

of those examined fell much below what would naturally be expected by the uninitiated. The result of these examinations has gone far to indicate that many men who in ordinary life are treated as normal and apparently behave as such, fall far short of the standard set up by psychiatrists for the entirely well balanced. This view is shared by Dr. S. D. Porteus, one of the directors of the Vineland, (N. J.) Training School, who in "Research Programme" in May, 1919, says:—

"The recent army examination of recruits have given us some absolutely staggering results as to the number of low grade (by tests) men who are apparently maintaining themselves successfully in society and are in fact conducting themselves and their affairs as ordinary prudence dictates."

This emphatic difference between scientific examination and practical observation leads to the conclusion that, while there are many well defined cases of mental defectiveness, there is a border line, hard to define exactly, which divides the normal and abnormal, and, if too rigidly laid down, will swell to great proportions those whose intellectual attainments and temperament indicate care and treatment as feeble-minded. I think much discrimination is needed in this particular and I desire to accentuate the position that one must not be led too far in a desire to cope with the evil so that the end to be attained will seem well nigh impossible of accomplishment.

My purpose in giving, early in this report, the quotations which follow from the army experience of the United States and from other authorities is twofold. It is, in the first place, to indicate clearly that many mentally defective men drafted into the army were apparently normal, not actively anti-social, and perhaps self-supporting. It is also to call attention to the necessity for a practical test of mentality as correcting or supplementing the medical one, in order to arrive at a satisfactory answer to the question: Does this individual demand attention for his own sake or for that of the community? The tests here outlined are the most modern ones, and were made on a grand scale for a purely practical purpose. In the United States Army use was made of many, who, judged by strict medical standards, were mentally defective. And that this is the case in civil life cannot be doubted, for much of the rough and heavy work of the world must be, and is in fact, done by those who are somewhat below the normal. But, most of all, these quotations point the moral that, in dealing practically with the detection and care of the feeble-minded, great caution must be observed so as to avoid indiscriminate condemnation.

It is enough to watch over those individuals who clearly need shepherding, and it is but just to the State and to those concerned to prevent undue enthusiasm from overestimating the task and thereby clogging the wheels of progress.

I have, through the courtesy of the Surgeon General of the United States Army, been furnished with the following figures, as of June 7, 1919:—

"Out of 1,668,812 recruits who were psychologically examined, there were found with mental age below seven years, 4,780 men; mental age from seven to eight years, 7,875; from eight to nine, 14,814; from nine to ten, 18,875."

These statistics are illuminated by details given in articles published in *Science* of March 7 and 14, 1919, by the Section of Psychology, (Major Robt. M. Yerkes, Chief.) with the approval of the Surgeon General. The totals given practically agree with the official figures mentioned above, the slight differences being accounted for by the progress of checking between March and June, 1919.

"*Summary of Results.*—After preliminary trial in four cantonments psychological examining was extended by the War Department to the entire army, except-