

prostitution, illegitimacy, and poverty would be simplified. His proposal that the Federal authorities give unlimited powers to qualified officials, trained psychiatrists, to deal with the question in a scientific way will cause differences of opinion, but there can be no protest against his insistence on a more rigid system of inspecting immigrants at points of debarkation. He says that many immigrants whose mental defectiveness would have been detected by the veriest tyro in psychiatry passed the ordinary tests successfully and have become burdens on the country. If Canada is to experience another stream of immigration, these precautions will be indispensable to a sound process of nation-building.

AN IMMIGRATION PROBLEM.

Canada has found during and since the war that in her period of expansion she admitted some very troublesome and ungrateful people from continental Europe. It is not possible to detect all of this class by official immigration tests, but there is an other undesirable type which could be excluded if proper safeguards were employed. In a communication printed on this page Dr. C. E. Clarke, Medical Director of the Canadian National Committee for Mental Hygiene, gives some positive testimony of the moral and physical dangers to which the country has exposed itself by an immigration policy more intent on quantitative than qualitative standards. A grave penalty is being paid for inattention to mental defectives. Dr. Clarke's examples are shocking, but they are so circumstantial that they cannot be gainsaid. A personal investigation of the cases of 269 unmarried mothers in Manitoba hospitals showed that only 25.76 per cent. of them were of Canadian birth, and a study of 266 similar cases in Ontario yielded strikingly similar results. Of the Ontario unfortunates only 26 could be classified as mentally normal. In 400 consecutive admissions to the jails in one Western Province only 23 per cent. were of Canadian birth; Austrians were 33 per cent. and Russians 11 per cent., although Austrians were only eight per cent. and Russians only one per cent. of the population. In the psychiatric clinic of the Toronto General Hospital 5,062 cases have been examined, and all were found insane or defective, with few exceptions.

Dr. Clarke's inquiries lead him to the conclusion that if defectives could be carefully eliminated the problems of criminality