

EUGENICS

Sterilization Process Reversed In Operation on Girl

Scale for Measuring Social Maturity Tests Competence; Home Conditions Should Govern Size of the Family

A CASE in which a sterilization operation on a young girl was reversed four years later so that she was able to give birth to a healthy baby was made public in a report by E. S. Gosney, of the Human Betterment Foundation, Pasadena, Calif., to the Eugenics Research Association meeting in New York City.

This girl at the age of 14 was committed to a California institution for the feeble-minded and the sterilization operation was performed. Later she was paroled, "made good," was discharged from the institution and married successfully.

Then she asked for an operation which would reverse the sterilization. This was done and six years after her sterilization she gave birth to her baby.

How Old Are You Socially?

Are you grown up socially? A scale for measuring your ability to get along in the world was described to the same meeting by Dr. Edgar A. Doll, director of research at the Training School, Vineland, New Jersey.

Originally designed to test an individual's social competence or ability to

care for himself when suspected of mental deficiency, the scale is also well adapted for the study of the family history of persons of extraordinary ability and worth to society, Dr. Doll explained.

It can measure the whole gamut of human ability from feeble-mindedness to genius, and does not depend upon a test given the individual himself but upon reports on the things he is able to accomplish. The socially mature person is able to systematize his own work, for example, to make purchases for others, and to promote civic progress. The person with a social age of 18 should be able to make long trips alone and control his own expenditures.

Blood Paternity Tests

With the use of blood tests, the chances of exonerating a man falsely accused of paternity average about one in three, Dr. Laurence H. Snyder, chairman of the National Research Council's Committee on Human Inheritance, and Ohio State University zoologist, told the meeting. Such tests never indicate positively who is the father of a child but eliminate those who could not be.

These tests have been used for years in Europe, Dr. Snyder said, and thousands of cases of disputed paternity have been examined by this method. The United States is considerably behind in this respect; only the states of New York and Wisconsin having laws providing for the blood tests in such cases. Elsewhere in this country they are used, but only sporadically.

Blood Groups Inherited

Blood tests are effective in some cases of disputed paternity because of the fact that if a baby's blood contains certain elements lacking in the mother's blood, the father must be a person whose blood contains that element. Scientists are also able, given a knowledge of the blood groups of father and mother, to determine just what the blood groups of the child must be. This enables them to straighten out puzzling cases of "mixed babies" occurring in maternity hospitals.

The elements in the blood cells which are the basis for this grouping are known scientifically as "antigens." When antigen A is present in a person's blood, that person's blood cells will "agglutinate" or clump when mixed with serum from a person not containing the A antigen. For this reason, the blood group tests are essential for selecting donors for blood transfusions.

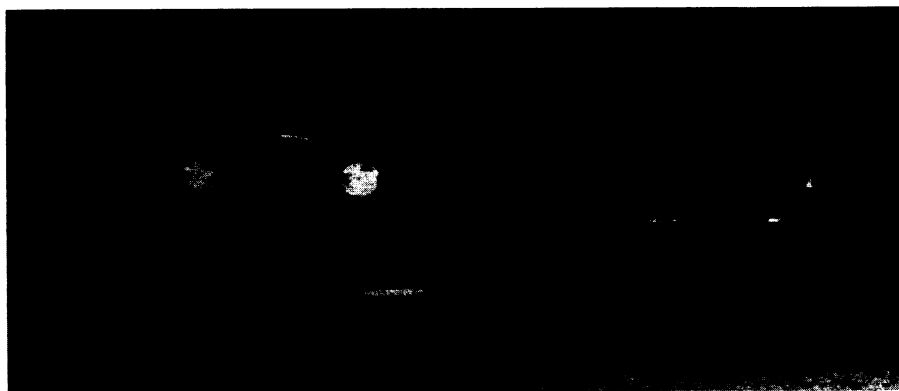
Three groups of this type are known: A which has antigen A, B with antigen B, and O which has neither. Two other antigens, M and N, can also be demonstrated in a little different way by mixing the blood cells with serum from an animal previously injected with an antigen.

Other antigens are known to scientists, but so far their presence in the blood cannot be demonstrated easily enough to make them much help in legal cases. Future research along this line, however, will lead to the discovery of still other new antigens, Dr. Snyder predicted, and will greatly strengthen the tests for non-paternity.

Home Should Govern Family Size

The type of home provided should be the basis of judging whether parents ought to have large or small families, Frederick Osborn, expert on population problems, said.

Biologists are able to rule out only about two per cent of the population as unfit to have children because they are certain carriers of serious hereditary defects. For the rest, some more indirect method of judging biological fitness must be resorted to in any plan for the



TAKING THE GLARE FROM NIGHT DRIVING

By using the new Polaroid material on headlights and on windshields it is possible to obtain the widely contrasting effects shown above and on the facing page. On the facing page is the ordinary appearance on looking at automobile headlights at night. Here is how the same scene looks when the glare is taken from the rays. Actually the oncoming headlights have a very faint purplish hue while all details are illuminated by one's own headlights.

bettering of the human race. Lines of race or class or wealth will not serve this purpose, Mr. Osborn indicated. Instead the ability of parents to give

their children a home suitable for their best growth, especially in character and intelligence, is all-important.

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that more crimes have been committed in the name of race than have ever been perpetrated in the name of liberty.

Prof. Hooton has compiled a statement of the best consensus of scientific anthropological opinion upon what races are and what they mean. Here are his ten points:

(1) A "race" is a physical division of mankind, the members of which are distinguished by the possession of similar combinations of anatomical features due to their common heredity.

No Single Criterion

(2) There exists no single physical criterion for distinguishing race; races are delimited by the association in human groups of multiple variations of bodily form and structure—such as amount of pigment in hair, skin and eyes, form of the hair, shape of the nose, range of stature, relation of head length to head breadth, et cetera. These criteria are of mainly hereditary origin, but none of them is wholly impervious to environmental influences, such as the effects of climate, diet, exercise and altitude. It follows that race is essentially a zoological device whereby indefinitely large groups of similar physical appearance and hereditary background are classified together for the sake of convenience.

(3) Anthropologists have found as yet no relationship between any physical criterion of race and mental capacity, whether in individuals or in groups.

(4) While it is conceivable that physical races may differ in psychological characteristics, in tastes, temperament and even in intellectual qualities, a precise scientific determination of such differences has not yet been achieved. Such discrimination, if it is possible, must await the development of better anthropological and psychological techniques.

Race Is Hereditary

(5) Race is not synonymous with language, culture or nationality. Race is hereditary; language is a cultural acquisition. A Negro may speak English as his native tongue. There is no Aryan race; Aryan is a term applicable only to a family of languages spoken by populations heterogeneous in race, nationality, religion and other aspects of culture. There is no "French race" and no "German race," properly so-called. Such terms imply nationality, use of a common language and some degree of conformity to a pattern of culture, but nothing more.

ANTHROPOLOGY

No Race Superior to Another, Says Harvard Anthropologist

"Biological Purge" Urged by Anthropologist Who Decries Distinctions on the Basis of Race Background

CALLING for a "biological purge" to guard the American nation from threatened social disintegration, Prof. Earnest A. Hooton, Harvard physical anthropologist, has at the same time issued a challenge to those who commit acts of social injustice under the masquerade of "racial measures" or "racial hygiene."

Prof. Hooton, who has been a leader in the science of man for a quarter of a century, finds no justification for claims that any one race is superior to another.

"Each racial type runs the gamut from idiots and criminals to geniuses and statesmen," he declares. "No type produces a majority of individuals from either end of the scale. There are no racial monopolies either of human virtues or vices."

Races may have specific abilities and disabilities, but Prof. Hooton holds that science has not yet demonstrated them.

In a world that sees such organized movements as Nazi rule in Germany, the Klan and the Black Legion in America, based upon supposed "racial differences," Prof. Hooton's "plain statements about race" presented to a scientific audience through the scientific journal, *Science* (May 29), upset many current popular ideas.

No Aryan Race

There is no "French race" or "German race," for instance. Race is not synonymous with language, culture or nationality. While race is hereditary, language is a cultural acquisition. A Negro may speak English as his native tongue. And there is no Aryan race, for Aryan is a term that can be applied only to a family of languages spoken by populations very much mixed in race, nationality, religion and other aspects of culture.

Here is Prof. Hooton's definition of

what is a "race": A physical division of mankind, the members of which are distinguished by the possession of similar combinations of anatomical features due to their common heredity.

America needs a "purge," Prof. Hooton holds, but it is not the kind of purge that has been practiced in Germany, for instance. Its purpose would be to "check the growing numbers of the physically inferior, the mentally ineffective and the anti-social." And Prof. Hooton emphasizes that these elements that make for social disintegration come from no one race or ethnic stock. He challenges:

Weed Out the Bad

"Let each of us, Nordic or Negro, Aryan or Semite, Daughter of the Revolution or Son of St. Patrick, pluck the beam from his own eye, before he attempts to remove the mote from that of his brother. Every tree that bears bad fruit should be cut down and cast into the fire. Whether that tree is an indigenous growth or a transplantation from an alien soil, matters not one whit, so long as it is rotten."

So-called "racial conflicts" of today are traced by Prof. Hooton back to the fact that predatory man, having vanquished the other animals, has realized that "the greatest gain of power and booty lies in preying upon his own species."

From immemorial antiquity, Prof. Hooton points out, hereditary variations of bodily form have been made the basis of charges of racial inferiority in mentality and incapacity for civilization. Thus arose the enslavement of the Negro, and the virtual extermination of the Indian and of many other primitive peoples.

With no more savage worlds left to conquer, the white man has turned the same vicious argument to use against his own kind. And Prof. Hooton charges