

IMPROVING THE HUMAN RACE

Possibility of It Becoming a Better Image of Its Creator.

STATISTICS OF CURRENT EVILS

Various Agencies Striving to Check the Increase of Feeble-Minded Offspring—Basis of the Action.

By ELLA WHEELER WILCOX. (Copyright, 1912, by the American-Journal-Examiner. Great Britain Rights Reserved.)

This world will be intensely interesting 100 years to come. Between the Society for Applied Eugenics and the Longevity Bureau and Laboratory, the human race stands a chance of becoming a much better image of its Creator than it is today. Dr. Forbes Winslow, the mental specialist, said to a journalist: "This is by far the most pressing question of our time. We have 123,167 lunatics incarcerated in asylums and no fewer than 149,000 feeble-minded degenerates at large in the community free at will to become parents. The majority of them are either the children of drunkards or the offspring of feeble-minded parents. In 1859 there was a lunatic for every 685 sane persons. Today the ratio is one in 275, and in less than 500 years, unless drastic steps are taken, there will be more lunatics and degenerates than sane people among the western nations."

The indiscriminate breeding of lunatics must, therefore, be stopped by law.

From a report of the chief medical officer of the Board of Education (Sir George Newman) it appears that of the 6,000,000 school children in England and Wales not less than 51 per cent suffer from some sort of disease.

Means to the End. We can only secure racial improvement by breeding from the most moral, the most intellectual and the most highly developed physical units which prevent the propagation of scrubs and degenerates in each and every succeeding generation.

Now there is a regular bureau to assist those who want to look into the scientific side of the marriage question. At the eugenics record office, which Dr. Davenport has established at Cold Spring Harbor, Long Island, it is possible for any young man or woman to obtain, free of charge, from the highest authorities of heredity in this country advice as to the hereditary consequences of a possible marriage mating. The applicants for such advice are furnished with blanks on which to record the family history and characteristics of each family, and from this information the biologists can tell what hereditary traits may appear in the children, what possibilities in eye color, hair color or curliness, stature, what possible defects, physical or mental, and what possible strong qualities of body or mind.

Besides this, New York, Connecticut and Indiana, and some other states have enacted a law making it permissible to sterilize the chronic criminal, the hopelessly insane and the incurable invalids so that they shall not reproduce their kind.

Mental Gymnastics. In that ever progressive city, Chicago, there is the Academy of Scientific Thinking, where they teach orderly and systematic thought.

It has been demonstrated that a six months' course in the system training or "mental gymnastics" will increase the efficiency of normal students as teachers 80 per cent, for pupils taught by this method will acquire the habit of absorbing all knowledge in a completely related form, they will become thinkers and competent citizens instead of the lazy ne'er-do-wells that now make up the majority of the product of our schools.

Those who acquire the thought habits and mental technique implanted by this system will be orderly and systematic in their reasoning, they will be rational in all things and irrational in none, their mental efficiency will be increased many fold, with a great economy of time on the part of both teachers and pupils; they will become habituated to act always upon the results of their reasoning, truths will come to reveal themselves to them as decrees of related natural law instead of mere decrees of the ego (opinions and beliefs); in a word, they will become wholesome instead of retail thinkers.

The statement relative to teaching sex-hygiene to children is one of the demonstrations of orderly and systematic thought put out by the Academy of Scientific Thinking organized for the purpose of promulgating this great discovery both in and out of the schools. It is so formulated as to accord with the decrees of life and nature—of natural law—of related modern knowledge.

The law of thought systematically formulated is "a new force in human affairs, second in importance to no world movement since the coming of Christianity."

Room for Improvement. Human thinking is still in as great a state of disorder and jumble as language was before the alphabet, music before the scale was discovered, printing before Gutenberg, or mathematics before Pythagoras formulated its laws.

The systematization of all thought and knowledge into nine classifications (equivalents—eight scale tones, encompassing all of music and twenty-six letter sounds all of language) is a more far-reaching improvement than all the others, for it will do for education, health, economics, government, etc., what the alphabet did for language, movable type for printing and literature, the scales for music and the rules of arithmetic for

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calculation. Being the exact counterpart of these in its particular field, its mission, like theirs, will be "to bring order out of chaos," and it will do it. Sex hygiene is to be an important branch taught in this college. Such a state of diseased thought as has been revealed among children by the death of little Julia Connors, and the perverted mind of one of her little associates, should make every parent in America realize the necessity of some systematized method of instruction for the little girls and boys on this uncompromising topic.

Unity of Action Needed. Parents, scientists, teachers and philanthropists the world over should unite in forming societies to formulate the best method of wise and safe instruction for children regarding the facts of life and birth; and if this school of self-conservation has a system to reveal it should be put to a complete test.

FIREMAN IS KILLED BY EXPLOSION OF CHEMICALS

ST. LOUIS, Aug. 12.—Henry Youtze, chief engineer of a volunteer fire department in the fashionable west and residence district was decapitated this morning by the explosion of a chemical engine tank he was endeavoring to play on a fire. It is believed he neglected to open the nozzle before turning the stockcock. His wife was watching the fire.

Guest of Mrs. Rees



MISS HELEN WILLIS San Diego, Cal.

What Women Are Doing in the World

Mrs. Phillip Potter, head of the membership committee of the Social Settlement association, will call her captains together some day soon at luncheon at her home to plan the fall campaign for collecting money pledged last spring. As the settlement is supported principally by membership fees, the committee which handles this part of the work is one of the most important. Under the direction of Mrs. Potter it has done remarkably successful work.

Mrs. Potter has sixteen captains. Each captain keeps her same list of members from year to year, call upon them annually and is pledged to raise at least \$100. The memberships are \$1 to \$5. The captains are Mesdames J. H. Dumont, W. E. Bingham, E. A. Benson, George Bicknell, Joseph Polcar, Philip Schwartz, A. C. Stokes, E. A. Scott and Misses Myra Breckenridge, Vivian Griffith, Eloise Jenks, Katherine Moorhead, Helen Scobie, Elizabeth Fry, Mary Marsden and Beulah Evans.

The program committee of the Benson Woman's club is working on next year's study outline and expects to have the year books in the hands of the printer next week. The club will continue the study of American literature begun last year and will take up the works of the essayists, historians and fiction writers of the nineteenth century, following the course of the Wisconsin free library committee. On the program committee are: Mrs. Haffke, chairman; Mrs. C. O. Robinson and Mrs. William Zimmerman. The club expects to continue this fall the agitation for a rest room for farmer's wives in the store district of Benson. Last year the club went so far as to get the co-operation of the merchants and their promise to aid in paying the rent. But a suitable room could not be found. Several new buildings have since been put up and prospects are favorable for carrying out the plan. One of the club women who is especially interested said that the wives and children of the farmers who come with them on their shopping expeditions have no place to rest while their men folk are working or chatting and have to hang around the stores and wait. The proposed rest room will be for their convenience and maintained by the club.

Judge Benjamin S. Baker is putting in extensive improvements on the house at 313 South Thirteenth street, which he has leased to the Social Settlement association. The floors are being scraped

The Best Wedding Book

August 18, 1887—Judge A. L. Sutton, then of South Omaha, and Miss Marion B. Noyes of Waterloo, Neb., were united in marriage at the home of the bride's parents. Rev. Mr. Anton of Waterloo tied the perfect bow knot. Mr. Sutton was then practicing law in South Omaha.

August 18, 1902—Mr. Arthur L. Anderson and Miss Mabel Cornish were married at the home of Rev. and Mrs. C. W. Savidge. The wedding was just a quiet home affair and after the ceremony Mr. and Mrs. Anderson left immediately for their new home. An interesting romance surrounded their new home, for it was the same house in which the bride's parents began housekeeping.

August 18, 1887—Herbert A. Doud, cashier in the United States revenue office, today celebrates the silver anniversary of his marriage to Emma E. Dixon in Omaha.

August 18, 1907—Ellis U. Graff, superintendent of Omaha schools, has reached the wooden anniversary of his marriage to Margaret Couger, which happened at Clinton, Ia.

Church Asks Deeds to Property Held by Four of Its Trustees

St. Nicholas' church of South Omaha and two trustees who have collected large sums of money for the church have become involved in a financial dispute which only the courts can end. The church started action in district court to compel the trustees, Nick Savatovich and Michael Mirlich, to turn over four lots in Exchange Place, which, it is alleged, were purchased with funds donated for the church.

It is alleged that when the congregation decided to purchase property and build, donations were called for and the money given to the defendants, who, with Aca Ninkovich and Zivan Kretsch, are trustees of the St. Nicholas society of South Omaha. The trustees purchased the property after necessary funds had been collected. The deed was made in favor of the four trustees. Now, it is asserted, Ninkovich and Kretsch are willing to deed the property over to the church, but Savatovich and Mirlich refuse. The congregation asks that title to the property be quieted in it.

Gas Compromise is a Matter of Record

Compromise of the city's differences with the Omaha Gas company over the cost of gas lights for the last six years was made a matter of record in district court when the city confessed judgment for \$154,337.50, and judgment for that amount was accepted by the company and entered in the court journal. The company's contract with the city was for \$25 a lamp. The compromise is made on a basis of \$24 a lamp with interest at 2 per cent from the date due. Five suits against the city for payment for gas lights were covered by the compromise.

and finished. The partition between the two large down stairs rooms will be taken out, making a large hall for meetings and dancing. The large kitchen is being fitted for use in domestic science work and a new kitchen is being added for use of the resident settlement workers. Shower bath will be installed in the basement where the gymnasium is to be. The house is large enough with room left over for all the settlement activities. There are fifteen rooms. The yard grounds are 132 feet square and have a great deal of shrubbery. The directors expect to move from the present quarters at 1428 South Thirteenth street the middle of next month and to start activities in the new home at that time.

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