

in psychological literature, but he does not give any data indicating the degree of correlation of their results with mental development. The Binet-Simon tests are given and criticized. The results with them give evidence of mental development but do not alone make a diagnosis. In fact, "a diagnosis, based entirely on the direct evidence, without a thought of ancestry, malnutrition, adenoids, home illiteracy, or foreign parentage, is unscientific and often wrong." The valuable features of the Binet-Simon tests are summarized in the following: "(1) They furnish a handy, quick, and fairly accurate method of testing a child's mentality; (2) they are serviceable to the ordinary grade teacher, the physician in general practice, and the parent, as they are simple and easily applied. The argumentative and doubting parent is quickly convinced when the child is tested according to an impersonal system, furnishing normal standards for each age; (3) from the third to the eighth years they not only present evidence, but go far towards making an immediate diagnosis; (4) after the eighth year they do not make a diagnosis because the variation within normal limits becomes too great, but they do present a good record of the child's present mentality." That the tests alone possess any superior merits over other means of diagnosis seems, however, not to be granted. For we read a little later that, "No special examiner who is honest claims anything more than a sound skill and judgment born of experience." A discussion of the results of mental deficiency, and the education and care of the mentally deficient closes this chapter. Next and finally are considered anomalies of the skeleton, nutrition, the skin, speech, infectious diseases, and prevalence of defects and diseases.

The book reflects throughout the extensive experience of the author in medical inspection, and it proceeds along concrete and practical lines. No medical inspector in the schools can afford to be without it. Necessarily, in a field so new, it is constructive and will, for this reason, undoubtedly arouse dissent on some points. The reviewer, for instance, would limit the scope of the medical inspector's duties to a much narrower range than the author does. If the work is properly organized, a condition which the medical inspector, however, rarely meets at the present time, he should be concerned with nothing but diagnosis and medical prescription. Further, if "the average physician is poorly equipped to do medical inspection" and needs a special training and experience, he is much more poorly equipped to make a mental diagnosis. Diagnosis of mental development had better be left to psychologists, at least if psychological methods are to be used. There is much material in the book which might have been omitted if the duties of the medical inspector had been more limited. This concerns largely matters of organization and administration, and especially the hundred pages on mental deficiency, including the discussion on their care and training. Perhaps also a different arrangement of the material might have avoided the necessity of discussing some of the same topics in each of the three sections of the book, thus giving a more orderly and compact presentation.

Faribault, Minnesota. "

F. KUHLMANN.

The Kallikak Family. A Study in the Heredity of Feeble-Mindedness.

H. H. GODDARD, Ph. D. The Macmillan Co.

This is a book that should be studied by every adult who is interested in eugenics, and who is not? It is the story of two families descending from one man. One was the result of mating illicitly with a moron of high grade: and one was the result of a marriage with a woman of sound stock. The man known in the study as Martin Kallikak Sr., (a fictitious name) was himself descended from good stock. By his lapse from virtue, there came into being a son to whom the deserted mother gave the name of the father, and who is known in the study as Martin Kallikak Jr.

This son was the progenitor of a race of inefficient and of vicious people. His descendants in direct line number 480. Of these, 143 were feeble-minded, and only 46 known positively to be normal. The mental status of the rest is either unknown or doubtful. "Among these four hundred and eighty descendants, thirty-six have been illegitimate.

There have been thirty-three sexually immoral persons, mostly prostitutes.

There have been twenty-four confirmed alcoholics.

There have been three epileptics.

Eighty-two died in infancy.

Three were criminals.

Eight kept houses of ill-fame."

By marriage into other families there are known to the study and charted, a total of 1,146 related individuals, among whom there were 119 known to be feeble-minded in addition to the 143 in direct line.

On the other side, from the marriage with a woman of good family, there has descended in direct line, 496 people. In the whole number there were no mental defectives, only one insane (and that a case of religiosity, probably inherited from marriage into another family). Only three were in any sense degenerate, two of these being alcoholic, and one sexually immoral. This is a line of doctors, judges, educators, traders, land owners, in short respectable citizens, men and women prominent in every phase of social life. There were no epileptics, no illegitimate children, no immoral women and no criminals.

The pursuit of this study was favored by a chain of circumstances that enabled the field workers to secure unusually reliable and complete data. The parallelism of two descents from one common ancestor, makes the study one of the most enlightening and instructive contributions to heredity that has ever been made. The illustrations showing the housing conditions of some of the "bad" side, serve a good purpose in impressing upon the reader the nature of the usual environmental conditions in such cases, and into which such people always gravitate, and in which they always remain unless the stock is rehabilitated by the influx of better blood.

The photo of the young descendant from which the study started, and

the cuts representing hand work produced by her, with a description of her mental reactions to **the** laboratory tests, are well calculated to impress **upon** those unfamiliar with the moron grade, from which the bulk of all mental defectives come, the social and economic limitations of this class, despite their trained accomplishments in certain limited directions.

Dr. Goddard's contribution, in this work, to the study of mental defect, is epoch-making. He very properly pays a deserved tribute to Mr. Johnstone, his inspiration, Miss Kite the field-worker and Mr. Fels, his financial supporter, for their joint contributions to the success of the work.

**A. C. ROGERS.**

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