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EDITORIAL

It is a pleasure to note the evolution of the movement to give a scientific interpretation to the vast store of biological, psychological and pathological facts available for study in our public institutions for feeble-minded and epileptic. It is a long jump from that first beginning of psychological studies by Dr. Wylie, while nominally serving as pharmacist at Faribault, to the world renowned work of Goddard at Vineland, Huey at Lincoln, and the brief work of Wallin at Skillman and Lange at Glenwood, and the systematic and intensive studies of Kuhlmann at Faribault. While the Faribault laboratory was provided in 1900 with a suite of seven rooms for research and clinical studies, including bacteriology and psychology, photography, lectures, etc., and all

modestly equipped with apparatus, Dr. Wylie's studies in sense reactions and ergograph readings were conducted between times when not filling prescriptions, and it remained for New Jersey *Bio* secure the full recognition of the department of research independent of routine administrative duties.

The increased opportunities for scientific research are a tribute to the foresight and breadth of mind of members of institution boards, who, while obliged to keep in close touch with public sentiment, are big enough to assist in educating it and thus securing support for research. The public can always be depended upon (1) to assist its afflicted members, and (2) to foster wisely directed investigations for causes of social defect or distress. While the public will not patiently support wasteful expenditures, it will always support and approve liberal care as against that type of economy that results in neglect of personal care. This it always condemns when the facts are known. So it will always support scientific investigation when there is a reasonable prospect that it will produce definite information as to how to lessen human affliction or social misery. It is to be hoped that this movement is now in the process of healthy and permanent growth, but to insure its continued support and pre-serve for it the confidence of the public, it is important that it should be conducted in a scientific spirit. It must be devoid of spectacular features and those who engage in it should have the patience to be thorough and critical, promulgating only truth.

A. C. Rogers.

REVIEWS AND NOTICES

Backward and Feeble-Minded Children. A Clinical Study in the Psychology of Defectives, with a Syllabus for the Clinical Examination and Testing of Children. EDMUND BURKE HUEY, Baltimore: Warwick and York, Inc., 1912. Pp. XII+221.

This work is the first fruit in book form of the realization of the long desired plan of placing an investigator upon the staff of our public institutions for the feeble-minded and epileptics, who could devote himself to pure scientific investigation, unencumbered by executive

ever

present

handicap of the most enthusiastic superintendent.