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states where they labored for the betterment of the condition of those to whose interests their lives were dedicated.

To the bereaved family of each we extend our heartfelt sympathy, realizing that all we have known of them is but an item in their full lives, and what we miss but an atom when compared with the fullness of love and affection taken from their wives and families.

Frank W. Keating,  
E. R. Johnstone,  
G. G. Bliss.

The committee on time and place not having determined upon a recommendation, the Association adjourned to meet at the call of the Executive committee.

## REVIEWS AND NOTICES

**Eugenics—A Smyposium.** Arranged by DR. CLARA HARRISON TOWN. *The Institution Quarterly. An Official Organ of the Public Charity Service of Illinois, June, 1913.*

**The Heredity Factor in Feeble-Mindedness.** H. H. GODDARD, *Director of Research, Vineland, N. J., School for Feeble-Minded.*

**Eugenics and Insanity.** H. DOUGLASS SINGER, M. D., *M. R. P., Director of the Illinois State Psychopathic Institute.*

**Heredity and Epilepsy. A Plea for the segregation of the Malignant.** D'ORSAY HECHT, M. D., *Chicago, Illinois. Associate Professor of Nervous and Mental Diseases, Northwestern University Medical School, Attending Neurologist to the Michael Reese and Wesley Hospitals.*

**Prevention of Blindness Caused by Ophthalma Neonatorum.** E. H. ADAMS, M. D., *Oculist, Illinois State School for the Deaf, Jacksonville, Illinois.*

**Clinical Confirmation of the Hypothesis that Disordered States of the Parents Produce Defective Offspring.** S. D. W. LUDLAM, M. D., *Associate in Neurology, University of Pennsylvania, and E. P. Johnson White, M. D., Sociologist, University of Pennsylvania.*

**The Crisis in our Immigration Policy.** ROBERT DE C. WARD, *Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass., Member of the Committee on Immigration, Eugenics Section, American Breeder's Association.*

**The Psychological Clinic as a Eugenic Agency.** CLARA HARRISON TOWN, Ph. D., *Psychologist, State School and Colony, Lincoln, Illinois.*

**Value of Vital Statistics to the Eugenic Movement.** DR. EDWARD A. FOLEY, *Assistant Superintendent Jacksonville State Hospital, Jacksonville, Illinois.*

**The Eugenic Movement.** CLARA HARRISON TOWN.

**Race Development by Legislation.** NATHAN WILLIAM MACDONALD, *Chicago, Illinois.*

**The Relation of Social Diseases to Eugenics.** DR. EDITH E. MURPHY.

This symposium on eugenics covers the first seventy-seven pages of this number of the *Institution Quarterly*, and is interesting both because it reveals the many-sidedness of the problem and much of the present trend of opinion along these different lines. Goddard thinks that the most conservative estimate would make twenty-five per cent. of criminality, alcoholism, degeneracy, and prostitution due to feeble-mindedness, and that probably fifty

per cent. is nearer the truth. He advocates laws prohibiting the marriage of mental defectives, their segregation, and sterilization, and thinks that with the enforcement of these we could in a generation or two not only enormously reduce the dependent classes, but save from a fourth to a half of the expense of our criminals, and paupers. From a review of the literature Sing concludes that "abnormalities in personal make-up tend to be transmitted like form to the offspring." He agrees with Mott that the psychoses develop at an earlier age in the descendants than in the ascendants, speaking of the successive generations as found in family studies, and that there is a condensation of abnormal features in the descendants. But present knowledge is not sufficient "to justify any interference with the enormous group of neuropathic personalities except possibly to advise against the mating of two individuals in whom these traits are strongly marked." More detailed and exact study is required. He objects to sterilization because it would affect only those who could already not be permitted liberty, and because it leads to prostitution and dissemination of venereal disease. Hecht pleads for a greater consideration of the physical and vital qualities in man as against the mental and moral in eugenic measures. The epileptic, as unalterably unsound, should be segregated. In the light of our present knowledge, sterilization is still open to criticism, is premature, and as a legislative measure should not be endorsed. "Eugenics is vastly more in need of students who diagnose the illnesses of the race than amateurs who shout the cures." Adams notes that for twenty-two states for which he quotes figures an average of twenty-two per cent. of all blindness is due to Ophthalmia Neonatorum. Next to atrophy of the optic nerve, this is the largest factor in causing blindness. Of 17,767 births in which no treatment was given nine and two tenths per cent. developed ophthalmia. Of 24,723 births in which the silver nitrate treatment was given only sixty-five hundredths of one per cent. developed it. He advises popular education, and preventative medical treatment in all births. Ludlow and White examined the records of six hundred defective children. They lay special stress on the non-hereditary factors as the causes of arrest, and think that all environmental factors should be most carefully eliminated before pronouncing any case as hereditary. "There is as much evidence of the retarding of the development of the ovum by untoward circumstances in the environment as there is for hereditary defect." Ward compares the care taken by the government and by individuals in importing plants and animals with reference to quality of stock and disease with the absence of such care with reference to immigrants. In the proper regulation of immigration, he thinks we have an opportunity for race development in this country that is unique in history. There is at present but little such regulation, for immigration is controlled chiefly by steamship companies, railroad and employers of cheap labor. The existing immigration laws, with the enforcement they receive, are not sufficient to "preserve the status quo of our

population, to say nothing of promoting eugenic improvement. Means of enforcing the laws are inadequate. Fourteen per cent. of our population is foreign-born, but thirty per cent. of the insane in our institutions is foreign-born. At present it costs eight cents per capita to examine aliens. If facilities were increased so it would cost twenty-five cents per capita, he thinks ten per cent. of our aliens would be found to be mentally defective. Among other things, he advises putting examiners on board immigrant ships to examine aliens before they land, and when there is more leisure and opportunity to do so. Town thinks that the uncared-for feeble-minded contribute more to crime, vice, and degeneration than any other condition, and pleads for permanent segregation. The psychological clinic can be an especially valuable aid in eugenics by detecting mental deficiency at an early age in children. Three eugenic measures are recommended. (1) Legal, permanent commitment to special institutions of all feeble-minded persons. (2) Establishment of psychological clinics in connection with public school systems. (3) Establishment of psychological clinics in connection with state institutions. Foley urges more carefully prepared vital statistics, and more careful diagnosis on the part of physicians. MacChesney thinks it neither so nor expedient to secure radical eugenic legislation until the subject has been much further investigated. He advises legislation along the following lines: (1) To secure adequate criminal statistics. (2) To determine the relation of insanity and feeble-mindedness to crime. (3) To establish scientific laboratories in connection with criminal and juvenile courts. (4) To commit and retain feeble-minded in institutions. (5) To make special provisions for epileptics. (6) To promote sex morality. (7) To provide for sterilization of feeble-minded and criminals in certain cases. He objects to health certificates required for marriage because of its tendency to increase illegitimacy. Lowry makes forty-two per cent. of abortions and miscarriages due to syphilis, and forty-five per cent. of sterile marriages due to gonorrhoea. She thinks that "at least seventy-five per cent. of the adult male population have contracted gonorrhoea sometime and from five to eighteen per cent. have contracted syphilis." In the reviewer's opinion this is another instance in which a vivid imagination in the enthusiasm for a cause overrules sane judgment in a field where accurate data are lacking.

St. Paul, Minnesota.

F. Kuhlmann.

**Fifty-Sixth Report of the Board of Education, Rochester, New York. Child Study Laboratory, Rochester Public Schools, 1913.**  
 BY M. BOHNE.

This report gives a brief account of the work with the special classes for retarded children in the public schools of Rochester, New York. The work of these special classes was begun in 1906. The appointment of a medical inspector and of a director to investigate and organize these classes followed in the same year. In 1909 the Board adopted the Binet-Simon tests

as the official method of selecting children for the special classes, and a Binet examiner was appointed. The age-grade distribution is first found for each school. Children who are retarded three years or more in their school work are then followed by the school records, which often reveal the cause of the pedagogical retardation. A "gradation chart" is also used, which shows the relative abilities of a child in his different school subjects. The records of the child's school abilities has verified the results of the Binet-Simon test in nine-tenths of the cases. From two to three per cent. of the children in the special classes are brought up to their normal grade in school work. Most of these, the author believes, belong to the group in which physical defect or environment has been the chief cause of the retardation. On the whole these children improve intellectually. In one class of fifteen, who were 9 years old and who had spent on the average two and two-thirds years to do one year of school work, eleven gained ten and three-fifths years in mental age in one year in the special class, one remained the same, and three lost in mental age. All were mentally retarded three years or more in the beginning. A special class is organized whenever there are fifteen children whose mental age is three or more years less than their age. With one exception these were the younger children. One class was organized for children 13 years old. An effort is made to place out children in proper homes and positions suited to their capacities. It is recommended that the school employ a social worker for this purpose, and to keep these children under observation after they are thus placed out. The medical examinations are made after the child has been transferred to the special class. "We content," the author writes, "that if the cause for retardation lies chiefly in physical defect no examination and rectification can immediately restore the child to normal mental condition, especially if the physical defect has caused gross retardation."

Faribault, Minnesota.

F. Kuhlmann.