

WOMAN'S VARIED INTERESTS

"Maggie" Laces
Cream Color Takes the Place of Unbecoming Chalk White.

It is a well-known "maggie" cream color, and of a decidedly deep shade, too, takes the place of white. And the reason is this: Chalk white is nearly always colorfast, and it is nearly always colorfast. And that is why, indeed, it is so popular. And that is why, indeed, it is so popular. And that is why, indeed, it is so popular.

For Semi-formal Occasions.
The present idea of a semi-formal dress is a variation of deep cream, colorfast, not lace. It is a well-known "maggie" cream color, and of a decidedly deep shade, too, takes the place of white. And the reason is this: Chalk white is nearly always colorfast, and it is nearly always colorfast. And that is why, indeed, it is so popular. And that is why, indeed, it is so popular.

If You Are Fond of Blue.
Every woman who likes blue will like this recent innovation in taffeta of deep cerulean shade, whose underkirt catches ruffles of cream and black lace between the two deep cream lace flounces is introduced a simple dounce of black lace. This definitely breaks the waist-line line as well as sets off, by force of strong contrast, the delicate blue of a taffeta polonaise, whose pleated sides are so widely separated that the entire front of the bodice is exposed. The bodice portion of the polonaise is actually a tall



Of Old Blue Faille, with Sleeveless Bolero Over Chiffon Crepe Blouse.

Birth Control Advocates Favor the Establishment of Authorized Clinics for Distributing Scientific Information on Family Limitation



DR. IRA S. WILE DR. LYDIA ALLEN DE VILBISS. MISS LAVINIA L. DOCK. PROFESSOR ABRAHAM JACOBI.

Members of the Birth Control Committee Give Their Reasons for Agitation to Amend the Law Making It a Penal Offense to Give Preventive Information.

By Lucy Huffaker.

AUTHORIZED clinics where men and women who are married or about to be married may go for scientific information in regard to birth control may yet be established in America. This statement was made by Miss Lavinia Dock when I asked her to talk in regard to the meeting to be held next Wednesday evening at the Academy of Medicine, 17 West Forty-third Street. Other men and women—physicians, nurses and just plain citizens—have hopes as high for a reform which they feel to be necessary. In regard to these hopes and the manner of bringing them to pass, they will speak at the meeting which is to be held under the auspices of the committee on birth control, which has headquarters at 54 West Ninety-fourth Street.

So at last birth control—that matter about which men, and especially women, have thought so much and have dared talk so little and then furtively—will be brought out into the open. Prominent physicians have agreed to lay aside professional reticence and speak in regard to the necessity, as they see it, of repealing the present law which makes it a crime to circulate any knowledge in regard to birth control. It is a radical stand which they are to take—as witness the fact that one man is now under indictment in this city for having given another man a pamphlet on methods of preventing conception—but they assert that the time has come when something must be done to change the laws on this important question.

"Archaic" Laws Designed to Prevent Race Suicide Promote Race Degeneration, Say Prominent Physicians, Men and Women—Free Knowledge Imperative for Poor.

It may be a blow to the patriotic pride of some people for Dr. Jacobi, who is to preside at the meeting, to say that "America is always behind the times in such matters." Yet that is just what he does say.

"In Europe," said Dr. Jacobi in answer to a request for an interview on birth control, "prevention of conception is a matter of public discussion. Here, if a doctor gives advice on this matter to some poor devil who comes to him, he can be arrested and imprisoned."

"Just now there is a case pending in this city in which interest should be aroused. A man by the name of Sanger was approached by another man who asked him for a pamphlet on birth control which Sanger's wife had written. Mr. Sanger had to hunt around in the apartment to find one, but at last he did find one and was persuaded to give it to the man. That man was a spy and later Mr. Sanger was arrested. He is now under indictment. Do you wonder that I say the present law is a scandal and a disgrace?"

"When I hear people saying that the repeal of this law would countenance immorality I want to say in answer that it is truly immoral not to give this much-needed information to men and women. The rich and well-to-do classes have information by which they limit their families. It is the poor people who are denied this. So it is that the very families which can afford to have only small families have the largest ones. Of course many of them die—they are predestined to die. A state of affairs which makes it inevitable that children shall be brought into the world only to die is real immorality."

Miss Lavinia Dock, suffragist and secretary of the International Council of Nurses, speaks from the experience of almost twenty-five years as a nurse. It is in the poorest parts of New York and Chicago that she has nursed, and the things she has seen in the homes of the poor have made her feel very keenly on the necessity of free knowledge in regard to birth control.

"In Holland the government disseminates information on birth control," said Miss Dock. "The stamina of the Dutch, their industry and prosperity should be sufficient answer to those who oppose changing the law on prevention of conception. It is ridiculous to say that if the fear of pregnancy were removed men and women would be grossly immoral. Are the people of Holland any more immoral than the people of America? Has the fear of pregnancy made immoral people moral? It never has and it never will."

"This is a reform for which all men and women should work, but I feel it should originate in the medical profession. That is why the meeting next week so many physicians of note coming out into the open and stating the faith that is in them."

"Of course physicians do give information to their patients. That is why the rich and well-to-do have been able to limit their families to the number of children desired. But poor people don't have family physicians. They have a doctor from a dispensary. One time they have one stranger and another time another. It is impossible, on such a basis, to have that feeling of friendliness and even intimacy which a family has with its own physician. That is why I hope in addition to having the law changed so that reputable doctors may give information to their

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"It is ridiculous to say that if the fear of pregnancy were removed men and women would be grossly immoral. Are the people of Holland any more immoral than the people of America?"—Lavinia Dock.

"It is... inconsistent... that reputable physicians who are given the power of life or death over an unborn child are not permitted to prevent the conception of that child. The most progressive men and women can see the injustice and the dangers to the race in this and other archaic laws... This is an important matter and affects every man and woman in a much more vital manner than other reforms advocated."—Dr. De Vilbiss.

The signer. It is not the intention of the committee on birth control that any one who wishes to take a stand on this vital matter shall not have the opportunity to do so.

In addition to those whose position on this question is herewith given, the speakers at the meeting will be: Dr. Ira S. Wile, member of the Board of Education; Dr. Rosalie Slaughter Morton, lecturer at New York University; Dr. Emily Dunning Barringer, who at licensed physician to prescribe for their patients methods of preventing conception and to permit duly licensed druggists to sell such prescriptions"—Dr. S. Adolphus Knopf, Dr. Louis Bisch and Miss Laura Garrett.

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patients who are married or about to be, there may be established clinics where those who desire may go for scientific information.

Dr. Lydia Allen de Vilbiss, who has just resigned from the State Board of Health, for which she lectured on social hygiene and child welfare, will make her last public appearance at the meeting next week, because she is to leave soon for a Western state where she has a position with the State Board of Health. Dr. De Vilbiss dictated the following statement in regard to the matter:

"It is a rank injustice for a woman to bear a baby if she doesn't wish it— injustice to her and to the baby. People who love children and want them will have them. Those who don't, won't—in time their line will die out, which may be a blessing."

"Science has not proved that the welcome child has any advantage over the unwelcome child. The child is such a successful parasite on the body of the mother that it gets what it needs and seems to be thoroughly protected from most physical and mental injuries. But it is a matter of faith that the child who is welcome must have a better opportunity than one who is not welcome. It seems a matter of common sense, if not of absolute science."

"When prevention of conception becomes an alternative for abortion there can't be any question about the prevention being the better method, or, at any rate, the lesser of two evils. It is an inconsistent thing that reputable physicians who are given the power of life or death over an unborn child are not permitted to prevent the conception of that child."

"If a woman is pregnant and it seems in the judgment of the physician that she cannot bear that child with safety to herself and it, he is permitted legally to produce an abortion. This abortion has legal and moral sanction, on the grounds that it is better to destroy one life and save one than it is to lose two. But if that same woman, who the physician knew might not enter upon a pregnancy without serious danger to herself and her baby, were to come to him for advice or a prescription to prevent her from becoming pregnant, he would be a criminal according to the law if he so protected her."

"The laws against disseminating the knowledge of the methods of preventing conception were designed to prevent race suicide. They have failed to a considerable extent in this respect, and have at the same time been active in promoting race degeneration."

"It is a matter of common supposition that preventives of conception are used by the well-to-do and the better educated classes. It is fairly well evident that such methods are not being used by the poorest and the most ignorant people. Thus the rate of increase of population is coming fastest from those who by their physical and mental status and their environment are least able to bring into the world healthy children and to raise them to be efficient men and women."

"The most progressive men and women can see the injustice and the dangers to the race in this and other archaic laws. It may take a long time before the general public will be convinced of the desirability of their repeal. However, this is such an important matter and it affects every man and woman in so much more vital a manner than other reforms which are being advocated, that it is to be hoped that men and women will lend their influence to replacing such laws with legislation which will promote the health and the happiness of mankind and assure us a better generation."

PASTORS INDORSE GIRLS RAISE \$751 FOR WAR BABIES

WIRT SCHOOL PLAN
Instruction for Children Equalized in Church and at Class.

By HENRIETTA RODMAN.

A conference of a hundred clergymen at Columbia University yesterday pledged support to Superintendent Wirt's plan for reorganizing the public schools.

Bishop F. Courtney, of St. James's Episcopal Church, presided.

The churches and Sunday schools are among the most important organizations for child welfare in the community," said Mr. Wirt, "but they are not taking charge of the children for more than an average of two minutes a day for each child. The day school means religious instruction for all children an impossibility unless schools and churches co-operate."

"If every child must have a seat in Sunday school at 9 o'clock, Sunday morning for private religious instruction would be able to afford the cost. The cities cannot afford each child a seat in school."

"But if the schools excuse the children whose parents wish them to take religious instruction, to allow them to go to church on school days during school hours, the churches can afford to accommodate all of the children for one or two periods a week."

"Why shouldn't we let the children go to church when the church can take them?"

"The present school ideal of a seat to which each child may be strapped all day is an extravagant novelty. Schools were originally established to supplement the activities of the home. Now many of the activities of the home, of work and play, have been taken over by the community, the school has continued to be a only a place of study, and it has monopolized the child."

"But this is not the way to train citizens. We must build a character in which the child is to be a citizen of the world, not a citizen of the world must offer opportunities for work, study and play."

"Some of us, perhaps, are trying to make a little world for your own children by sending them to private schools in the country. But how are those schools preparing them for life in the city? For work, play and citizenship in New York?"

"By the way, did you ever know of a private school that advertised a seat for every child in which it was required to accept a child? Don't the best private schools advertise a variety of activities? Isn't it time that we changed our ideal for the public schools to something better adapted to the needs of the children?"

At the close of Mr. Wirt's speech, the Rev. Dr. Brauner offered the following resolution:

"Since the opportunity to give religious instruction to the children of the public schools is one of which every religious organization desires to avail itself, a representative committee of clergymen of the city should be appointed to further the plan submitted by Superintendent Wirt." A temporary committee was appointed.

A conference will be held this evening under the auspices of the Public Education Association to discuss the plan. The chief superficial difference between these plans appears to be that Superintendent Ettinger's plan is more in favor of the majority of the Board of Education than is Superintendent Wirt's.

The great fundamental difference, I believe, is that one is a work of creative genius, involving profound and far-reaching changes, first in the methods of the schools and ultimately in the quality of our citizens.

The other plan seems to me a somewhat clumsy adaptation of the first in terms of our present system of elementary and vocational schools.

"If you want to make all of the children do the same thing in the same way at the same time and in the same place," said Mr. Wirt, "you can't afford the money."

Mr. Wirt, and Mr. Allan Robinson, chairman of the citizens' committee, President Churchill has issued a statement of economies effected in the schools.

"If the proposed plan of assigning kindergarten teachers to two classes a day is adopted, \$325,000 will be saved annually. Mr. Churchill writes, 'But, oddly enough, he does not mention the savings of city money, which would be effected by a thorough going adoption of the Gary plan.'

Miss Helen Losanitch to Lecture on Serbia at Church of Messiah.

The appeal made by Miss Gladys Hollingsworth when she organized the American Girls' Aid, to care for war orphans and babies in Belgium and France, is beginning to bear fruit. Miss Hollingsworth, at her office, Pier 27, North River, asked The Tribune yesterday to acknowledge contributions amounting to \$151.45, of which \$142 was received from Miss L. Ward, Miss G. Parsons, Mrs. E. B. Mayo, Mrs. C. Hobbs, Mrs. E. H. Webster, Mrs. A. Hobart, Miss E. Matthews, Miss M. Stout, Miss L. S. Aiken, Mrs. C. H. Foster, Mrs. F. I. Emery, Mrs. G. A. Goddard, Miss L. Brooks, Mrs. F. C. Foster, Mrs. H. Crosby, Mrs. G. Anzer, Miss D. F. Debnay, Mrs. H. M. Seaver, Mrs. M. S. Gaston, Mrs. R. F. Pitman, Mrs. M. H. Richardson, Mrs. N. M. Safford, Miss Nabel Calton, Mrs. W. E. Ladd, the Misses King, G. S. Pitman, Miss G. M. Fuller, Mrs. R. A. Davidson, Mrs. A. M. Milliken, Mrs. A. C. Thier, G. H. Barron, Mrs. M. S. Eakin, Mrs. M. G. Jenkins, Mrs. C. C. Little, Mrs. W. C. Wendt, Mrs. A. G. Grant, Mrs. Bacher, Mrs. Perry, Mrs. K. H. Allen, Mrs. O. Howe, Mrs. M. S. Dexter, Miss E. Hoyt, Mrs. H. Law, Mrs. E. Macleod, Mrs. L. Lyle, Mrs. R. S. Baldwin, Mrs. J. Rogers, Miss C. H. Hills, Mrs. J. B. Fullerton.

Miss Helen Losanitch, of Serbia, will give an illustrated lecture on "Stricken Serbia" at the parish house of the Church of the Messiah, Park Avenue and Thirty-fourth Street, on Sunday night. Miss Losanitch, the daughter of a Serbian scientist, was active in Red Cross work from the beginning of the war, and came to this country with Mrs. Goodrich to acquaint Americans with the needs of Belgium.

The St. Paul committee of the Serbian Agricultural Relief Committee of America, forwarded yesterday \$400 to the committee headquarters, 70 Fifth Avenue, and with the New Haven committee's gift of \$228.80 and the Cornell Agricultural Association's contribution of \$111.25, has brought the total to \$740.05. The committee's total is now \$2,470.77.

The Polish Relief Fund, of which Frank A. Vanderlip is treasurer, has received \$773.50, bringing the total to \$2,757.75.

Mrs. F. A. Sorewell, of Wisconsin, M. P., yesterday sent \$100 to the Lusitanian fund of the Committee of Mercy. This, with other gifts ranging from \$50 to \$125, has brought the total to \$291.50. August Belmont, treasurer of the committee, also announced that \$155.19 has been received for the general fund, \$5 for the Belgian fund, \$18 for the Serbian fund and \$100 for the Polish fund. The total receipts to date are \$177,094.53.

The American Polish Relief Committee, Mrs. Marcella Sembrich, president, has received \$300 from Mr. and Mrs. Francis Lynde Steffen. The total is \$57,899.55.

James Douglas contributed yesterday \$250 to the Secours National fund for the relief of destitute women and children in France. The total is \$74,454.70.

Contributions of \$127 were received yesterday by the Lafayette fund, which now amounts to \$64,799.51.

The children of 1915 have started their work of helping the children. They are interesting themselves in the sale of seats for the performance of "Iphigenia in Tauris," to be given on Saturday at Piping Rock, Long Island, for the benefit of the Country Home for Convalescent Babies at Sea Cliff, Long Island. It is to be an all fresco performance, beginning at 4:30 o'clock and ending at sunset.

By contributions to Spencer Trask & Co., 25 Broad Street, amounting to \$71, the Persian War Relief Fund has been increased to \$31,211.22.

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TUBERCULAR HOMES PRODUCE GYMNASTS

One Hundred Tenement Children, Reclaimed by Health, Show Skill for Dimes.

One hundred tiny gymnasts, protégés of the Board of Health, gave an exhibition yesterday at the Chelsea Neighborhood Association's playground, Eighteenth Street and Tenth Avenue, and were rewarded for their skill with a bright, new, shining dime.

Mrs. Herman M. Biggs, who was there with her husband, Dr. Biggs, presented the dimes, but declared she couldn't remember who contributed them.

The distinguished thing about these little gymnasts was one that would never have been guessed from their appearance. They were all children from tubercular homes, and some had been ill with tuberculosis themselves. But the Chelsea Clinic, at 307 West Thirty-third Street, and the Harlem Thirtieth Clinic have taken them in hand and teachers from the Board of Health have worked a transformation.

The Chelsea Playground is a block of land lent to the Neighborhood Association by the gas company that owns it, and the association is very proud of it. It is a trifle dusty, but the one hundred gymnasts didn't mind that.

From a bench facing the field a number of women, including Mrs. Dren Root, Mrs. Walter Littlefield, Mrs. J. Sergeant Cram and Mrs. Cornelius Bliss, Jr., watched the evolutions of the children and judged which ones did the best. As Mrs. Van Ornum Glimm, their instructor, directed the exercises, she explained how they had been chosen with the view to overcoming tendency to lung disease.

The smallest child in the class was Millie Corcoran, aged four, whose family, living on 108th Street, had developed three cases of tuberculosis. The mother has been ailing for years, but babies arrive every year, affording a problem for the charity societies which are trying to help the family along.

Out-of-the-Ordinary Utensils



This little copper stock-pot is designed for family use, but is built on the same lines as the larger ones used in hotels and restaurants. It has a spigot which obviates the necessity of lifting it when it is full.

For roasting chestnuts and toasting marshmallows here are two excellent brass pans, the one in the sun pattern for marshmallows and the other for chestnuts or popcorn.

In the Shops

A curious lamp of the new popular Florentine pattern has a base of gold, marked dully with fruits. And the parchment shade is outlined as to its panels with hand-tooled leather, with festoons of fruit showing. This costs \$55.

One of the most charming of these, also of the Adams period, has painted on the parchment of the shade a very dainty design of scroll, urns, and flower and bow-knot, in French blue. The wooden stand is silver painted. Complete, this costs \$45.

The Woman's Page tomorrow will present interviews with Mr. Anthony Comstock and others who hold views opposite from those here quoted on the important matter of Birth Control Legislation.

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