

University of Notre Dame
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Judas Iscariot Up To Date.

A society that grandly calls itself the American Woman's Association is to give an annual medal in New York City to some woman who has attained "distinction in the arts, science, business or profession." The first award has just been made to Mrs. Margaret Sanger, founder of the Birth Control League. Miss Anne Horagn announced the award and among the speakers at the dinner were Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt and Princess Alexandra Kropotkin. A reporter says: "Persons attending the dinner remarked that it was a long way from the days when Mrs. Sanger was sentenced to thirty days in jail for daring to supper her cause."

The award reminds us of the statue of Judas Iscariot, which the Soviets are said to have erected in Russia a few years ago.

Louis Israel Dublin, Yale lecturer and nationally famous life insurance statistician, says that the well-known "vanishing American" is not the Indian, but the white man. Commenting on the statistics gathered by Dr. Dublin and published in The Forum, The Globe-Democrat of St. Louis declares in an editorial:

The fact of a small birth rate of our native population is nothing new. It has been deplored and warned against for many years, but because of the excessive alien birth the total births remained so large that such warnings fell on deaf ears. They may still do so, but the fact itself is now more easily discernible. Yet, why should we be alarmed? We have all the population now we need or should desire. From now on we should strive for quality instead of quantity. We shall get it automatically, in the higher average of parenthood the closing of the immigration door assures. We need intense cultivation of our children and youth rather than increase in their numbers. If we do not have so many we should be able to bring to a higher level the average of those we have, and it is that higher level which should be our cultural goal. If we are to lead the world in social and political ethics and in paths of peace, we need self-cultivation far more than we need more people.

Sophistry of this sort may be gratifying to the editorial writer, but generations of the future will not thank him for it. Our birth rate is so low that a serious drop in population is ahead. When people produce more than they can use themselves, they must have markets in which to sell their products. We cannot sell to the lower animals or to the stars; we must have other people. We cannot get them by birth control. Likewise it is a fallacy to contend that it is possible to get quality without quantity. All sorts of attempts have been made in history to produce the "superman" class, but they have been dismal failures except where the way was open for the commoner to arise and give new blood to the aristocrats. The failure of the aristocracy of Europe, in existence for centuries, to produce more than its ordinary proportion of philosophers or other scholars is sufficient proof that those who think birth control is an open avenue to higher culture are as ridiculous as the dyed-in-the-wool Socialist who thinks that all morality is based on "economic determination."

It would be easy to go on multiplying arguments against birth prevention by contraceptives; but after all the great argument is this -- the practice is immoral, inasmuch as it deliberately frustrates a natural purpose. -- The Register, Denver, Colo.

Novena To The Immaculate Conception.

Starts Sunday. Offer it for the grace of purity and for the poor. Receive Holy Communion and say the Litany of the Blessed Virgin every day.