

June 3, 1939

Frederick
Mr. ~~Frank~~ Osborn
60 E. 42nd Street
New York City

Dear Mr. Osborn:

We were sorry to miss you in New York, but we did have a very good session with Dr. Meyer and have worked out the general plans for the program, a copy of which I am enclosing with this letter.

Dr. Meyer is taking over the work with enthusiasm and energy. I feel that he will leave a valuable impress upon the Conference by emphasizing the scientific point of view and the necessity of integrating the different disciplines now dealing with the work of the Conference.

I appreciate your speaking to Mr. Packard with reference to securing some financial support for the National Conference. I did speak to him over the telephone and found that it would be more convenient for him to see me when I am in New York again, toward the end of the month.

In the meantime, we are working on a plan to meet an offer of a friend of Professor Sayre who has volunteered to take out a life membership at \$100 provided four other life memberships be secured. The plan decided upon is to ask a few persons to join in honoring certain of the men who have taken the leadership in the field of family relations, by making small contributions toward life memberships. Professor Sayre and Dr. Meyer would be, without question, two of these persons, and I would like your suggestions as to the other two. The names of Dr. Goldstein and Professor Broves had occurred to me.

I very much appreciate your willingness to take charge of the Conference committee on eugenics and the family. Our plan is to have the members of these committees limited by invitation so that the number present in Philadelphia will not exceed 25 or 30 persons. This would make possible the participation of all the members of the committee in the discussion. It was also planned that each committee hold three sessions so that they can not merely bring up points for discussion but have sufficient time to work these through to some definite conclusions. This may not work out as well as we anticipate

June 8, 1939

but it will be well worth trying.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Ernest W. Burgess

EWB:lt
enc.

June 9, 1939

Professor Norman S. Hayner
University of Washington
Seattle, Washington

Dear Hayner:

Please pardon my delay in answering your letter due to my absence from the city.

I was delighted to hear of the success of the first meeting of the Washington State Conference. I very much appreciated your full description of the meetings and congratulate you upon their success.

I think your decision to include Oregon, North Idaho, and British Columbia with Washington in the Pacific Northwest Regional Conference on Family Relations is a wise one, and I am glad that you are making plans in that direction.

With best wishes to you and Mrs. Hayner, I am

Sincerely yours,

Ernest J. Burgess

EB:11

June 14, 1939

The Manager
Menasha Press
450 Main Street
Menasha, Wisconsin

Dear Sir:

Under separate cover I am sending you a copy of the official publication of the National Conference on Family Relations, Living. It is now planned to transfer the publication to another publisher in or near Chicago. I am therefore writing to ask if you will give me an estimate of the different costs that would be involved if your Press would undertake its publication, assuming the same format, paper, stock, cover, and size as the January issue. We would like an estimate based upon an edition of 1000 copies with the cost of additional hundreds of copies.

Sincerely yours,

Ernest W. Burgess

ETE:lt

June 15, 1939

Dr. Adolf Meyer
Psychiatric Clinic
Johns Hopkins Medical School
Baltimore, Maryland

Dear Dr. Meyer:

I am enclosing a copy of my letter to Dr. Goldstein in reply to one received from him, a copy of which I think he sent to you. I am enclosing also a progress report on the National Conference on Family Relations.

Do you still plan to go to California during this month? If so, I am hoping that you will return in time so that we may have a meeting in New York, possibly June 30. Would that day be convenient for you?

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Ernest T. Burgess

EWB:it
encs.

June 15, 1929

Professor Ernest R. Groves
University of North Carolina
Chapel Hill, North Carolina

Dear Professor Groves:

You should not feel at all embarrassed by the correspondence between yourself and Professor Sayre. In fact, I had urged upon Professor Sayre that he confer with you in the way in which he has. You have been such a leading pioneer in the field of family relations that you would honor our new organization by assuming the leadership.

I am sorry to hear of Mrs. Groves' illness and trust that she will soon entirely recover from it.

I very much appreciate your invitation to visit you at Chapel Hill and will certainly take advantage of it if the opportunity arises.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Ernest W. Burgess

EWB:it

June 15, 1939

Dr. Sidney Z. Goldstein
New York State Conference on
Marriage and the Family
40 East 68th Street
New York City

Dear Dr. Goldstein:

I am glad to get your letter of June 9 together with the questions which you raise in it. I will comment upon them in the way in which you numbered them in your letter.

1. Seven section meetings may be too many. There is, however, the group which is interested in eugenics which Mr. Osborn has promised to organize. I think that they should be included. There are, I believe, also, those interested in economic bases of family life. We should perhaps pursue that further and see if there are enough who would be interested.

2. It may be possible to cut down the number of persons in groups to be invited to the meeting of the National Conference by being more discriminating in regard to the selection within each group. For example, instead of inviting all sociologists, we might invite only those teaching courses in the family, and in the group of home economics teachers, only those interested in family relations.

3. I have been giving some thought to the question of financing the Conference and am hoping that our application for funds from the Davison Foundation will materialize. If this takes place, we will not need to resort to other methods of financing. In the meantime we might think of ways in which the necessary funds could be secured.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Dr. Meyer, and am enclosing for you a progress report on the National Conference on Family Relations.

I am looking forward to talking over these matters with you and Dr. Meyers in New York at the end of this month.

Sincerely yours,

Ernest W. Burgess

EWB:lt
enc.
cc - Dr. Adolf Meyer

June 23, 1933

Professor Paul Sayre
National Conference on
Family Relations
University of Iowa
Iowa City, Iowa

Dear Sayre:

I have been planning for a long time to write you about recent developments of the National Conference on Family Relations. We have had three meetings with Dr. Meyer in planning for the National Conference in December. After discussing the matter with Dean Morse, Geoffrey May, and others, it was decided to hold the meetings in Philadelphia rather than in Washington. Mr. May, who would naturally have been the chairman of our committee on local arrangements, advised strongly against holding them in Washington. Accordingly, we are setting the dates of the meetings for Tuesday and Wednesday, December 26 and 27. On Tuesday we will have no competition from the meetings of other societies.

I have been going ahead with plans on the membership drive, particularly with reference to life memberships, and I believe that we will be successful in achieving our objective of four life memberships to meet the one conditional life membership offer. I will write you later about this.

Enclosed is a statement of progress which indicates what has been taking place recently. I think I wrote you that Mr. Packard is taking under consideration our application for funds and that I am to see him again the end of this month when I will be in New York.

We have been very greatly delayed with getting out the second issue of Living due to the fact that the University of Chicago Press indicated at first that they would be glad to take over the publication and then later stated that they found they could not add to the number of journals they are now publishing. I am now in negotiations with the Banta Press, Menasha, Wisconsin, and I hope that we will be able to conclude arrangements so that the second issue can speedily be published.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Ernest W. Burgess

EWB:lt
enc.

June 23, 1939

Mrs. W. F. Dummer
679 N. Michigan Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mrs. Dummer:

On behalf of the National Conference on Family Relations I wish to express appreciation of your contribution to the honorary membership for Dr. Adolf Meyer.

You are, I think, basically right in your philosophy of family relations. There is probably more to be apprehended and transmitted unconsciously and by intuition than through methods of scientific research but it is my judgment that as human beings we must rely upon both methods of securing knowledge.

I have been giving considerable thought to the statement that doubt does not seem a good foundation for marriage. I have been attempting to see the possibilities of substituting for the concepts of happiness or adjustment the concept of obtaining most out of living. This would transfer the emphasis from the negative to the positive aspects of the marriage relationship. What do you think of this shift of emphasis?

I hope you will have the time and energy to put as much as possible of your thinking in written form. I know of no one who has attempted more than you to synthesize knowledge from intuition, from philosophy, and from science into an organic whole. Your phrase, the art of thinking, I believe, represents a fusion of these different elements in thought.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Ernest T. Burgess

EB:lt

The University of Chicago

The Law School

CHICAGO

June 23, 1939

Professor E. W. Burgess
Department of Sociology

Dear Mr. Burgess:

I think the idea of providing life memberships for four of the leaders of the National Conference on Family Relations is a very happy one. I am very sorry to say, however, that at the present moment I am unable to contribute. Please do not interpret this statement as a lack of willingness to cooperate in an effort to support the National Conference and to honor Mr. Sayre. Mr. Sayre is not only a personal friend of mine, but I also know how much he has done for the National Conference and the ideals for which it stands. However, during the last few months, I have been compelled to make such numerous and large contributions for the support of individual German refugees that I had to budget my contributions for charitable and similar purposes in the most careful manner.

With sincerest regards,

Yours very truly,

Max Rheinstein
Max Rheinstein

MR:RSB

June 29, 1939

Dr. Max Rheinstein
The Law School
Faculty Exchange

Dear Dr. Rheinstein:

I appreciate the reasons why you are not able to make a contribution to the life membership for Mr. Sayre.

Last Monday I was called downtown and when I returned in the afternoon you had already left your office. Dr. Adolf Meyer, the new president of the National Conference on Family Relations, has commissioned me to ask you to give an address on The Family, the State, and the Law, at the next annual meeting to be held in Philadelphia. If you are interested in doing this, I can take it up with you when we both return to Chicago later in the summer.

Hoping that you will have a good vacation, and with best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Ernest W. Burgess

EWB:it

The University of Chicago

The Law School

CHICAGO

August 29, 1939

Professor Ernest W. Burgess
Beverly Shores, Indiana

Dear Doctor Burgess:

The invitation to speak before the second annual meeting of the National Conference on Family Relations is too tempting to be refused. I should only appreciate it if my address could be scheduled for Tuesday, December 26 instead of Wednesday, December 27. The Association of American Law Schools will meet in Chicago on December 27, 28 and 29 and I would not like to miss this important meeting.

Very sincerely yours,



Max Rheinstein

Institute of Women's Professional Relations
New London, Connecticut

WASHINGTON OFFICE
1066 NATIONAL PRESS BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D. C.

RESEARCH HEADQUARTERS
CONNECTICUT COLLEGE
NEW LONDON, CONN.

MRS. CATHERINE FILENE SHOUSE
CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MRS. CHASE GOING WOODHOUSE
MANAGING DIRECTOR

September 14, 1939

Mr. E. W. Burgess
1126 East 69th Street
Chicago, Illinois


Dear Mr. Burgess:

Enclosed is a copy of my letter of May 10; another copy was sent you in June. No doubt it arrived during vacation time and you have not received it.

We had hoped so much to have a joint meeting. Since this now seems impossible we have arranged the program as enclosed.

I hope it will be possible for you to speak briefly on the objectives and activities of the National Conference on Family Relations. If it is impossible for you to be there yourself, would you be good enough to designate some person to do this?

Sincerely,


Chase Going Woodhouse
Director

CGW:m

Wednesday, December 27, 1939
One to Three O'Clock

Section on the Family

Chairman: Mrs. Chase Going Woodhouse, Connecticut College

Topic: A review and appraisal of education and sources
of information concerning marriage and the family.

"Objectives of education for marriage and the family
and the best methods of obtaining such objectives."

Lawrence E. Frank, Josiah Macy Foundation, New York

"A Summary of the Objectives of the Various Agencies
and Associations devoted to Education and Guidance
in Marriage and Family Life."

Ernest R. Groves, University of North Carolina,

Conferences with a small group of newly married
couples.

Ralph P. Bridgeman, Marriage Consultation Service.

Joseph K. Polson, National Council of Parent Education
Vassar College

The family study program of the American Association
of University Women -----

National Conference on Family Relations -----

INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH IN SOCIAL SCIENCE
THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA
CHAPEL HILL

September 18, 1939

Professor Ernest Burgess
University of Chicago
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Professor Burgess:

I imagine you were on your vacation when I wrote you last.
I shall of course not plan to go ahead until I hear from
you and know that what I wrote you is satisfactory.

With the best of wishes

Cordially yours



ERNEST R. GROVES
Professor of Sociology

ERG:G

September 21, 1939

Dr. Adolf Meyer
Johns Hopkins Medical School
Baltimore, Maryland

Dear Dr. Meyer:

Enclosed is a draft for your consideration and revision of your statement as President announcing the second annual meeting of the National Conference on Family Relations. This will be printed in a forthcoming issue of Living. I know you will want to make considerable additions and to rephrase it.

I am asking my publishers, Prentice-Hall and Company, to send you a copy of Predicting Success and Failure in Marriage as soon as it is published. I will greatly appreciate knowing your reaction to it, particularly as I recognize the great importance of psychiatric factors in marital adjustment.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Ernest W. Burgess

ZJB:lt
enc.

September 21, 1939

Mrs. Chase Going Woodhouse
Institute of Women's Professional Relations
New London, Connecticut

Dear Mrs. Woodhouse:

I regret very much my failure to write to you in regard to the joint program with the National Conference on Family Relations. We only now concluded our plans which call for meetings Tuesday and Wednesday.

In view of this fact would it be feasible to shift your meetings from Wednesday to either Thursday or Friday? We would be glad in that case to have your session a joint session with our organization if that seemed desirable to you.

It is planned to have our meetings Tuesday and Wednesday so as to conflict only one day with the meetings of the Social science associations. Each afternoon, however, we have devoted to conference committees and would like to have the participation in these of yourself and the other persons whose names you have mentioned in your program. I hope very much that it may be feasible to shift your program to another day.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Ernest W. Burgess

EWB:it

September 21, 1939

Dr. Max Rheinstein
The Law School
Faculty Exchange

Dear Dr. Rheinstein:

We are planning to schedule your address for Tuesday evening, December 23, so that you will be able to return to Chicago the next day.

Dr. Adolf Mayer was very happy when I told him that you would give this address.

Sincerely yours,

Ernest W. Burgess

EWB:lt

September 26, 1939

Professor Ernest R. Groves
University of North Carolina
Chapel Hill, North Carolina

Dear Professor Groves:

As secretary of the National Conference on Family Relations I am very happy that you will undertake the responsibility of acting as chairman of the conference committee, Education for Marriage and Family Life. Dr. Adolf Meyer and I understand that your acceptance is with the reservation that you may not be able to be present, in which case, Dr. Klaiss will act for you.

I am greatly interested in the outline of the program for education in marriage and family living which you have agreed to prepare. I hope it may be possible for you to complete the preparation of this within the next four to six weeks so that it may be mimeographed and sent to members of the conference committee. I would be very happy for you to select the persons whom you wish to serve on this committee. I will send you the names of those members of the National Conference who have indicated this field as their first choice.

With appreciation of the contribution which you are making in this and other ways, and with best wishes to you and Mrs. Groves, I am

Sincerely yours,

Ernest W. Burgess

EWB:it

September 27, 1939

Professor Paul Sayre
National Conference on Family Relations
University of Iowa
Iowa City, Iowa

Dear Professor Sayre:

I was glad to receive your letter today, and I appreciate your good words about my book.

The next issue of Living should be out within the next two weeks. We are running two articles from you in it, on the work of the National Conference, and on Mary of Burgundy. I am enclosing with this letter a copy of the cut of the cover which I thought your daughter would be interested in seeing.

I am sorry that this issue will not come up to the standard which you set in the first issue but I hope that you will think that it does not fall too far below your ideal of the magazine. I am hoping that by the next issue we may have a permanent editor.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Ernest V. Burgess

EWB:lt
enc.