



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

## FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

LAVINIA L. DOCK, R.N., DEPARTMENT EDITOR  
*Fayetteville, Pa.*

### ENGLISH NEWS

The *British Journal of Nursing* for March 19 tells of the opening of a "Mothers' Clinic for Birth Control" in London. It is to be supported financially by private persons, who are known as scientists and altruists as well. Thus, a demonstration and object lesson will be given which is as yet forbidden by law in this land of the free in which we live on this side of the water. Our man-made laws class such knowledge as "obscene," whereas the Mothers' Clinic founders are animated by:

reverence not only for the fruitful mother as such, but for her spirit as the creator of our race; reverence for the wife, who is the center of the united love and tenderness in the home; reverence for the child, that it shall not be allowed to come unwanted and unloved to play a miserable part amongst us; reverence for the race, that it shall be represented on this earth by the most perfect and God-like individuals that it is in our power to call forth in His image.

This clinic stands for all these reverences, and maintains that they can only be obtained by knowledge. It is only fair to say that our post office regulations, covering so-called "obscene" matter, were originally designed for good purposes, and have had the effect of keeping out of the mails much objectionable matter such as circulates abroad. However, these regulations and the ignorance of legislatures must not extend to prohibit the teaching of natural facts. Women must help to overcome this ignorance.

We feel a lively sympathy with the "Professional Union of Trained Nurses" of England (the union that is affiliated with the Labor Party) for it is quite evident that this youngest organized group is now drawing the fire and meeting the hatred of all those odious money powers and mercenary interests which used to be directed against the older professional and political groups of nurses and other women. The struggle for registration having been won, those older groups are now too strong to be bullied, so the tactics of intimidation and boycotting are turned against the Professional Union. Political freedom having been gained, this brave little minority is making the fight for industrial freedom. That is the revolution of the young, and of the next generation. It sweeps far, far ahead of the one in which we older people were engaged. There must be no standing still. The young will lead the new advances. We love and applaud them and wish them well.

A brief passage-at-arms with Miss Rundle about registration

fees and the College of Nursing has brought us no final statement from her, but this paragraph from the *British Journal of Nursing*:

The College Council made this promise, [that if they (nurses) paid a guinea and were on the College Register, they would *ipso facto*, without further fee, be on the State Register when an act was passed] to some 18,000 nurses, and what is more, it has publicly acknowledged its legal liability. Every nurse who paid a guinea to the College for state registration can claim her guinea from the College by presenting evidence that she has been registered by either the General Nursing Council for England, Scotland, or Ireland, and although the College Council has pleaded poverty and invited its members not to enforce a refund of their guineas for this purpose, the fact remains that they are pledged to pay it, and least said soonest mended.

---

The Metropolitan Life Insurance Company reports marked declines in the mortality from tuberculosis, influenza and pneumonia, among its more than sixteen million policyholders, during the year 1920. Mortality from tuberculosis was 40 per cent less than in 1911, and from influenza-pneumonia 27 per cent lower than in 1919. This development in the control of tuberculosis is no doubt due to the educational campaign which has been waged and to the nursing service which has been provided.

The mortality from accidents was one-fourth lower than in 1911. The favorable aspect of the accident record is, perhaps, the result of the safety movement. The increased mortality from automobile accidents is the only blot on the accident record of 1920. It is now higher than the rates for any of the other principal causes of accidental death. It is estimated that during 1920 nearly thirteen thousand deaths resulted from automobile accidents in the United States and Canada.

The death rate for diphtheria, measles, scarlet fever and whooping cough was higher for 1920 than for 1919. This fact raises the question whether enough effort is being expended in the work of controlling these communicable diseases.

The death rate for diseases and conditions associated with childbearing also shows an increase. Part of the increase in the maternal death rate was due to the high mortality caused by influenza. The most unsatisfactory aspect of the obstetrical statistics, however, was the increased death rate from puerperal sepsis.

---

More than 15,000 children of needy families in New York City were cared for during 1920 through the agency of the Babies Welfare Federation of New York City according to the annual statement of the Federation just issued.

By far the largest number of this total were new-born babies whose mothers were referred to the Federation for care after they had left the maternity hospitals. Through the agency of the Federation, public health nurses have visited 12,641 mothers to make sure that the new-born infants are receiving proper treatment and that the mothers are taking advantage of the facilities offered by the baby health stations.

Hospital treatment, as well as convalescent and fresh air care have been provided to a large number of other children, while more than two thousand whose parents have been obliged to go out to work, have been placed by the Federation in boarding homes certified by the City, thus ensuring them the advantages of good home surroundings.