

IN THIS ISSUE

AMONG the important questions facing the public health administrator today are those concerning the adequacy of present sanatorium facilities for the tuberculous and the proper expansion of the functions of the sanatorium. Consequently, the article "The Role of the Sanatorium in Tuberculosis Control," by Dr. Alton S. Pope, Director of the Division of Tuberculosis of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, is timely and of especial interest. Dr. Pope describes the evolution of the modern sanatorium and discusses its present broadening functions and the economic aspects of hospitalization of the tuberculous. He points out also the advisability of a more complete integration of the sanatorium into the broad program for the control of tuberculosis.



The value of a critical appraisal of the work of the tuberculosis clinic which is a vital part of the public health program for the control of the disease is indicated in the article "Clinic Service in the Control of Tuberculosis" by Miss Jean Downes of the Fund's staff and Dr. A. A. Feller, Director of one of the local tuberculosis clinics of the New York City Department of Health. An important conclusion drawn from this study may be briefly summarized: An examination of the volume of clinic work alone does not fully reveal the quality of the work done; rather, the quality of the clinic work may be more accurately appraised by inquiry as to what individuals are being served by the clinic and by study of the content of the clinic examination. An appraisal such as is described in this study should be an aid to the public health administrator in planning more practical and effective procedures for the control of tuberculosis.



In a modest and sane article, Dr. Warren S. Thompson presents the view that if a housing program is to be socially sound it must be based upon the qualitative and quantitative population needs of the nation. In "The Effect of Housing Upon Population Growth," he discusses the possible bearing of such factors as costs of housing, size of dwelling, and type of neighborhood upon size of family in the various classes of our population. More accurate knowledge of such relationships is needed so that we may not inadvertently allow a housing program to set up a train of undesired consequences relating to growth and quality of our population.



Neglected in population research have been questions concerning the birth rates of individuals after they migrate from rural to urban areas. Do the pressures of urban life result in immediate and substantial curtailment of fertility of the migrants themselves or is their full force delayed until their children mature and marry? In "Birth Rates Among Rural Migrants in Cities," Clyde V. Kiser of the Fund's staff presents an analysis of some data relevant to that problem. The study is based upon material collected during the course of past surveys among native white families in Columbus and Syracuse and among native Negro families in a selected area of Harlem. Supplementing the central topic, the author comments briefly on Negro-white comparisons of birth rates and childlessness.



The health practices of a school child are determined by many factors, and it is difficult, if not impossible, to measure adequately the influence any one factor may have had in the development of his routine for healthful living. As a part of an appraisal of a program of school health education in Cattaraugus County, an attempt has been made to study the children's health practices and to relate them to the influences of the school. The report of this study by Miss Ruth E. Grout, Director of the project, and Miss E. Genevieve Pickup, Research Associate, appears in this number. This is the third in a series of articles, "Evaluation of a Rural School Health Education Project."