

study is being made of these problems from the standpoint of the individuality of the people who make the problem. Likewise there has been the best of work going on at Sing Sing for the last two years—a survey of the people in that institution, the point of view being that before we can handle the problem of crime or any other of these social problems it is important to know the personality and fundamental make-up of these individuals creating the problems. After all it is a problem of adjustment—life is a problem of adjustment for all of us, but it is particularly difficult for those individuals limited in mental capacity or nervously unstable that they cannot adjust at the same level or social level that is demanded of society. There is a group of people who believe that these individuals can be adjusted, that institutional life is not necessary for the feeble-minded, for all psychopathic inferiors or even for all insane, that the level of adjustment is individual and that an understanding of the individual and an understanding of the environment—the two can be put together in a reasonable way if there is a proper and intelligent supervision.

When the war came on an individual study of the so-called problem of shell-shock in the armies occurred. This Committee was naturally interested in what might happen to the American Army, composed of drafts consisting of a cross-section of the community as it existed, men suffering from tuberculosis, dementia precox, epilepsy, and such conditions as are found in a general community. After advising with medical officers in Canada and England it was decided to urge upon the Surgeon-General that an attempt be made to attack the problem before it began by culling out those individuals supposed to be unable to survive the rigors of a campaign and who would succumb to nervous or mental disease. At the reorganization of the Surgeon-General's office, at the opening of the war, the Surgeon-General planned that there would be specialties in medicine. Previous to this an army medical officer was supposed to do everything, from presiding at an officers' mess to doing the finest surgery, handling psychiatric cases or anything else. General Gorgas felt that he would get the best results if special problems were put in the hands of those who were dealing with these special problems in civil life. There were created divisions of surgery, internal medicine, tuberculosis, pathology, psychiatry, surgery of the head and of cardio-vascular work. The function of the psychiatric division was to propose to the Surgeon-General some policy for handling the problem of nervous disease in the army. The work seemed to divide itself into three parts: First, the exclusion and treatment of those who were mentally unfit; the prophylaxis of