



IN THIS ISSUE

VACCINATION against influenza has received considerable publicity in recent months and interest in this preventive measure is general for influenza is a major cause of disabling illness. The available evidence concerning the efficacy of the vaccine and the history of its development are reviewed by Dr. Thomas Francis, Jr. in "A Consideration of Vaccination Against Influenza." The well-controlled studies by the Influenza Commission of the Preventive Medicine Service of the Army on the effect of subcutaneous vaccination among Army personnel have clearly demonstrated that the vaccine does greatly reduce the incidence of influenza although every vaccinated person does not gain immunity. Present evidence indicates that the vaccine is specific for the influenza viruses and probably has no effect on other respiratory infections.



One of the Sections at the Fund's 1946 Annual Conference was the Round Table on Postwar Problems of Migration. Two of the papers presented at that Round Table appear in this issue. The remaining papers will be published in subsequent issues of the *Quarterly*, and reprints of the total series will be bound together eventually.

The initial paper of the series, "Migration and the Population Potential of Monsoon Asia," is contributed by Dr. Irene B. Taeuber. Asia has over half of the world's population and most of her people live under conditions of indescribable poverty and ill health. Yet her birth rates remain high and the outlook is for increasing population pressure. The author concludes that "Neither international migration nor land settlement which occurs within the existing economic and cultural

matrix can do more than postpone briefly the demographic tragedy inherent in the continued proliferation of Asia's peoples. But international migration, land settlement, internal redistribution, and urbanization which are aspects of expanding agricultural and industrial economies can contribute substantially both to the support of Asia's population during the period of accelerated growth that accompanies modernization and to the retardation of that growth."

In the second paper of the series, "Future Migration Into Latin America," Dr. Kingsley Davis describes a different situation. Unlike Asia, Latin America is commonly regarded as a sparsely settled and undeveloped area that needs more people. Several Latin American countries profess to seek immigrants in order to increase their population and to develop their economy. As a rule, however, they exclude Orientals and have little except agricultural opportunities to offer. After assessing the possibilities in various sections, Dr. Davis concludes that the prospects for large overseas migration to Latin America are remote because the region cannot attract the kind of immigrants it wants and does not want the kind it can attract.



The series of articles under the general title "Social and Psychological Factors Affecting Fertility" is continued in this issue. These studies are based upon a large mass of intensive data collected in Indianapolis from a group of married couples meeting specific requirements for the Study. In their article "The Planning of Fertility" P. K. Whelpton and Clyde V. Kiser discuss the frequency and success of attempts to plan fertility and on the basis of these and other data present a classification of the couples by "planning status." They discuss the impact of voluntary family limitation on number and spacing of children and on the general fertility of the urban group considered.