

D. C. Advocates Of Birth Control Plan New Clinic

Heartened by recent rulings of Federal courts supporting transmission of contraceptive devices, Washington's birth control advocates yesterday discussed plans for a second clinic here.

Meeting at the Textile Museum, with Mrs. George Hewitt Myers as hostess, the Family Betterment Committee outlined arrangements to open a birth control clinic in the Southwest section and heard addresses by Dr. Prentiss Willson and Dr. Bessie L. Moses.

The committee sponsors the clinic at George Washington University Hospital, the only one established in the Capital, which is under supervision of Dr. Herbert Ramsey.

Dr. Willson, Washington obstetrician, said the four groups which oppose the birth control movement are the "lunatic fringe," the sincere moralists, a small minority in the medical profession and the Catholic Church.

According to the speaker, morality would be promoted rather than damaged by freer dissemination of information and availability of materials to married couples genuinely in need of instruction and advice.

Except for the few who are opposed to the movement due to religious scruples, American physicians are practically united in favor, Dr. Willson said. Speaking on the legal aspects, he presented an opinion by a prominent Washington law firm that instructions and devices may be sent through the mails and given to clinic and office patients in full compliance with District statutes.

Dr. Moses spoke on the operations of the two birth control clinics which she administers in Baltimore, one of them in Johns Hopkins University Hospital. Other speakers were Dr. Ramsey and Mrs. John Martin, the latter representing the Family Betterment Committee.