

Passionate? Whimsical? Bashful? Lazy? Imaginative?  
 Forgetful? Superficial? Mean? Etc.

#### 9.—SPECIAL INCLINATIONS AND ABILITIES.

Singing? Writing? Drawing? Arithmetic? Hand-  
 work? Etc.

#### 10.—GRADE OF SCHOOL-WORK REACHED.

It is very evident that this whole subject of special classes for defective children is fraught with difficulties and requires most careful and delicate handling. Parents naturally resent any suspicions regarding the mental disability of their children, and if these auxiliary schools are ever held up to scorn in any way, or are dubbed "mad schools" or "dunce schools," the whole system becomes unworkable.

The limits of this paper forbid a more extended reference to the work of these special classes, but enough has been given to show the close relationship existing between medical inspection of school children and the formation of these classes. For the facts regarding the schools of Halle and Mannheim, the writer is indebted to a late Bulletin from the Bureau of Education, Washington, entitled "The Auxiliary Schools of Germany," by Doctor Maennel, which gives a complete history of their growth and good work.

There has just been printed by order of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario, a most interesting and instructive report by Dr. Helen MacMurehy, of Toronto, on "The Care of the Feeble-Minded in Ontario." Dr. MacMurehy is an enthusiast in sociological work, and has spared neither time nor energy in collecting definite information on this important subject. I ask your indulgence while I read a short paragraph from her report:

#### "MENTALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN IN OUR SCHOOLS.

"The Department has communications from forty-five different people in the Province in reference to this branch of the enquiry. There can be no doubt that here is the place to concentrate our attention and energy. The problem must be studied in the school-room. Dr. Potts, one of the investigators specially appointed by the Royal Commission in Great Britain, examined 31,092 school children in the 'Pottery Towns' of England. He found 185 of the number mentally defective, or about .59 per cent. Dr. Francis Warner, in an examination of 100,000 children in London, showed that one per cent. were mentally defective, and other authorities have published statistics to show that about two per cent. of the elementary school children in certain large cities will never be able to manage their own lives successfully on account