

to 50 *per cent.* normal efficiency. In institutions 73 *per cent.* are useful, but training must be highly specialised and long. Defectives are useless for military service, and should not be accepted. Left alone they are costly and dangerous; segregated on farms they are especially efficient as agricultural labourers, even the low-grade boy having a promising future. In all the groups individuals are psychopathic in readily yielding to the exactions of existence. There is a separate group which cannot be classified by examination as pathologic. They are superficially brilliant and enthusiastic, but unbalanced and eventually disloyal to any organisation; suggestible, susceptible to propaganda or disruptive acts, or with abnormal personality traits, suspicion, self-consciousness, obsessions. They cannot get out of undesirable situations nor profit by experience; they are "recidivists," criminal or otherwise; individualistic and unfit for team-work. Delinquency is but a further step. In civil penal establishments defectives, exclusive of psychopaths, exceed one-third. The New York Commission of Prisons (1918) found feeble-minded in State prisons, 25 *per cent.*; reformatories, 26.5 *per cent.*; penitentiaries and workhouses, 33.5 *per cent.* Psychiatry and criminology are closely linked. Previous army experience anticipated 50,000 delinquents among three million men. Actually 14,000 occurred. The discrepancy appears due to (1) the wider representation in new armies, therefore higher grades than in old regular forces; (2) prohibition in camps; (3) the exclusion of potential delinquents by neuropsychiatric rejection. The great lesson is that our communities contain "fixed quotas of crippling and multiplying diseases" as yet uncontrolled; these individuals are handicapped towards society and injure it. Sound laws, secured, should be enforced as regards foreign-born mental undesirables, excluding citizenship; community agencies must deal with neurotics; drug manufacture and addiction should be properly supervised. There is required standardisation of all State care with extended control of defectives (parole, colony and institution care); generalised psychiatric clinics at courts, in correctional and penal institutions; the denial of full liberty to the deficient. Childhood and adolescence is the time for training subnormals, as well-formed habits are more valuable than intelligence. Psychopathies and criminal traits are often the outcome of environment (criminal, drunken or divided homes); even normals thus become deviates. Special classes benefit 90 *per cent.* of subnormals classified on intelligence and personality traits. In New York State alone 41,000 feeble-minded are outside institutions. The needs are abundantly proved, and a great field lies open.

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*A Study of Delinquent and Dependent Girls.* (*Journ. Delinq.*, March, 1918.) Ordahl, L. E., and Ordahl, G.

The inmates of the Geneva State Training School for Girls, Ill., were studied to acquire data for more scientific classification, treatment and parole. The article is of thirty-one pages with numerous instructive graphs. The institution encourages wholesome athletic, academic, industrial, and social achievement—healthy rivalry being an important adjunct. The series, representative and unselected, covered the total population of 432 girls. The psychological tests employed were: (a)

The Faribault revision of the Binet-Simon scale; (*b*) for all cases over 12 years, Terman's Stanford revision (1916). Self-histories proved reliable in all but 2 *per cent.*; long residence induces modification by adding the lurid experiences of others. *Median chronological age*: on admission, 14 years; on examination, 15.6. Committal in 13 *per cent.* was before puberty; only 5.5 *per cent.* remain after 18. Discharge or parole is in adolescence; average stay 1.6 years, but varies greatly. *Actual age*: under 6 years, 3; the rest, 7.5 to 22, the majority being 12 to 19. *Mental age*: Formal education tests, with eighth school grade considered normal attainment, show average retardation of three years; but on chronological age comparison with school statistics increases this to five years. Their utmost endeavour only reduces this period to four years. *Causes of retardation*: (1) Lack of parental control and encouragement—involved in most cases; (2) insufficient ability to perform school tasks—far the commonest; (3) inelasticity of ordinary curriculum, neglecting individual needs. Only 22 (5 *per cent.*) of the whole group could reach the eighth grade after three or four failures. They are equivalent to the lowest quarter of public school population, which is backward and unable to progress in one or more subjects and seeks to leave. The bugbear should be omitted. Specific training is essential to establish wholesome ideals of behaviour within their mental vision—a social problem requiring specially trained teachers with access to the scholar's home-life. A psychological department would fill the gap; the feeble-minded would be recognised and relegated to detention; the border-lines could be suitably dealt with, and the dull-normals would be fitted for ordinary life situations and prevented from immorality. *Intelligence quotients* (I. Q.) obtained by psychological scales are more reliable and show *per cent.*: Feeble-minded, 22.9; doubtful, 19.9; border-line, 24.7; dull-normal, 27.3; average normal, 5; and superior normal, none. Terman classes the doubtful as border-line; the authors regard them as definitely feeble-minded, making these = 42.8 *per cent.* Omitting the dependents, the delinquents give 35.2 *per cent.* On this basis 95.2 *per cent.* of the group equal the lowest fifth of public school children. *Diseases*: Tuberculous number 35; venereals, 99 (22.9 *per cent.*); epileptic or equivalent, 4; the mentality not influenced in more than 15 *per cent.* *Hysteria* is detrimental to social behaviour and mental reactions; it almost determines immorality. Of 36, 23 were known immoral, and the committal of the rest was to avoid it. The instinctive aversions to familiarity are lacking. Their physical health was good. The group characteristics were untruthfulness, instability, vicious tendencies to self-mutilation or suicide, violent passions, emotionalism, foolishness and stupidity. Mentally they group as the mass. *Causes of commitment*: The stated causes were immorality, 64 *per cent.* (but 83 *per cent.* were known immoral, and 40 *per cent.* had V.D.); incorrigibility, 18 *per cent.* (unmanageable, 10.9; truancy from home, 5; from school, 2.3); dependent, 11 *per cent.* (with cases committed for other causes = actually 25 *per cent.*); unfit homes, 3 *per cent.*; and individual cases—stealing 6, murder 1, suicide 1, forgery 3, male impersonation 1. Runaways were feeble-minded; unmanageables of higher type. Homes were unfit by immorality and ill-treatment. The dependents were all

under 13 years. The stealers were truthful, but lacked power of adjustment; the forgers untruthful. *Sexual immorality* was the most serious and frequent offence—280 cases; the causes low intelligence, unsuitable early training or later associates. They classify on (1) intelligence; (2) attitude toward the crime; thus (a) I. Q. 48 to 55, incapable of comprehending the situation, ignorant of sex and birth facts; if aggressors spontaneously not purposefully so; analogous to the enticement of an 8-year-old child; (b) I. Q. 55 to 70, directly due to associates, aware of acts but unconcerned; untrained to the life situations they meet; (c) I. Q. 70 to 75, sufficiently trained, lacking self-direction and moral conscience; follow blind impulse; (d) I. Q. 75 to 85, recognising social alienation, feel regret, prefer the adventure and excitement; do not seriously consider the future; whether due to original nature or to experiences and training a matter of doubt; (e) I. Q. 85 to 95, mainly average normal; have ordinary training of their class; delinquency determined by unfavourable conditions; might have been moral in ordinary circumstances; (f) a few special cases, I. Q. 60 to 84, trained in immorality before puberty. *Prognosis*: the problem is serious but gaining recognition. The legal profession tend away from punishment. The courts have for eighteen years regarded delinquents, when minors, as not accountable for their acts, but are unsuccessful in juvenile reform. Training schools and reformatories have little success. Neither education authorities nor society appreciate the situation. This home studies individuals and then seeks to give training—(a) academic, to eighth grade public schools; (b) domestic, for home management or service; (c) elementary commercial. Parole is granted when suitable places are found. Of the 432 girls, 30 *per cent.* are hopeful and may become desirable members of the community; 40 *per cent.* require permanent custody or parole; 30 *per cent.* by disease, habits or temperament are not liable to reform. Favouring factors are the cleanliness of the homes and the protection from former ill-treatment. *Difficulties*: a sex lapse is not forgiven by the community; the respect for the marital relation is not readily reacquired. The laws of psychology tend against reform. Syphilitic cases are not fitted to have offspring. The admixture of varied cases prevents improvement. Psychological examination is a necessity for diagnosis. Parole cases in the main must be placed as domestic servants; there is a serious risk of false accusation without provocation against male members of the household; the best reputation may thus be ruined. There are few properly trained teachers available. The situation is, however, not hopeless, and will consistently improve as proper measures mature.

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