

dition of want and drudgery, or a proper control of their emotions or their morbid cravings. As an illustration, the writer has in mind two families, particularly, who have come under his personal observation during the last two years.

One is a German family consisting of father, mother, and seven children. While both parents are honest, hard working and frugal, and have been able to supply the ordinary wants of life and to meet the ordinary demands of life, yet it is quite easy to recognize a low grade of mentality in both. The oldest child with difficulty maintained a passing grade in his school work. Pubertal changes were delayed until the age of seventeen. He manifested physical evidences of hereditary syphilis, as shown by Hutchinson's teeth, and by giving a positive Wassermann of the blood. At the age of eighteen he was committed to a hospital for the insane because of the development of what was regarded as the catatonic form of dementia praecox. While some improvement in his mental condition has taken place enabling him to live at home and to carry on some form of physical work under the supervision and direction of someone else, yet the family is constantly seeking advice because of his peculiarities and eccentricities in action and conduct. The second child at seventeen also was committed to the insane hospital because of a maniacal attack which lasted about three months. As yet the other children do not manifest any marked deviation of mentality except backwardness in their school work. This in conjunction with the tendency to a Mongolian type of features indicates the probability that they too will manifest mental deviations at one or other of the critical stages of life. The other family was of foreign extraction, and consisted of father, mother and five children, with the sixth on the way. The oldest was fifteen, the youngest two. The father was alcoholic, the mother of a low grade of mentality. All the children were mentally defective, the four oldest ones being committed to an institution for the feeble-minded. What an econom-