



Effective Birth Control Achieved With Use of Pill

Washington—(Science Service)—A pill to help control the population boom—one of the world's biggest problems—has been successfully tested.

Some 830 women in Puerto Rico and Haiti took part in the testing of the pill, an oral contraceptive that inhibits ovulation. No harmful effects on general health, the reproductive tract, fertility or sex life were reported.

There was 96 per cent reduction in the pre-treatment rate of pregnancies, a team of researchers reports here in the journal Science.

"Side reactions" such as nausea, headache, dizziness and vomiting similar to those found in early pregnancy were reported by some of the women. While these reactions accounted for about 30 per cent of those who withdrew from the program, the researchers say a "sugar pill" or an anti-acid will relieve up to 90 per cent of the symptoms.

There was a close relationship between the number of daily pills missed and the 16 certain and one probable pregnancies reported. Five women became pregnant after missing one to five pills; 11 became pregnant with six to 19 pills missed.

"It is clear that if the regular use of the pill is maintained, the number of pregnancies can be reduced to a very low level," the researchers conclude.

There is some evidence, of steroid-a tablet containing practically 100 per cent contraception occurs," the scientists is followed faithfully they say, that the daily dose of 10 milligrams of norethynodrel plus 0.15 milligrams of ethinyl estradiol 3-methyl ether—may be reduced. No conceptions occurred when the dosage was halved. The pill is taken from the fifth through the 24th day of the menstrual cycle.

No impairment of fertility followed long-term use of the pill compared with short term users. The pill has been studied for more than 18 months.

Several factors influence acceptability of this method of birth control, the researchers explain. The woman's motivation and economic situation are important influences, among others. For example the fewest withdrawals, less than one per cent, were found in a stable group of very poor women—no moving to other places and no improvement in economic conditions.

Chivalry Form of Male Domination

Cleveland, Ohio—(UPI)—Chances are that a man who takes his hat off when a woman enters an elevator really regards women as inferior.

That is the report of two psychologists who investigated the theory that chivalry usually is a subtle form of male domination.

Dr. Eugene B. Nadler, assistant professor of Engineering Administration at Case Institute of Technology here, and Dr. William R. Morrow, of the Fulton, Mo., State hospital, surveyed the attitudes of several groups of male college students by means of questionnaires.

One questionnaire asked the students to agree or disagree with statements that women are inferior and should be dominated. The second questionnaire concerned chivalry, asking such questions as whether "a gentleman should allow the lady to pay the check, buy the tickets, or pay the taxi."

Nadler and Morrow said the results showed in general that men who agreed that women are inferior also tended to favor such gestures as taking off one's hat in an elevator.

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Small Worlds Around Us
By Lynn M. Watkins

Owl Gets Lot of Abuse But He's 'Better Mousetrap'

The owl has some interesting characteristics. When angry he will hiss like escaping steam from a jet. At the same time he will click his bill.

When closely approached the bird's head follows a circling disturber by turning the head. The owl has its eye-balls firmly locked in the sockets. In order to look in any desired direction the bird must turn its entire head.

All owls have a retiring nature, they prefer to hunt their prey in the half-light. They have sober dispositions, never indulging in hilarity or spontaneous joy. They all have the conservative mien of a judge with serious problems on his mind.

Has Few Friends
The owl has but few friends. Among the birds every feather is turned against him, because he has been known to eat baby birds.

Most Profane
But regardless of his own soiled reputation, the crow is the most profane of them all.

Now every other species of bird instinctively believes the owl is an enemy and they never let him forget it for a minute. Once they locate an owl they never give him a minute's peace, until he flies away in absolute disgust. Wherever he flies, they once again locate his hiding place and the noisy process of ridicule and vocal invective will be repeated.

If he were only half as wise as he is reported to be, he would figure some easier or better way of hiding during the daylight hours instead of stupidly sitting where every jay-bird or crow can locate him. Talk about the "pot calling the kettle black" or "keeping one's own doorstep clean," the crows, as well as the bluejays, should be the last to heap insults or cast reflections on anyone else. Their reputations are far from spotless.

The Library of Congress has passed the 10 million mark in books.

Sometimes, neither men nor crow can see a true reflection of themselves when they look into the mirror of their own conscience. Perhaps a conscience can become calloused or clouded over as easily as anything else if it is not "cleansed" once in a while.

The owl's background is not spotless, of course, but the bird more than pays his way by the number of rats and mice he eats. Mice are a favorite food; another good reason why owls like to nest in barns. Owls can see in the daytime but inasmuch as the mice have made it a practice to run at night, the owl has willingly adjusted his schedule to coincide with them.

One of our proverbs has been put in actual practice by all the owls. It applies equally well to mice. Even though the owl may not be as wise as he looks, he knows that "the time to hunt bears is when bears are around." It certainly applies to mice too. Practicing this proverb, the owl keeps his stomach full. As a mousetrap he has no equal.

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