

frequently elected is a serious indictment upon our civilization, a symptom that the dearth of leaders in civilized countries is to be attributed to a lowered state of intelligence and enlightenment.

The individual and his merits are lost in the mass of opinions, and hence one of the greatest problems of the time is to find the individual. In past ages, the individual was prominent to the exclusion of the many. To-day, the many is prominent to the exclusion of the individual, and there has been lost the secret of finding leaders in state affairs. Private concerns find no such difficulty for the worth of the individual is recognized by an intelligent group. Not so with the mass of the people. If democracy would move forward to an aristocracy of worth, some elimination must take place in order that the stupid, or those unable to exercise the rights of citizenship, will not have a voice for control. In order that democracy be fully actualized, it must devise a method of choosing leaders on the part of the people and a realization of those so chosen in what their duty consists. After all, a country is great because of its great men. That few of them are found in the direct governing of the country is a reflection on democracy and evidence that the principles of this great movement are not yet appreciated by the mass.

During the last few years, groups have grown up, or perhaps they have become more manifest. This aspect of our political life is detrimental to any democracy. When a seat in parliament represents any one group, then we are back to the days of oligarchy and not necessarily an intelligent or moral one. By this means certain groups are undermining the very principles of democracy, because the political strife is really a battle between the various groups and not one of general welfare to the country. What greatness and accomplishment has taken place in the world has been due to the labours of great men, not of great groups. Consider the progress in science, in art, in literature, in religion and it all harks back to the contribution of individuals. Individualism in the old sense is dead, but we require a new individualism to-day, else we perish. To save democracy we must save the individual from the tyranny of the mass. If democracy is to be true to its own faith, if it is to govern in such a way as to give all possible opportunity to all men in accordance with their talents, then it cannot afford to lose sight of the fact that the individual must be preserved for the attainment of this ideal.

It may seem a far cry from leadership and democracy to mental hygiene. Yet it will be found that they are intimately connected, for our government is but the reflection of the average mentality of our people and if this is lowered by bad stock or weakened by too much pampering legislation, then we shall lack the ability to produce leaders and even those who are fit to be leaders will have their task made an impossible