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What About Sterilization?

NO. 4—DEFECTIVES: PARENTS AND CHILDREN
By James J. Walsh, M.D., Ph.D.

This is the fourth of a series of articles dealing with the question of sterilization. There will be one more by Dr. Walsh written from the scientific point of view. The concluding articles have been written by the Rev. Ignatius W. Cox, S.J., of Fordham University, and deal with the question from the moral standpoint.

The London Lancet, a very conservative English medical journal, whose opinions carry weight throughout the medical world, in a series of articles published this year (1934) in May and June discussed sterilization and other means for the prevention of mental deficiency or its reduction in the population. It called attention to one of the most interesting phases of what is known as the Brock Committee Report. This committee is representative of those most interested in the problem.

In contrast to all that has been heard about the direct heredity of various mental defects, the Brock report said in no unmistakable terms, "Defective children seldom have defective parents." And yet it is on the strength of the direct contradiction of that proposition that sterilization is commended by so many.

The committee added: "The proportion of mentally deficient persons among the parents of mentally defective children is remarkably small."

Several good observers whose opinions carry weight in the medical world reported in the Journal of the British Medical Association that the proportion of defective parents of defective children is not more than 5 per cent. Manifestly, mental defect is due in the great majority of cases to something quite apart from direct heredity. It was actually said in a majority of the cases where there are defective children, the parents are even of superior intelligence and do not infrequently they belong to the superior intellectual class. Some incidental or accidental cause has intruded itself into the normal order of embryonic growth in the central nervous system during the course of pregnancy, and the result is defective mentally.

It is surprising how many families there are that in a group of children of three to five, or even more, will present only one mentally deficient child. This defective is likely to be the first one rather than one of subsequent birth, though occasionally this single defective is born between two perfectly normal children and of normal father and mother.

If anything in the world would show how little we know of the origin of mental deficiency, it is the contrast between these expressions brought out by the English committee and the expressions that are so often used by eugenicists intent on reforming the race almost at once by some pet hobby supposed to be marvelously efficient.

The reasons for the occurrence of these mental defectives in the families of perfectly healthy parents have been worked out. In some cases the mother, while carrying her child, has gone through a series of disturbing emotional incidents which have affected her very deeply. For instance, prospective mothers living in cities in the Balkans where the tide of battle

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IFCA REPORTS FILMS BETTER SINCE JULY 15

Bureau at Convention States 90 Per Cent Movies Reviewed, Endorsed

New York — (NCWC) — An improvement in the quality of motion pictures, from the point of view of decency and morality, since July 15 was reported to the International Federation of Catholic Alumnae by its Motion Picture Bureau at the Federation's eleventh biennial convention, just held here.

The report, made by Mrs. James F. Looman, chairman of the Motion Picture Bureau, stated that "After increased authority was given to the production code administration, there has been a great increase in the percentage of indorsed pictures." "During this period," Mrs. Looman added, "our reviewers have pre-viewed approximately 160 pictures and have indorsed 90 per cent."

The period to which the report refers is one in which the Legion of Decency persistently and vigorously pressed its campaign against the production of and attendance at indorsed motion pictures. That work of the increased authority given to the Production Code Administration was brought to the Episcopal Committee on Motion Pictures, which launched the campaign of the Legion of Decency.

Pope Sends Blessing
A solemn pontifical Mass, celebrated in St. Patrick's Cathedral by the Most Rev. James H. Ryan, Rector of the Catholic University of America, officially opened the convention.

At the Mass, His Eminence Patrick Cardinal Hayes, Archbishop of New York, addressed the several hundred delegates and conveyed to them the "most cordial and apostolic benediction" of the Holy Father. The Pope's blessing was called by the Most Rev. Paul Secretary of State and Cardinal Hayes read the greeting.

As the convention sessions began, motion pictures early became an important subject. Communications from Will H. Hays, president of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, Inc., and Joseph I. Breen, of Mr. Hays' office, praising the efforts of the Federation for the improvement of motion pictures and expressing their regrets at being unable to be present at the convention, were read.

"We feel confident that if public interest in motion pictures is sustained, we may be most optimistic about the future," the report of the Motion Picture Bureau continued.

Prior to July 15, "too many loopholes for the producers existed in the code enforcement machinery."

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First Bermuda Group Of Holy Name Society Formed at St. George

Hamilton, Bermuda. (NCWC)—The Holy Name Society has been inaugurated in Bermuda with the establishment of a unit in the parish in St. George, a mission of the Church of the Little Flower, here.

The group at first consisted of 10 charter members, but two more have since been added. Under the spiritual directorship of the Rev. J. Harry Durey, the Society is having its monthly Mass and Communion on the first or second Sunday, according to the day on which Mass is celebrated in St. George. Being a mission, Mass is celebrated there only every other Sunday.

While small, the new society is most enthusiastic, and since its inauguration only one member has been absent from any of the services.

Unjust Statement on Jesuits Draws Apologies from Daily, Veterans' Head

New York — (NCWC)—An editorial in The Catholic News here concerning a news story in the Brooklyn Daily Eagle in which a statement was made attributing to the Jesuits the teaching that the end justifies the means, resulted in an apology from the Eagle and from the head of the American Veterans Association, which made the statement.

The assertion was made in connection with the campaign of the American Veterans Association against further bonuses of World War Veterans. The Brooklyn Daily Eagle quoted an official of the organization as saying: "We use the old Jesuitical argument that the end justifies the means." In its editorial apology, the Eagle says: "As explained by the Catholic

WORLD HEARS POPE'S PRAYER FOR PEACE AND HIS BLESSING ON THE EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS

(By N.C.W.C. News Service)
While a million pilgrims gathered at Buenos Aires, Argentina, at the annual International Eucharistic Congress, to hear the message of His Holiness Pope Pius XI, the words of the Sovereign Pontiff were carried throughout the world by radio, so that many other millions listened to his voice. The message was broadcast to many countries in Europe and America.

In the United States, the two western radio chains—the National Broadcasting Company and the Columbia Broadcasting System—as well as the American Broadcasting System disseminated the message of the Holy Father, each with accompanying audio features of the Congress. Following is the English translation of the Apostolic Blessing broadcast by means of the radio upon the Congress and its pilgrims, as heard by listeners in the United States.

May the Lord Jesus Christ be praised!
To the Eucharistic Congress We wish to extend the message that Jesus Christ the King reigns and commands, and having followed what you have done, we gladly acknowledge that with you who are at Buenos Aires Christ the King also lives.
We implore for you the peace of Christ. We extend Our Apostolic hand over you and grant to you our Apostolic Benediction in the name of the Blessed Mary Virgin, of the Holy Apostles St. Peter and Paul, and all the Martyrs and Saints.
May the blessings of God Almighty, God Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, descend upon and remain with you forever. Amen.

Indestructibility of Church Cited By Archbishop Hickey on Occasion Of St. Mary's Church Centenary

Centenary Mass Celebrated by Archbishop Mooney; Throng of Present and Former Parishioners, Former Assistants Attend Mass; Reception Held

That Christ's Church stands and will stand to the end of time is the lesson the world of today should learn and the lesson forcibly brought to attention on the occasion of the observance of the centenary of St. Mary's Church, said the Most Rev. Thomas F. Hickey, D. D., titular Archbishop of Viminacium, in his sermon at the Pontifical High Mass celebrated at 10:30 o'clock, October 14, at St. Mary's Church.

THREE FAITHS JOIN TO AID ARBITRATION

Scranton, Pa. (NCJC)—The beginning of what may develop into a national movement for allaying industrial disputes by the Protestant, Catholic and Jewish clergy and laity has been started here with the organization of the Scranton Good Will Committee. The purpose of the Committee is to "preserve and maintain industrial peace, keep people at work, increase the number of workers, and help to provide adequate wages in accordance with the different codes and the other NRA principles." Its creation has been motivated by the conviction that many industrial disputes which ordinarily lead to a suspension of employment and to adverse economic conditions, can be avoided by a tactful and non-partisan mediation on the part of a group of citizens representing the manifold elements of the community.

One of the major aims of the committee is to make contacts with similar committees in other communities and to stimulate the formation of similar bodies in other communities. Regular meetings of the committee will be held every three months at which an open forum will be held to give an opportunity for the submission of claims by any individual attending the meeting. The committee will also be available at all times for service in helping to adjust industrial disputes.

Archbishop Mooney was assisted by the Rt. Rev. Msgr. John F. Bopp, Deacons of Honor were: the Rev. Ernest Fathers Martin J. Cluney, Hon. eoye Falls, and John Conway, Auburn, former assistants at the church. Serving as deacon and sub-deacon respectively were the Rev. Arthur LeMay, Bath, and the Rev. Edmund O'Brien, Sonysa. Other officiators were: Acolytes, the Rev. Cornelius Hogan, Caladonia; the Rev. Walter Kohl, St. Andrew's; crozier bearer, the Rev. Eugene Golding; thurifer, the Rev. Charles B. Reynolds; bookbearer, the Rev. John Guy; candle bearer, the Rev. Emmett Mace, Pastor of St. Mary's; the Rev. James B. Keenan greeted those assembled at the Mass and presented Archbishop Hickey.

Several hundred attended the reception held in the parish hall, following the church service. John W. Butler, 42, who was baptized and married in the church was among the oldest parishioners present.

Father Keenan was host to visiting clergy at a dinner at 1:00 o'clock in the hall. Speakers, bringing greetings, congratulations, and reminiscences on the traditions of the church and the faith of its founders were: Archbishop Mooney, the Rt. Rev. Msgr. J. Hartley, P. A. rector emeritus of St. Bernard's Seminary; the Rt. Rev. Msgr. William M. Hart, V. G., and Father Keenan.

Successful "Old Home Night" social was held October 17 in Convention Hall with Jeremiah G. Hickey, Supreme Court Justice William F. Love and Corporation Counsel Harold P. Burke as principal speakers.

IMPORTANT
The complete text of Archbishop Mooney's address delivered at the Columbus Day celebration in Columbus Auditorium appears on Page 6, this issue. Also on the editorial page under "Discernment Recordings" appears Archbishop Mooney's sermon to the American Legion's conference in a radio talk Sunday.

RIOT CAUSED BY SEIZURE OF FORMER SCHOOL

Unrest Stirred by Persecution Acts in Mexico Results in One Killed

By CHARLES BETICO
(Mexico City Correspondent, N. C. W. C. News Service)

Mexico City — No less than 5,000 people took part in the rioting in the streets of Puebla when Federal officials arrived to take possession of the Teresian College, for several centuries a convent school. Since the secularization of education in Mexico it has been conducted by laywomen as a private school for girls.

The trouble started when the Second Court of the District announced its decision regarding the nationalization of the property. A great crowd of people collected around the building and a clash with the police resulted. A committee of women asked the inspector general of police for permission to protest by means of a public demonstration against the seizure of the school the name of which has been changed from the Colegio Teresiano to the Academia Moriles. Many girls from different sections of the State of Puebla attend at boarding students, Gustavo Ariza, secretary general of the Government and, at present, acting Governor, refused to authorize the demonstration.

Throng Increases
The number of persons in front of the building kept increasing as the news had spread. Some of the leaders suggested that the crowd march through the streets to the plaza de la Constitution. The police tried to disperse the crowd and prevent the demonstration. Then the shouting commenced, but in the general confusion, it was impossible to determine who fired first the police or the demonstrators. Just then many others came running to the rescue. At the first crowd and hurled stones and pelotas at the police. The usual procedure was followed and the firemen were called out but the mob was so compact that the firemen could not reach the hydrants.

The police then made use of tear gas bombs with the result that 15 persons were seriously injured, one was killed, and many others suffered minor injuries.

The following morning, the police, with the aid of soldiers, broke up another demonstration of women and laborers which had been planned as a protest against the actions of the police on the preceding day. The requests of the leaders that they be allowed to continue the demonstration peacefully were answered with shots from the police ranks. The firing continued for a half hour.

Committee has ceased altogether in Puebla and the city presents an appearance of desolation. Stones were torn from the pavement and hurled at the police. The Government called for Federal troops to quell the disturbance. Troops and police are patrolling the streets and a number of persons have been arrested.

In reporting the affair, the press of the Capital deplors the lack of tact on the part of the local authorities.

OUTDOOR EVIDENCE IN HIS DIOCESE GIVES OUTLOOK SAYS BISHOP

Oklahoma Ordinary Here At General Students Mission Unit Outlines Action Program in Southern States

Catholic Evidence work, or street preaching, in England, is the hope for the future for the Oklahoma, the Most Rev. Francis G. Kelly, City-Tulsa diocese, declared, in speaking at the annual Mission Day at the University of Tulsa.

Mission Sunday in Diocese Is Set For Sunday, November 11

Annual observance of Mission Sunday in the Diocese of Rochester has been postponed this year to Sunday, November 11, it is announced by the Rev. Leo C. Mooney, Diocesan Director, Secretary of the Synod of the Diocese. The customary date is the second Sunday in October.

An appeal for observance of Mission Sunday will be made on the National Day for the Catholic Worker by His Excellency, Archbishop Hickey, Secretary of the Synod of the Diocese, on Sunday, October 21.

His Excellency will speak in Italian at 11:00 a. m. and 8:00 p. m. on Sunday. The program will be in English, Spanish, Italian, French, 11:45. In the evening translations will be French, 8:15; German, 8:30; and Spanish, 8:45. Votive Masses in the morning will be 12:15 Italian and 12:30 Spanish. In the evening, Masses will be 8:15 Italian and 8:30 Spanish.

FR. COUGHLIN CONTRACT FOR RADIO SIGNED

New York — (NCWC)—The Rev. Charles E. Coughlin, pastor of the Shrine of the Little Flower, 440 E. 62nd St., New York, has signed a contract with the Radio City Station for a weekly broadcast of his radio talks. The contract was signed by the Rev. Coughlin and the Rev. John J. Conroy, president of the Shrine, at the Shrine of the Little Flower.

Father Coughlin has been paid this week to broadcast his talks at the White House in Washington. The President, Father Coughlin said, showed great concern over the plight of America's youth.

Father Coughlin said he had decided to devote a portion of his radio talks each Sunday to a message to youth. The President, he said, is considering further governmental steps in the interests of youth and it is in favor of extending the program of the Civilian Conservation Corps.

BELIEVE IT - - - Not BRISBANE WITH 'ONE STOCK ARGUMENT' CARDINAL NEWMAN REMARK RECALLED TWO NON-CATHOLIC SCIENTISTS' CITED

On another occasion, when taking leave temporarily of Arthur Brisbane and Galileo and turning your attention to Columbus and Saint Teresa, I said that in the meantime Mr. Brisbane would, without doubt, come back to Galileo and the Roman Congregation. That little prophecy of mine very soon came true. Now, by that I do not mean to put in a claim to be classed among the minor prophets. Anybody who knows Mr. Brisbane's type and the history of the Galileo legend could make the same forecast and make it accurate. You could make it yourself. For, as Cardinal Newman aptly said in "Apologia" seventy years ago—and the great Cardinal never shirked a difficulty—this case of Galileo is the "one stock argument" of all those of Mr. Brisbane's type who will have it that the Roman ecclesiastic, if not the Catholic Church throughout its whole history, have been the enemies of "science" and wished to keep the "vulgar herd" in ignorance of what Mr. Brisbane calls "the eternal truth."

Therefore, it required no great gift of prophecy to foresee that Mr. Brisbane would return to "the one stock argument." It was easy also to foresee that he would fail, or make the

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