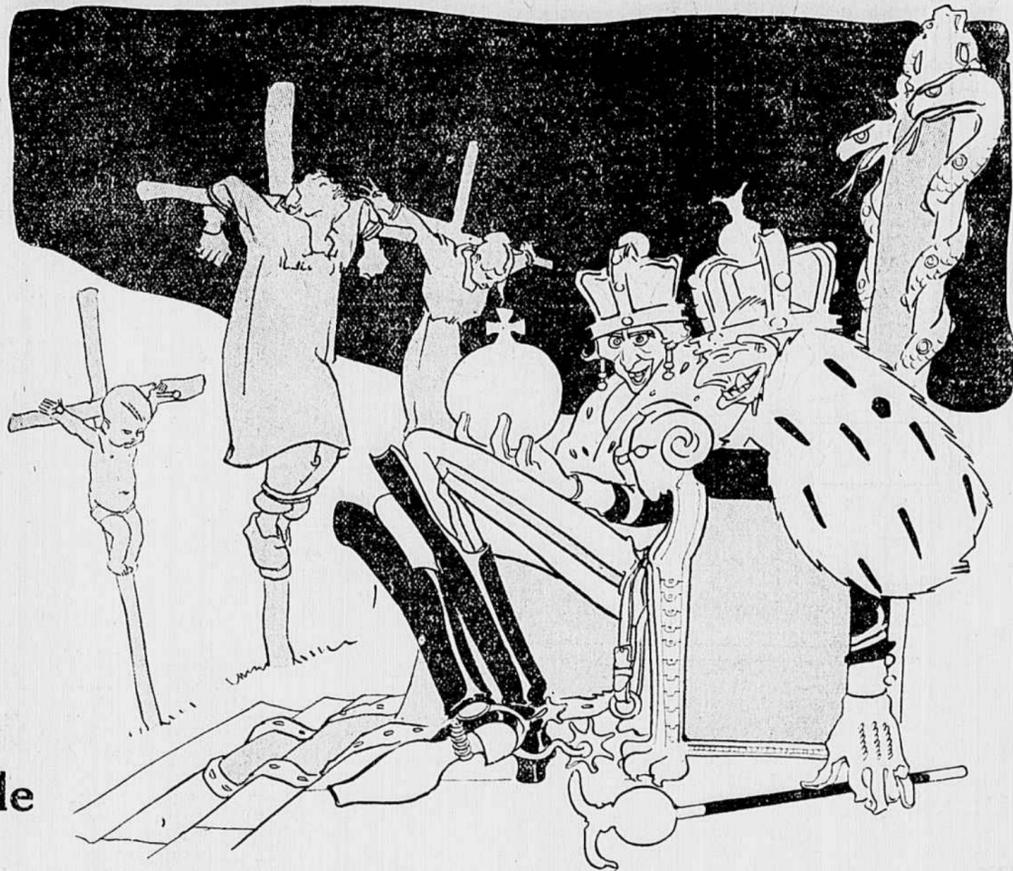


Studying Europe's Crazy Kings and Queens for Our Babies Sake



How the Skilful Court Photographer Touches Up the Faces of the Melancholy Czarina and the Weakling Czarowitch to Make Them Look Strong and Normal.

How the Truthful Snapshot Reveals the Lines of Mental Degeneracy and Weakness in the Faces of the Czarina and Her Unfortunate Only Son.



Grotesque Caricature Suggesting That the People of Europe Are Being Crucified to Please the Fancies of Insane Rulers, Forming Part of a Revolutionary Pamphlet Seized by the Vienna Police.

How Practical Eugenists Are Deriving Valuable Lessons For Future Humanity From the Rulers Who Hold Life and Happiness of Millions in Their Tainted Hands

By Dr. C. Ashton Palmer, of the Eugenic Society of Great Britain.

THE insane and degenerate kings and queens of Europe must be made to furnish lessons for the guidance of humanity and the production of better children in future.

That is the solemn conclusion of the eugenists of Europe and America, inspired by the tragedy of the war. They have begun a merciless scientific analysis of the tainted ancestry of the rulers of Europe. They will tabulate all the cases of insanity, all the defects, all peculiarities of personal behavior as far back as historical records go. They will show how the defects have been handed down from generation to generation, how they have been intensified by intermarriage, and what are the possibilities of eliminating them by introducing fresh blood and by other favoring conditions.

Scientists look at this subject mainly from two points of view. In the first place, they feel that the slaughter and miseries of the present war have been brought about largely by the rule of irresponsible kings of tainted ancestry. Therefore, the kings and their ancestors and their actions should be clearly held up for the judgment of civilized public opinion.

In the second place, royal families offer an infinitely better opportunity for the study of eugenics than any other families. Their records have been kept much longer than those of other families, and they are full of authoritative details, since all historians have combined to record every striking peculiarity of a royal personage.

One of the most valuable contributions to this subject has been made by an American scientist, Dr. Frederick Adams Woods, of the biological department of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, author of "Mental and Moral Heredity in Royalty."

Dr. Woods brings out the fact that the Hapsburgs, the ruling family of Austria, are the most heavily burdened with insanity and taint of all the rulers concerned in the present crisis. They are the inheritors of what he strikingly terms "the frightful Bourbon-Hapsburg psychoneurosis."

From the days of the melancholic monster, the Emperor Charles, to the mysterious death of the degenerate Crown Prince Rudolph, in our own time, the history of the house of Hapsburg has been one long drama of blood and madness, and the consequences to humanity are still showing themselves.

One of the most prolific sources of insanity was Queen Joanna the Mad, of Spain, who married Philip of Austria and became the mother of the Emperor Charles V, of Austria and Spain, and of his brother Ferdinand I, who succeeded him on the throne of Austria, while Charles V's own direct descendants succeeded in Spain. Joanna had many mad ancestors, including Pedro the Cruel, a monster who butchered his own relatives before the eyes of his court and tortured women to death because they did not accept his attentions readily.

The Emperor Charles V. married Isabella of Portugal, who was a niece of his mad mother Joanna and a granddaughter of John the Imbecile and Isabella the Insane. Thus by intermarriage the heavy family taint was intensified in the rulers of Austria and Spain and in that of the Bourbons with whom the Hapsburgs intermarried for centuries. In

The Young Archduke Charles Francis Joseph, Heir to the Austrian Throne and the Most Insanely Tainted Family in Europe, with His Wife, Princess Zita of Bourbon-Parma, the Only Sane Child Out of Nineteen. (And Below) The Late Empress Elizabeth of Austria, Who Brought the Hereditary Taint of the Bavarian Wittelsbachs to Mix with That of the Doomed Hapsburgs.



Spain the taint showed itself in Charles V's son, Philip II, a gloomy bigot and melancholic, who threatened to put to death his own son, Don Carlos, who himself showed symptoms of insanity. Thereafter for generations the kings of Spain were mental and physical degenerates. It is noteworthy that Charles V. had a natural son, Don John of Austria, who was the most famous general of his time, showing that the introduction of one healthy parent might produce good results.

In Austria the more important branch of the Hapsburg family continued to propagate idiots. Ferdinand had eleven children. The fact that only one of these showed the defects of her grandmother, Joanna the Mad, is considered an illustration of eugenic principles. This son, Maximilian II, however, married a cousin, who was also a granddaughter of Joanna the Mad, and from this union the results to be expected followed.

The results were: "Two children subject to melancholia, two eccentrically slow and reserved, with the other five normal. A result to be expected, since

the majority should resemble their parents and normal ancestors."

For three generations the family married relatively sound stock, and the worst mental failings were dullness and eccentricity. Then Ferdinand II. married a princess of the tainted house of Spain and had two children who were mental weaklings. One of these, Leopold I, married an intellectual wife of an unrelated stock, and their child was the distinguished Empress Maria Theresa. Her children by her cousin were normal, but in her grandchildren the mental defects of the family again predominated.

The Emperors Ferdinand V. and Francis Charles, in the early nineteenth century, proved unfit to rule and gave place to the present Emperor Francis Joseph. We know that his only son, Rudolph, was killed in a mysterious orgy in 1889, when, it is believed, he killed himself and his companion, Baroness Vecsera.

Rudolph's mother, the Empress Elizabeth, assassinated by an anarchist in 1898, came from the Bavarian Wittelsbachs, who produced the mad King Ludwig, Richard Wagner's patron, and the

equally mad Otto, now dethroned. As the Bavarians lived from 1864 to 1913 under insane kings, it is sometimes cynically suggested that it does not matter whether a king is mad or not.

The greatest burden of hereditary insanity rests on the young Archduke Charles Francis Joseph, nephew of the Austrian Emperor, who was named heir to the throne after the assassination of Franz Ferdinand, that led to the present war. He has 853 insane persons in twenty generations among his direct and collateral ancestors. He is married to his cousin, the Princess Zita of Bourbon-Parma, who comes from the peculiarly tainted Spanish Bourbon stock and is said to be the only sane child of nineteen. A large number of them are certainly under some kind of tutelage. The outlook for the children of these two is appalling.

No important reigning family in Europe is free from the taint of insanity. It has shown itself with great frequency in the Russian Imperial family, suggesting that surroundings combine with heredity to produce the defect. Ivan the Terrible, the first celebrated Czar, murdered his only son, and was a maniac of cruelty.

Peter the Great, from whom the present Czar traces his descent, supplanted an imbecile brother. The whole history of the Romanoff family has been stamped with madness and murder. Peter's niece, Elizabeth, who continued the Romanoff line, was a monster of cruelty. Her grandson, Peter III, an imbecile, was murdered by his wife, Catherine the Great, in order to give her the throne. Catherine's son, Paul II, a low type of idiot, was murdered with his son's consent.

Since then we have found in every generation of the Russian Imperial family such evidences of degeneration as epilepsy and tuberculosis and many positive cases of insanity. The Czar's father died of kidney trouble, an indication of mental weakness. His next brother died of tuberculosis.

Czar Nicholas himself is a weak-minded visionary, who takes the advice of magicians and soothsayers. His wife is evidently a melancholic, a condition that may be traced to the defects of her own ancestry combined with her terror-producing surroundings in Russia.

Their only son suffers from a mysterious disease which prevents him from running about, and whenever he appears in public he is carried. The Russian court has employed all its influence to conceal the nature of the disease or injury, and a hundred different reports about it have been current.

The palaces of the Romanoffs, the Hapsburgs and the Bourbons are, figuratively speaking, filled with old spectres of disease and madness that must come in the night and moments of weakness and distress to mock them with voices of doom.

Among the many insane royalties now in seclusion one of the most pathetic is the ex-Empress Carlotta, widow of Maximilian, the Austrian archduke who was set up on the Mexican throne for a brief period and then shot by his subjects. Carlotta was a sister of the late King Leopold of Belgium, whose peculiarities are well known. Her father, King Leopold I, had married a Princess of Bourbon-Orleans, daughter of King Louis Philippe of France and granddaughter of the amazing Duke of Orleans, the "Philippe Egalite" of the Revolution, who voted for his cousin, King Louis XVI's death in order to save his own property. King Louis Philippe intensified the psychopathic Bourbon strain by marrying a cousin of the branch of Bourbon-Sicily.

Carlotta, therefore, had much to account

for her mental weakness, but it is noticeable that her nephew, the present King Albert of Belgium, whose physical vigor and splendid mental and moral qualities have excited the admiration of the whole world. His qualities must be mainly attributed to a sound mother of an unrelated stock.

My own study of royal pedigrees has led me to the conclusion that after the union of a tainted person with a sound,



Her Nephew, the Present King Albert of Belgium, Whose Heroic Character Has Excited Universal Admiration, Illustrating How the Family Taint May Completely Disappear in a Generation.

unrelated partner, the mental defects disappear in all but about one-fourth of the descendants. In them, however, the defects persist strongly, and when such persons mate with related stock we obtain the well-defined Bourbon-Hapsburg type of idiot, with unsymmetrical features, projecting underlip and indented upper lip and other stigmata of degeneracy.

As it is an essential condition of the royal system that its members should intermarry, I am forced to believe that they are all doomed to become insane. Intermarriage outside the royal caste appears to injure them in the esteem of the common people of Europe.

Dr. Woods's conclusions, though interesting, seem to me too optimistic to be justified by the facts.



The Insane Ex-Empress Carlotta of Mexico, a Sister of the Late King Leopold of Belgium.

"There is," he says, "no degeneration in modern royalty to be ascribed to their exceptional and exalted position, per se."

"If we compare the eight hundred odd persons who form the main body of this study with the world in general, we cannot but be struck with the relatively large number of exceptional geniuses who have from time to time appeared in their genealogical charts and have taken their places as actual and undisputed leaders in many of the greatest movements in European history."

"That is all to be expected. Men of ambition seek power. In the generations long ago, soon after the downfall of Rome, in the age when modern royalty was forming into a distinct class, the natural leaders, the strongest, came to the front and made themselves kings. They married only among their own kind. They waged war one with another, leading to a survival of the fittest; and all along down the line their exclusive ranks were recruited with fresh drafts, always in the nature of vigorous personalities who won their way into the royal fold. The very formation of royal families was thus a question of selection of the most able in government and war."

"The greater survival of the morally superior and the correlation between mental and moral qualities would, however, always tend toward raising their average if all be considered as a unit and if all branches of descent be traced out, though great and exceptional geniuses might be less frequently expected."

"To the minds of some, a theory of the preponderant influence of heredity is but a gloomy and pessimistic outlook."

"And yet this same view of heredity, when looked at in its bearings on the future condition of the human race as a whole, far from being pessimistic, is on the contrary an actual basis for optimism; for we have found among royal families the morally superior surviving, and in the inheritance of mental and moral excellence we see ground for a belief in the necessary progress of mankind."