THE VALUE OF VITAL STATISTICS TO THE EUGENIC MOVEMENTS.

[By Dr. Edward A. Foley, Assistant Superintendent Jacksonville State Hospital, Jacksonville, Illinois.]

Eugenics is the science which deals with all influences that improve the inborn qualities of the race. During the past year new impetus has been given to the work started by Sir Francis Galton. The long slumbering Mendelian theories have taken new life. A new group of investigators are striving to help future generations.

Some individuals are inclined to look upon the work of eugeniasts as a fad. The lay press would lead one to think that the social delinquent had suddenly increased in numbers. Such we know is not the case; they have been with us at all times. True, they were hitherto permitted to shift for themselves. Only recently have humanitarians attempted to improve their way of living.

It is only within a short time that there has been any organized movement to check tuberculosis. The crowded districts of our cities furnished a breeding spot not only for tuberculosis, but other contagious diseases. It required some years of agitation to arouse the medical profession, the law-makers, and the general public to action. When statistics had been collected, showing large numbers of deaths from one contagious disease or another; it was noticed that these diseases occurred in certain localities, and under certain conditions. Pioneers set to work to find, if possible, some reason for this. And before long changes were made in our building laws whereby tenements were so constructed as to give plenty of air, and prevent over-crowding. This was a real eugenic movement. Conditions in the crowded sections of our municipalities have somewhat improved under the above changes, but these changes have not been sufficient.

Not only in the cities, but in the rural districts, all influences must be exercised for the improvement of the inborn traits. The country practitioner has an equal if not a greater opportunity to become a eugeniast than the physician in a large city, because he may become more personally intimate with the family.

Care in preparing death records and careful investigation into family health records will aid not only the family but the community. The fact that tuberculosis is closely allied with degenerative conditions is well known, but whether or not the determiner is transmitted in the germ plasm has not been fully defined. Such records might throw light upon this problem.

In all contemplated marriages it would be wise for the participants to prepare careful pedigrees, showing diseased conditions on both sides of the household. This would partially foreshadow the quality of the future generation. It is true that many who are now responsible for the multiplication of disease, both mental and physical, would give no heed to such warning. Laws could be enacted, however, to assist those incapable of assisting themselves.

It is a well known fact that there is a great deal of carelessness regarding the registry of vital statistics. A few years ago the Medical Practice Act in Illinois was amended, whereby a bonus of twenty-five cents was
offered for the registration of all deaths and births. It should not be necessary to resort to such means to have physicians do their duty. We all know the dire consequences of prevalence of epidemics to countries, to patients, and to the commonwealth. Again, in some cases it is rather easy to secure a doctor's signature to death certificates; and this also causes criticism. All conditions contributory to the dissolution of life should be carefully investigated.

In going over a pedigree such facts as the following would be met, any thinking person would stop to consider. A grandfather on the maternal side died at the age of 75, his death being due to some cerebral insult, probably thrombosis. He had been a steady and alcoholic. His wife committed suicide. (Here we suspect a mental trouble.) Notwithstanding the inability to support a family, a large one resulted from the above union. We would expect one-fourth of these children to be healthy, some to be alcoholic and others to show nervous instability.

One of their children died with symptoms resembling those of tuberculosis; there is a possibility that another suffered from rheumatism, or some of its sequels, a possible cardiac trouble, and death. An apparently healthy child on the paternal side may unite in marriage with an apparently healthy one on the maternal side. The reproduction of species from the union is as follows: Two apparently healthy children; one epileptic or one feeble-minded; another with inpatient tuberculosis or rheumatism, and possibly a fourth with dementia praecox. Yet to the ordinary observer no insanity or degenerative condition existed in the family. The possibilities are that the individuals might go on to middle life and then die from some cerebral insult, but we are not sure this is true. If the patient had been only a four cases, the possibility of this might not be the case. One way to prove that the Mendelian laws apply to man is for the physicians to exert more care in diagnosis and in making returns of deaths to departments of health.

It is strange to see how little significance is attached to conditions that are of vital importance. One will tell you of a father or mother, or uncle or aunt, dying suddenly; but they attribute this to old age. This might be true, but what else? Going back farther we find that other members of the family died under similar conditions. Does this seem of importance to the one giving the history? It does not. But should not such knowledge be of importance to any household? Should not the knowledge of a family heirloom of arterial disease have some influence in the forming of habits of the future generation? Should it not have some effect on their children, and children's children?

But it is not alone in weakened walls of cerebral blood-vessels that we find the footprints of heredity. The careful investigation of family records by the Office of Vital Statistics would reveal the hereditary transmission of cancer. We all know what cancerous tumors are. We know of the transmission of such a diseased condition. Therefore, carefully recorded vital statistics would teach much should be impressed on physicians first. When they come to realize this fact, the public can easily be reached. Vital statistics carefully grouped would undoubtedly show certain idiosyncrasies in many families and localities. Just as the offspring of Nantucket show degenerative traits, so the famous Jewish exhibit antisocial habits; so in other families will a tendency to certain diseased physical conditions appear.

To prevent the constant return of such conditions as above mentioned, something must be done. To improve the race, we ourselves must affect change. When the members of the "Boston Tea Party" consigned King George's tea chest to the Atlantic, little did they think of the great republic over which the stars and stripes now float. So it may be, as the years go on, that the beginning now made by the eugenists will result in a better race. When it has been demonstrated that certain conditions exist in certain families, and that a slight change in the adjustment to environment will improve those who came after, we shall have accomplished something.

Before the above condition can be effected, there is much to be done. Physicians must learn to carefully study and record family traits; and they must be more careful in diagnosis. During the past few years the duty of physicians to the public has changed. Formerly the physician's services were required to make sick people well. Now it is their duty to keep well people from getting sick.

The function of eugenics is to produce a healthy race; consequently it is essential to point out by vital statistics how certain diseased conditions may be overcome in the future. A corn crop, the best of this year's yield, is not as essential as that our future race should have as good a chance as the corn crop.

After reading the family history of a case of dementia praecox, the following statement forms an impressive part. If the family history was investigated for two generations, and presented nothing of particular interest, except history of tuberculosis and cancer. When the investigation of the family history apparently did not show any mental disease, the fact that tuberculosis and cancer existed is enough to cause one to stop and think. It remains for someone in the future to show whether or not there is some connection between physical diseases and those of the nervous system.

The following pedigree charts have been selected at random from a number I have collected. They illustrate briefly what may be accomplished in the future.

**Chart I**—In this chart the paternal great-grandfather was tubercular. Nothing definite can be learned concerning the paternal great-grandmother, except that she married. By the first union three children were born. The first child died of typhoid fever, age 5; the second died of typhoid fever, age 9; the third and last child developed a psychosis late in life, and is now an inmate of the Jacksonville State Hospital. By the second union, one child was born, a girl, who, so far as we know, is normal.

On the maternal side, the grandfather died of tuberculosis, and the grandmother, a nervous woman all her life, died at the age of 53 from causes unknown. Their union brought forth seven children. The first died from paralysis; of the second nothing definite was learned. The fourth, a child—the mother of the patient under observation—was rheumatic. The fifth child died at an early age from tuberculosis. Of the sixth nothing definite was learned. Our informant states that the youngest boy died as the result of a stab wound.

Now we return to the paternal side. The grandfather was the paralyzed, rheumatic son dying of typhoid fever, herefore described. For his consort he selected a woman who later died of tuberculosis; at age 25 she was tubercular. Their union brought forth six children: three of whom died from tuberculosis.
Two were very nervous, and of the other little information can be gained. The second child, who was one of the nervous children described above, selected for his mate the rheumatic daughter mentioned on the maternal side of the household. Their union resulted in three children. The oldest is a rheumatic girl; the second is a defective boy, now a patient in this hospital; the third child died at the age of 4; cause of death being diphtheria. The paternal grandmother, as stated, married the third time; but the union did not bring forth any children. What relation the tubercular, insane, nervous strain on the paternal side, and the tubercular, rheumatic, nervous strain on the maternal side had in forming the rheumatic, defective condition in the present generation, time alone will have to work out.

Chart 1—Here we have an alcoholic grandfather. And a grandmother dying suddenly with cardiac disease. This is on the maternal side. On the maternal side nothing definite can be learned of the great-grandfather. The great-grandmother had what our informant called "dizzy spells." The records show the cause of death was apoplexy, at the age of 85. Now the alcoholic, cardiac disease union on the maternal side of the household is responsible for four sons and one daughter. The four boys are very nervous; the girl died in infancy—cause of death not given. The oldest son was the father of the patient in our hospital. He was very nervous, and had a marked twitching of the head and eyes. This is of importance when we learn that he died at the age of 22; the cause of death probably tuberculosis. Nothing could be learned of the other boys, except that they are very nervous.

Returning to the maternal side. The patient's grandmother was the oldest of seven children; and died at the age of 21, following childbirth. Of her six brothers and sisters, the sister next in age also died in childbirth. Her oldest brother died from measles, while in the army. (Civil War.) The next brother developed mental symptoms, and the physician in attendance gave the cause of death as "softening of the brain." The next boy was killed accidentally by the bursting of a cannon. The sixth child, a girl, developed a psychosis following childbirth, and the members of the family state that she was very violent for one year. Since then she has been in a normal condition. The youngest sister was at one time a patient in the Jacksonville State Hospital; and after a residence of thirteen months there was taken home by her husband. Examination of the records would lead one to believe that she was a depressed case of manic depressive Insanity.

The oldest child in the family selected for her mate a man who died at the age of 45 from tuberculosis. This last union was responsible for the patient's mother, and one other daughter who died in infancy. The mother herself is very nervous, and suffers from attacks of migraine. She was married three times. By her first union with the nervous, and probably tubercular, young man above described, she became responsible for three children. The oldest is a girl of 26, very nervous and liable to marry. The second is a girl of 23, and a case of dementia praecox, now in a State hospital. The third and youngest, a boy of 22, is an invalid. His mother states he is also "beginning to act like his sister did before she became insane."

By the woman's second union she became the mother of a girl who is at present being treated for tuberculosis of the intestines. The girl's father, for a long time previous to death, suffered from a cough, and probably died from tuberculosis. The third union has not resulted in offspring; luckily for some unborn child. Here is another problem of interest—what relation did the physical defects, above described, have on the unfortunate one now under State care, and the one liable to be?

Chart 3—On the paternal side we learn that the grandmother of the patient whose history was investigated developed a psychosis previous to death. She had married twice; but only by the first union did she bring forth children. The family consisted of three boys and two girls. So far as can be learned, one boy died from measles; the other four children are in good mental and physical health.

On the maternal side the grandmother was probably a case of psychasthenia. During her life she was very nervous and developed a phobia about crossing bridges. Nothing could be learned regarding her husband. Their union resulted in five children, four boys and a girl, the mother of our patient being the girl. Relatives state that she was always nervous. Her brother, next younger, died from carcinoma of the face. The three brothers living are said to be in good mental and physical condition. The last generation of the family consists of seven children, six girls and a boy. The boy is an alcoholic. The fourth child, a case of dementia praecox, is in a State hospital. The next girl—age 13—is beginning to develop symptoms similar in character to the girl now a State charge; so her father informs us.

What are the causes leading up to the mental conditions above described? Do they come of their own volition? Time alone will answer this problem. The study of vital statistics will undoubtedly give us some aid in forming conclusions as to conditions leading toward race improvement.

The above statements and charts I leave to your consideration. My only hope is that in some future generation the efforts of the present day eugenists will have resulted in a better race.
THE EUGENIC MOVEMENT

(By Dr. Clara May Tower, Psychologist, Lincoln School and Colony.)

The Committee on Eugenics of the Illinois Conference of Charities and Corrections for the year 1915 calls attention to this series of articles to several conditions which are tending year by year to lower the quality of the American race. The committee takes this action because it believes that these conditions are not irreparable, and also because it believes that when the public conscience is once aroused to a realization of their existence ameliorative action will soon follow.

Much is being done in all parts of the country to improve living conditions, and through this means raise the rank and file of the people to a higher plane; much is also being done to protect and care for those weak members of society who are unable to hold their own in the struggle for existence. As society becomes more and more solicitous in regard to its weaker members, the fact becomes increasingly evident that the number of insane persons is tremendously large. As more and more intelligent effort is made to improve these insane ones and raise them to the plane of self-support, the discouraging discovery is made that many of them do not possess the potentiality of such development. They cannot be educated, we can do no more than protect and direct them as children of the race.

Why is it that in this age when instruction is not merely freely offered but forced upon the children of the poor, there exists so many hopelessly unintelligent, unteachable persons?

For an answer we must turn to the studies in human heredity which prove that the mental and physical traits of the parents reappear in the children, that the weaknesses of one generation are present in the generation of the next. If we would have good stock we must breed from good stock. If we want strong men in mind and body, we must nurture them in wise and pure surroundings. We must have strong stock to produce strong stock.

To the intelligent methods of human heredity are due the results accomplished by Sir Francis Galton in his studies of human heredity in the applied science of eugenics. A complete reproduction of the work of Galton and his associates is not possible in the space available. It may be said that Galton's work is the beginning of a new science which will have a profound effect on the future of the human race. The eugenics of Galton is the beginning of a new science which will have a profound effect on the future of the human race.

Sir Francis Galton proved that the mental and physical traits of the parents reappear in the children, that the weaknesses of one generation are present in the generation of the next. If we would have good stock we must breed from good stock. If we want strong men in mind and body, we must nurture them in wise and pure surroundings. We must have strong stock to produce strong stock.

At the present time the people of the civilized nations are bemoaning with an apprehensive great number of feeble-minded persons. The conservative estimate of those in the United States is 250,000, whose existence results not only in a constant drain on the national resources, but also in a lowering of the gross intelligence of the people. It is the prophecy of some of the foremost eugenicists that that nation which first takes measures to control and reduce the increase of its feeble-minded population will find itself the leader among the nations. If we would that our nation be that leader it is essential, in the words of Sir Francis Galton, that "the importance of eugenics be introduced into the national consciousness as a new religion." It was through Galton's "highly eugenic" laws that this nation's feeble-minded population has been reduced.

Already the Eugenic Section of the American Breeders Association have awakened public interest in the problem among the American people, and this symposium is an effort to aid in the work of spreading the knowledge of existing non-ideal conditions, and of practical methods of dealing with the same. It includes articles treating of insanity, feeble-mindedness, and epilepsy from a standpoint of humanity, and of blindness and mental defect in relation to discussed condition of persons. There is also an article dealing with quite another source of our mentally defective population—the immigrant. Too many mentally defective foreigners come to us each year to be realized. Fortunately, this is one which can be effectively blocked by wise legislation, and the article here presented by Professor Ward points out with clarity what this should be. Practical measures for preventing the continuance of feeble-minded strains from generation to generation are presented in the article entitled, "The Psychological Clinic as a Eugenic Agency." The article dealing with vital statistics points out the necessity for the collection of all data which may ultimately add to our knowledge of the causes of pathological and abnormal conditions.

Clara May Tower, Chairman, Committee on Eugenics.

The last decade had witnessed a complete change in the point of view of our thinking citizens, with reference to our institutions, their foundation, effectiveness, future and even their permanency. It is not many years since the average citizen of the United States felt that problems of life had been solved by the statement contained in the Declaration of Independence and the rights secured to the individual by the Constitution of the United States.

The American has always been prone to consider statement as equivalent to achievement, and having once stated a thing, went on to something else without seeing whether or not the results were secured which he anticipated. Montesquieu in his great work on the Spirit of Democrats, published in 1744, called attention to this danger in all democracies, particularly in America. He points out that to secure the same results in a democracy such as we have, it takes a much larger amount of effort, and it is exceedingly difficult in such an organization of society, to secure the concentration of attention on a particular subject, on the part of the public, necessary for the consistent following up of a particular line of investigation or the administration of laws intended to improve conditions.

The early days of our country were spent in securing individual freedom and the statement of and the buttresses thrown about this by our forefathers have never been surpassed. We then went through a long period of material development, interrupted by the period of the Civil War which was followed by an unsurpassed material prosperity.

It was realized that in many of the things that affected the common everyday life of the people we had fallen far behind several of the European countries which we regarded as less mindful of their people, as a whole, than we are. Gradually an interest in social legislation, tending to meet these conditions was developed, until within the last decade such interest has swept the country. Sometimes the leadership in this movement has not been wholly competent but vast strides have been made towards the improvement of the general working conditions of life and the environment of our people. It was felt that if we could only have proper surroundings for the poorer classes of our population that the problems of vice and crime would be solved and that our people and institutions would more nearly correspond to the ideals of the nation.

Whatmen\footnote{Hereditary and Social by William Cecil Damplin Whatmen & Catherine During Whatmen, (Longmans, Green & Co., 1912.)} says:

"Time was—and not many decades ago—when the biological views of Lamarck of the inheritance by offspring of characteristics acquired during life by their parents were applied confidentially to the phenomena of social evolution. The fashionable and optimistic doctrine was preached that we had only to improve one generation by more healthy surroundings, or by better education, and, by the mere action of heredity, the next generation would begin on a higher level of natural endowment than its predecessor, and so, from generation to generation on this theory, we could hope continually to raise the inherent character of a race in an unlimited progress of cumulative improvement."

It is pointed out by the same authors that much of the impetus given to educational and philanthropic work during this period of great interest in social service was inspired by this doctrine which was practically discredited amongst scientific men before it was received by the general public. This work of social improvement has been going on for a sufficient length of time now, so that many of the observers have felt disappointed with the results. It has not accomplished, desirable as it is to furnish a favorable environment, what was hoped from its advocates. Vice still goes on, crime is still committed, the feeble-minded and the insane are multiplying and the problems of society with reference to defectiveness of all kinds are increasing rather than on the decline. If the theory upon which such exclusive attention to the improvement of our population has been centered upon their environment, had been correct, with their improved conditions and education, these problems should have been solved. With reference to this matter Dr. Coulter\footnote{Professor John Muir Coulter of the University of Chicago. Heredity and Eugenics, University of Chicago Press, Chicago, 1912. See Spur 2.} says:

"The changes in structure brought about during the life of an individual are spoken of as "acquired characters." * * *

The present consensus of opinion seems to be that such acquired characters as Lamarck had in mind are not transmissible, but the whole subject of the transmission of acquired characters is a matter of definition rather than anything else."

The Whatmens\footnote{See Spur 2.} say on this subject:

But half a century ago, Lamarck's explanation of evolution was replaced by that of Darwin; and, of recent years, the work of Weismann and others has led biologists to doubt more and more whether characters acquired during life by the action of the environment are inherited at all by the offspring. Yet, deceived by their hopes and aspirations, and led astray by incorrect elementary knowledge, our philanthropists, and still more our politicians, continued to talk and act as though improvement in the mere material surroundings of life, would, of itself and unaided, suffice to improve the race.

Nevertheless, improvement in surroundings and social conditions represents the only conscious share taken hitherto by man in raising the level of his race, and for its own sake, it is worthy of the efforts made to secure it.

Doubtless material improvement in the physical conditions of mankind benefits the present generation by easing the circumstances of life, and lessening the struggle for existence among those least able to bear it; doubtless it will be a general, somewhat not intangible improvement of the conditions of its nurture in infancy. But the process has definite limits, quickly reached. There are even, as we shall see later on, special dangers attached to any progressive lowering of the standard of individual exertion necessary to maintain a Central position of independence.

The results, at all events, have not satisfied the friends of this social movement and attention has been begun to center upon some other method of rare improvement. Much pioneer work was done by Sir Francis Galton..."
in his Hereditary Genius and Prof. Carl Pearson, but the subject was neglected for many years, coming rapidly to the foreground as I have said, only recently, with the realization of the breakdown of the theory.

Professor Charles Benedict Davenport pointed out in his essay on The Geography of Man in Relation to Eugenics that the movement is an old one going back to the days of ancient Greece, but in recent years has become widespread and vigorous because he says: speaking of it as a present exogenous movement, concerning which he says: "But, when we consider the birth-rate as at present affecting our social structure, we find that it is highest in those sections of the community which, like the feeble-minded, and insane, are devoid of intelligent personality, or, like many of the unemployed and casual laborers, seem to be either without ideals or without any method of expressing them. In all the social groups which have hitherto been distinguished for coherence, for industry, for good mental and physical capacity, for power of organization and administration, the birth-rate has fallen below the figures necessary to maintain the national store of these qualities. Great men are scarce; group personality is becoming indistinct and the personality of the race, by which success was attained in the past is therefore on the wane, while the forces of chaos are once more being manifested in our midst, ready to break loose and destroy the civilization when the higher types are no longer sufficient in numbers and effectiveness to guide, control or subdue them.

With reference to the conditions in this country when we consider our unrestricted immigration policy, the following statement by Dr. Davenport may well give pause:"

"A study of the cause of the increase of dependents indicates that it is because of the birth rate of the better classes is constantly falling; a Harvard class does not reproduce itself and at the present rate, one thousand graduates of today will only fifty descendants two hundred years hence. While the other hands recent immigrants and their reproductive descendants of the earlier immigrants still continue to have large families: so that from one thousand Roumanians today in Boston, at the present rate of breeding will come a hundred thousand two hundred years hence with twenty-five hundred children. Such numbers as these have awakened the people to the sense of the omnipotence of human breeding."

Considered in connection with this statement the following:"
addressed the annual meeting of the Illinois State Medical Association at Springfield on "The Status of Vital Statistics in Illinois and our Obligations," and said:

"There will be born in Illinois this year, about 150,000 children. Of these 20,000 will die before their first anniversary from diseases of which 50 per cent are preventable. Prompt and accurate birth registration is the foundation of all measures directed towards the prevention of infant mortality."

"The State in our State is not so much a lack of law as it is absence of law enforcement. Notwithstanding the requirement that every birth shall be recorded with the county clerk and that physicians and coroners shall report all deaths, a penalty being provided, today less than 75 per cent of the deaths and 55 per cent of the births are recorded."

"Our death rates, when published, are valueless except to indicate the deplorable condition of our vital statistics."

A bill to secure adequate vital statistics was introduced in the last session of the Illinois Legislature, Forty-first General Assembly, known as Senate Bill 313. This bill, which is based on a model bill which has been passed in a number of states, passed the Senate with certain amendments but failed of passage in the House. It had the recommendation of the Illinois State Medical Association, and the general endorsement of other organizations interested in this State and will undoubtedly be pushed again at the next session of the Legislature.

It had one vicious feature, however, to which widespread attention should be called and which should never be incorporated in the law of our State and should be eliminated from the law as passed in any other state. I refer to those sections which have to do with the questions of illegitimate birth. The provisions of the bill with reference to this matter are as follows.

Sec. VII. "Certificates of death and record thereof required by the Act shall not, in the case of an illegitimate child or person contain the name or residence of, or other identifying fact relating to the father or mother thereof, nor the consent of said father or mother respectively."

Sec. XIV. The certificate of birth shall contain at least the following:

1. Whether legitimate or illegitimate.
2. Full name of father, provided that the name of the putative father of an illegitimate child shall not be entered without the consent of said father.
3. Maiden name of mother (provided that name of mother of illegitimate child shall not be entered without consent of said mother.
4. Born at full term.
5. All certificates, whether of birth or death shall be written in red ink in the state and no certificate shall be held to be complete and correct that does not supply all of the items of information called for herein or give satisfactory reason for their omission."

Certificates of birth and death thereof required by this Act shall not, in case of an illegitimate child, contain the name or residence of, or other identifying fact relating to the father or mother without the consent of said father or mother respectively.

Section XV provides:

No school principal or person in charge of schools, public, private or parochial, shall allow attendance of a child until certificate shall have been filed.

Provides:

No employer shall employ child under sixteen years of age without such certificate being filed with him.

Section XXXI provides:

"That the State Board of Health may, upon request furnish any applicant a certified copy of the record of birth, still birth or death registered under the provisions of this Act, for the making and certification of which he shall be entitled to a fee of fifty cents to be paid by the applicant."
Section XXIII provides: (line 27)
For punishment of any parent or next of kin wilfully furnishing false information, by fine of $50.00 to $200.00 or imprisonment not exceeding sixty days for either (line 46)
for punishment of any person so furnishing false information and provides (line 54)
for punishment of any person wilfully violating any of these requirements.
The provision above, providing for the suppression of any information with reference to the father or mother of an illegitimate child, without their consent was added by way of amendment to the bill as introduced, but it was under consideration by the Legislature. It will be noted, from these provisions, that while, by these amendments great care was taken to protect the reputation of the father or mother, that no exception is made to the child in the birth certificate, which is required to show whether the birth was legitimate or illegitimate. It is required that the certificate showing this fact should be filed by the child in connection with attendance at school or employment under sixteen years of age. In other words, the guilty innocent victim of their guilt. Not only so, but in addition to the necessity for the production of this certificate at every turn, by the child in school, or at work under sixteen years of age, it is provided that this fact should become a public record, open for inspection by all the world, a copy of which may be secured by any assasin of reputation at the price of fifty cents from the State.

The contrast to this violation of which should be a fundamental right to a chance for a decent start in life, free from the bar sinister is the careful safeguards of business secrets thrown around information furnished in connection with business enterprises, to the United States government, either under the Corporation Tax Law, now in effect, or the Income Tax Law, before Congress in which the provisions which constitutes the return for taxation on public records to be open for inspection, as such, it is provided:
Section 3166 (d) "* * * All such returns shall be open for inspection, only upon the order of the President under rules and regulations to be prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury and approved by the President.

Section 3167: It shall be unlawful for any collector, deputy collector, agenct, clerk or other officer or employee of the United States to divulge or make known in any manner whatever not provided by law to any person, the operations, style of work or apparatus of any manufacturer or producer visited by him in the discharge of official duties or the amount or source of income, profit, losses, expenditure, or any particular thereof, set forth or disclosed in any income return by any person or corporation or to permit any income return or copy thereof or any book containing any abstract or particulars thereof to be examined by any person except as provided by law; and it shall be unlawful for any person to print or publish in any manner, whatever, not provided by law, any income return or any part thereof or the amount or source of income, profits, losses or expenditure to any income return; and any offenses against the foregoing provisions shall be a misdemeanor and shall be punished by fine of not exceeding $1,000.00 or by imprisonment not exceeding one year or both, by the discretion of the court and if the offender be an officer or employee of State in the office of the government, he shall be dismissed from the service and be exempted thereafter from holding any office under the government of the United States."

The time was not many years ago, when our people were so provincial that they felt that there was nothing to learn from countries abroad. Fortunately that time has passed but we have fallen to a yet lower estate in recent years where many copy blindly the provisions of law abroad without inquiring as to whether they are suited to our conditions or as to whether, in fact, they helped to solve the problems in countries where they existed or are a success in any respect in the land of their birth.

We are in the process of a provision requiring the fact of illegitimate birth to be shown in a birth certificate, under the laws of some European countries, much might be said, but perhaps the following quotation from an article on "The Problem of Illegitimacy in Europe," by Mr. Victor Von Borinski, sociologist, will suffice. He says:
"The German illegitimate child has the name of his mother, belongs to her family, and has no right of inheritance from his father. The birth certificate which could be modified so that by looking over it would not appear immediately that the person was illegitimate, much unnecessary sorrow, mental anguish and suffering could be avoided. The adopted person carrying the name of the adopting person, would start in life without the secrets handicap under which bastards suffer; and which frequently results in their moral breakdown ending often in the penitentiary or in suicide."

My own observation with reference to this matter, which is not inconsiderable, confirms fully this point of view. Yet in the name of progress in Illinois we are about to enact a similar provision here. I cannot call upon the friends of real social progress too strongly in any further effort to secure the passage of a bill along this line to fight the inclusion of any such provision.

No better example could be furnished of the danger of ill considered legislation prepared by enthusiasts who have only a partial view of the subject, and who are the cynics, the critics from experience within a many-sided point of view with reference to these questions. A sufficient law, thoroughly enforced on this subject, would of course, give us much of the information necessary to attack the root of the evil, and to prevent on some light on the relation of immigration to this subject, the dangers in connection with which have been referred to before by me in connection with the statement by Dr. Davenport with reference to the rate in the rate of birth among the better classes of society.

It is needless to say that any effort at race development by legislature will be largely rendered nugatory if unrestricted immigration is to continue which by force of numbers would set at nought any results that can possibly be secured by race development. This brings us squarely up to the problem then, of adequate investigation and regulation of the whole immigration question which is primarily, of course, a question for the United States government. The problem may be dealt with, however, from the standpoint of the State legislation as well, because we can investigate, regulate and remedy many of the abuses connected with the improper distribution of this inflowing tide, and not only can the State do something to solve this problem but our great cities as well can do much to secure the benefits of the immigration and avert its dangers by securing proper sanitation, housing conditions, etc., in the quarters largely inhabited by our newly arrived foreign population.

A reasonable regulation of our responsibility to our immigrant population would lead us to realize too, that in our great cities particularly, they have been the subject of untold exploitation by the vicious and criminal elements of the community. But not only furnish an incentive to crime and vice, they have been exploited for others by the criminals, who thus receive, instead of fitting them for citizenship leads them into the defective and dependent classes. An earnest attempt has been made to meet the situation in Chicago so far as the new arrivals are concerned, by the settlement Protective League, which has done for the newly arrived girls in Chicago, particularly, under the forceful leadership of Miss

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14 An Act to reduce tariff duties and to provide revenue for the government and for other purposes. and Congress, H. R. 3321 in the senate of the United States, House bill, p. 176-300.


16 Supra, 5.
Grace Abbott, Radicial measures should be taken to break up the congested districts, to bring the foreign population into contact with that part of our population actuated by the ideals of good citizenship and to give them the protection and guidance needed for the health and education of the immigrant and to prevent his becoming easy prey to those who would exploit him.

Attention has already been called to the fact of the alarming increase in the number of feeble-minded and insane persons throughout the world and the ever-increasing burden upon the normal population as a result of the necessity for caring for these defective classes.

In this connection, we should not forget either, the hearing which has been held before the committee on the commission of crime, as has been pointed out by Professor Aschaffenburg.

It is difficult to discover the frequency of crime which our public institutions have been unable to avoid by their early admission into sanitariums and asylums. Hence, every attempt to require the establishment of insanity, and to set aside the community at large, by some kind of legal procedure, before the person can be sent to a suitable hospital, is superfluous, if not injurious to the insane person, and a blow in the face of public safety. It is also difficult to ascertain the number of the insane in penal institutions. Partly because there is no sharp dividing line between the insane and the insane and the new disease. This is true particularly in the large sphere of mental and acquired feeble-mindedness. The attempt, who in daily contact with such patients, has the opportunity of observing carefully the phenomena of idleness and immorality, would include among the mentally diseased and the insane among those that the law deems insane and the judge considers normal. It is difficult to reconcile either of them of the contrary opinion, for many feeble-minded persons conduct themselves within the prison walls, where the system of the institution and their work relieves them of the task of thought, and where the temptation of the outside world is lacking.

In fact the whole question of the determination of insanity in connection with the commission of crime is in a very unsatisfactory state. Professor Edwin R. Keedy of Northwestern University is making an exhaustive investigation of this entire subject as chairman of Committee B of the American Institute of Criminal Law and Criminology. There has just been issued as the third report of this committee a collection of the State statutes relating to insanity in criminal cases, which shows the present unsatisfactory condition of the law on this subject. Professor Keedy and his committee hopes to have, in the near future, definite, intelligent, and constructive report for the modification of the law in these cases and the method of dealing with accused and convicted persons found to be insane.

One of the things that should be done in Illinois in this connection, is to provide by law, for proper scientific laboratories in connection with our criminal and juvenile courts. Dr. William H. H. in connection with his work as Director of the Juvenile Psychopathic Institute in Chicago has proposed for the use of his method in the State of Illinois. This is the present day alms and methods in studying the offender. He says:

"Not to the same extent in other states as in the juvenile court, but nevertheless everywhere the place of scientific inquiry, in contrast to the police court room attitude, is well and truly occupied by the scientific study of the delinquent, and the psychologist is beginning to be recognized as the proper interpreter of the delinquent child. This is particularly true in the research of the feeble-minded girls who may be cared for by the Pennsylvania Home for the Feeble-Minded, and the time has come for their discharge from the hospital, though they are recognized as feeble-minded, and are far from the age limit of admission at the hospital, which is the institution in this State for the feeble-minded, and they are put out to the community just as they are discharged from the hospital. They are, therefore, put out to the community.

At the State of Illinois, the mental defectives are placed in the hands of the local authorities, and the State is not responsible for them. This is the case in the State of Illinois, but in the State of Michigan, the State is responsible for them, and the local authorities are not responsible for them. This is the case in the State of Illinois, and the State is not responsible for them.
It is simply unanswerable, with our present knowledge on this subject, the danger of prostitution among the girls and the certainty of prostitution on the part of both sexes which will lead to indefinite numbers of feeble-minded defectives. They should be subjected to supervision and to the custody of the State, unless it can be shown to the satisfaction of the State authorities that proper provision can be made for them elsewhere. It is only under such circumstances that we can make for the minds of these defectives. Illini has been painfully slow in making proper provision for the treatment of epilepsies but has acted at last as the session of the Legislature which has just closed passed an act to relieve the long sufferings of the patients. The State Board is given authority to provide these homes for the colony and to provide appropriate facilities for the treatment of the disease.

This law authorizes the State Board of Administration to secure a site for such colony of not less than one thousand acres and to provide buildings and equipment for not less than fifteen hundred inmates. The State Board is given authority to provide rules for the management of the colony, and to provide suitable physicians and other attendants

This at least makes the problem easier by getting the patients out of institutions where they do not belong and segregated in an institution where all that is possible can be done for them.

With reference to this disease Professor Aschaffenburg\(^2\) says:

"On this soil, especially, the very slightest cause is often sufficient to kindle irritability that is expressed in wild ravings. Contact between the person's usual quiet demeanor and the sudden outburst makes it very difficult for the layman to recognize their pathological origin. They are injurious because of course, subject to such severe disciplinary measures but also to the discipline of the institution."

This applies to other institutions as well as those for the treatment of criminals. Adequate measures should be taken everywhere for their proper separation and treatment. Much of our vice and crime, especially, grows out of the excessive use of alcohol. Popular education can do much to prevent this and the rising tide of opposition to the liquor traffic is likely to bring results in a few years which will make the evils now opposition the community due to excessive alcoholism.

Perhaps nowhere is widespread education needed so much as in connection with sex hygiene, and the awful problems growing out of vice and the long train of disasters which follow. It would seem that the time has come to set aside all false pretenses of modesty in this direction and give proper publicity to the well-known scientific facts in connection with the whole matter of sexual immorality.

The Chicago Board of Education has recently provided for lectures upon Sex Hygiene beginning with the fall term of 1913 to all high school students unless excused at the request of their parents, provided that after December, 1913, during the spring term that lectures shall be given in classes of hygiene or physiology.

With reference to this action Professor Harris of Northwestern University said:

"Such information as children now get is usually desultory, false and inimodest. Frank, scientific and elevating teaching can only have good effect."

Only by such widespread knowledge of the certain results of sexual irregularities can we ever secure the enforcement of laws with reference to prostitution in our great cities.

Many hope to solve these problems by a limitation upon marriage and a bill was introduced in the last session of the Legislature to this end. Desirable though it is as this may seem I cannot but regard such an attempt as ill-considered. A more general appreciation of the consequences of assuming the marriage relation to the person addicted to sexual vices or disease, would accomplish much but I am unsafely opposed to legislation requiring a health certificate in all cases as preliminary to marriage, and the refusal of marriage full knowledge on the subject of this disease. Illini has been painfully slow in making proper provision for the treatment of epilepsies and has acted at last as the session of the Legislature which has just closed passed an act to relieve the long suffering of the patients. The State Board is given authority to provide these homes for the colony and to provide suitable physicians and other attendants.

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3. Address, American Institute of Criminal Law and Criminology, Boston, 1911, Bulletin No. 6, American Institute of Criminal Law and Criminology, October, 1911, p. 6.
The physical and mental condition of any such person shall be substantially improved thereby, then the said board shall appoint one of its members to perform the operation of vasectomy or oophorectomy, as the case may be, upon such person. Such operation shall be performed in a safe and humane manner, and the board making such examination, and the surgeon performing such operation, shall receive from the State such compensation, for services rendered, as the legislature of the State deems or the superintendent of either of such hospitals shall deem reasonable.

Section 2. Except as authorized by this Act, every person who shall perform, encourage, assist in, or otherwise promote the performance of either of the operations described in section 1 of this Act, for the purpose of destroying the power to procreate the human species; or any person who shall knowingly permit either of such operations to be performed upon such person—unless the same be a medical necessity—shall be fined not more than one thousand dollars, or imprisoned in the State prison not more than five years, or both.

With reference to the effect of such a law Professor Kellicott says:

"These states are to be commended in the highest possible terms for their enlightened action in this direction. Who can say how many families of Jukes and Zeros have already been inhibited by this simple and humane means? "Could such a law be enforced in the whole United States, less than four generations would eliminate nine-tenths of the crime, insanity and sickness of the present generation in our land. Asylums, prisons, and hospitals would decrease, and the problems of the unemployed, the indigent old, and the hopelessly degenerate would cease to trouble civilization."

Is it not worth while to consider at least the passage of a law in this State which would secure even a small part of the benefit here claimed? No one more than the careful student of these subjects could fail to see the great need of every State in the formulation of legislation and as stated in the beginning such action should follow only adequate knowledge. To quote Professor Kellicott again:

"As a scientist, the eugenicist realizes clearly and fully that his new science is in a very early stage of development, just entering upon one of the first stages of any science, namely, the period of the formulation of elementary ideas and the collection of facts. There are certain groups of facts, however, of glaring significance and undisputed meaning, and upon these as a basis the eugenicist already has a few, a very few concrete suggestions."

It is only to this limited group that I have attempted to call attention in this brief review of some of the problems confronting the students who would legislate wisely upon these important subjects.

"Hitherto the development of our race has been unconscious, we have been allowed no responsibility for its right course. Now, in the fullness of time, we are treated as children no more, and the control that destiny of the human race is given into our hands. Let us put away childish things, stand up with open eyes, and face our responsibility."

We can in Illinois, at least secure adequate statistics, remove the causes of poverty and injury, educate the public, promote preventive measures already known to us and fight valiantly, in season and out of season for legislative recognition of our present-day scientific knowledge of the subject based upon adequate knowledge.

THE RELATION OF SOCIAL DISEASES TO EUGENICS.

[By Dr. Edith B. Lowry, author of "Confidences, Talks with a Young Girl," "Truth, Talks with a Boy," and other books on sex education.]

"The function of eugenics is to produce a race healthy, well-formed and vigorous by keeping the springs of heredity pure and undefiled and by improving the inborn qualities of the offspring."

From a biological point of view the most important function of the body is reproduction. Every condition that would tend to limit the production of healthy offspring might well be considered under the subject of eugenics.

Perhaps there is no one factor that has a more disastrous effect upon the welfare of the succeeding generation than have the so-called social or venereal diseases.

Venereal diseases are distinguished from other diseases by their conditions of propagation. They most commonly are communicated through the relation of the sexes which was provided for the continuation of the race. These diseases are further distinguished by the fact that they primarily affect the organs of generation and are capable of destroying the precocious apathy of the individual.

The facility of offspring from the results of these diseases has a special interest from the standpoint of eugenics. It is claimed that syphilis is responsible for forty-two per cent of the abortions and miscarriages of whatever character, either artificial or otherwise. Gonorrhcea is much more radical in its limitation of offspring. It acts in a mechanical way by occluding the ducts or tubes through which the ovum must pass on its way to become impregnated. So that gonorrhoea absolutely prevents conception while syphilis malins or destroys the products of conception. Gonorrhcea is considered to be responsible for forty-five per cent of sterile marriages. Certainly here is the most important cause of race suicide.

But the pernicious effect of the venereal diseases is not limited to the production of sterility. Syphilis, a race poison, is transmissible in the blood even to the second generation. The influence of inherited syphilis is manifest in various lesions and malformations. It seriously affects the mental vigor and physical development of those afflicted and constitutes a grave factor in the degeneration of the race. Instead of producing a race well-formed and vigorous, there are procreated beings stumped with mental and physical inferiority, individuals destined to drag out a miserable existence and doomed to an early death.

Gonorrhoea, too, although not generally regarded as affecting the blood, has many disastrous effects aside from sterility. Every institution for the blind furnishes witnesses of the effects of this disease. A very conservative estimate is that at least thirty per cent of the blindness in the world is due to this disease. Syphilis, too, contributes its share of blindness from atrophy of the optic nerve.

One feature of special interest socially is the fact that venereal diseases are contracted largely in youth. It thus happens that those who are designed by nature to become parents of the next generation are so maligned before they are of marriageable age as to render them incapable of procreation.
The Illinois General Assembly has passed and Governor Dunne has signed a bill creating a State colony for the care and treatment of epileptics. Thus is marked the end of a campaign of nearly twenty years duration. At one time, namely, 1898, it seemed that the friends of the epileptic had succeeded in establishing the colony. The General Assembly, in that year, passed a bill creating such an institution and delegated to the State Board of Charities the selection of a site. Two different sections of the State offered sites and the board divided into a majority and minority with the result that neither site was selected.

Biennially since that time bills have been introduced reviving the law of 1898, but none of them has passed either house. A year before the meeting of the present General Assembly a state-wide movement was organized with the avowed intention of putting through a bill for the care and treatment of epileptics in a State institution. This movement received the sanction of the Board of Administration and the State Charities Commission, the State Conference of Charities, the State Medical Society, and the State Association of Mayors and many other organizations endorsed it in strongest terms.

A committee of fifty, consisting of representative men and women from all sections of the State, was appointed to draft a bill and present its merits to the General Assembly. Under the auspices of this committee a remarkably clear and intelligent pamphlet was circulated throughout the State. This pamphlet contained pathetic stories of the suffering of the epileptic in nearly all of the senatorial districts, so that the necessity of this Colony was brought directly home to the individual members of the Assembly. The pamphlet was illustrated with pictures which told of the distress that epilepsy causes its victims and their families.

Speakers to present the claims of the epileptic addressed clubs and conventions throughout the State. When the Assembly met the bill was ready for introduction creating this institution. It was introduced in the Senate by Mr. O'Connor and in the House by Mr. Gorman. Only one amendment was made and the bill as originally drafted has become a law. It embodies the best features of the laws of the nine states which already have such an institution.