

February, 1926

Twenty Cents

BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW

Fewer Children Better Born



F H Stewart, So

HAVELOCK ELLIS:

By

*H. L. Mencken
Raymond Pearl*

*John Haynes Holmes
Franklin H Giddings*

and others

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BIRTH CONTROL PRIMER



What Have We Learned About Birth Control?

- ¶ Last month we defined Birth Control as the Conscious Regulation of The Birth Rate
- ¶ We showed that there were three means of regulation and that the best of these for the greatest number of people was the use of harmless chemical and mechanical devices called contraceptives
- ¶ We showed that the forces of ignorance, indifference, prejudice and superstition prevented by law the spread of this method of Birth Control
- ¶ We showed that Birth Control was a preventive of Abortion, and we gave Reason No 1—*The Health of Mother and Child* in answer to the question

*T*HERE is something pathetic in the spectacle of those who are still only able to recognize the animal end of marriage and who point to the example of the lower animals as worthy of our imitation. It has taken God—or Nature if you will—unknown millions of years of painful struggle to evolve Man, and to raise the human species above that bondage to reproduction which marks the lower animals. But on these people it has all been wasted. They are in the animal stage still. They have yet to learn the A B C of love. This comes from the blindness which cannot know that beyond the primary animal end of propagation in marriage there is a secondary but more spiritual end. It is needless to insist how intimately that secondary end of marriage is bound up with Birth Control.

—HAVELOCK ELLIS

WHY IS BIRTH CONTROL NECESSARY?

- ¶ We give this month Reason No 2—THE HAPPINESS OF FAMILY LIFE
- ¶ Birth Control will increase the happiness of the wife and mother by freeing her from the haunting fear month by month of a pregnancy that is undesired and unprepared for. It will enable her to have children when she wants them, is strong enough to bear them and knows that she can take care of them. It will give her time to know and enjoy her children, to hold and desire her husband's love and to develop her own personality both inside the home and in the world outside the home.
- ¶ It will enable the husband and father to keep and enjoy his wife's love instead of feeling himself to be often the object of her fear. It will do away with the discontent and irritability found in men whose sexual life is incomplete owing to dread of large families. It will give the father an opportunity to do his best by the children he has chosen to have, instead of being distressed and harassed by the thought that he cannot properly feed and clothe the unending stream of children sent by blind natural law.
- ¶ It will assure the children a welcome, the affection of both parents, held to each other and to them by a love that can freely express itself without fear and able to provide them a calm and safe home, health and material well-being, care suited to the individuality of each, a good education and a fair start in life.
- ¶ It will give to the home peace, harmony and love and it will, by encouraging early marriage, lessen prostitution and promote morality.



BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW

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

VOL X

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No 2

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EDITORIAL

ANOTHER year has passed and the BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW offers the greetings of another group of writers to Havelock Ellis on his birthday. Biologist, sociologist, eugenist, men of letters, men of the law and the church with such unanimity as to give almost a sameness to their messages agree that his great contribution lies in the fact that he saw art and science as parts of one whole and both, not as cold external things, but as expressions of the life of humanity and the means by which humanity may be enabled to make the most of life. The same generation which now acclaims him as the broadest and most humane and satisfying of teachers, sat in its first youth at the feet of Matthew Arnold. In those days—the late nineties—Havelock Ellis, as a scientist, opened a new world to them, but for things literary and humane the rather frigid intellectual heights of Matthew Arnold were those they aspired to climb. But the heights of Arnold's culture grew colder and more remote from humanity and they turned back many years ago to find that their Scientist held a better key to culture, in his broad and tolerant knowledge and understanding of man.

The younger generation had no such handicap. When it came to maturity Havelock Ellis had revealed the whole of his many-sided development, and it is Youth pre-emminently that now looks to him as guide and friend. Last year we published in the BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW many tributes to him as a friend. This year only Francoise Delisle's touching verses present this aspect. To be broad and profound in learning, to be at the same time lofty and tolerant in thought, to have escaped the specialization to function which makes many great men both uninteresting and inaccessible as personalities and to have a gift for friendship which draws people without consciousness of their own inadequacy—this combination of qualities is what has made Havelock Ellis one of the greatest influences among modern Englishmen.

WE publish this month three letters on the problem of street selling of the BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW. Two are strongly in favor, one

opposed, a fourth too long to print this month is divided in its opinion. The writer so well recognizes the force of the arguments on both sides and the importance to the movement of the two classes—those who can only be reached on the street and those to whom street selling is obnoxious—that he even suggests two magazines, one for the People and one for the Intelligentsia, one boldly displaying Birth Control on the cover, the other bearing some less controversial and perhaps broader title. The plan is not exactly feasible, but it shows how strong are the arguments on both sides.

In this connection it is interesting to note that figures of the Clinical Research Department of the League show that somewhere around 15 per cent of the cases that come to the department come through "seeing the lady on the street." A substantial proportion—the figures have never been kept—join the League for the same reason. However, there are the 85 per cent who come to the Clinical Research Department from other sources and the large numbers who join the League for other reasons. We should like to hear more from our readers, on both sides of this question. Contributors are asked to state whether they are willing to have their names used.



ONE of the strongest and swiftest working influences in bringing the population problem home to the nations of the world has been the practical closing of American ports to emigrants from the Old World. Statements by Italian leaders on the need of America for their superabundant population were commented on in the September BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW. In another place* we quoted a Japanese publicist whose point of view is broader than that of Mussolini and Count Cippico, for he regards war as "unthinkable" and Birth Control as the inevitable solution of Japan's population problem. The most recent suggestion is for the relief of England's population problem. It comes from J. Ferguson, a Wesleyan local preacher, who

* See page 68

writes in *The Christian Advocate* "What she is suffering from is a surplus of population. She has now two millions more people than she had when the war began. It is highly probable that from a commercial and industrial standpoint she has reached the point of saturation. If this country (the United States of America) would take over a million of Britain's sons and daughters, the problem of unemployment in the old country, and other problems beside, would soon be solved." Mr. Ferguson's suggestion is in reality no solution at all, for it takes no account of the future. Those who advise this panacea close their eyes to the fact that the place of the "million of Britain's sons and daughters" to be taken over by this country would be filled and overfilled within a few years.



ONE of the closing acts of the Interdenominational Students Congress which ended its sessions at Evanston, Ill., New Year's Day, was endorsement of Birth Control.

This action of a group of Protestant Bible students in identifying practical eugenics with Birth Control, comes as a commentary on the action of the Protestant Episcopal House of Bishops in excluding Birth Control from its endorsement of Eugenics. The contrast between the two bodies, representing the older and younger groups in the church, recalls Dr. Little's prophesy, quoted in last month's BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW, that the intelligent minority of the youth of the nation are to be the hope of the Birth Control movement. The body meeting at Evanston represents "the Youth Movement" in the Protestant Church.



AFTER listening to addresses by Dr. James F. Cooper of the Clinical Research Department of the American Birth Control League in Indiana and Ohio, the Northeastern Indiana Academy of Medicine and the Licking County (Ohio) Medical Association passed the following resolution *Resolved*, that we hereby recommend the alteration of existing laws wherever necessary so that physicians may legally give contraceptive information to their patients in the regular course of practice.

These are the most recent of endorsements which show with what interest open-minded physicians are now enlisting in the work of making the giving of contraceptive information legal throughout the United States. Attacks by physicians and medical

bodies are growing more and more rare. In the case of a recent attack sent by a local medical group in Illinois to the "Journal of the American Medical Association," the Journal opened its pages generously to a reply and *American Medicine* published an article by Dr. S. Adolphus Knopf showing the scientific foundation of the work of the American Birth Control League and the increasing and impressive body of physicians now identified with work for Birth Control. Thus an attack by a relatively unimportant medical body has given us an opportunity to learn that there are now many physicians and bodies of physicians ready and willing to speak out in defence.



WHILE foreign countries of large natural increase are feeling the need of other shores to settle on, we in the United States are rapidly reaching the point where our increase will be largely natural. The New York State Department of Health has recently called attention to the decreasing rate of population increase in that landing state for immigrants. This it lays in large part to "the change both in the volume and the origin of our immigration since the war."

"The bulk of our immigration now comes from countries with a comparatively low birth rate, while the peoples of southeastern Europe, with a high birth rate, have been practically eliminated as a factor in the historical source of growth of the population of this country."

The United States is, as Professor Bowen shows* in a recent number of the *Scientific Monthly*, approaching a condition where immigration will no longer obscure its real population problem.



AS the February REVIEW goes to press word comes that the Protestant Episcopal Church has joined hands with the Roman Catholic Church in a determined crusade against Birth Control. Comment on this development will be made in the March REVIEW. Meanwhile we are the more convinced by this that the hope of the movement lies in the youth of the country and that the answer will be given in the last resort, by the Youth Movement within the Churches, which has already in certain groups gone on record for Birth Control. We congratulate the Lutheran Church for its dignified and progressive stand in refusing to take any part in the attack on Birth Control.

* See page 61

AU MAÎTRE

By FRANÇOISE DELISLE

*Grand maître, - maître de la mort,
Quand par folie, éperdument,
On a de l'angoisse à plein coeur,
Quand de douleur et de tourment
On vous arrive tout en pleurs,
Vous vous dressez contre le sort.
Oh! vous le plus humain des hommes,
Le moins faible par leurs faiblesses,
C'est votre bonté qui nous somme
Aux beaux espoirs, grandes prouesses,
Cher grand dieu! - maître de la mort!*

*Grand maître, - maître de la vie, -
Nous avons appris qu'on la dance
Avec du sang plein les souliers,
Mais qu'elle est noble et douce trance,
Riante pour le coeur altier,
Mystérieuse et folle amie;
Dès lors, assis à ses banquets
Qu' les sanglots et les chansons
Sont belles fleurs de ses bouquets
Nous vous bénissons pour ses dons,
Vous, grand dieu! - maître de la vie!*

Some Addenda to the Dance of Ellis' Life

By ISAAC GOLDBERG

IN the days of his age, and in his leisurely way, Havelock Ellis renews the vigor of his youth. On February 2, 1926, he will celebrate his sixty-seventh birthday, having been born in the great year of 1859—year of Darwin's "Origin of Species." English in the very narrowest ancestral sense, with a long line of scholars and churchmen, soldiers and seamen behind him, yet he rose early above the limitations of insular thinking and has, in his multifarious labors, embraced the world. That world, in turn, has embraced him, at least, that civilized portion which alone matters. It is true that some years after the beginning of his career, when the first volume of his famous *Studies in the Psychology of Sex* appeared, he was branded by the English courts as a pervert, as a purveyor of filth, it is true, too, that thereafter,—again in his quiet, unruffled manner,—he made up his mind that the remainder of the *Studies* should be published in the United States. Those *Studies*, incidentally, have been better received in America and in Germany than in Ellis's native England. Yet in the career of the man who has taught his generation the secret of a serene hilarity this has been only a dissonant interlude. *The Dance of Life* is the name of one of the recent books by Ellis that has won for him in America a new and larger public,—a public of enlightened laymen rather than of specialists in sex or sociology or letters. And Ellis's life has been a glowing, glorious dance,—a dance of the thoughts, of the feelings, merging into a radiant conception of life itself as the supreme art, the sum of the arts.

IN this life, when regarded from the standpoint of the critic and biographer, there seems little indeed of that frustration which has become the biographical fashion of the hour. I do not mean, of course, that Ellis has written his works upon literary criticism, upon social hygiene, sex, travel, dreams, national and individual psychology, art, philosophy, poetry, free of those repressions which color the lives of patrician and plebeian alike. I mean rather that Ellis's life, from the very first, shows remarkable evidence of a plan drawn up and adhered to with practically undeviating steadfastness. He has fallen short of his dream, but that is what dreams are for.

It is significant that the latest of his books to be published, *Sonnets and Folk Songs*, contains

the earliest things that he wrote, his poems. Similarly, his little novel, *Kanga Creek*, published in 1922 and dealing with the atmosphere of his boyhood days as a teacher in Australia, was written more than thirty years before that date. Voluminous writer that he is, Ellis has never been a hasty one. Early he had made up his mind that to publish before the age of thirty was to risk the immaturities of youth, accordingly, his first two books, *The New Spirit* and *The Criminal*, do not appear until 1890, just after he had passed thirty. Here, too, the very titles are significant of the prolific and finely balanced intellectual life to which they are the prelude. The first book deals with letters, the second with science, yet in *The New Spirit* is the play of a scientific mind, while in *The Criminal* is, just as surely, the play of the artistic.

IT has been the distinction of Ellis that to thinking men and women of his generation he has served, and is today serving more than ever, as the exemplar of such a full and rounded life. Others have been content to divide up life into compartments, to trail over arcs of the great circle, to deal with the writhing fragments of existence, to analyze, Ellis, from the first, has evolved larger unities out of these separate provinces, has joined the arcs into the complete circle, welded the fragments,—in a word, he has synthesized. What is this pathfinder doing, when he publishes in the twilight of his life the poems of his dawn, but completing just such a circle? In Ellis's life there has been, then, not frustration but completion. That same wholeness he finds in the world about him.

For him, no clean-cut divisions. Science and art merge into the greater art which is all of living. Man and woman (as he brought out in the book so named in 1894) are not two warring factions but two distinct endowments that achieve an interdependent harmony above the inevitable natural differences. Collectivism and individualism are not irreconcilable enemies, they are two aspects of social and personal living which thrive by mutual adjustment. Many readers who know little or nothing of Ellis's contributions to sexual psychology or to sociology have read with deep pleasure his three series of *Impressions & Comments*. Here they will have found Ellis's attitude toward life and death as a natural progress, to be enjoyed and understood rather than to be feared. This same un-

willingness to create hasty divisions appears in the sex *Studies*, Ellis hesitates to draw the line—which others trace with such overweening confidence—between the normal and the abnormal

ELLIS, then rejects the moral attitude for the aesthetic. That is, he transfers the questions and the perplexities of life from the realm of the narrowly religious and dogmatic to that of the broadly tolerant. This tolerance is not to be confused, however, with the namby-pambyness that too often masquerades under the name. Ellis, on matters that count, has been firm and inflexible, he has been tried in the fires of social scorn and indifference and has emerged not only unscathed but victorious. No, Ellis's tolerance is another phase of his peculiar ability to see all around a question. Right and wrong are easily defined—in the dictionary, but not in life. What once used to be a matter of morals has become, in his sight, a matter of taste. Again, you will notice, life as art. Conventionality and dogmatism, to Ellis, are repugnant, not because he favors abandon, but precisely because they defeat that very control which is at the basis of life truly lived. They deny the validity of that free experience which alone creates a significant individual. The dictum that man's kingdom lies within may thus be translated into the essential subjectivity of human experience. And, truly enough, Ellis travels through life in much the manner that Keyserling, in his remarkable *Travel Diary of a Philosopher*, travels through the lands of the world.

It is in the youthful sonnets that we may discover the plan of his career. They are the blueprints of the house of life that he has built in the more than forty intervening years. They explain, too, as he himself has recognized, the poetic atmosphere that hovers even over his most scientific prose. (Again, you will note, a completed circle—prose and poetry.) In his sixth year he made a circuit of the globe in a ship captained by his father, the journey traced a series of lines from England to Australia to Peru to Holland and back to England. In his sixteenth year, going to Australia to gain vigor, he remained for several years as a rural teacher. His own schooling, in the interim between these two visits to the southern continent, had been near London, and in private. He does not consider that he derived much benefit from this formal education, he is, moreover, one of a number of great Englishmen who show no college diploma. Instead, having come to a realization of his life's work during the self-communion of his days and nights in the Bush, he began his medical studies at St. Thomas's Hospital, London, on his return from Australia.

IT is at this time that he makes one of the central friendships of his life—that with Olive Schreiner. Already she was basking in the popularity that *An African Farm* had brought to her. She was four years his senior, and at once a deep, even a passionate, friendship arose, in which her volubility and ardor were often at amusing variance with the reticence and serenity of this old youngster. Her recently published letters have shed a new light upon the relationship. Ellis had undertaken the medical studies, not for the purpose of practicing as a physician, but because he had realized the necessity for such a foundation if he were to do serious work in the fields of sex and science. Olive Schreiner, who had herself wavered between the vocations of medicine and literature, predicted for him, from the first handshake, the career that he subsequently achieved.

AFTER qualifying as physician Ellis, in that highly important thirtieth year of his, spent several months in Paris, in company of his friend, Arthur Symonds. He had gone, supposedly, for the advantages of medical exploration, he remained for the pleasures of literature and art, meeting men and absorbing experience. It was five years later that Remy de Gourmont anticipated by some three decades Mencken's description of Ellis as the "most civilized Englishman of his generation." Writing to a friend, de Gourmont declared that Ellis was "the most advanced person in England." De Gourmont remained, indeed, until his death, Ellis's best friend in France. It was he who initiated the translation into French of the *Studies*, and was responsible, too, for the translation of other of Ellis's books, notably *The World of Dreams*.

The remarkable unity and universality which are to be found in his writings are not generally present in the admiration that has come to him. A few there are who know him, so to speak, in the round, and who know, too, the work performed for a new womanhood by his radiant, dynamic wife, the late Edith Ellis. There are still those who think that he is solely a writer upon sex, and who, referring to him, sink their voices to the lower register reserved for Krafft-Ebing and his clinical confreres. I do not wish to give the impression that Ellis's labors in the field of sex have been inconsiderable, even to psychoanalysis, to which he subscribes with qualifications, he has given at least two important terms—*auto-erotism* and *narcissism*. Freud himself, in his opus on dreams, has gracefully acknowledged an instance of Ellis's priority, our own Mr. Mordell, in *The Literature of Ecstasy*, has pointed out that in *Affirmations* (published two years before Freud's masterpiece), Ellis was

"the first writer in England to develop the idea that artistic creation is a sublimation of sex repression

The selfsame essay in which Ellis does this—the one on Casanova—is in my opinion not only among his most notable productions but one of the great essays of its time. In it the renowned Englishman, who could not be a Casanova if he would and would not if he could, reaches by sheer power of imaginative penetration and sympathy all the way around a character in many ways antipodal to his own, producing, as he does so, some of the finest literary criticism and philosophic poetry of our day

TO be known properly, the man should be known whole. It is not by chance that the episode of what Ellis has called "conversion," which occurs in his *Dance of Life*, dates back to his youthful days in Australia, to the time in which *Kanga Creek* is placed. In him especially is the youth father to the man. Before he has left the hospital, even in his student days, he has inaugurated the famous *Mermaid Series* of English dramatists and the equally notable *Contemporary Science Series*, which continued down to the days of 1914,—a record of a quarter-century. See once more how art and science go hand in hand, whatever he does.

Ellis has left his impress upon most of the provinces of living. His investigations into the psychology of colors, of nations,—into the newer phases of sex study, have yet to appear in book form, although they have in some cases long ago come out as magazine articles. Back in 1898, and again

in 1902, he was describing the effects of the strange drug, *mescal*, that seemed to dissociate one from one's personality and enable one to study oneself almost impersonally, as it were. Among men of letters whom he induced to perform similar experiments upon themselves with this "divine plant" is William Butler Yeats. Ellis at the time expressed the belief that every healthy person would profit immensely by at least a single experience of this "artificial paradise."

PERHAPS this is as good a place as any to correct a few current errors concerning the man. I have seen it written and heard it said, even by those who have spent some time in his company, that Ellis's eyes are blue or grey. I have it on unimpeachable authority that they are green. Wondrous reports reach us of his height and thinness, and he becomes, in appearance, a composite of Walt Whitman, Leo Tolstoy, Rabindranath Tagore and Bernard Shaw. If he were any taller, one lady has declared, he would reach to heaven, and if he were any thinner he would be invisible. As a matter of vital statistics, Havelock Ellis is 5 feet, 10½ inches tall and weighs, today, around 155 pounds. He has earned a reputation for being a recluse, yet no man, for all his avoidance of the crowd, for all his indifference to the rostrum and the public dinner, is more accessible.

Like the man is his work. Outwardly austere, it proves the gateway to a fuller, freer, deeper and happier living.



Man of Science, Artist and Gentleman

By H. L. MENCKEN

H AVELOCK ELLIS, in more than one way, is the most admirable Englishman of his time. The Nineteenth Century, in giving the world the man of science, dealt left-handed blows at both the artist and the gentleman. But Ellis is all three—an almost perfect specimen of the well-rounded man, at home in all the fields of knowledge and yet missing none of the enchantments of beauty and none of the fine savors of life itself. He is an Englishman of the purest stock, and a sincere patriot, yet he is no chauvinist, no bellowing Johnny Bull. He is a scientist of immense knowledge and genuine scientific passion, yet he is no pedant, no slave of the laboratory. He believes thoroughly in human progress, yet a civilized skepticism lingers in his dream. He is an artist devoid of the faintest trace

of artiness. He sees the world he lives in as a whole and his view of it is shrewd and serene.

Such a man would be valuable to the human race if he simply lived. But Ellis has also done a great deal of hard work, and it has counted. I know of no work of the past half century that has had a more profound influence, or seems likely to leave behind it a greater legacy of good, than his six volumes of "Studies in the Psychology of Sex." Compare the literature on the subject that preceded it, and the literature that has followed it. In the latter a wholly new point of view is visible—and a new courage. Ellis, at one stroke, destroyed one of the worst taboos of civilized men. He completely revolutionized a whole department of thinking. That service, I believe, will not be forgotten.

The Outline of Marriage

PART II

By FLOYD DELL

WHAT I now propose to do is to call to the witness stand a biologist, who will describe to us the primitive mating customs, not of the human species, nor yet of any of the higher forms of life, but of the original protoplasmic entities from which we have sprung. Please take the stand, sir. You are a biologist, I believe?

The Biologist Takes the Stand

THE BIOLOGIST Yes

Q Will you please tell us what were the mating habits of the earliest living beings?

A I'm very sorry. But I can't. You see, I wasn't there.

Q You weren't where?

A On the earth, a thousand million years ago, before there was any dry land, and the sea was warm, and the first life, in the form of microscopic bits of protoplasmic jelly, began to infest these warm seas.

Q Strange—you say you weren't there?

A I did so remark.

Q Then how do you come to know so much about it? How do you know the sea was warm?

A A logical inference from geologic data.

Q Then please make some logical inferences for us, on this subject—the mating customs of the moneron.

A The moneron, sir, is an hypothesis invented by Haeckel—a one-celled creature composed of undifferentiated protoplasm which reproduced by division, and which Haeckel supposed to have been the original form of life. As to that, I know nothing. There are, of course, one-celled creatures now existing, which have an almost primeval simplicity, but which nevertheless, even in their simplicity of structure and habit, bear the marks of untold ages of evolutionary change. These microscopic single-celled protozoa—or perhaps we might follow Haeckel in calling them protista, since they have not yet become either definitely animal or definitely vegetable—may serve, of course, to give us hints of the character of original life. If not primeval, they are the nearest we have to the primeval. But if you wish to draw any analogies from them, you do so at your own risk. I will furnish you the information, and you may make your own conclusions.

Q What, then, are the mating customs of the protozoa—if you will be so kind?

A Sir, the term "mating" is one which I myself should never have chosen to describe the unions of the protozoa. As to their character, they are of two distinct kinds. There is the kind of union in which two separate individuals unite to form one new individual—a veritable union for life! You may, if you wish, find there the true original marriage which our human lovers seek vainly to emulate. Again, there is another kind of union, temporary but profound, in which the two individuals mix and share each other's nuclear content, so that when they separate each has lost part of itself and gained part of the other. That is sharing each other, if you like! And perhaps the profound extent of that sharing may, in the eyes of you anthropomorphic moralists, excuse its superficially temporary aspect. Each of these infusorian lovers (if you wish to call them that—mind you, I don't!) carries away with itself (I cannot say "himself" or "herself," because this union though sexual takes place without any sexual differentiation of the two individuals as male and female)—each carries away from the kiss a living half of the other, now indistinguishably united with itself. And by the way, I am not speaking entirely metaphorically when I say "the kiss," for in some of these species it is by joining of mouth to mouth that the syngamy, as we call this union, is effected. As, for instance, with the slipper animalcule, which is a single cell, divided into an outer coat or ectoplasm (which, by the way, in biology has nothing whatever to do with ghosts), and an inner fluid or nucleus. It has, among its few organs, a mouth. Well, then, the two slipper animalcules join, mouth to mouth, and their nuclei melt, fuse with each other, and re-divide, so that a fair exchange of part of the nuclear content of each with the other has been effected. Then these animalcules separate and go each its own way. This tender scene has been observed under the microscope.

Union for Renewal

I am afraid that these animalcules have no notion of faithfulness—if I may speak of the "notions" of an infusorian. The truly intimate union which they have just accomplished does not seem to endear them one to the other. They have united, in fact, for a wholly selfish purpose, and this purpose once accomplished, they go their way, as I have said, totally indifferent to each other. The need

for such a union arises again, after a time, and again it is fulfilled, but now a new mate is desired. I do not suggest any awareness of specific identity, but the presence of other animalcules not too closely related (and yet, so choice is the animalcule, not too distantly related, either!) is required as a stimulant to conjugation. And it is logical enough that the animalcule should prefer a new partner, since otherwise it might simply get its own old protoplasm back again—whereas its object in the process of syngamy has been to change and renew and revitalize its own protoplasm by admixture with alien protoplasm—I hope you follow me. I am trying hard not to be too technical.

Q We understand you perfectly. The only thing you have not made clear is the connection of this sexual union with reproduction.

A But there is no connection whatever.

Q What!

The Lost Paradise

A Certainly not. The slipper animalcule reproduces by fission—an asexual, not a sexual process, as the case with all the protozoa. Reproduction, among the protozoa, has nothing to do with sex, and sex has nothing to do with reproduction. You are the victim of a false inference from the life-habits of the metazoa, or many-celled animals, in which the two distinct processes have become more or less united. But among the protozoa, I assure you, they are quite different processes, having no relation to each other whatever—any more than eating and reproduction among human beings. As for reproduction, it is accomplished among the protozoa without the intervention of any sexual process—by the simple means of “splitting off” a baby-protzoan from the parental body, no co-operation with any second parent being required. Reproduction without any sexual instrumentalities is the primeval rule—and the sexual act occurs without any reproductive consequences whatever. It is only among forms of life evolved some millions of years later that we find these two alien processes of sex and reproduction united—sex becoming at first an adventitious aid to reproduction, as it is generally in the vegetable kingdom, and finally, among the higher animals, a necessary means.

Q But—if the protozoa do not unite sexually for reproductive purposes, what do they unite for?

A I thought I had told you. I said that they united in order to renew and revitalize their protoplasmic or nuclear content by the admixture of alien protoplasm. And they do that to keep from dying. At least, it has that effect. The individual dies if there is no food, or if it does not unite at

intervals with another individual. It dies, of course, eventually, anyway, but it dies much sooner if it is starved for lack of food or sexual union. It eats, grows, is vigorous, reproduces itself, and then grows old, tired, senile—its nucleus degenerates visibly under the microscope, and it dies—unless conjugation occurs. If conjugation does occur, it grows young again, lively, able to find food, eat, and reproduce itself, until it grows old and there is need of a new rejuvenescence through conjugation. The earliest use of the sexual process is thus for the purpose of vital refreshment to the tired organism.

Q This is very interesting. But—would you mind giving us your authority for these facts?

A There is no need to refer to the original investigations. These facts are now universally accepted. I see you have there in your bookcase a set of the *Encyclopedia Britannica*. Please look up the article “Protozoa.” Here—let me read you a few passages. Volume 22, page 484. “It is probable that in all Protozoa, as in the Metazoa, the life-history takes its course in a series of recurrent cycles of greater or less extent, a fixed point, as it were, in the cycle being marked by the act of syngamy or conjugation, which represents, apparently, a process of recuperation for the waning vital powers of the organism.” Mmm. Yes—page 485.

Try Syngamy—and Grow Young

“Syngamy must not be regarded as in any way specially connected with reproduction, but must be considered in its relation to the life-cycle as a whole, and in those instances in which syngamy is followed by increased reproductive activity the explanation must be sought in the general physiological effects of the sexual process upon the vital powers of the organism.” Again “so far as the Protozoa are concerned, the phrase ‘sexual reproduction’ is an incongruous combination of words, reproduction and sex are two distinct things, not necessarily related or in any direct causal connection.” Again “Many observations indicate that the vital powers of the Protozoa become gradually weakened, and the individual tends to become senile and effete, unless the process of syngamy intervenes. The immediate result of the sexual union is a renewal of the vitality, a rejuvenescence, which manifests itself in enhanced powers of metabolism, growth and reproduction. These facts have been most studied in the Ciliata.” My slipper animalcule, or paramecium, is one of the Ciliata, by the way. “It is observed that if these organisms be prevented from conjugating with others of their kind, they become senile and finally die off. It has

been found by G. N. Calkins, however, that if the senile individuals be given a change of medium and nourishment, their vigor may be renewed and their life prolonged for a time, though not indefinitely, there comes a time when artificial methods fail and only the natural process of syngamy can enable them to prolong their existence. As a general rule, in order that syngamy may be attended by beneficial results to the organism, it is necessary that the two conjugating individuals should be from different strains, that is to say, they should not be nearly related by descent and parentage." That is enough, I believe. Though if you are particularly interested in the subject I can refer you to various—

Q Thank you, that will suffice for the present.

And there we are! Instead of being, as so many of us had fondly supposed, a rebel against the universal order of nature, our young friend Myrtle—whom I hope you have not forgotten in your excitement over the mating customs of the protozoa—represents a partial return to what may well have been the original scheme of things. Myrtle, it is true, has not found any method of having babies by any other than the familiar sexual process, and so far as we know, she does not want to find any such new method, though there are others of her sex who have complained of it, and would like to have it ordered differently—and Bernard Shaw has encouraged them to believe that by wishing, they can help bring about that change! Myrtle is no such extreme radical—or should we say conservative? She does not wish to go back to the ways of her most primitive ancestors, and simply "split off" a baby-Myrtle every now and then from her own

body without the sexual co-operation of a parental George! But though she has not wished to dissociate reproduction from sexual instrumentalities, she *has* wished to dissociate the sexual act from reproductive consequences. And she has succeeded—she has used sex as what may without undue poetic exaggeration be called a means of rejuvenescence, psychic and spiritual as well as physical. And this, I repeat, instead of being a defiance of the natural order of the world of life, is, as we may begin to suspect, a return to its original order—with possibly some great improvements gained en route.

At all events, it has now become possible for us to think, in pursuing our inquiry, of sex and reproduction as separate things, with separate values of their own in life and in marriage.

But What About Reproduction?

We shall have more to discover of the influence of the sexual impulse upon the history of marriage. But let us, for a while, turn to the other great instinct of which the human institution of marriage is an outgrowth—the reproductive instinct. For marriage is only to an extent determined by that mating-impulse of which our friend Myrtle gave so admirable and convincing an account. It is perhaps still more largely determined by the reproductive impulse—of whose tremendous and magnificent and terrible and insane rage in a variety of species, and its conscious regulation by mankind, with the aid of the institution of marriage, we shall now proceed to take account.

(To be continued next month)



A Tribute to Ellis

By FRANKLIN H. GIDDINGS, PH.D.

HAVELOCK ELLIS is one of those rare personalities who awaken our admiration by the range of their intellectual interest no less than by the depth of their thought, and, at the same time, charm us by the felicity of expression and the warmth and beauty of their play of feeling. Those personalities not only make contributions to knowledge, but also they influence human life for good. Ellis has shown himself equally at home in his ex-

haustive studies of the psychology of sex, in his wise discussion of the problems of social hygiene and in his interpretation of the character of a people, as exemplified in his book on "The Soul of Spain." He has placed all right thinking men and women under everlasting obligation and his tens of thousands of admiring readers, with one mind and heart, will wish him many further years of production and happiness.

The Position of Havelock Ellis

By JOHN HAYNES HOLMES

HAVELOCK ELLIS' position is unique among the great leaders of our time

He is not an outstanding popular figure, like Wells or Shaw, known to the man in the street as a name if not as a person

He is not an embattled prophet, like Bertrand Russell or the late E. D. Morel, striking mighty blows in the fray for righteousness, and bearing away the cruel scars of combat

He is not a philosopher like Bergson or a scientist like Einstein, whose creative ideas mark an epoch in the history of ordered thought

Not distinctive in any of these ways, Havelock Ellis is something rarer and finer. Himself the perfect distillation of everything best in our civilization, he has for years been an influence, pervasive as the atmosphere and as unintrusive, making for "whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good

report." In certain fields of inquiry, such as the sex problem, Mr. Ellis has of course done original work of a high order. In certain reforms, such as Birth Control, his vision and valor have been indispensable. But not here is his primary and ever-memorable service to his generation. What he has done, through some gift of temperament or some high discipline of spirit, is to enfranchise his own life, to develop within himself the whole man, and then, by serene testimony to the wisdom he has found, to bestow the secret on those ready and able to receive it.

More fully than any other man of whom I know, Havelock Ellis has discovered and revealed what life ought to be and may well be. To enter into his presence is to feel oneself lifted up onto those heights where some day shall stand the race, freed, cleansed, ennobled, strong in the knowledge and happy in the enjoyment of the more abundant life.

Havelock Ellis and Human Biology

By RAYMOND PEARL, PH D

HUMAN beings have long been known to be curious animals. Endowed with some degree of intelligence, statistically speaking, they often behave in an entirely unintelligent manner. This is particularly true in respect of behavior about intellectual matters. It pleases us to be greatly interested and amused at the observance of taboos by savage peoples. A warm glow of superiority suffuses us when we read or hear that an Eskimo, for example, will not even talk about something because to do so is taboo.

But wherein lies the superiority? Nothing could be plainer than that scientific men have been, and are, almost completely restrained, by precisely the same consideration, from discussing certain matters which are universally admitted to be among the most important in the whole domain of human biology. I refer specifically to normal human sex behavior. Psychiatrists are permitted to discuss freely the horrible details of the pathology of sex without loss of caste. But against the study or discussion of the normal biology of this function there is a potent taboo. Every medical man, every psychologist, and every sociologist, knows that the suppression by taboo of what

meager knowledge does exist about this phase of biology, is the direct cause of a great deal of human misery. The application of intelligence to the business of living would seem to demand that suffering remediable by such a simple formula as this should be promptly eliminated. But nothing of the sort happens, nor is it likely to. The taboo is too strong. And when it comes to further research to extend the bounds of knowledge about the biology of sex in man, the pious horror of the scientific world in general at the prospect is dreadful to behold.

Hence it is that the normal admiration and respect which everyone has for the pioneer in any kind of enterprise, is so heightened in the case of Havelock Ellis. Any sort of pioneering demands the highest type of courage, and when it is into a tabooed field the world can have no doubt of the intellectual and moral fibre of the pioneer.

Havelock Ellis' *Psychology of Sex* is a remarkable piece of scientific pioneering, which will stand, for a long time to come, as one of the classics of human biology. It contains errors, some dubious reasoning, and does not everywhere display that literary skill in presentation which later came

to its distinguished author. But when and where was ever a *pioneering* enterprise perfect in all its details? The important thing is that it broke new ground. It assembled substantially all that was known at the time about the biology of human sex, and in doing this showed clearly where the gaps in knowledge were, what problems were of the greatest importance, and, in considerable degree, how it would probably be profitable to attack them. Does it especially matter, in the face of so considerable an achievement as this, that time has shown that some things in the work are open to criticism?

To write these volumes at all required a degree and kind of courage which few scientific men possess. I believe that, to the shame of mankind be it said, it is still not permitted to display and sell them freely in any English speaking country. But quite apart from this aspect of the case, the

Psychology of Sex is a piece of scientific research of a high order of merit. Few workers in any field of science, and particularly few in sociology and psychology, have handled a material at once so broad in its scope and so intricate in its details, with anything approaching the insight, originality, and judgment which this work displays.

No scientific man will begrudge the literary fame which has deservedly come to Havelock Ellis in the last twenty years or so. But there does arise the age-old regret about the impossibility of both having and eating one's cake. If the literary world was the gainer, surely science was the loser, when Havelock Ellis turned from his investigations in the biology of sex to other lines of endeavor. But every student of human biology is deeply grateful for the enduring monument which he left us to remember him by.



Havelock Ellis; An Appreciation

By LEON J. COLE, PH.D.

IT IS indeed a pleasure to contribute to this number of the BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW a brief tribute to the work and influence of Havelock Ellis, to whom the number is dedicated. Specialists who can write authoritatively in their own fields, but who nevertheless have a breadth of knowledge and a balance of judgment which enable them to discuss the wide applications of their subject in all its relations, are relatively rare, and are sadly needed in the sciences, and particularly in those less "exact" sciences, such as sociology, in which too often unverifiable opinions parade as facts. The combination of these abilities seems to me perhaps to be Ellis' outstanding characteristic, as evidenced by his many and varied writings. As an authority on criminology, for example, he is preeminent. His ability to see the broad bearings of his subject may be illustrated by his comprehensive grasp and understanding of the aims and program of eugenics, while his clear perception of the relation between the hereditary and environmental (euthenic) sociological influences gives good evidence of his judicial poise.

But not only does he foresee the direct material benefits from the application of science to race betterment, his vision includes ideals which bear on man's religious and normal life as well. As he in one place says: "The hope of the future lies in the slow development of those habits, those social instincts arising inevitably out of the actual facts of life and deeper than science, deeper than morals. The new sense of responsibility, of responsibility not only for the human lives that now are, but for the new human lives that are to come, is a social instinct of this fundamental nature. Therein lies its vitality and its promise."

Finally may be mentioned Ellis' courage in following wherever truth may lead. This characteristic is exemplified by his fearless identification with the Birth Control movement, as a result of his clear conception of the place of Birth Control as an ameliorative social influence and as an important factor in racial development.

MARRIED LOVE

Letters Which Show How it May Be Starved to Death

"To one in whom the desire attains a clear self-consciousness, the sex desire reveals itself as a desire for personal intimacy of a unique and precious kind. And this connects it with all that is most valuable in human life. Exclusion of the sex relation from married life tends clearly to personal estrangement if not also to nervous disorder"—WARNER FITE

Seven Years Parted

Pennsylvania

My wife has been away from me for seven years and if I could show her something whereby she would not have any more children she would come back. I am like a number of other people, dumb. I would not want to burden her with any more than what we have got which is two now. She would come back but one thing holds her away. If you can I surely would appreciate something that I would show her so that she would have no cause to worry for the future.

"He Needs Me Terribly"

Maryland

I have been married ten years and have two children. I am not quite thirty, but my husband is past 40. He is very good and true to me, and not at all a passionate man. There is four years' difference between my children, but the fact of that is severe, for this reason, and why I am writing you. We do not have the love-life because he is afraid. He doesn't want any children because we are farmers and we have a great load, financially, and he says we cannot have children. He believes that a child should greatly be desired and there should be some money in sight for that child. For three years about after our little girl was born we had no love-life. We either slept apart or he refrained from his desires. That did for awhile. Then when I was sure I wouldn't be caught again I implored him to live naturally, and he did then, for one month, and then the second child, the little boy came. That was or will be five years ago this coming March. I must be very susceptible or low of womb for I am not passionate, but try to treat the sexual embrace the way I should, be natural and play the part, for you know, it's so different a life from what all girls expect. I was only 19 when I married and just out of the convent school. I do not regret my marriage, or would not undo any part of it. I would gladly go through all the agony of child-birth again if I could help my husband. I must tell you all this so you can know, so you can advise and

help me for I'm sure you will. I nearly died in the first stages of pregnancy—frightfully ill, couldn't stop nausea day or night—that alone my husband can't forget. He brought me tea, crackers, did what he could for me, but nothing could help. He did things here in the house and then worked 16 hours on the farm. He can't forget it. Do you blame him?

I would go through it again if he would live naturally, but his will power is so great he won't. Here is my trouble now.

He needs me terribly. His health is not good, he is nervous and I am worried sick because he has these night sweats some times. I'm a Catholic which is one reason my husband has not taken his love-life, fearing that if it came to the life of mother or babe, baby would have to be spared. I would rather not think of that, but even if I am a Catholic, I am a broad-minded Catholic in really every way and if I was caught I really would go through with childbirth which, after a month's time, has already taken root and is considered wrong by the church. But I am worried now over my husband and want to help him. He really suffers and, as he says, we can't keep this up forever. This is the fifth year now and not once has he taken the chance. He seems to be under a terrible strain now, is troubled with pains in the back. In your book you speak something of the harm of practising absolute denial. Oh, please help me to let my husband come to me and tell me what I can do. He loves me but not like he would if he could have me. I am not ashamed to write that because the time this afternoon has been ripe for me to write. I feel he will love me more because it's dreary enough back here on the farm and there are other men who live happily and do not have a lot of children, but the fear of having any more simply obstructs the love-life with us. It really can't go on, and he is not well and happy, so I want you to help me. I don't want to lose all my good looks or health, but I want to live for my man. I would die for him, of course, but that's why I'm writing you. I don't want to go on like this either, it's really impossible and so unnatural that I know you can help me.

Living Apart

Wisconsin

After the purchase and reading of your book, *Woman and the New Race*, want to say that I endorse every word of it and say on with the work and may the time soon come when the laws of the United States will not prohibit married people from knowing how to avoid bringing into the world more children than they can care for. Your book appeals to me because of the fact that my wife and I are living apart today and have been for almost seven years, only seeing one another once or twice a year. We have two sweet children, a boy 10 and girl 7, and we both think that is as many as we can care for properly, so through fear of becoming a mother again and rather than to do it we live apart, not because we do not love each other, but because the ones who know these things will not tell me what to do or what to use to prevent conception. If I had this knowledge I could be living with my family and be happy. If you will tell me what to do it will be held a secret to us as secret as can be. I guess this is a foolish request for I suppose you get thousands of them, but when a father is separated from his children and for no other cause than not knowing what to do and the doctors tell me there is no way without injury to the health of the woman, what is a fellow to do? In conclusion want to thank you for your book and for whatever you see fit to do for me in the way of helping me.

"It Isn't Right for a Strong Man"

Illinois

I am the mother of three children and am thirty-three years old. I had to have two doctors each time the children were born. Am in bad health at present, caused by not being taken care of properly when my last child was born. I live in constant dread of having another child and leaving my children for someone else to raise. I have asked my physician to tell me some preventive but he just laughs and tells me to use a douche. My husband tries to stay away from me as much as possible but that isn't right for a strong man only thirty-six. Oh, please tell me something I can use to prevent this terrible dread that I have with me all the time. You are certainly doing a wonderful work and I am glad to think my children will have things better than I did.

"He Does Not Want Me To Die"

Ohio

I have just finished reading your three books and I surely think they are priceless to me. I was married four years ago and have two children but the doctor says the next one will kill me. I work nights in my uncle's print shop and my husband is a fireman on the lakes. We lost everything we had in the tornado of June 25. I am sure you read about it in the papers. Now I have gone back to work in the underwear factory and I am running a sewing machine and have been working at it for years. Is this why I come pregnant very easy? The

doctors say not to believe anything about being sure of antiseptic and will never give me one only that makes me come pregnant again. I often think what's the use of living. We have not had an intercourse in a year and a half. I long for my good husband's love but we can't have it the right way because he said he would go crazy if I died. I have heart trouble and often faint three times a week and am nervous. Every week my husband comes home I can see it is telling on him, but he tells me to wait as he knows what the doctor told him and he does not want me to die. Please give me a good contraceptive. Then I could give my husband my true love for him. Please let me know if there is any way at all.

"I am Afraid He Will Go Wrong"

Indiana

I am 36 years old, the mother of 4 children, all living. I have been married 11 years, my baby is 13 months old. My husband is a good man, works hard every day from 7 o'clock in the morning until 8 o'clock in the evening. He doesn't lose any time at all and is good to me and the children. He earns on an average of \$20 per week and takes every cent for us to live. When our last baby was born 13 months ago my husband said that I shouldn't have any more children if he had to stop having sex relations with me to stop it, that we had all the children that we could raise and care for and he has made his word good. So far he has not bothered me but very few times but I am so afraid that this practice will cause him to go wrong. I love him so well that I can't bear the thought of him being with other women. I don't know that he has but you know a man's nature and I am afraid that he will. If you can write and tell what I can do so I can meet my husband's desire and not get pregnant. I do not want any more children myself but I am afraid I will lose my husband's love.

"I Could Not Do It"

Tennessee

I am coming to you for help. I have been married three years and have given birth to two children in less than two years. I live in dread now for fear I will find I am pregnant again. My baby is six months old. I would not mind having more children if only they would not come so close together. I did not have time to regain my strength after my first baby came until my second one came. Now I am nervous and so weak I can hardly do my work. Before my first baby came I was as stout as anyone would care to be. Won't you please tell me about a contraceptive? No one will ever know and so it will never harm you and will be a wonderful blessing to me. My husband and I have talked of giving up all sexual intercourse but you know how miserable that would make us. I could not do it. I would rather be dead. I shall wait and watch for an answer from you more eagerly than I would if I knew you would withhold the information, and inclose a check for \$100 instead.

What Shall They Know?

A Sketch

By HUGH DE SELINCOURT

"YES, she does her work so well as it can be done Takes a pride in her work Reliable Trust her with anything And a nice person to have about the house, so good-natured and willing, so sort of *pleasant*, you know"

Mrs Burn's face became more lined with troubled thought Mrs Burn is a friend of mine, and I listened to her with the utmost interest and great pleasure that she should have confidence enough in me to speak to me of what I knew to be troubling her kind heart However cut and dried our opinions may be, our hearts are apt to remain troubled when we have daughters of our own, much loved

"I don't know what is to be done That's a fact I don't know The first time well, people are charitable They'll overlook it once and hush it up and the baby's adopted But twice and now twins Her own father and mother won't have her near them Say she's a disgrace to the family And who's to blame them? Twins and both boys Not a friend in the world Not one single friend And the man's a married man and she won't mention his name Don't seem able to help herself in just this one thing Says she trusted him Did ever you hear such nonsense! Trusted him! And you couldn't go to call her a fool, not in other things Mind you this, it's not the nasty ones as get into trouble Not they They're far too sly You don't catch them trusting a man They're cold and careful and sly And not a friend to stand by her, now Not one Twins both boys It's disgraceful and wicked and her such a nice girl too in other ways"

ALL the good people in our village looked upon the young woman as an outrage to their decency Mrs Burn agreed with them unquestioningly One benevolent lady, the matron saint of the village, after praying for a long time for grace to speak to such a creature, had received sufficient grace not only to speak to her but even to do all in her power to get her received into a home for fallen women where she had influence through being related to a well-known Bishop Mrs Burn told me this in praise of the benevolent lady's broadmindedness, yet I was aware, as she told me, of her own deep sympathy with the wicked young woman's rejection of the kind offer "She's in the Union, now Been there for three

months and more No one won't adopt the babies No one won't employ her What's to become of her? What is to become of her?"

She looked at me angrily and added "Tell me that!"

I asked her how many married women in the village had kept their health and self-respect, liking to address the rebel buried in her heart, not very deeply the rebel in the hearts of most women is not buried very deeply, except in philanthropic ladies

"NOW, please," she said seriously, "because I can't help thinking this poor girl is a nice girl and does her work well, which she does for there's good in the worst of us and bad in the best of us, don't you go thinking I'll have any truck with wickedness and immorality and loose living No The wages of sin is death That was meant Make it easy to be wicked The idea! I know what you're going to say!" "Then you know more than I do" I threw in, but she went on, defending herself hotly against rebel thoughts in her own mind, ignoring my interruption

"What the world would come to if it were in women's hands, I don't know There's quite enough wickedness already, God knows, aye and them as don't blind themselves to facts as stares them in the faces And if it was in women's hands to have babies only when they wanted them, the amount of immorality! Look at the freedom these young slips of things have already! Flying all over the countryside sitting up behind a chap on his motor bicycle! Why when I was a girl

To say nothing of their little short skirts and flesh colored stockings!"

"Yes!" I said, "It's all very sad What are you going to do about the young women in the Union?"

"To do? There's only one thing that can be done I'm moving heaven and earth to get her taken in by an association where girls live in their own rooms and go out as servants for the day But those two boy-babies Even if she gets taken in What sort of a life well one it might be possible, but two to feed and keep clean A woman's got only a certain amount of strength, willing though she be"

Mrs Burn stopped, lost in her thoughts

"But she wanted the babies," I gently rubbed it in

"Wanted them!" she cried out "Now they're there, and she's feeding them, poor little souls! What woman could help herself, and it's just loving them makes 'em a proper torment But what's the good of talking to you? No man could understand that"

"Men love babies," I ventured to say

"Men love babies!" she positively snorted "Dandle 'em and pet 'em when they're all pretty and clean What do men know about babies? What a man wants

She stopped suddenly

"A woman doesn't like that, too, of course"

"Now look here," she said, almost fierce, she had to be so firm, "Men and women have got to live clean and proper"

"I thought you said she was a nice girl, willing and pleasant"

"I said there's good in the worst of us and bad in the best of us"

"And which is which?" I asked, liking to confuse her, liking to stir up the rebel and the slave to the world, to fight it out together

We were about the same age, but the question changed her, as such questions always delightfully did, into a large kind mother and changed me into a naughty small boy

"Everyone knows what is right and what is wrong," this imposing person affirmed

"OH, yes, of course," I answered immediately "Only as you put the girl's case to me she seems to be paying the penalty of her warmth and willingness and warmheartedness and lack of slyness and excess of trustingness You know, too, you respect her for not telling the

man's name, which would bring hell into his life as well as into hers"

She shook her head, showing the utmost disapproval

"I believe if the truth were known you'd like the two of them to be happy in their wickedness I don't know why I talk to you at all about such things I don't really"

"Oh yes, you do know," I cried "You talk to me, because I've a daughter of my own, and it's the most interesting and important thing in the whole world I must know So you are kind and talk to me from your own experience, because you know how much I love my daughter"

I became at that moment just a man in difficulty talking to a woman in difficulty in difficulty before the mystery of life and conduct the difficulty, never slight, becomes crucial, becomes agonising, when it affects not ourselves but those whom we love—those in whom because of our love, we live

"Wanted children!" I dreamed aloud "Suppose the world were peopled with wanted children"

It was all rebel that looked out of her eyes at me, but there were no words with which the rebel could make the feeling in her heart thought clear in her mind The words had been appropriated by the other side had become sticks to beat down the minute particular shoots of tenderness, the young green growth Immorality! How is it possible that a loving parent could wish a beloved child to be immoral! An immoral woman—one's heart quailed with fear

Yet somehow I found myself humming the old catch, spurred on perhaps by the rebel that looked out of Mrs Burn's kind, homely face, (so substantially kind her face, so undying the rebel!)

"Slaves to the world should be tossed in a blanket"



A Great Teacher

By E C SCHWAN

I DESIRE to add my humble tribute of admiration and esteem to that of the host of sincere admirers of Havelock Ellis I think I may truthfully say that I have read almost everything issued under his name, beginning with the first publication of his great work "The Psychology of Sex"—which to the shame of his country its Pecksniffs compelled him to have published in this country—and his admirable studies, essays and monographs on great

men and great subjects—all of vital and absorbing interest to mankind

I have done what I could to spread his renown and I believe that the time will come, if it has not already come, when he will be looked upon as the greatest teacher of his age on social questions Many of his enlightened views on sex and marriage have already borne fruitful blessings, and made the world we live in better, wiser and happier

A True Radical

By P W WHITING, PH D

THE radical is not rabid, nor is the true revolutionist wantonly destructive. The radical goes to the root of things but he does not necessarily tear things up by the roots. The evil may not be in the plant itself but in the parasites infesting the roots.

Thus Havelock Ellis strips from the concept of religion all that is unsound and scientifically inaccurate, and at the same time shows that science rightly understood is not at variance with the instinct of mysticism or religion.

"If indeed by 'science' we mean the organization of an intellectual relationship to the world we live in adequate to give us some degree of power over that world, and if by 'mysticism' we mean the joyful organization of an emotional relationship to the world conceived as a whole, the opposition which we usually assume to exist between them is of comparatively modern origin."

We may not all agree with Ellis' terminology but what scientist can object to his essential idea? He emphasizes the importance of adopting a perfectly

sound scientific view of nature and at the same time developing the emotions harmoniously. The retention of the word religion enables one to make the transition from a superstitious to a scientific ideology with less difficulty.

Havelock Ellis seems to be completely emancipated from false notions, but he does not shock the sensitive by shouting the truth so blatantly as to antagonize. He has built a bridge over the chasm dividing the uncertain sands of false tradition from the solid rock of radical and correct thinking and feeling. He beckons to all to follow and those who fear to jump may walk.

To many of false modesty sex is a subject either too disgusting or too sacred to mention. Ellis treats it in a way so objective and at the same time so sincere that his readers gain an altogether new point of view without realizing how radically they have changed. His views of religion, law, and morality are scientific, idealistic, and profoundly radical. His most revolutionary thoughts are convincingly expressed. To hear or to read them is to adopt them.

A Year's Progress

As Reported at the Annual Meeting of the American Birth Control League

EXPANSION during 1925 and recognition by the various departments that they should expand on a larger scale during 1926 in order to keep up with the spread of interest in Birth Control throughout the country was what stood out in the reports read at the annual meeting of the American Birth Control League, which was held at the house of Mrs. Dexter Blagden on January 12th.

The executive secretary, Anne Kennedy, recapitulated accomplishments, both along the older lines of work and in new fields. The older branches of work included increasing membership, which now numbers more than 40,000, extending educational work, meeting the needs expressed in "Mothers' Letters," pushing state bills in New York, New Jersey and Connecticut and carrying on clinical research work. Clinical work showed great and encouraging expansion.

The research department of the League in New York moved, toward the end of the year, to more

accessible quarters at 46 East 15th Street and had plans well under way to open a branch in Brooklyn. The two Chicago clinics this year reported on a large number of cases*. In California the three leagues were each at the end of 1925 carrying on clinical work and Philadelphia and two western cities were working toward the establishment of clinics.

The new events of 1925 were the extension of educational work through the Sixth International Neo-Malthusian Conference, the lecture tours of Dr. Cooper, Medical Director of the Clinical Research Department and the starting of federal work with headquarters at Washington. Largely as a result of the international conference our speakers were more in demand than ever before. Among Mrs. Sanger's lectures were included addresses at Columbia University, Harvard, University of Chicago, Yale, Bryn Mawr and Tufts College. Dr.

* See the December REVIEW, page 361

Cooper's three lecture tours were a direct outgrowth of the contraceptive session at the international conference. They were arranged in response to requests from medical societies and covered the far west, the middle west and the south. In 27 states he was heard by more than 7,800 people at 68 medical and 28 non-medical meetings. 4,600 of his hearers were physicians. Everywhere he met with enthusiasm which needed to be crystalized into organized work for Birth Control and he urged strongly that organizers be sent out by the league to cities where he had spoken as soon as practicable.

The Motherhood Department

For the Motherhood Department Bertha Potter Smith reported 28,384 Mothers' Letters received during the year. "We have letters," said Mrs. Smith, "from mothers of many children, young mothers and older ones, who are struggling on against time and poverty, with nothing to look forward to but death as nature sends it, and a strong lure to end it all by means of the river or other ways known to man. They come also from mothers who forget their own tragic state, and appeal for help for their children. We hear from mothers in the coal districts who have spent three winters under strikers' orders—many living in tents—begging in behalf of babies sick and dying from lack of warmth and clothes. Is it any wonder that they turn to us for help for the future—for relief from further childbearing until conditions brighten?"

Of the means of relief Mrs. Smith said: "For the mothers who cannot reach the clinics in New York, Illinois and California, we locate a doctor near them who is interested in our work and has signified his willingness to help, or failing this, we ask the name of the family doctor and write to him asking if he will co-operate with our doctors in helping cases referred to him and assuring him that advice as to methods and supplies will be furnished upon his consent. We have now in our files the names of some 6,000 doctors who have signified their interest in our work. This is a live file."

Dr. Hannah M. Stone, for the Clinical Research Department, reported 1,655 patients during the year, about a third of whom were sent by organizations, the rest by individuals or through applications for help to the Motherhood Department. The full report of the Clinical Research Department will be published later.

The BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW has, during 1925, so far as the limits of its size and material resources permitted, reflected the expansion of public interest. It has published more than fifty signed articles and thirty book reviews and has added many names to those of contributors in former years. In news and comment on press and periodicals and in comment on books it has made an effort to keep up with the world on Birth Control—that is, to express the unorganized as well as the organized support.

This has been a bigger undertaking than in other years for support from the world of science and social reform, as well as from the general public is growing with the rapidity of a snowball started rolling. The REVIEW has noted, in the last six months or a little over, two scientific and no less than ten general books specifically on Birth Control, as well as a large number of books on population and eugenics whose authors ardently support this most fundamental of all measures.

Anticipations

Support will continue to grow in 1926, and the report expressed the hope that the magazine would expand in proportion and would gradually "lift itself to equality with the outstanding magazines which are molding modern thought. An ideal BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW," it continues, "would have almost the scope of a general magazine, for the subject underlies the whole of human life, it lies at the foundation of the main problems of human society, and the best way to educate the public as to its importance is in the pages of a first-class magazine."



THE personality of Havelock Ellis is that of a student, thoughtful, preoccupied, bookish, deliberate, yet unlike most students he has a sort of grand air of Nature about him—a fine, free head and figure as of some great God Pan, with distant relations among the Satyrs.—EDWARD CARPENTER in "My Days and Dreams"

ELLIS possesses the unequalled privilege of sanity and the lofty joy of the just spirit. At a time when most everybody's gone daffy he remains lucid. At a time when the others, most of them, don't know what they're about, he's aware of himself. There's war in his world but peace in his heart. He's cold enough to be reasonable and warm enough to be persuasive.—HORACE TRAUBEL in *The Conservator*, 1917

A Bibliography of Havelock Ellis

A list which shows that the same personality, at once scientist, artist, observer and friend of humanity, runs through the pages of all of Havelock Ellis' works

DATES are not the most important thing in an author's career, but in the case of Havelock Ellis a bibliography is peculiarly revealing. It serves to show graphically the unity that has run through the seeming diversity of his long stream of books. For though he has written "scientific" works and works of "literary criticism," it is not enough to call him a scientist and a man of letters. These terms suggest boundaries of scope which do not exist for him, and hide the important fact that his works may most fitly be considered as separate revelations of a unique personality. It is a personality of passion and insight that has entered deep into life in every phase and striven through the written word to record its impressions and in turn to put its imprint on the life that is coming into being—and whether it works through the technique of scientific scholarship or through the medium of interpretative criticism, or in some other way, is but incidental.

Thus, the first two books of Havelock Ellis were a study of five literary personages, and a pioneering treatise on criminology. It is probable, indeed, that there are but few readers of one of these books who have also read the other. But to understand him well is to see how both subjects and both forms are inevitable to his nature, and to pass in appreciation from one to the other as easily as he did in writing them simultaneously. For this range of subject-matter is not "versatility" nor the work of a right and a left hand ignorant of each other, but the natural expression of a man who has taken all life for his province—and especially life where it is most complex and disputable. He lets his speculations and findings drop into the form that seems most fitting to them—and if the first two volumes of his "technical" sex studies are separated chronologically by "Affirmations"—surely the finest criticisms of life through the medium of literary personalities we have had in our day—there need be no surprise. Between two others of the studies falls a philosophic dialogue, between another pair an unequalled revelation of Spain. Sometimes the "technical" and the "literary" are so mingled in one volume, as in the book on dreams and the later volumes of essays, that it would be difficult to say which element predominated.

The bibliography of Havelock Ellis shows him,—with the molten stream of his thought flowing now into the mold of scholarship, and now

into the mold of the interpretative essay, or perhaps into a sonnet, or a dialogue, or an entry in a journal—as unclassifiable as life itself, and emphasizes the fact that his importance lies less in filling particular niches of knowledge or "covering" certain literary figures, than in giving to the world as he writes of those things in life that interest him, the rounded picture of a nature inestimable rare.

THE readers of BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW will be glad to learn that the ominous words "and final" in the title of the third series of "Impressions and Comments" do not mean any cessation of literary activity on the part of Havelock Ellis. For he is at work on two new volumes—and doubtless in time there will be not a few more. A few of the works he once projected have indeed been left by the way, notably the series of books on genius mentioned in "A Study of British Genius." But new books and new editions of old books are definitely assured. There will be a seventh volume to the "Studies in the Psychology of Sex" differing somewhat from the others in being made up largely of "case-histories" of a psychoanalytic nature, and an elaborate study of a series of dreams. The other book will be a comprehensive collection of related essays called "Europe." The Houghton Mifflin Co. are planning a Collected Edition of his works and for that several revisions and new prefaces are in process.

Chronologically arranged his books are

THE NEW SPIRIT 1890 (Studies of literary personalities. The third edition in 1892 had a new preface, at the back were quoted some of the many reviews of the book, ranging comically from enthusiastic approval to shocked denunciation. The book was reprinted in The Modern Library in 1920 and is still in print there. (A chapter from Affirmations was stuck in the middle of it.)

THE CRIMINAL 1890 (The first work on the subject in English. It was revised in 1900 and again in 1910.)

THE NATIONALIZATION OF HEALTH 1892 (A study of socialized hygiene growing out of the author's medical experiences.)

MAN AND WOMAN 1894 (A work preliminary to the Studies in the Psychology of Sex. Revised in 1904 and in 1914.)

SEXUAL INVERSION 1897 (The first issued of the *Studies in the Psychology of Sex*, but later made Volume Two Revised in 1915 The first printing contained contributions by John Addington Symonds and was issued as a collaboration, but was withdrawn at the insistence of Symonds' executors)

A NOTE ON THE BEDBOROUGH TRIAL 1897 (A pamphlet about the legal attack on "Sexual Inversion")

AFFIRMATIONS 1897 (Studies of literary personalities The 1915 reprint has a new preface)

THE EVOLUTION OF MODESTY SEXUAL PERIODICITY AUTO-EROTISM 1899 (Volume One of the *Studies in the Psychology of Sex* Revised in 1910)

THE NINETEENTH CENTURY A Dialogue in Utopia 1900

ANALYSIS OF THE SEXUAL IMPULSE Love and Pain The Sexual Impulse in Women 1903 (Volume Three of the *Studies* Revised in 1913)

A STUDY OF BRITISH GENIUS 1904

SEXUAL SELECTION IN MAN 1905 (Volume Four of the *Studies*)

EROTIC SYMBOLISM The Mechanism of Detumescence The Psychic State in Pregnancy 1906 (Volume Five of the *Studies*)

THE SOUL OF SPAIN 1908

SEX IN RELATION TO SOCIETY 1910 (Concluding volume of the *Studies*)

THE WORLD OF DREAMS 1911

THE PROBLEM OF RACE-REGENERATION 1911 (A pamphlet issued as the first of a series by various authors, *New Tracts for the Times*)

THE TASK OF SOCIAL HYGIENE 1912

IMPRESSIONS AND COMMENTS, First Series 1914

ESSAYS IN WARTIME 1916

THE PHILOSOPHY OF CONFLICT 1919 (Essays)

IMPRESSIONS AND COMMENTS, Second Series 1921

LITTLE ESSAYS OF LOVE AND VIRTUE 1922

KANGA CREEK An Australian Idyll 1922 (Written more than thirty years before publication, not long after the author had returned from his stay in Australia, which it treats in semi-autobiographical manner)

THE DANCE OF LIFE 1923

IMPRESSIONS AND COMMENTS, Third (and Final) Series 1924

SONNETS, WITH FOLKSONGS FROM THE SPANISH 1925 (The sonnets were written between the ages of seventeen and twenty-five)

IN addition to the above-listed works Havelock Ellis has edited or written prefaces for a large number of books Between 1887 and 1889 he edited the *Mermaid Series* of Elizabethan dramatists, which included nineteen volumes From 1889 to 1914 he edited the *Contemporary Science Series*, comprising forty-seven volumes In 1893 he translated Zola's "Germinal" He wrote a lengthy summary of his views on sexual subjects in 1913 for "The Modern Treatment of Nervous and Mental Diseases," a symposium edited by Jelliffe and White Some of his more important prefaces were for the following books

Lewes' *Life of Goethe*, Vasari's *Lives of the Italian Painters*, Heine's *Prose*, Landor's *Imaginary Conversations*, the works of Ellen Key, James Hinton's *The Law-Breaker*, papers of Otto Braun

"To my mind it seems that certain things are altogether too much wrapped in mystery It is well to keep the fantasies of children pure, but their purity will not be preserved by ignorance. On the contrary, I believe that concealment leads a girl or boy to suspect the truth more than ever Curiosity leads to prying into things which would have roused little or no interest if they were talked of openly without any fuss If this ignorance could be maintained I might be more reconciled to it, but that is impossible, the child comes into contact with other children, books fall into his hands which lead him to reflect, and the mystery with which things he has already surmised are treated by his parents actually increases his desire to know more Then this desire that is only incompletely and secretly satisfied gives rise to excitement and corrupts his imagination, so that the child is already a sinner while his parents still believe he does not know what sin is"

—MULTATULI, 1820-1870

THIS book (*The Dance of Life*) has all the qualities which have distinguished the other writings of the author, a wide learning which he has assimilated into the substance of his own thought, a profound and tolerant understanding of human nature in its manifold and changing expressions, a sanity and balance such as only nature or art at its best achieves To read it is to refresh oneself at the springs of humanism —ARNOLD BENNETT in *The Bookman*, September, 1923

Does America Have Too Many Children?

A Consideration of Certain Popular Objections to Birth Control

By FRANK H. HANKINS, PH D

THE Birth Control movement has become one of the most momentous, if not the most momentous, factor in the prospects of western culture. Its primary aim has not been so much a reduction in the number of the population as to give women command over their own bodies. In order to accomplish this end it must establish the right of women to determine for themselves whether or not they shall bear children, and, if so, how many. It is, therefore, a movement which is in direct line with the aims of a democratic civilization which seeks the maximum of welfare for each person regardless of sex or social rank. For the first time in modern history it is being widely recognized that women have personalities and a right to develop them. This does not by any means imply that women should remain childless, on the contrary, it may require that they become mothers. But it does require that they shall not be caught in the iron grip of a relentless round of child-bearing but shall have some freedom to determine how many children they shall have.

Science Masters Nature

The Birth Control movement is also an expression of the meaning of modern science for civilization. This confers upon man the inestimable boon of an increasing control over the essential conditions of his existence. This it is which primarily distinguishes our culture from all those which have preceded it. Every fresh application of knowledge finds some individual or group to raise a loud alarm over the terrible consequences that will follow. Even popular education was and still is opposed by some with arguments that appear to many minds as logical enough. It must never be overlooked that Birth Control knowledge, having spread widely through the community, will not be given up. Those who understand it even crudely cherish it as a bit of knowledge highly important to their personal welfare. If there be evils connected with its mode of application, the remedy must be found not in mere condemnations but in more knowledge and more perfect dissemination.

Where, therefore, it is argued that Birth Control has the effect, which we readily admit, of lowering the rate of multiplication of the superior without checking that of the inferior, one must answer, first, that this same argument applies to modern medicine, sanitation and philanthropy, all

of which help to keep alive the weak, the incapable and the defective who thus reproduce their kind more abundantly, secondly, that the superior will not surrender the knowledge they have, and third, that we can check the relative excess fecundity of the inferior by giving them as easy and effective methods of control as are now possessed by anyone. It is improbable that this would prove sufficiently effective, so that an intelligent community will be driven to the segregation or the sterilization of an increasing number of strains.

A Static Population

The primary objection, however, against Birth Control is that there are already too few babies and great danger of a static population. This is about the most complete bogey that the militaristic-nationalist, or capitalist-employer, imagination has ever affrighted itself with. In the first place, suppose the population should become stationary, is that in itself a calamity? It should be obvious to the infant in economics and social evolution that man in recent times would have suffered much less if there had been fewer of him. Improvement of the human lot, other things equal, is inversely related to increase in his numbers.

This is certainly true in America, now that there are no "great open spaces" except mountain ranges and deserts. But we in America certainly need not worry over the imminent prospect of a stagnant population. A number of painstaking statistical investigations made before the war indicated that, in spite of the enormous growth of capital and invention, a man's labor was worth less in terms of primary necessities than a generation earlier. Other studies indicate that America having skimmed the cream from the national reservoir will henceforth not only work harder but consume a larger proportion of the skimmed milk than heretofore. With an increase of fifty per cent in agricultural efficiency and a utilization of all tillable areas America can raise food for only 208 million people. What then is the present trend in population?

Fifty Percent Increase

The population of continental United States in 1900 was in round numbers 76 millions, in 1925

it was 114 millions. This is an increase of 38 millions or fifty per cent in one quarter century. It should be obvious that such a rate of increase cannot continue indefinitely. According to a recent News-Bulletin of the National Bureau of Economic Research the population of the United States has increased at an average annual rate of 1,560,000 during the past sixteen years. Immigration was a considerable factor in this figure, but it should be noted that during this period the annual number of births has increased by a quarter of a million, but the deaths have remained stationary. Consequently, in 1924, the surplus of births over deaths was more than 1,300,008. At this rate, without additions from immigration, we shall have nearly twice as many people in 1950 as we had in 1900. We shall not lack quantity, how about the quality?

That certainly cannot be bettered by opposing Birth Control which has now become a part of the cherished knowledge of most women of eighteen above moron intelligence. The problem of quality cannot be solved by blind obscurantism, nor by trying to scare people by terrifying grimaces over imaginary effects of Birth Control. We must have positive measures. The defective and dependent can be prevented from reproducing their kind. Something more can be done by the readjustment of economic burdens to maintain the ideal of the average-sized family in the great middle classes of the population. Above all, we need to make it clear to the women of the educated and successful classes that some children are an advantage to their own psychical and physiological health and vigor. Control will thus add to the sanity, proportion and dignity of life.



Periodical Notes

In *The Forum* (New York) for December, Havelock Ellis appears in two contributions. Isaac Goldberg writes on "The Youth of Havelock Ellis," and he himself contributes an article to the series on population. "Life or Lives" is the title of Ellis's article. It states briefly and pointedly the proportions of the population problem, traces the stages in the development of the movements for Birth Control and Eugenics and shows how the acceptance of Birth Control has modified marriage. The problem of a fuller life for the individual in contradistinction to a myriad of stunted lives is summed up in his statement that the "real question of population has become how to replace quantity with quality." Thus he believes to be "the most vital problem with which we can concern ourselves."

In *The Scientific Monthly* (N. Y.) for January, Professor Ezra Bowen of Lafayette College, states emphatically the part that immigration plays as a solution of the problem of overpopulation. It plays, in fact, no part, acting in old and overcrowded countries merely as a stop gap and perhaps slightly hastening the time when a new country is filled to the saturation point. It cannot prevent the saturation point being reached in the old nor is it needed as an aid to natural increase in filling the new to saturation. "Had restriction of immigration come fifty years ago," says Professor Bowen, "the population of the United States would be in number exactly what it

is, had there been no emigration the population of Europe would be no larger and no smaller than at present."

Harper's Magazine is publishing a series of articles on marriage. In September Elton Mayo answered, to his own satisfaction, the question "Is Marriage Monotonous?" in a rather commonplace article containing much that was irrelevant. But "The Chaos in Modern Marriage" by Beatrice M. Hinkle (December) is in quite another category. Dr. Hinkle shows that those economic and other conditions which have "dislodged marriage from the supreme place in the interest and life of women," and freed them from the repressions created by a purely domestic life and a career of maternity, have led them to demand marriage on their own terms, including economic independence and freedom for self-development. "The relation between the sexes," says Dr. Hinkle, "is, perhaps, in a more healthy and normal state than at any time of which we have historical knowledge." This is, she holds, because the race can move no higher than the women who bear it, and if the old type of maternal woman were to persist it would become static.

In *The Forum* (N. Y.) for January, Vilhjalms Steffansson adds his contribution to the discussion of population. In "Polar Pastures" he shows, as in an earlier

article in *The World's Work*, how under unrestricted population the starvation point may be put off by cultivating subarctic regions, by tropical development, by chemistry and by sea-farming "But," he concludes, "(except for wars, famines or Birth Control) a more gruesome tragedy will come a few centuries or milleniums later when our globe is at last compelled to hang out the sign 'standing room only'"

The Chronicle, San Francisco (Cal) reports a speech before a local men's club by Judge E C Robinson of Oakland in which he laid a large part of delinquency, feeble-mindedness and insanity to the lack of eugenics legislation In urging a sterilization law he stated that not only are a large proportion of criminals feeble-minded, but "75 to 80 per cent are hereditary cases" In cash value he estimated that we are at the present time losing from this class over \$2,000,000,000 a year, and the defective classes have a greater rate of increase than the normal, by 1 per cent a year "The future," said he, "is a matter of mathematics Either the burden of the mentally and physically unfit will break down the capability of the normal population or their numbers will eventually swallow the normal population In either case the conditions in

prospect are appalling One in twenty-five of our present population is destined to go insane Insanity increased from 118 per 100,000 to 220 per 100,000 in 1920"

The American Child (N Y) for January, discusses in an editorial headed "Potters Clay" the relation of the parental instinct to child labor It faces the fact that many parents want their children to work too young, but it lays this to social conditions To these conditions are due the ignorance and poverty of parents, and with hordes of children to feed a habit of mind is developed that makes the parent turn to money account each pair of hands as soon as it is legally possible—or before "There is no one who has done any social work who does not realize how parental feeling can be thwarted and baffled by the fear of hunger and cold"

The Playdealer (Cleveland) quotes Dr J McKeen Cattell as saying in his recent address as retiring president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science "If only the best children were born the welfare of the world would be advanced beyond reach of practical imagination"



Youth Speaks in the Churches

A THOUSAND young men and women at the Interdenominational Students Congress at Evanston, Ill, heard the following appeal by Harold Ehrensperger, a Garrett Biblical Institute student, and endorsed his address by passing a Birth Control resolution

"If the thoughtful and intelligent people of the community can be won to the church, that institution will be in a position to tackle and solve the problems of such maladjusted groups as the insane, the feeble-minded, the criminal, the defectives who are now increasing at an appalling rate," Ehrensperger told his youthful hearers "In fifty years the population of the country has increased 150 per cent, while the criminal classes have increased 440 per cent

"Eugenics rather than economic causes are responsible and it is time the church tackled the problem of eugenics Instead of going out into the byways and slums to rescue the perishing, in the words of the hymn, we should ascertain just who is perishing and who is fit to care for the perishing Otherwise we will be submerged with a race of morons

"The church will not be fulfilling its mission until it has Birth Control clinics, psychiatric service which will assist its people with their behavior problems and other maladjustments and thus make possible a healthier and happier race Intelligent people working through the

church will see that the permanently maladjusted are cared for in institutions and their kind not reproduced, so that succeeding generations will be sound physically, mentally and morally capable of the highest things in religion

"A class of professional poor has developed in this country which simply sits back, sends out the washing and has children," Mr Ehrensperger declared in commenting on the passage of his resolution

"Within the past fifty years the population of the country has increased 150 per cent, while crime has increased 445 per cent The crime increase has taken place almost entirely within the immigrant classes—those who are ignorant of Birth Control knowledge

"This is not the fault of the immigrant, but is due to the lack of scientific handling of their problem It is largely the fault of the church, because the church hasn't reached them

"These women of the professional poor would welcome Birth Control knowledge and would back up a campaign for it Women of the upper classes have had this knowledge for years"

The resolution reads

"Resolved, that the church take active steps to disseminate knowledge of Birth Control and that the congress go on record and petition the church to sanction sterilization of the mentally unfit"

Correspondence

Street Selling

Chicago, Ill

Editor, BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW

Relative to the sale of the REVIEW on the streets, I am for it. It will bring the REVIEW and the subject to the notice of thousands who would not otherwise know of it. I am sorry that it is not being done in Chicago, I've often wished it were. I see nothing undignified about it, but I would not have the seller crying out but simply offering and showing it. With a limited number of sellers they had better be distributed as widely as possible, I mean the location changed from time to time, to cover the greatest possible ground. Wide publicity is what the paper and the subject needs. I would think it worth while to ask in the REVIEW for volunteers to sell it in all large cities.

Yours very truly,

J W W, M D

Berkeley, Cal

Editor, BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW

In your editorial of January, 1926, you asked for an opinion as to the advisability of continuing the sale of Birth Control literature on the streets.

I am not alone in the opinion that whatever brings the work of Birth Control into unpleasant comment, such as the imprisonment of one of the workers on the charge of obstructing traffic, is an obstacle in the road to advancement.

I should like to see the work presented in a dignified manner to all such men and women's clubs and organizations as can be interested in the movement. I should like to see Birth Control departments established in all existing clinics and dispensaries. Berkeley and Oakland have begun the work in the city dispensaries.

Very faithfully yours,

E S R, M D

Hartford, Conn

Editor, BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW

As I note you have requested expressions of opinion as to the desirability of discontinuing the sale of the BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW on the streets of New York, I am taking the liberty, as a reader of several years standing, to offer my opinion.

What can be the argument in favor of such a step? Is it fear of unfavorable notoriety resulting from police interference and arrests? If the Birth Control movement had yielded to such interference it would have been abandoned long ago. The police at the bidding of clerical

and other conservative influences are ready to interfere at any time. The Birth Control movement must continue to fight such opposition however manifested.

On the other hand the sale of your esteemed magazine on the streets of a large city gives opportunity for contact with the masses which cannot be obtained in any other way. Too many people do not know the existence of such a movement as this and might never know unless it is brought to their attention on the streets.

It seems to the writer that care should be taken not to have the Birth Control movement become an exclusive affair for the benefit of the few and wealthy, but one which will be brought to the attention of the rank and file of our population in every possible way, inasmuch as they are the ones who need it most.

Instead of withdrawing the sale of your magazine from the streets of New York I should encourage its sale on the streets of other large cities in order to spread its sphere of influence.

K S B

In Japan

Tokyo, Nov 18, 1925

Editor, BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW

All honor to Baroness Ishimoto, who stands publicly for the Birth Control movement in her country and among her own people.

Four reporters who interviewed me on the ship, introduced the topic themselves and used the words Birth Control as freely as they are used nowadays in the United States, though it was only a few years ago when the phrase was almost new.

The desk clerk at the hotel of whom I inquired as to telephoning Baroness Ishimoto said it was a common name and the address I had was a business address, "didn't I have full first name or any additional information?" I said the name and address was all I had, adding that the Baroness was active in the movement for Birth Control. Instantly he said "Oh, yes I know who it is," and telephoned with confidence. Straws show which way the wind blows.

In an interview with me, which was given center front page space in the Japan Times, great emphasis was put on Birth Control.

The casual remarks about Birth Control, the common use of the phrase, prove that the preliminary stage of the movement is over and that there is general understanding as to what Birth Control is. The next step will be general approval. I am confident that progress will be rapid.

Yours for women,

ALICE PARK

Friends in the Field

By ANNE KENNEDY

DOTTED here and there throughout the United States are loyal supporters of the American Birth Control League. Busy men and women who dedicate part of their leisure hours to active work for the cause of Birth Control. It is always an inspiration to the workers at Headquarters to receive a report of some activity far afield. These are items that may not be so important individually, but gathered into the day's work at National Headquarters emphasize the progress of the movement and the fact that it is steadily going forward.

A letter from a friend in Louisville says "I am interested in women and am selling stockings from house to house through the South. I talk to them about Birth Control. None of them but what knows it's just plain sense, and they say they would like to read about it. Please send me about 100 of those leaflets 'Can You Afford A Large Family?' I sure wish some help could be given these women." So our friendly pilgrim is supplied with literature, and she is certainly doing her bit.

Out in California Miss Weiner, who is in daily contact with the mothers who come to one of the Health Centers says "Our work is growing, we are giving much needed help. California has a problem of stranded families seeking health for father or mother, and our Mother's Health Center protects these families from adding more children to the burden of the state."

FROM Seattle, Wash., Mrs. Whittmore, an old friend of the movement, writes "Time is about ripe for the organization of a branch committee here. Interest is keen—please send a speaker. I will get up a big meeting and have it well advertised."

Our former financial secretary, Pauline Daniel, is now married and living in Florida. She writes "I am interesting the clubs and organizations in Birth Control and want to arrange for Mrs. Sanger to take a series of meetings through the state."

We were amused and interested when a citizen of Detroit wrote "Dr. Little, the new head of Michigan University, is arousing the people of this state on Birth Control. You better get him into the work—he is fine." Evidently this correspondent did not know that Dr. Little is the very active President of the International Federation of Birth Control Leagues.

From Iowa Dr. Winslow and from Pennsylvania, Mrs. Moorehouse, wrote that they had personally interviewed their local members of Congress before they left for the opening of the present session.

Our old friend, Jerome Carter, in Pasadena, California, sends BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW subscriptions to libraries that will accept the magazine and agree to place it on the reading table. Another friend, a physician, gives a subscription to the REVIEW to no less than fifteen libraries.

ANOTHER friend spread the knowledge in Canada and the United States by sending a check together with the names of thirty-five people in remote towns to whom sample copies were to be sent. These people would never hear of Birth Control otherwise. A New Jersey woman who cannot afford to do either of these things writes us for free copies of past numbers and says "I have loaned my REVIEWS again and then asked them to pass them along to many and received them back and loaned them to others until now I haven't any left to lend."

A striking miner's wife in West Virginia, herself the mother of many children, is distributing Birth Control literature among the strikers. Mrs. Barker, from a mining town in Arizona, writes "I am still working for Birth Control. There are several women here who need practical advice. I am helping them as best I can." Mrs. Vera Jane Pease has done a like work with ranchers in Wyoming, Montana and New Mexico.

Mrs. Carver, a friend in Dayton, Ohio, says "I have not any money to send you, but I talk a lot about it. Mrs. Sanger, you got lots of friends and well-wishers among the poor women. My husband reads the old copies of your paper you send us, and he talks at the union meeting about it. He says none of them want a lot of kids but they don't understand that's Birth Control."

A student at the National University in Washington, D. C., wrote for facts and data on Birth Control, made an address and later wrote "They have asked me to continue my arguments in favor of Birth Control at another meeting. They are all interested." Students from many other universities and colleges are writing and speaking on Birth

(Continued on page 69)

News Notes

UNITED STATES

New York

THE Annual meeting of the American Birth Control League is reported on another page of the REVIEW

During the early part of January Mrs Kennedy spent part of her time at New York headquarters and part at Washington. In the latter part of the month she took up permanent residence in Washington, to remain during the session of Congress, Miss Beatrice W Johnson assuming some of her executive duties at New York headquarters. Work for the Federal Bill is under way, Mrs Kennedy and Mrs Sanger have already begun the interviewing of members of Congress.

Mrs Walter Timme of New York has accepted appointment as Chairman of the Congressional Committee and will organize work for the federal bill at Washington and in the states. On January 19th a meeting for organization of New York and adjacent states was called by Mrs Timme in New York City. Meanwhile several states, among them California, Colorado, Pennsylvania and Iowa report the beginnings of local petition and other activities for the federal bill.

Among visitors to headquarters of the American Birth Control League was Mr C R Kellogg of Denver. Mr Kellogg is going out as a missionary to China and he believes one important side of missionary work in that overpopulated region of the earth to be the preaching of Birth Control and the furnishing of the means to put it in practice.

At Poughkeepsie on January 13th, Dr Cooper addressed the Dutchess -Putman County Medical Society.

On January 10th Mrs Sanger spoke on Freedom and Morality before a Forum at the Judson (Baptist) Memorial Church, New York City and the next day to a morning meeting of the Women's Town Club of that city.

California

THE California Leagues now have clinics at Los Angeles, at Berkeley and at Oakland. The story of these three centres will be published in an early number of the REVIEW.

Colorado

THE Supreme Court has dismissed the contest instituted by the Ku Klux Klan to oust Judge Ben B Lindsey from the office of Judge of the Juvenile Court of Denver. This means that a faithful friend of children, who believes Birth Control one of the foundation principles of child welfare is still able to use his official influence in this cause. In magazines, press interviews and public addresses, Judge Lindsey loses no opportunity to speak to a wider public than that of Denver in behalf of Birth Control, against criminal abortion and especially against the victimization by abortionists of unmarried mothers. Of Birth Control he said in a recent interview in the *Omaha Bee*:

"Birth Control should be accessible to all married persons and they should not have children unless they have the means with which to raise the children correctly."

Maryland

ON January 3rd and 4th Mrs Sanger was in Baltimore where she spoke on Sunday afternoon to an Open Forum of 1,400 at the Hippodrome. The meeting, which was the largest of the Forum since the war, was arranged by Mrs Donald Hooker, vice-chairman of the Forum. The next day she spoke to 50 members of the Women's Medical Association of Johns Hopkins Medical School. Mrs Helen B Taussig was chairman of the meeting.

South Carolina

THE Greenville *News* of December 6th reports a lecture on Birth Control by Dr D J Blocker, before the Furman University International Relations Club.

Texas

THE city vital statistician of El Paso, J A Rule, is quoted by *The Times* of that city as saying that 1925 figures show a lowered birthrate since 1921 and a lowered death rate of infants. He estimates that public health measures have saved an average of 375 infant lives per 100,000 and in this way about evened up on the smaller number of children born.

New Jersey

FROM the state organizer, Mr Meves, comes the following report During January addresses were given for at least eight women's clubs, four local leagues of women voters, two parent-teacher associations, two industrial plants in Camden, and for similar organizations Requests for Birth Control talks are coming in all the time

On Thursday evening, January 14th, there was a public Birth Control meeting at the Hotel Walt Whitman, Camden, at which the speakers were Mrs Anne Kennedy and Dr Benjamin Tilton This meeting was largely attended by the business and professional men of the club and political women of the city and the suburbs The audience numbered 400

On Monday, January 18th, the First New Jersey State Birth Control Conference was held at the Stacy-Trent Hotel, Trenton The story will be given in the March REVIEW

There is evidence that the Roman Church is starting active propaganda even among non-Romanists against Birth Control The papers state that the Holy Name and other Catholic societies are organizing in opposition When I spoke for the Nutley League of Women Voters on January 7th, a Romanist communicant, a Mrs Vail, opposed Birth Control One of the things she said was that fifty years ago France had a population of 35,000,000 and Germany 37,700,000, while at the time of the World War France had only about 37,000,000 and Germany twice as many Therefore, because France practiced Birth Control, she was not able to withstand Germany during the war and had to call upon England and the United States to help us Hence, France's practice of Birth Control drew the United States into the World War!

Coming home on the train, I read in the *Newark Evening News* that Dr Benedict P Willis, evidently a Romanist, had made an address the day before for the Rutherford Lions Club, in which he made exactly the same statement, using the same figures I have written the Rutherford Lions Club asking them to hear me, that perhaps I can show them that if Germany had practiced Birth Control as well as France, perhaps there would have been no World War, and that the United States was drawn into this conflict, not because France practiced Birth Control, but because Germany did not

The BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW is now on file at all the Free Public Libraries in Camden

Speakers sent from the American Birth Control League to New Jersey were Mrs Robertson Jones who spoke at Belleville, and Miss Ehsabeth Grew

who spoke before the Jewish Council of Women at Passaic, the Forum of Mountain Lake and the Legislative Department of the Women's Club of Maplewood At the latter meeting a motion by Mrs Stephen Herben to endorse the State Birth Control Bill was unanimously endorsed

On December 31st Mrs Sanger spoke on Rational Parenthood before an audience of 150 at the Thursday Morning Club of Madison

An attempt to prevent this meeting was made by a local priest who heard of it from a Catholic member of the club Failing this it is said that the church in that town is organizing its flock to fight the Birth Control bill which is to be presented in the state legislature

Pennsylvania

IN January, Elizabeth Grew went to Pennsylvania, being lent by the American Birth Control League to help in the organization of the new state league

Dr Cooper spoke at a regular meeting of the Main Line Branch of Montgomery County Medical Society, at Haverford, on January 11th He reports that there were sixty-four members present, the largest attendance in the history of the society This increased attendance at a Birth Control meeting is typical of meetings all over the country There was very good interest manifested and many inquiries

Rhode Island

ON January 14th Dr Cooper was in Westerly, where he addressed the Washington County Medical Society on Birth Control and contraceptive technique

Virginia

IN the early days of December, Dr James F Cooper attended the convention of the Seaboard Medical Association On December 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th, Dr Cooper addressed four well attended medical meetings at Norfolk, South Hill, Charlottesville and Bedford At all these meetings keen interest in the subject was shown, there was little opposition and the address was followed by discussion Of the meeting of the Albemarle County Medical Association at Charlottesville, he writes

"One of the best meetings I have had in the South The interest was universal and a splendid

discussion bringing out all phases of the question followed the address. It was an especially high grade audience, most of the doctors are on the faculty of the University of Virginia."

At Roanoke in the second week in December, Dr. Cooper spoke before a group of clergymen and at a meeting of social workers presided over by the secretary of the Community Chest. The date of a meeting which was arranged for physicians unfortunately conflicted with another engagement, but a later meeting will be arranged. Good publicity was given by Virginia papers.

West Virginia

THE largest gathering in the history of the Marion County Medical Society entertained Dr. Cooper on December 15th at a dinner at the Y. M. C. A. After the dinner he spoke on contraceptive technique to an enthusiastic group of listeners. At Morgantown next day he addressed a group of students of sociology at the University of West Virginia and in the evening a special meeting of the county Medical Society. At both meetings keen interest was shown. At Wheeling on December 18th and 19th he addressed a body of physicians and an interested group of social workers. The *Wheeling Intelligencer* gave an excellent account of these meetings.

ENGLAND

AS each quarter's figures come out there is new comment on lowered birth and death rates. In the *Manchester Guardian* Professor A. L. Bowley analyses the trend in the last two decades, finding longer lives and smaller families and looking forward into the future of British population which he expects will be stabilized "not far off" after 1941 at about 50,000,000. We hope to publish Professor Bowley's article in full in the BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW. Fifty million is itself too big a figure—a staggering figure indeed in one small island—in view of the fact that in the words of Dean Inge "it is unlikely that England will ever again be able to find work for a population of 48 millions."

Speaking on the ideal state at the Fabian Society's annual popular lecture, George Bernard Shaw, as always, recognized that in such a state Birth Control would be practiced. Another national body has included Birth Control in its deliberations. The feeble-minded was an important

subject on the program of the Scottish Council of the Women Citizens' Association at its last meeting in Aberdeen. Dr. Kinloch, opening the discussion, said that one per cent of all children born in Aberdeen were defective and urged the spread of contraceptive information to those classes from whom it is now withheld. His recommendation was warmly received.

In comment on an appeal by the *Daily Herald* of London for funds for a family who have brought into the world three blind children in the course of less than three years, Norman Haire writes that paper urging that the thing which will help them most fundamentally is to put Birth Control information at their disposal for the future.

The Liverpool *Echo* reports that a Birth Control clinic was opened a few months ago in that city by Sister D. Stewart.

SWEDEN

THE lowest birth rate in the world today is that of Sweden, according to a correspondent of the *Chicago Daily News*. Recent returns, he states, show that the Swedish birth rate "has declined in a few years from 135,000 to 109,000." The Swedish mortality rate also is low, being bettered only by Denmark, Norway and Holland. "There is no doubt," says Dr. Ernest Hoerjter, the Swedish statistician from whom these figures were obtained, "that the low birth rate is the result of deliberate limitation."

Another Swedish statistician, Professor Brismann, declares that notwithstanding the decreasing rate "Sweden's population will continue to increase during a certain period and will then become stable, at about 6,000,000." That a decrease is needed, that there are still too many mouths to feed, too many hands to employ, is shown by the fact that the Swedish government is working on a plan to provide for its unemployed.

CHINA

IN further comment on the appalling death rate in China, reported in last month's BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW, a United Press item from Peking states that "The disordered state of the country renders

it impossible to compile accurate statistics, but it is generally believed that infant mortality runs to about 80 per cent in China. This is largely due to extreme poverty and lack of care of children, though in certain districts there is some deliberate extinction of female children.

"Since male children are everywhere greatly desired, Birth Control makes no appeal to the Chinese. They greatly prefer to have the children first, and then allow undesired ones to die. It is considered essential that there be male children to perpetuate the line and to continue the chain of those who offer sacrifices and keep up the ancestral graves.

"No census has ever been taken by western methods, but the 1925 China year book estimates China's total population at 342,639,000."

Maude B. Warner, in the *Annals of the American Academy*, tells the following story of a true experience: "I went to the home of a Chinese farmer whose son I had known. There were in all twenty mouths to be fed there. As I sat on the best k'ang, looking out through the one tiny row of window panes, I saw a baby, naked, emaciated and too weak to sit up, lying down on the damp, dirty, brick floor of the courtyard. He was apparently unnoticed. His face was covered with black sticky sores. His mouth was open. Flies flew in and out and it seemed he could live surely but a few hours longer. Later I saw the young mother of seven, chewing vigorously on one of my partially eaten dumplings. She had garlic, cabbage, pork and oils and the boiled dough covering. She took out bite after bite and dropped into the child's throat. It lay there too weak to swallow and she took part of it out. As I passed by, I asked how long the child had been sick. She replied "Oh, always, but don't worry, he'll be all right when he gets teeth, for then he can eat, now he has nothing but squash juice." I passed the child and shuddered. A year later, I again passed there. A chubby, rosy-cheeked child greeted me. The mother said "There's that boy you saw. I'm glad he got well. His other two brothers died, but they weren't comely and, anyway, we couldn't feed so many."

"This is but one case in hundreds—of what we may call the survival of the fittest. Children and parents are often huddled into one dark room. Home life there is on a low scale. If children become too numerous, they are given away or sold."

INDIA

JAL PAVEY, a Parsee, son of a high priest, has just returned to India from this country to take up his residence in Bombay as the spiritual head of over a million souls. His work will be concerned with moral and social hygiene among his people. He believes in Birth Control and desires to form a new center in India.

JAPAN

RECENT press items in the United States report an interview in Tokio with a Japanese publicist Count Michimasa Soyejima, who predicts war from pressure of population within a decade unless Birth Control becomes a general practice in Japan. The resources of the island will soon be inadequate to feed and clothe an annual increase of 740,000. War as a solution he repudiates as unthinkable. He urges church and government not only to abandon their opposition to Birth Control, but to embark on an educational campaign. He summarizes his statement of the situation as follows: "With emigration barred, war unthinkable, and our population growing so fast we already have difficulty in feeding it, we must consider Birth Control immediately. We are forced to do it."

On another page we publish a letter on the progress of the Birth Control movement in Japan. It is good to know that Count Michimasa Soyejima, son of a former foreign minister and himself at one time member of parliament, is numbered among its supporters.

Mrs. Sophie Mindell of Brooklyn writes to the *Daily News*:

I am one of the young married people whom Col. Roosevelt, Jr. denounces in his talk against Birth Control. It is very well for him to talk. If his child were sick, he could have it removed to any climate, whereas, in my class, a doctor's bill is a tragedy. It is all I can do to care properly for one little one and my husband works hard. Just as it is the duty of those who can afford it to increase the population, it is the sacred duty of all not to bring into this hard world a baby who has no fighting chance. Why should I help fill the shops and factories when, if I have only one, I might be able to properly equip it?

In its column of "Christmas Suggestions" *The New Yorker* includes To Margaret Sanger—A picture entitled "The Death of the Stork."

FRIENDS IN THE FIELD

(Continued from page 64)

Control They are urging the librarians to put pamphlets and books on Birth Control on their shelves

Mrs Servanto, from Havana, writes she is anxious to get the club women in Cuba to have a speaker on Birth Control at the next conference

"Of course," says she, "they are Catholic, many of them, but so am I, yet these poor children, how they need it"

A Chairman of the Hospital Committee for the American Legion in Oklahoma writes "I see the need of Birth Control more than many who look at the children's side of it The men whose welfare I look after are wrecks in mind and body and are unfit to be fathers I have always preached Birth Control Since the war we need it more"

Fu Chen, from the University of Chicago, writes us "I am completing my course in February and returning to China If there is any country in the world that needs to control birth it is my country Please send me the facts on the subject and the address of the League in Shanghai I shall do social work in China, and perhaps Dr Woo will help me to give Birth Control to my country-women" It is interesting to note the general desire of Japanese and Chinese students in this country to carry back Birth Control

Thus our army of workers grows—grows in all classes and in all countries Daily recruits fall in line and that line is advancing on the enemy—bigotry, ignorance, hypocrisy and selfishness Led by a general who is fearless, untiring, we are marching to glorious victory

Certainly no biologist who sees plant and animal evolution based on the over-production of individuals, the consequent struggle for life and the unconscious selection of the fitter, can turn a deaf ear to the arguments of the advocates of Birth Control if he hopes that human evolution is to be the result of something else than a brutal repetition of the evolutionary processes which have so successfully turned out tigers and hyenas

—VERNON KELLOGG, *Director,*
National Research Council

According to the United States Census, there were more than 200,000 children in various institutions throughout the United States when the last official count was taken Between 400,000 and 500,000 dependent children are cared for annually in institutions or in families

People I Meet

By KITTY MARION

An army officer bought the REVIEW saying, "This is the only thing that will stop war The pacifists would accomplish much more if they worked on these lines than the way they do"

A clergyman said with a smile "it isn't nearly as bad as it might be" "It's considerably worse than that," I replied, thinking he was minimizing the badness of conditions which Birth Control will help to abolish "I mean your paper," he said hastily "Oh, thank you," I said, "I thought you meant conditions" "No, I mean your paper," said he, "it is very good and some of us do see your point"

A pale, unhappy looking little Jew asked the meaning of the paper While I was explaining he bought one and asked if poor people who couldn't pay were given advice because he was poor and his wife was a cripple and for fifteen years they had lived in fear of her becoming pregnant To see the joy that broke over his face and his gratitude when I gave him our phone number and assured him his wife would be taken care of, was worth all the abuse and insult that has been hurled at me by the prejudiced and unthinking during the last nine years

The *New York World* shows the smiling photograph of Mrs Angelo Rosa, sixteen years old and the wife of a boy of nineteen She has just given birth to twins Mrs Rosa whose husband is a laborer, earning \$3 63 a day—when he has work—is either a woman of stoic courage or she does not realize what the future holds for her

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STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSE

January 1st to December 31, 1925

INCOME

Contributions	\$28 017 05
Memberships	5,329 75
Pioneers' Dinner	1,288 00
Conference Admissions	958 00
Concert	250 00

TOTAL INCOME \$35,843 30

EXPENSE

Salaries	\$12,394.31
Traveling Expense	4,660 43
Postage—General	3 099 46
New Jersey Expense	2,643 24
Rent	2,330 04
Publicity	2,234 99
Conference Expense	2,143 30
Stationery and Office Expense	2,050 31
Printing	1,517 58
General	751 17
Legislative	690 59
Telephone and Telegraph	600 53
Postage—Conference	527 42
Auditing	365 00
Washington Expense	129 18
Clippings	67 65
Exchange and Collection Expense	34 66

TOTAL EXPENSE 36,239 86

NET LOSS, Year Ended December 31, 1925 \$396 56

AMERICAN BIRTH CONTROL LEAGUE, Incorporated

Publishers of BIRTH CONTROL REVIEW

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

Year Ended December 31, 1925

Sales and Subscriptions

REVIEW Sales	\$7,044.29
Advertising	1,095 60
TOTAL REVIEW SALES	\$8,139 89
Less Cost of REVIEW Sales	6,499 65
GROSS PROFIT ON REVIEW SALES	\$1,640.24

Add

Literature Sales	\$4,390 69
Less Cost of Literature Sales	3,553.38
Gross Profit on Literature Sales	837.31
TOTAL GROSS PROFIT ON SALES	\$2,477.55

General Expense

Salaries	\$7,839 07
Postage	1,436.87
Rent	852 00
Telephone and Telegraph	207 33
Auditing	75 00
Office Supplies and Expense	52 89
Clippings	34.35
Sundry	25 07

TOTAL GENERAL EXPENSE 10,522 58

NET LOSS FROM OPERATIONS \$8,045 03

Add Contributions 8,450 00

NET ADDITION TO SURPLUS FOR YEAR \$404 97

Three Mothers

New York World

"Realizing she would again become a mother, for the second time in eleven months, Mrs Catherine Cumbers, thirty-two, 9273 224th St, Queens Village, L I, N Y, yesterday shot herself in the left breast, her four-year-old son Richard in the head, and her eight-months-old child Alfred, over the heart A note addressed to Mrs Cumbers' mother ascribed her acts to the nervousness she felt at again giving birth to a child, it was said Mrs Cumbers had been ill since the birth of her last baby"

New York World

"Out in the farther reaches of Brooklyn, where the streets lie like dirty fingers pointing toward the neat comfort of Flatbush, stands a small frame house behind the tenement marked as No 68 Central Avenue There Mrs Ricardi came five months ago, burdened with the black-haired son she carried in her arms and the one she was about to bear

"The first night the three slept on the floor The next day an ice box, a gas stove, three chairs, a table and a bed were moved in, all new, bought on installment Mrs Ricardi went to work making buttonholes in clothes for a factory

"Early she told Mrs Rabbito on the second floor of the tenement in front of the husband who had deserted her

"Before the eyes of Mrs Rabbito and the other tenants, she grew thinner Cold weather came The baby was born There was no coal It was evident Mrs Ricardi was starving to death

"A charity organization heard of her and promised her coal Likewise did a newspaper But the methods of charity are slow sometimes The coal did not come Each night the three, Mrs Ricardi, Joey, the bright-eyed gamin, who once won a baby prize in New Jersey his mother said, and the two-months old Pasquale, slept in their clothes, under a single quilt, trying to keep warm

"Yesterday an insurance man, slipping a calendar under the door, smelt gas Police came The three were dead, fully dressed under the quilt"

Milwaukee (Wisc) Sentinel

"Weak with hunger, shivering with cold, Mrs Elizabeth Stavrakis, 21, and her three children, from 18 months to four years old, were found last night in their bare rooms at 588 First Street, by Detectives Joseph Daetsch and John Alberts

"Christmas—these children know already that Santa Claus will mean nothing to them this year

"Breakfast, dinner, supper? Mother makes tearful promises that are half a prayer

"The woman has managed to feed her little brood until recently She scrubbed floors But now she can't work Soon there will be a fourth child Her husband left her"

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If She had only Known about Birth Control.

NEW YORK TIMES

December 14, 1925

MOTHER OF 14 TRIES TO END LIFE BY GAS

Saved by Policeman, She Says She Will Make Another Attempt to Die

TWO COMMIT SUICIDE

One Uses Gas, the Other Poison, While Two Others are Killed by Gas Accidentally

A forty four year-old Staten Island woman who has borne fourteen children nine of whom are living attempted suicide by gas last night because of the inability of her husband to supply enough money to make the struggle for existence bearable. The quick work of a patrolman probably saved her life, but after she had been revived she said she would make another attempt to take her life.

The woman was Mrs. Ida Baldwin of 45 Canal Street Stapleton. Her husband Robert is a longshoreman but has worked infrequently in the past few years. Mrs. Baldwin quarreled with her husband during the afternoon and he left. Then according to the woman, overcome with despondency she turned on the gas jet in her bedroom after having closed the windows and the door.

Her nine children the youngest of whom is 2 years old and the oldest is 14 were playing in an apartment below. When the oldest child Ida came into her own apartment and smelled the gas she became frightened and ran to a police booth around the corner and told Patrolman Abraham Johnson.

The patrolman ran back to the house burst into the room and throwing open the windows used first aid methods on the unconscious woman. When Dr. A. R. Solidini of 342 Van Duzer Street arrived the woman was out of danger. The doctor said that the patrolman's swift work had saved the woman's life.

Mrs. Baldwin told her troubles to the doctor and the patrolman who suggested that she go to a hospital. She insisted on remaining at home, and as the pair left she made the remark about another attempt at death.

Ill health caused David Greenfield 50 years old an engraver to end his life in the morning by inhaling gas through a tube attached to a chandelier in the kitchen of his home at 9418 121st Street Richmond Hill Queens.

Gas escaping from a heater accidentally killed Edward Johnson, 55 years old in a furnished room at 163 East 104th Street Thomas Hollinger 45 years old was also accidentally killed by gas in his room at 2943 Richmond Terrace, Mariners Harbor S. I.

A disagreement with his wife, according to his twelve-year-old son, Max caused Abraham Cohen, 40 years old, to swallow poison at his home at 25 Suffolk Street. Cohen died several hours later in Gouverneur Hospital. The son said his father had been separated from his mother for several weeks.

NEW YORK SUN

December 14 1925

DAUGHTER BALKS MOTHER'S SUICIDE

Three Men Accidentally Killed by Gas

The family of Mrs. Ida Baldwin 44 years old of 45 Canal Street, Stapleton S. I. is watching today for fear that she may again try to kill herself. After being revived by Patrolman Abraham Johnson who found her unconscious last night in her apartment from gas poisoning she declared that she would make another attempt to end her life.

Mrs. Baldwin the mother of fourteen children nine of whom are living has been despondent because of the difficulty of making both ends meet on the earnings of her husband Robert a long shoreman who has not had much work in the last few years. During the afternoon yesterday her husband left after a quarrel and the children being down stairs visiting friends she shut the doors and windows and opened the jets of her gas stove.

Her oldest daughter Ida 14 came home in time and called the patrolman who applied first aid. The woman was out of danger when Dr. A. R. Solidini of 342 Van Duzer Street arrived. She refused to go to a hospital.

David Greenfield 50 years old an engraver despondent over ill health ended his life yesterday by inhaling gas through a tube at his home, 9418 121st Street Richmond Hill Queens.

The following three persons were accidentally killed by gas poisoning in their rooms: Edward Johnson, 55 of 163 East 104th Street Thomas Hollinger 45 of 2943 Richmond Terrace, Mariners Harbor S. I. and Jeremiah Sullivan, 45 of 722 West Eighteenth Street, an employee of the Street Cleaning Department. The last named it is said is a cousin of Alderman Edward J. Sullivan.

Abraham Cohen, 40 committed suicide by swallowing poison at his home, 25 Suffolk Street. His 12-year-old son, Max said his father was despondent over a disagreement with his wife, from whom he had been separated for several weeks.

NEW YORK WORLD

December 14, 1925

TOIL WORN MOTHER OF 14 SEEKS DEATH

Breakfasts for Brood, Dishes, Dressing Kids for Sunday, Drives Her Frantic

It was at No. 45 Canal Street Stapleton S. I.

Mrs. Ida Baldwin got up at 6 o'clock yesterday morning as she has for the last fifteen years ever since Ida the first baby was born.

While she dressed the youngest breakfast cooked on the two burner gas stove as it has cooked for fifteen years for the Baldwin family never lived far from the ship yards where Bob Baldwin could get work.

With the help of Ida and Anna and May all of the fourteen Baldwin children were dressed and by 8 o'clock sixteen places were set for breakfast. The Baldwin family sat down.

After breakfast Bob Baldwin looked for the Sunday paper. His wife began washing dishes.

"I can't find the paper," said Bob. "Why can't I get the paper on time?"

"You'll have to find it yourself," said Mrs. Baldwin just as she had said it for fifteen years and dug her arms into the dishpan.

"I'm going out," he said over his shoulder. The door slammed.

At 9 o'clock Mrs. Baldwin was ready to dress the children so they might go out to play. The youngest cried. The one which has just begun to walk tumbled on its head and wailed. An older boy found the glasses on the shelf and brought them crashing to the floor as one of the Baldwin children has done almost every day these last fifteen years. At 10 o'clock the children were ready and left—all but the youngest, who had to be fed again.

At 10:30 o'clock Mrs. Baldwin began sweeping up and making the beds.

"I try to keep things neat," she always said.

At 11 o'clock she sat down for a minute, then started for the kitchen to begin cooking dinner for sixteen. Fifteen years or more she's been cooking Sunday dinner each year for one month more. In the kitchen Mrs. Baldwin stood contemplating the stove. She turned on the gas. She did not light a match. Quietly she sat down to die.

Ida because she is the oldest came in early. She smelt gas and screamed. Patrolman Abraham Johnson broke down the kitchen door. He found the woman's frail body outstretched. Her face smoothed as if in sleep. He revived her.

"What did you do it for?" he asked taking out his notebook. Mrs. Baldwin looked her scorn.

"I'll do it again," he said she replied faintly.

Late in the afternoon in Staten Island Hospital she was released to go home in time to get Sunday supper for sixteen. Bob had returned. The children were there. They all looked at her with strange wide-eyed curiosity—almost admiration.

"What did you do it for?" they asked.

And Mrs. Baldwin cooked Sunday supper as usual.

NEW YORK TRIBUNE

December 14, 1925

MOTHER OF 9 SEEKS DEATH AFTER TIFF WITH HUSBAND

Turns on Gas Because He Did Not Earn Enough, Policemen Rescue Her

Mrs. Ida Baldwin mother of nine children tried to kill herself in her home at 45 Canal Street Stapleton S. I. yesterday because her husband was not bringing home enough money to support the family. The husband Robert F. Baldwin, is a longshoreman.

He and his wife quarreled in the afternoon when she begged him to get a steady job. He left the house, and half an hour later his eldest daughter Ida smelled gas. She ran out of the house, crying. Patrolmen Johnson and Tichenor asked her what was the matter. She said her home was full of gas and she was afraid something had happened to her mother.

The policemen found Mrs. Baldwin near an open gas jet and gave her first aid treatment. An ambulance surgeon, Dr. William Reichman, said this had saved her life. She refused to go to a hospital. She and her husband have had fourteen children. Five are dead.

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