

Diario

Daily Bulletin



ENGLISH

Eighth International
Conference of the
International Planned
Parenthood Federation
Santiago Chile
Octava Conferencia
Mundial de la Federación
Internacional de
Planificación de la
Familia

April 11, 1967

18109

TODAY'S ARRANGEMENTS

09:00 - 13:00

General Session: Patterns of Family Life.

Basic Science Session: The Male Factors in
Reproduction.

11:45

Buses leave for the "Vino de Honor" at the opening
of the exhibition of Chilean arts organized by
Federico Assler.

14:15 - 15:45

A programme of Films featuring Asia at the University
of Chile (Salon de Honor).

15:30

A visit arranged for social participants to see
social institutions in Santiago's South Side.

16:00 - 19:00

General Session: Educational Factors in Planned
Parenthood.

16:00 - 20:00

Medical Session: Intra-uterine Devices.

19:15 - 20:30

Public Meeting (Municipal Theatre): Family
Planning in Contemporary Thought. Co-sponsored
by the Institute of International Affairs,
University of Chile, and the International
Planned Parenthood Federation.

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While an international panel of social scientists underlined the serious implications of a too rapid rate of population growth for Latin American economic and social development, some of the world's leading biological scientists discussed exhaustively progress and problems encountered in various countries with hormonal contraceptives - those now in use and those in various stages of research - on the first working day of the conference.

Because of the "clear association" between Latin America's high population growth rate and its social and economic underdevelopment, Miss Carmen Miró declared that western hemisphere governments would be "unwise to further postpone the integration of a demographic policy within the general context of economic and social planning." Miss Miró is director of the UN Latin American Demographic Center in Santiago. She blamed Latin America's social and economic underdevelopment for slowing down in recent years the decline in infant mortality at a time when it "is still one of the highest in the world." She applauded increased family planning activities in "practically all Latin American countries:" both by governments and institutions but she was critical of the fact that programs thus far adopted were primarily attuned to protection of the family and avoidance of abortion and did not "seek essentially demographic objectives in association with economic and social development plans."

Dr. Binay R. Sen, Director General of the Food and Agriculture Organization, declared that deliberate steps to reduce the high rate of population growth were necessary to counteract starvation and malnutrition. "The level of nutrition in the developing countries is found so grossly inadequate," he said, "that at least one in every five persons goes hungry, one in three suffers from protein malnutrition and three in five from malnutrition." His paper was delivered by Dr. Hernán Santa Cruz, FAO Assistant Director General for Latin American Affairs.

A warning that the present rate of population increase could lead to "collective irrationality and violence" was given by a psychiatrist from Edinburgh University, Professor George M. M. Carstairs. When, because of increasing overpopulation, the standard of living actually declines at the very time when people's aspirations have been raised, the stage is set for outbreaks of collective irrationality and violence," he said. Mankind now

possesses weapons of such destructive power that outbreaks of mass violence cannot be risked; yet the lessons of history point to just such a disaster he declared, "unless population control can be achieved before vast human communities degenerate into the semblance of concentration camp inmates, if not to that of pathologically belligerent apes."

Two speakers, Mr. Gordon Bridger, Senior Economic Adviser to the British Ministry of Overseas Development, and Mrs. Adriana Arenas de Touraine, the Chilean-born head of the Documentation Centre in Paris for the Study of Latin American Social Problems, declared that increasing numbers of people were finding jobs in the service sectors of the community, a doubtful contribution to economic development.

The tendency toward bureaucracy, very small business and petty capitalist occupations, Mrs. Touraine said, was holding back the industrialization of Latin America. Birth control might reduce misery in the short-run, but the main hope for industrialization lay in greater efforts to channel manpower into industrial employment and to create sufficient industrial opportunities by ensuring a feedback of capital into industry.

Mr. Bridger outlined a situation in which, although agriculture might be able to absorb more manpower, it was not in the interest of optimal growth that it should because of the need for modern techniques of production and in industry the tendency toward capital intensive industry meant that only a limited amount of labour was likely to be absorbed in the future.

Professor Lim Tay Boh, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Singapore, warned of "serious weaknesses in the quality of education" as a result of this situation. He said that experiences in Singapore, where more than half the population were now under the age of 20, had shown that although it was possible, with vigorous planning, to build more schools, extend existing buildings, conduct double school sessions daily and set up a crash programme of teacher training, "the increase in the size of the student enrolment was accompanied by a deterioration in the quality of school education." The training of teachers in large numbers on a part-time basis "diluted the standard."

The effects of population growth on housing was discussed by Professor Julius Gorynski, of Warsaw, internationally-known architect and town planner, who suggested that a realistic housing policy providing a sense of security acted as a strong incentive towards planned parenthood, where as a lack of well-founded expectations to improve living conditions fostered unplanned procreation.

On the scientific side, several new hormonal birth control products were evaluated by international experts.

Dr. Jorge Martinez Manautou, Director of Research for Mexico's Institute of Social Security reported that the new "microdose" pills - taken every day of the year - have proved "a very effective method for regulating fertility" and represent the "first hormonal contraceptive method that does not primarily depend on inhibiting ovulation, "since about 70 per cent of the 1,123 Mexican women he studied over 13,202 menstrual cycles ovulated during

treatment. Only six of the women became pregnant as a result of failure of the method, he said, although another 30 became pregnant because they forgot to take some of the pills - a defect he felt could be remedied by packaging to remind women of pill omissions. He found a very low incidence of side effects, except for breakthrough bleeding, found in 13 per cent of the cycles studied.

The so-called "morning-after pill" was evaluated by Dr. John McLean Morris, Yale University Medical School Professor, who said that in the approximately six days between fertilization and implantation, any estrogenic substance in sufficient doses will probably prevent implantation - and therefore pregnancy. While there were sometimes side effects of nausea and even vomiting, he maintained that these could be decreased with anti-emetic drugs, and administration of the estrogens at mealtime. He insisted that failures of this method were attributable to inadequate dosage or inadequate timing - administration of the estrogen being necessary over four to six days.

The new contraceptive injectables were discussed by Dr. Edward Tyler, Professor at the University of California-Los Angeles Medical School. Dr. Tyler said that a two-year study of 150 U.S. patients using an injectable contraceptive administered only once every three months showed a 100 per cent protection against pregnancy. Return of fertility, he reported, took at least six months after discontinuation of the injections, and there were some side effects, mainly bleeding problems "whose significance would have to be evaluated in large scale studies." Dr. Tyler said that "while the delay in return of fertility might present a problem in some areas, it is possible that as a general population control measure this method may be quite important".

A study of 600 women attending family planning clinics in Ceylon showed that high dosage oral contraceptives administered after childbirth significantly reduced the period of lactation - a factor extremely important in countries where mother's milk is basic to the nutrition of newborns. While all orals suppressed lactation somewhat, Dr. Siva Chinnatanby, Medical Director of the Ceylon Family Planning Association reported, there were significant effects only where the dose of progesterone was high and previous lactation was short.

An examination of sequential contraceptive therapy by Professor Rodney Shearman of the University of Sydney showed that all but one of the products now in use showed an "acceptable" pregnancy rate, averaging 0.3 per 100 woman years. Professor Shearman commented on the fact that there were currently more than 21 different oral contraceptives on sale in his native Australia, and insisted that their endless proliferation could only be justified if there was a reduction in side effects without a reduction in efficiency.

A broad look at the long and short-term side effects of oral contraceptives now on the market was essayed by Dr. Roberto Nicholson, Professor of Gynaecology at the University of Buenos Aires. Reporting on a study of 355 private patients from Argentina over 4,652 menstrual cycles with six basic types of oral contraceptives he concluded that with almost all of them protection of pregnancy is "assured", and that its sterilizing effects are "reversible" when the woman wishes to become pregnant.

He said that present birth control pills, however, "are not a panacea" since side effects such as nausea and vomiting occur "with some frequency", and more than 38 per cent of the patients studied experienced symptoms serious enough to require discontinuation of treatment or a change of medication.

He said that the pill, however, had increased the enjoyment of sex among married couples "without any mechanical interference." He called for the production of oral contraceptives "which are entirely free of side effects in which case we shall have taken a step forward in the historic evolution of human perfection."

Recent developments in the treatment of infertility were reported on by Dr. Bruno Lunenfeld, Director of the Institute of Endocrinology of the Tel-Hashomer Government Hospital of Israel. Dr. Lunenfeld said that use of human gonadotrophins and chlomiphene "on properly selected patients" can induce pregnancy in 40-70 per cent of previously infertile women. These preparations are highly effective he said in patients where there is gonadotrophic insufficiency, lack of release or failure of production of gonadotrophins, or abnormal release (chlomiphene only being effective in the latter instance).

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IMPORTANT NOTES

Lunch tickets

Participants are requested to arrange for their lunch tickets no later than 10.30 a.m. in order that the Restaurants can be advised, thus avoiding poor service. Daily tickets are given out at the Information.

Messages: Please look on the blackboard at the Hall for urgent messages, letters and cables.

First Aid: There is all kinds of First Aid Attention in Room 3, near San Antonio Street entrance from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Courtesy of the Chile University Nurse School.

Mrs. Khipple: Requests that the person with whom she left her red sweater please leave it for her at Information.

Exhibition: Participants are reminded that besides the IPPF and CELADE exhibitions in the Chile University there is a very interesting book exhibition run by the Publications Committee. Open every day from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Rotary Club: Rotarians are requested to get in touch with Mr. Percy Boland R. at Hotel Carrera so that they may meet during the Santa Rita Lunch.

IMPORTANT NOTES

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Mail: Participants are requested to ask daily for mail at the Information Desk as many letters and invitations have remained uncollected.

Commemorative Stamps : The Post Office of Chile has issued two commemorative stamps for the Conference to the value of E° 0.10 and E° 0.80 and a special envelope has been printed for collectors. The stamps are on sale at the Conference post office.

Working Session for Clinicians: The working session for Clinicians in the Sala Filarmónica from 17:00 - 2000. Duplicated sheets outlining the programme for this session will be available at the Medical Session this afternoon. Those participants who wish to attend this session and go on the excursion to Viña Santa Rita should leave Santa Rita at 4 p.m. Arrangements have been made for several buses to bring clinicians back to Santiago in time for the meeting.



COME AND
SEE MY
FILM!

Special Film Showing

An animated cartoon on Family Planning is being prepared by Walt Disney Productions under the sponsorship of the Population Council.

The pictures for the film will be shown to all those interested on:

Wednesday, April 12th, in the Municipal Theatre's Philharmonic Hall. From 1.15 p.m. all afternoon till 5.30.

English and Spanish narrative.

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The Museum of Contemporary Art.

The Museum of Contemporary Art is a dependency of the Faculty of Fine Arts of the Chile University and is in the Quinta Normal.

The grouping of the best of contemporary Chilean art all in one place gives room both for comparison and for a wider appreciation of modern artistic tendencies than is ever possible through the system of scattered and sporadic exhibitions of individual artists.

Credit for the success and variety of this Museum goes to its Director, Federico Assler. Mr. Assler is a graduate of the School of Architecture of the Catholic University of Valparaiso and of the School of Fine Arts in Viña del Mar. As well as being the Museum's Director, Mr. Assler is one of the best-known modern Chilean artists with many exhibitions and awards to his credit.

Profiles of Committee Chairmen

Mrs. Sofia Cristoffanini

Sofia de Cristoffanini who runs the Reception and Information Committee is married to Dr. Alberto Cristoffanini an internist whose specialty is hematology and who works for the Chilean National Health Service; they have five children ranging in age from fifteen years down to five. Mrs. Cristoffanini looks like a charming, agreeable, dedicated housewife but has a solid business background in secretarial work and accountancy, speaks English and Italian fluently and has a fair knowledge of French, all of which makes her an ideal person for her work in the Conference. Anything you need to know, any problem you have which needs solving, just ask Mrs. Cristoffanini or any of her voluntary helpers at the Information Desk in the Municipal Theatre.

Her main interest, she says, is, naturally, her family of growing children who all (even, one supposes the four-year-old!) want to be professional people or diplomats. This is understandable, since their mother is such an efficient and many-sided person. She likes all forms of artistic expression, with the exception of literature, loves journeys and getting to know people and is fascinated by all kinds of scientific material. For which latter reason she has given her free time so wholeheartedly to this Family Planning Conference.

The Mayor of Santiago

Don Manuel Fernández Diaz, Mayor of Santiago, is a native son of the northern seaport of Antofagasta, a pleasant, thriving city with a beautiful beach; set at the edge of the dry, Chilean Pampa it is watched over by a distant circle of fantastic, copper-coloured hills.

Mr. Fernández is an architect by profession whose greatest interest is in town-planning. This is an ideal combination for a Mayor, and his great popularity in Santiago was proved by his recent re-election to the City Council with the highest majority of votes in the whole country.

The Mayor is a widower with two children, both in University, one in the School of Architecture, the other studying for a Master's Degree in German. Mr. Fernández himself speaks French as a second language.

His private interests are skiing as a sport and literature for relaxation, but his present post leaves him little time for either.

Under the Mayor's direction, the Santiago City Council has given its generous and wholehearted support to every necessity of this present Conference.