

The First American Birth Control Conference

HEADQUARTERS

ROOM 304
117 WEST 46TH STREET
NEW YORK CITY
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NEW YORK CITY, N. Y.

NOVEMBER 11-12-13, 1921

CONFERENCE SESSIONS

HOTEL PLAZA

MASS MEETING
TOWN HALL

November 18th
1921

Dr. Adolph Meyer
Johns Hopkins Hospital
Baltimore, Md.

My dear Dr. Meyer:

Please accept our thanks for your letter addressed to Mrs. Sanger which was received yesterday.

Mrs. Sanger is so taken up with the work entailed in this extra meeting to-night, which we are holding at the Park Theatre, that she has not been able to go through her mail. I will see that your letter is placed before her at the earliest possible moment, and I know she will be delighted to have your good wishes.

May I take this opportunity to thank you for the check for \$25 - \$5 to be applied to your order for "Principles and Practice of Birth Control", \$5 for the dinner ticket, and \$1 for membership in the American Birth Control League, leaving \$14 as a contribution to the work.

Your contribution, coming at this time, has been of great assistance and it is only because of such splendid cooperation that we are able to go on with this work.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Mr. & Mrs. Thomas L. Chadbourne
Mrs. Thomas W. Lamont
Winston Churchill
Lydia Allen DeVilbiss, M. D.
Professor Irving Fisher
Donald R. Hooker, M. D.
Mrs. Wallace Irwin
Mrs. James Lees Laidlaw
Mrs. Donn Barber
Dr. & Mrs. Frederick Peterson
Dr. & Mrs. Ernest H. Gruening
Mrs. Willard Straight
Mrs. John Winters Brannan
Frederick C. Haeckel, M. D.
Mrs. John A. Fry
Charles G. Taylor, M. D.
Mts. Stanley McCormick

Dr. & Mrs. L. Emmett Holt
Mrs. Maxfield Parrish
Mrs. Homer St. Gaudens
Mrs. Lewis L. DeLafield
Professor Walter B. Pitkin
Mrs. Charles E. Knoblauch
Baroness Kekichi Ishimoto
Lothrop Stoddard, Ph. D.
Rabbi Rudolph I. Coffee, Ph. D.
Prof. and Mrs. James A. Field
Edith Swift, M. D.
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Kenneth Taylor, M. D.
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Mrs. Dexter Blagden
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Mary Shaw
Elizabeth Severn, Ph.D.
Dr. S. Adolphus Knopf
Mrs. Kate Crane Gartz
Mrs. Henry Villard
Dr. Alice Hamilton
John Favill, M. D.
Mrs. Shelly Tolhurst
Mrs. Otto H. Kahn
Lillian D. Wald
Juliet Barrett Rublee
Mrs. Dwight Morrow

Mrs. Pierre Jay
Rev. Arthur E. Whatham
Kate W. Baldwin, M.D.
Mary Halton, M.D.
Clara W. Carter
Lowell Brentano
Dr. Mary I. Bigelow
Mrs. Robert B. Gregory
Mrs. Ernest R. Adee
Bertha Rembaugh
Mrs. Robert Bass
Mrs. George H. Day, Sr.
Mrs. William Spinney
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John C. Vaughan, M. D.

Mrs. Arthur L. Lawrence
Miss Martha Davis
Mr. Robert M. Lovett
Mrs. Minturn Pinchot
Mrs. Simeon Ford
Mrs. Walton Martin
Sara Messing Stern
Mabel Wood Hill
Andrew H. Green
Mrs. William A. McGraw
Theodore Dreiser
Mrs. Samuel Lambert
Mary Winsor
Florence Guertin Tuttle
John Hays Hammond, Jr.
Helen Thomas Flexner
Mrs. C. C. Rumsey

Dr. Adolph Meyer.....#2

I wish I could tell you how much we really appreciate your coming to the Conference, which was a great contribution towards its success.

Very sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Charles M. Powell".

Extension Secretary

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INTRODUCTORY NOTE

THE First American Birth Control Conference, like every great landmark in the history of human progress, grew out of an idea. For years Mrs. Margaret Sanger, and her little band of faithful helpers, had been engaged on the lecture platform, in the columns of the *Birth Control Review*, in thousands of communications with individual men and women, through the selling of literature on the streets, and even in jail, in the uphill task of bringing Birth Control to the attention of the public. In the summer of 1921 she sent out a letter addressed to people prominent in biology, medicine, economics, sociology and social service, and also to well-known business and professional men, writers and educators. About five hundred of these men and women were asked their opinion as to whether the time was opportune for a national conference on Birth Control and whether in case such a conference were held, they would be willing to help financially, by contributing papers, or by personal work in connection with it.

A surprisingly favorable response was received from these letters. Replies were received from 40 per cent. of the persons addressed and opinion seemed overwhelmingly in favor of the calling of a conference. In view of this response, it was arranged to call the First American Birth Control Conference to meet in New York, November 11, 12, and 13, 1921. From among those who had signified their willingness to aid, a large Conference Committee was formed, with Mrs. Margaret Sanger as chairman. The Committee was made up as follows:

THE FIRST AMERICAN BIRTH CONTROL
CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

MARGARET SANGER, *Chairman*
JULIET BARRETT RUBLE, *Vice-Chairman*
ANNE KENNEDY, *Executive Secretary*