8. Development of imagination:—In making pictures. Part of a costume sufficient for the whole.

The children really lived the parts, and aside from visible outgrowths of the activity, there were many that have made a lasting impression. Ability to speak before a crowd without embarrassment, self-expression, freedom of thought and action, discernment and ability to give and take equally as well were all developed. The things accomplished lead on and up and the work just completed will be a valuable step in the work of the children and will largely affect the work they do in other grades.

Bertha McCollum.

TEACHING BANDAGING IN TWO WEEKS

How thirty pupils could learn to apply correctly twelve different kinds of bandages in two weeks was my problem. Realizing that bandaging is one thing that must be learned by doing, I divided the class into groups and had each group strive for a goal. This plan the pupils accepted with much interest. They elected six members of the class to be captains of the groups. These captains chose their groups, consisting of about five or six members each.

All of the groups started to work with much vim, first watching me apply three different kinds of bandages. At the beginning of each day I applied several new bandages until all twelve kinds had been demonstrated.

Each captain made a score card, putting the names of the twelve different kinds of bandages across the top and the names of the members of the group down the left side of the card. As soon as a pupil put one bandage on correctly, a check was put by his name under that bandage. A check could not be given until the teacher sustained the judgment of the group leader on the bandage.

A large poster, with the names of the bandages across the top, but with names of the groups down the left side, was placed in the class room. This was done so all the pupils could see the work of each group.

When all of the members of one group got a check for a certain bandage, the group was awarded a star, which was placed on the large poster. The group working most quietly each day was also awarded a star.

At the close of the two weeks, when all had about completed the bandaging, we had a contest between the groups. Two members from each group were elected by the group to take part in the contest, one to do the bandaging and one to act as patient.

All six groups were given the same kind of bandage, and when the signal was given they started work. The judges took into consideration the neatness of the bandage and the length of time it took to apply it. Group Four, girls, and Group Six, boys, were the winners.

The thirty pupils were interested throughout the entire time and, moreover, accomplished a great deal of work.

Elizabeth Collins

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SELECTIVE IMMIGRATION

Immigration an Investment in Family Stocks

Our immigration policy in the past has been too much a matter of temporary economic or political expediency. One of the most encouraging recent developments is the rapidly growing conviction on the part of our people that, as Dr. H. H. McLaughlin has stated it, “immigration is a long-time investment in family stocks rather than a short-time investment in productive labor.”

The Two Fundamental Principles in Immigration Legislation

Two essential and fundamental principles should be recognized in our future immigration legislation. The first is numerical limitation. The second is careful selection within the established limits.

Suggestions for New Legislation: I. Percentage Limitation Based on the 1890 Census

Americans have been doing a good deal of serious thinking on the question of their future immigration policy. It is a difficult problem, but public opinion is crystallizing around
these three points: (1) Never again is there to be an unlimited inflow of cheap alien labor; (2) a numerical limitation of immigration is here to stay; (3) there must be a careful selection of our immigrants within the fixed limits. To accomplish these ends we should have (1) percentage limitation, based on the census of 1890, and (2) some form of over-seas inspection. A definite numerical limitation has long been advocated by authorities on immigration. The conviction that the census of 1890 should be used as the basis of any percentage law has been growing rapidly all over the country. Since there were fewer southeastern Europeans here in 1890 than in 1910, a percentage provision based on the former census would decidedly cut down the numbers of such immigrants. This provision would change the character of immigration, and hence of our future population, by bringing about a preponderance of immigration of the stock which originally settled this country. On the whole, immigrants from northwestern Europe furnish us the best material for American citizenship and for the future upbuilding of the American race. They have higher living standards than the bulk of the immigrants from other lands; average higher in intelligence; are better educated; more skilled; and are on the whole better able to understand, appreciate and support our form of government. A percentage limitation based on the 1890 census is sound American policy, based on historical facts. It is not here a question of racial superiority of northwestern Europeans. It is simply a question as to which of these two groups of aliens as a whole is best fitted by tradition, political background, customs, social organization, education and habits of thought to adjust itself to American institutions and to American economic and social conditions; to become, in short, an adaptable, homogeneous and helpful element in our American national life. As President Coolidge tersely expressed it in his recent message to Congress: “America must be kept American.”

The country at large has been greatly impressed by the results of the Army intelligence tests made during the war, which have been carefully analyzed by Lieut. Col. R. M. Yerkes, Dr. C. C. Brigham and others. That recent immigrants from northern and western Europe make significantly higher scores, on the average, than do immigrants from southern and eastern Europe seems established. Along with the shift of the past few decades in the tide of immigration from northern and western Europe to southern and eastern Europe, there has gone a decrease in intelligence test scores of the immigrants entering this country. The experts who have analyzed the statistics and who have tested the tests believe that the responses on the tests give as accurate a measure of intelligence as is possible at the present time. The questions making up the examination were selected with a view to measuring innate ability rather than acquired information and education. In addition, individuals who were handicapped by a lack of knowledge of the language due to shortness of residence in this country or for other causes, were given performance or non-language tests, which eliminated this factor. While some persons are sceptical about these results, it seems clear that the majority of those who have gone into the matter are satisfied that the conclusions reached are essentially sound, and that certain important facts regarding the intelligence of our immigrants have been established.

Experts have told us that had mental tests been in operation, and had the “inferior” and “very inferior” immigrants been refused admission to the United States, over 6,000,000 aliens now living in this country, free to vote, and to become the fathers and mothers of future Americans, would never have been admitted. The facts are known. It is high time for the American people to put a stop to such degradation of American citizenship, and such a wrecking of the future American race.

Dr. H. H. Laughlin, Assistant Director of the Eugenics Record Office, a department of the Carnegie Institute (Washington), has recently made a very thorough investigation of the “socially inadequate” groups in 445 state institutions housing the feeble-minded, insane, criminals and delinquents, epileptics, blind, deaf, deformed and dependent. This investigation was for and under the auspices of the Committee on Immigration and Naturalization of the 67th Congress, and published in the Hearings before that Committee. Of the institutional population thus studied, 44% was either of foreign birth or had one or both parents foreign-born. These
figures take no account of the foreign socially inadequate in private institutions, or supported by private charity outside of institutions. Dr. Laughlin’s studies bring out another very striking and important fact, viz., that immigrants from northwestern Europe on the whole contribute far less in proportion to our alien socially inadequate institutional population than do those from southeastern Europe.

A percentage limitation based on the census of 1890 would therefore not only reduce (1) the inflow of unskilled, “cheap” labor, but would also greatly reduce (2) the number of immigrants of the lower grades of intelligence and (3) of immigrants who are making excessive contribution to our feebleminded, insane, criminal and other socially inadequate classes. Percentage limitation based on the 1890 census therefore is the simplest, most logical and most effective means readily at hand for accomplishing all three of these very necessary things. The original argument in favor of the percentage law was economic. The fundamental reason for its continuance is biological.

Consular Certificates for Intending Immigrants

We need both (1) a far more effective system of inspection at our own ports, and of (2) some sort of preliminary selection overseas. The former requires larger appropriations and more and better paid inspectors, both general and medical. The latter has for years been advocated as necessary and humane—a benefit to the United States and a means of preventing unnecessary hardship to the alien. Consular certificates should be required of each intending immigrant before he starts on his voyage. This certificate should contain answers to questions essentially the same as are asked of the immigrant on his arrival at our ports, as well as full information about his health, civic record, political activities and character, and the general standing and health of the immigrant’s family. It should include a statement from the responsible police authorities of the immigrant’s residential city or district that the applicant has not been convicted of crime (other than political), and should be verified before a United States consular officer abroad. While there would undoubtedly be many cases of perjury and of fraud in this connection, there can be no question that a very great many undesirable aliens, excluded by law, would be headed off by our consuls when application was made. Such a certificate plan would reduce hardships to the absolute minimum; avoid the division of families; save the nationals of other countries the expense, perils and hardships of the ocean trip to the United States only to find that for some reason the immigrant or some member of his family can not enter. Certificates should be issued only up to the numbers allowed by the quotas, and should be good for six months, so that if an alien came at any time within that period he would not be denied admission as being in excess of the quota allowance. This provision would also stop the rush of aliens at the beginning of each month, and would make possible a more deliberate and more thorough medical inspection—an improvement very greatly to be desired. Under this plan the real inspection, medical and otherwise, would be made at our own ports, as it should be, but most of the aliens who would be excluded on examination here would never start on their journey. The certificate plan, then, would, through the preliminary selection overseas, benefit the United States. It would also very greatly diminish the hardships of the alien. It is selective. And it is humane.

Mental Tests for Immigrants

If our future population is to be prevented from deteriorating, physically and mentally, higher physical standards must be required of all immigrants. In addition no alien should be admitted who has not an intellectual capacity superior to the American average. Aliens should be required to obtain a passing score of, say, the median in the Alpha test, or the corresponding equivalent score in other approved tests, these tests to be given in the native tongue of the immigrant. Further, if possible, aliens whose family history indicates that they come of unsound stock should be debarred.

Requirement of Cash Bonds When Aliens Are Admitted on Appeal

The general Immigration Act of 1917 gives the Secretary of Labor authority to admit certain classes of aliens under bonds. In theory, this is a humane provision. In prac-
tice, it has resulted in the admission in past years, of many thousands of aliens who had been certified by competent medical examiners as having such mental or physical defects as constituted them potential public charges, or otherwise highly undesirable elements in our population. The bonds are usually taken out through a surety company by a relative or friend of the admitted alien, or by an immigrant aid society. These bonds, in most cases, are worthless. For many reasons, in which the relative or friend plays the chief part, the alien admitted on "appeal" is soon "lost." Changes of residence, changes of name, and removal to another state are common schemes for bringing this about. In many cases the relatives or friends are willing enough to care for the admitted alien for a time, but soon lose interest in him, and are perfectly willing to have their bonded fellow-countryman taken care of by the community. A large percentage of all bonded aliens have violated and forfeited their bonds and are in the United States, some in public institutions; some supported more or less of the time in public institutions; some supported more or less of the time by public or private charity; most of them at large, a social menace, themselves in many cases mentally defective, they produce mentally inferior children.

This very serious situation, recognized as such by all competent authorities on immigration, should be at once remedied. Aliens should be admitted on appeal over the heads of the medical examiners only in very rare and exceptional cases, and in such cases cash bonds in substantial sums, say $1,000 or more, should be required. This money should be held at interest in the U. S. Postal Savings Bank. If, at the end of five years, the alien has proved to be a self-supporting and desirable citizen, the principal and interest should be returned to him. If, on the other hand, he has become a public charge or is otherwise undesirable, the money should be used to help pay the expenses of his maintenance, and to deport him. The present "paper" bonding system has worked incalculable injury to our population.

Madison Grant, Chairman.