

Democratic Watchman

Bellefonte, Pa., October 9, 1931.

Your Health

THE FIRST CONCERN.



Don't pass lightly over this column and when you have finished reading, don't let Mrs. Fisher's thoughts on Eugenics and Race Betterment pass lightly out of your mind. There is possibly not a reader in this community who has not visited or heard about the calorimeter at State College as it has long been considered the most interesting research work being carried on there. Every farmer nowadays strives to raise blooded stock, poultry, even better and bigger tomatos, zinnias, dahlias, etc., and evolution into something better and finer is the goal for everything but Better Blooded Children! Shouldn't that be the most important problem for this "cocky" American nation to attack? One hundred years of promiscuous breeding has brought what? Let's try one hundred years of wise selection!

By Florence Fisher Parry

Twenty grand, Top Flight, Gallant Fox, Princess Doreen, do these names mean anything to you? Did you think of them when you sat at the Penn and watched that epic picture of the race track, "Sporting Blood"? I did. I thought of how they proved the case of Heredity. The Whites know all about heredity. So do all horse fanciers and dog fanciers and cattle fanciers. They know close to the line when it comes to picking the forerunners of their favorites. "Blood tells," they could tell you.

It was just one phase of social research which the Wickersham Commission neglected to report adequately when it gave its findings on the Crime situation in the United States.

I listened in on Sunday to a broadcast from Philadelphia, by Dr. John M. Fisher, on "Heredity, Environment and the Development of Character." I couldn't get it down very well, I wish I could have done so. I should have liked to give you a literal report of what he said. Some of it could make scare-heads tremble over! For it outlined pretty clearly just where we are leading in our heedless disregard for the fundamental principles of biology.

He reminded us that we have more money, more machinery, more novies, radios, autos and luxuries of every description than can be found in all the countries of Europe. We have more colleges, more students, more children without parental guidance, more divorces, more state and civic political debauchery, more highway robberies, murders; we boast more laws, courts and jails; and, correspondingly, we have more thousands of "better trades" of delinquents who are at large reproducing their kind.

He reminded us that the insane and hopelessly feeble-minded in public institutions in the United States outnumber the sick and injured in all the hospitals of our country, even without our reckoning with the herodes of the economically well-to-do in private sanitariums, and many thousands of the "better trades" of delinquents who are at large reproducing their kind.

What accounts for the constantly mounting social depravity, lawlessness and crimes of every description that are afflicting the nation? Dr. Fisher is ready with his answer: "During the eighties and nineties a greater part of the present century, our legislative fathers permitted steamship companies, for purposes of realizing instant profit, together with mining corporations and sheep labor agencies, to bring to our shores the lowest denizens of other Europe; and the injection of the biologic inferiors of Europe overted a controllable condition into a malignant one.

When our immigration laws were their worst was when the damage was started and is still piling up its scores. An American inured of one of his European friends, "Why, is it that Italy suffers less from high crimes than America, while so much of the criminality of our own country is chargeable to many of your own race?" The native replied, "We send you all of our criminals." What he could have said was, "While you secure a limited number of our better stock, we send our feeble-minded who reproduce their kind and infect your people with their lowered heredity through their inferior germ-plasm."

How a good biologic inheritance may be handed down through successive generations, and how, on the other hand, it may be dissipated and submerged by the same process through contrasting matings, is illustrated by the Killik family well known to all students of heredity.

More than 150 years ago, Martin Killik, of excellent biologic background, married a woman of heroic ancestry and superior endowment. A total of 496 descendants of this stock have been traced. Among them have been signers of the declaration of Independence, university founders, doctors, lawyers, judges, educators, and other highly useful members of society, up to the present day. There has been found no trace of feeble-mindedness.

WASHINGTON FOUGHT HIS FIRST BATTLE ON PENNSYLVANIA SOIL.

The Young Colonel Started the French and Indian War near Uniontown. "Fort Necessity" to be Restored and Made a National Shrine.

Last Tuesday, the Acting Secretary of War, Honorable Fred H. Payne and the national director of the George Washington Bicentennial Commission, Congressman Sol Bloom, journeyed up from Washington to a point ten miles east of Uniontown and there, in a great open meadow, broke ground as a preliminary to the erection of a monument which will build on the site of George Washington's first battle. "Fort Necessity," the young Washington called it, and surely he regarded it as a dire necessity for he was being pressed hard by a force of French and Indians five times the size of his command.

When those two officials made that trip from Washington to break ground for the monument, they followed, for most of the way, the route that young Colonel Washington followed when he led his forces up from Virginia. With this difference, however, they went in six hours, while it took Washington eight weeks to make his way through the woods and over the mountains.

The historical significance of the battle of Fort Necessity in 1754, or the Battle of Great Meadows as it is sometimes called, is very great. Voltaire says it was "the shot fired in the woods of America which set all Europe ablaze" for it was the beginning of the Seven Years War in Europe which rebuilt the map of the old world.

It was also the beginning of the French and Indian War on this continent which ended by eliminating the French as a colonizing influence in North America and decreed that the new nation should be Anglo-Saxon.

It was the young George Washington's first battle. Here he was sixty wilderness miles away from his base, but the courage and resourcefulness which he showed so impressed the officers under him that one of them twenty years later nominated Washington before the Continental Congress to be Commander-in-Chief of the Revolutionary army.

The young Colonel Washington himself was so impressed by the importance of this battle, that he came back after the close of the war and bought the entire Great Meadows property of three hundred and thirty four acres and held it until his death, and disposed of it in his will as one of his prized possessions.

It is this same property, once owned by the Father of our Country, which the State of Pennsylvania has recently purchased for the purpose of maintaining it as a State park. The central two acres, on which Fort Necessity itself stood (and the outlines are still visible) have been acquired by the United States government and money has been appropriated by Congress to erect a monument there. It was at the ground-breaking for this monument where the Acting Secretary of War officiated last Tuesday.

The Pennsylvania Department of the American Legion has voted to provide the funds for restoring the old fort itself, to appear just as it did when Washington built it one hundred and seventy seven years ago. The Daughters of the American Revolution and the Sons of the American Revolution and other patriotic and fraternal organizations are aiding in other phases of the memorial. The school children in most of the counties of Western Pennsylvania are planning to give their small coins also to the creation of a great patriotic shrine at Fort Necessity.

This will be the only memorial of its kind to Washington and to the colonial period of our nation west of the Alleghenies and it is estimated that when the Fort Necessity memorial park is completed, it will attract about a million visitors a year. For it is on one of the most traveled highways in the country.

On the other hand, this scion of good blood before his marriage to the woman of quality, had an affair with an attractive but feeble-minded girl. The result was the submergence of the superior male potentials by the dominating inferiority of the girl. For six successive generations this union produced feeble-minded and non-resisting progeny. A total of 480 descendants have been traced, 143 were known to be feeble-minded, 36 were illegitimate, 33 sexual perverts, 24 confirmed alcoholics, three epileptics, three criminals, eight keepers of brothels, and 83 children so feeble that they died in infancy.

Upon our choice of a partner may depend, therefore, the birth of a genius who may live to bless mankind, or that of a future jail bird. Better citizens cannot be made with laws alone. Biologic knowledge, eugenic practices, will do far more to minister to and rehabilitate the citizens of this country, than all the social relief organizations, hospitals, asylums, charity and so-called education can hope to do. Until that day comes, we need not be surprised at the contents of succeeding "Wickersham" reports.

LAWMAKERS DISCLOSE SOME OF THE PROBLEMS OF GAME CONTROL.

In an open letter to sportsmen and others interested the House committee on game gives a very comprehensive view of some of the problems which confront the lawmakers in dealing with a problem, the growing importance of which has made it close to almost every citizen of the Commonwealth. The statement follows:

"As the House committee on game, we are entrusted with a serious responsibility and a task of no small difficulty. "It may be doubted if there is a single department of state governmental administration concerning which there are so many divergent and conflicting opinions. Our Pennsylvania wild life has become a matter of very real importance and intimately touches the imagination and the recreational activities of every citizen, man, woman and child; nearly everyone has some pet theory or deep seated conviction that they desire to see put into practice and which they fondly believe would prove their wisdom and capacity to propagate, maintain and conserve our wild animals and birds.

"Many estimable persons become obsessed with a notion that this or that thing is radically wrong; that this or that is the true and only remedy and should be put into practice forthwith; the customary panacea "There ought to be a law" suggests itself, and soon another game bill is introduced. Each session we are flooded with a number of new bills widely divergent in character, often conflicting in terms, and usually inconsistent in purpose with the game code; often they betray a regrettable lack of knowledge on the part of the farmers, and in all too many instances would, if enacted, do more harm than good.

"It is unfortunate and a burden of expense on the Commonwealth, that so much of the time and activity of this committee and of the business sessions of the Assembly should be taken up in the consideration and disposal of bills which obviously could not and should not be enacted. With a view towards eliminating so much lost motion, to reduce the number of useless and unwise bills introduced, and to conserve the time and efforts of this committee, it seems to us appropriate that we should undertake, by means of a resolution to be adopted by this committee and to be generally circulated and given statewide publicity as a matter of public information and of decided educational value, to bring about a better understanding of game problems and game administration, and a more efficient cooperation among and between the public, the game commission and the Legislature.

"We appeal to the people of the State, sportsmen, nature-lovers, and all who are interested in conservation and the propagation and maintenance of our wild life, whenever they observe faults or defects in local application of the game code, or an apparent need for supplementary laws, to ever bear in mind that conditions vary widely in different sections of the State, and what you might justifiably regard as desirable and beneficial in your own locality, might be wholly inappropriate and harmful in other districts. In a great State such as Pennsylvania, highly industrialized, with extensive and productive agricultural interests spread over much of the State, with great urban centers, and thousands of busy and thriving cities and towns, yet having millions of acres of forests and waters, wild lands, much of it comparatively sterile and unfitted for cultivation, with mountains and plains, with wide differences in climatic conditions, it is obvious that uniform laws and regulations, rigidly applied, could not possibly be equally satisfactory and beneficial to all parts of the State. There must be a considerable range of flexibility, as every reasonable person will freely admit.

"Recognizing this condition, the State Legislature has sought to provide a solution of the difficulty by what seems the only practical method, which is to delegate certain discretionary powers to the State game commission so that this commission might modify or suspend certain provisions of the game code in townships or counties where conditions appeared to require it. Successful game administration on so vast a scale as in the great State of Pennsylvania is a highly specialized undertaking, and, as in all human activities, some mistakes are unavoidable; but with an attitude of reasonable patience on the part of the public, with the patriotic cooperation of interested sportsmen, all mistakes of omission or commission will speedily become apparent and quickly be corrected.

"On the whole, the present game code has proven to be the best piece of constructive legislation ever yet devised for the welfare and propagation of wild life and to promote recreational sports in modern civilized areas. Of course, it is reasonable to expect that some modifications, eliminations or additions will become advisable from time to time, but these should be carefully considered, thoroughly discussed, and enacted only after cool and deliberate reflection.

"We urge that sportsmen and citizens interested in our wild life who have grievances, or who have constructive proposals to present, to first enlist the support of local sportsmen, and then take the matter up direct with the game commission before appealing to the Legislature.

"We counsel the game commission to use every effort to work in the fullest harmony with sportsmen, particularly in the game areas where public opinion is most apt to be formed from experience and personal observation and therefore likely to be dependable and useful.

"Regarding the State as a whole,

there has been a fairly consistent increase in game over the past decade, and the problem of natural food supply for game is becoming of grave and pressing importance. More attention to the supplying of this need must be given by the game commission and interested sportsmen; local cooperation in this direction will be especially beneficial.

"Protection of farmers and orchardists from damage by game is a problem not yet satisfactorily solved. An amicable and unbiased consideration and discussion by all parties at interest is urged, so that a practical and satisfactory solution may be adopted.

"Safety to human life must always be regarded as of first importance in the framing of game laws and in the operation of game administration; this primary consideration should never be overlooked.

"We do not have, and are quite unlikely to have, too much game in Pennsylvania. It is to be hoped that, under wise care and intelligent supervision, the present supply may be gradually and substantially increased; equitable distribution throughout favorable game areas is the constant problem which will require the best thought and sincere cooperation of all parties concerned.

"Now therefore, be it resolved, by the game committee of the House, session of 1931, General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, that this preamble and resolution be printed as a public document of educational value and economic service, in such numbers as may be required for state-wide circulation to schools, sportsmen's organizations and Granges, to all members of the Assembly and other interested parties, under supervision of the secretary of this committee.

"Unanimously adopted by the game committee of the House of Representatives May 26, 1931."

700 FRESHMEN START EDUCATION "A LA MODE."

More than 700 especially selected "smarter freshmen" were ordered to meet to hear President Robert Maynard Hutchins outline the new system of education at Chicago University.

The command was, it was said, about the only "order" these "smarter freshmen" are likely to receive during the first year of their college careers.

When the youths have been told what they are to do, the rest will be almost entirely up to them, according to Hutchins' new plan. They will go to class when they feel like it, read books that interest them, confer with professors when they like, and, in fact, if they wish to do so, go about the task of becoming educated in a manner so revolutionary as to appear to the uninitiated as being rather "free and easy."

There is, a "catch" for the freshman who accepts the plan too literally. The student who does not make an apparent advance in intellectual proficiency will receive no credits and no reward for his time in college.

"Millions to help get an education, but not one cent to force one" that is, in short, the plan of the youthful president.

The system is based primarily on a theory that an intelligent, ambitious youth wants to be educated and that it is useless to try to force learning on him if his thoughts run entirely to other things.

TO PIPE COAL AND SAVE TRANSPORTATION

Lehigh Navigation Coal company engineers are experimenting with transportation of pulverized anthracite by pipe line as a means of reducing transportation costs.

Reports of the experiments show that the engineers have developed a method of pulverizing smaller sizes of anthracite, moving the product in a semi-liquid state through a pipe line for a considerable distance and drying it at its destination.

The method is expected to reduce materially the delivery price of coal.

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Employers, This Interests You

The Workman's Compensation Law went into effect Jan. 1, 1916. It makes insurance compulsory. We specialize in placing such insurance. We inspect plants and recommend Accident Prevention Safe Guards which Reduce Insurance rates.

It will be to your interest to consult us before placing your insurance.

JOHN F. GRAY & SON State College Bellefonte

IRA D. GARMAN JEWELER

1420 Chestnut St., PHILADELPHIA Have Your Diamonds Reset in Plantium 74-77-78 Exclusive Emblem Jewelry

FOR SALE.—Real estate consisting of dwelling house and double house in Bellefonte. Estate of Margaret Hutcheson. The FIRST NATIONAL BANK of Bellefonte, Pa., Executor 76-30-31

Trustees' Sale of Valuable Real Estate.

By virtue of an order of the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County, Pennsylvania, the Moshannon National Bank of Philadelphia, Pa., Trustees under mortgage of the Highland Clay Products Company, will expose to public sale at the front entrance of the Court House Building in Centre County, Pennsylvania, on Friday, October 23, 1931, 2:00 o'clock P. M. the following described property:

1. BEGINNING: two certain tracts of land situate in the Township of Rush, County of Centre and State of Pennsylvania, bounded and described as follows:— (1) A certain tract of land situate in the Township of Rush, County of Centre and State of Pennsylvania, bounded and described as follows:— a certain tract of land situate in the Township of Rush, County of Centre and State of Pennsylvania, bounded and described as follows:— a certain tract of land situate in the Township of Rush, County of Centre and State of Pennsylvania, bounded and described as follows:—

2. BEGINNING at a point in the centre of branch railroad as now located and running to Kelly mine tipple and on line of right of way of Pennsylvania Division of the N. Y. C. Railroad; thence by same said right of way North 45 degrees 28 minutes West 82.6 feet to a post; thence by same North 47 degrees 51 minutes West 100 feet to a post; thence by same North 51 degrees West 126.4 feet to a post on South bank of Moshannon Creek; thence down bank of said creek South 32 degrees East 27.4 feet to a post; thence by same North 27 degrees 57 minutes East 40 degrees 45 minutes East 91 feet to a post; thence by same North 30 degrees 41 minutes East 134.8 feet to a post; thence by same North 22 degrees 58 minutes East 69.7 feet to a post on line of lands formerly Berton Merritt and now owned by said lands and lands of Martha E. 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Railroad; thence by same said right of way North 45 degrees 28 minutes West 82.6 feet to a post; thence by same North 47 degrees 51 minutes West 100 feet to a post; thence by same North 51 degrees West 126.4 feet to a post on South bank of Moshannon Creek; thence down bank of said creek South 32 degrees East 27.4 feet to a post; thence by same North 27 degrees 57 minutes East 40 degrees 45 minutes East 91 feet to a post; thence by same North 30 degrees 41 minutes East 134.8 feet to a post; thence by same North 22 degrees 58 minutes East 69.7 feet to a post on line of lands formerly Berton Merritt and now owned by said lands and lands of Martha E. 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