

ber of 954 insane inmates in the Brandon and Selkirk Asylums the Canadians contributed 338 and the British 273, a total of 611, a percentage of 63.73; while all the rest of "alien" Manitoba, including the French, contributed 343, or a percentage of 35.77. That is to say, the British-Canadian being 58.5 per cent. of the population contributed 63.73 per cent. of the insane, and the "alien" being 39.95 per cent. of the population contributed only 35.77 per cent. of the insane.

It is by no means desirable that a bad or a good case should be made out for the immigrant, but rather that the facts of the case should as far as possible be ascertained in order that an adequate judgment may be reached. To say, therefore, that the immigrant is responsible for furnishing us with the greater part of our mental deficiency, insanity and crime may or may not be true; but the interesting thing is to discover the basis on which such a declaration was made. In this connection a Toronto newspaper some time ago quoted a statement that more than half of the insane and feeble-minded in Canada had been imported from outside countries, but failed to give the evidence in support of such a judgment. If now one would be allowed to use the census of 1911 as a field of search, would the data there justify the above statement, and if not, where could one look for the necessary evidence? The statistics for that year gave the number of Blind, Deaf and Dumb, Insane, and Idiotic as 28,611, of whom 23,083 were born in Canada and 5,528 were from outside. On this basis the "more than half" in the above statement should become "less than a fifth." This is such an extraordinary change that one wonders if the figures can be correct.

But it may be that it is not so much a matter of birthplace as of racial origin that is the source of such defective persons. In this respect the foregoing 28,611 showed that 11,488 were British, including Canadian, 16,791 were foreign and various, and 322 were Indian, that is, 40 per cent., 58 per cent. and a little more than 1 per cent. respectively. In an investigation of some hospitals in Manitoba by the Canadian National Committee for Mental Hygiene it was found that of 269 unmarried mothers who were cared for in one year, 44.23 per cent. were of British birth, and 25.76 of Canadian birth. That left 30 per cent. for all other races in Manitoba. Is that an excessive proportion compared with British and Canadian? Again, of 400 consecutive admissions to jails in the Western provinces the Canadian National Committee found that 23 per cent. were of Canadian birth, 33 per cent. were of Austrian birth, and 11 per cent. were of Russian birth. This was regarded as an