

cause of feebleness of mind is hereditary. We who believe this, believe it because of incontrovertible proof, claim that our object is to force upon the public a great new principle of right doing. We exist for nothing less than that. We demand the recognition of our duty to the future, and the immediate action appropriate to such recognition. We demand the stoppage of the transmission to the future of a terrible evil; an evil which brings all other evils in its train. It is not only that our weaker brethren themselves become criminals, they afford the opportunity for crime in those who are not weak but only bad. There is no kind of crime which is not frequently the consequence of deficiency of intellect. It is probable that two-thirds of the crimes of our nation might be prevented, in the course of two generations, by a scientific method of dealing with the feeble-minded. And we must remember that it is futile to talk of feeble-minded criminals as sinners. Sin there must be, where so much crime and misery are, but the sin lies where the responsibility lies, and that is with every sane person who knows of these things, and does nothing to stop them.

EXTRACTS FROM A BULLETIN ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF  
PUBLIC HEALTH AND CHARITIES OF PHILADELPHIA, PA.

#### WHAT IS NEEDED.

Segregation of the feeble-minded so that degenerate stock cannot be transmitted, and the feeble-minded will be saved from ruin.

Proper institutions for the care of the feeble-minded. Relieve our jails, almshouses and insane asylums of misfit cases. Deliver the feeble-minded from the jails, almshouses and insane asylums.

Separate institutions for the high grade and low-grade cases. This is the present urgent need. The high-grade cases in an institution under wise management are practically self-supporting—are able to do farm work and shop work. It is cruelty to such people to put them in close contact with helpless low-grade imbeciles and idiots. In the case of children, in the past, such a policy has deterred parents from placing their children in our public institutions.

Better laws governing the care of the feeble-minded. In many States there is no distinction made between the insane and feeble-minded.