

IN THIS ISSUE

THE paper, "Matched Cohort Studies, Evaluation of Time Study Methods in Family Sociology, Summary, and Conclusions," completes a report by Dr. Matthew Taback on "Family Structure and Its Changing Pattern," which started in the October, 1954, issue. The entire paper is the sixth in a series of studies being conducted by the Department of Biostatistics of the School of Hygiene and Public Health of the Johns Hopkins University under the general heading, "Family Studies in the Eastern Health District," dealing with the findings of censuses made in that section of Baltimore in 1922, 1933, 1936, 1939, and 1947.

In this section of the paper, Dr. Taback discusses changes in family size, occupational status of the head, and composition of the household over the period of the censuses, using the matched cohort technique.

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The series of articles bearing the general title Social and Psychological Factors Affecting Fertility is continued in this issue with two reports.

The article "The Prediction of Planned Fertility" by Charles F. Westoff and Edgar F. Borgatta is the second of two articles reporting on the results of a scale and factor analysis of data from the Indianapolis Study. The first article, published in the last issue of the *Quarterly* (October 1954) treated the prediction of *total* fertility as opposed to *planned* fertility which is the subject of the present paper. Both articles represent an attempt to organize the broad range of data in the Indianapolis Study without regard to previously designated hypothesis areas

and to test the sensitivity of the data to some of the more recently developed statistical techniques.

In the article "Attitudes toward Restriction of Personal Freedom in Relation to Fertility Planning and Fertility," Ruth Riemer and P. K. Whelpton analyze the data that were collected in the Indianapolis Study to test the hypothesis "The stronger the feeling that children interfere with personal freedom, the higher the proportion of couples practicing contraception effectively and the smaller the planned family." Largely because of the *ex post facto* nature of the data, the authors found it impossible to differentiate between cause and effect relationships. Their substitute hypotheses are simply concerned with the interrelations of "feeling of restriction," unsuccessful fertility control, number of children, and low socioeconomic status.