

in some cases diminish an interperate several indifference is like having down the house
to get worst fig, I think. I'm not saying against you - as far as I know: as wondering as

Yours
H.W.B.

~~of the~~
herbale

22.10.23

My dear Harold,

I don't know what you have
to apologise for. I feel the intricacy of
these problems, the difficulty of pushing
practical changes when you know so little
what other changes will occur to interact with
those you push. I suppose there are condi-
tions in which increase of population here
might or did mean more output per unit
of labour: it afforded sufficient numbers
for large scale production, which enabled us
to turn out goods which we exchanged for more
food than the men employed could have pro-
duced. No doubt capital increased; but
the amount of capital is always fluctuating.
Hardly asked the other day how far you must
travel from here, in a h.w. direction, to reach
the pole - the answer (if you could move
on a geometrical line) being an infinite dis-

R. J. Harold

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H W B Joseph

to condemn birth-control in the name of population. That must be and to wish to perpetuate the evil that comes from uncontrolled procreation, because the fear of them may turn, in a spiral, since the direction changes continuously, to the direction of economic movements, I suppose. But what increasingly weighs with me is the evil of an urbanisation; & I take it that anywhere we can only retard an increasing population by still further increasing the ratio of industry to agriculture. It does seem to me desirable to get a habit of small families, especially in lower parts of the population: among whom you can't expect abortion, for they live in too few rooms, & are too little educated to intellectual interests; & I believe the burden of childbirth is very heavily felt, & that women defer pregnancy - a much frequer pregnancy. Yet it is there that the prejudice, a principle, against controlling conception is strongest. And I can't that it's wrong. There's a paper by Hodgson about it, from the religious standpoint, in the current Hibbert. He points out the importance of temperance, & I do not question that. But then, large families are not condemned by those who condemn birth control: that is much inconsistent, if you are

R. J. Harold

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