

In the United States considerable progress has been made in the direction of the prevention of the birth of this undesirable element. In the State of Illinois we find the following in the statutes: "Every applicant for a marriage license shall state, under oath, whether either of the parties is an imbecile, epileptic, of unsound mind, or has been an inmate of an insane asylum, and whether either of the contracting parties is afflicted with tuberculosis, syphilis, or other transmissible diseases, and such application shall be accompanied by a certificate of a reputable practising physician that the parties contemplating marriage are in sound bodily health, and free from any recognizable indications of transmissible disease."

In the States of California, Indiana, and Connecticut, there are laws for the sterilization of these defectives. In the male vasectomy is performed, and the female a portion of the tubes is removed. Just quite recently New Jersey has enacted a sterilization law. This is the fourth State to pass such a law. A board of examiners is appointed to administer law. In these States much stress is laid on the fact that a person had even been in an asylum. It is regarded that temporary insanity unfits one for parenthood.

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### THE FLY AGAIN UNDER ATTACK.

The fly is now having all it can do to maintain its existence. The time was when the fly was regarded only as a sort of nuisance at meal times by getting on to food, and in the morning by disturbing those who wished a quiet hour's sleep.

But the times change and we change with them. People began to think that the house-fly might be more serious than a means of annoying those who wished to enjoy a sleep or bother the fastidious at meal times. It became common knowledge that the fly was not in the habit of taking a bath nor washing its feet after being in rather questionable places. That is, it did not seem to give the fly any qualms of conscience to light on the cream jug, or on a lady's cheek after it had just been travelling over and feeding upon a piece of decayed carion in some one's lane.

Then the scientist began his investigations, when it was soon found out that the fly carried on its body many forms of disease-producing bacteria. Indeed, it was discovered that the fecal matter from the fly was very dangerous and often contained many bacteria. It was observed during the South African war that flies had a good deal to do with the spread of typhoid fever in the military camps. We are glad to see that what we have advocated so long is now being acted upon.