

# Birth Control Advocate Cleared Of All Charges by Suffolk Court

By DAVID A. ANDELMAN

Special to The New York Times

HAUPPAUGE, L. I., Sept. 20 —All charges against William Baird Jr., the birth control advocate, were dismissed in Suffolk County District Court here today after the District Attorney argued that "we have no right to impose any personal feelings of morality one way or another upon society."

Mr. Baird has been charged on three counts, including "impairing the morals of a minor" after his arrest at a birth control and abortion information meeting in the Town of Huntington last month.

After today's dismissal by District Court Judge Edward U. Green, County Executive H. Lee Dennison said he would call in Police Commissioner John L. Barry, whose department was responsible for the original arrest of Mr. Baird, and instruct the commissioner that in any future incidents of this type, "I want to be sure we have a better case."

"I am not exactly ecstatic about this kind of publicity," Mr. Dennison said in an interview today. "I expect a report from the Commissioner."

Mr. Baird, after this court appearance, called again for the dismissal of Mr. Barry as commissioner, charging that other similar action by the police have "left many other innocent people in jails in Suffolk County."

Mr. Dennison refused to consider the question of dismissing the commissioner, whom he ap-

pointed initially 12 years ago and reappointed last year. "Mr. Barry is Police Commissioner and will continue to be," Mr. Dennison said.

Last month, Mr. Baird was arrested together with a Suffolk housewife, Mrs. Nancy Manfredonia, and charged with impairing the morals of a minor —Mrs. Manfredonia's 14-month-old daughter—by subjecting her to the lecture. Mrs. Manfredonia said that her daughter Karen has a four-word vocabulary.

Last Monday, District Attorney George J. Aspland withdrew this charge against both Mr. Baird and Mrs. Manfredonia but the Police Department filed new charges against Mr. Baird on three counts—impairing the morals of a minor—presumably of another child who may have been in the audience—obstructing governmental operations and violation of a section of the State Education Law governing display of birth-control devices.

Judge Green in ruling said that "there is no precedent in law for holding the defendant" since it is not illegal in New York State to dispense birth-control information.

Mr. Aspland, the District Attorney, said after the hearing that "the question of abortion was not involved in this case." He added that Mr. Barry was "most concerned that the Police Department have its day in court. They did." Then the District Attorney moved for the dismissal of the charges.