

her life as daughter of the heroic King Albert and Queen Elisabeth, her marriage to the heir of the Italian Throne, the Prince of Piedmont, and the recent news of the birth of her son—the Prince of Naples—future King of Italy. We present a picture of her sweet children, with the wish that all babes were the favoured of fortune, as they appear to be. Happily the present generation of children are coming into their own, and care of them becoming the nation's responsibility. In no land in recent years has this duty been more fully recognised than in Italy.

Do we realise how the fate of a nation largely depends on its birth-rate, and that statistical experts are uttering grave warnings at the falling birth-rate in this country?

The League of National Life is holding an open meeting at the Friends' House, N.W.1, on March 15th, at 8 p.m., in order to call attention to the matter and to consider the economic, social and moral and religious causes of such falling birth-rate.

The issues involved are probably the most urgent questions of the day.

We read with great interest of the first meeting of the representatives of National Committees on Nutrition which was recently held at the League Secretariat at Geneva. Ten countries were represented besides Great Britain—Belgium, Czechoslovakia, France, Hungary, Latvia, Norway, Sweden, the United States, the U.S.S.R. and Yugoslavia.

Lord Astor, who presided, said that the object of the meeting was to provide an opportunity for an informal exchange of experiences and views among those who were dealing with problems of malnutrition in different countries. The purpose of the League was not to suggest any standardised method of treatment. It sought to

draw attention to a grave problem and to provide opportunities for an exchange of experience in dealing with it.

Various delegates then suggested the methods employed in conducting inquiries in their respective States into the nutrition and diet of population groups.

Dr. Abramson (Sweden) submitted a report which included tables showing the relation between income and diet and between the size of the family and variations in food consumption in Sweden.

Dr. J. M. Hamill, principal medical officer in charge of foods at the British Ministry of Health, described the steps which had been taken to improve the dietary of the United Kingdom.

For the future, said Dr. Hamill, the British committee proposed to investigate the distribution of working-class earnings, the constitution of families, family budgets, and family diets over a period of time. The British committee was also inclined to recommend the clinical method of observing malnutrition.

We are looking forward to the Session at the I.C.N. Congress, when experts will deal with this subject of vital importance to the nationals of every country.

The Charity Commissioners propose to establish a scheme for the regulation of the charity of Edith Barbara Stapley for a Rest

Home for Nurses in connection with the London Hospital.

As a result of Westminster Hospital Festival Dinner, held at the Mansion House on January 25th, at which the Duke of Kent presided, £12,900 has been received towards the special Coronation wing of the new building, and £1,000 as an endowment for the nurses (the income to be used in providing such benefits as additional comforts for nurses, and extra holidays for convalescent nurses).



VITTORIO EMANUELE, PRINCE OF NAPLES, FUTURE KING OF ITALY AND PRINCESS MARIA PIA, HIS SISTER

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