

sink into our hearts and teach us to appreciate at its full value that most valuable gift of producing life which has been entrusted conjointly to the keeping of man and woman. Alone we can do nothing; together what marvellous possibilities open out before us. If we work hand in hand with God, making our pleasure wait on our duty and obligation to Him, it can become our joy to produce lives that can become a glory to Him and to us; and we shall be able to enter into His joy. What a different experience will be ours to that which those have who try to get pleasure apart from the fulfilment of obligation whose only thought, when they enter the married state, is how they can best enjoy themselves. Many of these are so ignorant that they do not know what marriage really means, and what it should inevitably lead to. So that, when this inevitable consequence comes upon them, they feel bitter disappointment and chagrin. They try to justify their subsequent actions by bringing to the front facts that ought to have been considered before their marriage, viz., their indifferent health, the difficulty of getting help, the difference the presence of a child in the home will make to them—how it will of necessity curtail what they consider their pleasure—some are even bold enough to say their usefulness—and therefore if the first child comes as the result of ignorance, they make every possible effort to prevent the advent of a second. Can we respect such women? Would we like to have such to be our mother. I say no, no, NO.

Therefore my first reason against the use of preventives is—that they cause us to lose our own self-respect, the respect of right-minded persons, and put us out of fellowship with Christ.

II. They should not be used because they seldom prove to be preventives. They cause the woman to lose her self-respect. She feels she was meant for something better than to be simply a convenience to her husband; and, moreover, her mind is in a continual state of unrest. She knows within herself that she cannot trust to them; she can only hope the result will prove to be that which she desires. They allow license to the husband and tempt him to waste his vitality, and the result often follows that their bitter dis-

appointment disastrously affects the life of the child conceived, and it comes forth from the womb enfeebled in mind and body, a constant source of sorrow and anxiety to them, a reflection of their own untutored minds.

III. The failure of preventives frequently leads to crime. All right-thinking persons are beginning to recognise that to kill a babe in the womb is as much murder as if it were already born, and should receive the same punishment. When the effort to destroy the unborn babe results in the death of the mother, the perpetrator of the crime, whether a doctor or a midwife, is liable to a sentence of penal servitude.

IV. The apparent successful use of preventives results invariably in bad health to the woman; her pelvic organs become congested through frequent indulgence, nature is unsatisfied, the purpose of her activity has been frustrated, the blood current that should have been sent into another life she revengefully turns off into some vicious growth, or causes it to flow wastefully and exhaustively at irregular periods, making the woman weak, irritable, and bloodless.

To sum up, the woman's nerves suffer, her womb suffers, her moral sense suffers, her maternal instincts die down within her. In her efforts to avoid maternity she has dulled and in some cases destroyed all her finer sensibilities.

A Word to Mothers. — Your instincts are right, dear mother; it is your methods that are wrong. No mother can bear with justice to herself and the babe on her breast a child every twelve months. Your physical well-being demands that you have a resting time, a time in which you can recoup that which you have given out. Let there be a good understanding between you and your husbands. Get knowledge yourselves on these matters, and then instruct them. If they truly love you they will listen. Your importunity will impress them, and they will find that instead of their health suffering, as they have been led to believe that it would, it will have improved; they will have more energy to provide for you and your healthy children. There will be joy in your home, the result of mutual confidence and absolute trust.

And your children will rise up and call you blessed. Amen.

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED

To Sept. 8th, 1912.

To June, 1911—Mrs. Spence (Palmerston North), 2/6.

To Aug., 1911—Mrs. Rosewarne (Auckland), 2/6.

To Dec., 1911—Mrs. Gresham (Invercargill), 2/6.

To Feb., 1912—Mesdames Walker (Bluff), Laycock (Invercargill).

To May, 1912—Mesdames, Garrett (Invercargill); 2/6; Cane (Timaru), 5/-; Miss Dummigan, 2/6.

To June, 1912—Mesdames Miller (Masterton), Sykes (Christchurch), Brightling (Kaiapoi), Neil (Invercargill), Hamilton, McKay, Leckie, Taylor (Invercargill), Miss Hodgkinson (Invercargill), each 2/6.

To July, 1912—Mesdames Pragnell, Ross (Masterton), Keene (Sheffield).

To Aug., 1912—Miss Johnson (Petone), Mesdames Lonquet, McQueen, Bath (Invercargill), each 2/6.

To Sept., 1912—Mesdames White (Christchurch), 2/6; Battersby (Petone), 5/-.

To Oct., 1912—Miss Roll (Kaiapoi), 2/6.

To Dec., 1912—Mrs. Wilkinson (Auckland), 2/6.

To Jan., 1913—Mrs. Schweichler (Onehunga).

To Feb., 1913—Mrs. Ewes (Masterton), 2/6.

To March, 1913—Mesdames McCallum (Blenheim), Davenport (Masterton), Strand (Lower Hutt), Miss Neil (Dunedin), each 2/6.

To April, 1913—Mesdames Curnow (Blenheim), Lewis (Invercargill), each 2/6.

To May, 1913—Mesdames Peters (Matapu), Jeanson, Syron (Invercargill), each 2/6; Hunter (Invercargill), 7/6.

To June, 1913—Mesdames Andrews (Puketitiri), Clark, Smith (Blenheim), Beale, Exell, McKay (Masterton), Brown, Williams, Dickson, Ferriman, Frampton, Clothier (Ashburton), Judson, E. Oxford, Lethbridge (Feilding), Nettleton (Christchurch), De Wolfe, Hall, Robins (Onehunga), Blackie (E. Taieri), Elin, McPherson, Baker (Kaiapoi), McIlraith (Annat), McMillan, Jenkins (Waddington), Petit (Sheffield), Crump, Black, Dickson, Lucas, Grove, Day, Judson, Field, Knapp, Israel, Wastney (Nelson), Collier (Wanganui), Hawke, Strang, Dobbie, Ibbotson, Ranies, Poole, Gilchrist, Stead, Mehaffy, Brown, Birss, Pay, Hendry, D. W. McKay, Scandrett, Smith (Invercargill), Misses Watson (Ashburton), Evans (Kaiapoi), Atkinson (Nelson), Simpson, Gascoigne (Nelson), each 2/6; Mrs. Wills (Reefton), 12/6.

To July, 1913 — Mesdames Roose (Warkworth), Donald, Smith, (Masterton), Hensley, Waugh (Invercargill), D. McCallum (Blenheim), each 2/6.

To Aug., 1913 — Mesdames Gibbs, Avery (Raetihi), Fewster (Ocean Beach), R. H. White, T. White (Stratford), Woolley (Marton), Holland (Tuakau).

To Aug., 1913—Mesdames Somerville (Onehunga), Knight, Jenness