

### A Woman's Ideas On Birth Control

Mrs. Donald Shaw Deals in Interesting Manner With This and Other Reform Measures.

By Mrs. Donald Shaw.  
A few years ago there lived in Ontario a gentleman well-known in political circles whose hobby it was to take the president's chair at missionary meetings. As the representative of a Toronto daily newspaper it happened that I frequently attended these meetings in order to report their events, and therefore heard the gentleman in question deliver his speech. Most of the remarks he made have vanished into oblivion, but one that he almost invariably brought in some where or other in the course of his address has always clung to me and I realize the truth of it more fully every day.

"The majority of people in this world," he used to say, "are so busy teaching the Almighty how He ought to manage the world that they will not give Him a chance to do anything in His way, but insist that it must be run in their own hands."

Scarcely a year passes that some new movement is not started which in the loudly vociferous opinion of its enthusiastic and often biased and short sighted advocates is going to entirely readjust the social conditions of the world and make it almost instantaneously. The movement finds favor at first with a few, and if it is sufficiently advertised and advocated eventually with the many, and in the end perhaps become concrete law. In a little while people wake up to find that after all no great and transcendental change has taken place, and that the world is still joggling along and adding its daily and weekly quota to the list of sins and crimes and sorrows with which the pages of its history are inscribed since the days of Adam.

There was, for instance, the Women's Suffrage campaign. We were assured that once let the women get a recognized voice in the management of the nation and there would be an end of labor unrest and social evil.

The power of women is now frankly and freely recognized, yet the strikes continue without intermission, and prostitution is still rampant in all civilized countries, while never for many centuries has there been such a flagrant disregard of the moral laws, and never have women so outraged all the canons of decency and modesty in dress and dancing as at the present day, never have the theatres been so blatantly and pagantly immoral—never has literature or what passes for such, been so broad, permissive or so entirely lacking in the promulgation of the higher ideals.

Then we were told, and are still being assured in the face of statistics that prove the exact contrary, that if once we could have prohibition of intoxicating liquors the millennium would arrive—there would be no more disease and no more sin. We have prohibition and disease and sin stalk un-

abashed in our midst and flag their wings defiantly in the faces of those who shriek that they are being crushed out and exterminated. While crime, especially juvenile crime, is assuming appalling proportions.

Now come the advocates of organized birth control and legalized limitation of families and say "only make this legitimate and recognized and the world will be readjusted—there will be nation upon nation of healthy people, all happy—and all superlatively, supremely and absolutely selfish and self-satisfied, they might add but do not."

If it were not for the fact that these violent movements are merely the froth on the surface of evolution the world would speedily develop into one vast lunatic asylum—were it not that underneath it all, deep down and scarcely noticeable from the top the real leaven of balance is working, always working slowly but surely, for the ultimate betterment of the world. We should all be whirled into space in the mad scramble to attain perfection by artificial and unnatural means.

Apart, therefore, from any actual moral or religious considerations as to the right and wrong of authorized control of families, it is well to consider calmly the actual facts connected with history and see if such a scheme of legalized restriction of childbirth is likely to benefit such countries as Great Britain, the United States and Canada. Germany had no birth control—hence her power in the recent war, and Germany is certainly not contemplating birth control now in spite of her impoverished condition. France led the world in the restriction of families, and France paid dearly for it in her shortage of men when her chance came to reclaim her lost provinces. Holland is pointed to as a model of a nation that has not done anything to restrict her population, but one has first to see whether Holland is a developing nation or a stagnant one before one asserts the fact that Holland is gaining anything nationally by this method. What is the position of Holland today among the nations as compared with her position in the days when she poured her colonists into the state of New York?

We are told that the limitation of families among the poorer classes will bring us better citizens and healthier ones—could we not instead improve the housing conditions of these people, improve their environment, educate and assist them by other means, and so retain these citizens who are badly wanted to carry on the detail work of the world?

What does the limitation of families amongst the lesured and wealthy classes do towards improving the moral and social welfare of the world? Apparently not much if one is to judge from the list of cases down for hearing at all the divorce courts, or studies the annals of venereal disease. One instance in my own experience comes prominently before me now—during the war I spent a few weeks with three women, all wives of officers in the Canadian army, none of these women—who were all young, all well endowed with this world's goods, whose husbands were all good, all moral, all well-to-do, all young and physically sound—had any children although all of them had been married several years. Of these three women,

one has been through the divorce court, one is separated from her husband, and one is frankly unhappy and dissatisfied. In all of these cases I know that the childlessness was caused by unnatural means. As an opposite instance to this, another case occurs to me of some relatives of my own, who have brought up five children under the most straitened and difficult circumstances, living penurious lives under cramped conditions. Of these five children, two sons served throughout the war and won distinction, one is married and has two flourishing children, their daughter has been in government employ since women first responded to the nation's call for help, another son is launched into the world, and another is just finishing his school days. Now, had these two been of the "practical and sensible type" of "birth controllers," they would have limited their offspring to at the most one or two and lived in comparative comfort, but would they have done as much for the world as they have done by their self-sacrifice and devotion? That is the point—it is not the good of the individual but the good of the nation that we have to consider in questions of natural import.

The fact is that in all the reforms of today their advocates begin at the top instead of at the bottom; they try to produce by drastic and sweeping methods what can only be done by slow and laborious ones. The only legitimate method of birth control is by self-control—the very, very last method which any reformer ever thinks of advocating. They want to achieve by law and artificial means what should only be accomplished by individual and natural means.

Everything nowadays that cannot be done at once by persuasion must be done by legislation—in seeking to exterminate sin and disease and sorrow impatient reformers want to make it easy for sin to continue, but the consequences of sin to be eliminated, just as some people want to teach children to read or to play the piano without causing them any mental or physical fatigue. We must have a pure world, a healthy world, a happy and a good world, but we must not ask people to put themselves individually to any trouble or discomfort or deprivation in order to attain it. We must deprive a man of alcoholic beverages because he might make a fool of himself if he were allowed to get them, but we may let him kill himself and half a dozen others by drinking poison instead, or sending himself some insane with drugs—we may compel people not to bring more children into the world than they can afford to bring up, but we must not expect them to accomplish this by any method of self-discipline or self-control.

Frankly the whole principle of moral reform, as it appears on the surface today is to let human passions run riot, but to protect human beings from the consequences of their self-indulgence by artificial means—instead of by slow, painful, improbable almost invisible methods of gradual and universal upraising of humanity by insinuating into the masses the necessity of observing the laws handed down to us through the ages since Moses brought the tables of stone to the Israelites—and at the same time improve the housing conditions and the educational methods and facilities—extending the education into the homes of the children and carrying it

### For all who are suffering from Ulsteritis, there's relief in these New Spring Top Coats

"Ulsteritis" is characterized by a feeling of excessive weight across the shoulders, accompanied by lassitude and general discomfort with a proneness to take cold. It is caused by wearing a winter Ulster too far into the Spring, and the only known sure preventative and cure is a snappy Topcoat such as you can get here.

It's a wonderful stock you'll find here too. Standard cloths and novelties. The fashionable models. Price range \$20. to \$70.

Gilmour's, 68 King St.

### DIED.

GREEN—Died in Winnipeg on the 5th inst. Nathan Louis Green, aged 36 years, son of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Green, of this city. Funeral in Winnipeg.

CLAYTON—At Los Angeles, California, on March 6th, Hazel Audrey Clayton, wife of E. J. Clayton, formerly of Portland, Maine, leaving her husband, father, brother and two sisters to mourn.

FOOHEY—In this city on the 8th inst. Ellen, widow of David Foohey, leaving three sons to mourn. Notice of funeral in evening papers.

A. MCKIM, LIMITED, ADVERTISING AGENCY OPENS ANOTHER OFFICE

B. B. Stewart to Take Charge in Hamilton.

A. McKim Limited, with offices in Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg and London, England, has added a fifth office at Hamilton, Ont.

Mr. B. B. Stewart, who will be in charge at the new premises in the Home Bank Building on James St., North Hamilton, has been connected with A. McKim Ltd., at Toronto, for the last eight years.

A. McKim Limited was the first advertising agency in Canada, has always been the biggest, and today renders the most complete advertising service in the British Empire.

### OBITUARY.

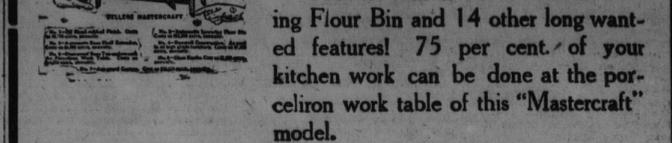
The death occurred at an early hour this morning at her home, 24 Pond street, of Mrs. Ellen, widow of David Foohey, leaving three sons to mourn. The sons are, Joseph and David, of St. John, and Dennis J. of Norton, Kings county. The notice of funeral will be announced later.

beyond the pages of arithmetics and grammars into the ethics and morals which alone produce real national health and prosperity.

## The Cabinet That Women Have Always Wanted

THE first complete service cabinet ever designed! Big, commodious, convenient! Beautiful as a piece of parlor furniture.

Has the famous Automatic Lowering Flour Bin and 14 other long wanted features! 75 per cent. of your kitchen work can be done at the porcelain work table of this "Mastercraft" model.



## SELLERS KITCHEN CABINET

"The Patrician of the Kitchen"

Here is real time saving, food saving and kitchen joy. The "Mastercraft" Model Sellers is the champion of kitchen efficiency. Organizes your kitchen work like a modern business office. The most advanced type on the market. Years ahead of all the others. Saves every needless move—every wasted moment.

Has room for 300 to 400 articles—all conveniently arranged. Holds everything you need. No overflow for the pantry. Has the famous Automatic Lowering Flour Bin, the Automatic Base Shelf Extender, the patented ant-proof casters—clear white sanitary Porcelain Work Table—and a dozen other long wanted features. Come and see the "Mastercraft" model today. Let us show you how you can cut an hour from your daily kitchen work and have it for recreation.

J. MARCUS - 30-36 Dock St.

MEMORIAL HOSPITAL  
Tenders for the construction of the Memorial Hospital closed Wednesday at the office of Alexander McLennan, Campbellton. The hospital is to be erected in the town of Campbellton. Several St. John firms, including John Flood and Son, B. Cernia, Mooney and Sons Ltd., and J. A. Grant and Co., have tendered for the job as well as some Montreal concerns.

# WAR HAS BEEN DECLARED ON HIGH PRICES!

## THE SEMI-READY REMOVAL SALE STARTS TODAY

and continues until our \$50,000 Clothing Stock is completely sold out

### EVERY GARMENT REDUCED

including our large stock of Winter Overcoats and Ulsters

## A GOOD BUY FOR NEXT WINTER

Remember the place and follow the crowd

# The Semi-ready Store - Cor. King and Germain Sts.

GEO. T. CREARY

## MERSEREAU OF SUNBURY HARD HITTER

Declared That Prohibition Was Cause of More Corruption Than All the Liquor

SINCE CONFEDERATION

Messrs. Smith (Albert) and Dickson Also Made Some Very Timely Remarks on Provincial Matters Generally

(Continued from Page 1.)  
Special to Standard.  
Assembly Chamber, Fredericton, N. B., April 1.—The House met at 3 o'clock.

Mr. Brebill presented the report of the Committee on Congratulatory Notices of enquiry were given as follows:

By Mr. Hunter: As to the cost of the South Brook Bridge in the Parish of Prince William, York County, and other particulars; also as to the amount expended on O'Brien Brook Bridge in the same Parish; also as to the name of the road Supervisor in Division No. 1, Parish of Mansers-Sutton, York County.

Mr. Crockett introduced bills to amend the Fredericton Election Act of 1914, and the assessment Act of 1917.

Mr. Tilley introduced a Bill to determine the valuation for assessment purposes of the Portland Rolling Mills Ltd.

Mr. Magee introduced Bills to authorize a fixed assessment for the town of Sackville; to repeal an Act relating to said town and to authorize it to borrow money for certain purposes.

Mr. Foster introduced a Bill to amend the Act relating to the right of soldiers to vote in Municipal Elections. He pointed out that the primaries for the St. John elections would take place on Monday next and with the unanimous consent of the House had the Bill read a second time.

Mr. Campbell introduced to incorporate the New Brunswick Branch of the International Order of Kings Daughters and Sons relating to a certain trust.

Mr. McGrath introduced a Bill relating to the town of Newcastle. The Budget debate was continued by Hon. E. A. Smith, Minister of Lands and Mines. Mr. Smith's speech will appear in our issue tomorrow.

The Hon. Minister was followed by Mr. Smith of Albert, who said his remarks would be brief and pointed, for he believed the people of the province wanted members of the Legislature to devote more time to business and less to talk. He congratulated the Hon. Minister of Lands and Mines upon making one of the best speeches made in a house of any department.

Mr. Smith's remarks were pointed, for he believed the people of the province wanted members of the Legislature to devote more time to business and less to talk. He congratulated the Hon. Minister of Lands and Mines upon making one of the best speeches made in a house of any department.

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