolition of Poverty and the Relief of Over-population in its Domestic Aspect — have been given for

## *Bzrth Control*

*The Use of Harmless and Effective Mechanical or Chemical Methods  
of Prevention Called Contraceptives*

Another reason, international in its bearings, is

### Reason VII—The Solution of the Problems of Migration and War.

*(Migration and War are the World Aspects of Over-population. If a race grows in numbers beyond its national boundaries it is driven to encroach on weaker nations or aggressively to seek new markets. Thus a population explosive through over-crowding at home becomes itself the first bomb thrown in a war between nations.)*

Here is what a few experts say —

"We might as well face the bitter fact that the earth can only hold a certain number of people and when we exceed that number we have War. Therefore population must be controlled."

GEN. JOHN F. O'RYAN

"Because War is no panacea for population troubles, it does not follow that the converse of the proposition holds. Most assuredly over population may become a very grave cause of war. Napoleon is alleged to have said that with the high birthrate of France, she must make war. But when the star of Napoleon waned France chose to reduce her birthrate. Within a century there resulted a nation whose population was almost stationary and whose people well situated economically, had no desire for war. Her eastern neighbor on the other hand made no such efforts to live peaceably within her own boundaries. The Kaiser was thus able to justify the attack on France with the old plea of necessity."

E. M. EAST

"History supports the fact that war, famine and pestilence have always operated to settle population problems. There is, however, a theoretical possibility of putting off the operation of these forces. The nations of the world must uniformly undertake to solve their own population problems by the application of rational measures of control rather than by aggression upon the rights of other people."

HENRY PRATT FAIRCHILD

In our judgment over population is the most serious of all the causes of war because when it has been allowed to develop, no appeal to reason will be able to remove it. In the case of other differences between nations, compromise is often possible and often the mere postponement of a crisis will suffice to prevent a conflict. But where a nation has not room in its own territory for its own people it must seek an outlet in other countries. On this broad issue no compromise is possible, and postponement only makes the appeal to force the more imperative. Today the population of many countries is growing so rapidly that unless the growth is checked a far reaching struggle for the possession of the portions of the earth still partially vacant cannot long be postponed. Already the government of the United States has taken steps to close its territories to unrestricted immigration. This action, which the American people have taken to defend their own interests, conflicts with the obvious interests of at least two other important nations, Italy and Japan. Unable to settle in the United States, the constantly over flowing populations of Italy and Japan are forced to seek new outlets.

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

—Statement signed by C. C. LITTLE as President and MARGARET SANGER as Secretary  
of the International Federation of Neo-Malthusian and Birth Control Leagues

*TO create a race of well-born children it is essential that the function of motherhood should be elevated to a position of dignity and this is impossible as long as conception remains a matter of chance.*

Declaration of Principles of American Birth Control League

# BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW

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

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## CONTENTS

	PAGE
REASON VII—Migration and War	271
EDITORIAL	a73
OCCUPATIONAL CONGESTION, by T N Carver, Ph.D	275
Forms of Over-Population to be found without waiting for mankind to over-crowd the earth	
THE FUTURE OF MARRIAGE, by Rev Charles Francis Potter	a77
A brief resumé of a notable sermon	
THE CONTRIBUTION OF SIGMUND FREUD, by G V Hamilton, M.D	278
What we owe to Freud, cleared of misunderstandings and excrescences	
SEX AMONG THE MODERNS, by Samuel D Schmalhausen	280
Modern ideas of love, marriage and Birth Control	
MATERNAL MORTALITY AND MEDICAL WOMEN, by Vera Brittain	282
The small regard that the medical profession and men generally have had for the safety and comfort of motherhood	
SHOULD LIVES BE PLANNED?	284
Letters showing the results of forethought and reason in the planning of families	
STANDING ROOM ONLY	286
A Review of Prof E A Ross's great book by Harold Cox.	
BOOK REVIEWS	
The New Colonial Policy, by Helmer Key — Henry Pratt Fairchild	287
The Reproduction of Life, by A J Cokkinus—Orland E White	287
Medical Aspects of Contraception—Report of Medical Committee—Aaron J Rosanoff, M.D	288
PERIODICAL NOTES	289
EUGENICS AND BIRTH CONTROL	290
Further discussion of the project of amalgamating the BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW with a Eugenics magazine	
BIRTH A Poem, by Lucia Trent	291
NEWS NOTES—United States—New York—Connecticut—California	292
Massachusetts—New Hampshire	293
ENGLAND—A Summary of the Status of Birth Control, by Margaret Pollack	293
THE MODERN GIRL, by Eleanor Rowland Wembridge	296
THE TRAGEDY OF OVER-POPULATION, by G C Chusholm	296
A CORRECTION AND SOME FURTHER INFORMATION—Letter from Jessica Smith on Soviet Russia and Birth Control	297
CARTOON	297
AN OPPORTUNITY	298

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# Birth Control Review

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## EDITORIAL

**T**HE fact, recorded in our news columns, that Margaret **Sanger** has **resigned** the presidency of the American Birth Control League does not mean that she is **giving** up her work for **Birth Control**. It means that she is **dedicating** her time and strength to a phase of the movement that seems **immediate** and imperative to her. We **give** in her own words her explanation of her action —

"As I have long wished to do, I will devote myself to a scientific study of the causes and **cures** of the terrific sacrifice of the lives of child-bearing **women**. I feel confident that a **serious** study **will** lead to a scientific demonstration of the fact that maternal **mortality** can be reduced by the **application** of **Birth Control** knowledge. Infant mortality in the United States has been appreciably lowered in the last ten years, but nothing of consequence has been accomplished in lowering the death-rate of mothers. I feel that active and constructive measures are necessary. It is a matter that must be approached with courage as well as knowledge. I am preparing to spend a period of three years in sociological investigation and in gathering facts pertinent to the situation. In **this** work, I shall have the aid and co-operation of some of the foremost **authorities** in the world. The need of such a study is well recognized by them. The problem is economic and **sociological** as well as biological and **pathological**.



**D**URING the past four years, through special clinical work of the League, I have had an **opportunity** to **examine** at first hand the cases of ten thousand women who have been saved untold **suffering**. In the majority of **instances**, these women would have lost **their** lives had they not been properly instructed and treated **with** **Birth Control** methods. These ten thousand are **infinitesimal** compared **with** the **millions** who need aid. They were extreme cases, as only extreme cases are per-

mitted by law to take advantage of **Birth Control** **advice**. **With** such an experience as a background, I have determined to prepare a constructive program that **will** result in **appreciably** lowering maternal mortality in **the** country.

"Private and state charities, welfare and medical organizations are fully competent to cope with almost every other phase of human **suffering**. The **United States** seems to have safe-guarded the lives and health of every class of **its** **citizens** with the exception of the mothers of **child-bearing** age. The **tragic** part of the situation is that in the past ten years the **work** that has been done to lower the death-rate of mothers has practically proved **ineffective**. The **missing link** in my opinion is proper **Birth Control**."



**T**HE Irish Censorship **bill**, for the passage of **which** the Government has promised special **facilities** **this** month, is perhaps the most **amazing** piece of **legislation** of the century. Although it was introduced in the **Dail** in the **spring**, the text has only just been published. The bill sets up a board of censors, and **gives it** the power, by **majority** vote, to pronounce any book or paper "indecent, obscene, or tending to inculcate principles contrary to public **morality**, or **otherwise** of such character that its sale or **distribution** is, or tends to be **injurious** or detrimental to or subversive of public morality." A list is to be made of such books **as** the Board bans and heavy **penalties** are **provided** for anyone who shall "**import**, sell, or offer for sale or **distribution**" a book, paper or **edition** of book or **periodical** which is on the prohibited **list**. The more **liberal** **Irish** are pointing out that under the law Ireland would be placed under a **censorship** **limited** only by the discretion of a majority of the five members of the Censorship Board, that the whole of the Roman Index could be **enforced** by **law**, **with**, in addition, other books **which** offended

the prejudices of any "recognized association" which chooses to bring a complaint. In regard to Birth Control the Act is specific and far more drastic than anything as yet in existence. It is made unlawful to print or publish, to sell, or keep, or offer for sale, to distribute, or offer for distribution any book or paper "which might reasonably be supposed to advocate the unnatural prevention of conception, or procurement of abortion, or any method, treatment or appliance to be used for the purpose of such prevention or such procurement." Here not only information in regard to contraception is barred. Under the law, without intervention of the Board of Censors, any such publication as the BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW or the English Malthusian journal—*The New Generation*—is barred from the whole of the Irish Free State, and not a word or an argument in favor of the higher morality of limited families can legally be published.



THE effort to keep Ireland hermetically sealed against all ideas of Birth Control is not, however, likely to be successful. The same mail that brought to us the text of the Censorship bill, also brought a news item in an English paper which suggests difficulties for the party that wishes to ban all mention of family limitation. The item is very brief. It reads: "The British Broadcasting Company is considering the question of broadcasting in the autumn a debate on Birth Control." All England and all Ireland also are within reach of the stations of the B B C and no Censorship Board can raise a barrier against the ether waves. It is hardly conceivable that the Irish Free State will ban all radio receiving sets, yet unless it does this, it will not be able to shut out from the ears of the people the arguments in favor of Birth Control. Nor will the censorship, to be established, put a stop to contraception as already practised by the more intelligent Irish. This difficulty is pointed out by Senator Yeats, who is opposing the bill. In an interview given out for publication, he said: "You may take it that in this respect in regard to Birth Control the views and practise of the well-to-do class here are much the same as the views and practise of the well-to-do class in any other European country." "The object of the bill," he added, "is to hide knowledge from the eyes of our young people, lest knowledge should be abused. The young people of Ireland do not deserve to be treated as fools or dolts, and I do not think that

they will stand it. Let our zealots do what they will, they cannot retain the old order unchanged in Ireland. The new world keeps breaking in. Our young people are right to welcome it, and they must learn to choose the good and eschew the evil for themselves."



THE Kellogg Peace Pact, which is described in the preamble as "a frank renunciation of war", has been signed now by fifteen nations. But there are grave doubts as to its effectiveness. France made the reservation that defensive warfare was not included, and when Italy signed, did she reserve to herself the right to make good Mussolini's claim that the immigration restrictions of other countries are a direct invasion of the rights of Italy, and that to oppose them is a matter of defence? Mussolini's population policy is preparing an explosive likely to precipitate the next war, and already Italy is raising an army to enable her to take possession of the less congested spaces of the world. This is an immediate problem, but Japan is a close second. Can she succeed in finding food and space for a population that grows beyond all bounds, in her island territory? And surely the countries invaded by these surplus populations would have a right to defend their immigration laws, their efforts to restrict their numbers. The population problem is world-wide, and until some solution for it can be found, through definite restriction of birth-rates, no possible form of treaty can prevent war.



WE REGRET to have to record the death of two good friends of the Birth Control movement. One of them, Mrs. Henry Villard, was a member of our National Council. Through the eighty years of her useful and eventful life, she championed many good causes—principally, peace, liberty, woman suffrage and Birth Control—and shared in many strenuous fights for progress. The other, Crystal Eastman, was a much younger woman, but in the shorter span of her life she also was a fighter for good causes. She identified herself with the movement for equal rights for women. She was not very actively associated with the American Birth Control League, but she did her share for the movement in the pages of *Equal Rights*, of which she was associate editor, and her last service was as a member of the cartoon committee of the BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW.

# Occupational Congestion

By T N CARVER, PH D

**T**HAT there are powerful motives, which, if not counteracted by prudential reasons, will lead to marriage and the begetting of **offspring** is a matter of experience. That in a prosperous country the average pair is physically capable of producing, **bringing** to maturity and **marrying** off more than two children, is a matter of observation. That, if they continue to do so, each succeeding generation will be more numerous than the preceding is a matter of arithmetic. That in any **given** state of scientific knowledge there is a limit to the **quantity** of food that can be grown on a **given** area of land, is a matter of geometry, that is, of the limited space in **which** plants can spread their roots in the soil and their leaves in the air and **sunlight**. That long before **this** absolute limit is reached, the returns from increasing efforts to increase the yield of a given area of land begin to dwindle, is a matter of experimental proof, having been demonstrated over and over at various agricultural experiment stations, besides being one of the largest facts in **history, explaining**, as it does, most of the migrations of peoples and struggles for markets.

These five verifiable propositions are the **basis** of current theories of **population**. They are all truisms, but truisms are at least true, which is more than can be said of many interesting and original statements.

## The Alternatives

On the basis of these truisms one must conclude that the populatron **inhabiting** any given area must eventually do one of two things. It must either become stationary, or it must manage to draw its subsistence from wider areas. It can become stationary only by balancing its birth and death-rates. This can be done either by decreasing its **birth-rate** or increasing its death-rate. It can draw its sustenance from wider areas either by migrating to those areas, or by extending its markets, that is, by **selling** to the **inhabitants** of sparsely populated outside areas the finished products of indoor industries, in exchange for food and raw materials.

Empirical observation shows that **populations** usually follow all these tendencies, **though** one or more may become dominant. On the basis of their dominant tendencies, they become either pent up or **expanding**, that is they continue **in** the main, to live **within** their historic boundaries or they tend to expand their ownership or their commercial influence over wider and wider areas. Those **which** live the

pent-up life either reduce the birth-rate, as in France, or they suffer from over-population and a high death-rate, as in China and India. Those living the expanding life either migrate to new areas, as did the Greeks when their civilization was expanding and as English-speaking peoples have been doing for the last three hundred years, or else they develop their indoor industries, as England herself has been doing for a hundred and fifty years, bringing raw materials from sparsely populated areas, working them over in her indoor industries, selling the finished products back to the sparsely populated areas and **living** on the profits of the transaction—taking the profit largely in the form of food, also imported from the sparsely populated areas.

## Local Over-Population

Over-population for the world as a whole is a theoretical possibility for the future but not a present **actuality**. Local congestion is a term **which** describes such countries and sections as seem to be suffering from too great density. But **occupational** congestion is a present reality **in** every **civilized** country, with the possible exception of the United States and Canada, and even these countries are not wholly free from it. By occupational congestion is meant a condition in **which** certain occupations are over-manned. This usually means that certain other occupations are under-manned. In other words, it means a lack of balance among interdependent occupations, and all occupations are becoming interdependent. For example, if in any community there should happen to be more **hod-carriers** than were needed, that community would be over-populated with hod-carriers, however sparsely its territory might be populated. More-over hod-carriers would suffer from low wages or unemployment, and be about as badly off as if the whole region in which they lived were too **densely** populated.

Occupational, like local congestion, is a physical fact which lies deeper than forms of social or industrial organization. It is as likely to exist under **socialism** as under capitalism. The remedy **is** the same in all cases. The congested occupations must be relieved of their excess numbers. This can be done in either of two ways, first by thinning out the numbers in the over-crowded **occupations**, second, by increasing numbers in the under-crowded **occu-**

pations In the case of the **hod-carriers**, the remedy would be to decrease the number of **hod-carriers**, or to increase the number of **brick** and stone masons requiring their services

### Over-Crowded Occupations

In general, the occupations requiring little skill or special training tend to be overcrowded and those requiring much skill and long courses of training to be undercrowded. The most acutely undercrowded are the **higher managerial positions**, which, for purposes of this discussion shall be called those of **invention, investment** and management. This is not a necessary situation, but its remedy requires a more far reaching and constructive program than most of our statesmen or social reformers have yet been able to plan.

Undoubtedly one cause of the lack of occupational balance is the **differential birth-rate**. The **inordinately high birth-rate** among the **ignorant** and the **unskilled**, and the low **birth-rate** among the **business, professional** and scholarly classes would naturally, in the absence of a sound system of popular education tend to keep the lower occupations overcrowded and the **higher** ones undercrowded. By a sound system of popular education is meant a system which enables every person to acquire the training and skill necessary for success in the **highest** and most remunerative occupation for which his natural or inherited ability would make it possible for him to be properly trained. Even where such a sound system exists, the **differential birth-rate** throws a heavier load upon it than it would have to carry if the birth-rate among different classes could be more nearly equalized. It is in this connection that Birth Control bears on the only really acute population problem, namely **occupational congestion**.

A sound system of popular education is a means of restoring an occupational balance. The most important element in such a system is commonly overlooked. It is not enough merely to enable unskilled manual workers to become **skilled** manual or even **clerical workers**. It is most important that as many as possible be trained for those occupations where men are scarcest, that is, for the **highest occupations**. So far as industry is concerned, these are those of the **investor, the inventor** and the manager. The scarcity of first-rate inventors, investors and managers is everywhere the limiting factor in industrial expansion. Any country in which this scarcity is acute will always show a congestion of the manual trades, as evidenced by low wages, unemployment or emigration. Any country in which inventors, investors and managers are numerous and of high ability will show an active demand for workers in the lower

grades. That is, there will be high wages, general employment or immigration.

One of the most specific cures for low wages and unemployment in England would be for Oxford and Cambridge to start first rate graduate schools of business, and to use their vast influence to turn the best minds of England for a few generations toward business pursuits. If the country could mass its best intelligence for a few generations on industrial problems, its industries would so expand as to employ at high wages all its working population and to attract immigrants from other countries. It would then have an immigration rather than an emigration problem. On the other hand, one of the surest ways to create unemployment, low wages and poverty is to develop a **supercilious attitude** toward business, to turn the best minds of the country into the so-called genteel professions and to leave industry to second and third rate minds. Second and third rate minds can never run first-rate industries nor pay first-rate wages to large numbers of workers. Whatever else a country might achieve which turned its best minds away from industry, or faded to give them adequate industrial training, it could never achieve the elimination of low wages, unemployment and poverty except by wholesale and forced emigration or drastic Birth Control among the manual workers.

### A Lack of Balance

Occupational congestion is similar in certain fundamental respects to local congestion. Local congestion is a lack of balance between two factors, workers and land. Occupational congestion is a lack of balance between different kinds of labor. Local congestion may be cured in either of two ways, first, by reducing the number of workers, second, by increasing the amount of available land. Occupational congestion may likewise be cured in either of two ways, first, by reducing the numbers in the overcrowded occupations, second, by increasing the numbers in the undercrowded occupations.

The possibility of over-populating the world, while a real one, is too remote to interest the popular mind. Local congestion is a present reality in certain Oriental countries, but does not excite the western mind, except when such countries threaten to flood the labor markets of western countries with cheap labor. Occupational congestion is an acute problem, or threatens to become acute in every industrial nation. The fear of it is at the basis of all laws for the restriction of the immigration of laborers.

It should be pointed out that there is another kind of immigration problem besides that of the immigration of laborers. There has been some immigration into Mexico and the Philippines from



# The Future of Marriage

*A Study of the Influence of Birth Control on the Spiritual Progress of Humanity\**

**T**HE present-day interest in sex-novels is not necessarily an indication of a lowered social morality. The focussing of attention on marriage by the continual discussion of divorce, Birth Control, and companionate marriage indicates to a student of social conditions simply that the time-honored institution of marriage is undergoing a change. And since all change in social institutions is interpreted as immoral by short-sighted defenders of the status quo, cries of alarm are to be expected.

Birth Control was something to be mentioned only in shocked whispers a very few years ago, but public opinion has changed very rapidly. Today clergyman after clergyman has come out in its defense until there is a solid body of advocates even in the conservative churches.

There are still many who are against Birth Control,—for others. It is another case of the sort made familiar by prohibition, namely, the public

the United States, but the immigrants have not been wage-workers, and they have not competed with the wage-workers of those countries. The immigrants from the United States have been inventors, technicians, investors and managers. Instead of competing with native laborers, they have increased the demand for and raised the wages of the native laborers. The only ones with whom these immigrants have competed with were the limited number of native inventors, technicians, investors and managers. These are the only ones who have objected to these immigrants. If immigrants to the United States had been mainly of the employing class, that would have changed the occupational balance in favor of American laborers. It would have tended to congest the higher rather than the lower occupations.

This proposed refinement of the theory of population, throwing the emphasis upon occupational rather than territorial congestion, is important not only for the clarification of theoretical discussion, it is also intensely practical. It points the way to the only constructive or permanent remedy for low wages, unemployment and mass poverty. If this problem can be intelligently handled, there will be no more underpaid occupations. The only cases of poverty which will remain will be those individual cases of incapacity or misfortune with which charitable organizations have to deal, and even these will be greatly reduced in number.

denunciation of a course of conduct secretly followed. There are thousands of persons practicing Birth Control who would not fight publicly for a repeal of a law which they are constantly breaking.

In other words, social morality is changing and the law has not caught up. The whole marriage situation is in that dilemma.

When mankind passes from one age to another, it takes some time for the primary social institutions, like marriage, to make the adjustment. We are now at such a time of change.

When man passed from the pastoral period to the agricultural, marriage changed from polygamy to monogamy, a change now recognized as for the better, but which probably caused the guardians of morality of that distant time many hours of wondering what the world was coming to.

We are now passing from the agricultural to the industrial era. Moral sanctions are changing. We need a new ten commandments, a more moral set than the decalog that considered wives property.

What improvement on monogamy can there be? Monogamy meant that a man could have only one wife. It didn't mean that the condition of that one wife was any better than the condition of the many wives. Even when there were "two souls with but a single thought and two hearts that beat as one," the husband was the one.

The new conception of marriage in the industrial era is the idea of the relation between two equal personalities. The economic release of woman has changed her attitude toward marriage.

In the agricultural era woman did all the work of the home. Today she buys the clothes, instead of making them and she sends the washing out, instead of doing it herself.

The ideal of the new marriage which seems to be approaching is that of two growing personalities with equal opportunity for self-development.

The greatest thing in the world is human personality and the spiritual task of the world is the improvement of personality, individual and social.

Birth Control is to be advocated because it does free woman to take her proper place as man's equal partner.

Human personality is greater and more important than any of its institutions. Marriage was made for man and woman, not man and woman for marriage. Man improved marriage at least once before. It is high time it was improved again.

# The Contribution of Sigmund Freud\*

By G V HAMILTON, M D

**I**DEAS which can be coined into bigger and better food, raiment, shelter, transportation and physical-health values are certainly not to be scorned, but if we are ever going to be civilized we have an additional need of ideas which can be made effective for our betterment along quite different lines. If degrees of civilization are to be measured not only in terms of available material comforts, but of the modes in which the race tends in the main to respond to its basic urges as well, we have a considerable distance to go before we can lay claim to anything like a complete escape from barbarism. This, it seems to the writer, is a fundamental implication of what Freud has been telling us for more than thirty years. Man, being inescapably the kind of animal that he is, as to various structural and dynamic outlines, must come to accept certain facts about himself and learn to do something about them in a purposeful way. If his basic urges could feasibly come to direct expression as overt behavior and consciously held desires and intentions he would be even more "natural" than his brother apes, but of course survival of the race would be impossible on this basis.

Sigmund Freud teaches us that, as a matter of fact, the human adult is more or less unwittingly possessed of reactive mechanisms which will not permit him to translate most of his original impulses into overt mental and physical activities until they have undergone all sorts of modifications and shifts of direction. These modifying and shifting inner mechanisms owe their possibility of development, of course, to factors which are common inheritances of the race, but for each individual their acquisition in forms which, concretely, are characteristic of his inner self, is a product of his training. We can't desire or do—or even know—what we are primarily impelled to desire or do, because a host of tutitional impositions, both planned and unplanned, have been so affecting us almost from birth that this impossibility exists. Freud made this revolutionary discovery, when he set himself the task of finding out what lies back of all that characteristically comes to the surface as the hysterical patient's mental experiences and behavior. His insight into the psychodynamics of these and other types of pathological situations led him to formulate the doctrine of repression, which he declares to be "the foundation-stone on which the whole structure of psychoanalysis rests."

Unwholesome repressions, which can perhaps be most simply conceived as inwardly operative bad

habits which prevent one's primary urges from coming to direct expression, are not only conducive to nervous symptoms but to frustration, futility and, too often, brutality in the beliefs, attitudes and practises of perhaps the majority of us. Of course Freud's most direct service has been to nervous persons, but in a broader sense his insights into the workings of human nature promise a vastly greater benefit to the race in its struggle to civilize itself. They give us clues as to what we can do to prevent the bad subterranean habits which undesirably distort and pervert the original mainsprings of thought and endeavor. The "Super-ego" of Freud's metapsychology is that part of each individual which has been largely fashioned for him by the impositions of parents, society and the state, and which determines, often in spite of his intellectually-held convictions, how he shall function both mentally and behavioristically.

## A Misapprehension

We are apt to associate Freud's doctrines exclusively with primary sex impulses and their deflection from what they set out to be when they are first released within the organism, but he must also be credited with doctrines which disclose equally penetrating insights into the struggles of the ego to protect itself against disadvantages and to assert its importance before the tribe. It was necessary first to give separate consideration to these two fundamentally inseparable phases of the personality's function, and the mere facts of clinical experience required him to start with sexual impulses in his efforts to develop a systematic theory of human nature which should do justice to his insights. This procedure brought him a good deal of undeserved criticism from persons who assumed that Freud attributed a too great importance to sex, and that he ignored the non-sexual aspect of our nature.

Since the appearance of his paper on "Narcissism" (i.e., self-love as distinguished from love of persons other than self) he has so convincingly disclosed the nature and importance of our ego trends that the reading public, which always likes to have all its explanatory eggs in one conceptual basket, is in danger of forgetting that, after all, sex urges

\*Collected Papers of Sigmund Freud (4 vols.), and The Ego and the Id. Hogarth Press. Beyond the Pleasure Principle, Group Psychology and the Analyses of the Ego, and Introduction to the Study of Psycho-Analysis. Boni and Liveright.

are, and have been for ages, the chief concern of the prohibitionists. They have taken a cruel and destructive advantage of the circumstance that, owing to the nature and intensity of human sex urges, the assertion of such urges must always be governed by certain obvious biological and social expediences. The prohibitionist, whether as parent, society or state, is in a position to develop in the child repressive habits which will ever afterward deny it adequate release of sexual tension and incline it toward seeking, without knowing why, partial release in substitute satisfactions which range in ugliness from gossipy backbiting to planning murder on an international scale.

### Corrective Procedures

It is fortunate that Freud developed his theories and formulations of fact while busied with practical efforts to help the victims of unwholesome tutitional impositions. He has not only shown that they stand in the way of our becoming civilized, but has given specific and usable advice as to how we should proceed to remove such obstacles. Two of these corrective procedures deserve mention in a review for a publication which owes its origin to the Birth Control movement.

(1) Every good advertiser knows that if you can convince that part of a human being which functions automatically and at a lower level than the conscious level you will be more effective than if you merely address yourself to his intellect. Now the period during which the most important sex instruction is given, whether deliberately in words or by the implications of parental attitudes toward sex, is largely covered by the first five or six years of the child's life, which is a time when automatically rather than intellectually operative convictions are most easily acquired. Of still greater importance is the fact that, if they become fixed during early childhood, no amount of intellectual correction in adult life on the part of the individual who holds them can wholly throw them out of gear with the basic urges which they were originally intended to regulate. If you are overwhelmingly convinced during early childhood that all that pertains to sex is to be feared and abhorred, almost nothing that you can do about it when you grow up will enable you fully to escape the consequent interference with your capacity for adequately releasing sex expression. The moral of this is, of course, to avoid establishing convictions concerning sex in young children which are likely to make for bad re-

pressive habits. Freud brings out this point and relates it specifically to what his discoveries imply for a sound mental hygiene.<sup>1</sup>

(2) A second practical point which Freud has made in his discussions of sex repression relates to Birth Control. It must have required considerable courage for him to have said in Austria, in 1908,<sup>2</sup> "It cannot be denied that contraceptive measures become a necessity in married life at sometime or other, and theoretically it would be one of the greatest triumphs of mankind, one of the most tangible liberations from the bondage of nature to which we are subject, were it possible to raise the responsible act of procreation to the level of a voluntary and intentional act, and to free it from its entanglement with an indispensable satisfaction of a natural desire."

We can't hope to become civilized so rapidly that all children of the next generation will be given sensible sex instruction, and even if such a miracle could be accomplished, there would remain the problem of doing the best that we can to mitigate the lot of those of us who are already born and past the period of childhood. With very few exceptions the adult American was so dealt with during his childhood that he is now incapable of obtaining a fully adequate release of his sexual tension. The unwittingly, automatically operative repressive bad habits to which allusion has been made will not permit it. Nevertheless, freedom from the fear of involuntary parenthood importantly reduces the unconscious interferences with such a release. It is significant that in the course of my research in problems of sex in the marital relation I have been told by women that the nearest they ever came to a satisfying release of sex tension was when they deliberately sought to conceive.

The writer is honestly convinced the Freud's theories are too labored and metaphorical to conform to the standard of a scientific realism, which requires that all explanatory formulations shall be as simple as the need of doing justice to the facts involved will permit. Nevertheless he believes that they are enormously important because they give intelligible expression to insights which rank Freud with the great discoverers of the world. The reviewer also holds that as a method for scientific research Freud's technique, as it stands, is practically valueless because it violates the most fundamental of the rules of scientific evidence. But here, again, it must be said that because it has been for Freud a congenial medium for expressing his genius as a student of human nature it must be given the most respectful consideration.

<sup>1</sup> It is gratifying to note a recent book by Mrs. Sanger, that offers in simple and non-technical language the kind of advice that should be given to parents who wish to be intelligent in the matter of sex instruction.

<sup>2</sup> Freud, S. Collected Papers, Vol. I, p. 238, London, 1924.

## Sex Among the Moderns\*

By SAMUEL D SCHMALHAUSEN

**T**HERE are three new phenomena under the sun economic independence for women, the gulf between puberty and mating, and the logic of contraception

There are three old phenomena under the sun the economic dependence of women, puberty as the time of mating, the logic of fecundity

Marnage was stabilized on the basis of two important urgencies economic need and reproductive anxiety The woman either had to depend upon the man or was his profitable associate in enterprise Both man and woman, more particularly the latter, felt the necessity of legitimate parenthood and honorable (because clean and socially approved) procreation

The overshadowing fear of woman's life has been the fear of pregnancy Under the ancient logic of fecundity, there was no help for it Sex, mating, marriage, reproduction were all inter-linked in a continuous series of behaviors, wrapped around with the mystic cord of sacred duty Procreation was naively accepted as the aim and meaning of life

The fear of pregnancy has been neutralized and set at rest by the technique of contraception A nice question for the metaphysical dabblers in ethics is this Does the disappearance of fear leave woman with any "moral" restraint on the impulse to mate?

**O**NE problem and only one occupies the minds of the younger generation the problem of freedom in matters sexual How should it be otherwise? Financial self-dependence, education equipment stressing personality fulfillment, erotic enlightenment, the blessed certitude of prevention, the emergence of informal comradeship between the sexes, and most significant of all, the shifting of the marital status from puberty to adult-maturity, have all conspired to elevate to a position of the first importance the problem of sex-expression in youth time

Static morality has been repudiated in favor of dynamic experience Fear yields its sovereignty reluctantly to fun Virginity is sacrificed to felicity Virtue, being its own reward, is bartered away in favor of love Passion's coming of age heralds the dawn of a new orientation in the life of the sexes

We may sum up the quintessence of the sexual revolution by saying that the center of gravity has shifted from procreation to recreation

For the sake of a greater clarity of comprehension, let us pause to consider how man has handled his sexual situation historically The co-existence of prostitution with honorable marriage is a fact that speaks too eloquently in behalf of an unsolved inner contradiction in the emotional nature of man That neurotic conflict may be visualized as the overlapping and interference of two impulses the desire to worship the madonna and to embrace the whore No one who is competent to analyze man's attitude toward the love-life can afford to undervalue the import of this deep dualism in his nature The most ironic fact in human behavior is the evil circumstance that made man spend his spontaneous passion on prostitutes, leaving him with a stale residue of desire for his wedded wife

**P**ROSTITUTION is the dark poetry of sex desire That married women should have been so long morally blind and psychologically obtuse, contenting themselves with the vapid residuals of passion, is one of those colossal facts almost beyond comprehension The prostitute gave to man with a coarse playfulness what the dignified women of the race could never give with their sterilized sobriety

Something strange and new and shatteringly real is happening in the world before our very eyes I refer to the intelligent and pathetically sincere attempt of respectable women to win back to themselves the sweet disreputable bliss of spontaneous sex desire, squandered throughout the ages (and oh! so lavishly) upon courtesans, whores and prostitutes

Though moral simpletons know it not, the younger generation is unwittingly seeking to solve the most baffling problem of life, to wit, freedom of love in a setting of dignity The new candor in sex behavior is a very great step in the direction of interlinking the spontaneity of passion (until recently looked upon as quite shameful and therefore to be tolerated only as a sneak behavior in blind alleys under prostitute auspices) with the lovely dignity of compassion Sexual love as happy recreation is the clean new ideal of a young generation sick of duplicity and moral sham and marital insincerity and general erotic emptiness Sex as recreation is the most exquisite conception of lovers who have learned how to look with frank delighted eyes upon the wonder in their own stirred bodies

**F**ROM an analytic point of view what were the choices of the male, promising sex fulfillment?

\*A brief summary of a forthcoming book "The Sexual Revolution"

Only these **masturbation, prostitution, free love, marriage, and — abstinence**. Realistically summarized, man's choices took the form of masturbation, prostitution and marriage, with special preference for the last two. Woman's choices were largely limited to abstinence and marriage. The results whether viewed **psychiatrically, psychologically, or sociologically** have been disastrous, fertile breeders of **distraction, unhappiness, misery** and shame.

We confront a younger generation in clean and brave **rebellion against** these wretched choices for sex expression. A **hygienic ideal**, cleansed of **hypocrisy**, free from the misery of **repression**, is capturing the awakened minds of an increasing number of men and women who perceive in sexual comradeship a source of **incomparable significance** for personality-enrichment. To minimize the tyranny and humiliation of masturbation, to defeat the mad logic of abstinence, to cancel out of existence the unclean evil of **prostitution**, to purge conventional **marriage** of its coercions and **inbreeding neurotic complications**, in fine, to create more free and **felicitous conditions** for sex fulfilment, is the exceeding great task and **perilous enterprise** of liberated youth. **Passion radiantly humanized** by **compassion** is our **enriching new ideal**.

THE charming conception of married love celebrated by **Marie Stopes**, the tender-hearted appreciation of **companionate marriage** wisely sponsored by **Ben Lindsey**, the clean **scientific candor** of **sex-enlightenment** found in the works of **Ellis, Carpenter, Key, Schreiner, Meisel-Hess, Robinson, Robie, Popenoe, Dunlap, Sanger, Fielding, Dell, Gruenberg, Davis, Dennett**, the **universal tendency** on the part of fine men and women to honor sex love as an **experience** of beauty and **dignity**, most persuasively embodied in the **philosophy** of **Mrs. Bertrand Russell**, what are these evidences of courage and candor if they be not **signs** of a new **enlightenment**?

Man's mind, for so many dark and **dirty generations** sexually torn between **madonna** and **whore**, seeks the recompense of a new and **richer solace** in a spontaneous passion-devotion to **his sweetheart**. The consolation of **adoration** which he once discovered in a **sterile respect** for the **madonna**, the **compensation** of **vivid experience** which he once could find only in the unclean **passionate pursuit** of the **whore**,—these **disquieting loyalties** have been laid to rest, **harmonized** in the profounder, because more sincere, dedication to sex love as a thing of **dignity** and beauty, **without apology or shame**. Thus we witness the birth of a new type in society, the lovable sweetheart who combines within her own **personality** the **dignity** of the **madonna-conception** with the free **vivacity** of the **whore-concep-**

**tion**. Man will no longer commit the **insane folly** (woman will not permit it!) of spending his spontaneous passion on prostitutes, leaving for his real mate the **disingenuous passion** of **marital duty**.

Three interesting problems belong to our age of **emancipation**: the **dignifying** of sexual desire, the **humanizing** of **passion**, and the **assigning** of social status to **experimental relation**. Underlying these momentous problems and yet **outstripping** them in general **significance**, is the problem of what I should like to call the **sexualization** of **marriage**.

WOMAN has developed sexual personality. She means to devote an **increasing beautiful attention** to the **erotic life**. Somehow she must **contrive** to give passion a freer **reign** in the **realm** of love. The **quintessence** of the sexual revolution lies in woman's **delighted acceptance** of the love **relation** as **recreation**. What we must not forget is the sheer **inevitability** of the new candor which expresses itself in **erotic camaraderie**.

To sum up **marriage** as **conventional coercion** is on the verge of bankruptcy. **Marital love** as **ritual** and **routine** is no longer honored as **either sacred or sweet**. **Morality** as the sheer **perverse tyranny** of abstraction is **dethroned**. Experience as the open sesame to **life** more abundant is being welcomed as **essentially good**. Sexual love, for the first time in human history, will be universally honored as a **quickener** of life, an illuminator of human nature, an **experience** of **infinite promise** for woman as for man. **Passion's** coming of age symbolizes the culturally **inevitable subordination** of **fecundity** to **Birth Control**, with its happy by-product of recreation in lieu of procreation as the **inspiring bond** of **sex union**.

Where all other panaceas fall, love may yet save the world. The mother image fades into obscurity and out of that strange obscurity emerges the **image** of the sweetheart as the **inspiration** of man's life.

It was the night, the night of all my dreams  
Across the lofty spaces of that room  
You stole, and where the moonlight's silver streams  
Cloudily slanted in upon the gloom,  
More silver radiance met them where you moved,  
And all the beauty of that hazed West,  
Wherein the moon was sinking, lay approved  
Because thus lay your pale, slow-curving breast  
I shall remember,—aye, when death must cover  
My soul and body with its rayless tide,—  
The madness and the peace of that wild lover  
Drunken with life's whole wonder at your side  
I shall remember in life's stormiest deep,—  
Even as that night I knew you there in sleep \*

\*One of the many enchanting poems in Arthur Davison Ficke's book of magic, "The Sonnets of a Portrait Painter"

# Maternal Mortality and Medical Women

By VERA BRITAIN

A FEW weeks ago the public mind was greatly perturbed over the fact that every year three thousand women die as the result of childbirth. A Conference on Maternal Mortality, to which the Queen sent a message, was held at the Central Hall, Westminster, and in different parts of the country important persons made reference to the subject. One remark especially, made by Mrs Baldwin in a speech at the Mansion House, was very much quoted and discussed. "I have always felt," she said, "that if Dame Nature had been more generous with her gifts and let us share child-bearing between male and female, this very important subject would have been dealt with long before this." It seems, to say the least of it, curious that throughout the recent controversy on the training of women doctors, hardly a writer has called attention to the connection between this remark and the claims of the medical women students to whom three important London hospitals are about to be closed.

A cynical but honest Frenchman remarked long ago that we have always enough philosophy to support the misfortunes of others. Since midwifery, once a female profession, was lost to women through becoming a subject of study at Universities to which they were not admitted, maternity has been too often the source either of unwholesome sentiment or of jests far from delicate. Enjoying only the satisfactions of parenthood, and eternally free from its pain, its peril, and the majority of its tasks, men both medical and unscientific have found a peculiar mirth in jokes about twins or triplets, about father being left by mother to mind the screaming infant, and others of an even less edifying type, or they have discovered a vicarious consolation for twinges of conscience in romantically regarding woman as the tragic sex, forever condemned to pay the price of her womanhood in childbed as man is doomed to pay the price of his manhood in battle.

THE danger of assuming that either peril is unavoidable is as great in the one case as in the other, nothing is more nullifying than such popular assumptions to all the endeavors of reformers to prevent both calamities. The very type of psychology which believes all war to be noble acclaims the idea of all women as burdened and suffering, the one shibboleth appeals to the primitive instinct of pugnacity, and the other to that equally primitive instinct which seeks to establish superiority by

means of protection. In so far as the fact of maternal sacrifice has been accepted as inevitable, it has had its uses in keeping woman the subjugated sex.

The subjugated sex she was bound to find herself so long as the medical profession remained in ignorance of the vital principle of asepsis. A man of average health had a reasonable chance of escaping altogether the bygone perils of hospitals, doctors, and "Sarah Gamps," but woman, with her normal fate of maternity, was a permanent subject for their blind experiments. Until the time of Lister, a natural, and among some primitive races a comparatively painless function, was changed by the bungling of "civilized" mankind into a deadly and crippling disease. Confinements were nothing less than a series of unhygienic catastrophes, any one of which might become the source of lifelong weakness if not of invalidism. So recently as 1847, Dr Ignaz Philipp Semmelweiss discovered that the high mortality among maternity cases in the student wards of the lying-in-hospital at Vienna was due to the infected hands of the students, and greatly reduced the death-rate by insisting that each one should wash his hands after every case in a solution of chloride of lime.

THE women who actually died of puerperal fever were probably more fortunate than those who passed out of it into insanity or permanent injury. Owing to the absence of anaesthetics, an even greater number never fully recovered from the strain and shock of prolonged labor, while practically every married woman, ignorant of the alleviations of Birth Control, suffered physically and mentally from the nervous dread of yet another intolerable confinement. "Let my mind not dwell on what is before me," wrote Elizabeth Fry — by no means a neurotic or egocentric woman — in her Journal before the birth, in 1822, of the youngest of her many children. Until days within the memory of our parents, those responsible for the care of motherhood did little to prevent the fulfilment of the malevolent Jewish Jehovah's inexorable decree: "I will greatly increase thy sorrow and thy conception, in sorrow shalt thou bring forth children."

The improvement in the conditions of childbirth since the middle of the nineteenth century has, of course, been mainly due to the great advance of medicine and surgery in general. To some extent — but much less than many individuals who are out

of touch with the mass of the people suppose—it has also been occasioned by the change in men's attitude towards women. Many a man to-day, if he loses his wife, loses not the submissive housekeeper, sicknurse, and mistress to his comfort who could so easily be replaced, but the equal and unique companion who shares all his interests and his tasks, and who yet can perform also this vital and most necessary task of continuing the race. But even the more recent discoveries of science and the alteration which half a century has brought to the status of womanhood have not yet caused medical men sufficiently to regard obstetrics as the great constructive side of medicine and surgery.

TOM hates these baby cases!" the wife of a flourishing West-End practitioner once complained to a relative of mine, in confident expectation of sympathy because her husband had been called up at night to bring an infant into the world. "Few students, unhappily, take it (midwifery) as seriously as it ought to be taken," remarked the *Times*, commenting on the Maternal Mortality Conference of February 23rd. "Many doctors," asserted Miss Chamberlain at the Conference, "do not seem to appreciate what can be done by modern treatment." Another speaker confirmed her. "In my experience midwives do know their duty, but doctors often do not know what to do." "If some of them," added Lady Selborne, "took the precautions they take when performing abdominal operations, I believe the mortality among their maternity cases would be diminished."

"No greater calamity," to quote the *Times* once more, "can befall anyone than to fall into the hands of a hasty, an impatient, or a careless surgeon. Haste, impatience, and carelessness are not less disastrous in maternity work."

Disastrous, too, is the tendency to underestimate the reactions of the human organism to pain or injury." Yet birth, even of first children, takes place frequently enough in the absence of the responsible practitioner, who has left the mother's bedside in the hope of sandwiching in another case or two before the final stage. "Could ye not watch with me one hour?" is a poignant phrase which many a woman has repeated in her heart to the husband and the medical man who, fearful or impatient of Nature, leave her alone to face the supreme crisis of life until the last moment or beyond it. Few men are as yet sufficiently civilized to estimate a risk that they never take and to imagine a type of pain which they never feel, and which even a woman who has endured it finds difficult afterwards to recall to memory. There are, of course, some great men of science who have spent their powers in gynaecological research, and a few influential laymen who are ready to devote

their energies and their funds to the same purpose. But to the general run of the profession, obstetrical work appears to be an irksome side-issue.

FOR these reasons the Queen's message, which suggested that maternal mortality could be reduced by the education of mothers, the wider provision of first-rate medical and midwifery services, and careful inquiry into the causes of each maternal death, might well have added as a fourth measure the training of more medical women for this special work. Just as only a woman architect can understand from what avoidable toil the housewife may be released by the simple expedient of a well-planned kitchen, so women doctors alone know what unnecessary suffering the mother can be spared in childbirth. Though the restriction of medical women to gynaecological work would be an undue limitation of their powers, it is reasonably certain that women are more interested than men in preventing disease and in raising the standard of health among members of their sex.

The fact that, for a long time to come, women doctors are likely to find the majority of their patients among women or children, is the last reason in the world for withholding from them any opportunities for study and research which might increase their numbers. As the mothers of the next generation of both men and women, the health of women is of more importance to the community than that of men. It is a strange and deplorable coincidence that the already limited openings for the training of medical women should be further cut down at the very time when public attention has been directed to the urgent need for keener and more skilled obstetricians.

From the *Nation* and *Atheneum* (London) by courtesy of the Editor

*[It is not by making childbirth safe that woman will emancipate herself from her age-long position of subjugation. So long as she is unable to choose for herself whether and when she shall be a mother, she remains in slavery to her function of reproduction, even though medical science should succeed in making childbirth not only safe but entirely painless. Only by Birth Control can the woman really free herself. When women are in full control of their own bodies, then the world will honor motherhood and learn that it is worth while to do everything possible to make it safe and desirable. It seems strange that the author of the article overlooks this obvious truth — ED.]*

*Those who cheerfully lay the women of the race on its altar need their sense of pity cultivated. Woman's willing contributions to family, race and state are quite disproportionate enough without adding involuntary sacrifices.*

THOMAS D. ELIOT

# Should Lives Be Planned?

## Or Is Chance the Higher Ideal?

We *gratefully acknowledge* our indebtedness to our *friends* who, to *aid* the cause of *Birth Control*, have been *willing* to *give glimpses into* the *intimate* stones of their *own* lives and thus *throw light on* the *working* of *Birth Control* in the *planning* of *families*. The letters *plainly* show that one *objection* brought *against Birth Control* is *utterly* false—*Birth Control* does not mean *childless families*, or even *one-child* families. It means that reason and *foresight* are used in this most important of *all enterprises*—the *enterprise* of *bringing* new life *into* the world—and that parents are no longer *taking* less thought *over* the *creation* of a *child* than they *would* over *planning* a *new house*.

### A Planned Life

New York

**I**F EVER a family was planned, my *six* children were. When I was in college I did not take my sweetheart's word for it, but watched his *behavior* to make sure he really loved children. Then while he took his Ph.D. at Cornell, I went to Columbia, ostensibly to get my M.A. but in my mother's view to take a look at a few more young men to make sure I already had the best one available. But what I knew I really went for was to study infant dietetics and statistics of infant mortality.

Then I was married and my son (who is in college now) arrived in exactly nine months. I had a misfortune in six months more and then I was in dreadful worryment for fear of another or child sterility,—for I was too ignorant to know that this is to be chiefly dreaded only in venereal cases. So we practiced much continence and also ferreted out what contraceptive methods we could find, in order to be certain I should get in finest condition before another child. My second came in three years and after him, due to faulty contraception, a pair of twins and two misfortunes, all within four years.

I had always planned to have eight children and I think I could have managed it, if I had known earlier of more perfect contraception. But as it was, my health was taxed and I have been able to bear only my sixth in this, my forty-third, year. But I cannot complain, as they are all in absolutely perfect health, except one case of hay-fever, and all, except of course the baby, at the top rank of scholarship. And I myself have practically finished the work for the Ph.D. degree. I have found it necessary to have outside activities to keep me from "taking the children up by the roots all the time to see if they are growing." So I have never for a single year laid down my studies of infancy begun twenty-five years ago, and I believe in time I shall be quite an expert. My only outside "position" is on the Executive of the Birth Control Committee in my state.

### Spanning a Century of Progress

Pennsylvania

Two things have made our short married life seem to span a century of human progress. For our son, two years and a half ago, my wife spent fourteen hours without ether or morphine (let alone scopolamin) until she went into the delivery room exhausted. False labor had kept her awake the night before. For our daughter, in the Maternity Hospital in Cleveland, she had fifteen minutes of "unpleasantness" and six hours under ether. The six-pound girl has trebled her weight in five months, while the boy took a year to do it. The new hospitals equipped for modified twilight sleep seem as far removed from the brutal old maternity wards of otherwise reputable hospitals as their surgical divisions are from the good old days when a blow on the head or a drink of whiskey were the only anesthetics. When will painless child-birth be the natural expectation of every bride in America?

Paralleling the amazing difference in deliveries is the profound change wrought in our married life by the New York Clinic of the Birth Control League and the clinic-trained Ohio physician. We married counting on the oldest contraceptive textbook I know and the only one freely circulated through the United States mails in spite of Section 211 of the Penal Code viz., the Bible (Genesis 38:9). In addition we had the inadequate knowledge then obtainable in drug-stores and expected our obstetrician would give our knowledge the necessary precision of detail we knew hearsay technique must lack.

I was at that time teaching at my University and, by overtime work, was earning enough for three, though the preparation of my thesis was suffering from my teaching load of 185 students. So we planned joyously for our first child our first year. What we did not know was that after my wife's illness in the winter we had no business planning to begin a pregnancy in the spring. The result was five months' sickness, aggravated for my wife by an extremely nervous state she could not wholly understand, since our wise government so successfully restricts the circulation



of Havelock Elhs' essays on the Mental State in Pregnancy Add to that an old-fashioned labor and a mid-forceps delivery and you have a badly battered little woman

We had no idea the Pennsylvania law could affect the giving of contraceptive information by physicians, but I was turned down cold by our obstetrician "There is no reason why she shouldn't have another right away" At about this time our marriage touched rock bottom, for it seemed that my wife was pregnant again She had had a back ache for five months, was extremely nervous, and probably not getting as much help from her husband as he thought he was giving her He was working until the two o'clock feeding every night and his smile was still working, but I'm afraid she must have heard it creak at times He hopes, never to see another woman so frightened

To add to the nightmare, my wife's sister was pregnant at this time, though her son was only six months old, and a bridesmaid's best friend was out of her mind after three babies in rapid succession The sister's baby was born prematurely the day after his brother's first birthday, and lived three hours At the Brooklyn Birth Control Clinic the mother was later found to have a bad tear dating from the first delivery Her obstetrician had advised —, but when she became pregnant said he was opposed to Birth Control anyway After two years contraception she was thought to have healed, but is now in her sixth week in hospital after being threatened with another mishap This time the child will live and its mother is gamely speculating on whether she will have to spend nine weeks in the hospital next time No, modern girls would never have any children if they knew how to avoid them!

Then came the rebound Our immediate fears turned out to be groundless and we heard of the Clinical Research Department Due to her condition it turned out they were able to help her, even under the present New York law With the worry removed, her physical condition improved rapidly until July, last year, after a month of tennis, she was in tip-top shape and we summoned the little daughter who completes our family, for the present at any rate With the excellent start, my wife was able to play tennis another two months and hardly knew what it was to be sick When the healthy pregnancy was topped off with a painless delivery we felt that we had indeed slipped into another century We face the future confident that, though I shall never earn very much, we shall be able to give our two children a good education, and obtain expert advice about them from time to time, keeping ourselves and them in touch with the main developments in the sciences which will eventually make it possible for the whole world to live happy and at peace C

## For the Sake of the Child

Paris, France

Editor

Dr Frederick C Holden of the Committee on Maternal Health, New York, has made a study of maternal and infant welfare in various European countries, and his interesting report read at the last meeting of the American Medical Association appears in the official *Journal* There is a sentence in that report which is full of significance, and which yet may be overlooked or its importance not fully grasped Frankfort-on-the-Main, like several other German cities, has a municipal marriage advice bureau, and the author tells us that "the Frankfort experience is that if a child desires to grow up it will stand considerably better chance if it selects delicate or sickly parents who will limit their progeny, rather than robust parents who will not" In other words, limitation of offspring or Birth Control is an unquestionable, statistically proved, factor in diminishing infantile mortality! Something we, advocates of Birth Control, have been maintaining right along

The cause of Birth Control is gaining support from numerous and sometimes unexpected sources

W J R—, M D

## Two More Doctors' Views

North Carolina

Editor

I am interested in the cause for which you have fought so valiantly, and believing that it is far better to limit the number of offspring according to the husband or wife's mental, moral, physical, or financial ability to care for them than it is to bring them into the world and for one reason or another be unable to offer them the opportunities that they are entitled to I should like some literature regarding the subject for my personal information, and if you will direct me as to how I may obtain the same I shall greatly appreciate it and will be only too glad to reciprocate should you want to call on me for some favor in the future

K H P—, M D

Pennsylvania

Editor

You have not asked my opinion of Birth Control, but, as it can be expressed in very few words, I will hazard it In an experience of twenty years in general practice it has seemed to me that the rich and middle classes have had all the information they need, and I can see no valid reason for not extending the same privilege to the poor I do not believe it would correct all the social evils, but I do believe it would be a long step forward

C B K—, M D

## Standing Room Only

**P**ROFESSOR EDWARD ALSWORTH ROSS of the University of Wisconsin has produced a most interesting and useful book on the population problem to which he has given the suggestive title of "Standing Room Only"\*. Like all other books, it has its defects, and in dealing with it, perhaps it is best to call attention to the defects first, so that one can deal at greater length with its indisputable merits. The first and perhaps the most serious defect is the amount of space devoted to statistical tables and diagrams. Of necessity any book dealing with the population problem must quote some statistics, but a few are enough for illustration, and they should be selected with great care. The danger of using large numbers of statistics is that many of the figures are totally unreliable, being based upon inaccurate data. We in England have quite a useful saying: "There are liars, there are damned liars, and — there are statisticians." Another point which most readers will agree with me in thinking a mistake is Professor Ross's substitution of the phrase "adaptive fertility" for the well-understood words "Birth Control." It is difficult to see what one gains by this change in nomenclature.

Now for the merits of the book, which are many. In its early pages it deals with a statement, very popular among opponents of Birth Control, that the present decline in the birth-rate in most civilized countries is itself the result of the growth of civilization. Professor Ross shows that there is no evidence whatever in support of this common assumption. He also shows very effectively that the theory now being put forward in France, that the decline in the rate of growth of the French population is due to the fact that France is an old country, cannot be supported by solid argument. He quotes M. Leroy Beaulieu's words: "Sterility is one of the most marked characteristics of the growing old of individuals, so also is it with peoples." It is a plausible statement, but Professor Ross wipes it out completely with the reply: "If age sterilizes, then it is the peoples of the East, of India and of China, that ought to show a falling birth-rate, not young, lusty people like the Canadians, the Australians and the Californians."

### Progress and Population

Coming to the main point contained in the title of his book, he shows that a modern population might easily double in twenty years. This fact is largely indeed mainly, the result of the progress that mankind has made in the prevention of disease and in the improvement of the means of nourishment. We draw our food now from all parts of the world, we preserve it carefully from putrefaction, and we get a variety of foods, and this

variety itself probably helps towards the strengthening of human beings. Simultaneously we have succeeded—very largely by the discovery of inoculation—in wiping out almost completely many of the worst diseases from which mankind in previous centuries used to suffer. But, as Professor Ross rightly says, these improvements in the means of living must involve a much more rapid increase in population unless simultaneously there is a decline in the numbers born. On that point he bases a thoroughly justified attack upon the attitude of sections of the clergy towards Birth Control. Two or three centuries ago, when children died almost as soon as they were born, nobody worried about an excessive birth-rate. Today an excessive birth-rate means that "the land is filling as never before," and consequently "the arbitrary attempt of cobbler-clerics to dictate the conduct of spouses in the privacy of their bed-chamber will be looked upon as a perversion of religion and an insufferable impertinence."

### Bare Subsistence

To illustrate these general propositions Professor Ross gives many striking facts with regard to the condition of the inhabitants of various countries of the world. He shows how in India under British rule and in Porto Rico under the rule of the United States, owing to the prevention of internal warfare and the checking of disease, the local populations are increasing with a previously unknown rapidity, and he uses the very neat phrase that the white race is to-day "serving as midwife to the blacks and the browns." But, simultaneously with this growth in the population of blacks and browns owing to the skill of the "white midwife," poverty continues. In some cases possibly it even grows. Those Socialists who hesitate about the wisdom of Birth Control lest it, by removing poverty, should remove the most effective weapon from the Socialist armory, profess to explain the poverty of the black and brown races under white rule by arguing that they are robbed of their wealth by the white capitalist. Professor Ross just touches on this point. He might perhaps have expanded his argument a little further by pointing out that what the white capitalist takes from the black or the brown work people is considerably less than he gives in the shape of the increased efficiency of production obtained by the use of his capital. The final conclusion of this useful book is that unless we proceed promptly to check the birth-rate, so as to counterbalance the decline in the death-rate, the population of the world will continue to grow till there is standing room only. And long before we have reached that stage, needless to say, most of the beauties of the earth will have been wiped out. Every square yard will be cultivated to its utmost limit for the production of elementary foodstuffs.

HAROLD COX

\*"Standing Room Only" by Professor Edward Alsworth Ross. The Century Company \$3.00

## Book Reviews

THE NEW COLONIAL POLICY, by **Helmer Key**  
Pages viii 214 Methuen & Co, London, 1927

**T**HE central message of this book is clear Europe is in a precarious situation economically, and the only hope of relief lies in extensive, carefully planned and directed emigration

The process by which the author reaches this conclusion is not so clear, nor is it entirely convincing Grant at the outset that he has laid out a difficult task for himself To summarize the economic situation of the world, and to discuss means of preserving an "economic equilibrium between the continents," in a volume of scarcely two hundred pages, necessitates short cuts that are prejudicial to both accuracy and logic Dr Key continually speaks of Europe as if it were a homogeneous unit economically, and, on the other hand, refers to "oversea countries" almost without discrimination, as if they were all alike in the rôle which they play, or might be made to play, in the economic destinies of Europe Characteristic of the sweeping generalities that dot the pages is the following "The colored races usually lead a nomadic life and move their herds from one pasturage to another" There are also certain perplexing contradictions which it is hard to reconcile Thus on page 3 the author states that after the war Europe was compelled to "work with dearer raw materials and higher costs of production," while on page 34 he quotes (apparently with agreement) Professor Cassel to the effect that Europe "is in a position to obtain a larger quantity of raw materials and foodstuffs for a given quantity of manufactured goods than before the war"

Dr Key's main thesis is that at the present time Europe possesses a productive plant capable of turning out a volume of goods far in excess of that which can be profitably disposed of under existing world market conditions This is naturally accompanied by a surplus of man-power "Oversea countries" as a whole, on the other hand, are under-developed, and capable of producing much larger quantities of primary goods than they do But to accomplish this, they need additions of more skilled and energetic workers than the native population afford The logical thing, therefore, is for Europe to supply this deficiency, thereby getting rid of her surplus, and at the same time providing for a large increase in the output of foreign foodstuffs and raw materials by which her own industrial life may be raised to a gratifying pitch of prosperity While seeming to concede that the world as a whole is over-populated, the author nevertheless appears to believe that there are vast regions "overseas," which he scarcely attempts to identify, to which the huge excess of European population may be shipped with general benefit to all concerned

There are two surprising things about this book The first is that the doctrines set forth should be designated new colonial policy, since they differ scarcely an iota from those that have prevailed for generations, with the exception, as Dr Key points out, that the natives are now treated better than they used to be The other is that any careful and conscientious student, writing after a devastating war, which followed, and was in many ways the result of, the heaviest century of emigration that the world has ever known, should still believe that a reliable and permanent remedy for the dire consequences of that war, and of over-population in general, is to be found in further emigration Emigration plus universal Birth Control is one thing, emigration by itself is a snare and a delusion

HENRY PRATT FAIRCHILD

THE REPRODUCTION OF LIFE A handbook of the Science of Reproduction in Nature and Man By A J Cokkinis William Wood & Co, New York 1926 XVI + 287 pp

**W**HO our ancestors were, what qualities they possessed that were admirable, and the reverse of admirable, and the processes and laws by which these were transmitted has, for centuries, been a concern of absorbing interest to all classes of human beings Until within comparatively recent times, however, much of this subject has been shrouded in mystery and superstition We owe to the discoveries of the microscope and to the work of a comparatively few scientific men, such as William His and Gregor Mendel, our present knowledge of this phase of life

It is the author's "solemn conviction," and the reviewer heartily agrees with him, "that an adequate knowledge of reproduction is the sacred birthright of every human being, that by it we are made better men and women, and that in it lies our greatest protection from the evils of sexual vice, which are so prevalent, and which are so often caused by Ignorance" Further it is inconceivable to the reviewer, how any man or woman can achieve the fullest complement of happiness, and make the decisions that must be made, without adequate understanding of this subject There is no question that with it, many pitfalls are avoided

The subject matter is presented in simple, easily understood language The facts and discussions are grouped in twenty chapters under five general topics The first deals with the general phenomena of life and the human body Here the basis of life is discussed, both from a chemical and structural standpoint, with a wealth of illustrative matter based on the lower animal forms You learn about evolution, the different kinds of cells and their functions,

and in particular the make-up and various activities of the parts of the human body

The second topic is concerned in a general way with growth, cell division, reproduction and sex, and fertilization and heredity. In other words, we learn how we become larger, how our bodies are repaired, and we gain some understanding of why we grow old. That human beings develop from eggs is still a surprising fact to multitudes of intelligent, educated people. That we owe so much to forty-eight little rod-shaped chromosomes in each of our cells, is a still more bewildering idea to the majority of mankind, as very few of us realize that such important structures even exist within our bodies.

The treatment of the subject of heredity is not as clear as it might be. When the author states that "It is not only possible, but definitely certain, that we can reinforce any good points we have inherited, and neutralize any evil, so that we can pass on to our offspring a better heredity than that which was ours", the reviewer finds himself in emphatic disagreement, for this sounds akin to the inheritance of acquired characters. While the possibility of the inheritance of acquired characters is admitted by students of genetics, there seems to be but slight evidence in support of such a belief. The author may not intend to convey such an idea, but the phrasing is such that a large percentage of his readers would either regard it as ambiguous or as implying that intensification of a character by suitable environment or training would be inherited.

The third and fourth sections treat the reader to a discussion and description of reproductive processes in plants and animals with the larger emphasis on the latter. Among the plants, you learn how ferns, pine trees and apples multiply. Among the animals, the population-increase methods, from corals and earth-worms to birds and rabbits are described, including the cockroaches.

The last general topic takes up the system in detail by which human beings produce more and more human beings. This is described in simple, easily understood language, and in such a manner that the most sensitive of natures can find no cause for embarrassment.

ORLAND E. WHITE

**MEDICAL ASPECTS OF CONTRACEPTION** Being the Report of the Medical Committee appointed by the National Council of Public Morals in connection with the investigations of the National Birth-rate Commission. London, 1927.

WE ARE told in a prefatory note that the National Birth-rate Commission "was composed of sixty recognized authorities in religion, science, statistics, economics, and education." Some of the members of the Medical Committee are already known to readers of the *BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW*, having contributed essays to a collection published a year previously under the title, "Medical Views on Birth Control," a book which has already been reviewed in these pages.

While it is repeatedly stated throughout the book that this report is medical, and is not concerned with ethical considerations, it seems impossible for this group to refrain from injecting ethical issues. For instance, on page 5, in connection with the discussion of methods of contraception, we find the following statement: "Abstinence, while it is the obvious, and from the ethical point of view the ideal procedure when it is desired that no children should be born, is impracticable to the majority of young married people."

However, the book before us represents considerable progress from the position expressed in the book published the year previously, such progress evidently resulting from a reluctant yielding on the part of the Committee to the pressure of social realities.

Thus, in spite of the view represented in the above quotation, the Committee is led to say, "We are of opinion that no impediment should be placed in the way of those married couples who desire information as to contraceptives, when this is needed for medical reasons or because of excessive child-bearing or poverty."

The second part of the book, which occupies three-fourths of its bulk, consists of statements and evidence submitted to the Committee. In the opinion of the reviewer, this part alone contains anything of value. Various persons who are in actual touch with practical problems of Birth Control have contributed toward this part of the book. A particularly valuable discussion is that by Dr. Robert L. Dickinson of New York.

It is worthy of note that most interesting parts of the evidence submitted to the Committee find no place in the report of the Committee, but are merely reprinted in the second part of the book. For example, the following paragraph in the statement by Lord Dawson of Penn had apparently fallen on deaf ears: "If our 'pastors' and masters' would but accept control of conception as a necessary feature of our present-day civilization, and still more, cease from feebly excusing it on so-called medical grounds, and, on the other hand, unite in bringing before the public the importance of adequate parenthood, constructive guidance would take the place of futile controversy."

Another example may be cited from the evidence submitted by Dr. H. Crichton-Miller: "In all matters of social liberty there are those who would like to know that every youth who consorts with a prostitute is certain to get venereal disease, they would like to know that every pickpocket is going to prison, that every time a man has sex relations with his wife, conception is certain to follow. Now these are people who feel that human freedom and human control in life, including the human possibility of going wrong, are bad things. They want to see people punished every time they depart from the moral law. Life is not built upon those lines, and we would do well to remember that people must have freedom, and freedom always means the possibility of abusing it. What is our

## Periodical Notes

*The Outlook* (New York) of August 20th contains an excellent article by Helena Huntington Smith, on "Birth Control and the Law". The author attributes much of the difficulties of the Birth Control movement to the backwardness of the medical profession, and comments on the fatuous procedure adopted at many hospitals of warning a woman against pregnancy as dangerous to her life, and yet giving her no instructions in contraception. Commenting on the sale in the streets of the BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW, she writes "THE BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW is not only harmless, it is within the law of both state and nation, and the reason it is hawked about the streets of New York is that the news-stands refuse to handle it. The large news companies are terribly sensitive about the appearance of what somebody might think is evil, the smaller dealers are not sensitive, but have been bluffed by threats of prosecution from Roman Catholic devotees. So this innocuous journal, which is full of appeals, statistics and little poems about motherhood, suffers all the discomforts of pariahdom, without being illegal at all."

Harpers for September, in an article by Olive Gilbreath entitled "China's Covered Wagon", gives a vivid picture of the sufferings endured by the poor and oppressed in an over-populated country such as China. She describes the flight of hundreds of thousands of Chinese peasants into Manchuria, whither they go to seek land to till in order to keep themselves alive.

The *China Critic* (Shanghai)—In a late July Number (July 26) Jameson Chen discusses the Chinese family system, as tested by the modern ideas of love and marriage that are making headway in the Orient. In other recent numbers the subject of Birth Control is discussed. Kan Lee's "Overpopulation and its Remedies" asks for "voluntary reduction of numbers" by later marriage and Birth Control. Quentin Pau's "China and Birth Control" advocates the eugenic platform of larger families for those "high up in worth" and free access to Birth Control by the poor and those least likely to produce good citizens, and Edward Kwong lays stress on education that will break the hold of ancestor worship and on Birth Control

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chief preoccupation about the knowledge of contraceptives? It is simply that we cannot trust people who are not married not to have sexual intercourse if they know how certain it is that they will not have a child."

The principal point of information that the reviewer gained from reading this book is that in England, as in this country, not eminent authorities but the nature of things is about to lead us toward a solution of important problems.

AARON J. ROSANOFF, M.D.

*Plain Talk* (Sept.)—"Can Books Run Girls" is based upon Katherine Bement Davis' studies of unmarried college graduates. Answers to questions as to the first literary source of sex stimulation and of sex knowledge brought out the fact that the Bible and "The Mothers Magazine" were as often the first sources of interest in these subjects, as were the Decameron or Mlle de Maupin, and that "in a society based on the scientific principle, any law should have to prove its way onto the statute books. We must start with a presumption in favor of liberty of thought." "Meddler" by Caroline Slade in the same magazine has a special interest for those who feel that family social work without Birth Control as part of the program is wasted labor. In the estimate of Mrs. Slade, herself a social worker, about half the social work in the home "is impertinence and bunk—bunk that is costing the public a tidy sum."

Conference *Bulletin* for August 1928. This brief digest of the Sessions of the National Conference of Social Work says of Dr. Stone's paper before the Health Division "Dr. Hannah Stone of the Clinical Research Department of the American Birth Control League deserves especial credit for the consummate skill with which she presented the delicate subject Family Limitation. Her paper treated the matter with such sincerity and so much common sense that there was no evidence of any offense having been given to the most conservative."

*American Mercury* (September)—Ellsworth Huntington of Yale writes of the aims of the Eugenists, in whose platform Birth Control for those who need it most and today find it hardest to get, should, he believes, hold a foremost place.

*London Mercury* (June). A reviewer of the Petty Papers (Constable, London) draws attention to Sir William Petty's suggestions for increasing the population of 17th Century Britain. In a quaint essay on the "Maintenance of Mankind" he urged that measures be taken to double the home population, then 9,700,000, over a period of 25 years and to send during that time 600,000 persons to the colonies. To this end, he advocates legislation that "shall permit men and women to cohabit upon any covenant they please," the endowment of motherhood and the public maintenance of children.

The World Tomorrow—New York—(September) Percy L. Clarke, Jr. writes of "Yellow Peril or White?" He shows that "today the white population of the world outnumbered the Chinese by 2% to 1." The peril is no longer therefore yellow against white, but white against white in the struggle for a foothold on the earth. But whether the peril be yellow or white, the civilized world remains in peril so long as population increase is uncontrolled by reason.

# Eugenics and Birth Control

## More Replies to Margaret Sanger's Letter

*Mrs Sanger's letter asking opinions on a possible amalgamation of the BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW and a Eugenics magazine, brought forth a number of interesting views concerning the relative importance of the two movements. This month we give some replies which open a large field for discussion*

From A B Wolfe, Professor of Economics, Ohio State University

I have your letter with regard to the possibility of combining the BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW with the Eugenics Society Magazine. I should be extremely sorry to see any such move. I think it would mean that the function now being fulfilled by the BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW would no longer be served.

The Birth Control movement is now strong enough to forge ahead, probably with or without a journal or organization or change in the laws. Nevertheless, I think the organized movement ought to continue until the laws, as well as public opinion, are modernized and there is legal right to establish and maintain Birth Control clinics all over the country.

I have for some time questioned and regretted the amount of space and the emphasis given in the REVIEW to the eugenics aspect of the population problem, both in the articles and in the book reviews. Frankly I think that is putting the argument for Birth Control upon a far less secure basis than we have in the problem of the quantity of population and in the physical and spiritual cost of involuntary maternity. I am somewhat skeptical of the scientific quality of a great deal of the matter which gets into the eugenics journals, both here and abroad, and I hope very much that you will not merge the BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW with any other publication, just yet, at any rate.

From Raymond Pearl, Director, Institute for Biological Research, Johns Hopkins University

I am really not in a position to form any adequate judgment. It seems to me that the decision made should depend altogether upon the merits of the proposal offered from the eugenics side. The BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW is a going concern, and so far as I know the eugenics people have no magazine which is a going concern. Therefore it seems to me that they have most to gain from the proposed alliance.

From Walter B Pitkin of Columbia University, N Y C

Your inquiry raises some very large questions, some of which I find difficult to answer in a manner satisfactory to you. Under certain conditions I think it would be an excellent plan to combine the Eugenics Society magazine with the BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW, but I fear on first thought that those conditions can hardly be brought about. I have always regarded your League and its publication as being primarily humanitarian in the best sense of the word. Its proper function in society, so I have thought, has been the prevention of futile suffering and poverty and the incidental injury to home life which arises from uncontrolled births. The Eugenics Society, on the other hand, impresses me as being exclusively a reform movement which reaches out far beyond any immediate welfare activities and involves itself sooner or later in rather extensive governmental policies. With some of these policies I am in complete agreement. I certainly favor sterilization of feeble-minded types and habitual criminals, and I think I could easily be persuaded to back some carefully supervised euthanasia as well as some equally well supervised up-breeding of the human stock through methods other than marriage. But I feel that if I were to attempt these things through an organization like the Birth Control League, I should jeopardize the immediate utilitarian purposes of the thing. And I sincerely feel that it is much more important sanely to protect the living than it is to scheme the predetermination of future generations.

What guarantee have you that the enthusiasts in the Eugenics Society may not in the near future commit the organization to some program of human improvement which will run counter either to the common sense of mankind or the highest probabilities of science? And what protection have you against a general and indiscriminate revolt against the Eugenics Society and all who are connected in any manner with it? You may well suspect from these rhetorical questions that I am much more suspicious of the Eugenics Society than I am of the Birth Control League.

From S J Holmes, Professor of Zoology, University of California

In reply to your inquiry concerning the advisability of combining the BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW and a Eugenics Society magazine, I may say that the step does not seem to me wise. The BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW is doing a very good work in its field, we need also a Eugenics Society magazine, and I hope that both would serve the cause of

the two fields of **Birth Control** and eugenics. One encounters a **variety of opinion in** regard to the **relation of Birth Control** and eugenics, although the **eugenists** are **coming** rapidly to be more and more proponents of **Birth Control**. I had hoped to see a eugenics **magazine published** and devoted largely to research **carried on** in this country. The **BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW** stands for the **popularization** of a movement, **if I** understand the matter correctly, and **I think** that the attempt to **combine** these two aims **in one periodical** would be a **little** unfortunate.

From Lowell Brentano, of Brentano's, New York

In general, from my knowledge of the magazine business **I** would say that it has often been found **advisable** to take two **magazines** of moderate **circulation** and **similar editorial policy** and make out of the **combination** one more **important** and profitable **magazine**. However, before a **decision on this point is** reached, all sorts of **questions**, such as cost of manufacture of both magazines, the **distribution and overlapping of their circulation**, if any, the **distribution and overlapping of their advertising**, if any,—**things and facts of this nature must be considered**.

**I** might say **offhand** that **if** an analysis of these **questions** seems to **point towards a cheapening** of cost and an **increase of prestige by combining the magazines**, **I** certainly would **advise doing so**.

From Mrs. Clyde L. Eddy

"A Question of Policy" moves me to add my protest **against combining the BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW with a Eugenics publication**. You have a magazine **which is dignified, literary, authoritative**. It could not **possibly be offensive** to any reader. It seems to me that the thing for which the **BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW** stands **is quite the most important subject in the world today** and so much **in the way of individual happiness would be sacrificed if the issue becomes befuddled as it inevitably will when the magazine is combined with any other**.

Show us the **half-wit** who can read about **Eugenics** and not feel **especially called upon to bring up a large and**

"select" family, regardless of **circumstances**, to carry down the ages **his superior germ-plasm**."

From Miss Mary Winsor, Haverford, Pa

**I** hope that the **BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW** will be **continued** as a separate magazine **if possible**. Unless the cost makes **it too difficult**, the **REVIEW** should by all means **continue until Birth Control in this country is put on a much firmer foundation**. That means until we have altered all the laws that **need to be altered and established clinics in all states**.

**I consider** the **REVIEW** of very great value and important to our work and hope that **it may be continued** as a separate organ and not yet merged **in any other journal**.

From Abraham Myerson, M D, Alienist

Frankly, **I** do not see much **connection** between **Birth Control** and eugenics, except perhaps **in the very broad sense** that the **higher grade people exercise Birth Control too much** and the **lower grade people exercise it too little**. **I** do not **believe** that having large families hurts the race to any great extent, but **I** take the more simple **humanitarian attitude** that it is rather tough on the mother and father and **is socially injurious**.

**I** am thoroughly out of sympathy with types of **eugenist**, and so would feel that any **union with a magazine which promulgated hasty, ill-founded generalizations**, made by what **I** call scissors and paste-pot **eugenists**, would be a poor one for any magazine.

**This, you see, is rather a frank statement of my views and needs no further elaboration**.

From Professor Robert Morss Lovett, University of Chicago

On general **principles, I** should be **in favor of such consolidation**, but **I** recognize that there may be reasons **against such action of which I am not cognizant**.



## BIRTH

Oh little **child** **I** hold beneath my heart,  
Who try to tear the walls of flesh apart  
Which bind you **captive** through these restless days'  
Your **little** feet shall bleed on human ways,  
Your **little** hands shall **strike** on treacherous spears,  
Nor shall your wounds be soothed by mother tears

And yet **I** bear **you** to the **joy of things**,  
To sun-flushed autumns, **pioneering springs**,

To lustrous **music** where mad waters sound  
To the **rich** homely fragrance of the ground

Oh little **child, I** long to give you **birth**  
To bear you to the **majesty** of earth,  
To bear you to a world where men still dare  
To speak for **justice** though **their hearts despair**,  
Where men still mount **their faith's** brave **citadel**,  
And seek **their visions** in the face of hell!

—LUCIA TRENT in *Contemporary Verse*

## News Notes

### UNITED STATES

**T**HE announcement was made early in September that Margaret Sanger was **relinquishing** the **Presidency** of the **American Birth Control League**, and that she planned to devote herself for the next few years to **scientific research** for the betterment of contraceptive methods, and the establishment of **Birth Control Clinics** in parts of the **United States** not yet **served** in this important matter. She announced that she **believed it possible within five years greatly** to reduce the rates of maternal **mortality** through a proper use of **contraception**.

The Board of **Directors** elected Mrs. F. Robertson Jones to fill Mrs. Sanger's **unexpired term**. Mrs. Jones, as **Acting President**, carried on the work of the League with great **ability** and success during Mrs. Sanger's long absence in Europe last year.

During the **spring**, Dr. James F. Cooper, the **Medical Director** of the **Clinical Research Department**, made a tour of about 4,000 miles, the largest part of the time **being spent** in the **Southern States**. The tour started at **Richmond, Va.** on March 12, with an address before the **Academy of Medicine** there, and ended with attendance at the **Annual Meeting of the American Medical Association**, at **Minneapolis, Minn.**, June 11th to 16th. Twelve States were **visited**, and forty-two **medical societies** addressed. Addresses were made to a **Sociology Class**, a **State College**, and to several **men's clubs**. The attendance at the **medical meetings** was, generally speaking, very good, **being** always greater than the average attendance. In the larger **cities** the addresses were **given** at the regular **meetings**. In the smaller places, between the larger **cities**, **special meetings** were called for the purpose of **hearing** Dr. Cooper when he stopped on his way through. On such **occasions** it was **sometimes difficult** to get the members together. Nevertheless the attendance was always good and the **interest** keen. Dr. Cooper remarks: "The **popularization** of the **idea** of **Birth Control** has sent many people to the doctors and these doctors are now **seeking** the best **advice available** to use in their **practice**. I made the same **observation** on this southern trip as on a **previous tour** in the far west, that doctors are actuated very largely by **humanitarian impulses** and their **sympathies** are aroused by suffering from **domestic and economic** as well as health causes. They are quite as ready to **give** contraceptive **advice** for the relief of extreme **economic conditions** as for health reasons."

### New York

**T**HE work of **organizing Legislative Comm-tees** to support the **Birth Control Bill** which will be **again introduced** into the **Legislature** in the 1929 session, is well under way. Mrs. Constance Heck, who was engaged in this work

for the **American Birth Control League** in the **spring**, did not stop when the bill was **disposed of**, but **continued** until **eighteen cities** and towns in Western New York were **organized**. These included a strong **committee** which has done **active work** in Syracuse. After **spending** some time in Connecticut where fourteen **committees** were **organized**, Mrs. Heck has returned to New York and is now engaged in work in the **communities** nearer to New York City. The following list of local **Comm-tees** may prove of use to some of our readers who are **planning** to help in legislative work for the New York **Bill**.

Albany: Rev. Wm. W. Peck, Pastor, Albany Unity Church, Amsterdam; Mrs. G. H. Durston, Ballston; Miss Annette Remington, Buffalo; Dr. Earl Lothrop, Camden; Mrs. M. W. VanTassell, Herkimer; Mrs. C. S. Thompson, Hudson; Dr. J. Harvey Murphy, Ithaca; Prof. Walter F. Wilcox, Little Falls; Dr. H. W. Vickers, Oneida; Dr. Hilda Noyes, Poughkeepsie; Dr. H. P. Carpenter, Rochester; Mrs. William B. Lee, Jr. (Resigned), Rome; Mrs. Chas. Gilman, Saratoga Springs; Mrs. John C. Ames, Schenectady; Rev. Ernest Caldecott, Syracuse; Mrs. C. A. Duvall, Troy; Rev. and Mrs. Henry G. Smith, Utica; Mrs. Marie Sweet Smith.

### Connecticut

**T**HE Connecticut Branch of the **American Birth Control League** is preparing for the **legislative session** which opens next January. A **bill** for the repeal of the present Connecticut law which **prohibits** under severe **penalties** the personal use of **contraceptives** will be **introduced** and pushed. **Comm-tees** for the support of the **bill** have already been formed in fourteen **cities** and towns. On many of the **committees** there are at least two or three clergymen and several doctors have also usually **given** their names. A **meeting** for **organization** and for **planning** the work was held, by the courtesy of Mr. Leon F. Whitney, at New Haven, at the office of the **American Eugenics Society**, on Monday, September 24th.

### California

**T**HE subject at a late August luncheon of the Woman's City Club of Oakland was "Is Birth Control a Help or a Menace?" The speaker was Dr. George R. Kirkpatrick who gave a general talk on the subject. He was introduced by Judge E. C. Robinson of the Superior Court of Alameda County who stated from his **special knowledge** of this aspect of the subject that "seventy-five per cent of the **prisoners** in our State **institutions** should never have been born."

"Our **insane asylums** are filled with persons who should never have been born. Our courts, our **jails**, our **detention homes** are constantly crowded with unfortunate mental and **physical defectives** who should never have seen the light of day."

Of this meeting Raymond Arnold writes:

"This was a **jubilee meeting**—about 150 present. Rabbi Coffee was also present and delivered a short, snappy talk **urging** that women **demand Birth Control** as **their**



right, that he had been approached that morning to help **raise ten million** dollars for starving **Chinese**, but he would prefer to help raise money to send over Birth Control literature and practical help"

Another summer event, important for Birth Control, was the Mills College School for Adult Education held at San **Francisco** in August. At the sessions, not only **did** such men as Dr **Lichtenberger** of **Pennsylvania University** and **Rabbi** Neuman speak in favor of Birth Control as an **essential** of marriage reform, but a whole morning was **given** to the **discussion** of Birth Control and its present status in **California**. Speakers at this session were Dr **Ann Martin**, **president** of the Alameda County Birth Control League, Mrs **Clara Taylor Warne** and Mrs **W. W. Green**, **president** of the **California** Federation of Women's Clubs, who urged public spirited women to **recognize** Birth Control as "the main **issue** in **life**". This session was **given** wide publicity in the press.

### Massachusetts

**D**R WALTER F. ROBIE, widely known as a writer on sex subjects, and as a steady advocate of Birth Con-

trol, died at his summer home at Lake Dennison, on August 29th. He was a native of Vermont, but had practiced in **Baldwinsville**, Mass. for thirty-five years. His office has long been a place of pilgrimage for married people in need of help in the control of their families, and in regard to the many sex problems that disturb married life. Dr **Robie** was one of the courageous **physicians** who attended the **First American Birth Control Conference** in New York City in 1921. His writings were of **considerable importance** in the days when there was little reliable literature on sex questions. They included "The Art of Love", "Rational Sex Ethics", "Sex and Life", and many others.

### New Hampshire

**T**HE summer colony on Lake Sunapee heard Mrs **Sanger** speak on Birth Control, August 10, at a meeting at the home of Mrs **E. J. Poor**. The chairman was the Reverend Dr **John T. McGann** who gave a fine **introductory** talk, and the audience of almost 100 **received** Mrs Sanger's address with great **interest** and much favorable comment.

## England—

### A Summary of the Status of Birth Control

**T**HERE is in Great Britain no law forbidding propaganda in favor of Birth Control, the **establishment** of Birth Control clinics, or the sale of **contraceptive** appliances. The only **legislative restriction** which exists—and it is a **serious** one—is that **Maternity** and Child Welfare Centers and all Institutions **receiving** grants of public money are forbidden to **give information** on Birth Control to women who attend there. One definite advance has however been made in the last few years, namely that doctors attached to these Centers or other **Institutions** are now allowed to refer women to Birth Control clinics, **if considered** desirable on purely medical grounds.

At present information on the subject is obtained in the following ways—

1 Women attend **recognized** Birth Control clinics. The majority of these clinics are **affiliated** to the **Society** for the **Provision** of Birth Control Clinics. There are ten or more in the country. **Information** is always conveyed by a doctor and careful records are kept. In **addition** to the fees **paid** by patients, these clinics are supported by voluntary **contributions**.

2 There are also a number of so-called Birth Control clinics which offer **advice** to persons attending them. Their object is purely commercial and a considerable profit is made by **supplying** appliances. The **information** at these clinics is not given by a doctor.

3 **Information** is also to a large extent **obtained** by people who answer the numerous **advertisements** appear-

ing in the press. In most cases the information so **supplied** is of a very doubtful character and frequently includes **abortifacients** and pornographic literature.

4 Appliances may be bought at a number of **ordinary** chemists' shops, or, **alternatively**, at extremely **undesirable** "rubber stores", where the sale of **contraceptives** is often **combined** with the sale of obscene books. In neither **case** does the person **applying** receive an **examination** or **obtain** other than printed **instructions**.

The four **chief organizations** that are interested in Birth Control in this country are—"The New Generation League", "The **Society** for the **Provision** of Birth Control Clinics", "The **Society** for **Constructive** Birth Control" and "The Workers' Birth Control Group". These are **unanimous** in **desiring** the Government to remove the ban on Welfare Centers for the **following** reasons—

1 The number of Birth Control Clinics is small compared to the number of Welfare Centers. The latter sprang up in large numbers throughout the country in the early days of the war. To-day there are as many as seven in a single borough of London alone. These Centers **give** ante-natal and post-natal advice to married women, arrange for health lectures and in **addition** frequently organize concerts, jumble sales, etc. These Centers **receive** grants from the local **authorities**, of which half is refunded to the latter by the **Ministry** of Health. The Birth Control clinics are not allowed to **receive** any grants of

public money at all. It is naturally a very great struggle to raise sufficient money to carry them on and their numbers are few in consequence.

2 A very great number of women already attend Welfare Centers. There is no difficulty in locating them nor is the special purpose known for which the women go there. There is, therefore, no shyness in being seen to enter, as there is in the case of a Birth Control clinic.

3 The great shortage of Birth Control clinics and the reluctance sometimes felt in attending them has the effect of making women get information through one or other of the undesirable channels already referred to.

4 The fact that the doctor at the Welfare Center, if he refers patients to a Birth Control clinic, is supposed to do so on medical grounds alone is a serious drawback. Medical grounds are usually interpreted to mean that there is a serious risk to a mother's life if she bears another child. No account need be taken of economic necessity, nor of inherited physical or mental weakness, provided the mother herself is strong.

#### *Legislative Position*

Various efforts have been made in the last four years to persuade the Minister of Health, or the Government to remove the present restriction. As far back as May, 1924, a deputation of influential people, representing every important Birth Control organization in the country and including several doctors, waited upon Mr. Wheatley, then the Minister of Health in the Labor Government, and urged him to lift the ban. He stated in reply that he had no intention of making any alteration in the present practice without the express sanction of Parliament. He considered that, as many people in the country are opposed to Birth Control, it would be unfair to use public money for the purpose of giving information on the subject.

Mr. Chamberlain, the Conservative successor to this Office, received a deputation from Members of Parliament but his attitude, though slightly more sympathetic, was substantially the same as that of Mr. Wheatley. It was, however, made clear by Mr. Chamberlain that doctors attending Welfare Centers might refer patients to Birth Control Clinics on medical grounds. This was not previously established and must be reckoned a distinct advance.

On February 26, 1926, Mr. Thurtle, a Labor Member, introduced a motion on the subject in the House of Commons. It ran as follows:

"That leave be given to bring in a Bill to authorize local authorities to incur expenditure, when deemed expedient, in conveying knowledge of Birth Control matters to married women who desire it."

The wording was unfortunate, as it suggested that a special grant of money should be made for the purpose, and the motion failed to win the support of the House.

On April 28, 1926, Lord Buckmaster introduced the following motion in the House of Lords —

"That His Majesty's Government be requested to withdraw all instructions given to, or conditions imposed on, Welfare Committees for the purpose of causing such Committees to withhold from married women in their district information, when sought by such women, as to the best means of limiting their families."

After a memorable debate this motion was carried—the voting being 57 in favor and 44 against. Though the Government has not taken any action as a result of this motion, none-the-less the effect of this debate has undoubtedly been to strengthen greatly the hands of all Birth Control organizations and has quite definitely helped to raise the status of the movement.

#### *Labor Position*

The Workers' Birth Control Group, to which reference has already been made, is an organization which works within the Labor Party and the Co-operative Movement, and has for its main object the removal of the ban upon Welfare Centers. The Group has endeavored — so far without success — to get the Labor Party Executive to agree to this policy. A resolution urging them to do so was passed by a large majority at three successive Conferences of Labor Women. At Huddersfield in May, 1927, the resolution ran as follows —

"That this Conference of working women, while not asking that Birth Control propaganda be made one of the objects of the Labor Party programme, re-affirms its decision that the ban placed by the Ministry of Health on the giving of information on Birth Control at Maternity Centers receiving grants of public money should be raised. It urges the Labor Party Executive, in preparing their report for the next National Conference, to give full weight to this decision, now declared for the third time, and requests that they will receive a deputation appointed by this Conference to place its views before them."

This resolution was carried by 581 votes to 74.

As a result a deputation appointed by the Huddersfield Conference waited upon the Executive Committee on June 27, 1927. At a later meeting of the Labor Party Executive the position was again reviewed and it was finally agreed by them to make the following report to the National Conference at Blackpool:

"The National Executive Committee have given full consideration to the statements and arguments advanced by the deputation, but it has decided to recommend the re-adoption of the finding reached by the Conference at Liverpool in 1925, when it declared that 'the subject of Birth Control is in its nature not one which should be made a political party issue, but should

remain a matter upon which members of the Party should be free to hold and promote their individual convictions."

At the Blackpool Conference the reference back of this paragraph was moved but was lost by a large majority.

In May 1928, the Labor Women's Conference met at Portsmouth. At this Conference Mr. Arthur Henderson and Miss Wilkinson were appointed to explain to the women delegates the reasons why the Labor Party Executive opposed the reference back. To the disappointment of the Workers' Birth Control Movement and others interested in the movement, the Women's Conference supported the Executive by a narrow majority—257 votes to 254—and the reference back was lost. It was clear, however, that the Conference were whole-heartedly in favor of removing the ban, it was only deemed unwise to make the question of its removal a Party issue. The present position of the Executive is therefore "that the subject of Birth Control is in its nature not one which should be made a political party issue, but should remain a matter upon which members of the party should be free to hold and promote their individual convictions." This decision cannot be further discussed for another three years.

At the moment, that is where the matter rests. No other party has up to the present made the question of the removal of this ban a political issue. It is extremely difficult to get a private member's Bill on controversial questions such as this through the House of Commons, and unless a Bill expressly declaring that Welfare Centers should be free to act in this matter as they think right without forfeiting their grant be passed, no change is likely to take place.

It should be mentioned, as it undoubtedly has a definite bearing on the subject, that a Committee of Inquiry into the causes of Maternal Mortality and Morbidity has been appointed by the Minister of Health, and Organizations in favor of Birth Control are hoping to place evidence before this Inquiry to show how far too frequent pregnancies and the common use of abortifacients may affect the mother's condition and render her liable to puerperal sepsis. The need for proper Birth Control information has not so far been regarded by Public Authorities as a cause of maternal mortality.

MARGARET POLLACK

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## The Modern Girl

**H**AS the girl a philosophy? Perhaps not. But had her mother? If the latter hoped to marry sometime, have some children, and he supported somehow her daughter merely plans a similar program with sharper outlines. She intends to marry at a more specific date if she can bring it about, have a definite number of children at desirable intervals, and earn a definite sum toward the upkeep when she needs to. Mother was a trifle vague about where she came from. Daughter knows more about apes, cells, chromosomes, and complexes. Perhaps both are somewhat vague as to where they are going, except that daughter definitely does not want to go where Mother went. She wants a husband who does not have to work so hard and get so irritable as her father, a mother who is not left forlornly without occupation after her children leave home, and no more children than can comfortably have their teeth straightened and their tonsils out. And she is determined to have more of a grip on the bank account than her mother, to help to swell it with her own earnings, married or single, and to do so in chiffon stockings and silk underwear.

These girls not only plan to attach a husband, but to have children—about three. Shaw, in 1903, may have written "Man and Superman" as a satire. But in 1928 it is the sober truth. The female of the species is looking for a mate. And she is feathering her nest for the young.

But with all their relentless plans, the girls are just. At a certain conference, an earnest little blonde told her audience, "I think that we educated girls ought to have six children." But she was laughed to scorn. "Six?" they jeered. "Who will support them?" Six is too many to ask a man to support. But three he must make up his mind to, they have decided. They will keep a job and support themselves the rest of the time. But during the infancy of the three, he must bend to his task.

Recently a young bride we know of, won a three-hundred-dollar prize for an exhibition dance, in an amateur contest. She raced into the office cloakroom, that high altar of all confidences, and shook her check. "I got the prize," she shouted exultingly. "Now Jim and I can have a baby!" So now and then Jim is relieved of the necessity of supporting either wife or baby, if his wife is sufficiently accomplished. Scare-heads on girls to the contrary notwithstanding, we find them much more interested in planning for children than their "boy friends." The latter love their babies when they are born. But the pastime of planning for them very far in advance, leaves the average young and impecunious Jim rather cold. In any case, why argue about the right and wrong of Birth Control? The only ones likely to be raising a family from now on, have made up their minds. Six is too many. Three is about right. The girl will do what she can, and Jim must do the rest. The question is settled.

—ELEANOR ROWLAND WEMBRIDGE in the Survey

## The Tragedy of Over-Population

**H**OWEVER great the capacity of Oriental races may be, the enormous difficulty of raising the efficiency of the bulk of the people is recognized by all who are acquainted with those countries. It involves a great rise in the standard of living. All the great countries of the Orient are alike in having an agricultural population much in excess of that required for the greatest production per head. All are alike in meeting the increase of that population by subdividing the land among the children, with the result that the holdings become smaller and smaller, so that really economic cultivation becomes impossible. Where this has been going on for a long period the majority are thus compelled to content themselves with a product sufficient merely to keep them alive in fairly good years, without the possibility of accumulating capital that would enable them to improve their cultivation.

In this, as it seems to me, is to be found the explanation of the small purchasing power of Far Eastern Countries and the low-wage competition which they carry on with the more advanced industrial countries of the West.

As to the condition of the villages the testimony of the Aga Khan is striking. "I could safely challenge," he says, "any widely travelled and observant fellow-countryman, familiar with social economics on each of the great continents, to deny after due reflection that the present condition of Indian agriculture and of the 219,000,000 human beings dependent thereon is the greatest and most depressing economic tragedy known to him."

**I**T HAS already been recognized that with the aid of capital and skill agriculture may be made to yield more per head. But a limit to such improvement is soon reached. Agriculture speedily passes from the stage of what is technically called increasing returns to one of diminishing returns. This is now so universally known that it does not need to be stressed. But I venture once more to insist, in defiance of the prevailing teaching of economists, that it is the diminishing returns in agriculture, especially if we use that term in the wide sense in which it is used by Italian statisticians so as to include also the working of minerals, that are the root cause of diminishing returns in other industries.

In the most densely populated areas of India and the other countries of the Far East where the great bulk of the population are engaged in agriculture there is no hesitation on the part of anybody in speaking of overpopulation, and very few question the opinion that the extreme wretchedness of the population is to be largely ascribed to that as a cause.

It is more difficult to prove that highly developed countries dependent largely or mainly on manufactures, commerce, and the investment and management of capital,

can be spoken of at any time as overpopulated, but it is at least certain that all of these, in virtue of the very conditions under which their varied industries are carried on, are locally overpopulated with reference to the housing accommodation and even the adequate supply of good food and other requirements of such healthy existence as is necessary even for the greatest possible economic production. How terribly true this is any one will vividly realize who will read the earnest and honest little book by C. P. Blacker, "Birth Control and the State." It is such overcrowding as is there described (see especially p. 46) that the reactions of our trade with overpopulated countries elsewhere tend to perpetuate.

**S**O FAR this struggle has at least been eased, as has been already noted, by the existence of vast tracts of unused land where there is no need to force production to the utmost, where comparatively little labor gives an ample return at least in necessities, supporting a large surplus of labor to supply conveniences and luxuries. But for how long will this relief last? Dr. O. E. Baker in "Land Utilization in the United States: Geographical Aspects of the Problem" is of opinion that the United States reached the height of agricultural land supply relatively to population about 1890 and that the people of this country have entered a period which will necessarily be marked by a continually increasing scarcity of land. Professors E. M. East and Warren S. Thompson maintain that, when the cost of agricultural implements is included, the United States reached the stage of diminishing returns between 1890 and 1900. Professor East is further of the opinion that Argentina may indeed have still forty-five years for increasing returns in agriculture, but that after 1964, at the latest, overpopulated countries will, as he puts it, "cease to be boarded by overseas hotels unless current effective causes change." Again Dr. Baker in a paper on "The Potential Supply of Wheat" gives the white man a century of grace in which to consider this path on which he is moving and to profit by such lessons as he can draw. Of course there will be nothing sudden in the destined change. The year 1964, we may be sure, will not be very different from the year 1963. That unquestionably is all the better for him.

The remedy most generally offered by those who have the courage and insight to face the problem, as it is, goes no further than to recommend the control of population without stating how it is to be brought about. True, some of those cited consider without censure the use of contraceptives as a means of Birth Control, and it is of no little significance that Sir William Beveridge has at last come to regard this practice not merely as a menace. All that I have read and thought on this subject leaves me in no mind to question the contention of Sir William

## A CORRECTION WITH FURTHER INFORMATION

New York

Editor

I was greatly surprised to find myself credited with co-authorship of the article "Soviet Birth Control Policy" which appeared in the last issue of your magazine. The article was written entirely by Mr. Brown, and except for the fact that I discussed the situation with him beforehand, and corroborated his impression that Birth Control information is distributed freely and widely in the Soviet Union, and certain facts regarding abortions, I have nothing to do with the article. While most of the facts stated agree with my own information, I by no means share the point of new implied in some of the statements.

While describing the actual practice accurately, I believe Mr. Brown exaggerates the extent of the opposition among Soviet officials. I too have found a hostile attitude on the part of many Russian communists to Birth Control propaganda, but only in so far as it has been linked with the Malthusian theory of over-population, which is at variance with the Communist theory that distribution rather than insufficiency of supply is the cause of social ills. Faced with the practical situation they have, however, adjusted their theories to facts with a realism which makes any comparison with the "Tennessee brethren" hardly justifiable. There is no hidebound official attitude on this question, but a wide variance of opinion.

The first official step was taken in 1923 when the 2nd Congress of the Motherhood and Infancy Section of the Department of Health of the Soviet Union authorized a special medical commission to investigate all known methods of contraception, and develop new and more certain ones. Finally, the 1925 Congress passed a resolution definitely endorsing the dissemination of Birth Control information through consultations and clinics as a method of fighting abortions.

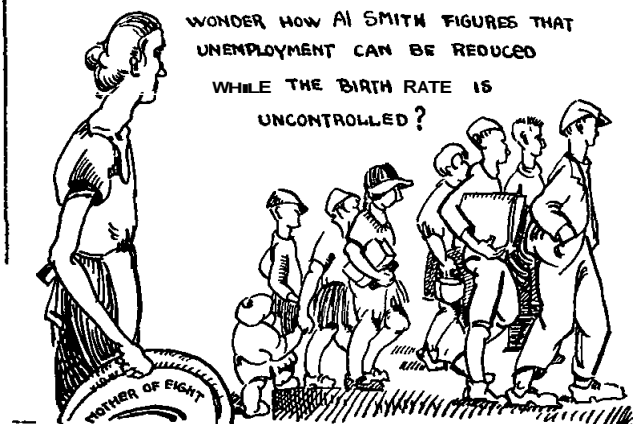
As a result of the work of the Commission, the Department of Health has issued several pamphlets, published by the Government, describing all known methods in detail.

As regards the question of the detail of public platforms to Margaret Sanger, I personally & cursed the possibility of Mrs. Sanger visiting Russia with Dr. Lebedeva, head of the Motherhood and Infancy Department. Her viewpoint was that a visit by Mrs. Sanger would be welcomed by medical groups, but that any widespread propaganda either by Mrs. Sanger or any of their own people for that matter, would be inadvisable, considering that the women

are still largely illiterate, and contraceptive materials not available in the villages. The technique of the Western world in these matters has penetrated slowly even to the cities of Russia, and ignorant peasant women have done much injury to themselves in resorting to crude methods. This is largely responsible for the attitude frequently met in Russia that no method of preventing conception is sure, and that all are harmful. The medical authorities feel very strongly that all dissemination of Birth Control methods must be in the hands of doctors, through consultations and clinics. Dr. Lebedeva assured me that when the special commission mentioned above has succeeded in perfecting

(Continued on next page)

## OUR CARTOONIST ADDS A THIRD TO THE TRIBUNE'S PICTURES HARD TO RECONCILE



Strong for the BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW

G C CHISHOLM

Beveridge as to the degree of importance to be assigned to what he describes as this "underground invention," an importance hardly less, he thinks, than any others except the greatest of all, such as fire and speech, and which, he believes, bears for mankind "many possibilities, good or evil." But there remains the task of applying it for good.

a method they are now **working** on, which they claim to be superior to any now used, more **active** policy will follow

Meanwhile, propaganda in the sense of budding up public opinion to demand new **legislation**, or the repeal of antiquated laws such as we have in **America**, is unnecessary, as there is no legal obstacle, but rather government **sanction** to the **giving** of Birth Control information in the Soviet Union

JESSICA SMITH

## AN OPPORTUNITY

Local Birth Control Committee and clubs and social agencies whose members are **anxious** to hear Birth Control discussed in its relation to race **improvement** are offered an opportunity this winter. A lecture tour is planned for Mrs Cora B S Hodson, F.L.S., Education Secretary of the British Eugenics Society and Secretary of the international Federation of Eugenics Organizations who will be in the United States from November 1st to February 23rd. Mrs Hodson is on four months leave of absence from her society and she is coming to America to get in touch with thought on Birth Control and Eugenics on this side and to study the California experiment in sterilization. Being on leave, she is not speaking as an emissary of the society and is free to express her own unfettered convictions which are grounded upon a very solid scientific preparation and practical experience.

She was a student of Lady Margaret College, Oxford. Later she did research in Physiology, Biology and Psychiatry under the British Association for the Advancement of Science, at London University and at Bologna. As medical research officer of the Ministry of Munitions she made studies of the energy output of women and later did similar work for children. In 1927, she was Honorary Secretary of the World Population Conference.

Mrs Hodson while in America will be prepared to lecture on any of the following subjects:

Researches in Human Heredity

Psychological Aspects of Human Heredity

The Feminist Movement and the Race

Marriage Problems

Population Problems (or, Birth Control in Europe)

Lantern Lecture on Racial Types in Europe

Pedigree of Pauper Families (Showing some interesting new points in the heredity of certain defects). This material also forms the basis of social studies as to the trend of current philanthropic work.

University Education of Women in England

Arrangements for lectures and information concerning Mrs Hodson's dates, etc., can be made through the American Birth Control League, 104 Fifth Avenue, New York City. Application can also be made to the Pennsylvania Birth Control Federation, 1700 Walnut Street, Philadelphia.



## MARGARET SANGER

reveals a type of slavery in America that makes "Mother India" pale into insignificance compared with this tragic and pitiful cry from our own homeland



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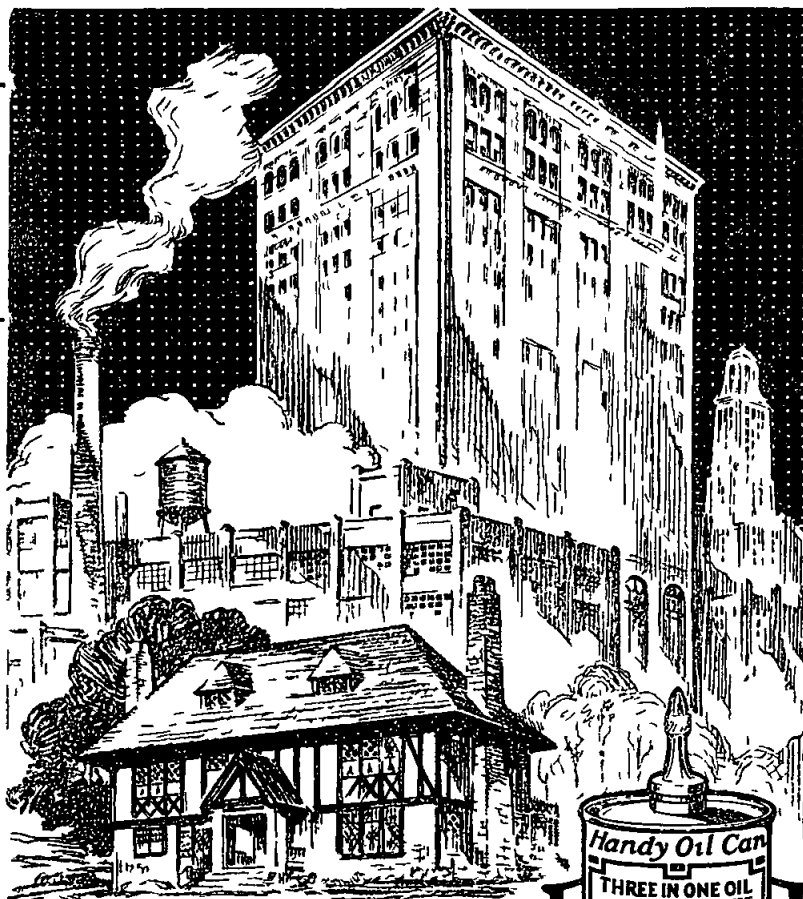
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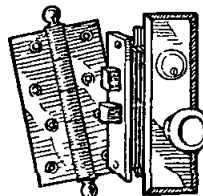
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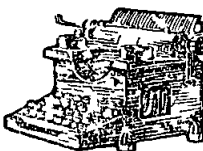
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