

Strangely enough, some individuals were found who presented no history of strenuous exercise, who were tall and thin with long chest and low diaphragms yet who had a lung capacity greater than normal.

Many people who were known to have 125 per cent. or more of normal lung capacity developed serious diseases of the heart or lungs. Upon later examination it was found that the disease in many instances had decreased the lung capacity of the individual and still left him with more than 100 per cent. of normal capacity.

Dr. Meyer further states, however, that a decrease in an individual's normal lung capacity is an indication of the presence of some disease condition, usually a disease of the heart or lungs, and offers a valuable diagnostic test.

EXPLAINS INHERITANCE OF MENTAL CHARACTERS

"Brains" of the first class are passed on from parent to child in sections, not in one piece; so also is stupidity. This is the gist of a new theory on the mode of the inheritance of mental traits, advanced at the meeting of the Eugenics Research Association by Prof. Harrison R. Hunt of Michigan State College.

According to Prof. Hunt, the idea generally accepted at present, that intelligence or its lack acts as a single unit character in inheritance, is inadequate to explain the obvious gradations in intelligence, and also to account for the appearance in a family of children either much brighter or much duller than their parents.

Prof. Hunt assumes at least five pairs of hereditary characters that have to do with the passing on of intelligence. If both parents are persons of high intelligence, and possessed of all five pairs of these characters, their children will also average very high. If they are idiots, having none of the pairs of characters, their children also will be idiots. Intermediate conditions representing people of good average intelligence but not geniuses, will produce a mixture of offspring types, with occasional exceptional children, and once in a while also offspring of low mentality.

GREATNESS NOT DEPENDENT ON POSITION IN FAMILY

It makes no difference in your chances for getting into "Who's Who" whether you were the first child in the family or the fifteenth. Greatness, like the wind, "goeth whither it listeth" according to statistical studies of eminent persons reported to the Eugenics Research Association by Dr. Wilhelmine E. Key, of Battle Creek, Michigan. Her researches were occasioned by the conflicting claims of other students, some of whom claimed that elder sons became great men, while others contended that the latest-born had the best chances of achieving eminence.

Dr. Key studied the family records of a number of eminent Americans, ranging from Alexander Hamilton and John Quincy Adams to Mark Twain and Augustus St. Gaudens, and found that in the long run it apparently makes no difference what a person's birth-rank or position among his brothers and sisters may be, or what were the ages of his parents when he was born.