

Not only should sound Psychology prove to be of value in the coördinated study of the conditions of human welfare, but the wealth of normal and abnormal material that the Human Welfare Group will have available for study and the coöperation of experts engaged in related investigations should afford unique opportunity for, and prove a powerful incentive to, the development of Psychology as science. Experimental psychological investigations have made substantial advances in the last generation to our understanding of human and infrahuman behavior and the mental processes that condition its higher forms. The measurement of intelligence and mechanical abilities, of individual differences and aptitudes, studies of endowment and child development, of variability, adaptation, of suggestion, learning, conditioning and association, of dreams and reveries, of normal and abnormal behavior, personality and the motives of conduct, have had more or less far-reaching consequences in practical life. Notwithstanding much popular exaggeration and misinterpretation, Psychology has been of notable value in the solution of many practical problems in education and advertising, in industrial placement and personnel, the detection and amelioration of fatigue and maladjustment, in the effects of drugs, lighting, and heating, in the correction of abnormal and antisocial behavior, and the care of the feeble minded, in the development of wholesome recreation and some that is not so wholesome, in national defense and the war against war, and in others too numerous to mention.

This has had a retroactive effect on the science of Psychology, increasing its resources in method and technique, and broadening its horizon, as well as changing its popular status from that of a merely academic discipline to that of a science with many practical bearings on human engineering. Unfortunately this last change has not been entirely beneficent. Popularization