

This is only the material side of the question though, and if one thinks of the hundreds of such cases which might be referred to and the cost calculated the result would be a staggering blow to those who say "pump the population in" no matter what the individuals are like.

Another aspect though must be considered. The insane person generally gravitates to an asylum and ceases to be a problem except for maintenance; not so the mental defective of high type who is a curse to himself and the whole community.

The Provinces have had to take what they received, and while it is true the deportation act helped to lesson some of the evils, a brief glance at statistics compiled in the West during recent visits shows that all of the Western Provinces are carrying burdens to which they are not entitled.

There is little difficulty in weeding out the low grade defectives, and the obviously insane, but the problem of the high grade defectives, scientifically called morons, is by no means a simple one, as these people so frequently grade up intellectually to the twelve year old scale, and are not easily detected except by those who are familiar and experienced in psychiatric and psychological methods. These are the immigrants who are the greatest menace of all to the community as they are so frequently anti-social in their inclinations and invariably select mental weaklings of their own class as partners, thus perpetuating the race of defectives. A careful study of conditions in Manitoba made it abundantly clear that this Province has among its recently acquired immigrants an alarming number of persons of the moron type, and the cost to the Province is a serious matter. From this class are derived petty criminals of all kinds, prostitutes in large numbers, and persons who are constantly keeping themselves and those who have to associate with them, in hot water. To illustrate the point, we were called on to examine thirty-three girls, under temporary detention. Practically all were unmarried mothers; many of them had followed prostitution as an occupation; a large proportion were morons, whose mental defects would escape observation under any but the most rigid system of examination supplemented by a careful study of their life histories. These morons were in many instances of attractive appearance, glib in their answers and as nearly all of their class, amiable and easily managed under proper supervision.

An investigation of their careers revealed the fact that they had been hopeless in their behaviour since early childhood, their lives had been wayward and unmoral, and their conception of right and wrong was conclusive evidence of their inability to conform to the ordinary demands of decency. Nearly all had been inmates of Industrial Schools, and had been little or no trouble while under supervision, but the moment they were set at liberty, reverted to their former habits and became centres for