

vention is a morally, humanly, psychologically, and politically disastrous approach to the population problem." Adding that American Catholics are dedicated to expanding resources and improving distribution to meet population growth, they warned: "They will not, however, support any public assistance, either at home or abroad, to promote artificial birth prevention, abortion or sterilization whether through direct aid or by means of international organizations."

President Eisenhower's press conference statement, quoted above, came a week after the bishops' statement and removed the subject from official dialog.

The growth of open discussion of the subject is most apparent in the Administration, and least apparent in Congress where, even before the lacerating school-bill fight, there was no disposition to make Congress the arena for a struggle over birth control.

A "crash program of research" in population control, as was proposed by a group that ran full-page advertisements in the *New York Times* and the *Wall Street Journal* this week, would have to go the congressional route, and signs of receptivity on Capitol Hill are not visible.

Nevertheless, there is considerable work going on in this country and elsewhere, and with varying results, it is making itself felt in some of the underdeveloped lands about which we are most concerned, although not yet in the overwhelmingly Catholic nations of Latin America, where the population is expected to triple before the turn of the century.

Among some proponents of population planning, the hope is that the Church's interest in social well-being and order, combined with new developments in family planning, will make it possible to implement programs that have been effective elsewhere.

One method of oral contraception, which employs progesterone to suppress ovulation temporarily, has led John Rock, a Catholic physician who participated in its clinical testing, to express "the confident hope that the medication will prove acceptable to my Church, since it merely gives to the human intellect the means to suppress ovulation."

There are Catholic moralists who feel that Rock's medicine is better than his theology, but experience in a number of places, including Puerto Rico, suggests that doctrine may not be an insurmountable difficulty.

Announcements

A "science community" **research center** has been established in the Philippines by the National Science Development Board, a member of the International Science Foundation. Initially the center will consist of an administration building, a science hall, and an auditorium for Filipino scientists, engineers, and supporting technical personnel. The laboratory facilities will be made available to government scientists and to any other qualified research workers who wish to take up residence in the community.

The U.S. Public Health Service is soliciting inquiries concerning participation in or initiation of **regional institutes for public health educators**, to provide information and discussion on current research findings and activities in the field. (School Health Section, Division of Community Health Practice, USPHS, Washington 25, D.C.)

Meeting Notes

The Society for **Social Responsibility in Science** will hold its annual meeting at Harvard from 8 to 10 September. (Michael Rice, 365 Harvard St., Cambridge 38, Mass.)

The first international symposium on the **science of fire-fighting** will be held during the 140th national meeting of the American Chemical Society, which opens in Chicago on 3 September. The symposium, jointly sponsored by the National Academy of Sciences and ACS, will include a survey of current fire research in this country and abroad. (ACS, Division of Fuel Chemistry, 733 3rd Ave., New York 17)

Scientists in the News

Paul M. Gross, of the department of chemistry, Duke University, and president-elect of the AAAS, has been named chairman of a special committee established to develop long-range objectives for the environmental health programs of the Public Health Service.

The second Russian medical scientist to visit the United States arrived last week for extended research work under a special U.S.-U.S.S.R. scientific exchange program, signed in 1959. **Noko-**

lai P. Yelinov, deputy director of the Leningrad Chemical-Pharmaceutical Institute, will spend 4 months at the Laboratory of Infectious Diseases of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. The first Russian exchange scientist to do research under this program was **Fedor G. Uglov**, head of the Chair of Hospital Surgery at the Pavlov Medical Institute, Leningrad. Uglov spent 2 months at Baylor University's College of Medicine last spring.

Nevin S. Scrimshaw, recently appointed director of nutrition research, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, has been awarded the Order of Rodolfo Robles by the government of Guatemala in recognition of the achievements of the Institute of Nutrition of Central America and Panama, which Scrimshaw had headed since its establishment in Guatemala City in 1949.

F. Earle Lyman, chief of the extramural programs branch, National Institute of Dental Health, has been appointed to the newly created position of assistant director of the institute. He is succeeded by **Robert C. Likens**, research chemist in the institute's Laboratory of Biochemistry.

Recent faculty appointments at Stanford University:

Calvin F. Quate, research director and vice president of Sandia Corporation, will become professor of applied physics and electrical engineering.

John D. Krumboltz, psychologist at Michigan State University, will become associate professor of education and psychology.

Frank Kral and **John T. McGrath**, faculty members of the University of Pennsylvania's School of Veterinary Medicine, have been honored by the American Veterinary Medical Association for outstanding contributions to the advancement of veterinary medicine. Kral received the association's 12th International Congress Veterinary prize; McGrath received the Gaines award and medal.

James G. Thomson, head of the pathology department of the University of Cape Town, Union of South Africa, is serving as exchange professor of pathology at the University of Miami School of Medicine. **W. A. D. Anderson**, head of the School of Medicine's department of pathology, is taking Thomson's place in Cape Town.