

6 / 1 / 31.

Dear Carr Sanders,

I looked into the kind of data available on the effect of family announcements on the French birthrate some time ago, and the evidence was certainly inconclusive, and indeed has no chance of being anything else.

The French birthrate has certainly been falling more slowly than the English, German, Scandinavian, (and I think also Italian) birthrates; and this may conceivably be due to family allowances or to any one of a number of known or unknown national differences.

As to the population within the pools there was in the six years examined by me no sign of any increased birthrate, although the number of children supported has increased steadily by reason of the larger families attaching themselves to those industries in which larger allowances are paid.

The figures I examined were claimed to be homogeneous in regard to conditions and to enumeration, and referred to one of the largest pools, that of the Upper Rhine which pays allowances at remarkable high rates; being, I think, above the economic cost of the child for children beyond the fourth. They were in fact substantial in regard to economic motive, I think you have the note I wrote for Beveridge on these data (Six Aspects of Family Allowances Nov. 1927).

Yours sincerely

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