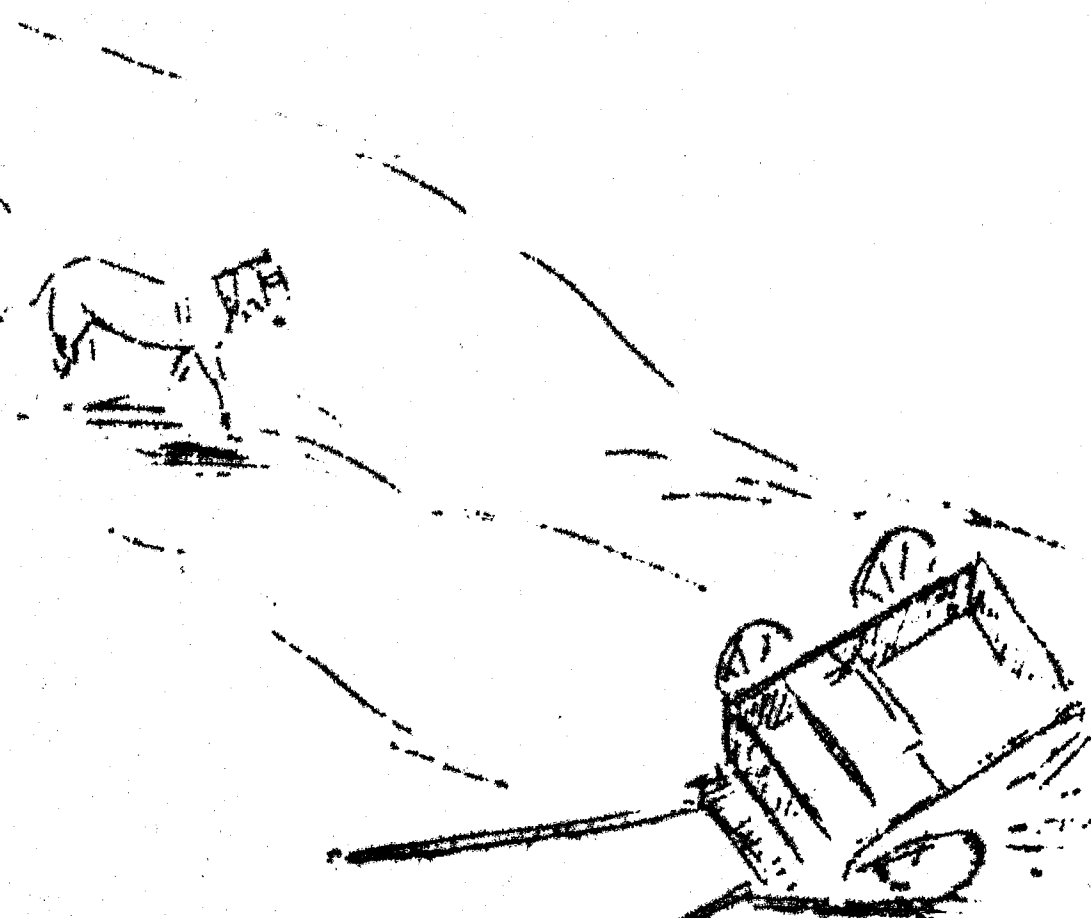

The Inevitable Crack-up Of Society.

In Washington the other day, a Chicago doctor told a subcommittee of senators something about the decline in births. Since 1925 they have fallen off almost a third-- from 3,000,000 to 2,000,000 births a year. Both the doctor and the United States Government are quite concerned. In no "smarty cat" attitude, the conservative Catholic Church, which has stood firm almost alone against the evil of birth-prevention, observes regretfully: "I told you so."

If this decline is allowed to continue, the crack-up of American society is inevitable. *** This doctor says: "This decreasing birth rate must have a profound influence on our social and economic structures." Now, there is something definite to be noted about that statement of his. He places the cart before the horse. The animal pushes instead of pulls. The cart runs wild, downhill. It is wrecked.



Who cannot see that this is the truth? that it was the other way around first? that "our social and economic structures" have been the upsetting figure in "this decreasing birth rate?" *** Nominate other causes, if you will: selfishness, lust, the dictates of materialism, the demands of perhaps well-intentioned but certainly Godless humanitarians. Admittedly these have all had their share in preventing births.

But credit millions of "prevented births," so to call them, millions of bodies and souls that might have been happy in this life, millions of saints that might have rejoiced for eternity in the presence of God-- credit these to the artificially hemmed-in lives of young married Americans, who are packed into urban apartments and robbed both of cradles and homes, whose hopes and ideals for true family life have been unnaturally and inhumanly smothered and crushed by "our social and economic structures." These facts are no excuse to offend God but how sorely they tempt the weak!

Don't say they don't want children. Only the few are that selfish. Don't say the majority are itching with insatiable lust. The daily headlines set that colony apart. Don't say most are materialistic disbelievers in God. Their consciences secretly bite. Don't blame it all on the self-styled "humanitarian birth-controllers."

It's our rotten "social and economic structures." It's the tie-up of money and this world's goods, the refusal of those-who-have to pay living and family wages. It's the cut-throated-ness of "respectable" men, the glumness and ignorance of down-and-outers. Communists, as well as Catholics, see this. But Communists-- some by no fault of their own-- don't see straight. They strip man of spiritual dignity. No means are foul if they lead toward the end desired. Of course change "our social and economic structures." But-- by force, intrigue, calumny, birth-control and abortion.

You are called to be the leaven in the mass; to make these changes; but-- only by means that are fair. No frustration of nature. No interference with God's plan. Tilling the soil. Paying just wages. Sponsoring maternity guilds. Sacrificing. Loving one another. Leading human lives, noble lives, heroic lives. Think these things out-- especially your part. Decide and do!

PRAYERS: (deceased) Arthur Meyer (auto accident); friend of Ray Sadlier (Dil.); friend of Jack Smith (Nolia); Mr. Meyers; Rev. W.V. Roche, uncle of Vince Hartnett (Al.).