

Tremendous Change Note In Birth Control Attitude

Washington - The tremendous change that has taken place over the past four decades in the climate of opinion on birth control has been demonstrated this year in the nation's largest city. When Margaret Sanger opened the first birth control clinic in New York in 1916, no qualified physician would assist, the clergy kept silent, and in due course the clinic was closed and Mrs. Sanger sent to jail. But when the city's Commissioner of Hospitals refused last July to allow a doctor in a municipal hospital to fit a diabetic patient with a contraceptive device, a storm of protest was raised by medical, welfare, and educational leaders and by spokesmen for almost all religious faiths except the Roman Catholic.

The Board of Hospitals yielded after the agitation had gone on for two months. A resolution adopted Sept. 17 directed municipal hospitals to provide "medical advice, preventive measures and devices for female patients under their care whose life and health in the opinion of the medical staff may be jeopardized by pregnancy and who wish to avail themselves of such health services." A few weeks later New York City's Commissioner of Welfare authorized referral of relief clients to municipal hospitals for contraceptive advice.

Birth control advocates have long fought for acceptance of the principle that contraceptive therapy has a proper place in a tax-supported medical service. Sanctioning of such therapy in the public hospitals of the country's chief metropolis is expected to set an example for many other communities.

Circulation of birth control information and devices was put under statutory ban in 1873 by the federal Comstock Act and subsequently in the states by "little Comstock laws." The Comstock acts were general anti-obscenity laws, and most of them have remained on the statute books without change. What has changed is the tendency to treat birth control as akin to obscenity. Increasingly liberal court interpretations have had the effect in most jurisdictions of freeing private

medical practice from legal restrictions on contraceptive medicine.

A decision in 1936 by Judge Augustus N. Hand of the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals put an end to federal prosecutions. Judge Hand concluded that the Comstock Act was not intended to prohibit importation of, or bar the mails to, "things which might intelligently be employed by conscientious and competent physicians for the purpose of saving life or promoting the well-being of their patients." Similar broad interpretations have been given to the prohibitions in most state laws.

As a result, birth control clinics now can be operated without interference except in Connecticut and Massachusetts. In practice, moreover, doctors provide contraceptive services to private patients, and contraceptive devices are purchasable in drug stores, without regard to specific conditions which might make pregnancy dangerous.

Not merely tolerance but, on the contrary, official encouragement of birth control has become common in foreign countries whose living standards are held down or threatened by rapid population growth. India, Japan and Red China are among the heavily populated nations which have made strenuous efforts, with varying degrees of success, to promote practice of birth control among their people. Puerto Rico has had such a program since 1938.

Religious attitudes, notably the opposition of the Roman Catholic church, cultural traditions among certain peoples, and ignorance in the case of illiterate masses are all practical obstacles to acceptance of birth control. The greatest obstacle, however, has been lack of a reliable, easily used, and inexpensive contraceptive method. The Planned Parenthood Federation of America has spent \$400,000 since 1948 on research in this field. A recently developed contraceptive pill has attracted wide attention. Whether or not it will meet all needs, most medical researchers are convinced that the kind of contraceptive they are seeking will be at hand within a few years.

CALENDAR..

Calendar notices and news for the society section of The Mail Tribune must be submitted in writing and deadline for the Sunday edition is 1 p.m. Friday. Deadline for the weekly calendar is 9 a.m. of the day of publication and for week days is 3 p.m. the day before publication.

Monday:
12:30 p.m. — Adare Past Matrons club, home of Mrs. Clinton Spencer, 2001 East Main st.
1:30 p.m. — Jackson County Retired Teachers association, Girls Community club, 229 North Bartlett st., Medford.
7 p.m. — Couples club, Phoenix First Presbyterian church, at church.
7:30 p.m. — Women's Volleyball club, YMCA.
8 p.m. — Alpha Lambda chapter, Epsilon Sigma Alpha sorority, home of Mrs. W. H. Fischer, 910 Winchester ave.
8 p.m. — Degree of Honor lodge, Girls Community club.
8 p.m. — Neighbors of Woodcraft, Medford, Eagle hall.
8 p.m. — Scottish Rite Women's club, Medford Masonic temple.
Tuesday:
12:30 p.m. — American Legion auxiliary, Rogue Valley Country club.
12:30 p.m. — Women's Association circles, First Presbyterian church, Bethany, with Mrs. Hugh Collins, 40 Glen Oak court, Charity, with Mrs. J. A. Cunningham, 119 Highland dr.; Faith, at church; Grace, with Mrs. Allen R. Smith, 102 Black Oak dr.; Hope, with Mrs. Harold Gregory, 609 Catherine ave.; Mercy, with Mrs. Richard Alley, 124 Greenway circle; Trinity, with Mrs. Bud Hoover, 6980 Crater Lake highway.
7:30 p.m. — Women's Association circles, First Presbyterian church, Candlelight, with Mrs. Walter Roemer, route 1, box 358A; and Vesper, with Mrs. R. J. Cunningham, 24 North Groveland ave.
8 p.m. — Nevita chapter, Order of Eastern Star, Masonic temple, Central Point.
8 p.m. — Oregon Nurses Association, District 4, Sacred Heart hospital.
8 p.m. — Pythian club, home of Mrs. J. B. Cochran, 63 Bush st., Ashland.
Wednesday:
10-12 noon — Kiwanian Dames coffee, home of Mrs. Lawrence W. Buonocore, 433 West 8th st.
10:30 a.m. — Medford Home Extension unit, courthouse auditorium.
11 a.m. — Medford Town-ship club, Carpenters hall, 123½ West Main st.
12:30 p.m. — Chapter AA of PEO Sisterhood, home of Mrs. Robert J. Cunningham, 24 North Groveland ave.
12:30 p.m. — Jackson County Cow Belle association, Rogue Valley Country club.
12:30 p.m. — Women of Rotary, home of Mrs. Dagny Jorgensen, 1913 Hillcrest rd.
12:30 p.m. — Women's Association circle First Presbyterian church, Temple, with Mrs. Eugene Orr, Old Military rd.
1 p.m. — American Association of University Women's Book Review group, home of Mrs. Walter Roemer, route 4, box 358A, Medford.
1:30 p.m. — Rogue Valley Hospital auxiliary, board and staff room.
7 p.m. — Eagle Point Elementary school open house, school auditorium.
7 p.m. — Jackson County Medical auxiliary, with Mrs. Edwin Durno, 2512 East Main st.
7:30 p.m. — Roxy Ann Gem and Mineral club, Delmar Smith's museum, Central Point.
7:45 p.m. — Medford Toast-mistress club, Girls Community club.
Thursday:
10 a.m. — Congregational Women's fellowship study group, parsonage.
10:30 a.m. — Derby Home Extension unit, home of Mrs. Truman Collins.
10:30 a.m. — Howard Home Extension unit, home of Mrs. J. S. Lydiard, 2390 Crater Lake highway.
10:30 a.m. — Oak Grove Home Extension unit, with Mrs. Henry Zacharisen, 725 South Keeneway dr.
12 noon — Congregational Women's fellowship meeting, Pilgrim house.
12:30 p.m. — Crater Lake Auxiliary, Veterans Foreign Wars, with Mrs. Lewis Kula, Coker Butte rd.
8 p.m. — Reames chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, Medford Masonic temple.
Friday:
1:30 p.m. — Past Presidents of the Ladies auxiliary to

Roxy Ann Club To Hold Meeting In Central Point

Roxy Ann Gem and Mineral club will meet Wednesday, November 12 at 7:30 p.m. at Delmar Smith's museum, Central Point.

Birthstone of the month is topaz, and members are to bring specimens.
Program for the October meeting was slides shown by Monte Kounz, science instructor. An interesting article on opals was read by Mrs. Treavor Turpin.
Mr. and Mrs. Turpin's display of Indian artifacts at the U.S. National Bank will be replaced by specimens from the collection of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Emmerson.
Visitors are welcome to attend club meetings.

Crater Lake Aerie, Fraternal Order of Eagles, with Mrs. Charles Stelle, 525 Pearl st.
8 p.m. — Pocahontas lodge, Westonska council, Redman hall, Apple st.
Saturday:
4:30 p.m. — Epsilon chapter, Delta Kappa Gamma, Medford hotel.

Group Observes National Week

Cave Junction-In keeping with National Art week, Illinois Valley Federated Women's club arranged displays of artwork in three shop windows.

In the windows of Champion's Variety store ceramics, oil paintings, copper work and hand hooked rugs are displayed. On exhibition at the Illinois Valley Hardware and Treherne's Department stores can be seen examples of driftwood burl, pen and ink sketches, tooled leather belts and handbags, fancy shell work and a plaque of mounted wild seeds.

The articles were contributed by Mesdames A. E. Sandell, Lewis Krauss Jr., Frank Knight, George Thrasher, Raymond Heidenreich, Fred Salvage, Robert Bottel, E. J. Wilber, Earl Boyd, Charles Lemmon, Floyd Wells, Amy Conger and Maybelle Hinkie.
Vary the flavor of cooked carrots by adding sage, fresh mint, marjoram, rosemary or basil.

Book Group

Book Review group, American Association of University Women, will meet at the home of Mrs. Walter Roemer, route 4, box 358A, Medford, Wednesday, November 12, at 1 p.m.
Mrs. D. P. Phillips will review the book "The Time of the Dragons," by Alice Ekert-Rotholz. Mrs. Enid Rankin will be co-hostess.

Chapter AA To Hold Meeting Wednesday

Mrs. Robert J. Cunningham, 24 North Groveland avenue, will be hostess to Chapter AA of PEO Sisterhood Wednesday, November 12, at 12:30 p.m. Assisting her will be Mrs. C. I. Drummond and Mrs. G. R. Ringo.

Mrs. C. C. Furnas will present the program on constitution and by-laws.

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