

the propagation of venereal disease and illegitimacy. In this class too, are to be found many of the people who commit the most serious of criminal acts, including murder.

All social workers are agreed that in connection with immigration the detection of the moron is of the greatest importance as he has the ability to do so much injury in the way of developing vice and criminality.

When the figures concerning illegitimacy are scrutinized it is at once obvious that the defective immigrant has played a most important role in adding to the burdens of a new nation. A study of 767 mothers of illegitimate children was made by the Medical Director of the National Committee for Mental Hygiene, and as these mothers were in nearly every instance residents of Toronto it became interesting to know what their nationalities were.

As far as can be ascertained 91.18% of the population of Toronto are British born, including Canadians, 61.71% were born in Canada, the others coming under the headings, English, Scotch, Irish, Welsh; in other words the Canadian born are almost double the number of British, and yet only 45% of the 767 mothers of illegitimate children were Canadians and 44.7% British. These figures are startling and yet tell their own story especially when it is discovered that more than 7% of these unfortunate girls were imported by child immigration societies. It is useless to attempt to dodge the facts, and when we realize that 68% of these mothers were abnormal mentally the necessity of the most rigid methods of inspection is at once apparent. These figures will be read with some doubt by those who have not come in contact with the problem in a practical way, but as a matter of fact they understate rather than exaggerate the actual conditions. The mental examinations of these girls were most carefully made, and wherever possible a full social history obtained, knowing that the conclusions would be questioned by those whose knowledge of the conditions surrounding illegitimacy is to a great extent theoretical.

#### ILLEGITIMACY

A special study of 767 cases of mothers of illegitimate children was made between the years 1914 and 1920. The figures tell an interesting and instructive story and furnish invaluable data concerning a question, the importance of which is not always clearly understood, even by social workers. It may be said that war conditions made the proportion of domestics higher than might have been the case under other circumstances. During the war people requiring help accepted servants of low mentality rather than go without, and were not quite so particular regarding the moral standing of those they engaged as they were prior to