

They told all at . . .

MUS panel discussion

By MARY ELLEN BOYD

Tuesday night the topic was birth control.

The birth control panel was held in SUB theatre and was sponsored by the Medical Undergraduate Society.

The program featured a film on the contemporary birth control methods, a lecture on the history of birth control, and a panel discussion.

The panel included Dr. Philbrook, representing the Ortho Pharmaceutical Association, Dr. W. D. Frew, a practising obstetrician and gynecologist, Pastor K. Kuhn, the U of A Lutheran chaplain, and Dr. H. M. Bacon, a psychiatrist.

"There are so many old wives tales," said Dr. Frew. "I'm always amazed by the ignorance displayed

by young people. They know little about sexual matters, contraception and just how easy it is to get pregnant."

"There is the problem of getting the pill," said Dr. Bacon. "Many girls find it hard to face the doctor. The girl feels this implies premarital relations and she fears the criticism of the doctor."

"Teenager use the 'coitus interruptus' or withdrawal method most frequently," said Dr. Frew.

He said he was surprised. "It seems to be standard knowledge (among teenagers) that if the male does not ejaculate within the vagina, the girl will not get pregnant."

"Sexuality is a good thing," said Pastor Kuhn, "Sexuality is, at its root and it its beginning, part of the creative order. Our sexuality is distorted when it is not tempered by a respect for persons. Like all gifts from God, our sexuality is to be used responsibly."

Contemporary birth control methods outlined were the diaphragm, interuterine devices, spermicides, including foams, creams and jellies and oral contraception—the pill.

Other "sure-fire" methods in the folklore line were:

"A bride-to-be will free herself of one year of pregnancy for each finger she sits upon on the way to the bridal chamber."

"A woman will prevent contraception if she walks three times around the spot where a pregnant wolf has urinated."

"If a woman lies face down between railroad ties when a train passes over—she will be sterile. If she lies face up between the railroad ties she will be fertile."

"Jump backward 79 times after coitus and call out loudly."

Dr. Philbrook said, "The evolution of birth control methods is not complete. Oral contraception for males, the 'morning after pill', and immunological approaches are being studied."

Mensa membership aids the highly intelligent

Is your I.Q. above the ninety-eighth percentile?

This is the only requirement for membership in Mensa.

Mensa is an international society whose primary function is research in psychology and the social sciences. As well as investigating all aspects of high intelligence itself, the society provides volunteers for outside researchers.

The society originated in Britain in 1945. The groups throughout the world are associated through national and international membership.

IT MEANS TABLE

Mensa is the Latin word for table. It is a round table society where all members are equal. Social contact is maintained by discussion meetings and newsletters and is no lessor a goal than its others.

A year ago a new purpose was added—the fostering of education for the highly intelligent. It began when an Italian priest brought to the attention of British Mensa a school he had founded in Sicily for gifted children.

The school, Villagio de Superdotato, is an international institution emphasizing language instruction and a world-wide outlook. Mensa has sent teachers to the school and is establishing a foundation to support similar projects.

FREE SCHOOLS

"We are very interested in free schools where children work at their own pace. I don't say we propagate it but we are studying it," said Mr. Jake van Loon, an Edmonton architectural consultant and past editor of both the Edmonton area and national Mensa magazines.

Mensa Montreal is conducting a study in Quebec regarding the

possibility of establishing a Mensa university he said.

Mensa membership is very diversified," said Mr. van Loon, "We have housewives, doctors, school children and even a couple of hippies."

STUDENTS, FACULTY

There are approximately 15,000 Mensa members in the world; 600 of these live in Canada and about 35 in Edmonton. Only five U of A students and one faculty member belong to Mensa, said Mr. van Loon.

The main reason for the small student membership is lack of knowledge about Mensa, he said. At least one in 25 university students should be eligible.

"Mensa has a high turnover rate," he said. "Many people join Mensa expecting a lot more than ordinary people discussing subjects a little more elevated than the weather. Some are disappointed because membership doesn't further their position in society or business."

The British Mensa journal "Intelligence" says, "There are rumours that Mensa is a vast experiment to see what happens when below normal people are told that they are intelligent."

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Cameron has fewer jobs

There are fewer jobs this year for students looking for part time work since the budget reduction to Cameron library.

Mrs. S. Curtis, the personnel officer at the Cameron library, agreed the budget reduction was the major cause for the reduction of part time staff.

She said, "Time tabling difficulties for students was one contributing factor in reducing staff."

"Exam schedules would cause many students to have difficulty in fitting in their hours at the library," she said.

"Although there are no more openings for part-time student staff this year this does not mean that assistance has not been provided."



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