

Is the Catholic Church Consistent? Drysdale vs. Vermeersch

January, 1929

Twenty Cents

BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW

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



NATE COLLIER

Birth Control
for
Better Stock
and
Better Living

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THE AMERICAN BIRTH CONTROL LEAGUE, INC

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TEN GOOD REASONS *for* BIRTH CONTROL



WE HAVE GIVEN NINE REASONS—Woman's Rights Married Love The Health of Mother and Child, the Welfare of Children, the Abolition of Poverty, the Relief of Over-population in its Domestic and in its International Aspects, the Improvement of the Race and the Progress of Civilization for

Birth Control

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

Another reason that demands this reform, is

Reason X—The Abolition of Abortion and Infanticide

(Year by year, in spite of prohibitory legislation, the murder of the unborn child goes on, has gone on until it constitutes the scandal and tragedy of both Europe and America The Far East—more cynical or less insincere—permits not only Abortion but Infanticide as the only means it knows of limiting population)

Here are a few, among many, statements by experts on this subject —

TO create
a race of
well-born
children it is
essential that
the function be
elevated to a
position of dig-
nity and this is
impossible as
long as concep-
tion remains a
matter of
chance

Declaration of
Principles of
American Birth
Control League

There is one thing which poor mothers will all admit—namely, that they have made repeated and frequently successful efforts to procure abortion. I cannot help thinking that we live in a world of sham. Every now and then cases come before the Courts and some person is sent to jail for a long period of years for performing an illegal operation and yet this is the commonest thing you can think of in these places. The women will all confess it to you and will tell you that, at the imminent risk of their life and health, they are driven to resort to this as the only means of escape from a state that they find intolerable.

LORD BUCKMASTER

Anyone who knows about Birth Control knows that it would do away with abortions, which occur in appalling numbers in America every year.

MARGARET SANGER

Not only has Birth Control nothing in common with Abortion but is a weapon of the greatest value in fighting this evil. With its help we may hope to limit and, I trust, eradicate this criminal practice. It is not generally known outside the medical profession and social workers, how widespread this practice is. It amounts in fact to a national disgrace. I say national because the United States leads all other countries in the number of abortions performed yearly. The laws enacted to suppress it have had but little deterrent effect. The practice is most common among married women, particularly of the poorer prolific classes who already have children and cannot afford to add to their number. These mothers on finding themselves pregnant again after repeated pregnancies, resort in desperation to this immoral and dangerous means of relief. Some women seek this means not only once but a dozen or twenty times. Some women do not live to seek it for the second time.

RACHELLE YARROS, M D

Thoughtful people who have studied the subject have pointed out over and over again that information with regard to Birth Control, dispensed by competent and high minded physicians would be the most powerful means of decreasing the number of abortions. In my own experience of many years of practice I have realized more and more what a great influence a physician can exert on women in deterring them such such practice. I have had many a woman come to me distracted and almost insane, because of another pregnancy saying that she is ready to die, if need be, rather than have another child in her already depleted state of health. Yet in many such cases I have been able to quiet these women and bring them back to their normal sense of responsibility to themselves and to their families. In such cases it is necessary to point out emphatically the dangers of abortions both to life and health and then offer the women the comforting assurance that, with proper information, they need never have another child.

ALICE HAMILTON, M D

Birth Control is carried on in the tenements all the time, but it is not prevention of conception *that* the women do not understand. It is in the form of abortion which every woman can learn about if she wishes.

BENJAMIN T. TILTON, M D

BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW

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

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EDITORIAL

WE ARE fortunate in being able to lay before our readers two statements, one from Prof Vermeersch of Rome and the other from Dr C V Drysdale, presenting in the best possible manner the Roman Catholic case against Birth Control and the answer to this case. The issue is clear-cut. Both sides approve Birth Control. The difference affects methods. The Roman Catholic case against contraception rests on a religious basis. It is mystical in nature, and postulates a sin against God and religion. Other Christian churches refuse to accept the religious pronouncements coming authoritatively from Rome, and the question is whether the Roman Catholic Church has the right to enact into law their own distinctively religious obligations. To do so is intolerance worthy only of the middle ages. The Roman Catholic authorities proclaim that they stand outside of politics. Will they keep hands off when our bills come before the New York, the Connecticut, and other State Legislatures? If they do not, their outcry during the recent Presidential election about Protestant intolerance in opposing Al Smith is sheerest hypocrisy.



SINCE we last went to press, the *New York Times* has again laid its hundred neediest cases before a generous American public, and at the present moment gifts are pouring in to aid the sufferers who have been so fortunate as to have their needs presented. Just one hundred cases! It would not have been difficult to find double or treble that number. And the fact that these one hundred families will be helped out of their immediate distress will not make it any more difficult to find one hundred cases next year—and the year after, and the year after that. Such suffering, as is described in the *Times*, must and should be relieved. But a gift to any one, or to all of these cases does not end the responsibility of society for the existence of the distress. In many of the cases, the United States

Government and the Government of New York State are definitely responsible for the misery of families and the suffering of mothers and little children. Take for example, case 68, for which \$1,500 is asked to help the family over the next year or two. Eleven children, the baby only two months old, a sick father and an over-burdened mother are living in four dark basement rooms. The father was a construction worker until he was disabled by accident. But what possibility is there in New York for a man, even in good well-paid work, to bring up eleven children and give them decent housing, and some security against just such misfortunes as have overtaken them? Can it be imagined that the mother wanted all these children, that she felt competent to care properly for them all? Yet what could she do, so long as the New York law forbids the giving of contraceptive advice by physicians in cases where there is no definite presence of danger of disease and so long as the United States Government strictly prohibits the sending of such information through the mails?



THE need for Birth Control is obvious in many other of the Cases. In some the mothers might have been helped, even under the restrictive law of New York, had they known where to go for aid. In case 26, it is hardly believable that five little innocent children would have been forced to suffer from semi-starvation for weeks and months, if Mr and Mrs Perodo had known how to regulate their family. We are told the father had been "a truck driver by day and a porter by night," until the inevitable happened and he broke down under the double load. The mother had Betty 3, and Leonard 2, dragging at her skirts, little 5-months old Johnny in her arms, and was soon to become a

mother again, while one tiny child of 7 was in school and another sick at home with pneumonia. "Help must be given this family", reads the appeal in the *Times* "to build them up for their struggle to survive". Will they also secure the help to enable them to control their family and to give the mother a rest and time to care for the children she already has? As one reads case after case, one asks oneself the question. Must little children suffer that Americans may enjoy the "boundless thrill of giving" and the delight of feeling that they have helped to end the suffering? Will not Americans give as readily for prevention? Last year nearly \$286,000 poured in in answer to a similar appeal. This year no doubt the gifts will be equally generous. Next year they will again be repeated. Over a million dollars in four years, and no end to the stream. Similar donations to the cause of Birth Control would make a perceptible difference in the amount of misery to be relieved, and a few years of such active and generous help would almost put an end to such cases as are caused by too many children for the parents to care for. Those who desire to end suffering rather than to alleviate it, will heed the plea of the American Birth Control League.



ACCOUNTS of the falling birthrate throughout the western world rarely fail to mention two tragic accompanying phenomena. One of these is the persistence, on a greater scale than ever before, of the practice of abortion, especially in Eastern Europe. The other is a wide-spread psychological disturbance, resembling the apathia of medieval days and manifesting itself in a growing inertia and indifference among the desperately poor in regions of permanent unemployment, such as the British coal-mining areas, and in larger figures for insanity and suicide in both Europe and America. "Human life", says one observer in southeastern Europe, "has become worthless to a great number of people." Here are the forms which a general denial and disgust with life takes—at one end abortion, which is the destruction of life, at the other an aversion to such life as offers, reaching its height in suicide, which is self murder. Critics mention these facts, but they stop at mere mention, and pass on to pour out their wrath on the increasing practice of Birth Control, though family limitation is the only salvation from the doctrine and practice of despair. Yet here and there, in the countries suffering most, a more rational point of view is discernible, here and there the destructive attitude of

mind is being replaced by a constructive effort to spread Birth Control. This is strikingly the case in Austria, where the effort to legalize abortion is being replaced by a wide-spread establishment of Birth Control Clinics. It is even more strikingly manifested in Germany, another country where a fight was being made against anti-abortion laws. There the Berlin Birth Control clinic, established when Mrs. Sanger was in Germany, is being taken over by the local authorities, to be carried on in connection with public health work and with the marriage advice centers. The German Government needed only one practical demonstration to teach it a practical way out of despair and death which our Government as yet is unwilling to learn.



CORRESPONDENCE on articles in the BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW has never showed a livelier interest than in recent months. Preparatory work for the legislative campaigns in New York and other states is under way and Dr. Drysdale's restatement of the inconsistent Catholic position on Birth Control has therefore a special appropriateness in this issue. Is any American Catholic theologian equipped to answer Dr. Drysdale in such a way as to satisfy intelligent legislators? With Dr. Bissell's letter rounding out the correspondence on the proposed amalgamation of the REVIEW with a eugenics magazine this discussion is brought to an end. His letter adds to the weight of opinion against obscuring our aim by combining it with any other. The American Birth Control League is neither critic nor supporter of the Eugenics movement. It welcomes the aid of every good cause, but its position is fundamentally different from that of the Eugenists. It stands rather for freedom than compulsion and it recognizes a euthenic argument for family limitation quite as important as the eugenic. To restore the balance which the discussion of a combined magazine has disturbed, Dr. Whiting, a geneticist not identified with Eugenics, this month contributes an article on the relative importance of inheritance and environment in creating character, health and well-being. His discussion will be followed by a series by social scientists showing that Birth Control makes for better social conditions as well as better stock.

Interest in the anonymous article "Just One Baby" has proved so keen that a symposium on this subject is planned. Our readers are urged to contribute. If you do not wish to use your name, initials or a pen name will be acceptable.

Where Should We Stand?

By J WHITRIDGE WILLIAMS, M D

IT SHOULD be recognized that the established use of Birth Control in the United States has come about in spite of state and national legislation, and that the central government forbids the use of the mails to information concerning contraception, forbids interstate traffic in contraceptive articles, and even prevents their importation for investigative or scientific purposes. The result is that a bootleg traffic has developed, which supplies the demand at excessive prices, which again demonstrates the impossibility of attempting to control non-criminal personal habits by law. Again, the Roman Catholic Church teaches that all forms of contraception are sinful, and in a little book on Birth Control written by John M. Cooper, professor in the Catholic University of America, which bears the imprimatur of Archbishop Curley, it is stated that the only permissible method of preventing conception is sexual abstinence. I shall not attempt to enter into the religious aspect of the question, but shall content myself with stating that in my somewhat large experience the only difference that I can note between Catholics and others in this respect is a slight difference in degree.

When to Give Advice

Where should we stand as medical men? To my mind there can only be one answer, and that is that we must give contraceptive advice whenever it is medically indicated, but that it must depend on our conscience as to what advice should be given under other conditions. I hold that it is just as much our duty to give such advice when medically indicated as it is to advocate the employment of any other prophylactic measure.

We must advise the multiparous woman suffering from chronic nephritis not to become pregnant, and the same applies to tuberculosis and serious heart disease. Consequently, if we feel that such advice is necessary we must give directions as to how it can be made effective, for if we do one without the other we are failing in our duty as physicians and in great part are wasting our time.

I likewise feel that similar advice is indicated when we see a patient steadily going down hill as the result of pregnancies recurring at too close intervals, as well as in certain neurotic and maladjusted women whose entire life is disturbed by a constant dread of pregnancy. Indeed, the list of indications might be considerably increased if time and space permitted.

In my experience, contraceptive advice will usually accomplish its purpose among the so-called intelligent classes, but it is almost useless among the ignorant, feeble-minded and brutal, and it is in the latter particularly that we must go still further and effect sterility by operative means when necessary. Of course, it may be argued that even in the latter class continence is the true solution, and that if it cannot be attained the matter is out of our hands. If men were angels, such advice might hold, but even among the most intelligent and well-meaning I hesitate to recommend continence for too long a time, as I know from experience what it means to give advice which may lead to a blasted marriage.

Bootleg Contraceptives

For these reasons I give contraceptive advice whenever I feel that it is medically needed, as I consider it far less serious than to induce a therapeutic abortion or a premature labor, which so often becomes necessary when a patient is told not to become pregnant but is not instructed as to how to avoid it. Moreover, when I give such advice, I always regret that the means at our disposal are not more efficient, and that it often must imply a certain feeling of degradation on the part of the person securing them from semi-bootleg sources. I feel very strongly that our state and national laws should be amended so as to make it possible for physicians to prescribe contraceptive means with the same freedom and decency as any other prophylactic or medical device, and I resent very strongly the attempt of the government to interfere in this respect, as I regard it as an unwarrantable aspersion against the integrity and bona fides of the medical profession.

(Reprinted from *The Journal of the American Medical Association*)



A man, married seven years, whose wife, a perfectly healthy, normal girl at marriage, became insane after the birth of her first baby and was kept in an asylum for four years, wondered if Birth Control would help him. He dreaded a repetition of the trouble, and friends had advised him to divorce his wife, so I referred him to our Clinical Research Bureau.

KITTY MARION

Heredity and Environment

The Two Collaborators in Character Determination

By P W WHITING

WHICH is more important, heredity or environment? Let us imagine the possible answers to this questions ranged along a scale extending from zero to one-hundred percent for heredity, the remainder being left in each case for environment. The environmentalist, the zero percent for heredity gives an answer at the opposite extreme from the one-hundred percent champion for heredity. A liberal will answer fifty-fifty, placing his answer midway, while a social reformer usually feels he makes an extreme concession if he grants twenty-five percent to heredity. The question is an excellent subject for debate since no two people can ever quite agree.

But answers need not necessarily be ranged along this straight line. Some state that both heredity and environment are one-hundred percent important and that no plant or animal exists without an ancestry and no plant or animal is capable of living without an environment. There is no creature or colony of creatures, organ, tissue or cell, trait or tropism that is not one-hundred percent dependent both on heredity and environment. What possible type of variation caused by environment can exist without the hereditary capacity so to vary, and what hereditary difference can express itself without a suitable environment? In order to make the question scientific, to suit the biologist, differences in traits must be understood rather than traits as such. The question may be put in this way,—Which is more important, heredity or environment in causing this or that particular difference? Such a specific question may often be answered very accurately and it is also possible in many cases to answer just what factor in heredity or environment is effective in bringing about the variation.

The Biologist and Evolutionist

For what sort of traits do we wish to have the causes of variation explained? What people are interested in each sort of variation?

The experimental biologist studies a certain variation in form or color of his plants or animals. He wishes to analyse the causes of this variation into certain genetic factors, or environment conditions, such as temperature, light, humidity or food. The writer, has, for example, studied the causes producing dark coloration in various insects. In a certain wasp it is due to cool temperature, while in a certain species of moth temperature appears to have

no effect but dark and light strains can be isolated by selection, showing that the difference is hereditary. In another species of moth, however, the same trait, dark color, is increased by cool temperature, but different strains vary in this respect. The trait is here subject to both environment and hereditary influences. It is thus very difficult to draw conclusions from one case to another even when the trait is the same and in some cases when the species is also the same.

The question interests the evolutionist. Is the polar bear white because it lives in an environment of snow? His coat remains white even if he is brought out of the arctic and bred on brown earth. The weasel, the ptarmigan and the varying hare are white in winter, colored in summer. They have the hereditary capacity, lacking in most of their relatives, to vary with the season. Environment evidently determines, probably by natural selection, what hereditary traits may persist and dominate in the species.

The Psychologist and Idealist

The question interests the psychologist and various social idealists including the eugenicist, the preacher, the reformer and the revolutionist. Among many of these enthusiasts, subjective factors play the major role. Some psychologists assume the equalitarian position, "all men are created equal", and it is only necessary to have the right sort of education to rid the world of morons and insane. At the other extreme are found certain eugenicists who are able to fit into various schemes of hereditary transmission such traits as cheerfulness, excitability, kleptomania and wanderlust. Fortunately increasing accuracy in definition of traits on the part of the psychologist and increasing knowledge of genetics on the part of the eugenicists are tending toward greater objectivity and scientific accuracy. Retention of extreme views by certain members of both groups may be explained in part by congenital inability to grasp new ideas, in part by acquired complexes against anything contrary to one's prepossessions. A certain psychologist for example who demes heredity altogether has been analysed by a psychiatrist as a distinctly negativistic and schizophrenic type, while a certain calamity howling eugenicist, although widely quoted, is entirely ignorant of modern genetics and would undoubtedly be altogether unable to pass an examination in an elementary course.

The case is even worse with the other types of social idealists who combine intense and often admirably dynamic emotion with almost complete ignorance of science. Their occupation inclines them toward equalitarianism. They range from the most bigoted type to liberals who are willing to admit the equality in importance of heredity and environment. These liberals tend decidedly toward Lamarckism, hoping to improve future generations by providing the best possible conditions for the present. They refuse to admit that selection is the only way to improve the human race biologically. The preacher hopes that his sermon will not only benefit the souls in his congregation but that his words will somehow affect future generations, making them children of God rather than offspring of Satan. The social reformer hates to think that a baby-saving campaign may weaken the race. The revolutionist also, however much he may despise democracy as a pretence in the present social order, is himself inclined toward the democratic delusion that all men are created equal. God makes us all alike. All we lack is the will or the opportunity

Traits That May Be Inherited

What differences in character interest the social idealist, what are important from the point of view of human welfare? Let us list a few.

Pigmentation of hair, skin and eyes. This is important as an adaptation to sunlight. The darker types are better able to resist strong light, whether it be the glare of the tropics or of northern snows. Lighter types better conserve the beneficial effects of sunlight and are adapted to environments in which sunlight is at a premium. Pigmentation is largely controlled by heredity.

Stature and weight. A normal range of variability in these traits is desirable and furnishes types adapted to various occupations. Heredity plays an important role in determining variability, more so in stature than in weight.

Mentality. Feeble-mindedness is undoubtedly in most cases due to heredity. Various types of insanity seem also to have a decided tendency to run in families. Many special abilities are hereditary such as musical, mathematical, scientific and artistic.

Emotional traits. It is held that heredity plays a large part in various types of emotional instability. Some people are constitutionally self-possessed, some are excitable or irritable. Cheerfulness is said to be hereditary. Epilepsy which is highly hereditary appears associated with crimes of brutality and violence.

Environment

The Part of Environment. Great diversity of traits may then be affected by genetic factors. En-

vironmental influences may however cause variation in many or all of these. Stature and weight may be stunted by poor food or by unsuitable work or training. The influence of training on mental and emotional traits may be very great but is difficult to estimate for reasons set forth below.

In general the causes underlying determination of traits in man are difficult to analyse because of certain of his special characteristics. His life history is a continuous process of development. The new born infant shows few traits by which it may be distinguished from others,—genius and moron, mathematician and musician, saint and sinner are all much alike. The growing child is subject to numerous influences of care and training, so that as special interests and abilities appear these may be ascribed to this or that experience. The environmentalist thus has an opportunity to argue that heredity is of little or no significance.

Our origin is in all cases genetically heterogeneous. Pure lines do not exist in man. Our marriage custom of continuously outcrossing keeps the human stock mixed genetically so that no two people, with the exception of identical twins, have the same heredity. Brothers and sisters show the greatest diversity in physical and mental traits due to segregation of genetic factors.

Early post-natal environmental influences are probably of great importance in determining direction of interest and mental and emotional sets. No two children have exactly similar surroundings and hence may have very different inclinations and interests impressed upon them at an early age.

Pre-natal conditions may vary and thus affect character. Chance differences in embryologic development may give this or that gland or other structure a greater or less chance in growth and thus affect future traits of the individual. How much is our intelligence limited by the growth of our cranium? These matters may be in part governed by hereditary influences, but chance doubtless plays a considerable role, just as it does in the particular position of spots in animals.

Animal Breeding

By way of contrast with the confused condition which we have in man we may cite the relatively simple situation in some animals. Pure breeds exist in many animals which show characteristic differences in form or color. In instinctive reactions also are to be distinguished the race horse and the work horse, the pointer and the setter, the coach dog and the bloodhound. Hereditary differences are obvious here although training likewise enters in as a factor in the development of the characteristic trait. Variations among individuals within the

breed may be due to minor hereditary differences, to chance conditions of development, or to training

In forms whose growth and development take place purely as a passive embryologic process without the influence of training or experience, we have the greatest diversity not only in color and structure but in instincts as well. Thus in the honey-bee the drone or male and the queen or female are each characterized by their special reproductive organs and instincts, but are lacking both in the organs and in the instincts of the worker. The latter is an insect endowed with special apparatus for carrying home honey and pollen in quantities truly remarkable for the size of the creature. Its tongue, honey sac, and pollen baskets are developed in a measure that has no comparison with those of its parents. In addition it possesses a much higher degree of intelligence, as calculated by brain area and by the range of its activities. Differences not only in color but in temperament exist between different strains of bees. A stock that is naturally vicious and inclined to sting at every opportunity can be cured of the propensity by removing the queen and substituting one from another and more gentle colony. On the other hand if we have a colony which is notable for its devotion to work, for its capacity to extract honey from specially inaccessible flowers or for the exceptional color of its wax, we take great pains to rear future queens from that colony, knowing that their offspring will assuredly possess the same qualities. In the bee the facts indicate that training or experience is of no significance in the formation either of mental traits or of physical attributes. The worker emerges from its cell, like Athene from the head of Zeus, fully armed and equipped for war or work and with a complete education acquired not by conscious effort but by the painless processes of embryology. A difference in

food determines the difference between worker and queen, a difference in hereditary endowment lies at the basis of sex difference. Heredity also determines the great diversity between races.

May it not be in man as in the bee that unconscious processes of development, acting not only pre-natally, but later in life concomitantly with conscious experience and training, determine more of our mental and emotional traits than we realize? Are we not rather naive in assuming that our education is responsible for our character when our traits may have developed at least in part spontaneously?

The writer's experiments with wasps have shown that certain types of defectiveness depend upon various combinations of hereditary endowment, chance conditions during development, food, temperature and age of mother. Normal wasps may be obtained even in strains that are highly defective, dysgenic, by controlling food, regulating temperature and selecting offspring from mothers of a certain age. But in normal stocks, eugenic, the various environmental factors have little or no chance to produce defectives under any condition normally encountered.

In man, as in other forms, natural selection maintains a certain minimum fitness sufficient for survival under given environmental conditions. With the introduction of euthenic measures we gain an improvement in the type of individual produced, we secure euthenic types, but there is to be expected after a time a certain amount of racial deterioration. The program of eugenics endeavors to counteract this tendency and to go even farther, to produce individuals who are not only fit to survive, but who are superfit, doubly insured by heredity against faults in environment or faults in training.

Relation of IQ to Size of Family

By THEODORE LENTZ, JR.¹

THAT the intelligence quotient, as roughly measured by any one of several tests of intelligence, has become an increasingly useful guide in the business of individual training appears to be pretty well accepted. Within certain limits, most school people are willing to admit the validity of an intelligence test score for predicting the amount of training which an individual may find profitable and for adjusting the curricula thereto.

While the battle still rages as to the exact amount and nature of the possibilities or limitations so pre-

dicted, little is said as to the trend of such possibilities or limitations for the average child of succeeding generations. The constancy of the IQ for the individual has been established by several acceptable studies. This, however, gives us no warrant for assuming constancy of "IQ" for the race or nation over a period of generations, no reason to conclude that the average intelligence of the American people or of the human race will be the same a hundred years hence. That native human intelligence is a fixed thing, wholly immune to the possibilities alike of becoming better or worse as the decades pass is the generally accepted supposition.

¹Extracts from a paper in *The Journal of Educational Psychology* (Boston) October 1927.

challenged in this paper, which reports a study attempted for the purpose of throwing some light upon the trend of the population in respect to native intellectual ability. Ascertainment of the trend of intelligence of society as a whole is not necessary merely for the purpose of adjusting the curriculum to any changes which may take place, but rather for the purpose of controlling these possible changes in the hope of achieving a higher quality in the raw material which the germ plasm has to offer.

During the past two years two-fold data have been gathered by the writer on cases now amounting to over 4,000, consisting simply of the intelligence quotient as ascertained by a single intelligence test, and, in each case, the number of brothers and sisters as reported by the subject. This data has been tabulated to show the average IQ of all "only" children as a group, all children of one brother or sister, those of two, those of three, etc. Transversely, the same data was arranged to show the average size of family of children in the various IQ level groups. Tables I and II present briefly the results of this tabulation. It will be noted from Table I that the average IQ of the different family size groups decrease steadily with one exception in passing from the small to the large family children. The 415 children who reported no brothers or sisters have an average IQ of 107.9, whereas the 15 children who reported 12 or more brothers and sisters have an average IQ of 79.9.

Table II presents the same data as Table I but is analyzed by IQ level groups. For example, there are 54 cases with IQ's above 150. These 54 cases had a total of 65 brothers and sisters, making an average of 2.2 children per family. Here again we note the same general tendency as in Table I. Increase in the size of the family is to be noted in passing from the groups of high IQ to the groups of lower IQ.

From both these tables, we gain the impression that there is a marked tendency for the brighter or higher IQ children to come from the smaller families.

It may not be out of order to enter into a possible interpretation of Tables I and II. Before doing that however, it may be well to raise and discuss briefly, in the light of additional data, the universal question, "Is it nature, or is it nurture?" Do the children from the smaller families receive more attention—more stimulus to mental growth? And may it be possible that the so called test of intelligence is in part measuring the effect of environment so that these differences between large and small families are not to be explained on the basis of heredity but by differences in environmental opportunity? Or on the other hand is it possible that IQ conversely from measuring environment is showing only a fraction of the innate ability unmodified by environmental influence, the negative correlation coefficient would be much greater even than the one obtained in this study?

While realizing its insufficiency in settling this general question, data covering a study of educational and achievement quotients along with intelligence quotients made in one city group (about 700 cases) may be of interest in this connection.

These cases were tested with the Illinois General Examination consisting of tests for intelligence and for reading and arithmetic from which intelligence quotients, educational quotients and accomplishment quotients were computed. The Pearson coefficients of correlation are as follows:

Number of brothers and sisters with IQ — 264 — .022
 Number of brothers and sisters with EQ — 183 — .024
 Number of brothers and sisters with AQ — 025 — .024

While the negative correlation of EQ with number of brothers and sisters is slightly less than is the

TABLE I

NUMBER OF BROTHERS AND SISTERS	AVERAGE IQ	NUMBER OF CASES TESTED
0	107.9	415
1	105.6	865
2	101.5	772
3	97.4	689
4	94.3	516
5	91.8	398
6	88.8	242
7	92.1	181
8	85.5	126
9	84.7	67
10	83.9	25
11	82.6	19
12 and up	79.9	15
Median 4.16		Total 4330

TABLE II

IQ	AVERAGE NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN FAMILIES REPRESENTED	NUMBER OF CASES TESTED
150 and up	2.2	54
140 to 149	2.5	80
130 to 139	3.0	152
120 to 129	3.1	313
110 to 119	3.5	537
100 to 109	3.5	837
90 to 99	4.2	910
80 to 89	4.9	782
70 to 79	5.3	431
60 to 69	5.4	186
50 to 59	5.7	46
45 to 49	5.5	2
Median 97.9		Total 4330

correlation of IQ with number of brothers and sisters, it is still negative and marked, while the AQ shows no relation at all with size of family. The difference between the coefficients of—264 and —183 may be explained on the basis of the chance variation as indicated by the probable error. Unless we assume that both the EQ and the IQ are enhanced by superior home condition, the absence of any correlation between AQ and size of family would seem to argue against the environmental explanation of the phenomena presented in Tables I and II.

The Effect On Intelligence

On the assumption that Tables I and II are to be explained on the basis of heredity, that is, that people who have the higher innate intelligence to pass on to their offspring tend for various reasons to limit the size of their families, the following question arises: What will be the effect of such limitation, and of such selection, upon the average intelligence of the general population? To what degree will the average innate intelligence of one generation show decline below the generation preceding. In response to this question, Tables III and IV have been prepared.² They are developments, respectively, of the data presented in Tables I and II. Both tables proceed on the assumption that children tend to have the same intelligence as their parents and that the parents will, in any large group where family sizes are equal, have the same average IQ as their offspring. For example, the average IQ of the 415 fathers and 415 mothers of the "only" children in this study, would be approximately 108. This point, taken with the relative number of cases in these family size groups furnishes the basis for the computation from which column 3 and 5 are developed in Table III. For every 415 families with "only" children in the community, there should be 432 families with two children each, and 257 with three. This follows from the fact that the number of children in these groups is respectively 415, 865 and 772, and from the statistical probability that a two-child family is twice as likely and a three-child family three times as likely, to find representation in our group of 4,330 cases, as a one-child family.³ Therefore the number of children in each family

size group has been divided by the family size of the group to obtain the relative number of families in each group. Thus, of all families (with children) in the community, 27 per cent (415 out of 1,520) would have one child, 28 per cent would have two, 17 per cent three, etc. These 1,520 representative pairs of parents would have an average IQ of 102.9 or 4 points higher than that of the children. In other words, the indications are that if all parents had had the same number of children, the raw material with which the public schools now work would be four points higher. Reducing it to mental age, we can say that the average eighth grader, instead of having a mental age of 14.0, let us say, would have one of 14.7.

The median IQ of these 1,097 parents is 102.0, which is 4.1 points higher than median IQ of the 4,330 children tested. This differs slightly from the variation of 4.4 found in Table III. The latter, however, is figured on the basis of the means, whereas Table IV shows differences between medians.

A study of 4,330 cases shows a marked inverse relation between size of family and IQ as determined by group tests of intelligence. This negative correlation differs with groups representing different communities and tested with different tests.

Diminishing Assets

The inverse correlation between IQ and size of family is sufficient to indicate a marked decline in average IQ from one generation to the next. The amount of this decline cannot be adequately measured until more studies of a similar nature on representative groups are made, and some account taken of the childless persons. A zero correlation between the number of brothers and sisters and achievement quotient suggests but does not prove that home environment is not responsible for the superior IQ of children from the small families.

If, as these figures indicate (along with other indications that may be noted), the sum total of our intellectual assets is diminishing, whither shall we look for the remedy? Certain no increase in mere number of children born can compensate for the decrease in brightness. A popular street advertisement once read "It's doing better than the average that keeps the average up." To whom shall we look to better the average of our IQ? There are, broadly speaking, two groups of people who can help. Those above the median, and those below it, the former by increasing their fecundity, the latter by diminishing it.

²For these tables see complete article in *The Journal of Educational Psychology* October, 1927.

³Conceive, if you will, of a community made up exclusively of 100 one-child families and 100 ten-child families, making 1,100 children in all. Then, out of 110 children chosen at random (without regard to size of family) by the law of chance, there would be 10 children from the one-child families and 100 from the ten-child families. By dividing the number of children from each group by the number of children per family, the relative frequency with which the families of the two sizes exist in the community would be found to be equal.



The Probation in Literature

By EDGAR WOOD PANGBORN

REAL freedom brings to any part of human life a disturbing mixture of exuberant happiness and a sense of grave responsibility. Literature is surely the voice of life—the major instrument of creative public opinion. And it is the fore-runner of life: we preach today what we practise tomorrow, voluntary social changes are forecast by a few men and women ahead of their time. So when we find in modern literature that combination of joy in life and sense of social responsibility which is freedom's characteristic, does it not seem a fairly certain indication that humanity itself is growing into a new freedom, much as the adolescent grows into the new freedom of maturity?

It is true that men have dreamed of freedom ever since they first experienced the exasperations and compromises incident to becoming social animals. But is it not also true that so far we have only dreamed²—that except for a few lonely individuals, men have not yet experienced the reality of freedom at all?

Our era is one of staggering changes from deeply grounded folkways. Science and the industrial revolution came over the world without warning, and at first they were accepted helplessly. Then men attempted to analyze them, index them, philosophize over them. But their results did not become an indispensable part of the human equation until within very recent years. Now, humanity is waking to find the old world gone, and a new world—dazzling, terrifying, but full of limitless beautiful possibilities—grown up in its place.

And with this new world there is a new spirit in humankind. It is a growing, not a static spirit: a spirit that is eager to accept the newness of modern life, and to build up that life in accordance with the highest and bravest human desires, an impudent spirit, too brave for shame or modesty or vacillation. It differs as much from the spirit of past centuries as modern surgery differs from Galen's lurid guesses.

And present-day literature is preparing itself to be the irresistible instrument of that new spirit.

THE NEW spirit is making itself most strongly felt in the field of sex. That is natural. The darkest blindness and tragedies and mistakes of the old world have been in matters sexual, ever since the grim victory of Pauline Christianity, hence one would expect to find the greatest force of the clarifying new spirit directed toward sex. It follows, if literature is the voice of life, that modern

literature will direct an overwhelming amount of its effort toward sexual freedom of speech. Certainly no one can doubt that modern literature is doing just that.

The old world is dead, but its corpse is still with us, and literature has no easy task. Antiquated, reactionary writing exists alongside of the young and hopeful things. Fashionable novels, drenched with a delicate insistence on an outgrown moral code, coexist with the work of Margaret Kennedy and Esther Forbes. Hybrid-liberal treatises on sex, with hysterical appeals to formal Christianity, with red-blooded praise of jealousy and a general Y M C A attitude toward life, coexist with the courageous work of such writers as Schmalhausen and F. H. A. Marshall. But freedom will win.

Hardly a better example of the new literary freedom could be found than Vina Delmar's "Bad Girl."

(How natural it is that so much of the best emancipated work should come from women writers! Women were the chief sufferers under the old folkways: they are eager now to be the leaders and dreamers and iconoclasts. Mrs. Sanger, Margaret Kennedy, Vina Delmar, Fannie Hurst—to mention only a few. And in a class by herself there is the advocate par excellence of the new freedom, Mrs. Bertrand Russell.)

Miss Delmar's novel is an intense human drama, conceived with epic vision and carried through with untiring sympathy for and understanding of human traits and desires. You may not feel yourself kindred to "commonplace" young married people living in a three-room-and-bath in Harlem: you will if you read "Bad Girl." You may feel that your peculiar personality sets you quite aside from the common surges of human hopes and fears and longings: you will scrap that easiest-way philosophy if you read "Bad Girl." It is not a comforting book—unless you love humanity, not a cheerful book—unless you love life.

TRUE freedom brings a mixture of exuberant happiness and deep responsibility. How far does Vina Delmar's novel display these things?

Well, the author certainly loves her Dot and Eddie and the large group of human creatures they represent. Is any sort of love possible if there is no "exuberant happiness" to balance its pain? Hardly. All through the book there is a sense of the dearness of human qualities—even the dearness

of much human silliness. The humor in the book is warm and genuine—perhaps there ought to be a bit more of it.

The “deep responsibility”, in literature, is honesty — nothing more. Honesty in regard to the facts of existence as we know them. And so far as literature is concerned, honesty and free speech are practically synonymous. Very well—

In the matter of uncastrated language and expression of honest convictions, “Bad Girl” is a masterpiece. Vina Delmar evidently realizes that it is now possible, with one restriction, to say just about anything that needs to be said, and “get away with it” (The one restriction, of course, is the obscene legal Comstockery which prohibits any statement of contraceptive measures). Realizing this, she has cleared away all hesitations—if she ever had any!—and the result is great literature which will have the warmth of life when certain sexless novelists are as dead as Thomas Aquinas.

This new freedom of literature is manifest not only in the field of sex, however. Happiness, joy in life and strength, the feeling of fine visions to be seen and fine deeds to be done—these things, I believe, reach out into all branches of writing, short of prayer-books and other mail-order catalogues. We have writers who know that in order to love their work they must first love humanity, and who

know that with a real love for humanity, defeat and compromise are no longer possible. We have *living* literature—from H. G. Wells to Judge Lindsey and Schmalhausen, living literature — from the lovely freshness and vigor of Nathalia Crane’s poetry, all the way down to the ultimate detective story. It may at times be misconceived, hasty, impatient, even mistaken—but it is *alive*.

(Perhaps it is far-fetched to put “mystery” fiction in this category. But I do believe that the modern writer of detective stories murders each millionaire uncle as though he loved him, and noses the subsequent clues with a wholly good-natured leer.)

But modern literary freedom is a thing of probation and growth, for literature is a tool, never an end in itself. Writing was invented to influence human minds, that purpose has not changed with the ages. Literature is the voice of life—but a mastering, urgent voice, not an echo.

The Open Conspiracy — remember that H. G. Wells is not so lonely a prophet of the Open Conspiracy as he used to be—must use literature as its chief instrument. If literature were unequal to this task, the Open Conspiracy would fail and with it would fail all hope of clarity and good living.

But literature today is growing—consciously and constantly growing—to meet the needs of that Open Conspiracy for a finer way of life.



A Year of the Denver Clinic

By RUTH VINCENT

FOR the Denver Maternal Hygiene Committee, the year 1928 is ending a successful period of clinical endeavor, and general advancement for the work of Birth Control throughout the West. Having reached almost the three hundred mark in number of patients without controversy or interference, the committee has allayed the fears of the most cautious and skeptical objectors. Undoubtedly one of the most important contributions of the committee’s work for 1928 has been the firm rooting in the consciousness of the community of its responsibility in conducting a clinic for maternal health and welfare. And through every new contact with social agency and individual the subject of Birth Control has gained credence and respectability.

A statistical study of several hundred women who have been under observation for a full year is planned. While the time is yet too short for accurate and reliable tabulation of results, we are en-

couraged so far by an almost one hundred percent successful return in all but the lowest mental groups. The carelessness and neglect among a few cases in this lowest group have demonstrated the necessity for either further simplification of method or sterilization in such cases. This observation created the opportunity for voluntary sterilization of referred cases in connection with the contraceptive work, thus completing the circle of ways and means of *effective* limitation, where it is most needed. Hospitalization and medical service for voluntary sterilization, like contraceptive advice, is free to the patient who cannot pay. Thus the state functions intelligently and wisely in its own behalf. While numerically speaking this is not yet an important development, it does indeed indicate a most wholesome solution of one of the real disturbing problems of the clinical worker. Voluntary sterilization serves excellently two types of cases. First, those harassed, worried mothers in whom the tragic fail-

ure of numerous methods has produced an uncontrollable lack of confidence in any contraceptive and for whom sterilization is none too final. And second, those women who "can't be bothered with any kind of a contraption and would like to get fixed up safe, once for all."

But any failure of the careless mother (usually the older woman whose carelessness has its inception in her distrust of the efficacy of any method) is encouragingly counterbalanced by the eager, intelligent response of the younger mother. Her initiative in seeking advice, her careful check of instructions, her orderly replenishment of material, and finally her gratitude for the success that is hers, all warm the hearts of the clinic promoters and fire their enthusiasm for more extensive work among these trapped child mothers. Perhaps here is the real hope for the realization of the dreams of the biologist and psychologist for the release of the individual and society, via the family limitation route.

Already this first year's work has forced social agencies and welfare groups in Denver to admit the futility of some of their work unless combined with

a constructive Birth Control program. The inexcusable neglect of the great problems of maternity has been recognized—an unthought of consideration less than five years ago. And so the future holds a highly attractive opportunity for research as well as dissemination. A clinic in a state hospital may well serve as a nucleus for the difficult study of sexual and marital problems. In fact such a clinic might offer the only opportunity for years to come for coordinated effort through study and research to unravel the complications of one of the most neglected yet important human relationships.

No record of the advance of the Denver and Colorado work would be complete without prominent mention of the contribution of the president of the committee, Mrs. Imogene Daly Fisher. Quietly but steadfastly, by virtue of her own ability and radiant personality, she has forced upon certain otherwise uninformed groups the realization of the immediate necessity for creating and developing the work of the clinic as such. And to her belongs much of the credit for the present substantial quality of the work.



SHIPWRECKED

Survivors of the Vestris tell of mothers bundling their children up in all the warm wrappings they could find and holding them still clasped in their arms as the life boats went down, as though they could protect them from the ocean. This desperate protecting mother love is poignantly described in Rabindranath Tagore's description of another shipwreck

Lo, the mother leaps to destruction, why to her breast
does she clasp her child?

She runs to the face of death,—even there she will not
surrender it

Whence gained she such strength?

In the cruel stream of dead Nature in the heart of man
Whence came such love?

Such mother-love that never knows despair, that will not
acknowledge terror

Eternally renewed, with drafts of the nectar of life

He who but for a moment has known it in any corner
of the universe

Could he be motherless?

Into the heart of the storm, in the mother's weak being,

Love has come that conquers death,

What love has wakened this love?

Wanted Children

Welfare of Mother and Child Dependent on Proper Spacing

Ambitious plans formed by the happy mother and father of the first baby often come tumbling down when a second arrival comes too quickly after the first. And when children follow in rapid succession neither child nor mother has a fair chance. Here are letters which show the advantage of using judgment and reason in the planning of the family.

Two Object Lessons

New York

A friend writes of the benefits of Birth Control as she has observed them in two families known to her.

Mrs F was very ambitious for the children she planned to have. Her husband earned only \$30.00 a week with no hope of more, so she decided to cut her coat according to her cloth—to earn herself and to limit her family to two. She was able to get effective Birth Control advice after her second child was born. She had been a dressmaker and after the birth of her second child she accepted as much work as she could do, without help in her own home. Boy and girl are both having a high school education. The boy is a choir boy and with church influence he attends an excellent private school in New York. The girl will follow high school with business college. They are both very bright intelligent children, home influence is excellent, and the family happy. The parents keep them healthy, both work hard and the mother, an Episcopalian, feels herself justified by results in thus regulating her life and her family.

Mrs T also used conscious control of her family, for economic reasons and to give her children a better chance. The husband began as a waiter (high class) and later became owner of "Coffee Pot." They have two children, a boy and a girl about two years apart. The mother is a healthy intelligent woman from a well-to-do family, who took motherhood very seriously. She took training in beauty culture shortly after the children came, to prepare herself to earn a livelihood for them and herself in case of widowhood. While the father's earnings were small she worked, but gave it up when her daughter at fourteen needed the influence of home life after school hours. Both the children had a high school education. The girl at eighteen has a clerical position and attends night school. To improve her secretarial education, she started in a business school after leaving high. The boy hopes to be a civil engineer. He has a job surveying and attends Cooper Union at night. There is a very happy family life. They live in a two family house and mother

feels entirely justified in the course she deliberately entered upon.

In both these cases the mother was acting entirely for the good and benefit of her children and not to make life easier for herself. In both cases the mother worked at gainful labor besides doing all the housework for a family of four.

T

Health Saved From Wreckage

Connecticut

I am only too glad to write to you of the benefit Birth Control has been to us.

Twelve years ago our first child was born in a hospital in this city. This baby had been planned for and we enthusiastically awaited its coming. What we did not anticipate was a very difficult birth, high forceps being necessary for delivery. I endured hours of torture before it became apparent that I would not give birth to the baby without assistance. After hours in the operating room when it seemed unlikely for a time that either the child or I could stand the siege, we both came through it successfully but I was in such condition despite expert surgical attention at the time, that I had to have very necessary repair work done six months later. This was done by a skillful surgeon in a New York hospital.

My baby was ten weeks old before I was able to walk a square from home. We waited until I had regained some strength before making the journey to the New York hospital.

Doctors told me that if we were determined to have another child it would be advisable to have it by Caesarian section. I felt I would be able to have a baby in the normal way. Just a year and a day after my operation in New York our little daughter was born. The birth was not so difficult as in the first case but both babies were large, each weighing over nine pounds. This time I had a baby in the normal way but two hours on the operating table afterwards had to be devoted to "repair work."

After a slow recovery, my ardor for a family of five had dimmed considerably. My husband dreaded having me go through another such ordeal.

My constitution is such a splendid one that in every case I made what the doctors called a speedy recovery, only operations cannot be brought to a successful climax without careful attention and a good deal of rest afterward

We were living in a city extensively engaged in manufacturing munitions and domestic help was practically impossible to obtain. My first child was born just a few months previous to the American participation in the World War. I was obliged to worry along with two babies and greatly impaired vitality during the winter of the "flu" epidemic. Only occasionally could we obtain help. I used to wonder what the situation would be, if I should become pregnant again, despite rather uncertain Birth Control methods

That winter brought an opportunity to my husband and me to hear Margaret Sanger speak and to meet her afterward. Needless to say, we were with her heart and soul in her effort to make scientific Birth Control methods available to all women

Later when a miscarriage revealed a necessity for prolonged treatment and another operation, my surgeon, although not favorable to the cause of the American Birth Control League, told us it was highly desirable that I should not become pregnant if his surgical work was to be given ample time to heal, but he did not offer suggestions as to successful Birth Control methods. Fortunately Margaret Sanger's Clinical Research Bureau in New York was able to give me the necessary advice and today I again enjoy the best of health

B

Information Not Available

Illinois

My married life has not furnished a perfect example of family limitation. But conditions might have been much worse! My husband had a slight knowledge of Birth Control measures so that our first did not come before we were in a position to give *one* child adequate support, though matters were made much harder for us by my husband's losing his job, through no fault of his, shortly after the birth

Within three months I shall give my eleven months old daughter a little brother or sister. Many physicians claim that conception during the period of nursing is quite unlikely, but it happened in my case. I did not know I was pregnant until in the fourth month, and several physicians whom I consulted dismissed the idea. If contraceptive clinics or literature had been accessible, I should have realized the danger and should have prevented the coming of a second child within so brief a period

As a professional woman, I am terribly handicapped by the close proximity of my nursing periods as well as confinements. I have had to forego a series of public appearances at a heavy loss to both my career and the greatly taxed family purse. I want a second child as I feel that no woman is wholly complete without bearing and

rearing children—but I consider that to rear children properly is of infinitely more importance to them and to the future than simply to bear them. And the proximity of my two babies will make it quite impossible for us to give either of them the advantages we had planned

Where I am living now I have access to a Birth Control clinic where the best scientific methods are used and I feel much more secure about the future than I ever did before. My experience has taught me that Birth Control is the most pressing and fundamental fight that the modern woman faces today on behalf of emancipation and human happiness

C

The Benefit of Spacing

California

I am a mother of nine children, none were closer than 20 months, and once there were three years and once four years in between. The method of Birth Control we used was not absolutely dependable and when I found what a rest that four years gave me and what a chance to build up my health and my home, I felt the need of it throughout all the more. I would not consider an abortion, so I puzzled all those years whether there wasn't some measure of prevention, not to do away with childbearing—no, for as soon as I had had the rest I found myself earnestly wishing for another—but to get that rest in between the children. I wanted it not merely for myself, but in order to give the children a better chance, spiritually, mentally and physically, because I noticed a marked superiority in the two we had after the longer rest. I have a very considerate husband, as I realized good and plenty when I noticed other families having an increase in their family every year, and such Birth Control as we had has shown me what a boon a more perfect method would have been. I am now 43 years of age and my baby is nearly 5 years old

G

A California Comrade

California

You may be interested to know that I recently visited and asked advice of a local Birth Control clinic. They were lovely to me and were glad to help me. They also said they would be glad to have me write you regarding my visit. They charged me a small fee but I understand the service is free if the patient cannot afford to pay

K

Appreciation of the Letters

Pennsylvania

I think that the new series of letters in the *Review* are extremely valuable and wish that I might contribute one, but unfortunately we have never been in need of Birth Control information. We have wished for children ever since our marriage and our enthusiasm is therefore due to the need for it that we see all about us rather than to any personal reasons

W

Birth Control in 1929

INTELLIGENT public opinion is now so generally in favor of Birth Control that the American Birth Control League expects to make substantial progress during the coming year in both legislation and organization

OUR new York State bill, permitting physicians to give contraceptive advice to married persons has been endorsed by forty-five civic and social organizations including the State League of Women Voters and the City Federation of Women's Clubs, which has two hundred thousand members. This bill will also have the active support of twenty-one Birth Control committees, organized during the past year in different parts of the state, and including in their membership many prominent doctors, clergymen and social workers whose championship of the bill should certainly have influence with the legislators. If the latter realize how widespread the support of the measure is among their constituency, they will vote for it, and victory for Birth Control legislation in any one state, especially such an important one as New York *would give impetus to Birth Control legislation all over the country*

STATE legislative campaigns will also be conducted by the Pennsylvania Birth Control Federation, founded by the League, and by the Connecticut branch of the League

CONNECTICUT is giving all its energies to secure the passage of a bill repealing the present law. Connecticut stands alone in penalizing severely, by fine and imprisonment, the personal use of contraceptives. When this law is repealed, there will be no legal obstacle to the giving of Birth Control information. Fourteen town and city committees have been formed and these and individual friends in unorganized towns are pressing the bill on the attention of the State Senators and Representatives. Mrs. Katharine Houghton Hepburn is at the head of the legislative committee of the Connecticut Branch of the League.

THE New Jersey Committee is planning to concentrate during 1929 on the development of the Newark clinic, which is already open for three sessions a week, and is receiving patients from a constantly growing list of social agencies.

THE Federal Law needs amendment. Besides working for the amendment of the state laws, the American Birth Control League will cooperate with other Birth Control organizations in a campaign for the amendment of the Federal Law. We are glad to announce that Mrs. Sanger has accepted the temporary chairmanship of a joint committee for this federal work.

ANOTHER important part of our work during 1929 will be conducted by Dr. James F. Cooper, Medical Director, who, during the autumn has been in charge of the Clinical Research Bureau, but will start into the field again early in January to address medical bodies in various parts of the country on the subject of the technique of contraception. He will concentrate in 1929 on the states where the law permits physicians to give contraceptive information. After he has described the work of the Clinical Research Bureau to the doctors of a state we plan to send there an organizer who will form a local committee of laymen as well as doctors for the establishment of a Birth Control clinic in that state. When Birth Control clinics are operating in the states where they are legal, it will be easy to demonstrate their value to the people of adjacent states whose laws prohibit the giving of contraceptive information, and to arouse their interest in getting these laws amended, so that they, too, may have Birth Control clinics.

IF only we could afford to have several organizers in the field it would not be long before there would be a Birth Control committee at work in every state in the Union and then the adverse laws could quickly be amended, clinics opened in every center of population, and Birth Control information brought within reach of all who need it! This would mean such a great gain in health and general welfare for the nation that it is hard not to be impatient at our inability to double our staff and go "full speed ahead." However, we are not discouraged. Our staff though small is experienced, devoted and efficient. We have a larger number of volunteer workers than ever before, and the ranks of our opponents are gradually thinning.

1929 SHOULD BE A YEAR OF UNPRECEDENTED PROGRESS

HELP US TO MAKE IT SO!

ELEANOR DWIGHT JONES, *President*

Book Reviews

Darwin

IF THE present generation does not learn something of the man who shifted the course of human thought from a basis of tradition to one of reason, by demonstrating how the organic world came into being, it will not be because of lack of opportunity. Four lives of Darwin have appeared within the last two years,—one by Leonard Huxley, the son of Thomas Huxley, the other three by the American writers, Bradford, Dorsey, and Henshaw Ward. One might perhaps have thought that fresh biographies of Darwin were unnecessary after the four-volume "Life and Letters" which appeared some years ago, edited by Francis Darwin, one of the great biologist's scholarly sons. The reader, familiar with the Darwinian correspondence and with the Collected Works, could form his own picture of the man, with lights and shadows appropriately toned to the receptiveness of his own mind. But, after all, the great majority of people are not even amateur photographers. They are content to press the button, and to let the skilled professional do the rest. Perhaps it is just as well, therefore, to have ready-made portraits. Even those who get the greatest joy out of their own artistic efforts, find considerable satisfaction in the factory-built article, and the host of others who, through lack of time or inclination, make no delineations of their own, can obtain the production of a serious student.

THERE is very little overlapping in these four books. Huxley has written a charming little volume in the classical biographical style. Those who must have the quips, the irony, and the invective of the Inferiority-Complex School will find it dull. Those who are familiar with Darwin's writings at first hand, and who simply want to see inside the workshop, will find it delightful. It is, on the surface, a simple, direct account of the inception and progress of Darwin's scientific work, but in some miraculous way, the man stands out in bold relief. What one remembers is not the voyage of the *Beagle*, or the demonstration of the origin of species by natural selection, or the geological work, or the generalizations concerning domestic animals and plants, or any one of the other thousand and one tasks accomplished. It is the tender father, the generous friend, the kindly gentleman. One comes to appreciate almost casually the efficiency of Darwin's method of work, his precision, his mental alertness, his erudition, the objectiveness of his decisions. One almost takes these things for

granted. It is the humbleness of spirit, the magnanimity with uncomprehending critics, the whole-hearted benevolence of the man that make us pause.

Our distinguished psychographer, Gamahel Bradford, has achieved quite another sort of tome. He is not concerned primarily with the content of the man's work, or why or how he did it. He is interested rather in the causes which produced the man, and in the effects which the man produced on the world at large. He gives his considerations and his conclusions with the felicity of phrase that characterizes all of Bradford's work. The chapter headings give a fair idea of the book though only a single word is used for each. Darwin is depicted as the observer, the thinker, the discoverer, the loser, the lover, and the destroyer. In addition, there is a short essay on the "scientific spirit" written with a literary skill which reminds one of Havelock Ellis and with an insight hardly to have been expected of one who is not a member of the guild.

BRADFORD'S work should have a great appeal to the literary man. There is a pleasant humor in the carefully rubbed and polished sentences. The similes are apt and the allusions show an enormous capacity for cataloguing the results of reading. The result is a refreshing book, a book which will give to many readers a new idea of genius. They will see it not as something abnormal or bizarre, but as a mind critically observant and objectively rational, which functions precisely and harmoniously.

One likes the Bradford Darwin. The author has discrimination. He can put two and two together as well as old Archimedes himself. Yet one could wish that the author had had more of a background of scientific experience in his life. Had this been the case, the book would have been more of an analysis of Darwin's soul and less of a description of the effect of Darwinism upon Bradford's soul. The chapter on Darwin the Loser would have differed. The author would not have made the mistake of thinking that Darwin lost his artistic sense, the appreciation of beauty in literature and music which he showed in such high development when he was young. He would have seen that there was artistic growth, that Darwin passed beyond the stage where most men stop. He was concerned with the highest beauty, the discovery of really great truth. His sentences may seem uncouth, as to some Rodin's unfinished marbles seem uncouth. Their beauty is the concept, not its framework. Moreover, the wiping out of old legends would have appeared less calamitous, the new faith would have stood out more gloriously. Possibly these are not the points to be stressed. He was "the emancipator" not "the destroyed." The pitiful selfishness of the narrow religionist, who was content to see mankind suffer the torments of hell on earth if only he

Darwin, by Gamahel Bradford. Boston, Houghton, Mifflin, 1926 pp. 315.

The Evolution of Charles Darwin, by George A. Dorsey. Garden City, Doubleday Page, 1927 pp. 300.

The Life of Darwin, by Leonard Huxley, New York, Greenberg, 1927 pp. 145.

Charles Darwin the Man and his Warfare, by Henshaw Ward. Indianapolis, Bobbs-Merrill pp. 472.

could save his mean little soul, became ridiculous. Nevertheless, Darwin led the way to a new ethics, a decent ethics, scientifically conceived. There should have been another chapter, Darwin the Builder.

DORSEY has put together a third type of book. It is not very penetrating or profound, but it has a wealth of anecdote, and runs along with a swing that is often very pleasing. Dr Dorsey is to be congratulated on having changed his style materially from that which he used in "Why We Behave like Human Beings." He has proved that he really knows how an English sentence is constructed. The earlier book was apparently made after a novel recipe. One suspects that Dorsey purchased six recent textbooks on different phases of biology, abstracted them with special care to avoid the important things and to emphasize the banalities, and then blue-pencilled half of the words in the manner in which one plays the game of putting the tail on the donkey. The resulting groups of words, in part without subjects, in part without verbs, made a great hit. The author became the Harold Bell Wright of science. The present volume will not fatten the bank account to the same degree, for many former clients will return to the tabloids from whence they came, but it undoubtedly will raise the author somewhat in the estimation of the scientists of the country.

In many respects the book is good. One gets no scholarly conclusions, but the material is well selected, there is an occasional flash of humor, and the pictures drawn are vivid. It has all of the elements of good journalism but one. As in the first book, the author fails to keep to his reporting. He inserts ideas, opinions and conclusions of his own upon technical phases of biology in which he has no special knowledge, and makes these statements with a dogmatism worthy of theology.

FOR THE general reader perhaps the best Life is that of Henshaw Ward. It is a little too long and too besprinkled with quotations, but it is a sound and thorough job. The author is a lively and entertaining writer. He loves and admires the man about whom he is writing. And he makes his hero stand out as the great character he was.

The value of the book is enhanced by little sketches of Darwin's supporters, Huxley, Hooker, Lyell, and Gray, and of his adversaries, Owen and the Bishop of Oxford. The battle which waged around "The Origin" is described with dramatic skill. Darwin as observer, as unifier, as classifier is brought out by episode after episode. The reader is not left in doubt as to the difference between the contribution made by the Squire of Down and by the philosophical chair-warmers who came before him.

Mr Ward deserves much credit for the uncompromising way in which he maintains the lasting value of the theory of Natural Selection. No one with an open mind can read this book and believe any of the glaring headlines which purport to show that Darwinism has been sup-

planted. Naturally, the author is not familiar with all of the modern evolutionary biology which is appearing at the rate of some thousand or more papers per year, and hence is not in a position to judge the technical status of evolution problems, but for all that, I cannot see that he ever leads the reader seriously astray.

E M EAST

THE ESCAPE FROM THE PRIMITIVE, by Horace Carncross, M D. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. Price \$2.50.

WITH the current interest in psychology, the terms "herd", "Oedipus Complex", "unconscious" have come into frequent use by persons other than scientists and professional psychologists. The ordinary layman has begun to take a rather lively interest in his origin as a human being and in the mechanisms that underlie or motivate his physical and mental activities. Dr Carncross in his book, "The Escape From the Primitive" continues the explanation and discussion. It is not a source book of anthropology or biology but he follows the scientific approach and has completed a book that could be enjoyed by persons who have turned their attention to the social sciences.

In the past, psychology dealt only with the "Conscious", the experiences of the present and had little time for an investigation of the "Unconscious" or "Primitive" as Dr Carncross terms it. But in the light of the newer psychology the unconscious has taken a much more important place in the life of man, for within the bounds of the primitive are found experiences covering a period of thousands and thousands of years. Fortunately these experiences for the most part never come to the surface as ugly reminders of an uncouth past. The gentleman at a dinner party is not jarred by the thought of how his ancestors procured food or ate it, he fits into the new social order. The sophisticated life of to-day developed and grew naturally out of the rough spots of the past. But the primitive instincts remain with us, disguised and modified so that the escape from the primitive is not a complete one. We procure food, seek a mate, protect the offspring and fear many of the things that primitive man feared. By a utilization of his environment man acquired power over his surroundings. Where this accumulation of power will lead to is not a closed question.

Dr Carncross points out how man has been forced to make new adjustments to an ever-changing environment. Some people are not able to make this adjustment to reality. They feel vaguely that, in an undefined way, they have been kept out of something that is by right theirs. As Dr Carncross puts it, "they cry for the moon." These are the unhappy souls who find comfort in perpetual day-dreams and flights from reality.

Some of us still feel that it is not the concern of man to probe into his unconscious, and that we would be hap-

pier without knowing the intricacies of its mechanism. But it is only by recognizing the existence of these primitive urges and knowing what they are that man can hope to master them and mould them to his needs.

GERTRUDE DONIGER

GALLIO OR THE TYRANNY OF SCIENCE By J
W N Sullivan, The World Tomorrow Series E P
Dutton, New York

LYCURGUS OR THE FUTURE OF LAW By
E S P Haynes The World Tomorrow Series
E P Dutton, New York

LIKE most of the little volumes which compose the Today and Tomorrow Series, both of these books are suggestive and interesting. In "Gallio", Mr Sullivan is intent on showing that the tyranny of science is a thing of the past and that the science of the future is something vastly different and more full of beauty and moral value. In "Lycurgus", Mr Haynes does not show so hopeful a spirit. After discussing some of the complexities, the uncertainties and the difficulties increasingly abundant in the legal system of England—and equally obvious in the systems of the United States—he ends on a note of discouragement and asks "*Quis custodiet custodes?*"

OUR ENEMY THE CHILD, by Agnes de Lima New
Republic Publishing Company, New York \$1 00

ACRES OF DIAMONDS—that is Agnes de Lima's book, "Our Enemy the Child", gems of education for parents, for those who would understand "the newer education", for those who would see The Century of the Child at work educationally.

Asserting with Bertrand Russell that public schools have long demonstrated the possibility of giving instruction without education, that, in fact, any schoolmaster who was caught educating was quickly "given the sack," she demonstrates this fact with a vivid portrayal of the old fashioned traditional public school from which she reports the cramped activities of those young lives doomed by law to accept the accustomed regime.

Skillfully contrasting this trapped existence of both teacher and child, driven relentlessly by a time-table through a prescribed curriculum, with the experimental work of private schools, she unleashes the reader's imagination in setting forth the efforts and returns of those courageous souls who have dared to tamper with "that most sacred of all school traditions—the course of study." She creates the longing that every child be given an opportunity for freedom, for an educational world where his "feeling or emotional life may be infinitely educated", thereby emphasizing one of the major values of her book—the protection of the child from the supervision of

"pedagogues of the old school and their repressive, dreary formalism."

Through the nursery schools, where she emphasizes the now accepted importance of the early childhood years—on through mental testing, where a high note of warning is given to those who would make of these intelligence tests "merely another accessory to the educational machine"—through a discussion of the Dalton, Winnetka, and Wirt plans, into a fascinating description of the development of creative power of children, as witnessed in demonstration schools—her theme of *ministering to the individual instead of standards* is developed, and the reader is enriched by the wealth of ideas and the skill of her presentation.

Reward beyond anticipation awaits the reading of "Our Enemy the Child." He who forfeits this inspiring experience misses much—be he educator, parent or plain layman.

RUTH VINCENT

THE PUBLIC MIND By Norman Angell, E P Dutton and Co New York

THOSE who have not forgotten Norman Angell's "The Great Illusion" written before the great war, and bearing a message which the world neglected to its great loss and suffering, will welcome "The Public Mind." In this new volume Norman Angell utters another warning. He points out where the danger of future wars really lies. Unless peace can take its root in the minds of men no pacts or treaties, no Leagues of Nations, and no World Courts will avail. It is now, while the war mind is in abeyance, that we must learn to avoid panic when the crisis comes again upon the world. Can we learn the lesson?

HUMAN CONDUCT AND THE LAW By Mary C
Love George Banta Publishing Co Menasha,
Wisconsin

THIS study, which is published under the auspices of Chi Omega, represents an effort to probe the main-springs of human action by an investigation into the development of law. The thesis is illustrated by a selection of cases old and new, which show human action under the motives of fear, acquisitiveness and other primal emotions. The book may be of use as material to later writers. As it stands, it is somewhat undigested if not indigestible.

SEXUAL APATHY AND COLDNESS IN WOMEN
By Walter M Gallichan, T Warner Laurie Ltd
London

A VERY valuable volume in which are laid bare some of the vast series of evil results that spring from lack of education and miseducation in regard to sex. Dr Gallichan rightly considers sexual apathy in women a symptom and seeks its causes. A careful study of this book might prove effective in removing the cause of much

of this frigidity, which is so severely scored by those who see in it merely a decadence of women's reproductive powers

FAMILY LIFE TODAY Papers Presented at a Conference in Celebration of the Fiftieth Anniversary of Family Social Work in America Held at Buffalo, Oct 2-5, 1927 Edited by Margaret E Rich Houghton Mifflin Co New York

PERHAPS the most interesting of these excellent papers is that by Mary E Richmond In it she compares the present movement for the study of marriage and the family with the health movement which has revolutionized our lives, eliminated the worst enemies to health, lowered the death rates and given us an outlook towards health and physical welfare, instead of a meek acceptance of disease and frailty If the study of marriage can succeed in orienting our thoughts about marriage with anything like equal effectiveness, our fight for sex education and for the knowledge and practice of Birth Control will be won, for it is generally agreed that the haphazard method of bearing children is inconsistent with their own welfare, with the welfare of their parents and with the welfare of society

Periodical Notes

Modern Quarterly (Baltimore) — In its November-February number Harry Elmer Barnes of Smith College in "The Bankruptcy of Sex Taboo," takes a bird's eye view of recent books on marriage by the younger generation He believes that such writers as the radicals who contribute to the *Quarterly* "have presented a fine clinical picture of the present-day sexual scene We may continue to evade, and thus encourage the further development of sexual chaos, or we can bring the facts of science and the dictates of art to bear upon the question and substitute rational controls for the older taboos, conventions, fears and evasions which are, indeed, bankrupt"

National Medical College Magazine (Bombay) — This semi-annual publication of an Indian Medical College in its last number (September) announces its editorial interest in Birth Control and publishes an article on the subject by Dr N A Ajunkya, professor of midwifery and gynaecology Dr Ajunkya is lukewarm and not very well informed, but editorially the magazine expresses its keen appreciation of the medical aspect of family limitation for "often too many pregnancies destroy half the energy and vitality of women and victimize them to other ailments"

Critic and Gude (New York) — In the December number Dr S Adolphus Knopf, a medical pioneer for Birth Control almost as long in the field as Dr William J Robinson himself, writes on Birth Control as "The Only Effective Famine Relief"

Books Received

WHITHER MANKIND, A Panorama of Modern Civilization, Edited by Charles A Beard. Longmans, Green & Co, New York \$3 00

THE ANTISTERILITY VITAMINE FAT SOLUBLE E by Herbert McLean Evans and George O Burr University of California Press, Berkeley, Calif

SUSAN B ANTHONY, THE WOMAN WHO CHANGED THE MIND OF A NATION, by Rheta Childe Dorr Frederick A Stokes & Co New York \$5 00

THE TERRIBLE SIREN, by Emame Sachs, Harper Brothers, New York \$4 00

CHILDBIRTH, by William G Lee University of Chicago Press, Chicago, Illinois \$3 00

TAKING THE DOCTOR'S PULSE, by J F Montague, M D J B Lippincott Co, Philadelphia, Pa \$1 00

GROWING INTO LIFE, A Magna Charta of Youth, by David Seabury Boni and Liveright, New York \$5 00

SOCIAL PROBLEMS, by John Lewis Gillin, Ph D, Clarence G Dittmer, Ph D, Roy J Colbert, M A The Century Co New York

UNDERGRADUATES, by R H Edwards, J M Artman, Galen M Fisher Doubleday, Doran & Co, New York \$4 00

ANTHROPOLOGY AND MODERN LIFE, by Franz Boas, Ph D W W Norton & Co, Inc, New York \$3 00

THE BALANCE OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS, Vol I, by Robert R Kuczynski The Macmillan Company, New York \$2 00

THE BUILDING OF CULTURES, by Roland B Dixon Charles Scribners Sons, New York \$4 00

WASTE NOT—WANT NOT, by Scovill Hamlin Dorrance & Co, Philadelphia \$2 00

COMING OF AGE IN SAMOA, by Margaret Mead Wilham Morrow and Co, New York \$3 00

PARENTS AND CHILDREN, by E R Groves and G Hoagland Groves J B Lippincott, Philadelphia \$2 00

YOUTH, by Elizabeth Sloan Chesser, M D E P Dutton & Co, New York \$1 00

PAMPHLETS

THE PSYCHOLOGY OF ASCETICISM, by Arnold H Kamiat A reprint from the Journal of Abnormal and Social Psychology (July-Sept 1928) New York

Part of the substance of this article appeared in *BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW* for June, 1927

THE EUGENIC SIGNIFICANCE OF THE WORK OF THE ENGLISH BIRTH CONTROL CLINICS, by Norman E Himes

In this short paper, read at the Annual Meeting of the Eugenics Research Association, Mr Himes presents no very significant eugenic data but shows, on the eutheic side, that one-third of the women visiting ten selected English clinics (up to August, 1927), were wives of unskilled laborers

QUALITY NOT QUANTITY, by John Hammond Bradshaw, M D—Reprint from the Journal of the Medical Society of New Jersey

Birth Control as race hygiene

Roman Catholics and Birth Control

The article under the above title, by Dr C V Drysdale, appeared in the June, 1928, issue of the REVIEW. The following letter from Prof Vermeersch, from Rome, which reached us some weeks later, was sent to England, to Dr Drysdale for comment. We are pleased to print the correspondence which shows clearly the position of both sides to the controversy.

Universita Gregoriana, Roma

Editor

A copy of your June number was sent me the other day, with an article marked, in which one of my books is quoted (p 177). As the interpretation there read into the passage is quite unwarranted, I beg you to print the following rectifications.

1) It is not at all true that "We may take it that this pronouncement has official approval, or its publication would not have been sanctioned." The meaning of ecclesiastical permission to publish is negative,—that there is no obstacle. It may very well turn out later on that an opinion expressed in such a book should have to be abandoned.

2) In such delicate matters as moral problems, one has a right to expect that one's statements be carefully weighed in the light of their general context. Your contributor is able to make out the semblance of a case against the Church only by glaring neglect of this elementary principle. If his only purpose had been to bring out the truth, he could hardly have failed to note the immense difference which separates the liberty he is trying to justify, from the right recognized by the Catholic moralist to restrain the use of marriage to certain days in which there is less chance of conception. The latter admits only the natural use of the sacrament, your contributor champions unnatural abuses. The latter prescribes continence during all the remaining time for those who would avoid procreation, your contributor doesn't urge it at all. The Catholic moralist holds that impregnation can never be artificially interfered with, your contributor says that "any method not inimical to health may be used."

3) In interpreting my text, surely he should have recognized the obvious distinction between encouragement to fornication, and taking precautions to avoid contagious diseases which result from sins which are none-the-less energetically condemned, also the difference between the spreading of venereal diseases, and the spreading of abuses of marriage.

4) This writer speaks of "steps already taken" by the Church towards countenancing Birth Control, of which steps the guarded opinion expressed by me on a quite different question is proclaimed to be "the crowning touch." These steps are all equally non-existent. He is simply misrepresenting. Moreover, he professes to be amused at the spectacle of the Catholic Church tardily arming itself against the evil, after the prisoner has already escaped" and "the matter is out of their hands or ours." The Catholic Church has opposed such abuses at all times,

wherever she has met them, and will continue to do so. And if the movement is already so completely out of everybody's hands, why all this noisy propaganda, to which your contributor thinks it worth his while to devote himself with such "continual personal sacrifice"?

A VERMEERSCH, Prof Greg Univ

Editor

When I sent you my article on "Roman Catholics and Birth Control" I had no idea that it would have the fortunate result of eliciting a reply from such a distinguished authority on Roman Catholic doctrine as Professor Vermeersch, and I cannot sufficiently express my pleasure that it has done so.

Before dealing with Professor Vermeersch's criticisms I cannot resist this excellent opportunity of asking him for replies to some definite questions, which may help us to understand the Roman Catholic attitude towards Birth Control.

1 Is it true that prior to 1841 the Roman Catholic priesthood in France was in the habit of interrogating married men and women in the confessional concerning their marital relations, and that, on the representation of Bishop Bouvier, the Holy Clerical High Court of Doctrine at Rome in 1842, permitted the discontinuance of interrogating men on this point?

2 If, so, does he not consider this as a concession to Birth Control in the sense of realizing that the custom had become too strong to resist without estranging men from the Church and that it was therefore politic to appear blind to it? And does it not also mean men must have been granted absolution in spite of having committed this "grave sin"?

3 Does he admit that prior to 1915, the doctrine of the Roman Catholic Church was that "all interference with the primary end of marriage is gravely sinful" and that "no wrong is done to the State by the begetting of sickly or imbecile children unless the parents can do nothing to support them. Nor is wrong done to such children themselves, because, in view of the eternal happiness normally within their reach, it is better to have been born maimed or tainted than never to have been born at all." These words are taken from the pamphlet "Modern Problems and Catholic Principles" by Fr J Keating, S J, which was exposed for sale up to that year in Westminster Cathedral (Roman Catholic) but disappeared after the statement of Mgr Brown next referred to.

4 Was Mgr Brown correctly stating the doctrine of the Roman Catholic Church in his evidence before the National Birth Rate Commission in Jan 20, 1915, when he said that married couples may lawfully limit their families by mutual consent by abstention from intercourse, and by limiting intercourse to the mid-menstrual period or *tempus agenseos*?

5 If so, is not that equivalent to saying that intercourse may lawfully be indulged in while seeking to evade the consequence of conception? And does not this, combined with the immediate withdrawal of Fr Keating's pamphlet, indicate a definite concession to Birth Control from the attitude shown in that pamphlet?

6 Does he admit that in his own work "De Castitate" published in May 1921, he stated that it was permissible to recommend men, intending to have illicit intercourse, to employ chemical prophylactic ointments before such intercourse, in order to protect themselves from venereal infection, that such means were "morally indifferent in themselves" and that "nothing stands in the way of your indicating to anyone who declares his intention to sin, how he may sin with the least injury to his body"?

7 If so, is it not equally permissible for a woman to use such an ointment to preserve herself from infection, and if not, why not?

8 Remembering the concession that births may be restricted within marriage, why may not a woman use a chemical contraceptive ointment to prevent having a diseased child? Why is it "morally indifferent" in the first and not in the second case?

9 Bearing in mind that either abstention or successful recourse to the "safe period" means that the germ cells are formed but pass away and perish, why is it a grave sin to prevent them from being fertilized by employing a mechanical contraceptive, or to destroy them by a chemical one?

I sincerely hope that Prof Vermeersch will enlighten us on these points, since, as the matter now stands, it seems impossible for the uninstructed layman to appreciate the fine line which now appears to exist between the Church and the acceptance of contraception. Had it adhered to the rigid doctrine of "all interference with the primary end of marriage is grievously sinful" we could at least have understood it, but when we are told that births may be restricted in marriage by what is at least an "artifice" based on medical evidence as to the existence of a safe period, and that a chemical ointment may be applied by a man to his generative organs (and thereby incidentally introduced into the woman) for the purpose of protecting himself against the results of sin, while his virtuous wife may not use a chemical ointment to prevent conceiving a diseased child if he has become infected, no ordinary intellect can stand the strain.

The only two scriptural statements upon which the Church has relied to uphold this prohibition, are the injunction to "increase and multiply and replenish the earth" which may be considered to have been sufficiently

fulfilled, and the story of Onan, which is ambiguous, since we are not told whether Onan's sin lay in his practice of *coitus interruptus* or in his refusal to raise seed to his dead brother's wife, which was apparently a sacred duty among the Jews. If the Roman Catholic church is so anxious to preserve Old Testament morality, why does she not enjoin this duty also? And if Onan was slain because his act was evil in the sight of the Lord, why is it that those who practise contraception in our own days live longer lives than our ancestors who did not?

Coming to Prof Vermeersch's criticisms, his first point is that his statement *re* the justification of venereal gratification is not to be regarded as authoritative. All I can say is that it was certainly regarded as of the highest importance by Mgr Brown in his article in the *Dublin Review*, and that Prof Vermeersch himself does not say that the Church has yet repudiated it, although it appeared as far back as May 1921. Is it not a little too much to ask us to believe that such a weighty pronouncement on a serious moral issue could have been promulgated, almost at the gates of the Vatican, without official approval?

Secondly, I am accused of seeking to confound "natural use" with unnatural abuses or "artificial interference". It is a favorite device with reactionary moralists to stigmatize anything they dislike as "artificial" or "unnatural". If "natural" means "primitive" or "unrestrained by prudence", then the only "natural" manifestation of our desire would be to gratify it whenever possible, and the restrictions of Church and State are artificial. If, on the other hand, such restrictions are regarded as moral, why are we to regard any other methods of restriction as immoral, unless they can be shown to have harmful consequences to the individual or society? Venereal prophylaxis by chemical ointments is certainly as "unnatural" or "artificial" as contraception, yet Prof Vermeersch speaks of such measures as "morally indifferent in themselves".

Thirdly, he claims that I have failed to recognize the difference between encouragement to fornication and the desire to avoid its evil consequences if it cannot be prevented. Surely I have at least allowed this to be evident in quoting his words "the intention of committing fornication is evil, since it is always evil to sin or to wish to sin". I do not for one moment accuse him or his church of wishing to condone, much less encourage "fornication", but I must respectfully point out that the practical result of the church's attitude must inevitably be in this direction. In the judgment of the Holy Clerical High Court of Doctrine of 1842 in reply to Bishop Bouvier, it enjoined on the wife to make "becoming remonstrance" to her husband if he insists on employing contraceptive means, and only to submit after such remonstrance. It is the wife always who is expected to carry out and bear the burden of the Church's moral teachings, and it is also the wife who suffers most by repeated pregnancies and the bearing of children. In the great majority of cases, it is the

News Notes

UNITED STATES

New York

THE bill of the American Birth Control League is now on the active list of the New York League of Women Voters

Mrs Richard Billings, member of the Board of the American Birth Control League, sends this story of the action of the League of Women Voters Convention, held in Buffalo, November 22-24, in regard to Birth Control. It will be recalled that we recorded this action as "Last Minute News" in the December REVIEW. She writes

The State Legislative Committee of the League, of which Mrs Leslie J Tompkins is now Chairman and of which I am a member, is in the habit of presenting two lists of legislative measures to the Convention. One of these is called "Endorsed", the other "Active". The Birth Control Amendment has been for two years on the endorsed program. The Legislative Committee, of which Miss Dorothy Kenyon was the former Chairman, placed it this year on its active program and presented it to the Convention for ratification.

As Chairman of the State Social Hygiene Committee, I spoke to the Convention on its second day on the subject of Birth Control as it related to the work of the League of Women Voters. That afternoon the Convention rati-

fied the action of the Legislative Committee, moving the amendment to its active program. There were some opposing remarks made by the Catholic members of the League living in Buffalo. Mrs David Porter and Mrs Chauncey Hamlin of Buffalo, spoke forcefully in favor of it as did many prominent women throughout the state.

I feel that this action of the League of Women Voters is an occasion for congratulation among the friends of Birth Control. The League is a conservative body, known to be slow in endorsing new legislation, only doing so after careful deliberation.

The Legislators at Albany, know well the difference between the active and endorsed program, and this action will help the passage of our amendment tremendously.

I am also glad that the League of Women Voters has placed itself thus definitely in the ranks of courageous and liberal organizations.

At the annual breakfast of the New York Catholic Circle of the International Federation of Catholic Alumnae held on December 3rd at the Hotel Plaza, New York, Mgr John P Chidwick, pastor of St Agnes Church attacked the League of Women Voters for their action. He said that the women had "broken through every law of de-

wife who is most anxious to avoid conception and it is she therefore who must try to keep her husband to the stern path of abstention or restraint to the "safe period" by "becoming remonstrance". Among a considerable section of men this simply means a temptation to "go elsewhere", but the fear of contracting venereal disease has certainly been a deterrent to many. Now comes Prof Vermeersch's pronouncement that if they wish to "go elsewhere" they may do so without fear, by recourse to prophylactic ointments. Is there any doubt as to the result?

Of course; few, if any, Birth-Controllers would for one moment object to the Church's concession to prophylactics "*per se*". On the contrary, most of them would heartily agree. But to grant this concession, while still upholding the ban on contraception puts the virtuous religious woman in the most cruel position possible. She must deny her husband what she would wish to give him, and see every obstacle to his getting it from other women removed. He may use a chemical prophylactic ointment, which Prof Vermeersch says "is morally indifferent" to avoid the results of "sin", she may not use a chemical contraceptive ointment for the perfectly virtuous purpose of retaining his love, while wishing to avoid launching another helpless poverty-stricken or diseased baby into a life of suffering. And all for what? Merely to satisfy a hair-drawn distinction which no intelligent person can hear of without contempt, based on Scriptural injunctions which have

been distorted at the will of a Church which has constantly opposed Science and been ignominiously worsted in every encounter. I have said and repeat that the Roman Catholic Church has already made these definite steps in the direction of countenancing Birth Control however skillfully it has sought to disguise them, and I am quite certain if the women now make the same stand that the French men did in 1841, the Church will find some method of reconciling its faith with Birth Control. That the ultimate result is certain should be a warning to it to avoid estranging its supporters, but, in the meanwhile, it is no reason why we Birth-Controllers should not accelerate it.

Prof Vermeersch is a distinguished member of the Society of Jesuits, of which it has been said that its great principle is that "the end justifies the means". Neo-Malthusians have claimed that the limitation of births within marriage is imperative in order to avoid the evils of over-population, poverty, famine, the propagation of hereditary diseases and defects, sexual irregularities, and war, and this claim has been admitted openly by certain eminent Roman Catholic writers, and tacitly by the Church in its permission to attempt limitation of births within marriage. Does not such a great and noble end justify any means that will secure it without giving rise to any other evils which can be observed as yet?

C V DRYSDALE, D Sc, F R S F

Richmond, Surrey

cency" and called on Catholic women to organize and fight the bill

At Utica, the Birth Control Committee of which Mrs Marie Sweet Smith is chairman called a luncheon conference of about 50 leaders, at the Hotel Martin on December 5th. The speakers were Mrs F Robertson Jones, President of the American Birth Control League, Rabbi Isador B Hoffman, of Temple Beth-El and Mr Percy Clark of Cornell. Mr Paul B Williams, Secretary of the Association Charities, introduced Mrs Jones and the newspaper publicity, of which Mrs Heck was in charge, was excellent

Among those attending the meeting were Mrs Marie Sweet Smith, Utica, Mrs Constance Heck, New York, field secretary, and these committee chairmen Syracuse, Mrs C A Duvall, Oneida, Dr Hilda Noyes, Rome, Mrs Charles Gilman, Little Falls, Dr H W Vickers, Herkimer, Mrs C S Thompson, Camden, Mrs M W Van Tassell

On December 7th Mrs Jones spoke before a meeting of 35 persons interested in the bill, at the home of Mrs Frank M Leavitt at Scarsdale

In the last days of November and the first week in December Guy Irving Burch of Columbia University who has been making a very thorough study of the international and the social aspects of the problem of population lectured before groups of students at Brotherhood House and at the Labor Temple, under the auspices of the Reconciliation Trips. The audience at the Labor Temple was Professor Bowman's class from Columbia. Mr Burch has lectured on Birth Control to groups of college students before and is excellently equipped for this kind of work

An excellent Birth Control talk was given at the Ingersoll Forum, 119 East 14th Street, on November 18th by Dr Paul Bauerberg, an obstetrician of New York. His argument was based on three grounds: the progress of civilization as the struggle for the control of nature, the right of the individual to realize his own conception of happiness, and the duty of the present generation to improve the quality of the race

In his account of the wastefulness of nature uncontrolled Dr Bauerberg introduced the following story of a case from his experience: "I have myself officiated", said he, "at the confinement of a woman who had her thirty-second attempted childbearing. She had ten miscarriages, six abortions and sixteen children, of whom eight died in infancy." "This," he added "is a pretty fair illustration of blind obedience to nature's animation"

Mrs Walter Tamm, member of the Board of Directors of the American Birth Control League writes (December 4th)

I had a mothers' meeting at my home here in Cold Spring last week — ten present. All enthusiastic and want large meeting called here, soon. One mother told of

the delivery of a dead child a few years ago, at a hospital in a Connecticut town. It was necessary to get *seven doctors* to sign that operation was necessary before the child was taken from her. Her suffering was horrible because of the delay. We have on our Cold Springs Committee a leading doctor and a clergyman of the town. All will help when we go to Albany

The New York bill was discussed at a luncheon of the East New York Birth Control Committees (Albany, Troy, Saratoga Springs, Ballston Spa and Amsterdam) at Schenectady, on January 13th. Dr Ernest Caldecott, Chairman of the Schenectady Committee, presided, and Mrs F Robertson Jones, President of the American Birth Control League and Mrs Richard Billings, Member of the Board of Directors of the League were the speakers. Sixty representatives of local Birth Control Committees and other co-operating organizations were present, among them Mr W W Peck of Albany, the Reverend and Mrs John C Ames of Saratoga Springs, Mrs Annette Remington of Ballston Spa and Mrs G H Durston of Amsterdam. Great interest was shown and many valuable suggestions were made

California

MRS SANGER opened her lecture tour in California at Los Angeles where she spoke twice under the auspices of the Pacific Forum. On December 2, a luncheon was given in her honor by Dr C L Conrad of the Forum and on the evening of December 5 she lectured at a large public meeting under the auspices of the Forum. On December 8 she addressed the State Board of the Federation of Women's Clubs. Mrs W W Green, state president, presided

From Los Angeles she went to San Francisco, where on December 12 she was the guest of honor, with Mrs Ruth Bryant Owen and Judge Lindsey, at a press group dinner. The following day she was given a luncheon by the Penn Women of San Jose. She spoke at a luncheon of the San Francisco Women's Club on December 14, lectured at San Jose and at San Francisco, December 15 and 16, before the Commonwealth Club of California at San Francisco, December 17, spoke at a luncheon of the Women's Club of Oakland on the 19th, and before the Oakland Open Forum on the 20th. Everywhere great interest was shown in her plea for Birth Control Clinics. Mrs Sanger's California tour was managed by Alice Seckles of San Francisco

Ohio

UNDER sensational headlines which misrepresent the facts, the press throughout the country has reported a statement about Birth Control made by Judge Harrison W Ewing of the Court of Common Pleas of Cleveland. On December 4th, Otto and Helen Kourim both applied for divorce after they had been living apart

for eight months, the woman supporting herself. On learning that the couple had been married when the woman was 17 and the man 24, that they already had three children, that the man was earning only \$24 00 a week and that his work was irregular, Judge Ewing denied the application for divorce. He ordered that the separation be continued for three years so that no more children should be born. He added in comment on his decision that when the woman appealed to the Juvenile Court on the ground of non-support when her first child was a year old, the court should have been authorized to refer her to sources of contraceptive advice.

Since this is the first time that the importance of Birth Control in cases that come to domestic relations courts has received official recognition from the bench in the United States, we reprint in full Judge Edwin's own statement, as published in the *New York World*, December 8th. He says:

The first stories on the Kourim divorce case were wholly misleading and misquoted me. I did not direct nor advise them to practice Birth Control. They have been separated eight months and they appear to be permanently estranged. Each sought to obtain a divorce and the custody of three children aged one, two and four, years.

I merely refused both divorce pleas although the evidence was sufficient to justify a divorce in an ordinary case, holding that public interest forbade their being set free to marry again when they cannot support and educate these children decently. Then, on the assumption that they would continue to live apart, I awarded custody of the baby to the wife and the other two children to the husband.

My reference to Birth Control was a casual comment on the evidence which disclosed that, when the wife was about to be confined with the second child, she had brought her husband before the Juvenile Court, seeking money for the expenses of the confinement, the husband being employed only part time and unable to pay.

I said it was lamentable that in such an extreme case the Juvenile Court had no legal right to order that Birth Control information be given to prevent recurrence of a similar problem, which was intensified when the third child came after an eleven months' interval. I am unwilling to become involved in a general discussion of Birth Control. Advocacy of such highly controversial changes in statutory law is, in my opinion, not within the legitimate scope of judicial activity.

Birth Control is not forbidden under the Ohio law and a Birth Control Clinic is at present in operation in Cleveland.

A few days before this case in Judge Ewing's court, Jas J. Davis, Secretary of the United States Department of Labor, speaking on the labor problem at Hyde Park Community Methodist Episcopal Church, stated, according to the *Cincinnati Commercial Tribune* that:

There were 1,874,000 persons out of work in the United States, (1927). Industry is no longer able to absorb the men thrown out of work by labor saving machinery and the natural increase of workers among the families now here. Yet people urge that we want immigration so that the increased population will make us a great nation.

"My answer is that if low wages, illiteracy and huge population make countries great, China should rank as the greatest nation in the world. And on that rating India would be second and Russia third."

Pennsylvania

FROM Philadelphia Mrs. Alleyne C. Martin, the executive director of the State Birth Control Federation, writes: Our Southeastern Pennsylvania Birth Control

League held its annual meeting at the Friends' Institute, 20 South 12th Street, Philadelphia, on November 14th. The following officers were elected:

President, Joseph Stokes, Jr., M.D., Phila. Vice-Presidents, Kate W. Baldwin, M.D., Phila. Mrs. George A. Dunning, Phila., Floyd E. Keene, M.D., Phila. Stuart Mudd, M.D., Villa Nova, Mrs. Imogen Oakley, Phila., Henry K. Pancoast, M.D., Ardmore, Miss Anna M. W. Pennypacker, Phila., Frances R. Sprague, M.D., Phila., Mrs. Pope Yeatman, Phila. The treasurer is Mrs. S. F. Sharpless, Phila., the Secretary, Mrs. H. Wilson Moorhouse, Ardmore.

It will be very interesting for the other States to see the perfectly splendid doctors we have on this Committee. Dr. Stokes is the fourth generation of doctors from that family in Philadelphia and is one of the leading pediatric physicians in the State. You will note that Dr. Pancoast is also one of our Vice-Presidents, and he is outstanding nationally as an ex-ray specialist.

Officers elected at the last annual meeting of the State Federation, held November 22, are:

President, A. Lovett Dewees, M.D., Haverford. Vice-Presidents, Roswell H. Johnson, M.S., Pittsburgh, Mrs. Stanley Bright, Reading, Floyd E. Keane, M.D., Philadelphia, Lawrence Litchfield, M.D., Pittsburgh, Mrs. Chas. N. Loveland, Wilkes-Barre, Stuart Mudd, M.D., Villa Nova, Henry K. Pancoast, M.D., Ardmore, Joseph Stokes, Jr., M.D., Philadelphia, Norris W. Vaux, M.D., Philadelphia, H. C. Westervelt, M.D., Pittsburgh. Secretary, Mrs. George A. Dunning, Philadelphia. Treasurer, Samuel Emlen, Germantown, Philadelphia.

We feel that our organization has both as officers and council, the most outstanding people of the State lending their names to it, and we are very proud of the progress we are making along these lines.

We are planning to introduce a bill in the 1929 session of the Legislature, and Mrs. Reginald Jacobs of Ardmore, Chairman of the Committee on Meetings, is planning a big program for the coming year.

This is a little morsel of news that might well be of interest to other States. Mr. Samuel Emlen, who was Representative in Harrisburg, representing the 16th District of Philadelphia in 1927, and who championed our bill when in Committee, has not only joined our organization but has taken the treasurership of our State Federation and is heading our Legislative Committee for the next session. He is not being returned to Harrisburg, as he did not run for office. Mr. Emlen is from a very old Quaker family, which has lived in Philadelphia for many generations.

CHINA

FROM Dr. Dryden Linsley Phelps of the West China Union University (Missionary) at Chengtu, Szechwan, comes an extremely informative and encouraging letter about the possibility of spreading Birth Control as part of the Chinese Mass Education Movement. Dr. Phelps writes:

Among the students all over China Birth Control is known and discussed, and there are translations of Mrs. Sanger's pamphlets (very poor translations, I am told). These are for sale, even in West China. Generally speaking, the students are in favor of Birth Control. The older class of Chinese would not be, but their views are counting less and less. At a meeting of the "first term" missionary teachers at the West China Union University, about

thirty of us, men and women, graduates in medicine, bacteriology, dentistry, theology, etc., there was unanimous agreement that Birth Control was one of the very fundamental solutions for China's sheaf of problems ignorance, poverty, militarism, etc., etc. The group represented graduates from universities in Canada, United States, England and Australia

The ways to work, it seems to me, are

- 1 By conversations with young Chinese leaders,
- 2 By articles in the Chinese magazines and papers, showing that Birth Control will not destroy the Chinese family system, but will insure it better children
- 3 By convincing the leaders of the Mass Education Movement (Dr Yen is now in the East, New York, I believe) that Birth Control propaganda and information should be spread side by side with the propaganda of education, by the Government

Once the Chinese get an idea, they move with amazing speed. The thing is to convince the young Chinese leaders. I shall bend every energy in this direction upon my return to China next fall.

The real difficulty in China is not so much objections to Birth Control. These can be met, and are being met, once people there become convinced that it is Quality rather than Quantity of Life which counts. Life in terms of persons rather than life in terms of rice. But the real need

and difficulty is How to discover the best and cheapest, simplest and most hygienic methods of actual Birth Control. If we could solve that, the rest would not be impossible.

The chief objection to Birth Control in China will be that it "will decimate the upper classes." But that can be obviated by mass education, at which the Chinese are geniuses. Once the common people over there are convinced that Birth Control will mean greater health, prosperity, freedom, and greater safeguarding of the health of the children whom they do have, the rest is easy. But the methods available! There is the problem.



Correspondence

CONGRATULATIONS FOR DR DRYSDALE

Illinois

Editor

I would like to congratulate C V Drysdale on his article about Roman Catholics in last month's issue. I think every Catholic ought to read it. So many of the poorer class have a very faint conception of what their religion really stands for. They seem to understand only the "need" for confession, prayer, observance of fast days and absolute obedience to the priest. My grandparents on both sides were peasants under Nicolas of Russia and if any one told them that between the Czar and the Church their bread never reached their mouths he'd be called crazy or worse.

E W

[This Correspondent will undoubtedly welcome Dr Drysdale's new letter in this issue. Ed.]

Letter to Raymond Arnold of San Francisco

I am interested in Birth Control, especially as it relates to the crime problem. The notoriously unfit should in my opinion, be sterilized and thus be prevented from begetting their kind.

AUGUST VOLLMEYER,

(Chief of Police of Berkeley, California, and recipient of the Harmon Award for 1928)

Editor

I am afraid my contribution to your symposium is a little late, but I am glad the proposal to combine the "REVIEW" with a eugenics magazine fell through. Birth Control work would suffer by the combination. Most of the eugenics enthusiasts are only half-baked, and a lot of the stuff they publish is very unsound.

MALCOLM H BISSELL

(With this letter we close the correspondence concerning the proposal to combine the BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW with a Eugenics magazine—Ed.)

Birth Control

and contraceptive information received nationwide publicity recently because of the reported ruling of Judge Harrison Ewing of Cleveland. Read about it in

JANUARY 15 ISSUE

of

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Child Labor

ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 27, AT THE REQUEST OF THE NATIONAL CHILD LABOR COMMITTEE, 215 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK, MINISTERS WILL PREACH AND PRAYERS WILL BE SAID FOR
LITTLE CHILD LABORERS OF AMERICA

Owen Lovejoy, one of the founders and for many years Executive Secretary of the Committee says of the root and foundation of child labor

If I were asked on the basis of my experience with child labor to give the one cause which in my opinion is more potent than any other in bringing about child labor, I would unhesitatingly say that large families beyond capacity of one person to support, lie nearest the cause of the problem

Margaret Sanger says of the burdened children

Let us listen now to the voices of the children—to those daughters who have been born in the midst of large and growing families, who at the tenderest age have been brought into immediate contact with the dire realities of life

A certain number of the letters are from that large class of women who have been "child mothers" The child mother is an easily recognizable type Often the eldest daughter in a large brood of children, she is called upon by the death of the mother to take over heavy household duties, to bring up younger sisters and brothers Not infrequently a helpless infant a few days, a few weeks, or a few months old, is left for the child mother to tend. Young enough to feel keenly the deprivation of the joys of childhood, this girl is to face precociously the harsh biological realities of life She grows into early womanhood disillusioned of all ideas of romance or of any possible happiness in marriage

Beforehand she knows what to expect of matrimony Ahead of her she sees only the meaningless repetition of the slavery of her mother's life This she seeks to avoid at any cost, no matter how expensive, or what temporary happiness she may be called upon

to give up Several eloquent letters of this type are included in the present group

A quality of almost irresistible appeal is revealed in cer-

tain letters from your girls standing at the threshold of marriage, girls who hesitate before taking that fatal step which would inevitably plunge them into a needless repetition of their mothers' lives

Another set is from mothers who realize that if they bring more children into the world, they will perforce swell the ranks of child-labor, infants predestined to the factory at an early age Such mothers are conscious of the injustice done to the children of the second generation and the cost to their own bodies and souls

Perhaps the most eloquent letter in the present group is the briefest "I am going to be married soon and I don't want any children for awhile My mother died at childbirth and I had to take care of them She had fifteen children I don't want any for awhile" There is another letter of great dignity from an unmarried woman of sixty-two, who has been forced to work for her living since the age of eleven She had been one of many children born into a poor family

Cheated as most of these mothers have been of the roseate romances of adolescence, one finds in their sobriety a dignity and a Spartan recognition of the harsh realities of family life In their case, concealment of biological laws had been futile

We may imagine the warnings whispered by the mother to the eldest daughter — beseeching her at any cost to avoid entering that destructive maze of maternity which has enslaved them all

—From Chapter VIII of "Motherhood in Bondage —Voices of The Children



THE NEWS BOY

THE street is home for you You eat and sleep

With bigger boys and hark to what they say,
And think them mighty men and, shamefaced, keep

Your baby fears and thoughts all hid away
You're starved for food and sleep and love, though you

Would scoff at this and call it all untrue

And oh, you're just a little lad, a little lad, a little lad,

Who ought to think the world's a place for having fun and being glad,

Who ought to be good friends with trees and chummy with the sky and breeze,

And who's to blame, I wonder, if you grow up queer and gross and bad?

—(From NEWSIE-BOY, by Muriam Teschner)

Little Victims of Overstrained Nerves

WHAT is a working-class mother to do? In many cases she is living in two rooms with a large family, wrestling with almost constant child-bearing and consequent illness. The older children get out of hand because she has not the knowledge, the time, or the energy to train them properly.

Last week a woman asked me what she could do with her boy of eight. He fought and struck her, he stole money whenever she left any about, he destroyed his clothes and those of the other children, and his example was teaching the others to be just as bad. "I have eight children and another coming," said the mother, "and after the last two I was in the hospital for three months each time with complications. They are not bad children. If ever I cry and say I am worn out, little Jacky's arms are around my neck in a minute and he is sorry. But he's just as bad an hour later."

The father is earning only 35s a week. This little story brings to light so many problems: the problem of Birth Control, the problem of housing, the problem of inadequate pay. Frankly, I see no way of helping that child, or, indeed, any in the family. His mother is too tired to do much. If she were energetic and healthy, lack of money would make the home so wretched that the children would always be in that condition of nervous unrest that produces these so-called delinquencies. If there were more money it is very doubtful whether a family of ten would get accommodation in a decent house, there are still so few available and landlords cannot be blamed for not wanting their houses spoiled by these little hooligans.

I was astonished a few weeks ago, having written an article on tyrannical children for a working-class paper, to get upwards of a hundred letters from mothers telling me of children ranging from three to fifteen years old who were, as they put it, "turning us out of house and home." These children are the victims of nerve-racking surroundings, of financial insecurity, which plays havoc with their nerves when they hear their parents discussing, in a panic, the problem of finding work and bread; they are the victims of harassed, overdriven parents. Even in the hands of experienced psychologists they would be a difficult proposition. As it is, they have to be with the harassed people who have innocently made them as they are. In school, where they are at peace and kept occupied most of these children have excellent characters, when they leave school and, as is the rule in these days, run about the streets for months at a time they become what are called delinquents. Magistrates like Mr. Clarke Hall are always striking a warning note. "We are making a class of hopeless delinquents," they say. These are the children who, when they marry, will bring into the world a further generation of delinquents.

LEONORA EYLES, in the *Manchester Guardian* (England)

BIRTH CONTROL AND THE DOCTORS

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