

"MORON" NAME NOW GIVEN THEM

Those on the Border Line of
Mental Deficiency

Estimated They Number 45-
000 in New York State—
Look on Schools as Sorting
Place—Reports of Char-
ities Association.

(Associated Press.)
New York, June 12.—The word "moro-
n," which criminologists as well as
newspaper headline writers frequently
use to designate a person of morbidly
criminal tendencies, is defined in a bul-
letin issued by the State Charities As-
sociation.

"Moro," they say, comes from the
Greek "moro," meaning "fool." And
the word, as applied by psychiatrists
and mental specialists, means just that—
"fool."

It is not applied to insane persons, to
lunatics, imbeciles or idiots, but to the
considerable percentage of the popula-
tion whose limited reasoning power
places them on the great border-line of
mental deficiency.

Before the word "moro" came into
general use such persons were called
"defectives." They were those who, if
left to shift for themselves, usually be-
came "liabilities to society."

Figuring from statistics gathered by
many draft boards the state association
estimates that there are 45,000 mental
defectives—moro—in New York state
today. This would indicate, says the
report, that one person in every 250 is
mentally deficient and incapable of pass-
ing sound judgments as to what is right
or wrong.

Of this number, 5,200 are in state in-
stitutions; 500 are in colonies attached
to such institutions; and 7,200 are en-
rolled in special classes in public schools.
This leaves some 31,000 without any
special supervision—at large in all walks
of life.

Describing the defective, the
charities association says:
"He is often unable to adjust himself
to permanent employment and is habit-
ually changing his job. He is tremen-
dously responsive to suggestion and is
thus peculiarly susceptible to the crim-
inal influence of others."

"Nearly all the attempts at assassina-
tion of prominent men in recent years
and of criminal assaults with a sexual
phase have been the work of mental de-
ficients. A moron killed President Mc-
Kinley and another tried to kill Roose-
velt. A moron tried to kill Mayor Mitch-
ell and shoot Corporation Counsel
Folk. Mayor Gaynor was shot by an-
other defective."

There is a distinct difference between
mental deficiency and insanity. It is
pointed out. They have little in com-
mon. Insanity is a mental disease which
is curable in at least 20 per cent of cases
and preventable in 40 per cent.

A moron or mental defective is a per-
son who definitely lacks in the capacity
of the mind. The condition usually is inherited
and cannot be cured, say the psychia-
trists, "science cannot add what nature
has omitted." In other words, an adult
moron is just a man or woman with the
brain of a child.

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fective. There he automatically is sepa-
rated from the children of normal in-
telligence. Perhaps he progresses to the
sixth grade without displaying any lack
of the power to absorb knowledge. Then
he falls behind. He doesn't seem able
to learn any more; his classmates go
on, while he remains, vainly trying to
absorb his lessons, but without success.

Should he continue in school at this
time the chances are he will become an
incorrigible—the sort of overgrown bul-
ly who far outstrips his playmates in
size and strength, but who is a dwarf
in the classroom. Or if he leaves school
he is apt to join the class of easily-led
criminals, unguided by any sense of right
or wrong, wholly irresponsible, who go
from misdemeanor to felony and thence
to the electric chair or to Matineen.

At the period of arrested development
psychiatrists claim to be able to pick
out the defective by their reaction to
certain simple questions, included in the
Binet-Simon measuring scale of intelli-
gence. In the vocabulary test the ex-
aminer may say:

"I want to find out how many words
you know. Listen, and when I say a
word you tell me what it means." The
word "nervous" comes early in this test.
Although it is understood that to define
the physical organism is a matter for
the adult mind, it has found that the
normal child of eight years will answer
with "You've got a nerve," or some-
thing similar which is scored as a nor-
mal reaction.

Another test is known as "Detecting
Absurdities." Here the examiner may
say, "Yesterday the police found the
body of a girl cut into eighteen pieces.
They believe she killed herself!"
The defective or "moro" will probably react with this
exclamation: "Think she killed herself!"
They know she did it, or it may be
that it is a foolish girl to kill herself. No
girl would do that unless she was crazy?"

Where do the defectives come from?
Are they just accidents of birth? The
answer to this question is best illustrat-
ed in the story of the Kallaks.

About 1770 Martin Kallakak, a young
man of good family who was serving
in George Washington's army, met a
feeble-minded girl and became the father
of a feeble-minded son. Later he married
a normal woman. The history of the
two families that go back to Martin
Kallakak have been accurately traced.

The feeble-minded woman had 480
descendants, most of whom have been

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paupers, criminals, immoral women
and drunks. The normal woman had
about an equal number of descendants,
all of whom have been worthy of their
communities and some of whom have at-
tained to positions of public eminence.

Given a chance, however, the moron
often becomes a useful member of so-
ciety. Sometimes he is a successful
mechanic. Usually it is something manual
that he does well. There have been a few
talented defectives who displayed rare talents
with palette and brush.

PUTTING CASE FOR THESE PROVINCES

(Halifax Chronicle)

In an admirable contribution to the
debate on the budget in the House of
Commons, Harold Putnam, member for
Colchester, took occasion to express the
widespread regret felt throughout the
country that the Reciprocity Agreement
of 1911 had not been accepted by Can-
ada as well as by the United States. He
dealt with the geographical difficulties
which confront Canada in her trade with
any other nation, and gave an eloquent
and illuminating survey of the situation
in this respect, which suggests the per-
ennial pity of the Canadian verdict
against Reciprocity in 1911.

Mr. Putnam stressed the fact that
Canada is a difficult country to govern.
Looking to the north, he pointed out,
we have the plains of the eternal win-
ter, towards which, as Mr. Putnam said,
"Our Lady of the Snows" would cast
her smiles in vain if she expected to
find her true destiny or her true affinity
there. In the West there are the Rocky
Mountains, beautiful in their grandeur
as an attraction to tourists, but, unfor-
tunately, a barrier to the trade between
east and west on account of the sharp
grades, which are almost insuperable
difficulties to inter-provincial trade. The
situation in the east is equally difficult.

Let us quote Mr. Putnam:
"Mr. Speaker, we look away to the
east and we have the Atlantic Ocean.
But it so happens that the Atlantic
coast of Canada is a very irregular coast,
and it is immediately rivalled by a more
regular Atlantic seaboard stretching
at once to the south and coming soon to
bays and harbours and great cities whose
names are on the lips of all the world,
and which are so situated, climatically
and otherwise, that the major part of the
traffic of the ocean is directed through
them. When the St. Lawrence is an ice-
field, St. John and Halifax, instead of
getting the share of the traffic which one
might expect, have it abstracted from
them and passed through the American
ports. But, Mr. Speaker, when we look
to the south we may well exclaim:
What a South it is! There is a nation
easily conceded to be one of the very
greatest nations of the earth. With
them we have enjoyed for one hundred
years the blessings of happy peace. It is
a country stretching from the Atlantic
to the Pacific, a country whose people
are largely of our own blood, of our own
language, of our own traditions, of our
own national ideals. If an impartial ob-
server came to look the situation over,
would he not say: You have your dif-
ficulties on your north and your west
and your east; why as people of com-
mon sense are you not trading in a free
and unhampered way with your great
kinsman to the south?"

Mr. Putnam has put the case for free
trade with the United States very ef-
fectively and pertinently from the point
of view of Canadians. The pity is that
for base partisan reasons we are allowed
to slip from our grasp the golden oppor-
tunity offered to us in 1911. It may
never recur again. We are paying dearly
for an economic blunder as the result
of a political crime.

Shocking Language.

A huntsman called at the farmstead
to settle for damage done by the hounds
and found only the farmer's wife at
home.

"Has your good man made an exam-
ination yet?" he asked.

"That he have, sir," replied Mrs.
Hodge.

"Rather a cursory examination, I
suspect?"

"Oh, dreadful, sir! Such language I
never heard—never!"

"And the dame held up her hands in
horror as the huntsman withdrew—
From London-Tit-Bits

NEW FORCE WORKS TO SETTLE CHINA

Commerce and Educational
Bodies Help Stabilize the
Republic—Day of War
Lords Gone.

(Special Despatch to N. Y. Evening
Post.)

Washington, June 7.—David Willard
Lyon, American Y. M. C. A. secretary in
China, prepared for the Federal Council
of Churches a clear exposition of the
contending forces in China. He con-
cludes:

"The Chinese are well able to work
out their own political salvation, and in
doing so should not be hampered by
interference from outside. There is now
at work in China a new force, the
product of which is little appreciated in
the West. This force is represented in
the combined influence of the Chambers
of Commerce in the principal cities and
of the various provincial educational as-
sociations. A united conference of these
organizations brought into being the
machinery which made possible the
financial pledges which China made at
the Washington conference.

It is to these same organizations
that the world may well look for a
gradual but certain stabilization of po-
litical and economic conditions. The out-
look is brighter now than at any time
since the republic was born.

"The apparent ascendancy of Gen.
Wu-Pei-fu is probably acceptable to the
republican patriots, for he has, as a
rule, commanded their confidence. If he
proves as sincere in his motives as he
is widely believed to be, he will have
the loyal following of a people grateful
for rescue from a desperate situation
into which the rivalries of military gov-
ernors had brought them."

To arrive at an understanding of the
problem of China, Mr. Lyon reviews the
republic, eleven years of it. He writes:
"When the Manchus were precipitated
from power in the autumn of 1911 de-
mocracy had a premature birth. The
useful preparations for a proper care of
the infant had not been made. The
wonder is that the republic outlived its
first winter. That it did so, and also
survived its first decade, may fairly be
looked upon as a token of its vitality."

At the beginning most of the people
were unable to distinguish between a
monarchy and a republic. The one had
gone and the other had come without
their help. They knew only their local
governments, and these continued to
function pretty much as usual.

Yet the new national government was
representative in a sense that a few pro-
gressive men in each province, in their
new-found and undefined liberty of
franchise, elected first a provisional and

then a so-called permanent national
parliament. The provisional parliament
chose the pioneer president of the repub-
lic, Dr. Sun Yat-sen, as its provisional
president. Dr. Sun, conscious of his in-
experience in matters of state, resigned
in favor of a man who had won the ap-
plause of foreign nations during the
Boxer war, and later as prime minister
of the now defunct Manchurian govern-
ment, Yuan Shih-kai, the outstanding
man of power of that day.

All promised well at the outset. A
permanent parliament was chosen and
addressed itself to the making of a con-
stitution. But the rub came when the
powers of the president were being de-
fined. Yuan was not willing to be
rubber stamp or even a mere executive,
and as he had the control of the army,
he was in a position to carry his point.

"This he finally did by dissolving
parliament, not long after which he tried
the experiment of having himself nomi-
nated as emperor. But when he realized
the antagonism of an influential section
of the people to such a course he grace-
fully declined the honor which his own
henchmen offered him. Shortly after this
he died, and was succeeded by his vice-
president, Li Yuan-Hung, a man beloved
by republican patriots. President Li's
friends urged him to reconvene parlia-
ment. The military leaders opposed
such a course in order to keep the power
more fully in their own hands. Dis-
traught and disheartened, Li resigned,
and the day of the trichun, or military,
governor dawned. To put it more plain-
ly, China was now without a govern-
ment, for there was no parliament and
no president.

Members of the dissolved parliament
felt this to be their opportunity to re-
establish their rights by choosing a chief
executive. But certain military leaders,
realizing the advantage that would ac-
cure to themselves were they to appoint
the new president, hastened to act on this
impulse by electing Feng Kuo-chang to
the post.

Feng's administration lasted but a
few months, and his successor, Hsu
Shih-chang, the present incumbent, was
chosen in the same way. In the mean-
time the dissolved parliament recon-
vened, choosing for safety's sake the city
of Canton as its headquarters and elect-
ing Dr. Sun Yat-sen a second time to
serve as president."

"The issue was thus sharply drawn.
The Peking party, representing for the
time being a superior strength of avail-
able military power, upheld its puppet
as the actual president of the republic,
while the Canton party, with as much
ground for claiming to be the real rep-
resentative of the people as inhered in the
rights of the dissolved parliament, in-
sisted on its appointee being the right-
ful president of China. Had there been
no interference from outside these two
rival parties would probably have
quickly settled their differences, for the
north did not have so great a natural
advantage as to have been able to hold
the reins of power indefinitely against the
strength and growing military power of
the south."

Members of the world, however,
were at this time abhorrently engrossed
with the great war. Far Eastern affairs

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were not in the foreground of interest
in western capitals. Under these cir-
cumstances it is hardly surprising that
the party which succeeded in establish-
ing itself in the traditional capital of
China received the recognition of the
powers, especially as this party appeared
to possess the stability of a superior
army.

"This recognition of the Peking gov-
ernment by the governments of the
world gave it a decided advantage over
the Canton government not only because
of the prestige which recognition gave,
but also because of the financial strength
gained from certain revenues, in the ad-
ministration of which the foreign powers
were interested.

"At the same time Japan, with her
pressing need for more room, more iron
and more coal, was not slow to seize
her opportunity to cultivate the favor of
the Peking group and when the right
moment came to press certain demands
which this group found it difficult to re-
sist if it was to keep in power. Thus
there was built up a dominance of
Japanese influence and a massing of sol-
diers in the north, both of which were
destined to work for the undoing of the
Peking government.

"The first blow fell on Japanese
domination. It is not necessary here to
retell the story of the wave of patriotism
which swept the country in protest
against the twenty-one demands and
brought about the denunciation of several
Chinese officials of high rank who had
proved traitors to their country. Nor is
it needful to chronicle the succession of
events which resulted in a recognition
of some of China's rights at the recent
Washington conference. It is enough to
say that public opinion in China had at
last become really aroused and made ef-
fective.

"The second blow has now fallen on
the military clique, which is breaking
up through the operation of forces it
has itself created. Mutual rivalries
among the various military governors,
since they owe no allegiance to any
higher power, were inevitable. But the
country cannot remain divided. Even
the military governors recognize this. It
is therefore a fight to the finish between
Gen. Chang Tso-Lin and Gen. Wu-Pei-

Fu. The victor must unite the discord-
ant elements. Each rival has promised
to do so if he wins. The day of inde-
pendent military governors is passing.
"Some weeks ago Dr. Sun Yat-sen
apparently thought Gen. Chang-Tso-
Lin would win, so linked himself to
him, in the expectation, no doubt, that
this would give the original parliament
a chance for real resurrection. But Dr.
Sun seems already to have repented his
error of judgment."

SIX HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-EIGHT IN LIST

Chicago, June 14.—Six hundred and
eighty-eight degrees were conferred at
the One Hundred Twenty-fifth Convo-
cation of the University of Chicago yester-
day. Of these, four hundred fifty
Bachelor's degrees were conferred in
the Colleges of Arts, Literature, and
Science, Commerce and Administration,
Social Service Administration, and Edu-
cation.

In the Professional Schools there were
twenty-nine candidates for degrees in
the Divinity School and fifty-seven in
the Law School. In the Graduate
Schools of Arts, Literature, and Science
there were one hundred four candidates
for the Master's degree and forty-six
for that of Doctor of Philosophy, a total
of 160.

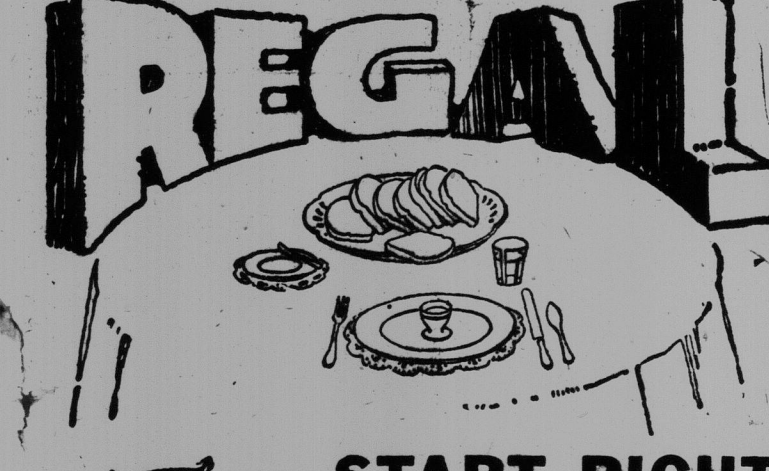
About thirty-five students were elected
to Phi Beta Kappa for special distinction
in general scholarship, and thirty-
three to full membership in Sigma Xi
for evidence of ability in research work
in science.

Among the graduates were six Chinese,
three Japanese, one Filipino, one Ar-
menian, and one Lithuanian.

Subconscious.

Two little girls had been asked to
water the flowers in the garden, and after
they had done so they then began dis-
puting as to which had carried the greater
number of sprinkling cans. "I know I
did," insisted the younger child, "cause
I carried five that I remember, and one
that I don't remember."—Boston Tri-
script.

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