ORPHEUM WEEK 2:20 TWICE 8:15

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Psychology Department Presents Report on Mentality of Prisoners is the one that the law is likely to apprehend. We are rather sure from

ment of eighty-six prisoners in the handicap in life subjects him to would have been impossible. state reformatory for men at Lin-

The supposed relation of mental deficiency to delinquency is more and more becoming an object of doubt. The army intelligence tests at least have the virtue of telling what the average man can do in test of mental endowment. But the army tests, given to delinquents in various army camps indicate that sometimes offenders are above the average in intelligence. This was the case at the military prison at Fort Leavenworth, Kas., which afforded some 3,300 records of mental tests. Dr. Murchison of Yale university gave the army test to a total of 3,942 prisoners at the Ohio reformatory, the Ohio penitentiary for women, the penitentiary at Joliet, Illinois, the Indiana penitentiary, and the penitentiaries of New Jersey and Maryland. He found that the intelligence of offenders in these places was entirely normal, in many instances, above normal.

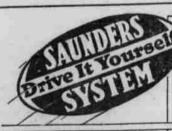
The department of psychology of the Nebraska state university administered the army intelligence test to about one hundred inmates at the reformatory for men. When the records of the negroes and those with language difficulties were excluded, eighty-six cases were left. The average age of this group was twenty-one years and nine months. The average grade reached in school was the seventh grade; and the schooling ranged from the first grade to the twelfth. The average score secured by these men was 77.47 points. This means that this group ranks above average in intelligence if we take the army standards as the basis of comparison. In the army, the average range of grades was from 45 to 74 points.

It would seem that mental deficiency can become a cause of delinquency only when combined with certain character-trends. At least psychology and common opinion are ar ed that instinct, habit, emotion and sentiment are the true forces that determine conduct. We are having our first successes in measuring such factors, and in an age when problems of delinquency are so harrowing every endeavor should be made to perfect such tests and to employ them in studying the baffling problem of the psychology of miscon-

Test Emotional Traits.

Animated by this interest, the above group of men was given the well-known "Pressey X-O" test of emotional traits. The results are significant. They may be considered under three headings: (1) These men are less affected by experience than normals. But, they do show emo tional disturbance when things are suggested which refer to them personally, or which suggest fear. They are less affected by words which refer to the disgusting or to the sex. The normal person is most strongly affected by disgusting terms. (3) They exhibit "idiocyncrasy" or queerness in their emotional and sentimental make-up. For instance, they differ widely from the normal person in their normal notions. They lack perspective in judging degrees of delinquency. They show a tendency to blame others for offenses, and exhibit a tendency towards ideas of persecution. (3) They show a marked tendency to hpyochondria. This means, a tendency to pay attention and to worry about the bodily functions. The hypochondriac is constantly beset with notions of disease, and when he actually has some disorder, gives it undue emphasis.

In short, these tests confirm the common-sense view that the cause of delinquency is to be sought in warped character and ideals, rather than in defective intelligence. Dr. Healy of Boston and Dr. Wallin of St. Louis, both experts in this matter, are em





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The department of psychology of phatic in their testimony that feeb! - Miller of the reformatory, that he asthe University has made the follow- minded subjects may have characters signs delinquency to a perverted will

greater temptation. Moreover, we must forget that the stupid offender an interview with Superintendent of the mental and emotional endowof the mental and emotional endow- frequently than others, because his terest and advice, the above study



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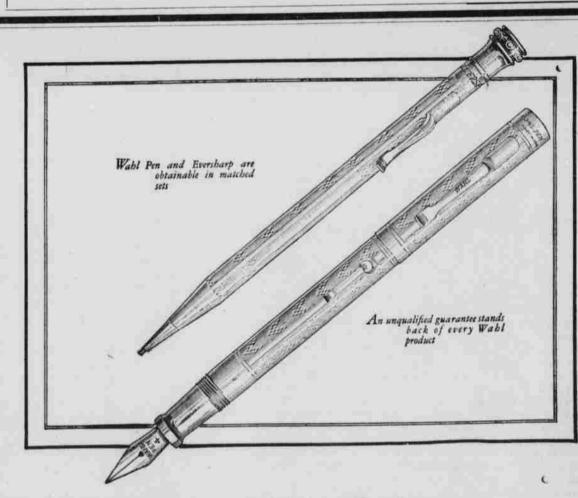
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