

SOCIOLOGY

Alien Crime Wave High, But Low for German Immigrants

Law Tries to Bar at Border Criminals Like Hauptmann, Yet Alien Crime Rate is Higher Than for Native Born

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IN VIEW of the fact that Bruno Richard Hauptmann, an alien German deportable from the United States and now in custody, is accused of one of the most infamous crimes in recent American history, the questions again arise: Why are alien criminals admitted to the United States? What nations or races contribute relatively the greatest number of alien criminals? How does the law try to keep them out? Why does the law fail? Although our law sets an allowable crime quota for each alien population-group at zero, and strives to debar potential criminals at our ports and borders, and to deport actual criminals after due punishment, our alien crime-rate still practically equals that for our population as a whole.

In computing the crime rate for any section of the population—say that of a given alien race—it is necessary to have two figures: first, the total population of the particular population-group; and second, the number of persons within such population section who fall within the definition of a "criminal." For the present let us define a criminal as an inmate of a State or Federal institution for the criminalistic classes.

An Index of Assimilation

Roughly, if we say that a crime rate less than that for the population as a whole is an index of more ready assimilation, and that a crime rate greater than the average is evidence of non-assimilation, the following series is of interest. It contains comparative figures indicating the crime rates for different nativity groups within the United States.

The figure for Switzerland is only 27, Ireland 31, Germany 35, Scandinavia 35, Northwestern Europe 37, Great Britain 43, Netherlands 58, Canada 65, Austria-Hungary 68, native white both parents native born 81, native white

both parents foreign born 91. The figure for the whole group of foreign born residing in the United States is 98.

The following groups are those whose figures are above the one hundred mark. Their crime rate is higher than for any of those preceding. The figure for native whites having one parent native and one parent foreign born is 115, France 123, Old Russia 126, Southern and Eastern Europe 141, Rumania 141, Japan 153, Portugal 185, American Negro 207, Italy 218, Turkey 240, all Asia 251, all Balkan States 275, Greece 293, West Indies 318, China 337, Bulgaria 366, Mexico 549.

Based on Survey

These rates are based upon a study of the inmates of 155 State and Federal custodial institutions, made for the Committee on Immigration and Naturalization of the House of Representatives in 1923. Another survey made a decade later, 1931-34, computed absolute numbers only, but indicated no radical departure from the earlier findings.

One piece of evidence of the assimilation of an immigrant population-group with the United States is the amount of crime committed by—or rather the number of criminals found within—the particular immigrant group. The more consistent obedience to law, that is, the fewer crimes committed, obviously the more complete the Americanization.

The United States has received desirable citizens from every white race in the world. It has also received degenerate and very undesirable citizens from every white race in the world.

The crime index is only one evidence by which the receiving nation can judge its would-be immigrants—the parents of future Americans. Not only freedom from all kinds of social inadequacy besides crime, but (*Turn to Page 220*)

PALEONTOLOGY

Gold Mining Operations Produce Fossils Also

GOLD is being washed out of California hills again, since the jump in its price made hydraulic mining profitable once more. But there is more than gold in "them thar hills." Along with the auriferous gravels brought down by the great streams of water from the high-pressure nozzles, great quantities of plant fossils, valuable to science, are being produced.

At You Bet, one of the camps famous in the roaring days of '49, Harry D. MacGinitie, paleobotanist of the



MINING BY WATER

These streams, under enormous pressure, eat into the banks at You Bet, where gold and fossils are being recovered.

Phases of the Moon

		E. S. T.
New Moon	October 8	10:05 a. m.
First Quarter	October 15	2:29 p. m.
Full Moon	October 22	10:01 a. m.
Last Quarter	October 30	3:22 a. m.

the 7,900 miles of the earth. The rings, however, are far larger than any planet, for the outer one is 170,000 miles in diameter, and the entire system is about 43,000 miles wide, so that five earths might roll about on them, side by side, without touching. So if you have any

opportunity at all, look at Saturn through a telescope and you will be sure of an interesting sight. Perhaps, like many observatory visitors, you will be surprised to find that it "really does look like the pictures."

Science News Letter, October 6, 1934

PATHOLOGY

Filterable Virus Activity Ruled by Host Cell

WHEN a filterable virus invades a living cell and starts its disease-causing activities, it apparently enters into a very close relationship with its involuntary host. For the rate of activity of the virus depends to a large extent on the rate at which the cell is conducting its own life activities.

This was among the points discussed in a recent address on these strange invisible disease-causing agents by Dr. R. Manninger, director of the State Institute of Veterinary Hygiene at Budapest, Hungary, before the Twelfth International Veterinary Congress in New York. These filterable viruses can not be seen with any microscope and can

pass through the pores of a fine porcelain filter. However, since it has been recently discovered that many quite familiar, microscopically visible bacteria have the power of "dissolving" themselves into an invisible, filter-passing phase, Dr. Manninger suggested that the name "filterable virus" has lost its original significance, and he proposed instead the name "ultravirus" for the permanently invisible, filter-passing agents of disease.

At the same meeting, Dr. F. Gerlach, director of the State Institute for Animal Hygiene at Mödling, Austria, called attention to the seemingly greater activity by these viruses in provoking liv-

ing tissue to form defensive "antibodies" of the nature of anti-toxins. These anti-viruses, he said, are formed more certainly, and confer longer and stronger immunity on animals recovering from virus diseases, than is the case with the corresponding process in animals recovering from bacterial diseases. The reason for this phenomenon, he added, is still quite unknown.

Although the filterable viruses, or ultraviruses, have been known for a long time as the causes of a great variety of plant and animal sicknesses, their real nature is still in doubt. In some respects they act like non-living enzymes or digestive ferments, in others, like genuinely living organisms. For this reason the non-committal name "virus-enzymes" has been proposed for them.

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also the possession of positive and desirable qualities is increasingly necessary to measure the desirability of future immigrants.

When we analyze our recent immigrant groups in regard to assimilability and inborn quality, is it primarily the matter of race or of the individual worth which counts? The answer is "both"; race for general assimilability, hence the quota-allotment of numbers of immigrants annually admissible for each of the several foreign countries; and individual quality to make sure that the applicant for admission is no criminal, or potential inadequate who would become a member of any of the socially incompetent groups, but above all that the family-stock which produced the particular would-be immigrant is sound physically, mentally and in character—a stock which has produced many other individuals of the sort which the best Americans would like to see marry their own near-kin—for this is what will happen in the long run.

If the responsible American citizen, who decides American immigration policy today, could look only a few generations into the future he would find that his own great-great-grandchildren would, very likely, trace back in their ancestral tree not only to the distinguished gentleman who helped to determine present immigration policy but also to the immigrant whom he admitted.

It is sound biology to fight for American ideals.

Science News Letter, October 6, 1934

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