

## A Human Problem.

THERE IS MUCH TALK today about what is termed this terrible wave of immorality which seems to be sweeping through our country.

Humanity we are told has always been much the same as now.

It would appear, therefore, that the causes of the trouble under discussion lie in a failure to guide the young over a long period and to teach them that a perversion can be subjected to self-control just as successfully as normal instincts.

We are grateful to Dr. Clifford Allen who has so ably contributed to our enlightenment on this problem.

That the absence of women's influence in a boy's life has an adverse effect is strongly stressed in his letters to the Press and also the withdrawal of a father's influence in the home life, either through the demands of a country at war or for any other reason.

The recent correspondence which has appeared in the daily papers, giving us the opinions of those who have given this matter very serious thought, would lead one to believe that the remedy lies in a return to that quality of Christian faith which alone can help to overcome this and other human qualities.

A well-known clergyman has recently reminded us that there was plenty of immorality in our Lord's day, but that he spoke as if he were living in an absolutely pure world.

History books and recent trials indicate that men with the highest talents, both in the arts and the gift of outstanding leadership, have been so afflicted. We surely must not take all they give to us and yet deny them our tolerance of these disturbing impulses which to them are normal.

It may well be imagined that it is in the hands of women to influence their menfolk, and to show them something more satisfying than surrender to a perversion which has become such a social evil in our midst. There is too, the possibility that women, in attempting so-called equality with men, are sacrificing femininity and creating unnatural social conditions in which unnatural social practices flourish.

To organise a nation-wide campaign for the instruction of young parents might help to ensure that the next generation may to some extent be free from this evil. This campaign might well begin in our Universities and in our Hospitals.

Dr. Fisher, Archbishop of Canterbury, writes thus in his Canterbury Diocesan notes:

"The news of the large number of crimes, especially those against women and children, rouses growing public alarm, unusual distress and indignation.

"I am not sure that the extensive publicity which they receive is wise.

"It is at least arguable that it serves to excite unbalanced people, already inclined to such perversions, to imitate what they read of."

In reference to homosexual offences the Archbishop goes on to say: "Let it be recognised that homosexual indulgence is a shameful vice and a grievous sin from which deliverance is to be sought by every means.

"A great number of those now entangled in this net of corruption could by frank recognition of this fact and by the grace of God, be delivered at once and could thus help to deliver others.

"At long last it is being openly stated that certain newspapers and periodicals, by their unwholesome exploitation of sex, are corrupting the moral sense of the nation.

"Reformation will only come when the general conscience of the people insists on decency and good morals being respected, and all men of good-will, who will as citizens lead and support the reformation, are doing the church's work in the way in which it ought to be done.

"Responsible people, and Christians in particular, must

bring conscience to bear in this matter by ceasing to buy journals which exploit sex and by encouraging others to follow their example."

## Grand Prior's Trophy Competition.

THIS COMPETITION FOR THE most coveted of all first aid trophies, took place at Porchester Hall, Paddington, on 19th November, 1953.

H.R.H. the Duke of Gloucester, Grand Prior of the Order of St. John, graciously agreed to present his own trophy.

The Competition started at 9.30 a.m., until 12.45 p.m., and after a lunch interval was resumed at 2.0 p.m.

Also present to witness the Competition were Lord Wakehurst, Lord Prior of the Order of St. John; Sir Henry Pownall, Chancellor of the Order of St. John; and Mr. H. Parshall, Director-General of the St. John Ambulance Association.

The Duke of Gloucester witnessed the last team test.

Lt.-Col. Croft announced the results of the Competition, and H.R.H. the Duke of Gloucester, after speaking for a short time, presented the trophies and medallions to the winning teams.

## Poison Food Warnings—Ministry's New Poster

THE FACT THAT in many outbreaks of food poisoning germ-ridden hands are incriminated is portrayed in a new coloured wallsheet produced by the Ministry of Health. It is being supplied free to hospitals and local authorities.

"Every year," states the poster, "thousands of cases of food poisoning are reported and investigated. Some are mild, others more serious—even fatal. Many unreported cases mean still more people ill at home. Most frequent cause is *dirty and careless handling of food* in food factories, shops, canteens, restaurants and homes."

In pictorial form are shown three ways in which hands can contaminate food; below each the safeguards that should have been taken are illustrated. The advice given includes the covering of cuts, sores and burns with a water-proof dressing; damaged fingers should have a rubber finger-stall. In handling food, tools should be provided—and used: a knife and fork, for example, to place cooked meat in sandwiches; tongs to put food into paper bags.

With its offer of supplies of the wallsheet, the Ministry has told local authorities: "Reports in the press of outbreaks of food poisoning during the summer months have focused attention on the problem, and will, it is hoped, have helped once again to make those engaged in the preparation and serving of food aware of their responsibilities."

## B.C.G. Vaccination of School Children Minister Prepared to Approve Schemes.

LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITIES in England and Wales have been informed by the Minister of Health, Mr. Iain Macleod, that he is prepared to approve schemes for giving B.C.G. vaccination to children before they leave school.

Since 1949, when official permission for its use in this country was first given, B.C.G. vaccination has been offered to nurses and medical staff in hospitals and (at the discretion of chest physicians) to the close home contacts of tuberculosis cases.

It will be for local health authorities themselves to decide whether they wish to undertake the vaccination of school children. Where it is done it will be offered, in co-operation with the education authority, to children of thirteen years of age. The consent of parents will always be first obtained.

The Minister states that before starting a vaccination pro-

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