

HEREDITY AND CHILD WELFARE

(Contributed.)

In the first place it is a well recognized fact in biology that life is passed on from generation to generation through the medium of a material substance which is known as germ-plasma. This is the substance that the parents contribute to the formation of the child, and which is started on its process of growth and development at the moment of impregnation. The germ-plasma of each animal grows into the likeness of the parent, and not only that, but the germ-plasma of particular parents tends to grow into a more or less composite likeness of them. And so we see at once that the child is not a separate and distinct individual, unrelated to other individuals, at that there is a very material bond of physical relationship to its parents. To that extent it is circumscribed in its aptitudes for growth and development. If the germ-plasma contains within itself the developmental necessity which takes blue eyes, the child will have blue eyes; just as other necessary tendencies each their expression in the fact that it has hands, arms, feet and legs, heart, lungs and all the rest of its physical being. So its relationship to them is one that clearly defines the possibilities of growth and development in certain directions, limited very definitely in some less in others. For example, every child will have the organs mentioned, whether its eyes are blue or brown, a matter not to be definitely predicted, while whether it will be obstinate or well-tempered is something that is still so possible to foreshadow and may be dependent not at all on hereditary tendencies, as we shall see later.

In the same way that the parents of the child have passed on to it through the germ-plasma an inheritance from the past, so the child, when it grows up and becomes an adult, becomes a parent and passes on the same inheritance to its children, an inheritance that links it, rough them, to the future as through parents it is linked to the past. Therefore the child cannot be truly considered as an individual in the sense which that term is ordinarily used, at is, separate and distinct from other individuals. Heredity (then, is seen to furnish a qualifying aspect to the possibilities of growth and development. It is coming, in these days, however, to think of heredity as being much more restricted in its possibilities for limitation. It is true that many students of heredity believe that all sorts of mental qualities may be traced directly from the parents. These physicians, however, who deal with the problems of mental illness see, on the contrary, these peculiarities passed on because, as a part of the child's environment, they are impressed upon it during its developmental period. I emphasize this view because it has been found possible to largely modify so many personal traits. Heredity is an explanation is therefore looked upon somewhat askance because it serves a block efforts at improvement. If a certain trait is hereditary, why, that's the end of it. There is nothing to be done. So frequently, though, something is done that this explanation is better and more put aside as inadequate. But heredity seems to it that the child is furnished with all the characteristics that will make it true to type. This is a necessity, for any material departure from the type would make it impossible for that individual to become an intimate member of the social group—the herd—as to be able to develop to the best advantage. Heredity therefore provides for the essentials. But the mood of the individual, optimistic or pessimistic, his amiability or irascibility, his general tendencies to honesty or otherwise, all these and many more qualities are not essential for the preservation of the life of the individual or of individual circumstances, which in the first instance are due to the influence of home life and the example of the parents.

So we see, as previously indicated, heredity is coming to be less and less of a satisfactory explanation for character

traits of all kinds, because, in the first place, such traits belong to that region which may reasonably be supposed to be modifiable and not so necessary in its make up to be a fixation of heredity; and, secondly, because so many character traits can actually be modified by treatment, while an explanation resting in heredity would close the door to all effort. The psycho-analyst sees in these first four years, or thereabouts, or infancy the period when the fundamentals of character are laid down and therefore sees in these years both the material for therapeutic effort and the golden period of educational possibilities.

SHIPPING

ALMANAC FOR ST JOHN, APR 18.
A.M. High Tide.... 8.09 Low Tide.... 2.24
Sun Rises.... 6.39 Sun Sets.... 7.13

PORT OF ST. JOHN.

Arrived Saturday.
Str Canadian Hunter, 2158, from Halifax.
Arrived Sunday.
Str Maskinonge, 2672, Griffiths, from Louisburg.
Sailed Sunday.
Str Corsican, 7272, Rennie, for Antwerp via Southampton.
Str Bolingbroke, 4145, Landy, for London.
Str Carpentaria, 5061, Reilly, for Australia and New Zealand.

MARINE NOTES.

The steamer Carpentaria sailed yesterday morning for New Zealand with general cargo. J. T. Knight & Co. are the local agents.
The C. P. O. S. freighter Bolingbroke sailed about 7 o'clock yesterday morning for London with a general cargo.

Man in Jail is Not A. J. Small

(Canadian Press Despatch.)

Harrowsmith, Ont., April 17.—Dennis P. Brannigan, manager of the Grand Opera House, Kingston, visited the jail at Verona yesterday afternoon where a mystery man, thought to be Ambrose J. Small, missing theatrical magnate, is being held by the police on a charge of vagrancy, following his apprehension Friday night. Mr. Brannigan, who was intimately acquainted with Mr. Small, declared that the man held was not the missing theatrical owner.

ROYALTY NOT WANTED.

Presence in Austria Punishable by Imprisonment.

Vienna, April 18.—A measure making the presence in Austria of a former king a felony, punishable by from one to five years' rigorous imprisonment, has been forced through the constitutional committee by the combined Pan-German and Social Democratic vote. Passage of the measure by the National Assembly is considered assured.

The original language of the bill as framed by the Socialists, specifically named the Hapsburgs, but the measure was modified so as to stipulate all persons banned by the statutory law. The bill also provides imprisonment for anyone aiding, abetting or harboring such persons.

A clause added to the measure makes it a misdemeanor, punishable by from six months to one year in prison, for any person to use publicly a former title of nobility or to permit himself to be so addressed in the presence of a third person. The clause is aimed at the growing renewal of the use of titles in social intercourse.

The first annual meeting of the maritime executive of the Canadian Air Force Association was held on Saturday afternoon in the office of his honor, Lieutenant-Governor Fugate, who is the honorary chairman of the provincial branch. The meeting was called for the purpose of electing officers for the coming year and the election resulted as follows: Chairman, W. H. Dennis, of the Halifax Herald; vice-chairman, Flying Officer A. McGregor, D.F.C., of Havelock; secretary, H. R. Stewart, of Charlottetown.

FREEDOM OF CITY VOTED TO VIVIANI

New York Mayor, However, is Forced to Send Emergency Message Before Honor is Conferred—Opposed by the Socialists.

(New York Times.)

The aldermen yesterday voted the freedom of the city to Rene Viviani, former premier of France and special envoy of that country to the United States, but only after Mayor Hylan had sent an emergency message to the board requesting that the honor be given to the distinguished visitor. As in the case of Professor Einstein last week, there was an objection to the bestowal of the honor, and immediate consideration being refused the board had to take special measures.

The Socialist members, led by Alderman Beckerman, objected to the granting of the city's freedom to M. Viviani, and the board took a recess for ten minutes to enable the mayor to prepare the emergency measure. When the resolution came to a vote it was carried by fifty-two to five, Alderman David J. Stewart, Republican, of Brooklyn, voting with the Socialists in the negative. In explaining his vote, Alderman Beckerman called Viviani a "renegade Socialist" and declared he was once head of a labor organization in France, which was similar to the I. W. W. organization in this country.

"I don't think it will be a great honor to Viviani if that resolution is carried rough-shod through this board without discussion," said the alderman. "I cast no reflection on the people of France, for whom I have the greatest admiration, but anybody who knows the history of this man Viviani knows that he was formerly a leader of an element in France which is identical with the I. W. W. in this country."

Falconer Wants His Name on It.
"The same Viviani then became a traitor and a renegade to the Socialist party and was expelled from the party. I oppose the resolution because of the personality of Viviani, but I would gladly vote the freedom of the city to any one else except a renegade and a traitor. Under these circumstances I am compelled to vote no."

When the resolution was read it bore the name of Alderman Quinn, the dunder. Alderman Bruce M. Falconer, who had objected to a similar resolution giving the freedom of the city to Professor Einstein and Dr. Weizmann last week, insisted that the resolution regarding Viviani was partly his and that his name should go on it. He said his name had been put on the resolution and he wanted to know why it had not been read.

Vice-Chairman William P. Keannally, who was in the chair, asked the clerk why Falconer's name had not been read and was informed that Alderman Finn had told him not to read it. The clerk called upon Alderman Quinn for an explanation and the alderman said:

"In introducing this resolution without consultation with anybody, because I thought it fitting that Viviani, one of the best known citizens of France, should receive this honor. Later Commissioner Grover A. Whalen came in and asked if such a resolution was to be presented and if there was any objection to immediate consideration. Falconer then asked for the commission if he had any objection to his name going on the resolution and the commissioner said he had none. I have no objection to Alderman Falconer's name being added to the resolution and I hope no alderman will be so small as to object to immediate consideration, no matter whose name is on the resolution."

It was then that Alderman Beckerman objected, and although both Democrats and Republicans appealed to him to withdraw his objections, the Socialist remained firm. The board then took a recess for ten minutes and President La Guardia went to the mayor and had him prepare an emergency message.

"My reason for asking for your consideration today," the mayor said in his message, "is that our distinguished visitor will remain but a few days in our midst."

In explaining his vote Alderman Falconer insisted that with Alderman Quinn was responsible for the introduction of the resolution, but no attention was paid to his statement and the resolution will be printed in the minutes of the board with the name of Alderman Quinn as the introducer.

The serves vase which M. Viviani mentioned in his speech at the City Hall last Thursday as having been sent to the City of New York as a gift from France and which had been sent to Washington by mistake, had arrived and had been placed in the mayor's reception room.

"Father, didn't you ever get licked when you were a boy?"
"Indeed I did."
"Well, then, what's the use trying it on me?"

WHISKY BRINGS \$90 A GALLON IN MAINE

Easier to Get in Bay State—Says Federal Prohibition Officer.

Portland, Me., April 18.—With alcohol selling at \$90 a gallon in Bangor, as compared with \$15 in Massachusetts, and whisky bringing \$90 a gallon, and watered at that, George K. Christie of Haverhill, Mass., Federal prohibition enforcement officer, is of the opinion that the law is being enforced well in this state.

He declares that the published statements that Aroostook County is overrun with liquor are untrue. Whisky, he says, is much easier to obtain in the Bay State than in Maine.

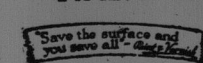
FRANCE TO ABANDON WILSONIAN LEAGUE

Paris, April 18.—Following the reception of a summary of the message of President Harding in Paris, the French Foreign Office instructed the French representatives on the League of Nations at Geneva, gradually to reduce France's participation in the work of the league. The idea is to make the league a mere instrument for the execution of the treaty.

This is regarded in diplomatic circles as a formal abandonment by France of the Wilsonian league and as an indication that France is willing to participate in a new association as foreshadowed by President Harding.

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MUTT AND JEFF—A GOOD NAME FOR SPVIVS' HOME-BREW WOULD BE "WHITE-MULE"

By "BUD" FISHER

