

LY, 1922

25 CENTS

# BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW



A REAL AMERICAN MOTHER—SIOUX INDIAN

(By courtesy of Lewis W Hine)

Official Organ of  
THE AMERICAN BIRTH CONTROL LEAGUE, Inc , 104 Fifth Avenue, New York City

## THE AMERICAN BIRTH CONTROL LEAGUE

announces the

### FIFTH INTERNATIONAL BIRTH CONTROL CONGRESS

to be held in LONDON, JULY 11, 12, 13, 14, 1922, under the auspices of The Malthusian League of Great Britain

President DR C V DRYSDALE, IBE, D Sc (Lond), FRSE

#### PROGRAMME

##### Tuesday, July 11th

MORNING—10 a m—1 p m

Opening of Conference

President Dr C V Drysdale OBE, FRSE

Greetings and Reports of Societies.

AFTERNOON—2 30—5 p m

Individual and Family Aspects of Birth Control.

President Mrs Margaret Sanger

EVENING

Reception of Foreign Delegates by Mr and Mrs H G Wells.

##### Wednesday, July 12th

MORNING—10 a m—1 p m

Economic and Statistical

President, Prof J M Keynes, MA

AFTERNOON—2 30—5 p m

Moral and Religious Section President, Rev Gordon Lang

EVENING—7 30 p m.

A Public Dinner to celebrate the Centenary of Birth Control Propaganda by Francis Place

##### Thursday, July 13th

MORNING—10 a m—1 p m.

Eugenic Section President, Prof E W MacBride, D Sc, MA, LL D, FR S

AFTERNOON—2 30—5 p m

National and International Section President, Harold Cox, Esq

EVENING—8 p m.

Public Meeting at (large) Kingsway Hall Chairman, H G Wells, Esq. Speakers will include Mrs Margaret Sanger, Baroness Ishimoto, Killick Millard, Esq, M.D., D Sc, M O H, Harold Cox, Esq, Rev Gordon Lang

##### Friday, July 14th

MORNING—10 a m—1 p m

Medical and Public Health Section President Sir G Archdall Reid, KRE, MB, FRSE

AFTERNOON—2 30—5 p m

Private Session on Contraceptive Devices for members of Medical Profession President, Dr Norman Haire MB, Ch M

EVENING—8 p m

Public Open air Meeting in South London for Working Men and Women

A visit will also be arranged to the Malthusian League's Welfare Centre at which Birth Control instruction is given by a woman doctor in addition to ordinary child and maternity welfare advice

##### Saturday, July 15th

An automobile excursion to Dorking, Surrey, will be arranged for this day in order to visit the birthplace of the Rev T R Malthus (d 1834), author of the famous Essay on the Principle of Population, and founder of the Malthusian school of thought

Membership Tickets for the whole of the meetings, including reserved seat at the Kingsway Hall Public Meeting on July 13th price 10s. Separate Tickets for the Public Dinner on July 12th and for the Excursion to Dorking on July 15th will be obtainable from the Hon Secretary of the Malthusian League 124 Victoria Street S W 1

## THE BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW

104 FIFTH AVENUE

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VOL VI

JULY, 1922

No 7

#### Editor

MARGARET SANGER

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## The New Generation

(Successor to the Malthusian, founded 1876)

#### Editors

DR C V DRYSDALE

MRS B T DRYSDALE

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# **E BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW**

**OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE AMERICAN BIRTH CONTROL LEAGUE**

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

**MARGARET SANGER Editor**

**VOL VI**

**JULY, 1922**

**No 7**

## **Margaret Sanger in China**

To the Readers of THE BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW

**T**HE AVERAGE TOURIST visiting China, cannot help but be unpressed by the fact that the **Malthusian** doctrine has proven **itself** true here and can never be refuted while China exists in **its** present **condition**. Here one **sees** millions of people, with scarcely clothing enough to cover **their** naked oodles, eking out a mere **existence** for which they have to work twelve to twenty hours a day.

On the way from Mukden to Peking, every inch of **ground** is **utilized** for food. While on our trip from **Peking** to **Hankow** and then down the **Yangtze** River to **Nanking** on our way to **Shanghai** we saw the land so taken up in **producing** food that the people are compelled to make their **habitation** and homes in boats upon the water. There are few roads in China. Even that space is taken over for food **production** and mile upon mile of great tracts of land is **cultivated** for the barest **necessities**, and **this** after four thousand years of **civilization**!

China proves beyond a doubt that the bare fact of **birth** does not **necessarily** enhance our **civilization**. We find in **this** old country **conditions** that are **appalling**. In all the large **cities** the **foreign** quarters are clean and well cared for, with paved streets, **beautiful** palatial **residences**, few children in the **districts**, and those few well clothed and looked after by Chinese nurses. While off in another part of the city, where the **Chinese** **native** dwells, **conditions** are unspeakable. It amazes me that **foreigners**, **Americans**, English and French can **live** here and close **their** eyes to such **sordid**, **degrading** **conditions**. They could not **live** amongst such conditions in their own country **without** an effort to improve them. It is **said** by those who have **lived** here long, that **China** **psychologically** swallows up all those who **live** here, and I **certainly** **believe** that it **is** true, for during my **conversation** with many **missionaries** and **business** people, who have lived here for the last fifteen or twenty years, I find that they have lost many of those **qualities** of character and **conscientiousness** which have been bred in them for generations in their own country. Here and there one finds an effort toward improvements, but the improvements in the **cities** are done **mainly** in the foreign **districts** for **their** own comfort and **convenience**. Here we see the most abject and **distressing** **objects** of poverty and misery. We see **disease** rampant openly in the streets. We see lepers **sitting** **begging** from **passers** by, while those **afflicted** with **syphilitic** sores walk **beside** us. We see mothers, professional beggars, who bear their **children** openly in the streets. **Their** **children** in **turn** become beggars and so it goes from **generation** to generation. The street **is** **their**

home, eating, **sleeping** and **begging** there. They do not **like** to be photographed as they are very **superstitious** and believe the camera **brings** **evil** to them.

**T**HE THING I cannot accustom myself to in China, is being **pulled** in a **rickshaw** by a human being, or **being** carried in a sedan **chair** by three or four of them.

I can't endure the eager **running** of the half naked **rickshaw** boy, and I **avoid** them whenever it **is** possible. It **is** **said** **his** days are numbered in **this** **uncivilized** occupation. He lives four or five years at most. The **remainder** of **his** life is spent **eking** out an **existence**. He suffers from **varicose** veins and heart **disease**. We see them everywhere, clothed in **thin** trousers and jacket, and usually ragged and **dirty** when not engaged by hotels. **Eagerly** they **solicit** our trade and **pick** up the shafts of **their** **little** vehicle and **begin** the dog trot journey.

At Peking a young woman, secretary to a **prominent** official called for me to take me to the gentleman's home. On the way she related the joys of **living** in China. She said she got a small salary, far smaller than she got in America, but her **comforts** far exceeded **anything** she could have at home with double her present wage. Among the comforts noted was a **rickshaw** boy whom she employed by the month, paying him 10 Mex or 5 American dollars a month, out of **which** the boy supports **himself** and **his** family. He had been in her employ three years—she had never given **him** more money nor did she expect to.

One of the hardest features of **life** of an employee in **China** **is** that he can not get a **position** by himself. He must have someone else get it for **him**. When a **foreigner** does not know **this**, and **dismisses** a servant, it means **practical** **starvation** for that man.

Besides the **rickshaw** men, the **lives** of **coolies** and **sing** **song** **girls** make me shudder. While in the Northern cities the **coolies** are men and boys, in Hongkong the women do **this** beast of burden work. As I **sat** **writing** **this** I look out of my window upon a newly **built** structure where hundreds of women are **carrying** **bricks** in baskets to the men who are **laying** them.

I can not **give** here all my **experiences**, but I can never **again** **boast** of **our** **civilization** after my **conversation** with some of Shanghai's **sing** **song** **girls**—these little children are segregated in **districts** for someone's profit. They are babies in body and **mind**, and are sold **into** bondage often in **infancy**. It **is** **said** they are owned completely by the woman or man in charge, and any attempt to **run** away or at **insubordination** **is** promptly met by the cruelest **beatings** and torture.

I PASSED THROUGH several of these districts in Shanghai accompanied by a progressive missionary who had lived in China the past seventeen years. He spoke the language fluently and himself was an officer of the Door of Hope.

I wanted particularly to find out what these girls used to prevent conception. They spoke freely of their lives and their sorrows. I came away sick to my soul with doubts and pity and would have been filled with despair had not each girl told the story of many babies at home, "too much baby," "no chow," convincing truth again and again that Birth Control is the basic solution to such problems, especially as they relate to the future.

We in the Western world who have the desire to make the Birth Control movement international have asked ourselves how this idea would be accepted in the Orient. We have time and again been told by our opponents that the Japanese and Chinese would not accept this idea, and that eventually, if we persisted in our work in the Western countries, the white race would be entirely wiped out. It is, however, a great pleasure to me to be able to say that the idea of Birth Control is readily accepted in both of these countries. I have already given an account of the enthusiasm with which the message was received in Japan, and, while there has been no such publicity in China, yet wherever I have gone, and there has been an opportunity to speak, the enthusiasm has been keen and encouraging. In Shanghai I was able to meet several members of the Commercial Press. All these gentlemen were editors and influential writers in the Chinese world. They entertained me at tea one afternoon and made plans for the translation and publication of a pamphlet on "Family Limitation" and also for the establishment of a magazine devoted especially to the population and Birth Control subject. On Sunday April 30th I was invited to address a meeting at the Labour Museum on behalf of three organizations, Kiangsu Educational Association, the National Association of Vocational Education of China and the Association of Family Reformation of China. I was asked to address this public meeting, to consist of working men and women. It was interesting that the occasion of this meeting was the third anniversary of the Family Reformation Association of China. The three essential rules that one must abide by in joining this association are not to drink, not to smoke, and not to gamble. I suggested a fourth rule of limiting the family, to cope with the mothers' health and the fathers' income, and the suggestion was readily applauded.

WHILE MY TOUR through China has not had the same national interest as my meetings in Japan, yet I feel that considering the lack of time and preparation for my coming to China the results have been splendid. With the possibility of a League in Peking and the establishment of a clinic there to gether with a branch League in Shanghai and a magazine devoted to Birth Control, I feel that we have established some good centres and should make rapid progress in the next few years. The Chinese press has been splendid. Wherever one has been able to arouse attention, there has been a splendid response and I feel that one of the important things of the future will be to send two or three speakers into China to remain at

least six months, in order to pick up the loose ends and to encourage those already starting this work.

From the South China Morning Post of May 8th in the Editorial entitled Birth Control I quote "China is as striking an example of over population and resultant degeneration as the world can show. It might with difficulty be made the reformer's first battle ground, for from what we know of 'ole custom' it would be a hard fight, so hard that if a were won, the education of the rest of the world would be a simple matter."

This sums the matter up in a nut shell and yet I feel today, as I am about to leave this country for Europe, that there are no more encouraging prospects for the general practice of the idea than right here in China.

THE LATEST NEWS from Mrs Sanger is from Hongkong where she arrived on May 8th. She left Japan—after over three weeks there—on April 4th. On her way to Peking she stopped over at Seoul, Korea, and Mukden, Manchuria. There were no meetings or speeches at these places, but her coming was announced beforehand everywhere there were reporters and camera men, ready for interviews and pictures. On April 12th she reached Peking, where she remained until the 21st. While there she gave a number of addresses, the most important being a speech to the professors and students of the National University, one before the nurses of the Training School of the Rockefeller Institute and several before groups of medical men. From Peking she went to Shanghai, which she reached on April 25. Here again there were meetings to address and interviews to be given. While in Shanghai, Mrs Sanger made some careful investigations of such questions as child labor, wage rates in China and also birth and mortality rates. The letter from her which we rejoice to be able to print this month gives her impressions of what some of our writers acclaim as "the glorious fertility of the Orient."

THERE WAS AN astounding amount of publicity concerning Mrs Sanger and her visit to China in the press of Shanghai and Hongkong, both in the newspapers printed in English and those printed in Chinese. A large bale of the vernacular papers, forwarded to the REVIEW, contained the following articles:

April 15—The China Times. Favorable editorial on Birth Control commenting on Mrs Sanger's work and her coming visit.

April 19—Republican Daily, Shanghai. In Woman's Supplement. Editorial on Voluntary Motherhood, and Life Sketch of Mrs Sanger and her work.

April 20—China Tunes. Special article by Miss C. Y. Yi, in appreciation of Mrs Sanger's work, extending welcome to her on approaching arrival in Shanghai.

April 21—Republican Daily. Editorial Welcome to Mrs Sanger.

April 24—China Tunes. Report of Mrs Sanger in Peking, and of her journey from Peking to Shanghai.

April 26—The China Times. Interview with Mrs Sanger sent from Peking, in which she discussed Eugenics, the New

Woman, Responsible Parenthood, Hereditary Disease, Abortion and the legal barriers against Birth Control

April 26—*Republican Dully, Shanghai* In Woman's Supplement, Editorial Welcome to Margaret Sanger, and article on Birth Control

April 27—The *China Times* and The Eastern Times Interview with Mrs Sanger on her arrival in Shanghai Account of her experiences in Peking Explanation of her work and plans, suggesting the formation of a League for Birth Control and a Birth Control organ in Shanghai

April 28—The *China Times* Special article, based on recent writings of Margaret Sanger, and setting forth her ideas

April 29—*China Times* Report of Mrs Sanger's Lecture in Shanghai, also of her trip to Soo Chow, 200 miles from Shanghai, to meet the educators of Kiangsu, and trip to Owsoong to investigate child labor in the factories

April 29—The *China Times* Special Supplement of twelve pages with picture of Margaret Sanger This contains two unsigned articles Birth Control and Socialism, and Past, Present, and Future of Birth Control, an article by S C Chow on Birth Control as a Tool for the Improvement of the Human Race, My Impressions of the Birth Control Movement, by a Girl Student, and a translation of the Arms and Principles of the American Birth Control League

April 30—*Eastern Times* Another Interview with Mrs Sanger with a general discussion of Birth Control and the value of the small family

May 1—*Eastern Times* Illustrated Supplement, giving pictures of Mrs Sanger taken in Peking and story of her work there Lecture given by Mrs Sanger given in translation made by Miss C I Yi (graduate of Columbia University)

May 1—Announced for June 1, Special Number of Ladies Journal (monthly) to be devoted to Birth Control

IN ADDITION to all this matter printed in Chinese, the English press in Shanghai also devoted much attention to Mrs Sanger

April 25—The *Shanghai Times* Article on Birth Control to Prevent War, commenting on H G Wells' advocacy of Birth Control

April 26—The *Evening Star* Interview with Mrs Sanger on her arrival by Larry Lehrbas—2 columns

April 27—The *Shanghai Gazette* Interview with Mrs Sanger and Editorial (favorable) on Birth Control

May 1—Report of Mrs Sanger's meeting in Shanghai and article by Mrs Sanger on the terrible need for Birth Control in China

THE DECISION of the United States Supreme Court which makes unconstitutional the Child Labor Law of 1919 is a serious blow at the movement for Birth Control As history plainly shows, whenever young children can be profitably utilized in industry, the birth rate rises In the textile regions a family is valuable to the mill owners in proportion to the number of hands it can apply to the machines Textile towns do not welcome single men Women and children are also

needed, and the younger a child can go to work, the more profitable is a large family both to the father and to the employers It is when children are a responsibility rather than an asset that the movement sets in towards a diminished birth rate Every law compelling school attendance, every law curtailing hours of work for children and every law prohibiting work for wages under specified ages—every law in short which aims to give the child a chance for full development and which removes it from its parent's power of exploitation makes for Birth Control, while on the other hand, every condition which makes possible the exploitation of child life, irrespective of the effect on the health and development of the child itself, makes for large families, high child mortality rates, and illiteracy and inefficiency in the coming generation The mothers suffer with the children, for no matter how much economic value can be wrung from the child, the mother must pay the toll of life and suffering that is demanded from the bearing of many children

WITH THE REMOVAL of the Federal law, the children in the manufacturing States are left again to the protection of State laws In many States during the past two years, while the Federal Child Labor law was in effect, laws were passed raising the State Standard to the Federal level Efforts may be made to repeal these laws, but whether repealed or not, it is well known that in many States, and especially in the Southern cotton manufacturing States, enforcement is most lax and inefficient Without the check of the Federal law, children are again liable to exploitation in the cotton factories, and the big family of children who become economically self dependent at ten or eleven years old, and who grow up illiterate, stunted in mind and body from premature toll, and utterly unfit to be the parents of the next generation will still be lauded by the employers and the newspapers The mothers are not to blame When a man cannot possibly earn wages enough to keep a family, the mother naturally argues in the words of the Lancashire woman "better let the childer work with vittles, than go to school without vittles" Birth Control in the long run offers a way out, but the way is too long and difficult unless the law steps in and makes children a responsibility rather than an asset Until parents have both sufficient intelligence and a sufficiently good economic level to be able to disregard the quick gains of child labor, society must protect the children with child labor legislation Through the law parents will be taught responsibility for the children and a sense of parental responsibility leads to a demand for Birth Control

## News Notes

May 24—A luncheon was held at the Hotel Fort Pitt, Pittsburgh, with Mrs Edith Houghton Hooker as the principal speaker Dr Roswell H Johnson presided Mr Owen Lovejoy, General Secretary of the National Child Labor Committee who spoke after Mrs Hooker, expressed his full agreement with all that she had said He stated that he had never heard any good arguments against Birth Control and thought it one of the most fundamental proposals for reform before the American

public He considered it a movement in the interest of child welfare At this luncheon the Western Pennsylvania Branch of the American Birth Control League was organized with the following officers

Honorary Vice President, State League, Dr Amelia Dranga, President, Mrs Horace Forbes Baker, Vice President, Mrs Harlow B Wheeler, Legislative Secretary, Mrs Helen Glenn Tyson, Corresponding Secretary, Mrs Samuel Ely Eliot, Treasurer, Mrs Julian Kennedy, Jr, Advisory Committee, Dr Lawrence Litchfield, Mrs James Pontefract, Mrs Clarence Renshaw, Miss Agate Brown, Mrs Mark Rogers Craig, Mrs Alexander Laughlin, Dr Roswell Johnson, Mrs Wallis Tener, Mrs Charles Steinmeyer Dr Roswell Johnson, Dr Lawrence Litchfield and Mrs Enoch Rauh were invited to become members of the National Council of the American Birth Control League

May 24—A dinner was given in honor of Mrs Edith Houghton Hooker, and Miss Clara Louise Rowe, by Mrs Horace Forbes Baker at the Duquesne Club, Pittsburgh Miss Dibert, President of the State Federation of Women's Clubs was one of the guests After the dinner a meeting was held at the Parish House of St John's Church, Sewickley Mrs Wallis Tener presided and introduced the speaker, Mrs Edith Houghton Hooker

May 25—A meeting was held at 12 noon, at the Woman's City Club, Cleveland, O Mrs Percy Cobb presided and introduced Mrs Hooker who spoke for an hour on Birth Control Many questions were asked The meeting was followed by a luncheon In the afternoon the Cleveland Birth Control Committee held a consultation with Mrs Hooker on the question of opening a Birth Control clinic in the city It is hoped that this clinic will be held in connection with one of the best known hospitals

May 26—Mrs Hooker spoke twice in Detroit first at a luncheon at the Hotel Statler, where she was introduced by Mrs Frederick Holt, and later at an evening meeting when Mrs William McGraw presided The Michigan Branch of the American Birth Control League is sending a delegate to the International Congress in London in July, and is calling the first Michigan State Conference in November

June 2—It was announced that the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of New York had appointed Ex Supreme Court Justice John W Goff referee to investigate charges against Assistant Corporation Counsel Michael M Dolphin in connection with his part in the arrest of Mrs Juliet Barrett Rublee It will be recalled that Mrs Rublee was arrested at Mr Dublin's instigation after she had given testimony before Inspector Lahey concerning the breaking up by the New York police of the Birth Control meeting at the Town Hall on November 13, 1921 Apparently Mrs Rublee's "crime" consisted in her assertion that she considered the law of New York State prohibiting the giving of Birth Control information unwise, and desired its amendment When she appeared before the police justice the following morning, she was at once discharged as no cause for holding her was found

A large number of American delegates to the International Birth Control Congress in London left New York in the latter part of June The delegation is expected to include twenty five men and women, all of whom will arrive in London by the opening day, July 11th Mrs Sanger will be one of the first to reach London She left Port Said on June 6th, on her way from the Orient A full account of the Congress will be given in the September issue of the REVIEW

Through an oversight, for which we apologize, the line giving credit to *Wide World* for the picture on last month's cover was omitted

## The Present Status of the Birth Control Problem

By C C Little

Cold Spring Harbor, Long Island, New York

THE RECENT CONFERENCE on the Birth Control problem held in New York City, was the first actual opportunity which the writer has had to become intimately acquainted with the aims and efforts of the leading workers in this field

The activity, energy, and seriousness of purpose of the group of workers in attendance there could not possibly be questioned The members of the conference included sociologists, economists, medical men, humanitarians, and biologists The arguments offered for Birth Control were many and in large measure convincing, but through them all, there was a conspicuous absence of concrete scientific evidence as to whether contraceptive methods have a desirable effect physiologically and psychologically on those directly practising them, and on the progeny of such individuals.

It may, I imagine, be objected that such effects are of secondary or minor importance as compared with the economic and sociological improvement which relief of human congestion

should produce With such a point of view I should like to take clear-cut issue, even to the point of stating that no aspect of the problem is so important as the completion of a careful series of experiments to determine the biological effects, if any, which various contraceptive methods have on an individual and on its subsequent progeny

It is not necessary to contemplate application of such methods to humans until and unless the evidence obtained from careful experimentation with laboratory mammals is sufficiently encouraging to demand our unreserved confidence

Thus to find that rabbits may be made completely sterile for let us say a period of three weeks following a certain type of treatment, and that at the end of this time produce a considerable number of apparently normal and viable young, is not in itself sufficient to encourage an extension of the methods used even to such expensive material as dogs or monkeys,

until certain highly Important related facts are made clear by further work with the rabbits themselves

THE ADDITIONAL FACTS needed involve (1) Information concerning the durabon of life, cause of death, and physiological and psychological behavior of the treated anunals, as compared with their untreated litter brothers and sisters as oontrols, and (2) The careful study morphologically, physiologically, and psychologically of the inbred and outbred descendants of treated anunals compared with the inbred and outbred progeny of their untreated brothers and sisters

There are excellent reasons based to some degree on experimental data for insisting on these points. The danger of failure to obtain evidence on these matters should be clear to all. In event of its absence one would need only statistical evidence indicating the harmful effect of a single contraceptive method advocated by an official of the Birth Control League, to bring down upon that organization an almost irresistible flood of protest and opposition.

With such evidence on hand, however, attacks of opponents to the application of contraceptive methods could be met from behind a firm and comfortable fortress of scientific facts based on experimental evidence. The position, once established with sufficient care and on critical material, would be essentially unassailable.

If the Birth Control dea is as important as it seems to be, it is worth the expenditure of time and funds to produce the body of experimental evidence necessary to enable us to say with conviction that any contraceptive method is or is not harmful. This is the only sure and dignified way of convincing the scientific world and thinking public of the existence of unselfish and broadminded impulses at the back of the Birth Control movement.

Propaganda to show the increase of this or that undesirable

race, or harmful economic type may carry sufficient weight to convince many hundreds of thousands of the need of Birth Control,—but it can never carry conviction as to the advisability of any particular contraceptive method.

It seems to the writer that a frank admission of this fact by those most vitally interested in this work if followed by a sincere appeal for funds to support research along the general lines suggested, would certainly meet with a strong and general response. At the same time it would do much to clear the movement from any possible cloud of misinterpretation which might naturally follow failure to lay strong and unassailable biological foundations as have all other world wide movement\* involving preventative hygiene practices of more or less general application.

[It is with great satisfaction that we print Dr Little's valuable paper. We welcome his recognition of the need of more research into the physiological, and psychological effects of various methods of Birth Control and of the necessity of more scientific evidence concerning the effects of contraceptives now in use. This need we have consistently and urgently presented to the medical profession. Such research is one of our aims in forming the American Birth Control League. We want to secure the attention of scientists and to see them conducting the series of careful experiments of which Dr Little writes. Nevertheless there is another side of the question. For years the advocates of Birth Control appealed in vain to the scientists and doctors to respond to the appeals of suffering mothers and hard pressed fathers, and to give Birth Control information. It was necessary to engage in nation wide—almost world wide—propaganda in order to make the call loud enough and insistent enough for the scientist to hear and heed it. Proceeding without the advantage of the careful scientific investigations which were the desideratum, the advocates of Birth Control were obliged to resort to the empirical knowledge gathered from the long operation of Birth Control clinics in Holland. Admittedly the contraceptives now known are not perfect and the evidence that the scientists are awakening to the immense need that exists for their services is the best tidings for Birth Control that have reached us since the movement began.—ED.]

## Appeals from Mothers

AGAIN WE OFFER to our readers a very few of the hundreds of letters that come to us from all parts of the United States and Canada. Every one of these letters is a genuine cry for help from an oppressed mother. If the men who make our laws could be compelled to read them all, it seems impossible that the legal barriers against Birth Control clinics could endure a day longer than would be necessary to pass the necessary legislation.

My dear Mrs Sanger

I rec your book Woman and the New Race and I am interested in it. I was married 5½ years ago when I was 21, and I am going to have my 5th baby in about 2 weeks. This is the only time I have got so far along, they all were premature, the oldest one is the only one that we were able to raise and it almost breaks our hearts to give them up after we have them, but my kidneys are weak and I nearly lose my own

life every time with albumin and I am weak other ways, cant hardly be on my feet at all after the 6th month.

My husband don't want more either because I suffer so much. We tried so many things but I get that way any time, no matter how careful we are. Our Dr told my husband to get a divorce as I could not stand having children, but we are happy together with our boy and won't do anything like that, but if there is something that will keep me from getting that way I would be glad. All our money goes for Drs and hired girl bills.

We hope very much that this baby will live, but we don't want no more for 3 or 4 years till I get strong again, so please help me if you can.

Dear Mrs Sanger

I am the mother of three little youngsters. My oldest son is four years, the next boy is three years and my baby girl is

nine months Now I want to **raise** and **provide**—my husband and I—for the babes the best we can, and more **children** in our **circumstances** would be a total **failure** My husband is a machinist His wages are twenty five dollars a week, and we are **struggling** to get our own home, as we are unable out here in the country to find any rooms as the landlords don't want any **children** As **it is** we were unable to rent a house, and we were forced to take a basement, where we are **lust miserable** The children cannot make a move but the landlord **is** after them So we are **trying** to get our own home How grateful I would be **if** you could **give** me the **desired information** for not **having** any more **children**, as the **idea** keeps me in constant dread and terror

Dear Mrs Sanger

Am **writing** to you because I know you **will** help a poor woman **like** me I am really young, only 23, but feel almost **twice** as old Am **married** three years and have three ch~ldren, the oldest bemg two years old, the second, one year, and the **third**, two months I am almost always in bed for four weeks on account of bemg so very weak, and cannot **afford** any help as my husband **lust** makes enough for us to **live** on

I have to work very hard **right** after **birth**, wash my own clothes and **everything**, and have been sick **with** the **falling** of the **womb** for ever so long Every **time** I go and see a doctor he says "I am sorry, but I cannot do **anything** for you" Dear Mrs Sanger, I have read your book where you have helped so many, and **decided** to **write** to you, **hoping** to God you **will** help a poor woman, for your help will be a godsend to me

My dear Mrs Sanger

Just **received** your book Woman and the New Race and must say **it is** a wonderful book

I am married to one of the best of husbands who **is** **kind** to me in every way We have five ch~ldren but **this is** the **ques**tion We are very poor and I have got the **consumption** and I don't want to **bring** any **more** ch~ldren **into** this world to suffer **with** this dreadful **disease** Now what I want **is** **this** For you to send me a letter **telling** me means of **preventing** the birth of any more ch~ldren

Please send me answer **immediately** before **it** might be too late I am **positive** that there **is** some way to prevent **this** and I feel sure you would tell me Three of my **children** are threatened **with** this **disease** and I don't want to **bring** any more **children** **into** this world I am almost **certain** that I would **die** **if** any more ch~ldren were born to me and one **thing** I would rather **die** than have another for we can't support what we have got and then the awful **condition** **it** leaves me in

My dear Mrs Sanger

As I knon you **get** thousands of letters of this kind, I **will** try to make **this** short I have **tried** in **vain** to get any **infor**mation about **Birth** Control, and finally got hold of Woman and the New Race, **which** had your address in it, and I am **writing** in the hope that you may help me

My husband **is** an ex **service** man We knew each other be fore the **war**, but both bemg poor, knew we had no **right** to get

**married** But a year after he had come back from the front, we gave up **waiting** for fear of **losing** each other for good, and **risked** it, **hoping** that by both **working** hard we would be on our feet before any **babies** came But work was hard to get We were as careful as we knew how, but **neither** of us **knew** much, and nobody would tell us **anything**

Six months ago our little **girl** was born I was in a run down **condition** and had a very hard **time** of **it** I spent over two months in the hospital, and a few weeks in bed after I came home, as I couldn't walk **They didn't** expect me to **live**, and I have to go back in the Fall for some **stitches** to be taken

But **it is** a **darling** baby, strong and healthy, and I wouldn't be **afraid** of **going** through **it** again now that I feel **better**—if we could afford it We got very badly in debt **during** my ill ness, and my husband never knows when he has a job, or "business gets slack" So **it is** necessary for me to work too to make ends meet My mother **is** **getting** old and **isn't** well, and of course we support her If I have any more **babies** just now I don't see how I am to take care of the **family** I already have

Will you please help me? You speak in your book of some methods bemg more dependable than others Would you tell me what they are? No matter how **expensive** they must be cheaper than a baby every year

## DINNER PAIL EPICS

By **Bill** Lloyd, Federated Press Staff **Writer**

**I** SEE SOME preachers, from **their** hole, **still** **rail** against our Birth Control, as if the whole of our **creation** were **simply** made for **fecundation** They say **it** **simply** is a **crime** to **suit** yourself and **pick** the **time** when **Mister** Stork, with **flapping** **wing**, shall leave **with** us a wee, **pink** **thing** They say **it's** wrong to regulate how oft the stork comes to our gate, and **if** we would keep out of hell, we should let **babies** come **pell** **mell**

It may perhaps sound somewhat rough—but **lust** where do they get that stuff Sex **specialists**, like great **Forel**, have **writ** ten books in **which** they tell that modern man has **use** for sex, **aside** from **seeking** to annex more **children** than he can support—which **is** the **rabbit's** **special** forte **Forel** goes on much farther yet and tells us sex **life** should beget love, cheer, and **personality**, as well as more **reality**

**Young** people, living on small wage, should be **permitted** to engage themselves in early **married** **life**, **without** the struggle and the **strife** of **living** constantly in need, by **having** numerous **kids** to feed **Babies** are better born, I say, **if** we have **wit** to **pick** the day, and so don't look quite so dejected when **babies** come so unexpected

The preachers say we should desist from some **things** **if** we would **resist** too **large** a **family** of our own **Their** **recipe** **lust** makes me groan To **which** remark I **rise** to say, the human **race** ain't built that way

Sex surely ain't the nasty **thing** some of our preachers seem to **sing** Free us from profit **making** pelf, and sex **will** take care of **itself**, and **if** we know **what** we're about, the human race **will** not **die** out Most everybody loves a **kid**, but that don't mean to **raise** the **lid**, and **live** our **lives** in deadly fear the stork **will** come round once a year



# The Housing Crisis

*A Lecture by Scott Nearing, delivered at the Rand School, New York*

**WE** THINK OF the housing crisis as having been brought about by the war, when, as a matter of fact, it came with the war, not out of it. We have been moving towards it for some time. The same thing happened in the early days in England, in Birmingham and Manchester, excepting that then there were fewer regulations so that the situation was more intense, the disaster greater than now. So it is nothing new, war simply emphasized it and perhaps hastened it.

In 1915 the average monthly construction in the United States amounted to nineteen million square feet of residential floor space, in 1916, eighteen million, 1917, twelve million, 1918, eight million six hundred thousand, 1919, twenty million, and in 1920, eleven million, five hundred thousand. There are two series of changes, one brought about primarily by the war, and the other by the business depression. From 1915 to 1918, there is a drop to eight million, and then an increase to normal, and then a drop to almost one half in the next year. The war turned the energies to destruction and away from construction, and this is likewise true of all the European countries. In many parts of Europe the tenants have organized tenants' leagues, with which they are trying to meet the problem.

In the second place, the war intensified the housing crisis because of the increase of the price of those things which are used in building houses. Using 1913 as 100, costs of building material were 236 in November, 1919, and 313 in November, 1920.

With the situation thus intensified by the war, tens of thousands of families have to accept inadequate quarters. The expensive houses and apartments are plentiful, but the cheaper ones are packed. Behind that is a most impressive and difficult question—that of taking care of people. It takes us back to the population question, the problem of how to take care of the people that are being born into the world. The problem has two general aspects: first, the number of people in the world, second, their concentration or density.

The population of the whole world has recently been increasing rapidly. In 1800 it was three quarters of a billion, in 1920 it was one billion, eight hundred million. In 100 years the world has added one billion people to the population, in three generations the world's population has almost trebled itself.

**THIS** INCREASE has not been equally distributed throughout the world, it is seen in the countries where great industries have sprung up. There are three dominant features in the industrial revolution, railroad mileage, the production of coal and the production of pig iron. From 1830 to 1870 the increase in population was gradual, from 1870 to 1910 there was a very rapid increase. In 1800 we were living a domestic industry life, during the period from 1870 on the factory system has developed rapidly and with it there has

been a stupendous increase in industrial products. The population of the world has increased only or largely in those parts which have felt the impetus of this economic change. All throughout Asia, which contains nearly two thirds of the world's population, the industrial system has made little impression. The same increase in population will probably occur in India and China when they have become industrialized.

Now turn from this survey of world population increase to the changes in population that have taken place in certain specific countries.

## ENGLAND AND WALES

Year	Population
1100	Two million
1200	Three million
1300	Three and one quarter million
1348 (plague year)	Below three million
1400	Three million
1500	Three million
1600	Almost four million
1700	Five million
1750	Seven and one half million
1801	Nine million
1911	Thirty six million

Up to 1801 these figures are estimates, since 1801 they are taken from the census returns. England and Wales was an agricultural country, from 1200 to 1600 they had an almost static population. There is a picture of what has been here before the normal status of mankind,—century after century practically no change in a very important country. About 1500 there began an increase in population which was established by voyaging and trading. But about 1750 a change began which is known as the industrial revolution, and then, during a period of 160 years the population jumps from seven million to thirty six millions. At this point where the industrial revolution makes itself felt, there is a profound change in the status of the country. Through all these centuries the population of England was almost stationary, then, in 160 years, it increased five fold.

**I**F THIS WERE an isolated case, one might say that it was an exception to the rule, but here is another country, a well established, settled country, with organized traditions, which also has had a static population and a static culture.

## JAPAN

Year	Population
1621	25 million
1721	25 million
1774	25.9 million
1804	25.4 million
1846	26.9 million
1920	55.9 million

For more than two centuries there was practically no change. In 1840 the change begins. In 1859 the trading ports were first opened. Now notice that in England the change came about

1750, while in Japan it came in 1850, one century later. But the same thing happened in both countries, both of them opened their doors to the new culture.

I have here the figures of a new country which shows approximately the same thing, excepting that, being a new country, we cannot go back nearly so far.

UNITED STATES	
Year	Population
1790	Four million
1800	Five million
1810	Seven million
1820	Nine million
1910	Ninety one million
1920	One hundred and a x million

From 1820 on the industrial revolution made itself felt in the United States, and from that point there are tremendous population changes. In the case of the United States the newness of the country, the bigness of the country, the virginity of its opportunities, were all factors, but nevertheless, the figures for Great Britain or Japan indicate that the United States would probably show the same line of increase even had it been an old country in 1800.

AS FAR AS population changes are concerned, Western culture is primarily responsible. The East had reached an equilibrium, the West has disturbed that equilibrium and destroyed it. Turn again for a moment to the United States. Our housing problem is here, it is a problem of population. In ten years, between 1910 and 1920, we added fifteen million people to our population, in the previous ten years, we added sixteen million. From 1900, when the population was 75 million, to 1920, during that brief period, the population has increased by thirty million. It is true that part of the increase is due to immigration, but in Great Britain and Japan, where there is no immigration, the same thing is true. More people are being born than are dying.

When people talk, therefore, about the housing problem, the primary question is the increase in population, and that is the problem forced upon us by the industrial revolution.

There is another side, the concentration of population. In 1800 only three per cent of the people lived in cities or towns, in 1900 the cities and towns have absorbed one half of the total population.

UNITED STATES	
Year	Population to square mile
1790	45
1820	55
1850	79
1880	169
1920	355

During that time the density has increased seven fold. Take the old state of Massachusetts.

Year	Population to square mile
1790	47
1820	65
1850	123
1880	221
1920	479

The increase in density is ten fold. Now take the new state of Illinois.

Year	Population to square mile
1790	0
1820	1
1850	15
1880	55
1920	115

Now take the old state of New York.

Year	Population to square mile
1790	7
1820	28
1850	65
1880	106
1920	217

THESE FIGURES WILL necessarily increase, if we increase our population for the area will remain constant while the population grows. We are rapidly filling up the country. Let us examine the growth of a few cities. Take the old city of Boston.

Year	Population
1870	250,000
1890	448,000
1920	748,000

The new city of Chicago.

Year	Population
1870	299,000
1890	1,200,000
1920	2,702,000

New York.

Year	Population
1870	1,478,000
1890	2,507,000
1920	5,620,000

It does not require any knowledge of mathematics, any expert calculating ability, to see what this means. It means that not only has the population increased, but that it has been concentrating in a few places—in the United States, thirty five people to the square mile, but on Manhattan Island, one hundred thousand. If the whole United States were as densely populated as Manhattan Island, its population would be thirteen trillion, five hundred billion.

THE WORLD'S POPULATION has increased with phenomenal rapidity, concentration has likewise increased at a phenomenal rate. It is not a typical American problem, it belongs to the whole of Western civilization. The culture that makes possible these tremendous increases in Japan and England and the United States, also makes possible rapid concentration of these great numbers of people. They are packed up and piled in great human heaps. In the United States, with our sky scrapers, we are about as glib as they are in any other part of the world. Under these conditions, what is the use in talking about housing?

Mr. Untermyer's plan is to build 45,000 five story tenements at a cost of one hundred million dollars. He says "This plan would take care of the needs of the masses for whom no provision is being made at the present time." The needs of the

masses' But we have added fifteen million people to our population the last ten years, and in the next ten years we will add millions more Mr Untermeyer's proposal is like a snowflake on the Alps, it does not touch the problem This idea is interesting politically but socially it has no significance

In our age, if you add fifteen million people to the population in ten years, or if you multiply, as in New York City, decade after decade, something must be done about it First, you use Mr Untermeyer's remedy, then you will have to build more subways, then you will have to build second story sidewalks But there is no remedy there Do you remember the promises that congestion would be decreased when they first started to build subways? But the street car strap hanger of fifteen years ago would have had his sense of personal dignity affronted if he had been asked to ride on the modern subways The congestion has increased as any student would have known Mr Untermeyer has a proposition just like that of the subways, which is not sound socially

THEN WHAT SHALL we do? I suggest two general lines of remedial action Let us suppose that society is intelligent enough to handle its problems as would intelligent educators or business men Then suppose that we were confronted with the above facts What would we do? First, we would stop the increase in population We could find out how many people the world would hold, say in 1925, it is no occult matter, we could work it out The problems involved in the war were more intricate, but we worked them out We have got to limit the population How to do it? The birth rate must be decreased How? By some measure involving Birth Control How can Birth Control be put across How was the war sold to the people? The movies, the schools, the billboards, the newspapers, et cetera It was a great social crisis, the war had to be sold Now we have got to sell Birth Control Just as we frightened people with the Hun, now we will tell them that they will starve to death if the population continues to increase with such rapidity And they will, for we are not competent to handle the increment

Pharaoh had one method of decreasing the population but that will not work today The promulgation of the theory of

Birth Control is the only answer It is already practised by the French and the well to do, but the poor people keep on breeding Rudimentary social intelligence calls for drastic social action for limiting the population and until some drastic action is taken we will continue to have epidemics and wars and other things which will limit the population for us Society has reached the point where the means of maintaining physical life has increased beyond the means of organizing the people Here is a city of nearly six millions Are we happy? Do we act rationally, or do we act like nervously unstrung people, all of whom require treatment? New York is an absurdity It would be a laughable thing if it were not so tragic

How many people can live to a square mile? When you have found out the point at which happiness and depth and breadth of living begin to show diminishing returns, that is the place to stop You limit the number of persons that may live in a room, why not limit the number of those who may live in a city?

THE COMMUNITY SHOULD own the land and own the houses and provide sanitary living quarters for the population The community owns the streets, the schools, the water works, the next thing is for it to own the houses If we are to have an organized community life, the community must have the means of maintaining that life What is a city for? To get rich in or to live in?

The remedy for our housing problem is two fold First, a thoroughgoing, widespread propaganda for Birth Control, second, a thorough going plan for limiting the cities as to size and construction, and then municipal building, providing a place for its citizens In Europe they do it It is nothing new, nor out of the ordinary In the meantime the New York papers will continue to jolly you by telling you that the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company is going to lend great sums of money for building purposes-at a good rate of interest You will be told that there is a great movement on for saving the people of New York It is nonsense Rents may be a little lower and sanitation may be a little better, but decreased population and organized cities alone will answer the problem

## A Way Out

By May Peirce Guest

(Continued from June issue)

ON REACHING the corner where he had stood brooding before, Ben now paused again, this time fighting to retain the reckless, mood which would drown his scruples His standards were high, but the natural man was insistent in its demand

And thus, standing there staring into space, the conflict raged fiercely within him, when all at once he became aware of a woman beside him He closed his eyes

Probably it was the painted kid at her post again!

But why did he close his eyes when he was on his way to see her?

That impulse was the last tug of the restraining anchor before the vast tidal wave of desire would catch him up and sweep him irresistibly forward on its foaming crest

He felt the anchor dragging, felt it being swept clear of the ground, going up, up, up The great wave had caught him! Ah, he would no longer resist, he would become a very part of its mighty onrush!

He opened his eyes It was with a violent start that he met those resting upon him, those of a woman so different from the painted kid, so clear and steady and calm, filled with an eager

compassion, as if the soul behind them visualized the depth of misery which engulfed him, and the cruel problems from which he could not free himself

With a long, frank look Ben took her in, the plain but perfect attire, the poise, the complete refinement of her. She was like a breath of pure air. Then he saw she held some papers. Odd, a young woman of her class to be out selling magazines late at night. With all that eager, compassionate expression, she looked tired, too, and he felt there was a personal tragedy behind her steadiness, a knowledge of life which gave her that strong, magnetic quality of sympathy which drew him irresistibly

SHE HAD BEEN watching him as he studied her, with a slightly amused yet pitying expression, as though divining his thoughts and waiting for his conclusions

With a swift intake of breath, Ben suddenly realized his possible rudeness in having so stared, "I—I—beg your pardon. You are—a—selling something?" he stammered

She handed him a magazine. "Are you familiar with this?"

He held it to the brilliantly lighted drug store window and scanned the pages curiously. "No," he said, "What's it all about anyhow?" THE BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW he read on the cover

"It's how to be happy, though married." Her eyes twinkled for the fraction of a second and Ben was caught. He felt he had known her forever, could open his harassed soul to her, could feel at ease with her on any subject, that she could not misunderstand. It was wonderful!

He stepped closer, "Tell me about it. God knows I want to be happy though married!"

"Perhaps you don't earn very much? There's a sick wife perhaps? And poor little kids that cry all night so you can't get any rest? And you don't know how to go on? There's human nature tugging at your heart? You have it to deal with, and yet you dare not think of putting the little wife through more agony, and burdening another little soul with a diseased existence? Is that it?"

She smiled directly into his soul. The deepest most miraculous smile he had ever imagined, more comprehensive than he ever could possibly have imagined!

He stared at her, his big hands clenched, his breath suspended. Great beads of perspiration broke out on his forehead. He thrust his chin forward, bringing his face close to hers. "If you know all that, can you—can you," he moistened his lips, "Can you tell me a way out? Can you?"

"SH!" SHE ADMONISHED, "Don't get so excited here in the street. It's to help solve this problem that I stand here at midnight and sell these magazines. It's to help turn this world so full of sickness and misery into one of healthful rejoicing, to show people what a crime it is to bring into it diseased, imbecile, or crippled children to teach them that their love can be expressed without such tragic results. I sell this magazine to help the thoughtless to think, to show that reason and love should rule equally and that when impulses are guided by common sense, with due regard for the future, lives will be

simplified, strength preserved and homes filled with peace and happiness."

"Yes, yes!" Ben was drinking in her words, as a parched man on finding water in the desert.

The young woman knitted her brows as she tuned over the pages of one of her papers. "This is a most important article, here it is!" It explains the purpose of this movement for a better race, we must, first of all, have legislation which will permit doctors and nurses to give information concerning family limitation. Our magazines fulfill their mission if they make clear that crying need, and stimulate every reader to act toward this end. Do you see?"

Ben scratched his head and asked, puzzled, "Is it possible that there is a law which prevents such invaluable stuff, I mean knowledge, from being given out?"

"There is," she replied grimly.

"I can hardly believe it," he ejaculated, "in this great and free America! But just let me get at that law! I wouldn't do a thing to it! Here, I want a magazine of course,—and say, a — a does it tell a fellow all he wants to know? About—a—well, everything?"

"The law does not permit us to speak as plainly as we would," she answered.

"Then—a, I say, a—would you, could you—a? Would it be too nervy to ask you to come to see my Janey, my little wife (she's just a wonder, she is!) and tell her all about it? You see, it would mean just everything to us—make life worth living again. We have been so lonesome and nervous like. In deed," he mopped his brow with his handkerchief—"indeed I could never tell you how much it would mean to us! You will come?"

HIS TRAGIC EAGERNESS filled her eyes with sympathetic tears. "Indeed I will go to see your little wife. She must be brave and well worth knowing."

"Brave!" Ben's face sparkled, "why, if you knew all Janey bears, and never a complaint! She's got lots to suffer in her self, is too weak to sit up long. Then there's little Leo—so sickly he just cries day and night, can't raise his poor little head yet, though he's six months old. It just tears out one's heart to look at him! And then"—Ben heaved a great sigh—"then, there's me to worry her! She's crazy to do her part, and more too, yet she has to let me help a lot at home, 'cause she can't be on her feet, and—and having to sort of hold me off at arms' length—and—and feeling so sorry all the time! Well you can see what Janey has to bear!"

The tears in the young woman's eyes ran quietly down her cheeks. She held out her hand. "Good night, my friend, there is a way out! I will see your Janey tomorrow at ten o'clock without fail."

Between his big hands Ben caught her slight one and almost crushed it with the fervor of his pressure—"I—I—thank you, there ain't words—I—," he choked, swept off his cap, turned, and hurried away. He not only hurried, he ran, flew! His feet were winged, space was not. In his boyish days no thrilling fire engine dashing up the street had caused him to exhibit the

(Continued on page 139)

## Birth Control: Is It Moral?

*Dr Ernest H Gruening's Answers to Mrs Sanger's Four Questions*

**ONE** Is not over population a menace to the peace of the world?

(A) A great menace There are altogether too many people in the world **Quality**, not **quantity**, should be the **desideratum**. If men and women are really **superior** to beasts, **it is in their ability** not to **breed like rabbits** or to spawn like jelly fish and turn **their offspring** into the ruthless jungle **existence** of tooth and claw, hut to bring wanted, carefully nurtured, love **children** into the world endowed with all the strength and fineness and **potentiality** for a happy **existence** which the **planning** and **devotion** of **thinking beings** can encompass. The over **population** of the world has already **borne** the **bitter** fruit of war. Germany's congested multitudes were taught to **believe** that they were surrounded by enemies, that **the** open spaces of the world had been preempted, and that Germany had to expand **forcibly** in order not to **perish**. However false this **assumption**, the fact **remains** that the Germans **believed** it, and **it** was a potent factor in **producing** the catastrophe of **1914-1918**. Japan's problems are **similar**—her overcrowding and **inability** to overflow into other lands **underlies** the present tense Far Eastern situation. Over **population** is **responsible** for the fierce **economic** struggle all over the world. The **changed conditions** in the **United States** in the last 20 years, the **repressions** of the present day, the development of class consciousness and the intensification of the industrial conflict are merely **manifestations** of the patent fact that our country has at last filled up and has become overpopulated. Unemployment, an acute symptom of **this condition**, means **nothing** less from an economic **standpoint** than that there are too many people for our **present** system to support. A still graver

symptom are the **famines** which regularly **afflict** sections of the earth, notably **China**, which we then belatedly and **in** **effectively** try to **relieve** by feeble **palliative** measures.

**TWO** Would not the legal **dissemination** of **scientific Birth Control** information through the **medium** of **clinics** by the **medical profession** be the most **logical** method of **checking** the problem of over **population**?

(A) It would. It is **essentially** the duty of the **medical profession** to accept full **responsibility** for the **therapeutic** phases of **this** problem. The new **spirit** in **medicine** demands that **diseases** be prevented wherever **possible**. The old adage **is** **particularly** applicable to matters of health that "an **ounce** of **prevention** is worth a pound of **cure**."

**THREE** Would knowledge of **Birth Control** change the moral **attitude** of men and women toward the **marriage** bond or lower the moral standards of the youth of the country?

(A) **Neither**. On the contrary **insofar** as **it** would tend to **eliminate** for all time the **crime** of **abortion**, **its** effect would be **distinctly** moral.

**FOUR** Do you **believe** that knowledge which enables parents to **limit** their families will make for human happiness and **raise** the moral, **social** and intellectual standards of the **population**?

(A) I believe that no **single** reform capable of such **immediate** and **wide spread** **application** would so greatly add to the **happiness** of the human race. There are no panaceas, but **Birth Control** properly **established** would go further to **eliminate** poverty, **sickness**, **insanity**, **crime**, with all that these scourges **imply**, than any other remedy proposed.

## The Key to Race Perfection

*By Ralph H Bevan*

**A** LOW COST—or high standard—of living is by no means all of **social welfare**. It is, however, the **indispensable** foundation. Only on **prices** low in **proportion** to **incomes**—on **diminished** poverty alone—can a much **higher** average of health, culture, **generosity**, perfection of character, and **happiness** be built. The great **practical** problem is to remove the cause of the **High Cost of Living**.

The **radicals** tell us that the remedy is **redistribution**. Undoubtedly the **apportionment** of wealth on the **principle** of "economic strength" has aggravated the **original** pressure of **population**. Unfair **distribution** confines the masses to an **insufficient** share. Excessive riches are a secondary cause of the high cost of living. How subsidiary, nevertheless, is this source of poverty is driven home in the leading article in the "*American Economic Review*" for March, 1920. Here Professor Henry B. Gardner, Head of the Department of **Economics** at Brown University, publishes his **presidential** address to the

**American Economic Association**. His **conclusions** are drawn from the most trustworthy **calculations** available. The **practical** accuracy of his figures is confirmed by corroborative results **independently** arrived at for the **United Kingdom**. This **authority** shows that the antebellum product of the **United States**—the **richest** country in the world—equally **divided**, would have yielded only an annual **income** of \$1,300 for families of five.

H. C. L. and poverty, then, **originate** in a pressure on wealth. This partly results from undue **accumulation** by a few. Mainly, however, it is consequent on **inadequate** supply.

The surgery which would cut under the roots of the **high** cost of living, must **diminish** the pressure on the means of subsistence. That may be done by **increase** in the **quantity** of wealth, or by **limitation** of the **birth** rate among the least **productive** classes. Of these **expedients**, the former, in so far as it is **practicable**, is surely preferable.

**E**VIDENTLY, THEN, the great need is universal **training in intra national and international cooperation**—for the utmost **production** of useful wealth. That is the master **key** to the lowest cost of **living** and permanent **peace**—to the **highest** standard of living and happiness.

World **cooperation** for the **production** of wealth alone, however, cannot prevent ever **recurring** crises of **overpopulation** with their **calamitous, aggravative effects**—**strikes, revolutions, wars**. Often more **imperious** even than the **instinct** of self preservation is the impulse of race preservation. While **present ideas regarding Birth Control prevail**, multiplication of **population will** soon offset any surplus of life's **necessities** brought about by education. It must be **realized** that in **instinctive emotions** are **divinely intended** to be regulated in their **operation** by the intellect, which is the later product of **evolution**—the higher element in consciousness. Innumerable are the proofs offered by tragic **experience**. **Education in practical economics** is not enough. The proper **supremacy**—the **divinity**—of **intelligence**, must be acknowledged. That only can prevent repeated pressure on wealth—future wars ever more colossal, more **crazing**.

The right of far sighted reason to regulate the effects of **blind impulse** for the **promotion** of human happiness and **perfection** must be **recognized**. **Convictions against the having of children** who cannot, **without excessive** struggle, be prepared for **worth while living**—such **promptings** are not **superstitiously** to be censured. Rather are they to be approved as **divinely inspired**. The least **productive, thrifty, healthy, generous, or otherwise** least useful **classes** may reasonably **object** to aggravating overpopulation and **multiplying** their **misfortunes**. Such **disinclinations** should be respected as **inner workings** of **divine wisdom**. A more **enlightened attitude** toward Birth Control among **medical and religious advisers**—that is the only key to **diminution** of poverty and **lasting peace**—to the greatest perfection, happiness and progress of the race.

This is not the place to set forth the **wisest** modes of Birth Control. We shall not even argue that any method is harmless. The writer has not volumes of space at his **disposal**.

**F**OR MANY YEARS, however, **stimulated** by a very searching experience, he has pondered, **questioned**, and read on the riddle of the world's misery. As a result, he long ago became **convinced** that in **unprejudiced inquiry into the healthiness** of the best preventives of **birth** lies the golden key to the lowest cost of living—to the **practical** problems of human evil and happiness. Thus **painstaking** has been the **inquiry** from which has been drawn the **conclusion** that the venerable horror of Birth Control is founded on religious and medical **superstition**. It seems, then, due to that human welfare to which highest allegiance is owed, to urge a **scientific investigation** of the hygiene of birth **prevention**.

**Intelligent Birth Control** would not threaten race **suicide**. It would encourage the normal **desire** for children except when likely to add human misery. It would not countenance **disinclination** for children in all circumstances, but it would educate **medical and spiritual advisers** to respect clear **scruples** against the assumption of parental **responsibilities** as *prima*

*facie* **guides** to human **perfection**. **Intelligent Birth Control** would honor such **questionings** as **dictates** of reason which, **being** the most lately evolved, appears the highest element in man. Intelligence is not merely the surest **index** to **divine** purpose. It is the intended ruler over the operation of the **primitive instincts**.

A person's **deliberate opinion** that he ought not to have **children** would seem the **weightiest evidence**. His is probably a case in which the birth of a **child** would be wrong to both. Very important in the **determination** of happiness are factors of temperament. Of those none but oneself has sufficient **knowledge** to judge whether the struggle for **existence** has proved **excessive**. So unnatural a view on the part of anyone would be a most **significant indication** that parenthood would be a **mistake** for all parties concerned. Not alone would the children be handicapped by overburdened parents, they would inherit subnormal **constitutions**. It is **impossible** for another to **estimate** the value of one's life to oneself. Of **this** truth, if space **permitted**, sound **authority** and **reasoning** might be offered at length.

**A**LL THAT IS here feasible, however, is to suggest why others are **disqualified** to decide whether one's life is **worth** transmitting. Consciousness is a complex **combination** of **satisfactions** and painful **feelings**. Its worth is the excess of **joy** over suffering. If dissatisfactions preponderate, **life** has **negative** value only. It is a burden endured only from the hope of future happiness or from horror of suicide. Pleasures, pains, and the side on which the balance lies, depend even more on **uncalculable** factors of temperament and of will power than on external **circumstances**. And men's characters are of the **widest** variety and diversity. Reasonable means and health are **necessary** and **enough** to make most men's lives worth while. But some can manage **happiness** in **extreme** poverty and suffering. Others cannot avoid misery even **with** wealth and bodily **comfort**. Buoyancy of temperament may offset **misfortunes** **apparently** the most unendurable. A melancholy **constitution** may render **existence** a curse despite a lot **seemingly** the most fortunate. A **medical or spiritual adviser** can measure the value of a **patient's life** to the patient only by an utterly unreliable standard—that of external **circumstances**. The only dependable **index** to the **inner** worth of life is the person's own judgment. Does he feel that on the whole he **has** lived rather because of **positive satisfaction** than negative horror of suicide—that is the **crucial** query.

In effect, then, **Intelligent Birth Control** is the doctrine that prevention of births should not be hindered in face of **authentic inside information** of its necessity. Control of births ought to be facilitated where offspring would probably, both for parents and children, mean **lives** more or less **burdensome** or at least of doubtful value.

**S**ATISFACTION PREDOMINATES in human life. The Deity is benign. The **appalling** burden of the world's **agonies** is to be attributed to **mankind's superstitious** tolerance of it. We have failed to **realize** that **pain exists** to afford the

(Continued on page 137)

# Birth Control in Relation to Poverty

By Edward G. Punke

## V OBJECTIONS TO BIRTH CONTROL FOR ALL

**E**CONOMIC CONDITIONS, it appears, vitally affect both the birth and the death rate. Having in mind chiefly the declining birth rate various pens have written much about "race suicide," "racial decay," "population decrease," and the like during the past half century. Mourning humanity's diminishing birth rate, such writers have chanted in season and out their sad requiem. "Decadent France" was their by word, New Zealand and Australia, they remark, are the latest sad additions to the list of decaying nations. Others, not less voluble and pessimistic, hold up the moral degradation of family limitation. It is, they maintain, the most recent example of moral, religious and patriotic degeneration.

**RACIAL DECAY.** The late Theodore Roosevelt was an important and prominent writer in the held of racial decay. He may be taken as fairly typical of that class. Reviewing a book, "Racial Decay," by A. C. Beale, an Australian official, Mr. Roosevelt wrote in the New York *Outlook* for April 8, 1911, as follows:

"In Australia and New Zealand there is no warrant whatever in economic conditions for a limitation of the birth rate. New Zealand is as large as Great Britain and as fertile. The New Zealand people have realized to an extraordinary degree, the institutional and industrial ambition of democracy everywhere, yet the rate of natural increase in New Zealand is actually lower than in Great Britain.\* Yet its (Australia's) population tends to concentrate in meat cities of disproportionate size compared to the country population, just exactly as is the case in England and the United States and it increases so slowly that, even if the present rate were maintained, the population would not double itself in a century."

In the foregoing quotation appear two errors which would almost irretrievably impair the reputation for accuracy of any writer. The first is "yet the rate of natural increase in New Zealand is actually lower than in Great Britain." This statement was made in 1911. The vital statistics for 1906-10 show the average survival rate, or rate of natural increase, for New Zealand and Great Britain to be 17.4 and 11.5, respectively per 1,000 inhabitants. For the entire United Kingdom for the same period it was 11.0 per 1,000. For the year 1911 the survival rate was 16.6 and 9.6, and for 1914 it was 16.7 and 9.5 for New Zealand and the United Kingdom, respectively. It will be seen that the survival rate or rate of natural increase for New Zealand was in 1911 at least a third higher than that of Great Britain or the United Kingdom. Doubtless much of New Zealand's success in democracy, of which Mr. Roosevelt speaks, is due to her careful population selection and limitation through birth control and other measures.

**A**GAIN, MR. ROOSEVELT errs sharply when he says the population of Australia "increases so slowly that, even if the present rate were maintained, the population would not

double itself in the next century." As statistics show, the rate of increase for the Australian Commonwealth for the period 1906-10 was 16.0 per 1,000, a rate requiring approximately 43.7 years for the number of inhabitants to double. For the years 1911 and 1914, respectively, the survival rate of Australia was 16.8 and 17.6,—an even higher rate than during 1906-10.

Such, then, are the errors in Mr. Roosevelt's statements. In this connection it is felt a comparison of the survival rates of a few high and low birth rate countries may not be amiss. Russia and Germany are often held up as typical of the nations having rapidly growing populations, whereas New Zealand and Australia are frequently pilloried as horrible examples of the nefarious effects of voluntary parenthood. For the years 1900 and 1909 the survival rates for European Russia were 18.3 and 15.1, respectively, for Germany they were 13.5 and 13.8, respectively. For the same years Australia and New Zealand showed survival rates of 16.2 and 18.2, and 15.2 and 16.4, respectively. These figures indicate a more rapid rate of increase for both New Zealand and Australia than for Germany, and a slightly greater rate of gain for New Zealand and a slightly lower one for Australia than for Russia. A careful study of the vital statistics of the thirty leading countries of the world (Registrar General's Report for England and Wales for 1914, p. 97) will reveal the fact that very few nations have a higher survival rate than New Zealand and the Commonwealth of Australia. Such a study illustrates how the chronic pessimists about racial decay display the puerile simplicity of considering the birth rate only, forgetting the death rate is likewise important, and the survival rate is the real test of population progress.

(To be continued)

## OUR CONTRIBUTORS

*Bevan, Ralph H.*, Rhodes Scholar at Oxford from Rhode Island. Contributor to wide range of periodicals.

Guest, *May Peerce*, Writer and Artist.

*Gruening*, Dr. Ernest H., Editor of The Natcon, New York.  
*Little, C. C.*, Biologist with Carnegie Institution, Washington, D. C., Scientist for Experimental Research.

*Nearing*, Scott, Sociologist, Author of a large number of books dealing with questions of wages, labor and other social problems. Lecturer at Rand School.

Punke, Edward G., Assistant Professor of Sociology, University of Michigan.

## HUMAN WASTE

Mrs. Charles S. Willard, of Allington, Conn., thirty six years old, wife of a carpenter, married when fourteen, has been the mother of twenty one children. Only five are alive, the others having died in infancy. There was one set of twins.

—New York World

\*Italics mine, E. G. P.

## Book Reviews

### A Revzew by Rzachard Jennings

'THE NEW MOTHERHOOD' By Margaret Sanger with introductions by Harold Cox and Havelock Ellis (Jonathan Cape London) Margaret Sanger's remarks Mr Harold Cox, in his introduction to this book is less well known in England than in America

That is natural enough

Nothing makes people so celebrated as persecution America, the land of Liberty is perhaps the country where Pussyfoot, Podsnap, Pecksniff, Comstock and other pseudo moralists have the widest power over the lives of their unhappy fellow citizens

The land of Liberty is the place where nobody can get a glass of beer unless he drinks it under the rose

It is also the land that sent Mrs Sanger to prison for defying an idiotic law which forbids people to publish information about Birth Control

We got rid of that form of prohibition in 1877

Nowadays in Britain, practically the whole of the upper and middle classes know about Birth Control and practice it

If they did not, they would be in a sorry plight indeed!

Weighed down by taxation it would be impossible for them to give away in rates the huge sums needed for the health services, the medical aid the hospitals, the schools and alas, the lunatic asylums needed to support or "control" the hideously high birth rate of the classes least fitted to recruit the over population of these islands

Why are our rulers—mainly middle class or upper class men—such cowards and hypocrites over this vital business of the birth rate?

Why for so long have they fought against the instruction of the poor in regard to it? Why do they keep silence about it and never put it in their election addresses? Why now that practically all of them recognize the fact of over population do not all of them indicate the remedy and instead of spending the tax payers money, in futile maternity benefts and the tinkering and patching of mother's welfare' sentimentality—why do they not save that money by insisting that every health centre every panel doctor, every Home and every Hospital should (as in Holland) be allowed—to be urged—to relieve the misery of those burdened year by year with unwanted babies?

If they did so—instead of talking rubbish about emigration—the housing problem (totally unsolved) would disappear. The slum problem would vanish. Motherhood would be voluntary—and happy. The cruelty that comes from overcrowding would diminish. The main incentive to war would go. The labour outcry would be silenced. Unemployment would be rare. There is hardly any social grievance of today that would not be immensely relieved by this most essential of all reforms.

I hope all who care for the future of our race will buy and read this noble and eloquent book, which reinforces by facts and figures the hopes I have just indicated.

We shall have to face the problem some day. We have forty millions, many of whom we cannot feed or house. In a century's time if we do not control our birth rate there might be 2000 million people in Great Britain!—more than the present population of the whole earth!

No nostrums of Socialism or State aid can ever hope to deal with that number. Birth Control or ruin—that is the alternative.

At the next election I should like voters to heckle all candidates of whatever party on this subject.

I should like them to ask ambitious M. P's if they have studied the figures in Mrs Sanger's book. I should like the women voters above all to ask if their candidate knows how and why a high birth rate means a high death rate, means a huge undergrowth of the sickly and diseased, means exorbitant taxation, means bad health for overstrained mothers, means slums and cruelty and vice.

Any government of the future that shirks this problem will solve no other. All depend upon this. What, then, shall we hear of it when we get the next appeal to the people?

\*Mrs Sanger's book 'Woman and the New Race' has been published in England under the title 'The New Motherhood'. We reprint the following review which was published in the Daily Mirror May 12th

### A Revzew by William J Fielding

PSYCHOANALYSIS OF THE REFORMER, by Joel Rinaldo Lee Publishing Co New York 137 pages Price \$2

In many respects this is a remarkable little book. Its analysis of the complexes motivating the typical "reformer" of the Blue Law Pro-

hibitionists Sabbatarian type is illuminating and colorful, and gives evidence of much philosophic insight into human nature.

Mr Rinaldo is more strictly allied to the orthodox Freudian school of psychoanalysis than most of the American writers on this subject. Consequently, he sees a sexual basis in practically every psychic morbidity of the individual, including all varieties of reformers.

It is evident, however, the author has a few private complexes of his own which persist in disporting themselves. I refer to his inclusive grouping together of almost everyone who may be affiliated with some social movement—whether of a negative or a positive constructive character.

Two examples will suffice to illustrate what I believe are irrelevant comparisons. In several instances, Mr Rinaldo has included the old abolitionists and the modern Birth Control advocates in with his heterogeneous bunch of reformers.

Now there may have been neurotics among the old abolitionists as there doubtless are among the modern Birth Control advocates. I am equally sure that there were neurotics among the staunch defenders of chattel slavery, as I am sure that there are neurotics among the present day bitter opponents of contraception. But as the author makes no allusion to the neurotic defenders of the status quo it leaves the implication that the morbid are all on the other side.

As a matter of fact the *modus operandi* of the Birth Control movement and of the prohibition movement are diametrically opposed. Whereas the prohibition movement (as an expression of reformism) is a negative social force as methods being repression, restrictive laws and inhibitive influences on the individual, the Birth Control advocate seeks to remove from the statute books the present irrational restrictive laws regarding contraceptives and to nullify the present social and religious taboos and inhibitions which now prevent an honest public discussion and general understanding of the subject.

As a notable example who may we ask displayed the meddlesome tactics of the inhibiting neurotic? The people who arranged to publicly discuss in Town Hall the morality of Birth Control, or the Ecclesiastical Police outfit which forcibly silenced the speakers and disbanded the meeting?

If there are relatively as many if not more neurotics among the reactionaries and conservatives as there are among the liberals and progressives, why point out any particular group of the latter as horrible examples? The same holds true in regard to the abolitionist as a type.

Notwithstanding the one-sidedness of the thesis in certain respects which prompts these criticisms the book may profitably be read by anyone interested in social tendencies as well as psychological (and psychopathological) studies.

SEX SEARCHLIGHTS Edited by Dr Lee Alexander Stone Science Publishing Company Chicago

It is somewhat difficult to classify this volume. It runs to 747 pages and more or less covers every imaginable phase of the sex question. The first portion of the book gives the physiology of the reproductive organs. Four chapters follow on the venereal diseases the fourth giving what in many cases is a much needed warning against quacks. The remainder of the volume is occupied with a miscellany including quotations, storm and poems the general aim being to show the tragic results of Ignorance, bad sex habits and poor training.

VERY few married couples voluntarily remain without any children at all —DR C V DRYSDALE



## PERIODICALS

The Veteran, (New York) for June contains an article by Dr Maxilian P E Grossman entitled Did You Want to Be Born? It takes a stand for the right of a child to good inheritance and proper care—a right that is only possible under a system of Birth Control

The Shield (London) for May June contains an interesting article against Birth Control by Walter Hunt The Shreld is the organ of the British Association for Moral and Social Hygiene, and so far has taken no position on Birth Control In an editorial note it is stated that while printing Mr Hunts argument it takes issue with him on his conclusions which are not supported by evidence Mr Hunts reasons for opposing Birth Control rest upon the assumption that the deterioration of native races and the introduction among these people of many diseases from which they were formerly free is due to the relinquishment of older customs of strict continence except for procreative purposes He takes no account of the introduction of infection of such diseases as syphilis and measles, nor of the fact that under European rule there is no longer the strict weeding out of the unfit His argument is altogether a case of post hoc ergo propter hoc, and has little scientific value It is, however, one more indication of the great need of scientific investigation in this neglected field

## BOOKS RECEIVED

From the Macmillan Co, New York PARENTHOOD AND CHILD NURTURE, By Edna Dean Baker GENETICS by Herbert Eugene Walter

From the Truth Publishing Co, New York, THE TYRANNY OF GOD by Joseph Lewis

From the Cosmopolis Press, New York WHERE KNOWLEDGE MEANS HAPPINESS by V P F

From Henry Holt & Co THE CONTROL OF LIFE by J Arthur Thomson

From The Haldeman Julius Co, Girard, Kan Complete set of 239 Ten Cent Pocket Series The Series includes an exceedingly wide range of excellent literature—classics of Greece, of Mediæval Europe and of more modern times In it are found, the immortal writings of Plato, Shakespeare, Schopenhauer and Goethe the wisdom of Ingersoll and the wit of De Seigne Poetry, history science and philosophy all find their place in the series, and it is not too much to say that the boy or girl with high school education who reads with attention and discrimination two of these ten cent booklets a week, will derive the equivalent of a broad and humanizing college course Considerable attention is given to Birth Control the debate between Mrs Sanger and Winter Russell being presented in No 208 Other numbers deal with sex education and feminism, while No 209 gives Dr A Knopf's views on the question There is in fact scarcely any question of vital importance to mankind which does not find a place in the series

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

EDITOR, BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW

I have before me here a communication from your office asking me to aid your movement and to subscribe to your magazine I sincerely appreciate your efforts and also what you do but this is a very complex world, and all great movements are necessarily slow, and all reforms somewhat tardy in being enforced To my mind it would be a question if this law could be enforced to limit offspring, and the danger might arise of illegitimacy Possibly also evils greater than the one complained of Further it might also lead to an increase of clandestine prostitution with its baneful results as it is harder to fight an Indian in ambush than to fight an enemy who comes out in full view While I certainly believe in healthy children as well as parents, still the knowledge which you might feel that a mother was entitled to, or which you would wish to disseminate among those who would be legitimately entitled to it I think that this knowledge is pretty well disseminated already, almost more so than is really good for women, as I think that it is taken advantage of a good many times to their utter sorrow in after

life Trusting that this will set me right with your views I believe in health surely, but I do not at this time see that we can improve on it, as people would not take our advice on these matters any way, and I am positive that we could not force our views on them, no more than prohibition  
W J, M D

(Our correspondent shares the old fears of man for woman Some centuries ago men were equally solicitous about the evil effects of allowing women to learn to read as he now is about their being entrusted with knowledge that would enable them to be mistress of their own bodies Is it not time that women were allowed to grow up and to assume the responsibilities of adult human beings? The Birth Control movement is not concerned with legislation that would force any line of conduct on anybody It aims only to take away the prohibitions which prevent women from acquiring scientific, medical information—Editor)

They tell us we live a sheltered life at home while they go to the wars, but that is nonsense For I would rather go into battle thrice, than bear a child once—EURIPIDES in "Medea"

## The Key to Race Perfection

(Continued from page 134)

joy of overcoming it Divine instincts and laws are to be learned and utilized for that purpose Control of births will be suicide only of that portion of the race whose multiplication would probably be burdensome both to themselves and their children Birth Control amounts to survival and increase of those classes with the greatest capacity for useful happiness In the last analysis, then, control of births is a policy of non interference with divine law It would facilitate the multiplication and survival of the fittest to forward human welfare Far from being race suicide, wise Birth Control is the most rapid race progress towards perfection

In sum, scientific investigation should be made of the most salutary methods of Birth Control And therein medical and spiritual advisers ought to be educated and imbued with the keenest sense of their sacred responsibility They are to dispense their information with all caution and solely for race perfection Thereby limitation of births may be facilitated among the least productive, thrifty, healthy, generous, adaptable, intelligent and otherwise least useful classes This is the only permanent remedy for overpopulation, underproduction, economic pressure—for the underlying causes of wars, class conflicts, and poverty Intelligent Birth Control is the only effective—or at least the only prompt—means to the highest average productivity, thrift, health, generosity, adaptability, wisdom, and perfection of mankind Scientific facilitation of Birth Control is thus the only effectual surgery for that in conceivable bulk of human miseries due to wars, poverty, class struggles, ill health, selfishness, and unadaptability In the ideal of Birth Control, moreover, is included, improvement of the intelligence of the race Wise birth regulation will be effectually applicable through all time Scientific Birth Control, then seems many times the most promising key to human perfection, happiness, and progress Its incalculable possibilities, as it is more intelligently applied by future generations, defy limitation

# The American Birth Control League

MARGARET SANGER, *President*

## PRINCIPLES

The complex problems now **confronting America** as the result of the **practice** of reckless **procreation** are fast **threatening** to grow beyond human control

Everywhere we see poverty and large **families going hand in hand** Those least fit to carry on the race are **increasing most rapidly** People who cannot support **their own offspring** are encouraged by Church and State to produce large **families** Many of the **children** thus begotten are **diseased** or feeble **minded**, many become **criminals** The burden of supporting these unwanted types has to be borne by the healthy elements of the **nation** Funds that should be used to **raise** the standard of our **civilization** are **diverted** to the **maintenance** of those who should never have been born

In **addition to this grave evil** we **witness** the **appalling** waste of women's health and women's **lives** by too frequent **pregnancies** These unwanted **pregnancies** often provoke the **crime** of **abortion**, or **alternatively multiply** the number of **child** workers and lower the standard of **living**

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

We hold that **children** should be

- 1 **Conceived** in love,
- 2 **Born** of the mother's **conscious desire**,
- 3 And only begotten under **conditions which** render possible the **heritage** of health

Therefore we hold that every woman **must** possess the power and freedom to prevent conception except when these **conditions** can be satisfied

Every mother must **realize** her **basic position** in human **society** She must be **conscious** of her **responsibility** to the race in **bringing children into** the world

Instead of being a **blind** and haphazard consequence of **uncontrolled instinct**, motherhood must be made the **responsible** and self **directed** means of human **expression** and **regeneration**

These **purposes, which** are of fundamental **importance** to the whole of our **nation** and to the future of **mankind**, can only be **attained** if women first **receive** practical **scientific education** in the means of **Birth Control** **That, therefore, is** the first object to **which** the efforts of **this League** **will be directed.**

## AIMS

THE AMERICAN BIRTH CONTROL **LEAGUE** **aims** to **enlighten** and educate all **sections** of the **American** public in the various aspects of the dangers of uncontrolled **procreation** and the **imperative necessity** of a **world** program of **Birth Control**

The League **aims** to correlate the **findings** of **scientists, statisticians, investigators** and **social agencies** in all fields To make **this possible, it is necessary** to **organize various departments**

**RESEARCH** To collect the **findings** of **scientists**, concerning the **relation** of **reckless breeding** to delinquency, defect and dependence

**INVESTIGATION** To **derive** from these **scientifically ascertained** facts and figures, **conclusions which** may aid all **public health** and **social agencies** in the study of problems of maternal and **infant mortality**, child labor, mental and **physical** defects and **delinquency in relation** to the **practice** of reckless parentage

**HYGIENIC AND PHYSIOLOGICAL instruction** by the **Medical profession** to mothers and **potential** mothers in harmless and **reliable** methods of **Birth Control** in answer to their requests for such knowledge

**STERILIZATION** of the **insane** and feeble **minded** and the encouragement of **this operation** upon those **afflicted with inherited** or **transmissible diseases**, with the understanding that sterilization does not deprive the **individual** of his or her sex expression, but merely renders him or her incapable of producing children

**EDUCATIONAL** The program of **education** includes The enlightenment of the **public** at large, **mainly** through the education of leaders of thought and **opinion—teachers, ministers, editors and writers—to** the moral and **scientific** soundness of the **principles** of **Birth Control** and the **imperative necessity** of its adoption as the **basis** of national and **racial** progress

**POLITICAL AND LEGISLATIVE** To **enlist** the support and co operation of legal **advisors, statesmen and legislators** in effecting the removal of state and federal statutes which encourage **dysgenic** breeding, **increase** the sum total of **disease, misery** and poverty and prevent the **establishment** of a policy of national health and strength

**ORGANIZATION** To send **into** the **various** States of the Union field workers to **enlist** the support and arouse the **interest** of the **masses** to the **importance** of **Birth Control** so that laws may be changed and the establishment of **clinics** made possible in every State

**INTERNATIONAL** This department **aims** to co operate with similar organizations in other **countries** to study **Birth Control** in its **relations** to the world **population** problem, food supplies, **national** and **racial** conflicts, and to urge upon all **international bodies** organized to promote world peace, the consideration of these aspects of **international amity**

## LIFE MEMBERSHIP \$100 Join the League Today!

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Make check payable to Francis B Ackermann

## A Way Out (Continued from page 132)

speed which now took him home to Janey and little Leo. He was bursting with an immense exaltation, his sense of power had become giant like. His future stretched before him like a paradise. The awful anguish of his past six months had magically dwindled to a little heap of rubbish, already relegated to the dustpan of oblivion. In this one eventful night he had experienced the gamut of emotions, had traversed the scale between despair and hope.

Thus elastic is the human soul! How otherwise could it survive?

And now all fear of returning to Janey had gone. Ben had found an outlet for his energy in visioning a road straight ahead, a clear road, along which he and his beloved could safely travel.

He checked his speed as he neared his little home, his tiny three room apartment. Not for worlds would he startle them, they might be getting some blessed sleep. And all was quiet. Janey lay on his red plush sofa, her face buried in the pillow, lost at last to her maddening problems. And even little Leo was sleeping.

Gazing at them in their almost death like quietness, a strange awe crept through Ben. Then stealthily, he moved across the tiny room and crouched down by his wife, resting his head against the sofa. Surely, surely the wild beating of his heart must waken her, it could be heard by the whole sleeping city!

(To be continued)

# THE WORLD TOMORROW

A Radical monthly without bitterness, without dogma, without blueprints for the future

## Even the Farmer

Are our farmers still living in the patriarchal stage in which Birth Control has no economic importance? If you think so read Senator Ladd on "Should the Farmer Be Class Conscious?" in our July number called Creating the Country Community, and what Walter Pritchard Eaton, Fredertck Howe and other thoughtful writers have to say on the subject.

Also, whoever among your friends feels the shame of Society's treatment of its so called criminals, will want to read the August prison number with its articles by

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## A Book for Idealists by an Idealist

The greatest necessity to ensure happiness in the married condition is to know its obligations and privileges, and to have a sound understanding of sex conduct. This great book gives this information and is absolutely reliable throughout.

Dr. P. L. Clark, B.S., M.D., Ph.D., writing of this book says: "As regards sound principles and frank discussion I know no better book on this subject than Bernard Bernard's 'Sex Conduct in Marriage.' I strongly advise all members of the Health School in need of reliable information to read this book." "I feel grateful but cheated", writes one man, "grateful for the new understanding and joy in living that has come to us, cheated that we have lived five years without it."

## SEX CONDUCT IN MARRIAGE

By BERNARD BERNARD  
Editor in Chief of Health and Life

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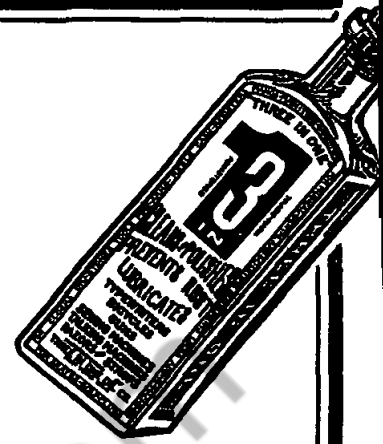


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