

tage though slight appears to be with Quebec, it is offset by the fact that scarcely 4 per cent. of the population are foreign born. (The census of 1911 gave a population of 2,003,232, of which 74,421 were foreign born.) But now, in the Western provinces, the percentages of foreign-born amount up from 20 to 40 per cent. of the population, and since the proportions of defectives between Quebec and the rest of Canada were 29 and 36 per 10,000, respectively, the advantage seems altogether with the "foreigner." Curiously enough about the time that the statement was published regarding defectives in Canada, another statement was quoted from another person to the effect that in the United States a recent census revealed the fact that there were 46,000 feeble-minded in the United States. Apart from the colossal task of taking such a census—a task which has never been performed—the information of 46,000 feeble-minded for a population of about 110 millions, and 25,000 for a population of about 8 millions, might well give us "serious pause," if not, indeed, panic, about Canada's degenerate state. Relief comes when we are assured that perhaps mental defective and feeble-minded are not identical terms.

In fact, such affirmations in these broad numbers with three zeros are the merest guesses—not wild guesses necessarily, but large generalizations made from too narrow observations. For so far as Canada is concerned there has not been any census of the mentally defective among eight millions of people, and if such were undertaken it could not be performed by the simple process of counting noses, but by a rigid and careful technique, whose operation and conclusions would manifestly be open to scrutiny. Such a technique is in operation in psychiatric clinics, and what may be gathered from the results, as a support of the claim that foreign immigrants are specially defective, is a matter open for discussion. Thus of 3,083 cases reported from the Psychiatric Clinic of the Toronto General Hospital, there were 862 morons, 818 imbeciles, 114 idiots, 497 insane, 75 epileptic, 385 backward, 3 cretin, 7 deaf and dumb, and 322 apparently normal. But of the patients coming to the clinic, for the period to which the above figures apply, only 45.33 per cent. were Canadian; the greater part were, therefore, foreign, about 55 per cent. Since, however, Toronto showed (1911) a population of 376,538, of which 33,131 were foreign-born, then about 3.8 per cent. of the population was furnishing 55 per cent. of the above clinical cases. Were all these feeble-minded? The answer can be neither affirmative nor negative. For 10 per cent. of the foregoing cases were apparently normal, about 16 per cent.