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IMMIGRATION AND DEFECTIVES

BY

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IMMIGRATION AND DEFECTIVES.

BY W. G. SMITH, B.A.,

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I N the October, 1919, issue of this journal Dr. J. Halpenny, of Winnipeg, contributed an instructive and interesting article to the discussion of the problem of Immigration by pointing out "One phase of the Foreign Invasion of Canada." That "phase" consisted in the large number of aliens scattered through the provinces, and the addition made by them to the burden of criminality and insanity—and the addition appears at first sight altogether too great. This, however, is in agreement with a general belief which sometimes finds verbal expression, vocal and written, that the river of our national life has been polluted by the turbid streams from immigrant sources. The causes for this are sometimes declared to lie in the degenerate character of the immigrants, sometimes in the defects of immigration laws and regulations, sometimes in the inadequacy of the sifting process on the part of immigration officials, and sometimes in all three. While there may be some foundation for all these assertions, it would very much clarify the situation if the concrete defects should be indicated and the remedy declared. Reports from Psychiatric Clinics and Hospitals for the Insane are definite and statistical, and the classification of defectives and diseased is based on definite diagnosis established by comparison of performances and scrutiny of symptoms. In addition, in the majority of the cases, definite information may be obtained regarding nationality and race, and the burden of defect placed where it actually belongs. But even then it does not necessarily follow that one race or people is particularly more defective than another, unless the comparison be made on an approximately equal basis. When one reads a statement in a newspaper quoting from some public speaker that there are 25,000 mental defectives in Canada, and 6,000 of them in the Province of Quebec, there is no inclination to combat or uphold the assertion, but one wonders how such precise figures have been obtained. Since the population of Quebec in 1911 was 2,003,232, then approximately 29 persons per 10,000 were mentally defective. The balance of the defectives, 19,000, must be assigned to the rest of Canada with a population of 5,203,411, or a ratio of 36 persons per 10,000. While the advan-

tage though slight appears to be with Quebec, it is offset by the fact that scarcely 4 per cent. of the population are foreign born. (The census of 1911 gave a population of 2,003,232, of which 74,421 were foreign born.) But now, in the Western provinces, the percentages of foreign-born amount up from 20 to 40 per cent. of the population, and since the proportions of defectives between Quebec and the rest of Canada were 29 and 36 per 10,000, respectively, the advantage seems altogether with the "foreigner." Curiously enough about the time that the statement was published regarding defectives in Canada, another statement was quoted from another person to the effect that in the United States a recent census revealed the fact that there were 46,000 feeble-minded in the United States. Apart from the colossal task of taking such a census—a task which has never been performed—the information of 46,000 feeble-minded for a population of about 110 millions, and 25,000 for a population of about 8 millions, might well give us "serious pause," if not, indeed, panic, about Canada's degenerate state. Relief comes when we are assured that perhaps mental defective and feeble-minded are not identical terms.

In fact, such affirmations in these broad numbers with three zeros are the merest guesses—not wild guesses necessarily, but large generalizations made from too narrow observations. For so far as Canada is concerned there has not been any census of the mentally defective among eight millions of people, and if such were undertaken it could not be performed by the simple process of counting noses, but by a rigid and careful technique, whose operation and conclusions would manifestly be open to scrutiny. Such a technique is in operation in psychiatric clinics, and what may be gathered from the results, as a support of the claim that foreign immigrants are specially defective, is a matter open for discussion. Thus of 3,083 cases reported from the Psychiatric Clinic of the Toronto General Hospital, there were 862 morons, 818 imbeciles, 114 idiots, 497 insane, 75 epileptic, 385 backward, 3 cretin, 7 deaf and dumb, and 322 apparently normal. But of the patients coming to the clinic, for the period to which the above figures apply, only 45.33 per cent. were Canadian; the greater part were, therefore, foreign, about 55 per cent. Since, however, Toronto showed (1911) a population of 376,538, of which 33,131 were foreign-born, then about 3.8 per cent. of the population was furnishing 55 per cent. of the above clinical cases. Were all these feeble-minded? The answer can be neither affirmative nor negative. For 10 per cent. of the foregoing cases were apparently normal, about 16 per cent.

were insane, and 12 per cent. were backward, and the foreigner may have fallen in some cases under these categories rather than under feeble-minded which does not appear at all as a distinct category, but probably is synonymous with the three groups of moron, imbecile and idiot, *i.e.*, synonymous with mentally defective. One can scarcely say that the case is definitely against the foreigner.

Of 12,000 pupils examined in a number of Public Schools in Toronto under the direction of the Canadian National Committee for Mental Hygiene during 1919, there were 173 children found mentally defective with an intelligence quotient (ratio of mental age to natural age) of 75 and less, that is, 1.5 per cent. of the school population examined. Since in these schools some very retarded children were not examined because of their absence, it may be allowed that approximately 2 per cent. were defectives of the above specified degree. That would mean, if the same percentage prevailed throughout the 80,000 children in the Public Schools of Toronto, a total of 1,600 mentally defective children, struggling under the conditions of the regular curriculum. Since in the Public Schools of Ontario there were 527,610 pupils enrolled in 1916, it would look as if, on the same percentage, there were the possibility of 10,000 defective or feeble-minded children in that province. Since of the 173 children diagnosed as mentally defective 60 per cent. were reported to be of non-Canadian birth, the burden on the province seems considerable.

Turning now to the figures quoted by Dr. Halpenny, in the article already referred to, there were 5,241,591 people of 16 years of age and over registered in Canada in the special census of June, 1918. Of these about 350,000 were aliens, and Manitoba had 30,801. The six assize courts of that province in 1919 showed in the southern district the cases of 2 Scotch, 3 Canadians, 1 Russian and 1 English, but none were found guilty. Though in that district there is only a small foreign population the case for the foreigner is not severe, 6 British against 1 non-British. In the Dauphin Assize—a district where there is a large foreign population tributary—there were English 3, Russian 1, Austrian 8, American 1, Canadian 9, a contrast of British 12 to non-British 10. While the 1 Russian in the southern district could read and write, and 4 of the Austrians in the Dauphin district could not read and write, it is not specified what they could not write, though it may be presumed that like the Canadian they could not write anything. At Minnedosa 9 of the 10 cases were Galicians, and they knew no or insufficient English,

hence required an interpreter. That may be regarded as unfortunate rather than vicious. Taking the Eastern Judicial district, including the city of Winnipeg, and considering the total of 238 cases for a period of two years from January, 1917, to the Spring Assizes of 1919, there is the following situation:

	Totals	Per cent.
Scandinavian—		
Icelandic 1, Norwegian 2, Swedish 2, Danish 1	6	or 2.5
Western Europe—		
Belgian 3, French 2, Swiss 2, Spanish 1, Hollandish 1....	9	or 3.7
American	9	or 3.7
Southern Europe—		
Italians 6, Greek 1, Roumanian 3	10	or 4.2
British—		
English 11, Irish 4, Scotch 4	19	or 8.0
Slavic—		
Ukranian 2, Russian 35, Ruthenian 1, Galician 2, Polish 7	47	or 19.7
Canadian	58	or 24.3
Central Europe—		
German 1, Austrian 79	80	or 33.6
	238	

The situation for the Austrian looks bad, but without minimizing the danger an extenuating circumstance may perhaps be found in the years 1917-19. If for the time being we neglect that deplorably heavy percentage and group the Canadian, British and American (because of "Springing from Common stock") they total 86. Add the Scandinavian and French (who are "quickly Canadianized") and we have 94 cases compared with 64 for all the rest of foreign speaking people from Europe—a ratio of about 3 to 2 in favor of the aliens who are supposedly the most "unenlightened." If we include the unusually large number of Austrians the proportion becomes 94 to 144, or almost 2 to 3, which, considering the facilities of knowledge of British Institutions and Law, familiarity with the English language, and a considerably less handicap in adjusting oneself to new conditions on the part of the Britisher and the Canadian, presents a by no means hopeless picture for the future of the alien, and may take a little off the sharp edge of Dr. Halpenny's statement, while admitting its formal correctness, that "our criminal class, with all the attendant evils, to say nothing of the expense, is drawn all too much from our aliens."

But what of the question of insanity which is so closely associated with crime? Taking again the figures of Dr. Halpenny for the province of Manitoba and grouping the Canadian and British they constitute 58.5 per cent. of the population; while all the rest, including the French, constitute 39.95 per cent. Of the total num-

ber of 954 insane inmates in the Brandon and Selkirk Asylums the Canadians contributed 338 and the British 273, a total of 611, a percentage of 63.73; while all the rest of "alien" Manitoba, including the French, contributed 343, or a percentage of 35.77. That is to say, the British-Canadian being 58.5 per cent. of the population contributed 63.73 per cent. of the insane, and the "alien" being 39.95 per cent. of the population contributed only 35.77 per cent. of the insane.

It is by no means desirable that a bad or a good case should be made out for the immigrant, but rather that the facts of the case should as far as possible be ascertained in order that an adequate judgment may be reached. To say, therefore, that the immigrant is responsible for furnishing us with the greater part of our mental deficiency, insanity and crime may or may not be true; but the interesting thing is to discover the basis on which such a declaration was made. In this connection a Toronto newspaper some time ago quoted a statement that more than half of the insane and feeble-minded in Canada had been imported from outside countries, but failed to give the evidence in support of such a judgment. If now one would be allowed to use the census of 1911 as a field of search, would the data there justify the above statement, and if not, where could one look for the necessary evidence? The statistics for that year gave the number of Blind, Deaf and Dumb, Insane, and Idiotic as 28,611, of whom 23,083 were born in Canada and 5,528 were from outside. On this basis the "more than half" in the above statement should become "less than a fifth." This is such an extraordinary change that one wonders if the figures can be correct.

But it may be that it is not so much a matter of birthplace as of racial origin that is the source of such defective persons. In this respect the foregoing 28,611 showed that 11,488 were British, including Canadian, 16,791 were foreign and various, and 322 were Indian, that is, 40 per cent., 58 per cent. and a little more than 1 per cent. respectively. In an investigation of some hospitals in Manitoba by the Canadian National Committee for Mental Hygiene it was found that of 269 unmarried mothers who were cared for in one year, 44.23 per cent. were of British birth, and 25.76 of Canadian birth. That left 30 per cent. for all other races in Manitoba. Is that an excessive proportion compared with British and Canadian? Again, of 400 consecutive admissions to jails in the Western provinces the Canadian National Committee found that 23 per cent. were of Canadian birth, 33 per cent. were of Austrian birth, and 11 per cent. were of Russian birth. This was regarded as an

altogether too great disproportion since it was held that while the Austrians gave 33 per cent. of the above jail population, they should only have contributed 8 per cent., and the Russians 1 per cent. instead of 11. But it seems evident that of the 449,443 foreign-born in the three prairie provinces, this large proportion of misdemeanors on the part of the foreign-born may not be altogether due to innate viciousness or defect. For of the Ukrainians, who have been frequently included under the designation Austrian, 39.8 per cent. were unable to speak English, while 35 per cent. of the Austro-Hungarian, 27.2 per cent. of the Poles, and 27.1 per cent. of the Russians were in the same plight. It may be that of the 400 admissions to the jails the high percentage of the foreign-born may be, in part at any rate, due to ignorance of Canadian language, laws and institution, rather than to any inherent mental defect.

This problem, then, of how far the alien immigrants contribute to the total of mental deficiency, insanity and criminality is an intricate and even a delicate one if injustice would be scrupulously avoided. The general impression is that a contribution all too great is made by the foreigner, and that if immigration of foreign-speaking peoples were prohibited entirely, or if they were more rigorously examined at the port of entry a number of these difficulties would be eliminated. The policy of absolute exclusion would no doubt be effective if it could be carried out, but a number of other things would also be eliminated along the lines of industry and production. Prohibit the entrance of the foreigner and thousands of acres of the virgin soil remain untouched, railways must remain as they are, if indeed they do not deteriorate, and the wealth of many mines abides in the earth. The more rigid examination of incoming immigrants becomes, then, not only a necessity but a court of last resort, and the question arises, are our immigrant officials being given time and adequate facilities for the examination of all immigrants and the exclusion of those whose entrance is prohibited by law? And how does Canada compare with the United States in this policy? Now, both countries exclude the idiot, the imbecile, the feeble-minded, and the insane. Yet in 1913-14 out of a total of 1,197,892 immigrants entering the United States, there were rejected 18 idiots, 537 imbeciles, 198 insane, a total of 753, or a ratio of 1 to 1,590. In Canada for the same year there were 384,878 immigrants, and there were rejected 2 idiots, 21 imbeciles, 15 insane, a total of 38, or a ratio of 1 to 10,127. If the type of people had been approximately the same, and the methods of examination the same, and the ratio the same, Canada should

have excluded 114 instead of 38—though it is at least theoretically possible that 38 constituted the total number for the period specified. Whatever leniency on the part of Canada is indicated by such comparison it tells nothing as to respective merits or demerits of the different nationalities or races. If we turn to the deportations for the same years there were in all 1,834 persons deported for the following causes: Accompanying patients 10, bad character 159, criminality 376, medical causes 570, non-compliance with regulations 4, public charges 715. But who constituted this large number of 1,834 persons? There were 952, or nearly 52 per cent. British, 405, or about 22 per cent., American, and 477, or 26 per cent., belonged to the rest of the world. This does not speak so adversely against the non-English-speaking foreigner. How would he fare in the matter of rejections? During the same period there were 1,827 rejected, namely, 76 for accompanying patients, 192 bad character, 3 criminality, 994 lack of funds, 76 likely to become a public charge, 398 medical causes, 178 non-compliance with regulations. Of these total rejections only 171 were British, 12 were American and 1,644 from other countries. This is certainly against the foreigner who was not allowed to come in, and if the sifting process of examination works favorably at all it is on behalf of the British and American. With deportation the case is reversed, though that may be in small measure due to the greater facilities for deportation. Of the 570 deported for medical causes 207 were for insanity; of the 398 rejected for medical causes 15 were for insanity, and 22 for mental deficiency. Now, since the greater proportion of rejections were foreigners, it is not without significance that insanity is so rarely the reason, only 4 per cent. of the medical causes, while with deportations in which British and American preponderate insanity constitutes nearly 40 per cent. of the medical causes. The advantage is again with the foreigner.

For the year 1918 there were examined at the Psychiatric Clinic of the Toronto General Hospital 1,455 persons, about half of them under 16 years of age. Of the total number the Canadians were 803, English 291, Scotch 56, Irish 25, and American 39, that is, 1,214, or nearly 84 per cent. of the whole. The 86 Russians, 34 Italian and 121 from other foreign countries totalled 241, or about 16 per cent. of the whole. The Attorney-General of Alberta reported that for 1917, of the official dependents of the province 402 were Canadian and 503 were immigrants. Since the foreign-born, in 1911, constituted 33 per cent. of the population, this more than 50 per cent. of the dependents is against them, though no doubt many of the 503 were not "foreign." Of the 525 cases dealt with

by the Juvenile Courts of Alberta for the same period, 205 were Canadian and 320 were immigrants, or the children of immigrants. The Charities' Organization Society of Montreal reported that for 1916 the number of person assisted included 51.3 per cent. immigrants and 48.7 per cent. Canadian, though the foreign-born constituted less than 10 per cent. of the population. But to whom was this charitable aid extended? The classification of a thousand cases shows 130 Canadian-born and English-speaking, 357 Canadian-born and French-speaking, British 370, American 43, and all others 100. This time, perhaps, the non-English-speaking immigrant has the advantage.

All these various data lead naturally to the enquiry as to how much immigration does contribute to the number of "infirm" persons in the population. In the statistics of the census of 1911 the word infirm designates blind, deaf and dumb, insane, and idiotic persons. The proportion per 10,000 of the population for the various provinces turns out to be P. E. Island 53, Nova Scotia 50, Ontario, 49, Quebec 47, New Brunswick 41, Manitoba 39, British Columbia 27, N. W. Territories 27, Saskatchewan 9, Alberta 9, Yukon 6. That is to say, the provinces with the greatest proportion of "foreigners" have the smallest ratios of infirm. These infirm persons totalled, in 1911, no less than 28,611. Whence did they come and of what origin were they? The following table gives some indication:

TABLE OF INFIRM IN CANADA IN 1911, BY BIRTHPLACE AND ORIGIN

Birthplace	Number	By Origin	Number	Males	Females
Canada	23,083	French	9,051	4,870	4,181
England	1,380	English	4,869	2,713	2,156
Ireland	637	Irish	3,649	1,967	1,682
Scotland	476	Scotch	2,970	1,641	1,329
Russia	202	German	944	519	425
Austria Hungary	170	Indian	322	193	139
Germany	156	Austro-Hungarian	211	130	81
Sweden	69	Scandinavian	174	112	62
France	41	Russian	169	114	55
Italy	37	Italian	61	45	16
Norway	30	Various	561	330	231
Wales	21	Not given	5,620	2,896	2,724
Asiatic	44				
Other European	85				
Various	2,180				
Total	28,611	Totals	28,611	15,530	13,081

	Sex	Totals	Canada	United Kingdom	Europe	Asia	Various
Insane	Males	7,688	71.39	10.70	3.66	.50	13.72
	Females	7,014	77.85	9.72	2.15	.01	10.25
Idiotic	Males	3,501	91.77	4.25	1.39	..	2.67
	Females	2,596	91.87	4.33	1.50	.03	2.24

Leaving aside the 2,180 designated as "various," since they would probably be scattered throughout the list, the factor of birthplace gives 23,083 Canadian, 2,514 British and 834 alien. Now the population of Canada in 1911 was 7,206,643, and the total number of foreign-born was 752,732, or about 10 per cent. They furnished scarcely 3 per cent. of the infirm. But it may not be so much a matter of the contingency of birthplace as of inborn characteristics of races. Then the right side of the table shows where the burden lies, for the English, Irish and Scotch furnish 11,488, or 40 per cent., the French 9,051, or nearly 32 per cent., while all central and Eastern Europe by the aid of the Indians contributed 1,891, or only 6 per cent. Even a minute examination of the details of infirmity does not destroy this evident advantage. Of the 1,850 males who were blind, those born in Canada constituted 78.64 per cent., those born in the United Kingdom 15.54 per cent., and those born in Europe 3.45 per cent., and those born in Asia .05 per cent. But since blindness may be a misfortune rather than an indication of constitutional weakness, the case may be worse with insanity and idiocy. Then consider the following analysis from the same source:

INSANITY AND IDIOCY
Percentages of same Totals by Origin

	Sex	Totals	English	Irish	Scotch	French	German	Austro-Hungarian	Italian	Scandinavian	Russian	Indian	Various	Not Given
Insane	Males	7,688	13.77	9.54	7.58	27.06	1.69	.82	.44	.70	1.02	.29	1.70	35.34
	Females	7,014	13.14	10.03	7.28	28.27	1.41	.49	.15	.51	.49	.27	1.09	36.81
Idiotic	Males	3,501	21.62	17.96	14.51	33.70	4.82	.48	..	.34	.22	.65	2.34	3.31
	Females	2,596	21.73	20.14	14.19	31.36	5.41	.46	.11	.30	.23	.54	2.32	3.17

On this mode of analysis the advantage lies very clearly on the side of the alien. A glance at the tables is sufficient to show that but few perhaps will be prepared for the remarkable rise in the fig-

ures for Scotch, Irish, English, French, and then the more remarkable drop for European peoples. The contrast is so striking that anyone selecting as a foundation the mere constituent proportions of "Infirm" by birthplace or by origin, or by both, must abide by the issue, unexpected as it may be; or discover some data other than the official census on which the argument may be based. But even with the data of the census as a foundation the analysis into constituent factors tells very little regarding the weakness or the strength of particular races or nationalities in Canada. Indeed, there are several fallacies underlying this mode of treatment of the problem of the immigrant. It is assumed that if the immigrant were excluded our burden of mentally defective, idiotic and insane would be reduced by more than half; or it is assumed that if the defectives were rigorously excluded at ports of entry and only the healthy and normal allowed to enter many of our problems due to insanity and feeble-mindedness would disappear; or, it is assumed, that we are too much overwhelmed by the floods from degenerate Europe. All these assumptions may be considered in the light of the foregoing tables, and they will all be disproved, whereupon it may be found that there is a great fallacy in the tables themselves. For by these tables the alien stands far superior to the British and the Canadian, and so much superior that a suspicion arises as to the accuracy of the basis. And the basis is manifestly wrong. For it should not be a question of absolute constituents of a class, as an extreme illustration may show. Each of five persons is insane—English, Irish, Scotch, French, and Russian. According to constituent proportions all are on the same footing, but in the community from which they come, there are 100 English, 50 Irish, 25 Scotch, 10 French and 1 Russian, and that one Russian is the insane one of the above 5—*i.e.*, 100 per cent., while the English have furnished only one per cent. of their number. Yet it is on just such basis as the latter that a comparative estimate of the various races should be made. For the question is, What proportions of the various nationalities in our midst are insane or idiotic or defective? That question cannot be answered with anything like accuracy unless a complete survey be made, and even then would be only a sort of approximation. But if the statistical data of the census be used, one can ask what is the percentage of the various peoples who manifest these features of infirmity? And the comparison of the percentages may then furnish a basis for judging the "quality" of the nationality.

The number of Canadian-born males who are blind form a definite percentage of the total Canadian-born males, the insane another percentage of the same total, and a similar situation prevails for the different nationalities. In other words, the comparison must be relative not absolute. Now, of the 1,850 blind males in Canada 1,443 were born in Canada, *i.e.*, 78 per cent. of the whole. But there were no less than 2,849,422 males born in Canada, and the 1,443 who fell to their share, formed only 5.1 per 10,000 of that total. Similarly of the total 7,688 insane males, those born in Canada were 71.39 per cent. of the whole, but on the basis of proportional contribution Canada gave only 19.26 per 10,000 males. At the risk, therefore, of compiling a compendious and bulky table the following figures afford a basis of comparison per 10,000 of the population, and will show, perhaps clearly, what nationalities manifest definite weaknesses according to the features designated by the word "infirm."

Blind	Deaf and Dumb	Insane	Idiotic
Irish	Canadian	Irish	Canadian
Scotch	Irish	Canadian	Irish
Welsh	Scotch	English	Welsh
Canadian	English	Welsh	Scotch
English	Welsh	Scotch	English

From the foregoing table there arise a different situation from that which has hitherto been the case. Except for the particularly bad showing made by Ireland there is not a great divergence between the British Isles and Canada, though Canada shows up badly in the matter of deaf and dumb females and idiotic males. A comparison of the first and second parts of the table shows that between the British Isles, Canada, and Europe, the last-mentioned can scarcely be blamed for "furnishing us with more than fifty per cent. of our defectives and insane." The Austro-Hungarians who have come in for a good share of condemnation make, on the contrary, a fairly good showing, while the Italians have, in these respects, at any rate, a really estimable record. On the whole, the foregoing figures furnish food for reflection in a variety of aspects. Take, for example, the question of the Blind. The situation for Ireland is puzzling since the ratio is about three times that of the other British Isles and Canada. The European nations, with the exception of Germany, are in this respect somewhat superior, Austro-Hungarian, Italian and Russian having a considerable advantage. The high rate of blindness among the Indians is, however, a sad commentary on a neglected race, for which "the red

man" may not be entirely to blame. In the case of the deaf and dumb there is not a great divergence, the superiority going to the Welsh and Italian, and the heaviest burden falling upon the French. Regarding the insane, Ireland is the greatest contributor among all European countries, but they are not at all "inferior" to Canada in that respect, and actually "superior" in the small proportion of idiots. Comparing the order of "demerit" by peoples the British-born show the following.

Blind	Deaf and Dumb	Insane	Idiotic
Germany	Germany	Germany	Germany
Sweden	Russia	Sweden	France
France	France	Norway	Sweden
Italy	Austro-Hungary	Russia	Russia
Russia	Sweden	France	Austro-Hungary
Austro-Hungary	Norway	Austro-Hungary	Norway
Norway	Italy	Italy	Italy

Here the Irish and Canadian alternate in obtaining "first place" in demerit. Of the European-born the order is:

Blind	Deaf and Dumb	Insane	Idiotic
Indian	French	Russian	Irish
French	German	French	French
Irish	Scotch	Irish	Scotch
German	Russian	Scotch	German
Scotch	Irish	English	English
English	Indian	Italian	Indian
Scandinavian	Austro-Hungarian	Scandinavian	Russian
Italian	English	Austro-Hungarian	Austro-Hungarian
Russian	Scandinavian	German	Scandinavian
Austro-Hungarian	Italian	Indian	Italian

Of European nations, therefore, Germany furnished Canada with the greatest proportion of "infirm," and the persons who declare that illiteracy and "infirmity" go hand-in-hand will have, as best they may, to square accounts with Germany in the unenviable first place and Italy in the last. But when transplanted to the soil of Canada the descendants may show signs of change either of improvement or deterioration. Then by *origins* the case stands as follows:

NUMBER OF INFIRM PER 10,000 OF EACH NATIONALITY OR CLASS IN THE POPULATION

Birth Place	Population		Blind		Deaf and Dumb		Insane		Idiotic	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
Canada	2,849,442	2,770,240	5.10	4.11	7.42	66.20	19.26	19.71	11.27	8.57
England	310,780	199,894	4.24	4.00	3.50	4.15	15.79	16.95	2.67	3.15
Ireland	51,171	41,703	15.43	12.46	5.47	5.27	36.74	49.15	6.25	7.43
Scotland	100,428	68,963	5.47	5.22	4.58	2.75	13.54	19.57	3.18	2.46
Wales	5,800	2,927	5.17	6.83	1.72	3.41	13.79	10.24	3.44	3.41
Austria-										
Hungary	77,562	43,868	1.28	.91	3.99	4.55	7.60	7.29	1.41	.68
France	10,940	6,679	2.74	2.99	4.57	2.99	10.96	14.97	1.82	7.48
Germany	23,403	16,174	9.82	6.80	6.83	6.18	19.22	18.54	5.12	5.56
Italy	28,908	5,771	2.07	....	.34	1.73	7.59	8.66	.34	1.73
Norway	14,354	6,614	....	1.51	2.78	....	12.54	6.04	1.39	1.51
Russia	61,001	39,970	1.31	3.75	5.24	4.50	11.80	8.75	1.47	3.25
Sweden	19,827	8,399	3.02	3.57	3.02	1.19	14.62	23.81	1.51	1.19
Other										
European	28,908	15,363	2.76	1.30	4.15	5.20	8.64	9.76	3.11	3.90
Asia	41,419	4,018	.24	2.48	....	2.48	9.41	2.48	....	2.48
Various	197,992	154,065	3.08	2.53	4.29	4.73	53.28	46.66	4.54	3.76
Origins										
English	974,028	849,122	4.02	2.88	5.18	5.02	10.87	10.85	7.77	6.61
Irish	540,279	510,105	5.44	3.56	5.73	5.39	13.58	13.80	11.64	10.21
Scotch	525,986	471,894	4.50	3.77	5.95	5.78	11.08	10.82	9.65	7.77
French	1,041,381	1,013,509	5.81	5.59	9.63	8.09	19.98	19.56	11.33	8.00
German	206,455	186,865	4.60	3.31	6.05	6.63	6.29	5.29	8.18	7.49
Austro-										
Hungarian	78,543	50,560	1.14	.59	5.22	6.13	8.02	6.92	2.16	2.37
Italian	34,651	10,760	2.02	....	1.15	1.85	9.81	10.23	....	2.78
Scandin-										
avian	66,741	40,794	2.99	1.71	3.89	2.69	8.09	8.82	1.79	1.96
Russian	35,935	22,704	1.67	1.76	5.84	4.40	21.98	15.41	2.22	2.64
Indian	53,561	51,931	21.84	16.36	5.60	4.04	4.29	3.65	4.29	2.69
Various	180,347	113,147	2.60	3.53	3.88	4.77	7.26	6.80	4.54	5.30
Not given	84,088	63,257	2.37	2.37	5.11	7.11	323.114	408.17	13.79	12.96

Here a number of interesting puzzles arise to afford opportunity for expert diagnosis on the part of hygienists. Why does the Indian stand at the worst in the matter of blindness and least in the matter of insanity? Why does the Italian make such a comparatively good showing in the matters of deaf and dumb and idiotic? Why do the French and the Irish show such undue prominence in

all four defects, especially since the great majority of the French are Canadian? If high intelligence and insanity are usually associated why do the Germans appear next to the Indians with the least amount of insanity? Why, on the other hand, do the Russians show such a preponderance in the proportion of insane males, and why do the French surpass all other peoples in the high ratio of insanity? Why is it that Sweden, with its excellent educational system, has furnished the highest ratio of insane females, nearly three times the proportion for Italy?

Bue one must bear in mind the popular saying about fools asking questions which wise men cannot answer, and be content with pointing out that on the data used the case against the alien is not at all so bad as popular impression would intimate. It may not be a well-founded statement that our immigration policy is a complete failure, or that the foreigner is characterized by degeneracy. Nor does it appear that, on the basis of comparison used, he is contributing more than his "share" to the sum total of "infirmity" in the corporate body of Canada. It may be that in the body of this youthful giant there are indeed too many toxins working against its sovereign strength, but it is not at all apparent that these toxins have their origin in "alien" infection. Of course that *may* be their origin, and if the native stocks had been allowed to develop unhampered by the presence of the foreigner, the "sere and yellow" lines of degeneracy would not have made their appearance, at least not so soon. But until the evidence is adduced on which such a conclusion is based the statement must be regarded as unproved, though not unprovable. British justice has been wont to regard a man innocent until he is proved guilty, and guilt can scarcely be established by general impressions, or the somewhat panicky spread of assumptions. But all this does not prove that the immigrant is either supremely pious or extremely healthy. If the foregoing basis of comparison be accepted it only proves that the alien is but of like passions and failings as the rest of folk, and the country into which he comes has a duty to discharge as much as he has a labor to give. And if, on the other hand, the foregoing basis is utterly erroneous and inadequate, then until a new and better basis be found judgment must be suspended. It may be that the danger zone lies not in his infirmity, but in his criminality, but the discussion of that problem would unduly extend an article already too long and must be reserved for a future issue.

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