

Mendelian Laws submit the following propositions:

1. If both parents be neuropathic, all their children will be neuropathics.

2. If one parent be normal, but with a neuropathic taint from one parent, and the other parent be neuropathic, half the children will be neuropathic and half will be normal, but capable of transmitting the neuropathic make-up to their progeny.

3. If one parent be normal and of pure normal ancestry and the other be neuropathic, all children will be normal and capable of transmitting the neuropathic make-up to their progeny.

4. If both parents be normal, but each with a neuropathic taint from one parent, 25 per cent of the children will be normal and not capable of transmitting the taint, 50 per cent will be normal and capable of transmitting the neuropathic taint, and 25 per cent will be neuropathic.

5. If both parents be normal, one of pure normal ancestry, the other having a neuropathic taint from one parent, all the children will be normal, half of them capable of transmitting the neuropathic taint, the other half being incapable of transmitting it.

6. If both parents be normal and of pure normal ancestry, all the children will be normal and incapable of an hereditary tainted transmission.

While some authorities are inclined to attach the greater significance as an etiological factor in the production of neuropathic constitutions to a defective inheritance, there are others who look upon an improper bringing-up as the predominating factor. Even Von Ziehen asserts that what is inherited is only a tendency or predisposition to which must always be added other factors acting injuriously.

Dr. Smart, medical examiner of the mentally defective children in the department of Education of New York City, in discussing the question of