IMMIGRATION AND DEFECTIVES

The number of Canadian-born males who are blind form a definite percentage of the total Canadian-born males, the insane another percentage of the same total, and a similar situation prevails for the different nationalities. In other words, the comparison must be relative not absolute. Now, of the 1.850 blind males in Canada 1,443 were born in Canada, i.e., 78 per cent. of the whole. But there were no less than 2,849,422 males born in Canada, and the 1,443 who fell to their share, formed only 5.1 per 10,000 of that total. Similarly of the total 7,688 insane males, those born in Canada were 71.39 per cent. of the whole, but on the basis of proportional contribution Canada gave only 19.26 per 10,000 males. At the risk, therefore, of compiling a compendious and bulky table the following figures afford a basis of comparison per 10,000 of the population, and will show, perhaps clearly, what nationalities manifest definite weaknesses according to the features designated by the word "infirm."

Blind	Deaf and Dumb	Insane	Idiotic
Irish	Canadian	Irish	Canadian
Scotch	Irish	Canadian	Irish
Welsh	Scotch	English	Welsh
Canadian	English	Welsh	Scotch
English	Welsh	Scotch	English

From the foregoing table there arise a different situation from that which has hitherto been the case. Except for the particularly bad showing made by Ireland there is not a great divergence between the British Isles and Canada, though Canada shows up badly in the matter of deaf and dumb females and idiotic males. A comparison of the first and second parts of the table shows that between the British Isles, Canada, and Europe, the last-mentioned can scarcely be blamed for "furnishing us with more than fifty per cent. of our defectives and insane." The Austro-Hungarians who have come in for a good share of condemnation make, on the contrary, a fairly good showing, while the Italians have, in these respects, at any rate, a really estimable record. On the whole, the foregoing figures furnish food for reflection in a variety of aspects. Take, for example, the question of the Blind. The situation for Ireland is puzzling since the ratio is about three times that of the other British Isles and Canada. The European nations, with the exception of Germany, are in this respect somewhat superior, Austro-Hungarian, Italian and Russian having a considerable advantage. The high rate of blindness among the Indians is, however, a sad commentary on a neglected race, for which "the red