

strict nurses, or they have been issued at mothers' meetings and a bonus to encourage providence and thrift is effected to expectant mothers equal in amount to the preparation they themselves have made for the occasion.

In view of much that is known and written in regard to this aspect, and that of the falling birth-rate, and there has been a decline of fertility (the excess of births over deaths) of 17 per cent. in England and Wales during the past twenty-two years. The example of Mr. Broadbent, Mayor of Huddersfield, who initiated a scheme of payment when information of a birth reached him and another when the infant attained the age of one year, may be mentioned as deserving of wider recognition. Maternity Societies.

There are authorities who refer our social misfits to inter-marriage of this class, but we are in danger of a passive fatalism, and of losing sight of the potent influence of healthy surroundings too exclusively entertaining this aspect. The response of protoplasm to its environment is a maxim as true in the animal as it is in the vegetable kingdom and such encourages the beneficent influence of a healthy environment. We know that Alpine plants have a certain "facies": they are stunted in size but brilliant in bloom. Moist tropical flora, together with the flora of the dry desert have each their "facies." Dicotyledonous plants often have, as do water plants, finely dissected leaves when growing under water. All these characters are acquired through environmental changes, and they are transmitted, because the seeds transmit the characters—the plants all coming true to the seed. It is in the environment that we can modify an inherited vicious organization and possibly more so than by peremptory eugenic cautions.

The hygienic creed thus put forward is that infants must be saved, children helped, youths trained physically to habits of obedience, discipline, to fortify them against temptation and sobriety—for life is not only a Campus Martius, but a condition of striving for moral characters, such as thrift, prudence and self-help—the expectant parent must be instructed to meet responsibilities, and I have an intense conviction from long experience of the social conditions of the