

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.

"James Fenimore Cooper was the eleventh of twelve children," Dr. Key states. "On the other hand, James Madison was the eldest of twelve." General Sherman came exactly in the middle of a large family, being sixth in a group of eleven. Numerous other examples give equally dissimilar rankings, and statistical curves seem to indicate merely the application of the regular law of averages both to position in family and age of parents.

NAVY ASTRONOMER PLANNING FOR NEXT ECLIPSE

Naval vessels will be put to scientific uses when a party of astronomers from the U.S. Naval Observatory sails from San Francisco on September 1 for Manila, en route to Sumatra, where they will observe an eclipse of the sun January 14, 1926, according to Captain F.B. Littell, who will be in charge of the expedition. The scientific apparatus to be taken along has already been shipped from the observatory, Capt. Littell said, as it will be taken by way of the Panama Canal to San Francisco, and will be picked up before they sail.

In addition to Capt. Littell, the party will include Prof. George H. Peters, associate astronomer, and G.M. Raynsford, assistant astronomer, both of the observatory staff, and Dr. John M. Anderson of the Mt. Wilson Observatory, of California. A number of sailors will also accompany the party and will assist in the erection of the apparatus. The chief instrument to be used is a camera 65 feet long which will be built in Sumatra. Lumber will be transported from the United States, however, as bamboo is the chief form used in Sumatra, and it is not suitable. Another camera of 113 inches length will be used as well as several smaller ones.

The exact location of the camp has not been determined, but according to the present plans, the party will proceed first to Palembang by boat, and from there a railroad may be taken to Lahat, in the interior. This is about 30 miles from Tebingtinggi, one of the sites being considered, but it is not known whether transportation to the point will be easily available. This is about 100 miles from Benkoelen, on the west coast, where a party from the Sproul Observatory of Swarthmore College will make their headquarters.

This eclipse is more favorable than the one that occurred last January in New England because the sun is higher in the sky and it lasts several minutes longer. The chances for clear weather are not much better, however, for Capt. Littell stated that they are about 60 to 40 in favor of clouds at the crucial moment.

COLLEGE GIRLS SHOW SPEECH DEFECTS

That detection and correction of speech defects in college students is an important factor in eliminating handicaps which might persist in later life is the conclusion of Doctor Sara M. Stinchfield, of Mount Holyoke College, in a report in the Journal of Applied Psychology.

Five hundred freshman college women entering Mount Holyoke were submitted to standardized tests in voice and speech. Serious cases of lisping, stuttering and indistinct utterance were found, and personality difficulties due to speech disorders were discovered. About one sixth of the entire freshman class were found to have speech defects.

From the standpoint of articulation and most frequent causes of failure in