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.

Science News Letter, June 13, 1936

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 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 con-
- (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.

Cannot Grade Races

(6) Physical anthropologists, as yet, are unable precisely to grade existing human races upon an evolutionary scale, upon the basis of the sum total of their anatomical deviations from apes and lower animals. Each race displays a mixture of advanced and primitive characteristics. A definitive rating of the evolutionary rank of each human race presupposes the completion of many anthropological and physiological researches, which, as yet, have not even begun.

(7) A "pure" race is little more than an anthropological abstraction; no pure race can be found in any civilized country. Racial purity is restricted, at best, to remnants of savage groups in isolated wildernesses. The present races of man have intermingled and interbred for many thousands of years, so that their genealogical lines have become inextricably confused. Physical classifications of race merely attempt to delimit groups of approximate physical uniformity, with a restricted assumption of similar heredity.

(8) The composite origin of most of the existing races of man is demonstrable. Thus the Polynesian represents a stabilized blend of White, Negroid and Mongoloid elements. The so-called Nordic race is probably a hybrid derivative of several strains present in Europe during the glacial period, to which have been added in historic times Alpine, Mongoloid and other racial elements (carried by Lapps, Finns, Slavs and other peoples who have mixed with

the inhabitants of the "Nordic" area).

(9) The study of the results of hybridization between the most physically diverse of modern races—such as the Negro and the Nordic, or the Mongoloid and the brunet Mediterranean White—has not demonstrated that fertility is decreased, or vitality diminished, by such crossings. The hybrids exhibit a wide range of combinations of features inherited from both parental races, but no degeneracy, provided that both parental stocks are normal. It is probable that racial susceptibilities and immunities to certain diseases are different in hybrids from those obtaining in the parental races, but this subject has been insufficiently studied.

Great Individual Variation

(10) Within each and every race there is great individual variation in physical features and in mental capacity, but no close correlation between physique and mentality has been scientifically demonstrated. Knowledge of human heredity is still far from perfect, and altogether inadequate as a basis for attempts to secure specific combinations of physical and mental features by selective breeding. A scientifically valid program of eugenics, at the present, must be limited to the restriction of breeding among the insane, diseased and criminal, and to the encouragement of reproduction in individual families with sound physiques, good mental endowments and demonstrable social and economic capability.

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PSYCHIATRY

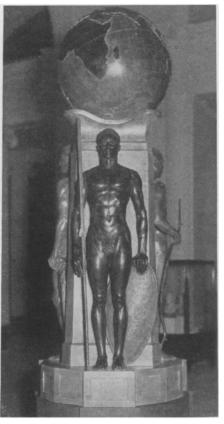
Psychiatric Treatment for Nerve Diseases Is Urged

PSYCHIATRIC treatment, usually employed for mental diseases, can be of great aid in certain nerve diseases such as encephalitis lethargica, popularly known as "sleeping sickness," multiple sclerosis and some of the nerve ailments accompanied by convulsions.

This use for psychiatric methods of treating disease was pointed out to neurologists by Dr. O. L. Forel of Prangins, Switzerland, at the meeting of the American Neurological Association in Atlantic City.

"Cooperation between neurologists and psychotherapeutists is of unquestionable value," he declared.

How X-ray pictures of the brain taken after air has been injected into its cavities aids in the diagnosis and location of brain tumors was described by Dr. Walter E. Dandy of Baltimore, who first devised this method known as ventriculography. This same method is valuable in cases of hydrocephalus, a condition characterized by enlargement of the head and bulging forehead. There is an increased amount of fluid on the surface or in the ventricles, or cavities, of the brain, which has given the condition its popular name of water on the brain. It may be caused by various factors, among them a tumor press-



WHITE-BLACK-YELLOW

This famous monument by Malvina Hoffman in Chicago's Field Museum hall of the living races typifies the ideas of anthropologists toward races. This official photograph from the Field Museum shows the three human types portrayed: left, white man; center, black man; right, yellow man.

ing on certain veins or a block which keeps the brain fluid from reaching one of the brain cavities. X-ray pictures taken after air injection show the presence and location of such tumor or block, Dr. Dandy has found. The procedure consists, briefly, in drilling a tiny hole through the skull, inserting a needle through this hole into the brain, withdrawing the brain fluid and injecting the same or a slightly less amount of air and then taking an X-ray picture.

A somewhat similar diagnostic procedure in which fluid is withdrawn by spinal puncture and air injected into the spinal canal before taking X-ray pictures was described by Drs. Cornelius G. Dyke and Leo M. Davidoff of New York City.

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Canadian miners trained in rescue work are called Draegermen after Bernhard Draeger, who invented an oxygen helmet for rescue work.