

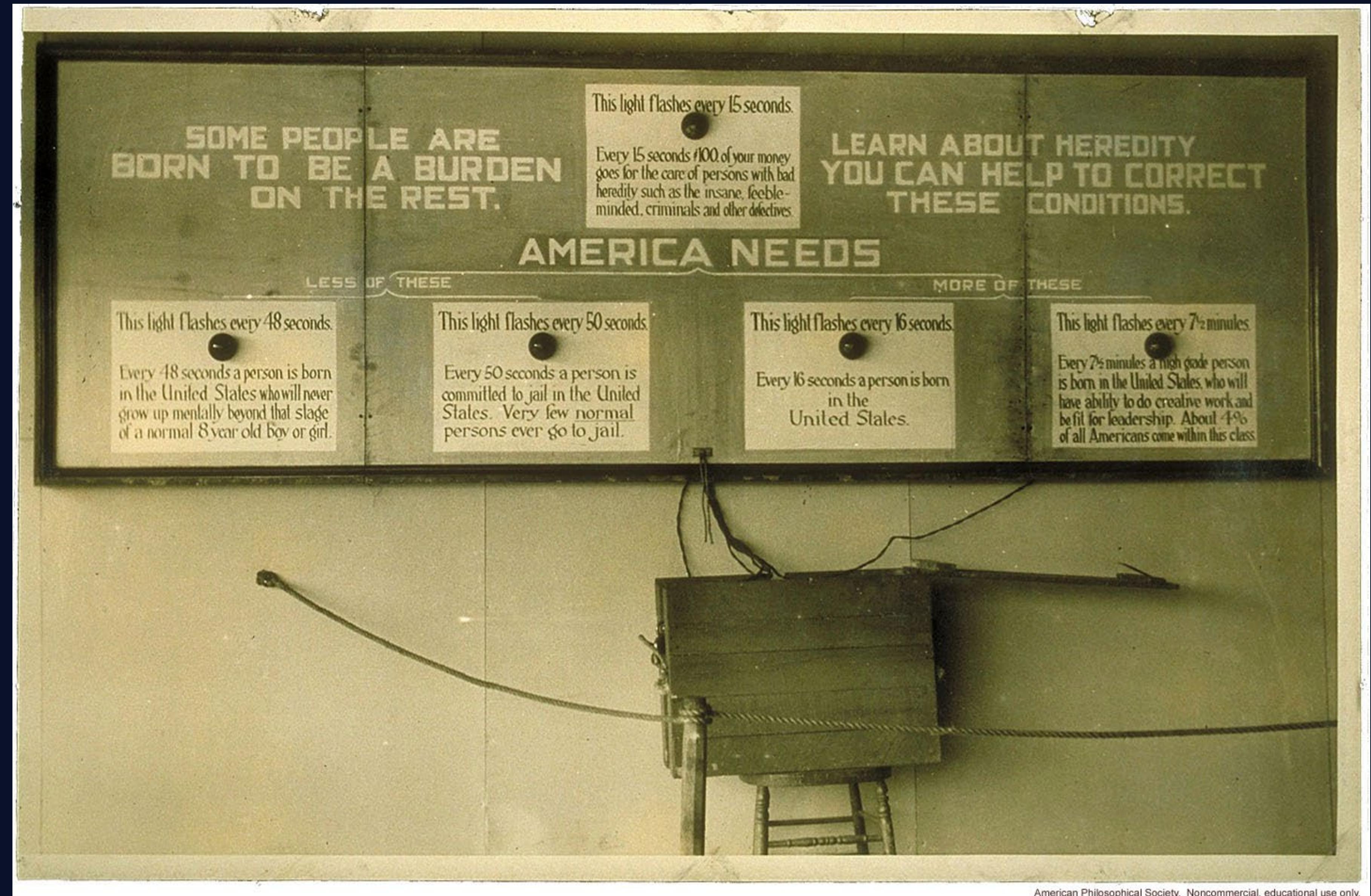
Using Primary Sources to Examine the History of Eugenics

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2020





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Photo by Emanuel Wolfe (1858-1933). Source: Nebraska State Historical Society, NSHS RG2836.PH0-532

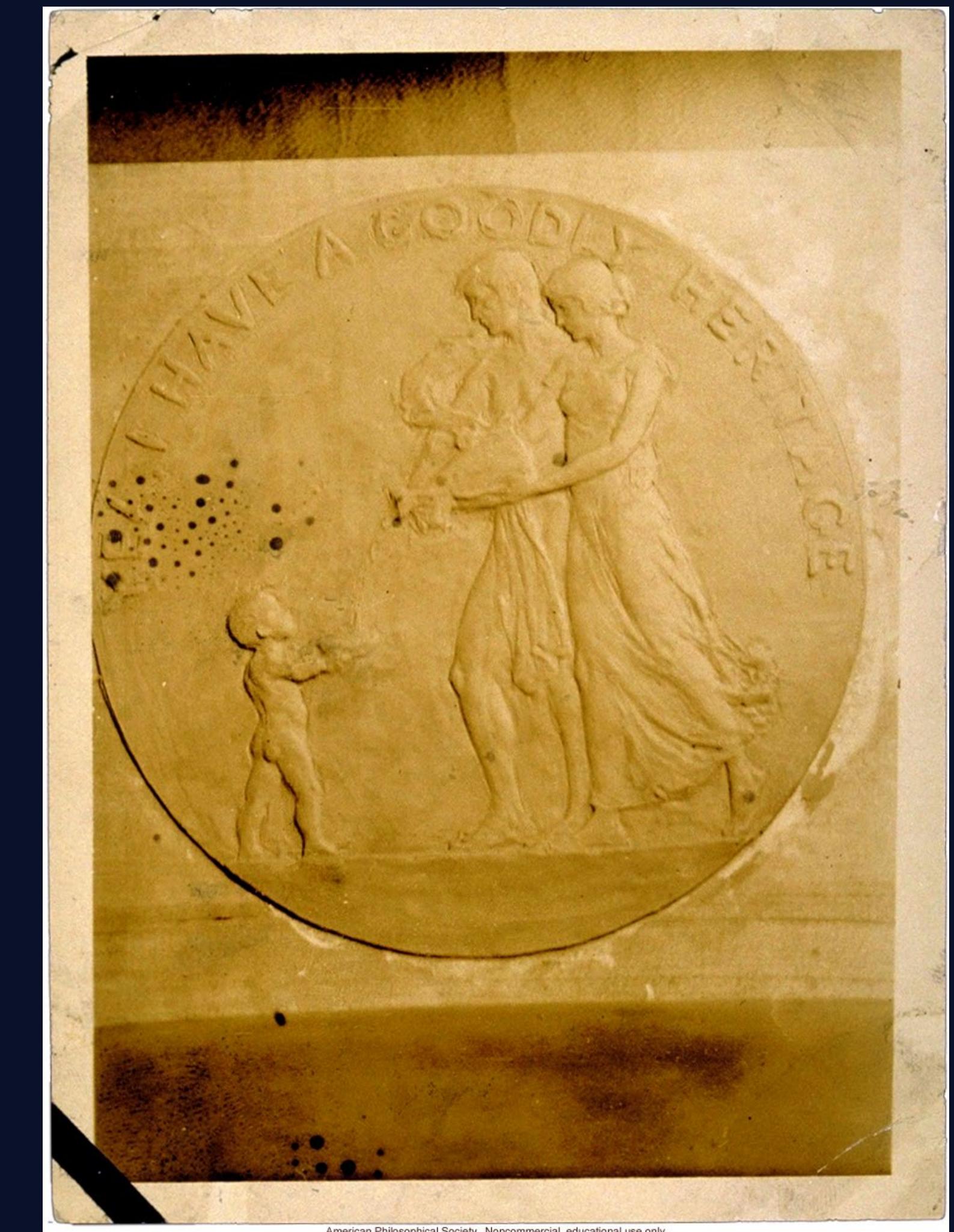


Photo: circa 1925. Source: American Philosophical Society, Fitter Families Collection, 2000.1301

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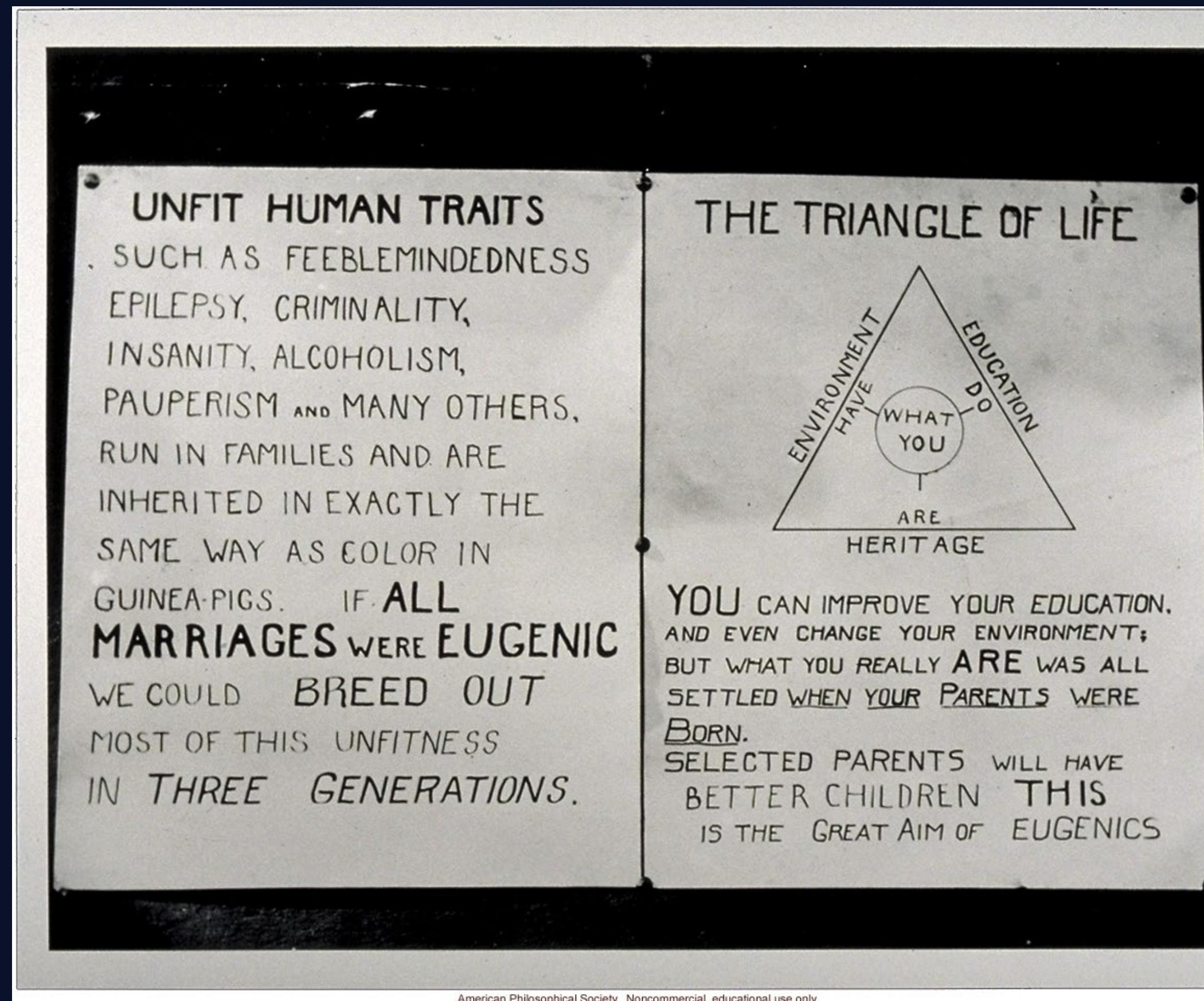


Photo: circa 1929. Source: American Philosophical Society, Fitter Families Collection, 2000.1285

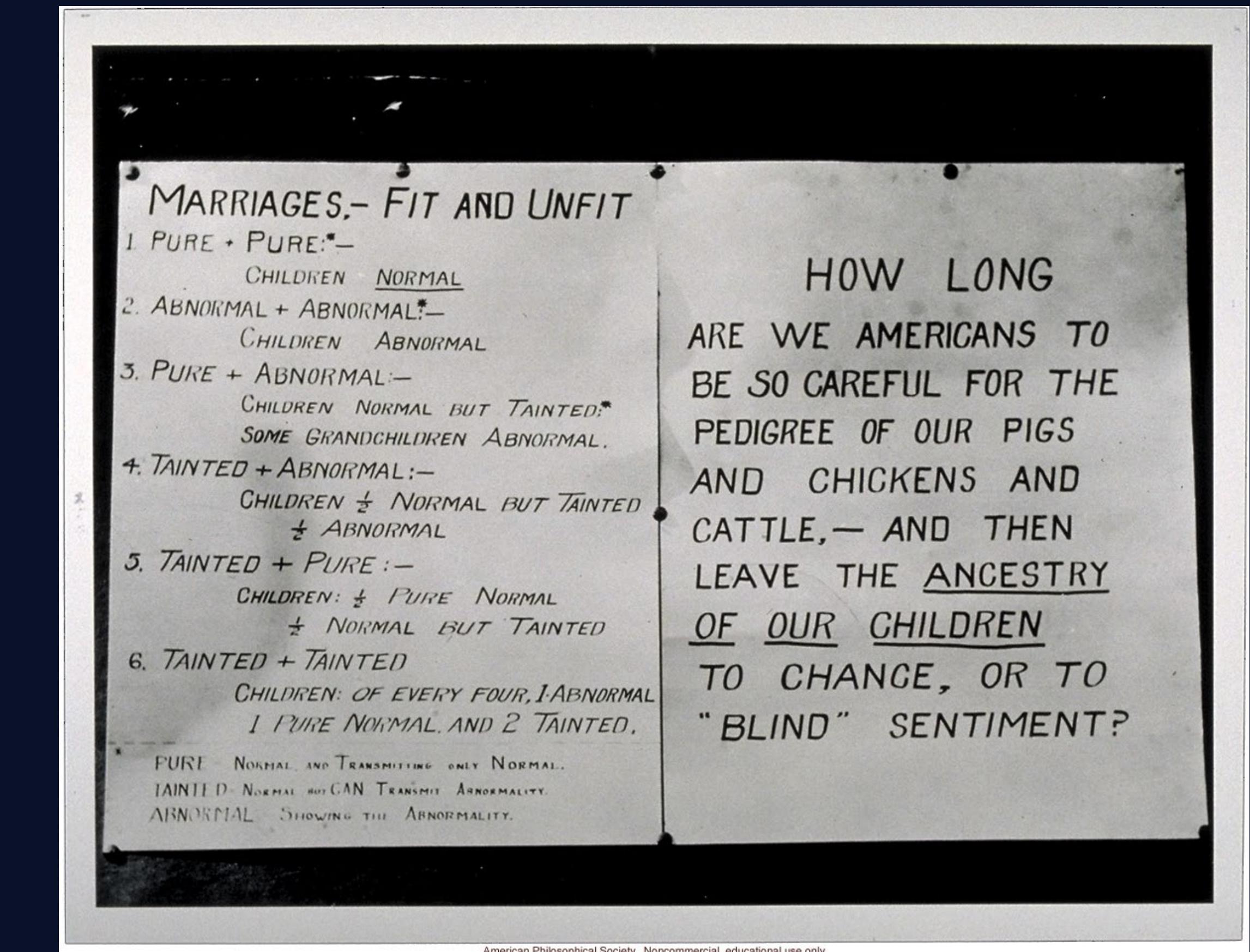


Photo: circa 1929. Source: American Philosophical Society, Fitter Families Collection, 2000.1284



Published in *Volk und Rasse*, August 1936. Source: Calvin College German Propaganda Archive

Translation German-English:

“Sterilization is liberation, not punishment”

“What parents would wish such a terrible fate for their children?”

“Who would want to be guilty of this?”

“Feeble-minded women are almost invariably immoral, and if at large usually become carriers of venereal disease or give birth to children who are as defective as themselves. The feeble-minded woman who marries is twice as prolific as the normal woman.”

W.E. Fernald (1912), from address
“The Burden Of Feeble-Mindedness”

Source: Boston Medical & Surgical Journal 166(25):911-915

“There is no class of persons in our whole population who, unit for unit, are so dangerous or so expensive to the state; this excepts no class, not even the violently insane. These girls are much more dangerous and expensive than the ordinary insane or the ordinary feeble-minded or the ordinary male criminal.

Why is this? They are dangerous because, being irresponsible wholly or in part, they become the prey of the lower class of vile men and are the most fertile source for the spread of all forms of venereal disease. They have not the sense nor the understanding to avoid disease nor any care as to its spread.

They are most expensive to the state because they are the most fruitful source of disease and mentally-defective children who are apt to become state charges.”

W.N. Bullard (1908), from article “The High-Grade Mental Defectives”

Source: Boston Medical & Surgical Journal 159:240-242

Quotes from the Supreme Court ruling *Buck v. Bell*, allowing forces sterilization by the government

"Carrie Buck is a feeble-minded white woman who was committed to the State Colony..."

"She is the daughter of a feeble-minded mother in the same institution, and the mother of an illegitimate feeble-minded child."

"The judgment finds the facts that have been recited and that Carrie Buck

is the probable potential parent of socially inadequate offspring, likewise afflicted, that she may be sexually sterilized without detriment to her general health and that her welfare and that of society will be promoted by her sterilization,

and thereupon makes the order."

"We have seen more than once that the public welfare may call upon the best citizens for their lives. It would be strange if it could not call upon those who already sap the strength of the State for these lesser sacrifices, often not felt to be such by those concerned, in order to prevent our being swamped with incompetence. It is better for all the world, if instead of waiting to execute degenerate offspring for crime, or to let them starve for their imbecility, society can prevent those who are manifestly unfit from continuing their kind. The principle that sustains compulsory vaccination is broad enough to cover cutting the Fallopian tubes."

"Three generations of imbeciles are enough."

Oliver Wendell Holmes, 1927

Buck v. Bell, 274 US 200 - Supreme Court 1927

STATE CRITERIA FOR LEGAL EUGENICAL STERILIZATION

STATE	TYPE OF PATIENT
Alabama	"Feebleminded."
Arizona	"Inmates of Hospital for Insane."
California	"Feebleminded, habitual criminals, insane, idiots, mental defectives."
Connecticut	"Feebleminded, insane, idiots, imbeciles and those with inherited tendency to crime."
Delaware	"Mentally defectives, insane, feebleminded or epileptic persons."
Idaho	"Feebleminded, insane, epileptics, habitual criminals, morally degenerate persons."
Indiana	"Hereditary insane, feebleminded or epileptic."
Iowa	"Feebleminded, insane, syphilitic, habitual criminals, morally degenerate persons."
Kansas	"Feebleminded, insane, habitual criminals."
Maine	"Feebleminded."
Michigan	"Mentally defectives, insane."
Minnesota	"Feebleminded, insane."
Mississippi	"Persons with hereditary form of insanity, feeble-mindedness, idiocy, epilepsy."
Montana	"Feebleminded, insane, epileptic."
Nebraska	"Insane and feebleminded."
New Hampshire	"Feeble-mindedness or certain forms of other mental diseases."
North Carolina	"Mentally defective persons."
North Dakota	"Feebleminded, insane, epileptic, habitual criminals, moral degenerates and sexual perverts."
Oklahoma	"Habitual criminals, hereditary feebleminded, insane, idiots, imbeciles, epileptics."
Oregon	"Feebleminded, insane, epileptic, habitual criminals, moral degenerates and sexual perverts."
South Carolina	"Hereditary form of insanity, idiocy, imbecility, feeble-mindedness or epilepsy."
South Dakota	"Feebleminded."
Utah	"Habitual criminals, insane, idiots, imbeciles, feebleminded, or epileptics."
Vermont	"Prevent procreation of idiots, imbeciles, feebleminded or insane persons."
Virginia	"Hereditary insanity, idiocy, imbecility, feeble-mindedness or epilepsy."
Washington	"Feebleminded, insane, epileptic, habitual criminals, moral degenerates and sexual perverts."
West Virginia	"Insanity, imbecility, epilepsy, idiocy, feeble-mindedness."
Wisconsin	"Insane, feebleminded, epileptic and criminal persons."



Image Courtesy of The Museum of disABILITY History, Buffalo, NY



Image: circa 1924. Source: Robert Bogdan Collection

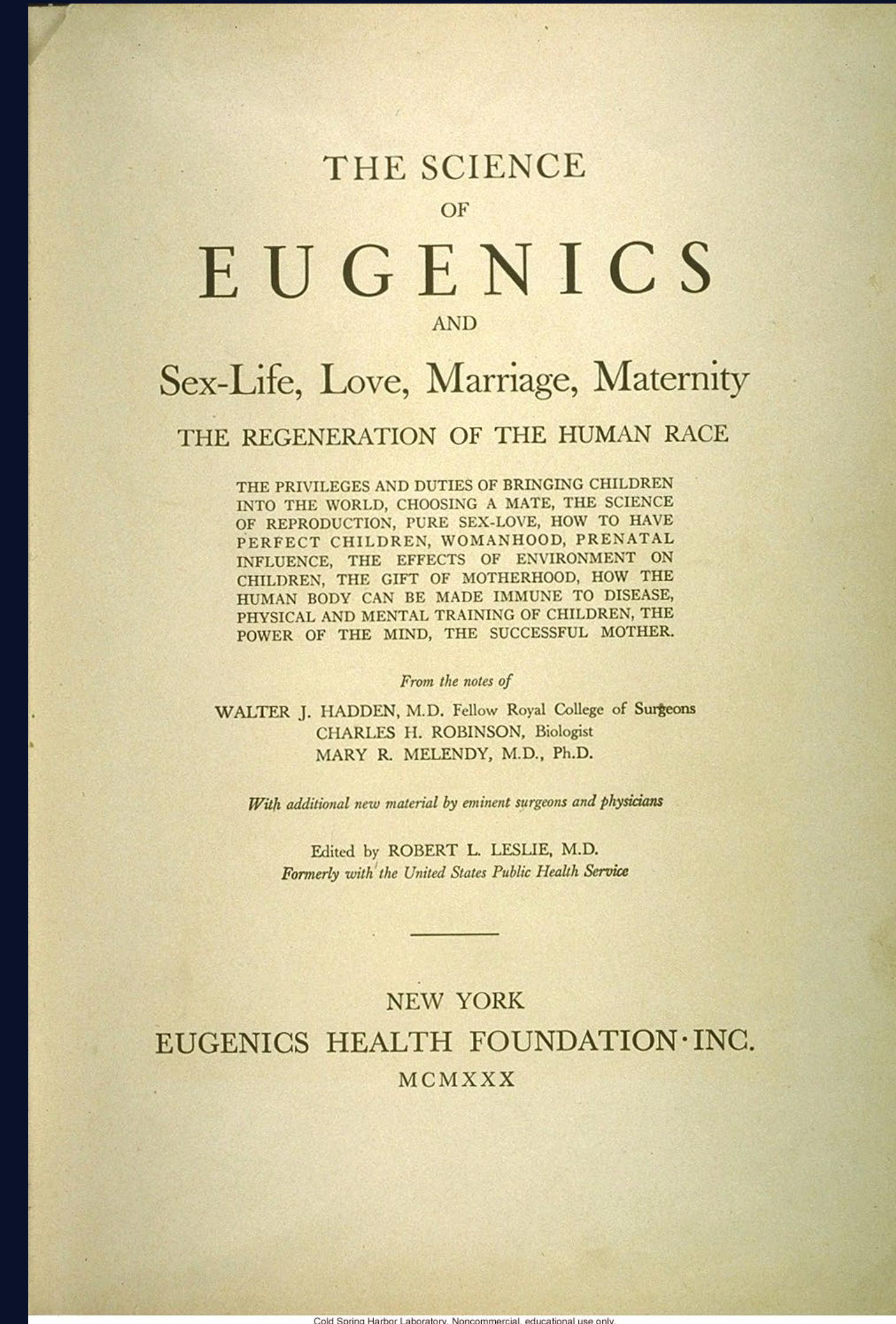


Image: W.J. Hadden, C.H. Robinson, and M.R. Melandy, 1930.
Source: Cold Spring Harbor, Micklos, The Science of Eugenics, title pg



Image: The Chicago Daily Tribune, 1915. Source: Martin S. Pernick

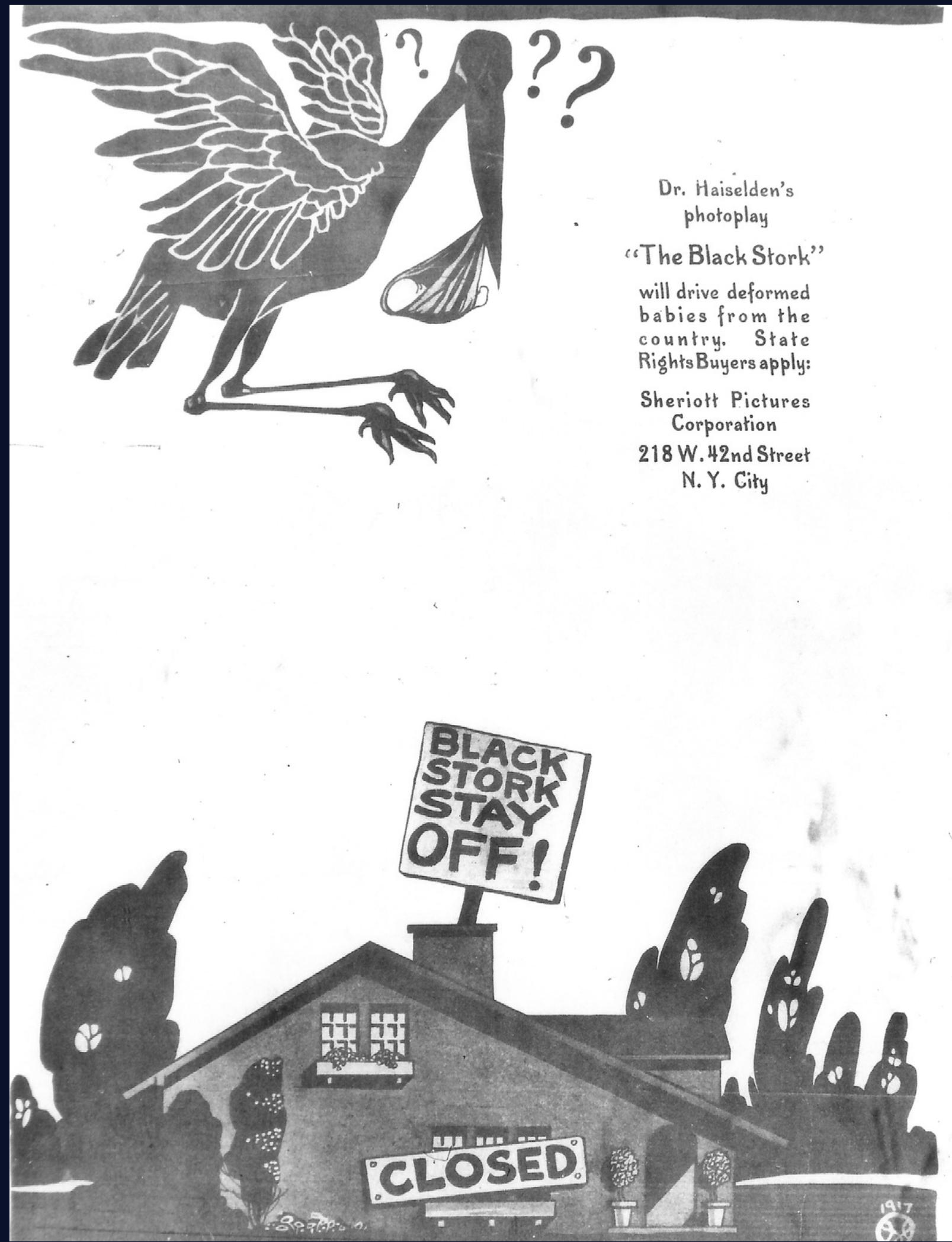


Image: Exhibitors' Trade Review, March 1917. Source: Martin S. Pernick

VOL. XXI, No. 2

MARCH-APRIL, 1936

EUGENICAL NEWS

CURRENT RECORD OF HUMAN GENETICS AND RACE HYGIENE

THE GERMAN RACIAL POLICY.

DR. C. G. CAMPBELL,
Honorary President, Eugenics Research
Association.

It is unfortunate that the anti-Nazi propaganda with which all countries have been flooded has gone far to obscure the correct understanding and the great importance of the German racial policy. The German nation has adopted a policy of biological improvement in its racial quality as its major national objective, to which all other objectives are regarded as subsidiary. This national policy seeks to attain the greater purity of racial stocks by selective endogamous mating and breeding, with a clear conception and conviction as to its beneficial effects upon its racial quality and its culture; the increased proportionate reproduction of the more competent eugenic stocks; and the proportionate decrease of the incompetent and undesirable dysgenic stocks. These objectives do not stop at perfunctory professions, but the most thorough and complete measures have been adopted to secure their maximum realization.

This policy is not the creation of political opportunists designed to flatter national vanity or to engender racial antagonisms, but it is the integration of the well-considered conclusions of its anthropologists, its biologists, and its sociologists, the latter of whom, in contradis-

tinction to many in other countries, take full cognizance of the biological basis of collective life. No earnest eugenicist can fail to give approbation to such a national policy. Indeed it goes to realize the hopes that eugenicists have entertained for many years, but have despaired of ever seeing adopted in the present generation.

As one of the means of increasing the factual knowledge upon which this policy needs to be based, the Herculean task has been undertaken of recording the sixty odd million pedigrees of the entire German nation, and over 600,000 of such pedigrees have already been so taken, verified, and filed by a most admirable and perfect system. These pedigrees not only take account of the propositus but of his parents, grandparents, and near kin, and they record sufficient data to indicate the racial, physical, and mental status of every individual. It is obvious that such a stocktaking of what is to be considered as a nation's primary and most valuable asset is of itself of incomparable value. It will not only enable the nation to evaluate this asset from year to year and to note the progress of its measures for racial improvement, but it will be invaluable as a guide both in attaining racial purity and in breeding out undesirable racial traits. Moreover the analyses and correlations that can be made of this great mass of human data will inevitably lead to findings of the

Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory. Noncommercial, educational use only.

Image: C.G. Campbell, 1936. Source: Cold Spring Harbor, ERO, Eugenical News, 21



Photo by Underwood & Underwood, October 1915. Source: Wisconsin Historical Society, Image ID 2003



Published in Volk und Rasse, August 1936. Source: Calvin College German Propaganda Archive

Translation German-English:

“The terrible legacy of a woman drunkard”

“894 descendants in 83 years”

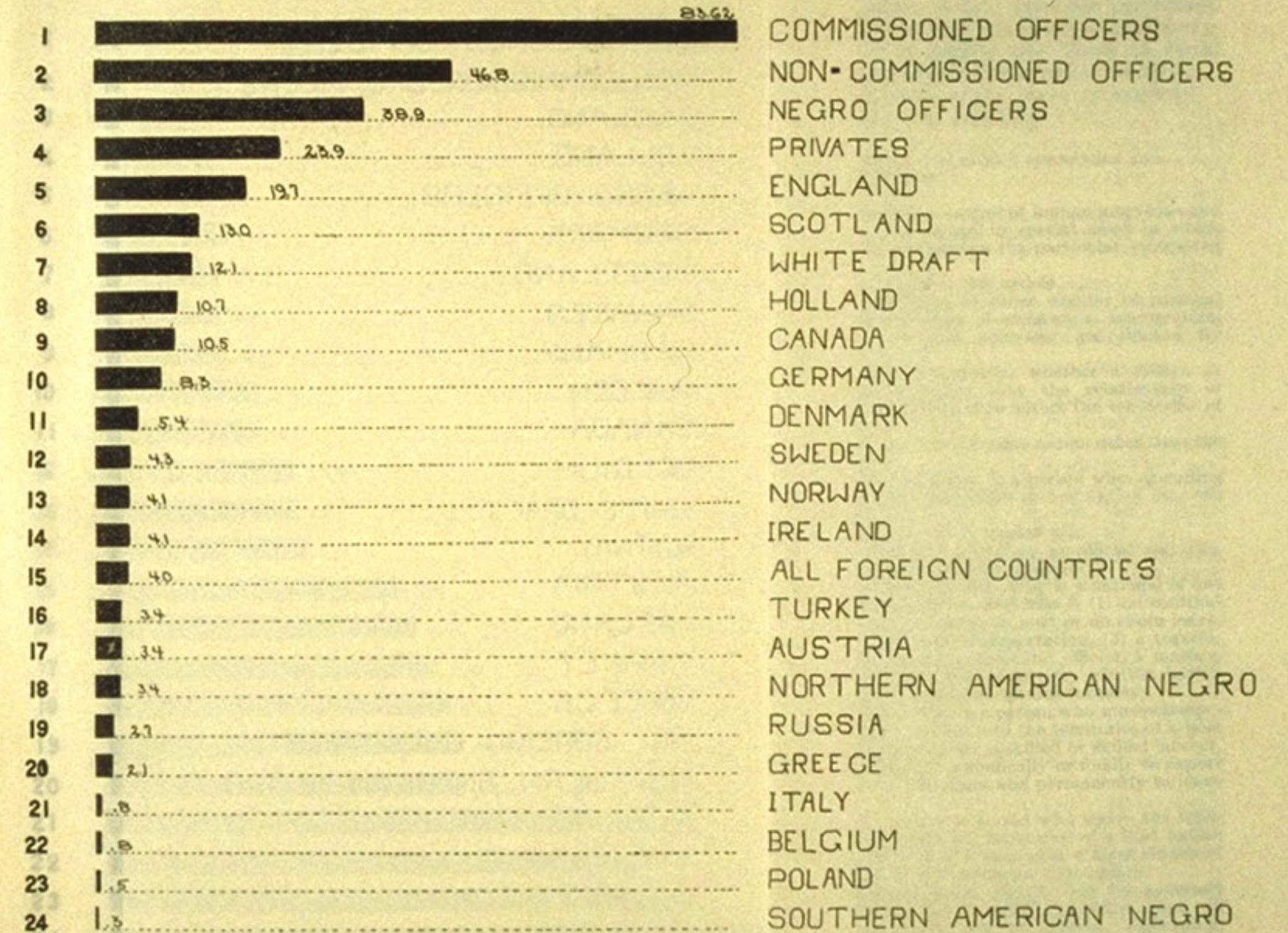
“40 live in a poorhouse, 67 criminals, 7 murderers, 181 prostitutes, 142 beggars”

“437 (about 50%) were asocial, and caused 5 million DM* of costs”

* Deutsche Mark = German currency at the time

SUPERIOR INTELLIGENCE.

Race, Country of Birth, or Army Rank, and Percent of Men in Each Group, by Army Mental Tests,
Showing Superior (S) or Very Superior (V) Intelligence.



NOTES: Groups recorded in ranks 1, 2, 3 and 4 are from the Army; all others are from the Draft.

(This chart is based upon the records of men psychologically examined by the United States Army,
Tables 217, 268, 406, pp. 698, 734, 855, Mem. **XXV**, Nat. Acad. Sci.)

CHART No. 7

429-241-SER 5A. (Face p. 1278.) No. 1

309	RECEIVING PENSION " OUT DOOR RELIEF PAUPERISM RESIDENT PAUPER VAGABOND NUMBER OF FAMILIES	VICES	CRIMES	TEMPERATE INTEMPERATE HABITUAL DRUNKARD LICENTIOUS	OFFENCE	S FINE S FINE	SENTENCE	BARREN MARRIAGES NO. OF STILL BORN	CHILDREN	TRANS-PLANTING FATE	24-6
310											
311											
312											
313											
314											
315											
316	1						4?				
317	1										
318											
319											
320											
321											

American Philosophical Society. Noncommercial, educational use only.

Image: circa 1911. Source: American Philosophical Society, ERO, MSC77,SerI,Box 44, A:35-7

Excerpts from the New York State Patients' Bill of Rights:

"As a patient in a hospital in New York State, you have the right, consistent with law, to:"

"(2) Receive treatment without discrimination as to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, age or source of payment."

"(8) Receive complete information about your diagnosis, treatment and prognosis.

(9) Receive all the information that you need to give informed consent for any proposed procedure or treatment. This information shall include the possible risks and benefits of the procedure or treatment."

"(12) Refuse to take part in research. In deciding whether or not to participate, you have the right to a full explanation."

"(14) Participate in all decisions about your treatment and discharge from the hospital."

Image credits

- Slide 2: Image: "Flashing light exhibit at Fitter Families Contests", 1926. Source: American Philosophical Society, AES, Am3,575.06,44. Accessed via the Eugenics Image Archive, Dolan DNA Learning Center, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, ID# 5 (http://www.eugenicsarchive.org/eugenics/view_image.pl?id=5, accessed March 2, 2020).
- Slide 3: Image (left): Photo by Emanuel Wolfe (1858-1933). Source: Nebraska State Historical Society, NSHS RG2836.PH0-532.
Image (right): "Yea I Have a Goodly Heritage", circa 1925. Source: American Philosophical Society, Fitter Families Collection, 2000.1301. Accessed via the Eugenics Image Archive, Dolan DNA Learning Center, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, ID# 1564 (http://www.eugenicsarchive.org/eugenics/view_image.pl?id=1564, accessed March 2, 2020).
- Slide 4: Image (left): "Unfit Human Traits" and "Triangle of Life.", circa 1929. Source: American Philosophical Society, Fitter Families Collection, 2000.1285. Accessed via the Eugenics Image Archive, Dolan DNA Learning Center, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, ID# 1568 (http://www.eugenicsarchive.org/eugenics/view_image.pl?id=1568, accessed March 2, 2020).
Image (right): "Marriages - Fit and Unfit", circa 1929. Source: American Philosophical Society, Fitter Families Collection, 2000.1284. Accessed via the Eugenics Image Archive, Dolan DNA Learning Center, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, ID# 1567 (http://www.eugenicsarchive.org/eugenics/view_image.pl?id=1567, accessed March 2, 2020).
- Slide 5: Image : "Sterilization is liberation, not a punishment.", Volk und Rasse, August 1936. Accessed via the Calvin College German Propaganda Archive (<https://research.calvin.edu/german-propaganda-archive/volkundrasse1936-8.htm>, accessed March 2, 2020).
- Slide 8: Image: "State criteria for legal eugenic sterilization", circa 1935. Source: The Harry H. Laughlin Papers, Truman State University, Lantern Slides, Black Case, Section 12. Accessed via the Eugenics Image Archive, Dolan DNA Learning Center, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, ID# 948 (http://www.eugenicsarchive.org/eugenics/view_image.pl?id=948, accessed March 2, 2020).

Image credits

Slide 9: Image (top): Accessed via the Museum of disABILITY History, Prevention Exhibit, image 8 (<https://www.museumofdisability.org/virtual-museum/medicine-wing/prevention-exhibit/>, accessed March 2, 2020).

Image (bottom): "Eugenic Certificate", circa 1924, Source: Robert Bogdan Collection.

Image (right): "The science of eugenics and sex-life, love, marriage, maternity: the regeneration of the human race", by W.J. Hadden, C.H. Robinson, and M.R. Melendy, 1930. Source: Cold Spring Harbor, Micklos, The Science of Eugenics, title pg. Accessed via the Eugenics Image Archive, Dolan DNA Learning Center, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, ID# 608, p. 2 (http://www.eugenicsarchive.org/eugenics/view_image.pl?id=608, accessed March 2, 2020).

Slide 10: Image (left): "Doctor to let defective baby expire", The Chicago Daily Tribune, 1915. Thanks to Martin S. Pernick. This image is figure 2 in his book: "The Black Stork: Eugenics and the Death of "Defective" Babies in American Medicine and Motion Pictures Since 1915" (New York: Oxford University Press 1996).

Image (right): "Advertisement for the Black Stork", Exhibitors' Trade Review, March 19, 1917. Thanks to Martin S. Pernick. This image is figure 4 in his book: "The Black Stork: Eugenics and the Death of "Defective" Babies in American Medicine and Motion Pictures Since 1915" (New York: Oxford University Press 1996).

Slide 11: Image: "The German Racial Policy", by C.G. Campbell, Eugenical News (vol.21:2), 1936. Source: Cold Spring Harbor, ERO, Eugenical News, 21. Accessed via the Eugenics Image Archive, Dolan DNA Learning Center, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, ID# 1906, p. 1 (http://www.eugenicsarchive.org/eugenics/view_image.pl?id=1906, accessed March 2, 2020).

Slide 12: Image: "Eugenics Demonstration on Wall Street", by Underwood & Underwood, October 27, 1915. Source: Wisconsin Historical Society, Image ID 2003.

Slide 13: Image : "The terrible legacy of a woman drunkard.", Volk und Rasse, August 1936. Accessed via the Calvin College German Propaganda Archive (<https://research.calvin.edu/german-propaganda-archive/volkundrasse1936-8.htm>, accessed March 2, 2020).

Slide 14: Image: "Europe as an emigrant-exporting continent", 1924. Source: The Harry H. Laughlin Papers, Truman State University, papers, C-2-6,6. Accessed via the Eugenics Image Archive, Dolan DNA Learning Center, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, ID# 1146, p. 7 (http://www.eugenicsarchive.org/eugenics/view_image.pl?id=1146, accessed March 2, 2020).

Slide 15: Image: "Form for studying inheritance of pauperism and criminality", circa 1911. Source: American Philosophical Society, ERO, MSC77,SerI,Box 44, A:35-7. Accessed via the Eugenics Image Archive, Dolan DNA Learning Center, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, ID# 100 (http://www.eugenicsarchive.org/eugenics/view_image.pl?id=100, accessed March 2, 2020).

References

- Slide 6: Quote (left): "Massachusetts Medical Society Annual Discourse: The Burden of Feeble-Mindedness" by Walter E. Fernald, M.D. (1912). Boston Medical & Surgical Journal 166(25):911-915. DOI: 10.1056/NEJM191206201662501. (<http://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJM191206201662501>, accessed March 2, 2020).
- Quote (bottom): "The high grade mental defectives," by Bullard, W. N. (1908). Boston Medical & Surgical Journal 159:240-242. DOI: 10.1056/NEJM190808201590804 (<http://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJM190808201590804>, accessed March 2, 2020).
- Slide 7: Quote: Buck v. Bell. 274 U.S. 200, 1927 (<https://supreme.justia.com/cases/federal/us/274/200/case.html>, accessed March 2, 2020).
- Slide 16: Excerpt: "New York State Hospital Patients' Bill of Rights", New York State Department of Health. Publication Number 1500, version 2/2019. (<https://www.health.ny.gov/publications/1500/>, accessed March 2, 2020).