

frustrate their adoption and yield very slowly to the appeal of reason. Although these and other almost insuperable difficulties lie in the way of the effective application of the principles of eugenics, a very great deal can be done in every generation toward accomplishing the eugenical ideal. The percentage of well-born children can be gradually increased and the percentage of defectives gradually diminished. To live in sympathetic accord with the fundamental aims of the eugenic movement is in itself a distinct contribution to racial improvement. In no other way can so much be done for the permanent physical and mental welfare of the school children of succeeding generations.

DEFECTIVE CHILDREN

The welfare of the defective school child presents a special problem. Whether the defect is remediable or permanent, special responsibility rests upon both parents and teachers. The introduction of medical inspection into schools is assisting very materially in solving the problem so far as remediable physical defects are concerned. What is most needed now in this respect is that parents should be more disposed to have the suggestions and the recommendations of competent school physicians carried promptly into effect. Where physical impediments can be removed and where abnormal physical functions can be corrected by medical treatment, parents are ill-advised to defer action. Malnutrition, throat and nasal obstructions, impaired vision or hearing, and defective teeth, for example, as a rule yield readily to medical or surgical treatment.

Children who are the victims of defects transmitted by heredity are receiving infinitely more care and attention at present than heretofore. Child study and school medical inspection are largely responsible for bringing these children to the attention of school and state authorities. In many schools in the leading educational centres a mental diagnosis of every child exhibiting abnormal tendencies is made by psychological experts in order that all such children may be