

value and importance to the future of the child and of the nation.

Everyone to-day is familiar with the fact of living organisms, whether plants or animals, being built up from the individual cell and of how this divides and multiplies infinitely, each cell being nourished or impeded in its development by its environment, according as this is favorable or the opposite. Evidently then as the plant or animal is constantly influenced by air, sunlight and food, so must the tissue cells, whether pre-natal or post-natal, be daily, even hourly, influenced by their surrounding fluids. But there is much more than this. As the infant obtains its physical pabulum from without, so only by external impressions do its most complex cerebral cells receive their impressions from without through the special senses, which serve to develop what we call mind; and upon their receptivity, the quality of these impressions and the clearness and frequency of them will be the extent and degree of intelligence and of what we call character. What then to me at least is perfectly evident, is that the education of the individual in its widest sense is the postulate, once granted, upon which we must base our attempt to solve the problem of social and personal morality.

Time will not permit us to enter greatly into the details of what this education implies; but it is important to remember that every aberration from the normal is associated with the quality of the cerebral tissues, which receive impressions, whether constitutional or affected temporarily by internal or external influences, and that every outward act, whether spoken, written or performed, produces its definite effect upon persons or society, quite measurable were our instruments of experiment sufficiently delicate and accurate. Can anything, then, be of more importance than that the mother of the life yet to be, or which is, shall have every influence surrounding her, whether physical, mental or moral, of the highest, purest and most wholesome character in order that the effects upon her offspring may be productive of the happiest results. Are these, then, not the most potent of reasons why the mothers of our people should fully realize that the duties of motherhood become in a peculiar sense those of patriotism in the sense under-