

"Man wanders over the restless sea, the flowing water, the sight of the sky and forgets that of all wonders man himself is the most wonderful," St. Augustine wrote years ago. That saying has been taken for the theme of the Hall of Man, one of three halls in the building which may be called "A World of Health."

All the exhibits in this building will be dramatic presentations of these wonders and of current knowledge for keeping the body healthy.

Chief of the wonders of man himself is his brain, without which there could have been no advances in medicine and

health, in fact, no fair at all. This wonder will be shown in a particularly striking exhibit.

Built something like a planetarium, it will be a huge model of the inside of a man's head. World's Fair visitors may walk into this and stroll over the teeth and down the passageways for food and breath. They will learn from the inside out the geography of the human brain. A guide will help them locate the nerve centers for sight, sound and smell; the body's master gland; and all the other intricate structures locked up in the close compartment of the human skull.

Science News Letter, August 14, 1937

POPULATION

Population Problems Call For a Government Policy

Expert Urges Study of Increasing Labor Groups, Differences in Birthrates, Old Age Problems

CONSIDERATION of human resources as well as physical and economic factors in forming government policies in the United States was urged by Dr. T. J. Woolter, Jr., coordinator of rural research for the Works Progress Administration, at the International Population Congress.

Dr. Woolter called attention specifically to some of the human elements that press for attention on the part of those guiding the nation's destiny:

1. Number of young job-seekers. Although births are declining in the United States, the number of those reaching employment age has not yet begun to decline. During the early 1930's, the United States was adding to her labor market almost as fast, probably, as it ever will. Six million young men and women entered the ranks of those seeking employment between 1930 and 1936, at just the time when industry was least able to absorb them. The rate of those reaching 18 years will continue to increase up to about 1942 and then decline rather rapidly after that.

2. Difference between city and country birthrates. Children, like agricultural crops, grow better in the country. For a number of years, the rural regions have been helping the cities to maintain their numbers, for birthrates in the city are too low for replacement of one generation by the next.

3. Difference in birthrates for prosperous and poor. In country and city alike,

the poor people are those who have the large families. In the past this has caused a "population pressure" and a natural movement of people from farms that are not fertile to better lands and to the cities.

4. The trek to the cities. Although cities did not have enough births to replace those removed by death, increase in city population between 1910 and 1930 amounted to 27,000,000 although the increase in rural population was only 4,000,000. These figures tell of an enormous movement from farm to city.

5. Decrease in farm to city movement. The depression put a stop to this natural movement. Boys and girls out of a job went back home for shelter. This meant a movement back to the farm, and, since the less prosperous farms have the most children, it meant a movement back to the poorest land.

Steps have been taken by the Government to meet these problems, Dr. Woolter pointed out. Such are the programs to aid maturing youth—CCC, transient work camps, Youth Administration employment projects. But these affect practically only those whose families are on relief.

The Resettlement Administration has made a beginning in the direction of a planned distribution of the population. Old age pension legislation is an attempt to meet the problem of increase in the proportion of old people, whose numbers will increase from 6,600,000 in 1930 to 14,200,000 in 1960.

RADIO

August 17, 4:15 p. m., E.S.T.

WONDERS OF THE HEAVENS—Dr. F. R. Moulton, noted astronomer.

August 24, 4:15 p. m., E.S.T.

ADOPTED CHILDREN—Dr. Mandel Sherman, psychologist of the University of Chicago.

In the Science Service series of radio discussions over the Columbia Broadcasting System.

The policy of crop control, on the contrary, ignored the population problem, Dr. Woolter said. Restricting crops results in less opportunity for those seeking farm employment.

"The first step in population planning in the United States seems to call for facing the issue of quality versus quantity and a decision as to which of the policies is to be paramount," Dr. Woolter concluded. "Neither in increase in quantity, improvement of quality, nor nationalization of distribution does the national Government have a clear-cut policy."

"This is not owing to neglect of a clearly recognized need. It is rather owing to the fact that without further research, exact and detailed knowledge in each of these fields is insufficient to form the basis of intelligent planning."

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