

Raid on the Clinical Research Bureau

May, 1929

Twenty Cents

BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW

Children of Chozce, Not of Chance



Courtesy—The Art Institute of Chicago

THE FAMILY GROUP

By GEORGE DE FOREST BRUSH

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Birth Control Review

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EDITORIAL

THIS is my party!" shouted Policewoman Mary Sullivan, in the midst of her personally conducted raid on the Birth Control Clinical Research Bureau in New York City, last week. Subsequent developments have demonstrated that this boast was as premature as it was untruthful. For Policewoman Sullivan's little raiding party, carried out with a vigor that swept aside as unnecessary such things as common courtesy and ordinary good manners, has proved to be of vital interest to every thinking member of this community. And the end is not yet in sight. As I write these indignant words, the announcement comes that Chief Magistrate William McAdoo now admits that the police, in seizing the case histories of our patients, had exceeded the scope of the search warrant he had issued authorizing this raid—an act on their part which constitutes a misdemeanor.

After you have spent some fifteen years, slowly and with infinite pains and patience working for the right to test the value of contraceptive practice in a scientific and hygienic — and lawful — manner, without interfering with the habits or the morals of those who disagree with you, it is indeed difficult to submit with equanimity to such brutal indignities as were gratuitously thrust upon us at the clinic a week ago. Compensations there have been, of course — mainly in the enlightened attitude of such dailies as the New York *Herald Tribune* and others, and the generous offers of aid from distinguished physicians. But even these can scarcely counterbalance the evidence of the sinister and secret power of our enemies.

Whatever the outcome of this raiding party, I hereby call upon the citizens of New York to find out for themselves how and where it originated, and why it was carried out. I ask them to recall the breaking up by the police of the Birth Control meeting in Town Hall, with the subsequent revelation

that this illegal action was instigated by Roman Catholic ecclesiastical authorities. We are paying, and paying heavily, for the support of a great police force. It is our right and duty to insist that it shall function in an efficient, legal, and socially effective manner. Policewoman Sullivan's "party" exposes it as operating in a manner which suggests the gratification of private prejudices and unreasoning emotion, rather than the even-handed administration of justice and the law.

MARGARET SANGER

Founder American Birth Control League

—Courtesy *New Republic* (N Y) May 1st



THE American Birth Control League is vitally concerned in outrage which was perpetrated the fifteenth of last month, when the police raided the Clinical Research Bureau in New York City. The Bureau has operated strictly in accordance with the law of the state, contraceptive information being given by physicians for medical reasons only, as it is given in nine hospitals in New York and in Birth Control clinics of other cities. The Department of Health, the Department of Charities and a special committee appointed by the Academy of Medicine to investigate, have found it legal. Yet this orderly and lawabiding health bureau was broken into and ransacked by the police, its records were seized and its doctors and nurses hustled off to the police station in a patrol wagon.

What individual or body instigated the raid? Police Commissioner Whalen is quoted as refusing to say who made the original complaint. But the only organized opposition which the Birth Control movement meets with is that of the Roman Catholic Church. In 1921 when the police violently broke

The American Birth Control League protests against the injustice of the conviction of Mary Ware Dennett, in the Federal Court of Brooklyn, on April 23rd

April 24 Physicians testified in support of the work of the Clinical Research Bureau. Judge Rosenbluth reserved decision, pending the presentation of briefs by both attorneys on May 8th (See page 139)

up an orderly Birth Control meeting at the Town Hall, they apparently acted at the behest of persons **prominent** in the Roman Catholic Church. Last February the opposition to the Birth Control bill at the **legislative** hearing in Albany was conducted by Roman Catholics and it was one of them speakers who called the **Clinical Research Bureau** a "chamber of horrors." Does not common sense force us to suspect the source of **this** new attack? The **antagonists** of **Birth Control** seem to find in the government a ready arm to strike them blows. Theoretically, however, Church and State are separate throughout this land of **religious** freedom, even in New York.

Why, one wonders, has the Enemy waited until 1929 to **assail** the Birth Control **Clinical Research Bureau**, founded in 1922? Since that time the Birth Control movement has been **steadily advancing**, overcoming obstacle after obstacle, **winning** to its standards one group of the population after another. Now the Roman Catholics are left alone to hold the fortress of the **opposition**. The champions of **Birth Control** are closing in around them from all sides. Is this **raid** on the **Clinical Research Bureau** their last desperate sally before the surrender?

ELEANOR DWIGHT JONES
President American Birth Control League



NEXT November the American Birth Control League will hold a **nation-wide** conference in New York City, a conference which will be one more landmark in the history of the Birth Control movement. It was in March, 1925, that the League gathered together in New York, representatives of **Birth Control organizations** from all parts of the world for the **Sixth International Neo-Malthusian and Birth Control Conference**. Since then there has not been, either in Europe or America, another such gathering. The Conference next fall will be **national** rather than **international**, although it is hoped that there will be present **representatives of the** movement in England and other European countries. The primary object of the Conference, however, will be to bring together the workers for **Birth Control** in all the States where active work is in progress, to meet with representatives of workers' organizations, of women's clubs and of all associations interested in problems of social betterment and of population and **national economics**, and with students and thinkers who are occupied with problems of **population** and of human betterment.



EXACTLY eight years will have elapsed, when the Conference assembles next **November**, since the **First American Birth Control Conference**

opened its sessions in November, 1921, immediately after the **organization** of the American **Birth Control League**. A **comparison** between the status of the movement then and now presents a rate of progress that is almost **bewildering** — progress that should afford the greatest possible encouragement to the workers for **Birth Control**, who are sometimes inclined to become disheartened because **immediate victory** does not crown their efforts to secure favorable **legislative** action, or official approval of **Birth Control clinics**. In 1921, Margaret Sanger had already spent nearly **eight** years in **agitation** and in **heroic** efforts to help the women who were **desperately** in need of **information** and **advice**. She had **received** ready responses from thousands of **individuals** and had learned from **experience** how great was the **desire** and how bitter the need. The words "Birth Control" had been a clarion cry of defiance ever since the founding of the **BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW** in February, 1917. But **Birth Control** had not found its way into the **minds**, the science and the literature of the **nation**, and **only** the **bravest of women** were **willing to acknowledge** their belief in the movement. There was not a **Birth Control Clinic** in the whole of the United States. Social workers **fought shy** of any mention of such a remedy for **social evils**. **Scientists** had scarcely **given** it a thought as of any **importance** in solving the problems of **population** and the medical profession **ignored** the whole subject, **both** in theory and **practice**, except where they **gave** somewhat amateur **advice** to **private patients** who **demand**ed.



A **C**OMPLETE change has come over the world of the **existence** of the **American Birth Control League**. **Birth Control** has become part of the **mental equipment** of every **civilized nation**. It is **hardly** possible to take up any book or **periodical** which touches upon **population**, **economic**, race, or social problems, without being made aware that the **writers** had **Birth Control** in mind while discussing these problems. There is almost a consensus of **opinion** that **Birth Control** in some form or other is necessary for the **continuance of civilization**. Even the **Roman Catholic Church** has quitted the position that there should be **no interference with the size of a family**, and inculcates now the duty of parents to **refrain** — by means of "self control" — from **bringing children** into the world unless they are prepared to **give** them proper care. The medical profession has waked up to a sense of the importance of the question and of its **responsibility** for the medical aspects of it, and there are now 29 **clinics** in the **United States**.

A Research in Marriage*

By HAVELOCK ELLIS

THE SEX LIFE of ordinary men and women has been the very last subject in the world for the cool investigating hands of science to touch. It may seem strange that the inquisitive thirst for knowledge should so long have neglected precisely that subject which so many people regard as of the first importance in their personal lives. It might appear to an outsider the supreme proof of the exalted idealism of an extraordinary species of beings which went to endless trouble and cost in analysing the composition of the stars and were completely indifferent to the analysis of the conditions needed to secure their own personal welfare. But the motives of this neglect were not so lofty as the outsider might imagine. There was more of terror than of heroism in the attitude. Men had so surrounded the most intimate part of their bodies with hideous bogies and taboos that they were frightened at the spectre they had themselves evoked, and it was merely the refuge of cowardice that they sought in stellar space.

So it was that not until about half a century ago was there any systematic attempt to investigate the psychology of sex-love, and then it was confined to the most morbid and outrageous forms of that psychology (as embodied in Krafft-Ebing's *Psychopathia Sexualis*), as though by an instinctive desire to indicate that we were here concerned with phenomena in which ordinary humanity had no part. In my own *Studies* were embodied the first attempts to present the sex histories of "normal" people, and at the same time to indicate that there is no line of demarcation between "normal" and "abnormal." Meanwhile the far reaching speculations of Freud have, on the one hand, almost revolutionized some departments of sex investigation, while, on the other hand, various methodical inquiries have been set up for the acquisition of knowledge on special points, notable among these are the results of the *questionnaires* issued by Dr. Katherine Davis.

BUT Dr G. V. Hamilton's *Research in Marriage* represents an advance on all that has gone before in this field. The author is not unknown. Ten years ago Dr. Hamilton was the pioneer in investigating the sex life of the higher apes under conditions which were an attempt to approximate to the natural conditions, a field in which many have since

followed him. Now, turning to another, and to ourselves still more interesting, branch of the *Primates*, he has inaugurated an equally pioneering series of observations. The distinguishing mark of this investigation, whereby it becomes pioneering, is its more rigidly systematic and comprehensive character. In this way, however it may fall short, it becomes a more nearly scientific attempt to reach the facts than any that went before. We can never be sure that individual histories are typical, and *questionnaires* cannot be adequately controlled and need to be very limited in scope. Dr. Hamilton secured 100 married men and 100 married women (not necessarily husbands and wives to each other), of good social standing and presumably normal. An extremely lengthy series of sometimes very intimate questions was carefully prepared, covering all the main aspects of the sex life. These were submitted to the long-suffering victims of this inquisition under Dr. Hamilton's personal supervision. When the answers were finally obtained (though not all the questions were answered by all the subjects) these answers were elaborately summarized and analysed by Dr. Hamilton's assistants and the results appear as percentages.

The obvious criticism of these results is that the subjects are too few, the more so as for many questions the answers are defective or ambiguous. When we come to the minute shades of sexual feeling or practice, and to the correlations between them which Dr. Hamilton's assistants have worked out with so much skill, lucidity, and patience, we are especially uncertain as to the validity of the results. We should feel more confidence if the subjects could have been increased to the number of a thousand. But this criticism is silenced at the outset by the frankness with which Dr. Hamilton himself acknowledges its force. He repeatedly states throughout that he is not claiming to put forward any final conclusions. It is the right attitude, and in adopting it the author really induces us to be favorable to his results.

Dr. Hamilton is, indeed,—as we must clearly recognize,—an absolutely ideal investigator at the stage of development which sexology has to-day reached. The pioneering days are passed. There are no more continents to discover here, and the methods of the adventurous pioneer can no longer be profitably adopted. It is the highly trained surveyor of the new land that we now require. None in this field of methodical scientific survey seems to

*A Research in Marriage, by G. V. Hamilton, MD, A. & C. Boni, New York \$10.00

be so well equipped to-day as Dr Hamilton. This equipment does not consist merely of his training in comparative and morbid psychology. That would not suffice. Indeed no scientific discipline is in itself enough. For the investigator in this field a particular disposition is needed which no training can yield, an attitude, that is to say, of human sympathy and insight, of freedom from conventional prejudice, of instinctive caution in drawing conclusions. These are qualities that can scarcely be acquired without the right innate disposition. Dr Hamilton's temper of mind is well revealed by his attitude towards Freud, always a test of the investigator in this field. It is at once appreciative and critical, he realizes the magnitude of Freud's achievement and is willing to follow up Freud's stimulating suggestions, but he retains his own freedom and independence. He shows to how considerable an extent hidden psycho-dynamic mechanisms may be discovered, quite independently of psycho-analysis, by what he terms "non-mystical methods of research." It may be noted here, in passing, that this is a questionable use of the much abused word "mysticism," and Freud would certainly protest at being described as a "non-scientific student of human nature," as he claims to be a man of science, neither more nor less. These unfortunate qualifications might well have been omitted without injury to Dr Hamilton's position.

IT IS impossible to summarize this Research, for the volume is itself a summa, and contains 468 tables besides other figures and correlations. The results at a few points may be mentioned in order to indicate the value and often the novelty of the investigation. Thus the significance, even for later life, of opportunities of obtaining early information on matters of sex is clearly brought out. Only 5 per cent of the men and 38 per cent of the women could definitely report that they had had no occasion in childhood to experience curiosity concerning the sex parts, and the importance of early sex knowledge is well indicated by the finding that 80 per cent of those women who knew before the age of six where children came from show adequate sexual capacity in their married life, but only 42 per cent of those who never knew till after the age of twelve, while those who as children met with encouragement to their questions have a much more satisfactory sexual life after marriage than those whose parents were embarrassed or stiff in the face of their children's questions. It appears that 31 per cent of the women, although of well-to-do and educated class, had received no preparation whatever for the appearance of menstruation. No conscious sex feelings had appeared in the large majority of the women before

menstruation, and whether or not it had appeared, no change occurred in this respect at that epoch in 93 per cent. Only 1 per cent of the women could be regarded as sexually frigid, and 74 per cent of the women, and all but 3 of the men, seem to admit masturbation at one time or another, often since marriage. Of the men 59 per cent, and of the women 47 per cent had had illicit sexual intercourse before marriage. But 46 per cent of the men and 61 per cent of the women never except with the future spouse.

With regard to satisfaction in marriage, Hamilton finds that 63 husbands and 47 wives consider their marriage successful or fairly successful. He has a very definite impression that the wives in his group have been more seriously disappointed in their marriages than the men, 39 husbands have no cause for dissatisfaction but only 25 wives, 11 wives find "everything unsatisfactory" but only 2 husbands. Hamilton was rather surprised to find that a man is more likely to be happy in marriage with a woman who is sexually inadequate than a woman is with a sexually inadequate husband. It appears that 21 of 81 married women who had been pregnant have had abortion performed one or more times. With regard to Birth Control, 92 per cent of the men and 87 per cent of the women use contraceptives, though only 18 of the women had never been pregnant, 80 per cent of both husbands and wives feel that their methods are safe, 34 per cent husbands, and also 34 per cent wives say (a few with some qualification) that the means they adopt do not interfere with their or their spouse's sexual satisfaction. Dr Hamilton believes that the strange latterday opposition to Birth Control — for as Carr-Saunders and others have shown the limitation of offspring has always been accepted in earlier stages of civilization — is the greatest obstacle in the way of solving one of the major problems of married life.

DR HAMILTON'S subjects are men and women mostly under forty years of age, all living in New York City and some of them persons of considerable achievement in the world. They are, therefore, full of significant instruction for us as being among the finer representatives of the new adult generation, for we may reasonably suppose that they enable us to realize the direction in which the world is to-day moving. (I may remark that in England my own observations, though I cannot present results so comprehensive and precise as Dr Hamilton's, are being intensive rather than extensive, harmonize with his at all main points.) Dr Hamilton's analysis, moreover, enables him to separate the younger from the elder of his subjects. He is thus able to ascertain that men of the younger gen-

eration are more "conventional" as regards **pre-marital** sexual intercourse—that is to say are more **chaste**—than men of the older **generation**. But not so the women. "Our men are becoming more virtuous and our women less so." The result is that among persons born in 1891 or later the percentage of both men and women who have not had sexual intercourse before marriage is about the same. **James Hinton** who, more than half a century ago, was the passionate though sometimes wrong-headed pioneer of sexual reform, used to be filled **with** wrath at the spectacle of the contrast between the undue **license** and undue restraint,—unequally shared by the sexes—which marked the society of his time. **His** spirit

might have been soothed if he had known how true a pioneer he was of a swiftly approaching future.

Dr. Hamilton's results will doubtless seem shocking to many readers, but though sometimes even himself a **little surprised**, he wisely remains an **optimist**. "The educated younger men and women", he writes, "**with** their **serious-minded** but frankly experimental attitudes towards sex refuse to be superstitiously moralistic, but they also refuse to be **either** obscenely furtive or inexpediently defiant and disorderly. They are trying to be sane and **broad-minded**." That may be said to be the final moral of a memorable research which is as instructive in its facts as it is reasonable and humane in its outlook.



Some Ethical Aspects of Birth Control

By F. H. HANKINS

THE Neo-Malthusian movement is due to the fearful **temporizing** of the founder of modern population studies. Malthus very clearly saw that one of the causes of poverty, disease, **famine**, pestilence and war is over-population. However, in view of the general state of opinion in England in his day, he did not, as an **ordained minister**, dare to draw the **logical** conclusion from his **premises**. This conclusion was very soon set forth, nevertheless, by certain of the more **logical** and courageous early **Utilitarians**, among whom were James Mill and Francis Place, who declared that it was **immoral** for the **married**, as well as for the unmarried, to bring into the world offspring for whom they could not adequately provide. This inference has now been accepted by nearly all sections of the population in Western nations.

The opposition to Birth Control a century ago was primarily due to an **intense** distaste for any public **discussion** of matters **relating** to sex. Christian tradition had made of sex a most horrendous subject. Sex was taboo. On account of it man had fallen from the state of pristine purity in which he was created and in **which** he lived in the Garden of Eden. **Celibacy** was the surest means of **achieving** heavenly purity, sexual **impulses** were temptations

to the most dreadful **sins** and at best were necessary evils. All this has long since passed into the limbo of outworn **traditions**. To us sex is natural, it is at once pleasurable and **legitimate**. It is the source of the highest inspirations and the finest sentiments. Moreover, we see that sexual relations are fraught **with** such momentous consequences for human weal and woe that we are making a frank and courageous effort to **bring** them under scientific control. **This** is in harmony with the new ethics of a new age. Knowledge means control, "We seek to know," said **Comte**, "in order to foresee." Such an ideal, **applied** to the physical sciences, has **revolutionized** the whole basis of man's material life and social organization **during** the period since Malthus wrote. It is both logical and inevitable that the same ideal should be extended to those more difficult and yet more important matters affecting man's physical and psychic welfare.

Accepted as a Necessity

So far has the movement for the control of **births** by contraceptive methods already gone that one may say that it has been universally accepted as a moral necessity by the upper half of the populations of all European peoples throughout the world. It can scarcely be argued that practices which have been so **widely** accepted by the more **intelligent** and **high-minded** classes are immoral. Moreover, when one **inquires** into the reasons for such acceptance, he finds

*An address delivered at the Dinner of the Clinical Research Bureau, February 26th

them to be, for the most part, of an idealistic sort. The upper and middle classes have found in Birth Control one of the most effective means of elevating the whole tenor of their existence. It has not merely raised the standard of material well-being, but it has made possible wider and more extensive education and a more intensive cultivation of aesthetics, including the art, highest and most difficult of all, the art of living.

Family limitation is the greatest boon which the progress of knowledge and morality has granted womankind. The increasing complexities of social life have made necessary a decreased subordination of the lives of women to an endless round of child-bearing. That increasing freedom of women which constitutes one of the brightest achievements of our often drab and gruesome civilization would have been impossible in the absence of reduced fertility. Moreover, there is a direct connection between contraception and abortion. Under the conditions of modern life we must choose between the two, and as between the prevention of life and the stoppage in embryo the modern conscience finds an easy choice.

The opposition to Birth Control in our day is, therefore, less ethical than political in character. Such opposition is epitomized in Mussolini and the Pope. Our Mussolinis encourage an unrestricted fertility as a basis for political and military aggrandizement. They would sacrifice the lives and welfare of the masses in the service of a moribund type of national egotism. Unless the historical evolution of the world should turn backwards and we should find ourselves headed toward a revival of mediaevalism and feudalism, it is safe to say that such sacrifice of popular welfare for reasons of state and church will soon be looked upon as one of the psycho-neurotic delusions of a barbaric age.

The Democratic Ideal

In any case, most modern nations have committed themselves to the democratic ideals of individual liberty and individual welfare. The political morality of our age holds that the highest welfare of the state must be harmonized with the highest well-being of its citizens. It is for this reason that the dissemination of contraceptive knowledge should be legalized. Such knowledge is now securely the possession of the more intelligent portions of the population and deeply implanted in their moral traditions and life expectations. They will neither surrender such knowledge nor forego its utilization. Their whole standard of life, material, physical and mental, is largely dependent upon it. Since one of the aims of a democratic civilization is to extend to the less fortunate members of society that knowledge and those modes of life which the upper classes have found ad-

vantageous, it would seem incumbent upon us to facilitate the acquisition of contraceptive knowledge by those for whom opportunity is now lacking.

This is all the more obligatory, since the morality of a scientific age requires us to be honest with ourselves. Most of those who oppose birth limitation in public for political reasons practice it themselves, some of them in the extreme form of celibacy. They desire large families for reasons of church and state, but are quite willing for others to assume the burdens and responsibilities of their upbringing.

A Controlled Population

Moreover, there is a very important and very special reason why this should be done, namely, the dangers inherent in the differential fertility of the social classes. This, I believe, is the greatest danger threatening the distant future of western culture. There are many reasons for supposing that the more successful elements in our population are better endowed with physical energy and mental abilities than the lower. Many studies have shown that inferior parents have inferior offspring, but under existing conditions the less well endowed elements in the population seem to be multiplying faster than the better endowed. A scientifically controlled population would show a reversal of this tendency. A first step toward such reversal is to reduce the rate of multiplication of the less fit. This can be accomplished most effectively and most readily by giving to the less successful classes the means of checking their fertility. That they will make use of such means seems adequately demonstrated by clinical experience. We cannot hope to increase the fertility of the women of the upper classes under present economic and social conditions. That is, however, one of the necessities of the future.

But even if one ignore the eugenic argument, the extension of contraceptive knowledge to the less favored classes seems fully warranted by its advantages in reducing poverty and sickness, in elevating the status of the women of the working classes, in increasing the possibilities of education for the children of the poor, and otherwise in extending the advantages of modern culture and the refinements of life to lower levels of the population.

Ignorance of contraception is associated with superstition, feminine degradation, high infant mortality, venereal disease, abortion, sickness, poverty and marital unhappiness. These are among the greatest evils from which mankind suffers when left to the blind fatalism of uncontrolled instinct. To attack them directly by means of family limitation is to promote morality, that is to promote sane living, physical and mental health, in a word, to promote happiness and welfare.

Birth Control and Social Economy

By JAMES S H BOSSARD

THERE are two ways of approaching the problems of our acquisitive society—one by way of the human values involved, the other with the measuring stick of the dollar mark * While most persons will render lip service to the former, it just may be that more constructive methods of dealing with these problems will be achieved by increased emphasis upon the latter approach. In fact, some shrewd observer has remarked that social problems will never be dealt with effectively until the man on the street feels the pinch of the defective classes on his pocket-book.

It would seem pertinent, therefore, to summarize briefly certain data on the cost of social ill-being first, for the city of Philadelphia, second, for the state of Pennsylvania, and third, for the country at large. The obvious significance of such data to the Birth Control movement will be touched upon by way of conclusion.

Data for Philadelphia

In 1924, according to a study made by Mr. Sherman Kingsley, the total welfare expenditures in Philadelphia, not including the problem of crime, amounted to \$27,600,000. A recent report on "Community Co-operation in Social Work," submitted to the All-Philadelphia Conference on Social Work, points out that the annual expenditures of the outstanding social agencies in Philadelphia is \$25,000,000 a year.

These totals ignore the money spent in the cause of law and order. From data compiled recently by former District Attorney E. J. Fox, Philadelphia, in the year 1927, spent \$12,000,000 on its police, its detective force, its county prison and its share of the upkeep of the Eastern Penitentiary. The inclusion of these items increases the total to approximately forty millions of dollars which the city of Philadelphia is paying annually through tax-raised funds and through the contributions of its socially minded citizenry as the direct cost of care for its dependent and delinquent classes.

It seems not amiss to point out that this amount is almost equal to twice the annual expenditures for public education in the city, and is more than half the city tax bill in recent years. The total public budget for Philadelphia in 1929 is slightly more than seventy millions of dollars.

Pending Appropriations in Pennsylvania

The pending biennial budget of the Governor of Pennsylvania calls for appropriations to the Welfare Department totalling to \$35,377,000. The total appropriations proposed by the budget amount to \$167,666,302, the welfare appropriations thus constituting about 22 per cent of the entire budget.

Suppose we consider two groups of state appropriations—those to hospitals for the insane and those to penal and correctional institutions. Two years ago, the total state appropriations for state-owned and state-aided hospitals for the insane amounted to \$8,539,000, those for penal and correctional institutions, \$4,838,000. Incidentally, the appropriations to higher educational institutions in the state at that time totalled less than \$7,500,000.

The pending budget recommends \$9,725,850 for the hospitals for the insane and another \$4,940,000 for the maintenance, repairs and new construction of institutions for the feeble-minded and epileptic. For penal and correctional institutions, the budget sets aside \$8,448,000. These three items exceed \$23,000,000, an amount about three times that appropriated to the institutions of higher learning in the state.

Costs for the Entire Country

Until some national accounting agency compiles the expenditures of that giant network of public and private welfare agencies sprawling over the United States, the annual cost of social ill-being can only be approximated. Various estimates have been made from time to time and the amounts named have been of staggering size. Elsewhere I have stated recently ("Speaking in Terms of Dollars", *Social Forces*, The University of North Carolina Press, March, 1929, pp. 389-399) the present conclusions of my own studies in the matter—namely, that the direct costs involved in the identification, disposition, maintenance and treatment of our dependent and delinquent classes in the United States may be placed conservatively, at five billion dollars a year.

Five billion dollars is a very large sum of money. It is almost equal to three times the total annual expenditures for the maintenance of the public school system of this country. It is nearly double the total budget of the federal government in recent years, it approximates three-fifths of the total revenue raised in recent years for municipal, county, state and national purposes, and it exceeds the total value

*The substance of an address delivered before the Pennsylvania Federation, February 27th.

of all the products of the entire **automobile** industry of the United States **in 1927**. Truly, to the most coldly mercenary person, the problem of **society's** unfortunates is a **business** of primary magnitude and importance. And **this, without** mention of the indirect costs involved, such as the possible **contributions** of such persons as **producing** units **in the economic organization** of society, or **their deleterious** effects upon those **with** whom they come **in** contact. **This is** still another story—of many other **billions** of dollars.

The Challenge of These Expenditures

We seem to have reached a **point** in welfare work where the **intelligent citizen** is **querying** the **financial** and social acumen of present policies and procedure. At any rate, some rather pointed questions are being asked. Are the moneys expended for welfare purposes spent **wisely** and **judiciously**? Must such stupendous expenditures continue **indefinitely**? Are there ways, socially fruitful as well, by which these

burdensome costs may be reduced? Are there not **constructive social** measures, now known and advocated, **which** would **yield** larger returns per unit of expenditure? Is it not true **in this** field as in others that the best work is the cheapest work, that the largest returns of **savings** in dollars result from measures socially most desirable? Is the economy of prevention not greater than that of neglect? (cf the author's "Problems of Social Well-Being", Harper and Brothers, 1927, Chapter I)

The **implications** of the foregoing discussion and its significance for the Birth Control movement must be apparent. Many and able students have emphasized the **relationship** between our present ostrich policy about **Birth Control** and some of the **pathologies** of our own contemporary **civilization**. That such **relationship** exists is a fact **which every** mentally unfettered welfare worker knows and **which** every observer of the life stream appreciates. And what, in the **ultimate** analysis, can long withstand the **incisive dignity** of a fact?

Madonna Goes to the River

By PHILIP M. HARDING

Maiden in **black**, why have you brought
Your baby to the nver
At this bleak hour of the night?
You know you cannot drop him in
Yet you have swept **him** from the wrinkled dark
White comfort of your bed and your warm body
Into the smoking sweat of **April mists**
His startled glances play upon
The ghost-eyed street lamps **with their** wet **light-splashes**
Scrawled on the glabrous **pavements—**
(Little weight of grunt-and-shiver)

The nver **spits** a cold tenebrous breath
About you—bke damp laughter pealed
Out of the worm-skin hps of death,
The fluid whisper of waves
Shinks up from somewhere to your spectral shadows
It's deep down there, too deep, and quiet, **too—**
Too **quiet** No, you cannot '
And well you knew **!—yet** you have brought him to
The ravaged midmght his two cheeks
Like stark **white** balls of **fruit** the east
Wind beats relentlessly
Your **thin** store-counter arms, the **sleazy pink-**
Rabbited blanket, are not much **protection**
When the **wind** reels from the east

He's yours, of course—but not the all of him,
Some part of him **is his—**
But how he **trusts you**!
The htle silky hair you stroked and counted
This **morning—throat** and eyes and hps
You kissed, the chubby hands with the ring
You stole from the Ten-Cent-Store for his **birth-gift**
Maiden in black, what grooves your cheeks **in** silver?

Turn and turn, now from the **wind**,
And never a sob Why don't you take **him** home?
Bed **will** feel so good to both of you
And its begun to rain again,
The **wind** is **sturring** up much colder,
Daybreak soon Slow boats will plow
Down a slate nver mth their saber bows
And whirlmg-kmfe propellers '
You must be at your nbbons at eight o'clock,
And even the wash-room
Of a Ten-Million-Dollar "Five & Ten"
Is cleaner than the nver
And you may see **him** every htle **while**
They'll understand And, oh, he'll be so good
To you—someday

Now hear the water **slashing**
The scummy teeth of rock somewhere below you
—You couldn't drop **him** in

The Cry of Our Foreign-Born Women

Below we *publish* six concrete *reasons* for Mr Ernest *Lilien's* brave and *self-sacrificing* response to the *call* of *suffering* Polish women which came to him *unsolicited* as *editor* of a Polish language paper ¹ The *following* are chosen from many letters *written* to Mr *Lilien* on *publication* of the *first* number of *Matka* ("Mother") the *periodical* of the *Association for Birth Control*, *Poksh Division*, at *Stevens Point, Wisconsin* *Subscribers* to the *BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW* who *live in Wisconsin* are urged to take an *interest in this* effort to bring the *blessing* of *Birth Control* to those who need it most The response, as these letters show, is not local *but comes* from *Polish-speaking* people *in many* states *Unless* local people stand ready to *aid* the work, Mr *Lilien writes* that it "*will be retarded though not abandoned*" Mr *Lilien* is secretary of the *Association*, *Mrs Theophda Kuezuska*, a *resident* of New York, is *president* and *Mrs Jadwiga Rynasowa* of *Indiana* is *vice-president*

From an Almshouse

Mass

I received to-day the first copy of "Matka" and I highly enjoy the news that an *educational* source is opened for us, *poorest* of the poor, who have needed *this* light for a long time I for one, personally do not need any *Birth Control*, as I am now a woman of 48, but I have a daughter, I have granddaughters, and *having* been now for the last three years in the State Infirmary, I am *suffering* from *paralysis* You no doubt know, *Dear Ladies*, that in a State *Hospital* there is *misery*, *misery* and once more *misery*, and just here I *arrived* at the firm belief how badly we need *Birth Control* *During* the three years I have passed here hundreds of poor *girls* moved through before my eyes and gave here *birth* to *children* while themselves *infected* *Cripples* themselves, they bore *cripples*, *sick* and *blind* babes, *without* arms and legs It is *horrible* what you *see* here *girls* of 14, 16, 17, women who had already eleven children, an armless woman *sick with diabetes* For *Christ's* sake, do *something*, *devise something* I *greatly* *apologize* that I do not send a dollar, but I *will* send it as soon as I *will* have one In the meantime I *cordially* ask you to accept me in your useful *circle*

A Farmer Would Help

First Letter

New York

I am a farmer and make my round *twice* a week Send me literature for propaganda Meetings could be held in — in the East Side Halls are *easily obtainable* and people who *will* take care of the propaganda are also ready Only send the literature soon before it gets hot Here are two addresses of people who can help much

Second Letter

I acknowledge *receipt* of your letter and of 25 *bulletins* I have sent one to *Detroit*, one to *Poland*, and *distributed* the other 23 in — —, N Y I made my round on Saturday with my farm products and saw *my* customers,

where I *did* some work for your *organization* People are *highly* *interested*, only there is lack of people *willing* to do the propaganda work Even the most *fanatical* Roman blockheads agree when properly *enlightened* Consequently outlook is good You ask me whether I *meant* meetings in Polish or *English* The *localities* I have mentioned are populated *mainly* by Poles, need therefore *Polish* ladies-organizers

From a Labor Organization

New Jersey

(A *district* secretary of a labor *organization* gives the addresses of the local *secretaries* and asks if a branch of the *Association* could be *established* in New Jersey)

Unwanted

New York

I am very glad that *this* copy of "Matka" reached me for I am one of twelve children, I was the eleventh one and for *this* reason I always was hated not only by strangers but also even by my own parents *This* made me an unhappy woman Although I have a good and *industrious* husband and three adorable and healthy children, still the wrong done to me for *being* the eleventh child cannot be forgotten I am not as happy as I should be I am in favor of *Birth Control* Only just now I am unable to send even the small amount of a dollar, *being* in trouble about our mortgage to pay And it is *difficult* to get a loan even for a few months I *wish* you good health and endurance in your work

P S Out of the twelve there are only three *living*

A Widow Writes

Illinois

I received your *Bulletin* of *Birth Control* and I approve of your work because I have the *experience* on *my* own side what *misery* is in *having* many children I have *eight* children and I must bring them up all alone, and I am poor and I would *wish* no one such a crowd I cannot *describe* my *life* to you, so I *finish*

¹ See April *BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW*, page 103

Progress of Eugenical Sterilization

The California Experiment*

THE STUDY of eugenical sterilization in California, financed and directed by E S Gosney, of Pasadena, which has been under way since the beginning of 1926, is now drawing toward completion. Its object has been to collect and analyze data on sterilization in California since the adoption of the first law in 1909. Inasmuch as no other state had an equally long or large record of sterilizations, it was felt by Mr Gosney that this material should be made available to eugenicists everywhere. He accordingly undertook its organization, with the hearty co-operation of all the state authorities, and the guidance of an advisory board consisting of the late Dr James H McBride and Dr George Dock of Pasadena, Henry M Robinson of Los Angeles, Justin Miller, Dean of the College of Law, University of Southern California, Professors Samuel J Holmes and H M Evans of the University of California, Chancellor David Starr Jordan and Professor Lewis M Terman of Stanford University, Otis H Castle, Joe G Crick and Paul Popenoe of Los Angeles and Pasadena. The field work was put in the hands of Paul Popenoe.

A special study of sterilization of women in private practice was carried out by the Los Angeles Obstetrical Society through a committee headed by Dr John Vruwink. It developed that the legal status of private sterilization is quite uncertain, and Mr Gosney now has under way a study by competent legal authorities to lay the foundation for future work in this field.

A complete popular summary of the entire study is now being prepared, and will be published in book form during the course of the year. The papers prepared by Mr Popenoe are: The Insane, The Feeble-minded, Changes in Administration, Economical and Social Status of Sterilized Insane, Attitude of the Patients' Relatives toward the Operation, Attitude of the Patients toward the Operation, and The Effect of Vasectomy on the Sexual Life—all published in the *Journal of Social Hygiene* during the last two years. In addition the following papers were published in a number of other scientific journals and proceedings of Associations: Success on Parole after Sterilization, Marriage Rates of the Psychotic, Fecundity of the Insane, Menstruation and Salpingectomy among the Feeble-minded, Voluntary Sterilization, Social and Economic Status of the Sterilized Feeble-minded, Marriage after Eugenic Sterilization, The Number of People Needing Sterilization, The Law and Human Sterilization, Sterilization and Criminality, Effect of Salpingectomy on the Sexual Life, and Eugenic Sterilization. The last of these papers was published in Berlin.

*See *The Eugenic News*, March, 1929.

Progress Outside of California

The following table is prepared by Mr Gosney's office

State	Males	Females	Total
California	3232	2588	5820
Connecticut	8	150	158
Delaware	57	20	77
Idaho	0	0	0
Indiana	118	2	120
Iowa	43	14	57
Kansas	430	217	647
Maine	0	5	5
Michigan	20	86	106
Minnesota	214	18	232
Montana	20	15	35
Nebraska	109	199	308
New Hampshire	4	42	46
New York	1	41	42
North Dakota	18	15	33
Oregon	179	332	511
South Dakota	0	0	0
Utah	34	30	64
Virginia	1	26	27
Washington	1	8	9
Wisconsin	28	190	218
	4617	3998	8615

The above figures were furnished by the state authorities. Six or seven hundred males were sterilized in Indiana, for eugenic reasons, between 1899 and the adoption of the law in 1907. These are not included in the above figures. In some states that have no eugenics sterilization laws, some institutions occasionally sterilize on their own responsibility. No count is here made of such operations. Nevada and New Jersey once had sterilization laws, but never performed any operations under them. Indiana has not performed any operations since 1909, New York not since 1918. The figures for Kansas are up to June 1, 1929. Idaho and South Dakota are just now starting to put their laws into effect†.

Growing Interest in England

In February a group of prominent medical and ecclesiastical personalities addressed a memorandum to the British Minister of Health on the subject of sterilization. The memorandum does not prejudge the question. It simply states that with a view to the reduction of the numbers of mentally afflicted, unfit, and diseased persons, an inquiry should be held into the best method of dealing with mental deficiency and incurably diseased persons, including a special inquiry into the possibility and advisability of legalizing sterilization under proper safeguards and in certain cases.

†North Carolina has just passed a bill providing for the sterilization or asexualization of mental defectives in and out of institutions, county and state.

Among the fifty men and women who signed the memorandum are Sir Wm Arbuthnot Lane—one of fourteen physicians who signed—Sir Bernard Mallet, President of the British Eugenics Society, the Bishops of Durham and Exeter, the Dean of Westminster and several magistrates. A note from the Eugenics Society, signed by Sir Bernard Mallet, mentions that the number of mentally defective persons in England has risen from less than 140,000 in 1906 to an indefinite figure estimated at not less than 190,000 and which has been put as high as 350,000. Reliable evidence indicates that over 80 per cent owed their

condition to hereditary and incurable defects.

Another indication of growing interest in England is to be found in the recent report of the Board of Control of the State Institution for the mentally unbalanced at Ramp-ton. While the report recommends as present measures better segregation and education of the feeble-minded, it urges also "the study and investigation of sterilization" since "it is well known that feeble-mindedness is passed on from parents to children." It quotes as an example six cases of mentally defective parents who "have had between them twenty-nine even more defective children."

The Black Plague

THE annual Birth Control war is on and in several States is being waged with more than ordinary ferocity. Few causes have stirred as much vituperative and indecent opposition as this one, and none is more in need of intelligent, scientific handling. In New York State the battle has been joined in Albany, where the groups favoring a change in the law have confronted the opposition of a strange alliance composed of Roman Catholic church organizations and the Rev. John Roach Straton. The supporters of the Remer bill—which provides that it shall be legal for physicians to give Birth Control information to married persons—comprise an imposing host of secular and non-partisan organizations, from the State League of Women Voters and the New York City Federation of Women's Clubs to a large number of settlements and day nurseries. Never before has so much cautious and thoroughly respectable opinion been ranged on the side of this sort of legislation. Many ministers and physicians have come out in favor of it, Dr. Benjamin Tilton, consultant at the Manhattan State Hospital for the Insane, said at the hearing on the bill at Albany that a questionnaire sent to the faculties of medical colleges throughout the State showed that the sentiment was 8 to 1 in favor of it.

On the other side of the fence are the Catholics—and Dr. Straton. The latter appeared at the hearing and, by the evidence of newspaper reports, indulged in an orgy of hysterical abuse of the supporters of the bill. The Catholic organizations and press have behaved no better. Not content with preaching that contraception is a sin, they are also unwilling that those who disagree with them shall be permitted even to learn about it. The bill proposed in New York is purely permissive, if it becomes law no person in or out of the Catholic church need ever use measures of Birth Control or receive any information about them. But in spite of this a Catholic organization such as the New York Archdiocesan Union of the Holy Name Society, composed of 343 branches with a membership of more than 100,000 men, has protested to the legislature "against the adoption of the Remer bill as favor of the use of contraceptive methods" (The italics are ours.) Similar misrepresentations

is contained in a statement by the Catholic Bishop of Buffalo, who condemns the law as one backed by "the fanaticism of women whose philosophy of life is pagan, who are indolent in their habits, cowardly in their maternal duty to God and their country, and many of them sterile by the constant use of the practices which this bill would sanction." Even the most liberal sections of the Catholic press have joined the cry. *America*, in its issue of February 16, is willing to wave the Catholic vote as a political club.

In any State where Birth Control legislation is pending, our opposition should not be restricted to indignation privately expressed, but should be conveyed to the legislature, and, particularly, to the members of the committee which has the bill in charge. We frankly confess to a certain cynicism in this matter. The average legislator is not greatly moved by reasons based on ethics or the natural law, but he is not anxious to offend his constituents.

Let him know, therefore, that as a voter, you are against any legislation which helps to spread this black plague of immorality, more deadly to the State, to the family, and to the individual, than a combination of tuberculosis, cancer, and the social diseases. If he laughs at your Christian proclivities, your voting habits may sober him.

This sort of talk makes us wonder. Why is it that the Catholic church so bitterly opposes a law which ought not to affect in any way the behavior of its loyal members? If Catholic men and women oppose Birth Control with the fervor their leaders maintain, legal prohibitions are unnecessary, almost insulting. But men and women of any faith are human, and all the official Catholic protestations we detect are a note of fear, a suspicion that only ignorance can prevent Catholics and non-Catholics alike from seizing upon the knowledge which will help them determine their own fates and control the vital acts of their lives.

—*The Nation* (N. Y.)

Book Reviews

SOCIAL PROBLEMS OF THE FAMILY, by Ernest R Groves Lippincott Philadelphia

WHOLESOME MARRIAGE, by Ernest R Groves and Gladys H Groves Houghton Mifflin New York

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

DR GROVES, professor of sociology at the University of North Carolina, is widely considered an authority on the family. However, the reviewer found these volumes dull and disappointing. All three urge the necessity of a scientific study of family problems and are characterized by an almost painful temperance and moderation of viewpoint, but they lack originality and vigor and straddle controversial subjects like Birth Control. The first volume, the ablest of the three, is intended for normal school and college use. As such it aims to avoid finality of interpretation, has a good bibliography, and suggests stimulating topics for class discussion. The last two are intended primarily for laymen, for those who, "recently married or about to be married, seek information that will make their pathway to continued happiness clearer." They are products of the authors' experience as parents and as counselors on matrimonial and family problems.

The subject of Birth Control Prof Groves seems unable to discuss except in connection with "The Arrested Family" or "The Companionate." Birth Control is inextricably associated in his mind with "no children"—with "only childitis", to reproduce the slogan he has ineptly introduced from Germany, a slogan which is a substitute for thought rather than an embodiment of it.

Seldom is scientific advance attained when, in discussing a controversial question, one confines one's remarks to a repetition of superficial "pro" and "anti" statements. In many circles this is considered scientific methodology. But I assert that it is often nothing of the kind. Sound method sometimes demands that one pass lightly over trivial considerations which often seem fundamental to the half-informed in order to square one's judgment with the findings of recent research. One expects from a sociologist interested in a scientific discussion of family problems more than a naive acceptance and timid reiteration of the blurbs of the multitude. Witness these inaccurate, misleading (or when true) in the observations. (1) We have as yet no completely satisfactory method of Birth Control. (2) Birth Control causes sterility. (3) The chief motives for family limitation are sex satisfaction and a base desire for comfort and luxury. (4) "The home still recovers (i.e., survives) in countless cases because the program of no children falls since contraception is unreliable." Prof Groves writes as if he were oblivious to the constructive side of Birth Control.

He tells us that "next to nothing is done to lift marriage above sex." This attitude is indicative of his whole approach. It is evident that he considers the sexual embrace low and base, which is about as far out of accord with present day psychiatric trends as one could find in modern literature. Moreover he thinks that sexual maladjustment plays a minor rôle in family discord—a superficial if not a false view. Upon rare occasions the author has a gleam of insight into one of his problems as when he admits that the "unwelcome child," who receives little or no affection, is a "problem not at all less serious than the case of the child smothered with parental affection." But the form in which he puts this statement is indicative of his perspective and emphasis. Surely Prof Groves must realize that for every child whose personality is warped through lavished affection, a far greater number are stunted and warped by uncontrolled reproduction.

Anyone who has had an elementary course in economics should be able to refute the author's alarmist talk about the "grinding down of the middle class." No where is there discussion of the basic problem of the reproduction of the socially inadequate. In one place Prof Groves even seems to extol parental irresponsibility as when he refers to that small portion of the middle class which has large families regardless of resources, as "wiser" than those who restrict their families when incomes are low.

As to the future, as Prof Groves sees it "Materialism" and the "pleasure philosophy" will cause a still greater decline in the birth-rate. The family of few children will predominate, and the companionate will compete successfully with the orthodox family. The millions who accept Birth Control are mere misguided souls, if, in the process, they wreck the family and discard the Godly virtues that social "crisis" will not be reenacted.

Since the above was written "The Marriage Crisis"* has appeared. More readable than its predecessors, it takes a more liberal and informed position on Birth Control. Its revolutionary character is at least recognized. But I fear the author has a long way to go before he understands fully the implications of the subject. This last book is mainly concerned with pointing out the dangers of too hasty experimentation in family relationships, and, in so far as it shows the dangers inherent in carrying out certain hair-brained schemes afloat, it succeeds in its object. It is the kind of book journalists write and that the more pious social workers gulp down whole. It will never reach the people who "fall" for the schemes the author attacks. One might wish that it could for there would then be the possibility that such readers might profit by the sanity of outlook which characterizes it.

NORMAN E HIMES

*"The Marriage Crisis" by Ernest R Groves Longmans Green & Co., N Y

ROADS TO SOCIAL PEACE By Edward Alsworth Ross, Ph D, LL D The University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill, N C

IN THIS excellent little volume, Professor Ross briefly analyses some of the principal ills from which the world is suffering. He then summarizes the policies which should be adopted to cure these ills, and to arrive at internal peace and concord between the various sections of the country, the differing religious sects, the groups of nationalities of which the United States has so great a variety, the classes into which society is divided through economic differences, and finally for the allaying of the conflict between the townsman and the rural dweller. Unfortunately sweet reasonableness is not to be expected of mankind, or the world would have advanced far beyond these social conflicts. Nevertheless it is only by repetition and reiteration that ideas will ever find popular acceptance. The great advantage of Professor Ross's method is that it presents the evils and offers the remedies in such clear and lucid language that it is impossible to be untouched by its reasoning. The whole volume runs only to 133 pages. It should be in every public library, every college library, and every minister's and teacher's study. That a man so sane and so reasonable should at the same time be a friend and supporter of the cause of Birth Control should convince some of our opponents that they are mistaken in supposing that this cause is one only of aptators or fanatics. A G P

THE MOTHER, by Grazia Deledda, translated by Mary G Steegman. The Macmillan Co., New York

THE MOTHER" written by Grazia Deledda, is the story of a few simple, rugged people of Sardinia. In a way that hangs it vividly before us, it describes a country little known to the average person. Far away from the world which we speak of as "modern", and seemingly untouched by any of the doings of that world, its people live in simplicity, troubled only by the most fundamental problems of life. The story deals with a priest, the son of a peasant woman, who comes to his small parish to live with his mother. Her part in the household is that of a servant and housekeeper rather than parent. The third character is the aristocratic young woman with whom the priest falls in love, and who stands for everything in life that his humble rank, as well as his priestly vows, have denied him.

The struggle arising from this love is the theme upon which the novel is based, and it has been handled with real skill and great depth of feeling. The priest is suddenly confronted with his first passion. It frightens him, though it draws him on to his doom. Its very worldliness and earthly joy that repel him, at the same time bring him to the realization that he has given up more than he knew when he took his vow, at a time when he was too young to have realized the meaning of earthly ties and emotions.

His mother, suffering in the background, never taken into his confidence, not daring to offer advice or sympathy, is a deeply moving figure. She is impressed by his rank and authority, acquired through his priesthood, she is fearful of the will of God, but she is nevertheless torn by a mother's desire that her child have all the joy of life, that he be deprived of none of the happiness that could come to him. Peasant, as she is, believing the church infallible and the celibacy of the clergy ordained by God, yet her human heart, making her son's sufferings her own, instinctively feels the injustice and cruelty of celibacy. The author's handling of this character, more than anything else in the book, discloses her as a distinguished artist.

The story is told from the angle of the mother, and so the girl does not play a large part, although her emotional depth and strength of character are distinctly brought out.

The story moves along quietly and naturally until events begin to shape themselves into a climax, and the last part of the book is splendidly written, characters and happenings moving on swiftly and naturally to a striking ending.

The book received the Nobel prize for the year 1926, and is well worth reading.

MARY POKEBASS

THE TRUTH ABOUT BIRTH CONTROL, by George Ryley Scott, F R A I, F Ph S, F P C (Lond), F Z S (A Guide for Medical, Legal and Sociological Students) T W Laune, Ltd London

A VERY readable little book which discusses competently the physiology of conception, and of contraception as practiced up to about 1925. The later techniques and the percentages of success obtained in the American clinics are unknown to the author who therefore guesses (not too well) about the possibility of generally applied Birth Control. He has had practical experience in breeding animals under laboratory conditions and rightly stresses the uncertainty of eugenic results, a matter "wilfully perverted or suppressed by practical breeders who wish to disseminate the idea that they have brought the art to something approaching certainty." But when he applies his biology to human beings, he falls into egregious errors, comparing "the society butterfly" to the Pekingese and the "hard-working, well-exercised, homely-fed woman" to "the cur-dog" for relative fertility, implying that the fecundity of the society woman is as low as her fertility. His biological training should have warned him that it would be rather difficult to find a human group inbred constantly for ten thousand years, (allowing human generations only five times the length of Pekingese generations).

He has read about the Neo-Malthusian position enough to know that there is some question of available food supply, and answers that there would be lots of food if we weren't so busy making money. A very pertinent remark for us here, where the farmer has not exactly shared what

is euphemistically called "Coolidge Prosperity", but not a complete remedy for the malnutrition of the world, much less a permanent one

Scott is amused at various excesses of enthusiastic statements on the part of Birth Controllers and of antis theological and imperialist, largely because he believes the causes of the falling birth-rate biological rather than voluntary, and then comes out with this gem "With human nature what it is, not more than one person in a hundred will go to the requisite trouble for years on end with never a let up" (Itches his)

The book ends with a plea for Birth Control as a personal matter and this reviewer agrees with him heartily when he says "Every married couple have the right to decide for themselves whether or not they shall practise contraception"

I cannot refrain from closing with a quotation which shows how utterly out of touch this laboratory man is with the stage of the Industrial Revolution that has been going on during his lifetime "I should be firmly in favor of the encouragement of extensive breeding among the laboring classes and restricted breeding among the upper and middle classes The scavengers of the country must come from somewhere" Not a bad picture of present policy, perhaps, but hardly the attitude of a man possessed of the final truth about Birth Control

HUDSON CHAPMAN, JR

LIVING MACHINERY, by A V Hill Harcourt, Brace and Co New York

THESE lectures, which were designed to be presented to a juvenile audience in London, are very clear presentations of muscle and nerve physiology This field is, of course, the author's forte, and it is a privilege to have a simple and clear presentation which bears scientific scrutiny of an otherwise intricate subject It is to be recommended highly to those with scientific curiosity who seek acquaintance with the activities of the human body

The last two lectures are for adults They present the author's views on extra-physiological subjects, but they are so pervaded by personal sentiment that they call for a great deal of criticism and discussion They might well have been omitted from this volume, and the book would have benefited by their omission

MORRIS H KAHN

AL SMITH, THE POPE AND THE PRESIDENCY
By Theodore Shroeder Published by the Author, 18
East 10th St, New York

THE opposition to Al Smith, so far as it was based on this religion, was largely of the intolerant character which he so loudly proclaimed it to be But there was an element in this opposition which was based on reason, and Mr Shroeder in this volume shows just why the most liberal and tolerant of Americans may reasonably fear entrusting the country to a man who places his conscience in the keeping of the Catholic Church

SIBYLLA, OR THE REVIVAL OF PROPHECY, by
C A Mace, M A E P Dutton and Company, New
York Today and Tomorrow Senes

TO the three dozen and more volumes that already constitute the Today and Tomorrow Series, Mr Mace contributes a rather slight addition The one thought of value that runs through this tiny volume is that the time is coming when mankind will again have seers and prophets who will predict, in no mysterious or supernatural manner, but on the basis of exact scientific knowledge, future happenings When he leaves the theme of the prophet of the future and endeavors himself to foretell what mankind will become and do, his words lose force and value He may truly predict the coming of the prophet but he is not the prophet who is to come

GROWING UP By Karl de Schweinitz, The Macmillan Company New York

VERY briefly, in a clear attractive style and with many and beautiful illustrations, the author tells the story of how we become alive, are born and grow up A book for quite young children and their parents

Books Received

SEX AND YOUTH, by Sherwood Eddy, Doubleday Doran & Co, New York \$2 00

WHAT IS WRONG WITH MARRIAGE? by Dr G V Hamilton and Kenneth Macgowan, Albert & Charles Boni, New York \$3 00

SEX IN CIVILIZATION, Edited by Calverton and Schmalhausen Introduction by Havelock Ellis, Macaulay, New York \$5 00

SEX EDUCATION, by Percy Clark, Rational Life Publishing Co, Inc, New York

IT'S NOT OUR FAULT, by Alfred Lawrence Hall-Quest, Horace Liveright, New York \$2 50

BOWLS OF PHANTASY, by Flora Bishop Hendricks, Robert Packard & Co, Chicago, Ill \$1 50

CHILDREN OF FIRE AND SHADOW, by Lucia Trent, Robert Packard & Co, Chicago, Ill \$2 00

THE ART OF LIFE, by Havelock Ellis, Houghton Mifflin Co, New York \$2 00

SOCIETY AND ITS PROBLEMS, by Grove Samuel Dow, Crowell, New York \$3 00

ESSENTIALS OF CIVILIZATION, by Thomas Jesse Jones, Henry Holt and Co, New York \$2 50

MARRIAGE AND THE STATE, by Mary Richmond and Fred S Hall, Russell Sage Foundation, New York \$2 50

THE PROBLEM CHILD AT HOME, by Mary Buell Sayles, Commonwealth Fund, Division of Publications, New York \$1 50

The Baltimore Birth Control Clinic

THE Baltimore Committee on Contraceptive Advice has issued the first annual report of its Bureau for Contraceptive advice, founded November 1927

Statistical Report

The statistical report prepared by Dr Raymond Pearl presents some very interesting facts. Of the 168 patients advised, 29 or 17.3 per cent were colored, and 139 or 82.7 per cent were white. In 1925, the last year for which data are available, 14.7 per cent of the total population of Baltimore was made up of negroes. It is thus seen that the attendance of negroes on the clinic is slightly higher than their representation in the general population. So far, then, as this first year's experience may be taken as indicative, it tells against the argument frequently made against Birth Control, to the effect that the economically less fortunate and less foresighted elements of the population would not avail themselves of contraceptive advice if it were freely offered.

The average age of the 168 women was 30.98 years, or just a week under 31 years. Half were under 30.8 years of age when they came to the Bureau. All the patients are married. The distribution of the lengths of time they had been married before they came to the Bureau demonstrates at once the fallacy of one of the arguments sometimes raised against the giving of contraceptive advice, to the effect that it is chiefly sought by the young as a means of escaping the moral responsibilities of marriage. One-half of the patients coming to the Bureau had been married more than 11.8 years when they came. The average duration of marriage of these 168 women was 12.3 years.

The average mother who came to the Bureau had been pregnant more than six times and had borne five or more (4.93 exactly) children before she came. But the average age of this group of 168 women was only thirty-one years, and, on the average they had been married only 12.3 years. Such reproductive rates are not conducive to either private or public health. A more perfect demonstration of the need for the Bureau for Contraceptive Advice, as a health measure, than this fact affords would be difficult to imagine.

The most widely heard criticism of Birth Control, from a social viewpoint, is that only the "upper" or "socially desirable" classes, whatever precisely these designations may mean, practice it. But among our patients the only groups which, in fact, could possibly be regarded as falling under the first of these designations are the "Professional men, managers and capitalists" on the one hand, and the "Public servants" on the other hand. But actually the three "Public servants" were one policeman, one fireman, and one coast guard. So we are left with only the 10 persons in the Professional class, or 6 per cent of the total. The other 94 per cent of the patients cannot justly be accused of belonging to the "upper classes," though they include a great

many desirable citizens. This 94 per cent earned their living as railwaymen, clerks, farmers, domestic servants, tradesmen, skilled, semi-skilled or unskilled laborers.

Medical Report

The medical report is prepared by Dr Whitridge Williams. The Bureau was founded with the unusual provision that only women sent by physicians would be advised. Since the poor who were to be its chief clients seldom have a family physician, special arrangements were made for patients sent by social service and other charitable workers. All cases accepted were such as came under the description for the cure or prevention of disease and the medical report shows the distribution of disease or predisposition to ill health.

The larger group of patients showed frankly medical indications, some of which are nervous diseases, tuberculosis, kidney, heart or thyroid trouble, syphilis, epilepsy and recent operations. A smaller group were suffering from too frequent pregnancies with complications, and a group of sixty from too frequent pregnancies "without complications." That the help given this latter group represented true preventive medicine is indicated by the number of children already brought into the world by some of these mothers, one of whom had 9 children in 12 years, others, 8 children in 10 years, 11 children in 13 years, 12 children in 14 years, 9 children in 9 years, 12 children in 16 years, 6 children in 6 years, 10 children in 15 years, 11 children in 14 years.

Expenses of the Bureau, the address of which is 1028 North Broadway, are met by the Committee on Contraceptive Advice whose chairman is Judge Jacob M. Moses. Other members of the Committee are Dr William H. Howell, Vice-Chairman, Dr Raymond Pearl, Vice-Chairman, Mrs Richard L. Cary, Secretary, Dr Donald R. Hooker, Treasurer, Mrs Caleb N. Athey, Mrs William Bauernschmidt, Dr Mildred C. Clough, Dr Paul W. Clough, Miss Elisabeth Gilman, Prof Jacob H. Hollander, Mrs Donald R. Hooker, Mrs Henry C. Kirk, Rabbr Morris S. Lazon, Dr Adolf Meyer, Dr L. Wardlaw Miles, Dr Mary Sherwood, Dr Lillian Welsh and Dr J. Whitridge Williams. Dr Bessie L. Moses is Director, with Mrs Edwin K. Gontrum as her nurse and assistant.

TENTH MONTH

By MYLA FLETCHER

Into the ninth month we must go
Mysterious tenth month, shall I know
If meeting means that we must part,
I and the new life in my heart?

— From *Herald-Tribune* (N. Y.)

Press Comments

Police, Doctors and Birth Control

Editorial, N Y Herald Tribune, April 17, 1929

THREE large questions pose themselves as a result of the dramatic police raid upon the Birth Control Clinical Research Bureau on Monday afternoon

First, who ordered the raid, and why? Police Commissioner Whalen is quoted as refusing to say who made the original complaint Why?

Second is the question of the police tactics The doctors and nurses who compose the clinic's staff were herded into a patrol wagon, despite their offer to pay for taxicabs, and if an attorney had not arrived in time to protest they would have been fingerprinted as common criminals This is not ordinary police procedure with those charged with a misdemeanor, it was an abuse of police authority But it is of slight importance compared to the police action in seizing the confidential files of the clinic The bureau has given contraceptive advice, upon medical authority, to several thousand women, and has refused such advice to many more, in every case it has made an elaborate confidential record of the patient's life history If police can seize doctors' and lawyers' general files without a specific warrant and paw them over in search of possible evidence, the privileged relation of doctor or lawyer and client ceases to exist The possibilities of abuse, including blackmail, are virtually unlimited Even those doctors who have not agreed with the general position of the Birth Control clinic are likely to protest against such arbitrary police invasion of medical privacy

Third comes the general question of the desirability of such clinics The law is clear It specifically excepts physicians from its general prohibition of supply of contraceptive information and material, and the state Supreme Court, in a unanimous decision in 1918, pointed out that this provision was "broad enough to protect the physician who in good faith gives such help or advice to a married person to cure or prevent disease" The court then went out of its way to cite Webster's broad definition of "disease" as "an alteration in the state of the body, or of some of its organs, interrupting or disturbing the performance of the vital functions and causing, or threatening, pain, illness, sickness or disorder" This sounds to the layman like specific authorization of the type of work performed by the clinic

Beyond that the law does not at present go It is safe to say, however, that public opinion has been tending toward a more liberal attitude, and the New York State law may at no remote time be changed to make scientific contraceptive knowledge even more generally available than it is today

After Six Years

Reprinted from "It Seems to Me" by Heywood Brown, N Y Telegram, April 17, 1929

(Copyright, 1929 N Y Telegram Corp.)

IF THE medical profession fails to resent the recent raid upon the Birth Control Clinical Research Bureau the physicians of this city should all consult chiropractors in an effort to learn what ails their spines

The clinic has been in operation more than six years It is conducted by reputable physicians who are entirely familiar with the law concerning the giving of contraceptive information Chantable and religious organizations have sent patients Dr C C Little, the former president of Michigan University, is on the advisory board Well known doctors and scientists from all over the world have investigated the scope and methods of the clinic

The Court of Appeals has given a very clear ruling in the matter of the dissemination of Birth Control data A duly licensed physician may give advice to a married patient if in his judgment this advice is necessary to keep her from sickness

I think the law ought to be broader than that It seems to me that the economic factor deserves consideration Poverty and want and worry all should be classified among the major maladies However, the doctors at the clinic have not allowed themselves any such liberal construction I think eventually the law should make it possible to give information to people who are not married

But all this is beyond the scope of the clinic Surely a doctor has a right to demand the privilege of keeping his patient from serious illness Medicine is nothing if this freedom is denied the doctor The ethics of the profession are high The qualifications to practice are severe Physicians themselves are jealous of their honor and should be In fact, it seems to me that any disputed border line cases which may arise in the matter of the giving of contraceptive information are essentially medical problems and not legal ones at all I challenge the competence of Anna McNamara, policewoman, to act as complainant

Margaret Sanger has served her country and her community very well It will be said that she went to jail when convicted of giving Birth Control information illegally in 1916 Mrs Sanger is a registered nurse and not a physician and her conviction proved a very useful sacrifice

Indeed, I wish that the word "sacrifice" were always used in the same strict way which applies upon the baseball diamond The batter sacrifices himself in a premeditated and successful attempt to advance the runner By going to jail Margaret Sanger advanced the cause of Birth Control, for in deciding against her the court ruled that physicians could at their discretion give information to prevent sickness

The Raid

SHORTLY after the attendant in charge of the **waiting** room at the **Clinical Research Bureau** had told a **visiting physician** that the days of police raids on legitimate Birth Control activities were over, the police patrol drew up at the door, two **pohcewomen** and half a dozen **unformed policemen** entered. They drove out the fifteen **patients waiting** to be called—forcing some first to **give** their names and addresses—seized materials and case records and arrested five of the workers. This was on April 15th, the workers arrested, who were released on bail at the Jefferson Market Court, were Dr. Hannah M. Stone, Dr. Elirabeth Pissoort and three nurses, Miss Antoinette Field, Mrs. Sigrid Breastwell and Mrs. Marcella Sidden, and the complainant was Anna K. McNamara, a **policewoman**. The order was **given** by Inspector O'Brien, the warrant was **signed** by Chief Magistrate McAdoo, Assistant District Attorney Hogan had charge of the case, and the Chief of **Policewomen** who accompanied **Policewoman** McNamara was Mrs. Mary Sullivan, so there is very little doubt as to the shade of **religious** opinion professed by the named "private citizens" on whose complaint the **raid** was made.

At the time of going to press (April 20th) only Mrs. McNamara's testimony has been taken before Magistrate

Abraham Rosenbluth at Jefferson Market Court. On her case the charge is based.

Mrs. McNamara stated that on March 23 she made an appointment as "**Mrs. Tierny**" to be examined by Dr. Pissoort. For her clinical record card she alleged that she had three children, five and three and under a year old, that her husband was a truck driver earning \$40.00 a week and that he sometimes drank. Dr. Pissoort's medical **examination** on April 3rd showed that contraceptive **advice** was justified, she was **given** supplies and returned on April 10 for a check-up by Dr. Stone. **Five** days later the raid was made on the charge of **violating** Section 1142 penal code.

The hearing will be **continued** on April 24 when a large number of doctors will testify, on the **medical** record of the case, that it comes well **within** the **medical** exception under Judge Crane's **interpretation** in the Margaret Sanger case "for the cure or **prevention** of disease," and Morris **Ernst**, attorney for the defense will ask that the case be dismissed. The **medical** body is aroused, for this is a **direct** attack on the **right** of physicians. Already the pressure of **medical opinion** is shown by the presence of 14 doctors in the courtroom on April 19th ready to **testify**. It is shown also in the **immediate** return, on the demand of Attorney **Ernst**, of the **medical** record cards seized.

News Notes

UNITED STATES

DR. COOPER, the **Medical** Director of the **American** Birth Control League reports "I left Evansville on March 2nd and spent most of this month in Louisiana, Texas, Mississippi, and Alabama. The complete **itinerary** from March 1 to April 8 was as follows:

Evansville, Ind., Texarkana, Ark., Marshal, Tex., Shreveport, La., Beaumont, Tex., Houston, Tex., Galveston, Tex., Lake Charles, La., Alexandria, La., Baton Rouge, La., New Orleans, La., Gulfport, Miss., Mobile, Ala., Hattiesburg, Miss., Meridian, Miss., Selma, Ala., Montgomery, Ala., Atlanta, Ga., New York, N. Y.

Medical meetings have been addressed in almost all of these places. A very **cordial** reception was **given** to me everywhere and in the few places where I did not address the Society, an **invitation** was extended to me to lecture to them at some future time. At all the places where I lectured a cordial **invitation** to return was always **given**, and many new friends among the medical profession have been made for Birth Control.

Two things stand out among my **observations** on this trip. First the South has heard less of Birth Control than other sections of the country. The idea is newer and therefore there is more **conversation** about the matter. When, however, the people here understand what it is all about and realize that it is something which they can give their approval to, they are as much interested and co-operative

as those in any other **section** of the country. The second observation is that no matter what **section**, where doctors are interested in Birth Control at all, generally speaking they are interested in the economic aspects as well as the **medical**.

I have lectured now to over three hundred medical societies in every state in the **Union** and have touched upon practically all the reasons for the use of Birth Control, and I find that the reasons which have the greatest appeal are the health and economic reasons. Life—health—and the quality—the fullness—of life are more appealing to the individual, who asks himself "how does this affect **me now**," than the more speculative and **academic** aspects of the subject. While we must continue to **point** out the **international** and **national**, the **social** and **biological** aspects of Birth Control, we must remember that personal reasons are the strongest in **motivating** human conduct. This does not mean that selfishness is the motive but self-interest in the best sense."

Dr. Cooper returned to New York on April 8th. On his eighty day trip through Indiana, Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama, with one stop in **Georgia** (Atlanta), he visited thirty cities and addressed twenty-five medical and **thirteen** lay meetings.

New York

THE Sunrise Club The twelfth dinner of the season was held by the Sunrise Club on April 2, at the Cafe Boulevard, New York James F Morton opened discussion of the question "In Italy and at Albany—Shall a Cehbate Priestly Caste Control Human Reproduction?"

Mrs Richard Billings, member of the Board of Directors of the American Birth Control League, has in recent weeks been speaking before groups of the New York League of Women Voters in Westchester and Long Island, on the subject of Birth Control She has secured a large number of names of women who are ready to endorse the legislative work of the League at Albany next year

Mrs Robertson Jones, President of the League, spoke at the Labor Temple on April 6th on Birth Control and the work of the League The meeting was held under auspices of "Reconciliation Trips," an organization promoting the better understanding of social and racial problems

California

ALICE PARK of Palo Alto, Chairman of the Northern California Birth Control Committee of 100, writes The Northern California Birth Control Committee of One Hundred has been informed, through the Attorney of the Northern California Branch of the American Civil Liberties Union, that one Carl Rave has been fined in the Police Court of Daly City for selling a pamphlet by Margaret Sanger, fined \$100 and sentenced to three months in jail, and that this sentence has been sustained, March 1929, by Judge George Buck of Redwood City, San Mateo County It is a matter of record that the book in question has already been before the Superior Court of Sonoma County, under section 317 of the Penal Code, and prosecution was dismissed by the district attorney Appeal from the judgment of the police court was also granted in San Francisco

We find further, that this case was not tried under the Birth Control statute of the California Penal Code, but under the Obscenity Law Legislators, even fifty years ago, recognized the fact that Birth Control could not be classified with lewdness and obscenity Officers of the Committee of 100, which has offices at 473 Mills Bldg, San Francisco, are Mrs Park, Chairman, Mrs Elsie Pratt, Corresponding Secretary, Rabbi Coffee, Mrs Frank Duveneck, Col C E S Wood, Carohne Nelson and Sara Bard Field, Vice-Chairmen Dr Samuel J Holmes, professor of zoology at the University of California, Eugenist and active supporter of the Birth Control movement, made "The Biological Trend of the Negro" the subject of the annual faculty research lecture, which he was chosen to deliver for 1929 His lecture was an appeal for the extension of Birth Control for this race

A Clinic known as The Mothers Health Clinic opened in Oakland, on March 12th as result of Mrs Sanger's visit We quote an excerpt from a letter received from Mrs

Henry G Hill, President of the Woman's City Club of Oakland "We are still under the spirit of your presence here, and owing to your enthusiasm and your loyalty to the cause we have been inspired to go on with the work with new energy and vigor" The Clinic at Los Angeles which enjoys an endowment of \$35,000 left by Dr Bramard, has recently received another legacy of \$25,000

Indiana

FOLLOWING Dr Cooper's visit to Indianapolis, where he addressed the largest attendance of the local medical society ever held, the Indianapolis Medical Journal for March featured an article by him on contraception Birth Control was also the subject of editorial comment in this number

Pennsylvania

A GROUP of prominent physicians in the Philadelphia district sponsored a meeting in the Rose Room of the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel in Philadelphia on Tuesday evening, March 19th This meeting was attended by 500 doctors from various Counties in the State and some from New Jersey, in addition to 100 students from the Graduate School of Medicine of the University of Pennsylvania who received special invitations

The speakers were Dr Robert L Dickinson of New York, Secretary of the Committee on Maternal Health, and Dr Hannah M Stone, Medical Director of the Birth Control Clinical Research Bureau of New York City It was the first meeting of the kind ever held in Pennsylvania at which Birth Control methods were discussed and was an unqualified success as to interest and number of physicians attending Dr A Lovett Dewees of Haverford, President of the Pennsylvania Birth Control Federation presided

At the request of the Northampton Medical Society, Dr Dewees addressed the regular monthly meeting held in Easton recently (March 15th) where Birth Control was discussed before a record attendance Last week the Lehigh County Medical Society endorsed the Birth Control Bill which is to be presented at this session

The University of Pennsylvania debating team met Yale on March 22nd at the University of Pennsylvania—Birth Control being the subject Dr Stuart Mudd acted as one of the judges and Dr A Lovett Dewees, President of the Pennsylvania Birth Control Federation, was present

AUSTRIA

A FOREIGN letter to a January number of Journal of the American Medical Association reports that the birth-rate in Vienna, where Birth Control is well known even to the poor through the Mother Centers conducted by Johann and Betty Ferch, has dropped from 24.4 per thousand in 1913 to 18.3

CHINA

REPORTS from China show that **famine conditions** are **involving** 20,000,000 men, women and **children**, and that 500,000 of these are **already** actually **stamng**. The *New Republic* **commenting editorially** on the **situation** says "**Famine is**, of course, more or less **chronic in China**. That unhappy land **is** so over-populated that many millions of **its** people **live** and **die without** ever **getting** 'a full meal' by western standards. The mere purchase of **supplies with** which to **relieve famine in** one area may so **raise the price** of food **in** another as to push numbers of people beneath the **subsistence level**. No country **in** the world **is so in** need of **Birth Control as China**, where at present **religious and social** custom make **its introduction** almost **impossible**."

ENGLAND

DR HOWARD-JONES, **addressing** the **Society of Medical Officers in London** **emphasized** the **necessity** for **skilled ante-natal and natal care** because "the women of England have **decided** to reduce the **birth-rate** on a large scale." Thus the less **rapid** output of human **life** tends to a more careful **conservation** of the **existing** supply, to the advantage of all concerned.

Dr R Cove **Smith, speaking** before the **British Medical Association** **appealed** for more and better **medical teaching** on the subject of **Birth Control**. "The **teaching is microscopic**, yet everyone of us **is** asked, sooner or later, to **give** some **advice on it**," he **said**.

ITALY

MUSSOLINI'S **desire** for a **high birth-rate** **is** taking many **forms**, both **coercive** and **persuasive**. News reaches us of a proposed decree whereby women who **deliberately refrain** from **having** **ch~ldren** would be deported to some small lonely **island**. "There", the **dispatch** concludes, "**with no distraction it is possible** that sheer boredom **cl** lead them to long for **children**."

According to an **English** correspondent, **something of the hysteria associated with religious revivals** marks the Duce's concentrated effort to **obtain more babies**. **Meetings** **lauding** the value of the **prolific ideal**, **premiums** and messages of thanks for the mothers of **twins**, free opera **tickets**, tax **concessions**, reduced **train fares**, and the **questionable honor** of a **military band booming** beneath the new born **baby's window**, are some of the **baits** held out to **profligate** women.

PORTO RICO

FROM Ponce, Dr Jose Lanauze Rolon writes that he **is continuing** his efforts for **Birth Control**. In 1926 Dr Rolon had a debate, **earned on** through the local press and **published in part in** the **BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW**,* with a group of **Dominican Fathers**. Through his efforts the local **Socialist Party is planning this winter to introduce** a **Birth Control bill** into the **legislature** and **legislators** have already been **circularized** with literature prepared by Dr Rolon.

Correspondence

TWO LETTERS PROTEST "JUST ONE BABY"

West Hartford, Conn

Editor

I was somewhat **surprised** to read **in** your **otherwise interesting issue** for December an **article** "Just One Baby" **in which** you **criticise** those parents who have found that one **child is** all they can properly care for. Your statement that only **children** are "**spoilt**" to a greater degree than others **is** purely an **assumption which is disproved** by everyday **observation**. The **writer** knows personally several only **ch~ldren** who are **superior** both **physically** and **socially** to many who came from larger **families**. There are **families** of two or more **children** which show **instances** of one of the **children being a family pet**, **oftentimes** the youngest **in the family**.

The **writer** of your **article** has **written** "about the almost **criminal injustice**" of **bringing** but one **child into** the world, but would she really **disapprove** of **families** who are able to support and educate one **child having** that one **child** and no more? It **seems** to me that it **is** rather odd for a **writer in a Birth Control magazine** to urge parents to **have** more **children** than they can care for properly. On the other

hand **is it in the province** of such a **writer** to tell such parents as feel they can support one **child** that they should have none? As a general **rule** parents are better able to tell the number of **ch~ldren** they can properly rear than any other person.

As a reader and **subscriber** to your **magazine** of many years' **standing**, would say that I was amazed by the tenor of the **article** above referred to.

KATHARINE S. BARNES

Columbus, Ohio

Editor

I was sorry to read the **hysterical article** in the December **BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW** on "Just One Baby", **in which** the **pitiable situation** of the Only Child **is** depleted in unusually **lurid** colors.

Is this venerable dogma supported by the facts? I have been **thinking** over the "only **ch~ldren**" of my acquaintance and **this is** what I find. Every **single** one of the "only **children**" I have personally known who are now adults are sane, healthy, **admirable** citizens, **neither** "smug", nor "super-

*November, 1926

egoists", nor any more tied to their parents than other people. Of those still in school, all but one are promising, likable personalities who have no difficulty in adjusting to their environment. The one exception has had trouble getting on with her school mates, but this may be due not so much to her solitary position in the family, as to a persecution mania from which her mother suffers. May I also point out to the alarmists that Charles Lindbergh is an only child?

To show that I have no personal interest in the matter, let me say that I am one of a family of seven and have four children of my own.

It seems to me a pity to have only one child if it is possible to have more, largely because if the child dies, the parents are so utterly bereft.

MAEGABET MORSE NICE

(We are glad to have these expressions of opinion from our readers and urge others to send an contributions to this discussion — Ed)

BIRTH CONTROL BEFORE PARTY

Editor

New York

I have been an admirer and subscriber only since January but cannot resist the chance to tell you that my own and my husband's Presidential votes switched from Democratic to Republican primarily on the Catholic attitude toward Birth Control — and religiously my sympathies are Catholic. Also any "Chanty" checks I may have in the future will go to your work and no other. I have been such a cynic since the past war that it is delightful to find a Cause which really convinces me, grown-up!

P N P

THE Y M C A ATTITUDE

Editor

Will you send me ten extra copies of the Birth Control Review for Jan 1929, containing my article on methods of Birth Control propaganda for China? I want these for distribution among the six hundred students of the U of C. The subject is being everywhere discussed now, since the visit of Sherwood Eddy.

Let me say here that the movement could not find a more magnificent, fearless protagonist than he for presenting this subject on the highest level. Hence I resent that unfair remark in an article "The Probation of Literature" slamming "the Y M C A attitude to life." I would venture that the author has not done one thousandth as much for the clean life of American men as the Y. I can say this, for I am not in the organization, yet I have known it intimately for years. We are not going to get forward with our campaigns by cheap thrusts at our own colleagues.

DRYDEN L PHELPS

A PLEASANT TRIBUTE

Editor

New York City

Your February issue was a wonderful number and I enjoyed it immensely. Ellis has always been a great favorite of mine and the appreciations were all superb indeed.

CHARLES EVANS

ANOTHER TRIBUTE

Editor

Calcutta

I write to say how deeply I and my friends here in India, have appreciated your "Havelock Ellis Number" of the BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW. It reminded me of the excellent "Tolstoi Number" of the magazine Unity from America.

In India Havelock Ellis is rising rapidly as an Apostle of the New Life in the estimation of his many readers here, just as Birth Control is fast being purged of the many false charges raised by its calumniators. India is a country where prejudices die hard, but Birth Control is a guiding principle that should appeal to people like the Indians, who from time immemorial have made the child and the mother objects of worship in the home.

DR H W B MORENO, PH D

GOOD CHEER

Editor

Philadelphia, Pa

I am sure your Albany audience was less opposed to you than you intimated in the March issue. We had the same feeling two years ago at Hartford and were afraid of a group of nurses in uniforms whom we were not prepared to match. They turned out to be on our side. When Senator Stone called for a rising vote pro and con the whole room got up pro and only six con.

HUDSON CHAPMAN, JR

A REQUEST

Editor

Hubli (Karnatak) India

It is my desire to collect for publication all available matter which the personal friends and admirers of Lala Lajpat Rai in the United States (both Indian and American) can supply to me in the form of reminiscences of the great leader with whom they came into contact during his stay in the States. And with this intention I am requesting all friends and admirers of Lalaji to send me their reminiscences as well as any other matter connected with Lalaji's stay in the States. Printed or manuscript articles, letters or other documents will be welcome. Especially important for my purposes is information about the formation of The Home Rule League for India.

N S HARDIKER,
Editor of Volunteer Magazine

The American Birth Control League

AIM

The chief purpose of the League is to make Birth Control information generally available in the United States, in order

- 1 That maternal and infant mortality may be reduced
- 2 That hereditary diseases may be decreased
- 3 That criminal abortions may be prevented
- 4 That prostitution may be lessened
- 5 That Child Labor may be reduced
- 6 That housing congestion may be relieved
- 7 That destitution and the resulting need for charity may be reduced
- 8 That overpopulation may be prevented
- 9 That the race may steadily improve

PROGRAM

*To promote the general practice of Birth Control,
The Use of Harmless and Effective Mechanical or Chemical Methods of Prevention Called Contraceptives
To this end we plan*

- a) To work for the amendment or repeal of those federal and state laws which interfere with the prescription of contraception by physicians
- b) To acquaint physicians throughout the United States with the most approved methods of contraception
- c) To establish, in every center of population, clinics where the poor may receive contraceptive advice from physicians
- d) To demonstrate to the public, by means of lectures, pamphlets and the Birth Control Review, the importance of Birth-Control to the family the community and the race

To carry out this program and finance it, the League needs the help of everyone who believes in it

Will you Join the League?

MEMBERSHIP SLIP

I enclose \$_____ as annual dues (\$2 to \$500) for membership in the American Birth Control League, 104 Fifth Avenue, New York

Name _____

Address _____

Dues of \$6.00 or over include one year's subscription to the
BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW

OUR CONTRIBUTORS

HAVELOCK ELLIS needs no introduction

DR FRANK H HANKINS, professor of Sociology at Smith College, is this winter giving a course of lectures on the population problem at the New School for Social Research in New York City

DR JAMES S H BOSSARD teaches at the Wharton School of Finance and Commerce of the University of Pennsylvania

FOR JUNE

The Charge against the Clinical Research Bureau and its Result

Missionaries Urge Birth Control for China's Millions

George Bernard Shaw gives his Reasons for Birth Control

The Mary Ware Dennett Case, its Meaning and Implications

An Englishwoman estimates the Progress of the Birth Control Movement

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

Of The Birth Control Review published monthly at New York N Y for April 1 1929 State of New York County of New York

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

1 That the names and addresses of the publisher editor managing editor and business managers are
Publisher—American Birth Control League Inc 104 Fifth Ave N Y City

Editor—None.
Managing Editor—Mary Sumner Boyd 104 Fifth Ave N Y City
Business Managers—None

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

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MARY SUMNER BOYD
Managing Editor

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