

IS INSANITY IN THE U. S. INCREASING?

Question Discussed by Dr. Joseph A. Hill in Government Report on Insane

GREAT INCREASE IN INSTITUTIONS

Cannot Be Regarded, However, as Conclusive Proof That the Same Conditions Exist Outside of the Hospitals for the Insane

Washington, D. C., Dec. 16.—[Is insanity in the United States on the increase? This question is discussed by Dr. Joseph A. Hill in the government report on the insane in institutions, soon to be issued by William J. Harris, Director of the Census, in the Department of Commerce. That there has been an enormous increase in the number of insane under institutional care is made evident by the statistics presented in this report, but, for reasons there set forth, this in itself can not be regarded as conclusive proof of an increase of insanity in the general population outside of institutions.]

The number of insane reported in institutions increased from 150,151 in 1904 to 187,791 in 1910—an increase of 25 per cent. in six years. The total population of the United States in the same interval increased only 12 per cent. The increase in insanity in institutions increased twice as fast as the population. In 1904, out of every 100,000 persons in the total population, 184 were reported in institutions for the insane; by 1910 the number had increased to 204. In other words, in 1904 one person out of every 643 was confined to an institution for the insane, in 1910 one person out of every 493. There was similarly marked increase in the number of annual admissions to these institutions, 60,769 persons having been admitted in 1910, as compared with 49,622 in 1904, an increase of 22 per cent. The number of admissions per 100,000 population increased from 61 in 1904 to 66 in 1910.

These increases are at least partly attributable to the extension of the provisions made for the care of insane persons and to the growth of the practice of placing them in institutions. There is an increasing disposition and willingness on the part of the public to accept institutional treatment. The old-time horror of the lunatic asylum, fully justified, perhaps, by the inhuman practices formerly prevailing in such institutions, has largely disappeared, and it is coming to be recognized that the modern institution for the insane is simply a hospital for the treatment of mental diseases, fulfilling essentially the same purpose in the community as any other hospital for the sick. In the interval between 1904 and 1910 the number of institutions for the insane increased from 328 to 366, the average number of inmates per institution increasing from 458 to 512.

Insane Asylums Overcrowded

Notwithstanding these developments, the provisions for the institutional care of the insane are still very inadequate in most parts of the United States. There are general complaints of overcrowded institutions and of the necessity of turning patients away. Under such conditions, the construction of a new hospital for the insane or the extension of an existing one may be followed by an increase in the number of insane in institutions without being indicative of any increase in the prevalence of insanity in the community from which the patients are received.

At the same time there has been a great improvement in the agencies for discovering cases of insanity and bringing them under institutional care. The advance in methods of medical diagnosis leads to the detection of mental disease in cases brought to general hospitals for the sick. The institution for the insane is becoming more generally accessible not only by the increase in the number of such institutions, but also by the improvements in the means of transportation and communication. The automobile is mentioned as a factor of some importance in this connection, making it possible to bring to the hospital patients in poor physical condition. These are some of the influences which, as stated in this report, may have contributed to the apparent increase of insanity or to the increase in the number of recognized and recorded cases without being indicative of any actual increase. The author of this report believes that there has been, at the same time, an actual increase of insanity, but that it is not as great as the statistics of the number of insane in institutions would indicate.

An increase of insanity is probably in some degree a natural consequence of the rapid growth of cities in the United States. Between 1880 and 1910 the proportion of the population of the United States living in urban communities increased about 190 per cent., while the rural population increased only about 40 per cent. As a result 46 per cent of the total population of the United States was urban in 1910, as compared with 29 per cent. in 1880. The percentage living in cities of over 100,000 inhabitants nearly doubled in the same interval, being 12.4 per cent. in 1880 and 22 per cent. in 1910.

More in City Than Country

There has been a popular impression that the lonely isolation of country life is an important cause of insanity. The statistics, however, indicate that more insanity is caused by the stress and strain, the keener competition, the congested housing conditions, and the vice and dissipation of city life. In proportion to population the number of inmates of hospitals for the insane received from urban communities is twice as great as the number received from rural districts. Of the 60,769 persons admitted to insane hospitals in 1910, 36,654 came from cities, villages, or other incorporated places of more than 2,500 inhabitants, while 20,442 came from the smaller towns or country districts, leaving 3,673 for whom the place of residence was not reported. Of more significance, however, are the statistics showing the number of admissions in proportion to the total population of each class of communities. From rural communities 41 in-

After Measles Whooping Cough or Scarlet Fever

the extreme weakness often results in impaired hearing, weakened eyesight, bronchitis and other troubles, but if Scott's Emulsion is given promptly, it carries strength to the organs and creates rich blood to build up the depleted forces.

Children thrive on Scott's Emulsion. It is Prescribed by Alcoholic.

sane persons were admitted per 100,000 population; from the urban communities the ratio was 86 per 100,000. These figures cover the entire United States, but there is a similar difference in all sections of the country. Everywhere the ratio of admissions is higher, and usually much higher, from urban than from rural communities, although the contrast is rather less striking in New England than in other geographic divisions. It is probable, therefore, that the increase in the proportion of total population living in cities has resulted in an increase of insanity.

Effects of Vice and Dissipation

A partial explanation of the difference between city and country, as regards their contributions to the hospitals for the insane, is found in the statistics of cases of general paralysis and of alcoholic psychosis. These are forms of insanity which, directly or indirectly, are caused by vice or dissipation. Of the total number of persons admitted to hospitals in 1910, 16.8 per cent., or more than one-sixth, were afflicted with one or the other of these diseases. This class of cases, however, formed only 10.4 per cent., or one-tenth, of the admissions from rural communities, as compared with 21 per cent., or one-fifth, of the admissions from urban communities. The ratio of such cases to 100,000 population was 4.3 for rural communities, as compared with 18 for urban; that is to say, in proportion to population, the cases of this character received from the city were about four and one-half times as numerous as those from the country.

EX-NEWSIES TO SELL PAPERS

50 Wealthy Detroit Men Will Recall Past for Charity's Sake

Detroit, Dec. 16.—'Newsies' of Detroit—not the poorly clad little chaps who sell papers on the streets—but the prosperous business men who were 'newsies' years ago—will sell papers for charity next Monday to aid the 'Goodfellows' work.

It was James J. Brady, United States Collector of Internal Revenue, a near-millionaire if not quite one in fact, who conceived the idea. Little Jimmie Brady used to sell papers at Fort and Griswold street, where now stands the Majestic Building. Standing there yesterday, Mr. Brady held in his hand the newspaper which a cartoon showing a 'Goodfellow' walking down the street with the gut of his former self, a little newsboy, walking by his side as his inspiration.

HAM THIEF 'LIFER' PAROLED

Only Smiled at Extreme Sentence, After Years in Prison

Lansing, Mich., Dec. 16.—Governor Ferris has ordered the parole of Michigan's most widely known prisoner, Lewis Oliver, a 'lifer' in Marquette, known as the man who was sentenced for life for stealing a ham.

Promote Mine Officials

Hazleton, Dec. 16.—The Lehigh Valley Coal Company yesterday announced that Dellwyn Wolfe, of Mahanoy City, chief engineer of the Delano division, will on January 1 take the general inside superintendency of the Lehigh-Coxe division mines at Hazleton, succeeding Thomas R. Jones, who has been made superintendent of the Delano division.

Man Killed By Fall

Johnstown, Dec. 16.—Kicking at a woman who was ten feet away, Andrew Cortas plunged down a flight of stairs at Barnesboro. His skull was crushed and he died.

\$1.50 Just Think \$1.50 Buys the Greatest Phonograph Invention of the Age

A PHONOGRAPH THAT PLAYS any size and all makes of records, producing the same sound as any high-grade talking machine.

Record and Package of Needles Free with machine. Sent by Parcel Post, prepaid.

JAY R. ROSEHEIM CO., Lippincott Bldg., Phila., Pa.

WATCHFUL NEUTRALITY IS ITALY'S POSITION, SAYS PREMIER TO THE DEPUTIES

Rome, Dec. 15, 6.20 A. M. (Delayed in Transmission).—A vote of confidence in the government and its policies was adopted almost unanimously to-day by the Chamber of Deputies. Previous to the vote Premier Salandra delivered a speech to the deputies, in which he reaffirmed his statement made in a previous address that Italy's position was one of watchful neutrality. He said that nothing had happened to warrant any change in that position.

RUSSIANS INFLICT GREAT LOSSES ON THE GERMANS

Petrograd, Dec. 16.—The 'Army Messenger' publishes a series of communications from the front, as follows: 'On the front of Lovic and Ilov violent German attacks have had no success. Our troops have repulsed the Germans, causing them to suffer great losses.'

Von Buelow Starts for Rome

Amsterdam, Via London, Dec. 16, 8.55 A. M.—A Berlin telegram announces that Prince Bernhard von Buelow, the former German chancellor, who recently accepted the post of Ambassador to Italy, left for Rome on Tuesday.

Delay Operation on Kaiser

London, Dec. 16.—A dispatch from Munich to the 'Central News' says that it has been finally decided to operate on Kaiser Wilhelm's throat, but that the operation is being deferred owing to the feverish condition of the Kaiser.

FLESH FORMING FOOD

When you buy a package of Samose, the great flesh-forming food, weigh yourself and see how much you gain in the first week's use. H. C. Kennedy will tell of many of his customers who a month or so ago were thin, pale and haggard, but who are now, through the use of Samose, plump, strong and happy, with perfect health and attractive flesh. He has seen so many instances of the wonderful power of Samose to restore the weak and sick to strength and health, and to make good natural flesh that he gives his personal guarantee with every package of Samose he sells to refund the money if it does not prove satisfactory.

BRITISH SUBMARINE THAT BRAVED CHAIN OF MINES AND SUNK TURKISH BATTLESHIP



Even greater than the rejoicing which followed the victory of Vice Admiral Sir Frederick C. D. Sturdee in the South Atlantic was the measure of enthusiasm throughout the United Kingdom which greeted the official announcement of the daring exploit of the British submarine B-11.

With the stealth of a panther and daring which surpasses everything hitherto recorded in British naval history, the B-11, commanded by Lieutenant Commander Norman B. Holbrook, of the Royal Navy, braved destruction by five separate chains of mines laid in the most treacherous of currents and sent the Turkish battleship Messudieh to the bottom of the ardanelles.

As a just reward for their intrepid Lieutenant Commander Holbrook and his crew escaped in their submerged craft, running the gauntlet of heavy gunfire from other war ships of

Pocket Cigar Lighter



AND CLUTCH PENCIL. Highly Nickel-Plated. Just what the average man needs. Glass Lighter and Pencil Combined. Clip attached so it can be fastened to coat or vest pocket. Price 25c

Auermetal Table Lighter



Everlasting Iron Match. A highly finished ornamental ash receiver. Guaranteed to Give Light at All Times. No more burnt table. Price \$1.00. Sent Prepaid Everywhere.

Ash Receiver & Cigar Holder



All Brass Beautiful Bright Finish. An Ornament for Every Table. No mechanical parts to get out of order. Abraded like a match. No wick or any other part to renew. Can be used as a torch. For family use, cafes, clubs, etc.

AN EVERLASTING IRON MATCH. No more burnt table cloth. Carriage saved from burning matches. Will stay for itself in a short time by eliminating the cost and danger of matches. \$1.50. Every Auermetal Table Lighter is sold under the guarantee for any length of time. If directions are followed. PERFECTION SALES CO. 1233H Arch St., Phila., Pa. Agents wanted.

CZAR FINISHES INSPECTION TOUR OF FRONTS IN CAUCASUS

Petrograd, Dec. 16.—Official announcement is made that Emperor Nicholas, having finished his tour of inspection of the Russian army fronts in the Caucasus, left that region on December 15.

27 Namur Priests Killed

Havre, Dec. 16.—The list of priests killed in the bishopric of Namur alone is appalling. Twenty-seven names appear in the list, which does not include twelve priests who have disappeared since the German invasion. There is no information regarding these. In the diocese of Liege six priests have been killed.

UNMARRIED BY COURT

Woman Wedded Before Divorce From First Husband Was Valid

Wilmington, Del., Dec. 16.—Harry Wordle, known as 'Knockout' Harry Baker, the pugilist, is no longer married. The court so decided yesterday morning. Attorney General Wolcott brought to the attention of the court the fact that Mary K. Sims, who got a decree nisi from her husband in May last, had gone to Maryland with Wordle and been married on May 30.

Christmas Ship Leaves Genoa

Genoa, Dec. 16.—The United States naval collier Jason, which brought Christmas gifts gathered from the American people for the children of the belligerent powers, left here yesterday for Salonica.

Closes Record Contract

London, Dec. 16.—Charles M. Schwab will leave for New York to-day, after a four-day stay in London. Mr. Schwab's extensive business contracts are probably the greatest ever obtained by a single individual. They are now completed, so far as signing agreements is concerned.

German Coal Shortage

Berne, Switzerland, Dec. 16.—Owing to the number of German coal mines under arms, some important coal mines in the Mannheim district have been so greatly reduced in output that there is difficulty in supplying the demand for coal. The supply of anthracite in particular is low.

4,000,000 Eggs Sent Abroad

Boston, Mass., Dec. 15.—Four million eggs, the largest single shipment ever sent from this country, were loaded yesterday on the steamship Anglian, which sailed early this morning for London. The eggs came from cold storage houses in Chicago, and are valued at \$80,000.

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BELGIANS LOST 144,000 MEN SINCE START OF WAR

Berlin, Dec. 16, by Way of Sayville.—The official press bureau, in its budget given out to-day, has the following: 'The newspaper, 'Figaro,' of Paris, reports that the Belgian troops are suffering from typhoid, dysentery and cholera. Their casualties since the commencement of the war have been 25,000 killed, 52,000 wounded, 35,000 captured and now prisoners in Germany and 32,000 interned in Holland. 'Major Morhat, in the 'Tagblatt,' points out that the Austrian offensive in West Galicia proves that harmony of action prevails between the Austrians and Germans. The Austrian successes between Cracow and Nowytsandec, he says, has a highly important strategic bearing, not only diverting the Russian left wing, but endangering it if it does not retire.'

KHEDIVE GOES TO VIENNA TO CONFER WITH THE AUSTRIANS

London, Dec. 16, 10.10 A. M.—A dispatch to the 'Central News' from Constantinople via Amsterdam states that Khedive Abbas (Hilmi), of Egypt, has gone to Vienna for a conference with the Austrian authorities.

Austrians Pour Over Dukla Passes

London, Dec. 16, 4.10 A. M.—Telegraphing from Petrograd the 'Times' correspondent says: 'Austrian columns are pouring over the Dukla passes (Carpathian mountains) into Galicia. Grand Duke Nicholas records this fact without the slightest comment and the consensus of military opinion here indicates his attitude of complete equanimity.'

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THESE FANCY INITIAL TUMBLERS

were never sold in the ordinary way at such a low price. You may now obtain this set at a nominal cost by clipping the coupon which appears on page 2 in this issue and by presenting it, with 48 cents, at the office of

THE STAR-INDEPENDENT

If wanted by mail, 10 cents extra.

PRISONER INHERITS \$8,000

His Wife, Trenton Trained Nurse, Leaves Him a Snug Estate

Elizabeth, N. J., Dec. 16.—Through the death of his wife, who was a trained nurse in Trenton, Charles Botke, a prisoner in the county jail, inherits an estate estimated to be worth more than \$8,000.

Willie Wants to Know

'Pa, how can guns kick when they have no legs?' 'Don't ask absurd questions.' 'Guns haven't any legs, have they, pa?' 'Certainly not.'

SCENE OF BRITISH SUBMARINE EXPLOIT



greater. The raid by the U-9, however, was made in the open sea, in home waters, where the danger from mines was all on the side of her victims. The feat of the B-11 has served to convince the British public of one fact concerning which there might have been a lingering doubt. It is that the efficiency of the British submarine is as great as that of the German, and that when opportunity presents itself the British commanders may be relied upon to dare as great dangers as have hitherto been dreamed of.

of the German submarine U-9, which sent the British cruisers Cressy, Aboukir and Hogue to their doom off Heligoland in September, the B-11's feat is regarded in England as much