The article appears to praise the center. Yet, the care given at the center is described as being no better than that at Denver General Hospital, which, by insinuation, is poor. Or as stated, "neither much better nor much worse than most municipal hospitals."

In the future I would suggest that all relevant sources of information be sought before writing such an article. Visiting Denver General Hospital and discussing the subject with the manager of health and hospitals would have afforded the writer the opportunity to ascertain more of the facts.

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Langer's article strikes me as one of the more perceptive analyses of the importance of local health service programs in the current OEO-sponsored antipoverty programs. Its discussion of the center's impact on the scope, quality, and tone of health services made available to an urban minority group, of its impact on political and professional interest groups, and of its utilization of a combination of nonprofessional and professional personnel, among other points, made the article extremely useful for our classes in social welfare policy.

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Population Stabilization

John Walsh's discussion of the food-population balance (News and Comment, 13 May, p. 896) again emphasized the overwhelming need for controlling world population. Wars and famine are but two examples of world problems that are intensified by population pressures. A 1965 Gallup Poll indicated that only 60 percent of Americans regard overpopulation as a major world problem. The Office of Economic Opportunity is reluctant to support progressive family planning programs because of possible negative public response. Therein lies the role and obligation of the scientific community: to learn about and to teach the need for population stabilization.

The combined efforts of the biologist, chemist, mathematician, physicist, geologist and meteorologist could greatly improve community understanding of overpopulation and its consequences. One lecture, or part of a lecture, each semester by each *Science* reader would help shape the political atmosphere that is essential before our government can launch an international program. High school and university students would quickly grasp the seriousness of the situation when confronted with the demographic facts. Though birth control has been commonly considered a personal matter for each individual and his family, this will be less true in the future. Some people believe that a massive international program of family planning methods would corrupt youth. This does not follow. The seeds of morality are planted elsewhere and do not depend on the availability or denial of information for their nourishment. The point is that citizens of every nation must learn about the international consequences of unchecked population increases, and have a knowledge of basic family planning methods. In thirty years, Vietnam, Korea, and Cuba will be incidents in history books, but with a population twice that of the present one, the world may be in interminable chaos.

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Tenure in 1897

Occasionally, it is almost a relief to look back, perhaps three score years and ten, to find a few real problems existed in those older days as well as today. The following postcard, addressed to the late Frank Smith, then an assistant professor at the University of Illinois, may underscore one such worry about the future:

My dear Smith: I was much pleased to receive your paper on the Oligochaeta yesterday. It rejoices one to realize how you are prospering. I can hardly help but envy you such a good solid place. Zoologists are getting terribly frequent nowadays and it makes me speculate about the future. However, I am having a fine time now. I am expecting to go down to Naples before long, to stay till the middle of July.

Yours,
H. S. Jennings

Jena, Germany
February 22, 1897

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