

to free them from the restraining and disciplinary influences which were considered necessary heretofore. The main objection usually offered against this proposition is that the expense entailed for the State to make provision for and to take charge of them would be too great. But the majority of these could be made practically self-sustaining if the State would utilize them in improving public utilities or in some agricultural or manufacturing vocation. Besides it is extremely doubtful if the primary cost of such a procedure would approach anywhere near what they eventually cost, let alone the economical loss because of their inability to be self-supporting and self-sustaining.

In conclusion, let me say that as conservators of the mental health of our fellow creatures, physicians should and must be better trained in normal and pathological psychology, in order that they be better fitted to give advice and guidance in regard to the care and management of those manifesting psychopathic tendencies. The public must be educated in regard to the importance and necessity of restricting or abolishing, so far as possible, the production of unhealthy beings if there is to be any diminution in the number and cost of maintenance of defectives, as well as of the economic loss from their lack of productivity. And when once the public mind becomes convinced that such measures are necessary for the general welfare it sooner or later adopts the means to accomplish what it desires.