

sociated with defective brain structure. The difference in structure is perhaps best brought out by a comparison of the brain of a normal man with that of an idiot.

In the first place, the man's brain is much larger than the idiot's—being an average of 49 ounces to 37 ounces. Then, too, the number and depth of the fissures on the surface of a man's brain are much more marked than on that of the idiot. As a rule, the greater the number of convolutions and the greater the depth of fissures, the greater the intellectual ability, and the smoother the surface the less the intellectual ability.

It is safe to say that human brains differ as much from each other as human faces. Usually it is the fore-brain or cerebrum that is imperfect, but the hind-brain also is often defective. Idiots are born with the mere rudiments of a brain, and as a consequence there is complete lack of mental power. They are unable to walk, unable even to sit upright, unable to speak, do not possess consciousness, manifest their pleasure or pain by screams or grunts, are incapable of education, and must be washed, dressed, fed and cared for all their lives.

On the other hand, imbeciles have better developed brains and as a consequence possess a higher degree of intelligence than idiots. In the public homes which have been provided for both, the imbeciles are classified into six, or even a dozen classes, according to capacity of body and mind; but, for our purpose it will be sufficient to speak of them as (1) low grade, (2) medium grade, or (3) high grade. All imbeciles, whether low grade or high, differ very much as to behaviour, expression of the face, movements, and ability to learn.

Low grade imbeciles, when they have grown to manhood or womanhood are, so far as brain-growth is concerned, very much like children. They can be taught much less than the medium grade, and, these again, less than the high grade. Where memory is defective, as it always is in the low grade ones, they soon reach a limit in their education, beyond which it is impossible for them to go.

Medium grade imbeciles, as they reach boyhood and girlhood, learn to walk, but often with an unsteady or shuffling gait. With much training they learn to do many useful things about the home. They may learn the alphabet; later on may learn to read simple sentences and stories, and do the simplest sums in the simple rules; but they soon fall far behind others of the same age and never catch up.

The high grade imbecile sometimes differs very little from an "average human being." Limbs and body are often perfect. Occasionally the boys are handsome and the girls beautiful, especially in early childhood; but this beauty of face and form often disappears as manhood and womanhood is reached, and they sometimes become positively hideous to look at.

The defect of the nervous system in high grade imbeciles is seen in their inability to complete an all-round education in school and college. Memory in them is often wonderfully good. In some cases the extent to which they may be educated is very great. Some show great aptitude for music, some for mathematics, and others, again, become accomplished linguists, speaking and writing several languages.