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OBSERVED IN CANADA.

PROFESSOR H. B. FANTHAM and DR. ANNIE PORTER,
Dept. of Zoology, McGill University,
Montreal, Canada.

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THE LIFE OF
JAMES EARL RAY

BY
JAMES EARL RAY
WITH AN AFTERWORD BY THE AUTHOR

THE LIFE OF JAMES EARL RAY is a book that has been written by James Earl Ray himself. It is a memoir of his life, from his early years in Glasgow, Scotland, to his time in the United States, and finally to his death in London. The book is written in a straightforward, unembellished style, and it provides a detailed account of Ray's life, including his involvement in the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and his subsequent flight from justice. The book is a controversial work, as it is written by the man who is the central figure in one of the most notorious crimes of the 20th century. However, it is also a valuable historical document, as it provides a first-hand account of the events surrounding the assassination and the life of the man who was responsible for it.

SOME CASES OF RACE ADMIX- TURE OBSERVED IN CANADA.*

PROFESSOR H. B. FANTHAM
AND

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With 5 Text-Figures.

During the last five years, some social work in which we have engaged has brought us into close contact with fifty family groups living in the immediate neighbourhood of each other, in fact, they form a small community by themselves. They are a poor but independent set of people, are hard-working and none are in receipt of relief, but life is far from

*A much more extended investigation had been planned and had been begun, but such cannot now be completed owing to the untimely and regretted death of the senior author.

easy for some of them. Many are foreigners, that is, they are other than British or French. Out of these fifty family groups, eight show considerable racial admixture. While it is well known race admixture has been and is occurring, details of such admixture are not so well known and for that reason the following accounts of the process in these eight family groups are presented. While the families concerned have no objection to the accounts being published, they wish their real names to be suppressed, so that in the following initials and forenames only are used.

THE O. FAMILY GROUP.

The O. family group was founded by a Dane who married a Finnish woman. The FI family included two sons and these sons and their families are the O. family group known to us.

C.O. is the elder F₁ son, aged 55, a tall, fair man with blue eyes which are oval and with somewhat oblique orbits. He has a fine, clear skin and is tall and spare in build. His wife, K.O., aged 52, is the daughter of a Slovak father and a Hungarian mother. She has black eyes, a large mouth, dark coarse skin and is squat in build. Their F₂ son, N.O., aged 29, has black hair and eyes, but a clear, fair skin. His orbits are more oblique than his father's. He is married to M.F., aged 27, the daughter of a German father and an Ukrainian mother. She is of dark complexion but is tall and of German build. Their only F₃ child, N.O. junior, aged 3, now has fair hair and blue eyes like his grandfather and also has oblique orbits. He combines Danish, Finnish, Slovak, Hungarian, German and Ukrainian blood.

G.O., aged 53, the younger F₁ son, is very like his brother, C.O. He is married to M.LaP., who is a "breed and proud

built and has a coquettish manner. They have three sons and one daughter. Their eldest F₂ son, C.P., is like his mother physically but is very stolid in manner. In August 1937 he married a French-Ukrainian girl, Anna K., from Manitoba.

The second F₂ son, G.O., aged 28, and the third F₂ son, F.O., aged 24, are like their mother in appearance, but C.O. is uncommunicative while P.O. is vivacious. They are unmarried. The only F₂ daughter, M.O., aged 22, is fair like her father, is sedate and religious and wishes to be a nun.

Several interesting facts may be noted in connection with this family group. C.O., the Danish-Finn, knows neither Slovak nor Hungarian. His wife, K.O., a Slovak-Hungarian, knows neither Danish, German nor Finnish languages. Their medium of communication is and always has been English, which both speak remarkably well. Their F₂ son and his family are clean people. The

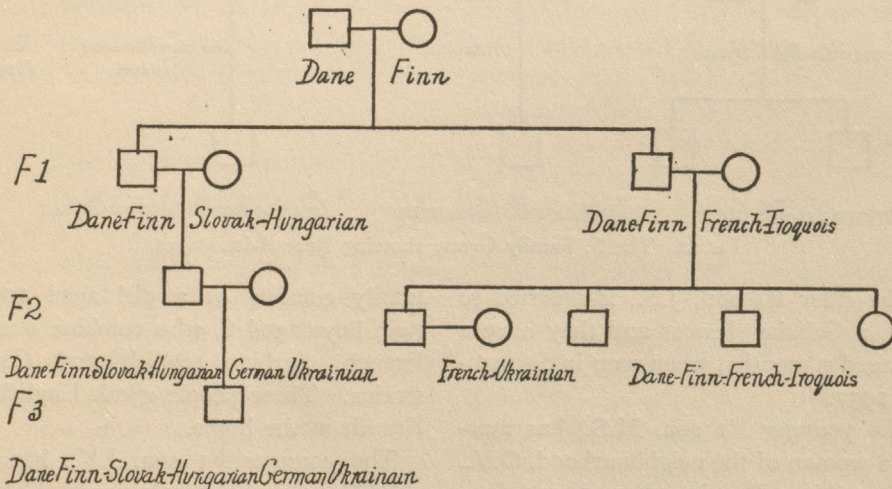


FIG. 1. The O. Family Group showing Race Admixtures.

of it," her father being French Canadian and her mother an Iroquois squaw. She has black hair and eyes, narrow and oblique orbits and high cheekbones, is big

younger F₁ man is clean and sanitary personally but his family have poor sanitary sense, the breed mother being especially bad in this connection.

THE S. FAMILY GROUP.

The S. family group was founded by a German Jew, J.S., who married a Polish woman, P.P., born in England, and who has become converted to Judaism. They have two sons and two daughters. The elder F₁ daughter, A.S., a German-Jewess-Pole, has married a neighbour, A.P.Sc., who is a Greek engaged in the food trade. They have two F₂ sons, aged 5 and 3, with Greek forenames, who combine German-Jewish-Polish and Greek strains.

The younger F₁ daughter, F.S., has married M.W., an Ukrainian. They have a boy, aged 2, who combines German-Jewish-Polish-Ukrainian blood.

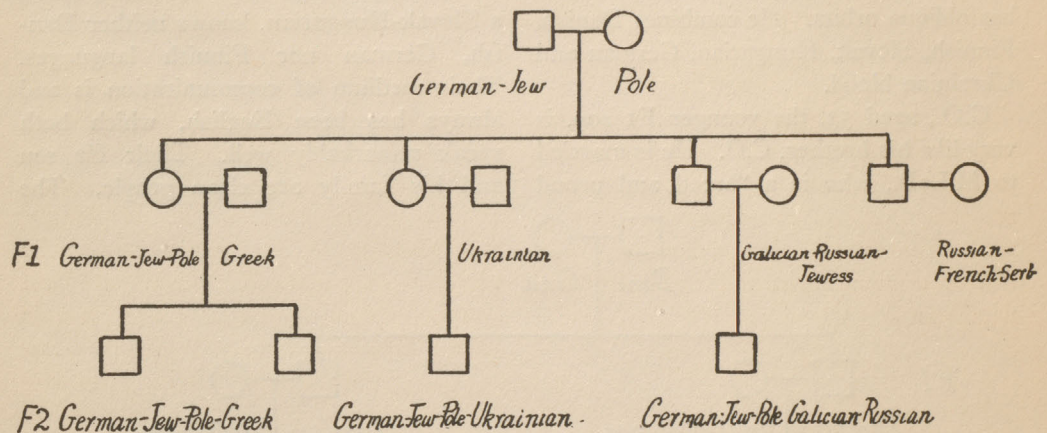


FIG. 2. The S. Family Group showing Race Admixtures.

The elder F₁ son, J.S., is married to S.H., a Galician Jewess and they have a son aged 3 months, when seen in September, 1937.

The younger F₁ son, M.S., has married a woman of the neighbourhood, O.V., who combines Russian, French and Serbian blood. In December 1937 this couple had no children.

All the members of this family group speak English and except for the Greek man, all speak Yiddish also. The Greek speaks English in his home. The Ukrain-

ian members in this family are not assimilating with the rest of the community. They and also the Russian-French-Serb woman are very discontented, as they expected that Canada would be a land of gold and that they would not have to work hard here.

THE V. FAMILY GROUP.

P.V., a Russian from the Volga area, had a Russian father and a French mother. He is married to O.R., the daughter of a Serbian father and Russian mother. They have two sons and one daughter. The elder F₁ son, P.V., who has Russian, Serb and French blood, has married K.A., who is three-quarters Polish and one-quarter German. Their F₂

family consists of a girl aged 10 and twin boys aged 6, who combine Russian, French, Serbian, Polish and German strains. These people speak English and French in the home.

The younger F₁ son, I.V., has married C., a light-complexioned Coloured woman from Jamaica, who combines Spanish and African blood. They have a boy aged 4 and a girl aged 1½ years, and this F₂ branch mingles Russian, French, Serbian, Spanish and West African strains.

O.V., the F1 daughter, has married a German-Polish-Jew, M.S., the younger F1 son of the S. family and so far there are no children.

Taken as a whole, this V. family group is assimilating badly into the community,

strong, dark, heavy built man, with a very flat face. He is married to L.H., of the H. family, a German-Ukrainian, with blue eyes and brown hair. They have twins, a boy and a girl, aged 4, and these F2 children both are dark.

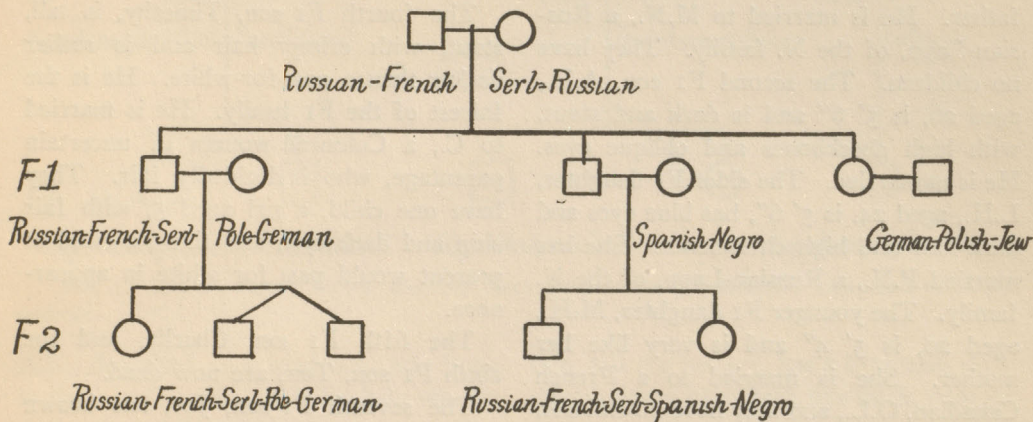


FIG. 3. The V. Family Group showing Race Admixtures.

especially the older members. They maintain their old customs and habits and object to light, fresh air and soap. When religious holidays are observed, there is some drunkenness, also quarrelling. The Coloured woman also is at war with her neighbours.

THE N. FAMILY GROUP.

P.N., aged 65, is a Northern Russian. He is 6' 6" in height, heavy built, with a flat face, high cheekbones and dark complexion. His wife, E.G., aged 62, is a Lapp, 5' 10" in height, with high cheekbones and oblique orbits. Her hair was black but has now turned white. They have three sons and a daughter. The eldest F1 son, P.N., aged 40, is 6' 4" and is like his father. He is unmarried. The second F1 son, S.N., aged 36, is 6' 2" and is fair. He is said to be like his paternal grandmother. He has high cheekbones and a flat face. He is unmarried. The third F1 son, P.N., aged 31, is 6' 2", is a

The only F1 daughter, M.N., aged 30, is 5' 10" in height. She is a dark woman with high cheekbones. Like her brother, P., she has married into the H. family, her husband, K.H., being two years younger than herself. They have one daughter, Mina, aged 2, and this F2 child is fair, blue-eyed and has golden hair, like her paternal grandfather, A.H. She combines Russian, Lapp, German and Ukrainian blood.

This family group is quiet and keep more or less to themselves, apart from friendliness with and intermarrying into the neighbouring German-Ukrainian family. They are clean but largely continue their Russian customs.

THE H. FAMILY GROUP.

A.H. is a man of Saxon parentage, born in the United States. He looks a typical tall, fair, blue-eyed German. He is married to M.M., a short, squat Ukrainian, 5' 4" tall, with black hair and eyes,

slightly oblique orbits and high cheekbones. This couple cannot speak each other's language, but converse in English. They have two sons and two daughters. The elder F₁ son, K.H., is 6' 1", is aged 28 and is a replica of his father. He is married to M.N., a Russian-Lapp, of the N. family. They have no children. The second F₁ son, A.H., aged 26, is 5' 6" and is dark and stout, with high cheekbones and oblique eyes. He is unmarried. The elder F₁ daughter, L.H., aged 24, is 5' 6", has blue eyes and dark hair and high cheekbones. She has married P.N., a Russian-Lapp, of the N. family. The younger F₁ daughter, M.H., aged 20, is 5' 4" and is very like her mother. She is married to a French Canadian, O.L., and they have no children as yet. M. and O.L. speak English to one another as she cannot learn French.

THE P. FAMILY GROUP.

S.P., the founder of the P. family group, claimed to be a pure negro. His wife, C., was a Coloured woman, whose father was Norwegian and whose mother came from Nicaragua and had negro and Carib blood. C. is now dead. They had seven sons, three of whom are dead.

The eldest F₁ son, Walter, looks a negro. He is tall, stout, with thick lips, flat nose, crimped hair and dark brown skin. His wife, M., is Coloured, with thin lips. She is the daughter of a French father and a Coloured mother. Their F₂ family consists of two sons, both Coloured but the elder has thin lips like his mother. They combine Negro, Norwegian, Carib, French and Coloured blood.

The second F₁ son, Sam, is dead.

The third F₁ son, William, is tall, spare, has thick lips but straight hair and a not markedly broad or depressed nose. He is married to a Coloured woman, E.,

the daughter of an Irish-American and a West Indian negress. Their F₂ family consists of a boy aged 7 and a girl aged 5, both of whom have almost straight hair. They combine Negro, Carib, Norwegian and Irish strains.

The fourth F₁ son, Timothy, is tall, stout, with crimped hair and is rather darker than a pass-for-white. He is the fairest of the F₁ family. He is married to C., a Coloured woman of uncertain parentage, who is decidedly fair. They have one child, a girl aged 5, with fair skin and dark eyes, and this F₂ child at present would pass for white in appearance.

The fifth F₁ son, Charlie, and the sixth F₁ son, Tom, are now dead.

The seventh F₁ son, Joe, has brown skin, straight hair, a Roman nose, large teeth and extremely thick lips. He is unmarried.

The Coloured members of this family group are race conscious but unashamed. The men work at the docks, the women do day work as maids. Some of the men expressed disapproval of marriage with Ukrainians, as a negro friend of theirs had done, stating "We Coloured folk had better marry among ourselves." The family group consists of happy, laughing people, making the best they can of things in general.

THE W. FAMILY GROUP.

The history of the W. family group was obtained in 1934 and the members of the group have been seen frequently since. The group was founded by a French man, L.D., from France, who owned a cotton plantation in the Southern States and married a negress, M. Of their progeny, the descendants of one daughter, L.A.D., are known. This F₁ woman married a French planter, A.V.L., and a daughter,

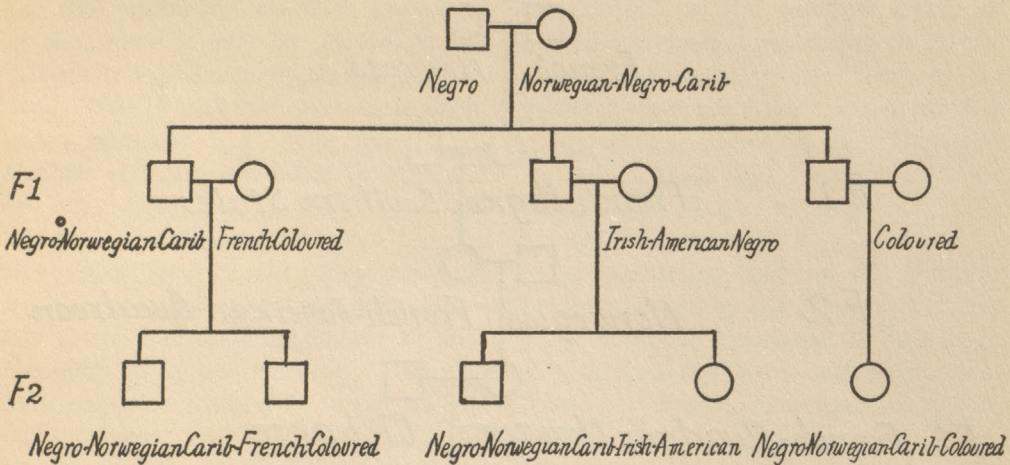


FIG. 4. The P. Family Group showing Race Admixtures. Unmarried and dead members omitted.

A.L., described as a quadroon, was born to them in Georgia. This F2 lady was 60 years of age when first seen in 1934. She married a Norwegian man, N.J., in Western Canada. They had one son and three daughters, forming the F3 generation. The eldest F3 daughter, M.A.E.J., is of very light olive complexion, with rounded oval features and brown crimped hair, light hazel eyes, thin upper but thick lower lip. She dresses tastefully, but with a liking for vivid colours, and has a somewhat noisy voice and laugh. She calls herself an octoroon. She has married a tall, thin Chinaman, L.W., who has a greenish-yellow skin, high cheekbones, black eyes and oblique orbits. Their three children are the F4 generation. The eldest F4 child is a girl, M.W., aged 13, who is well built, with rather round, broad features, flat nose, straight light brown hair, oblique orbits but round eyes, a very thick lower lip, olive complexion and rather high cheekbones. She is assertive and rather noisy. The second F4 child, L.L.W., is a son, 11 years of age, and looks Chinese. The third F4 child, H.S.W., is a son aged 9. He is rather

thin, tall for his age, has a brownish skin, black crimped hair, both lips thick, nose of European type and not flat nor broad. His eyes are gray with hazel flecks, like his Norwegian grandfather. He has very large ears but the ear lobes are small. He is bright, intelligent, rather quiet and serious. This Chinese branch of the family is in fair circumstances, the Chinese father being a quiet, hardworking man, described by his wife as a good partner and provider. Their children combine French, Negro, Norwegian and Chinese blood and thus are Eurafriatic Asiatics. They speak English, but the Chinese father is trying to teach the children Chinese, with very little success so far. This family uses Chinese and European food on alternate weeks.

THE H-S. FAMILY GROUP.

H-S., a Cantonese Chinese, came to Vancouver about forty years ago. He has lived in many parts of Canada and at present is living in Montreal with a son. Mrs. H-S. was the daughter of a Chinaman and an Indian squaw in British Columbia. She died some years ago.

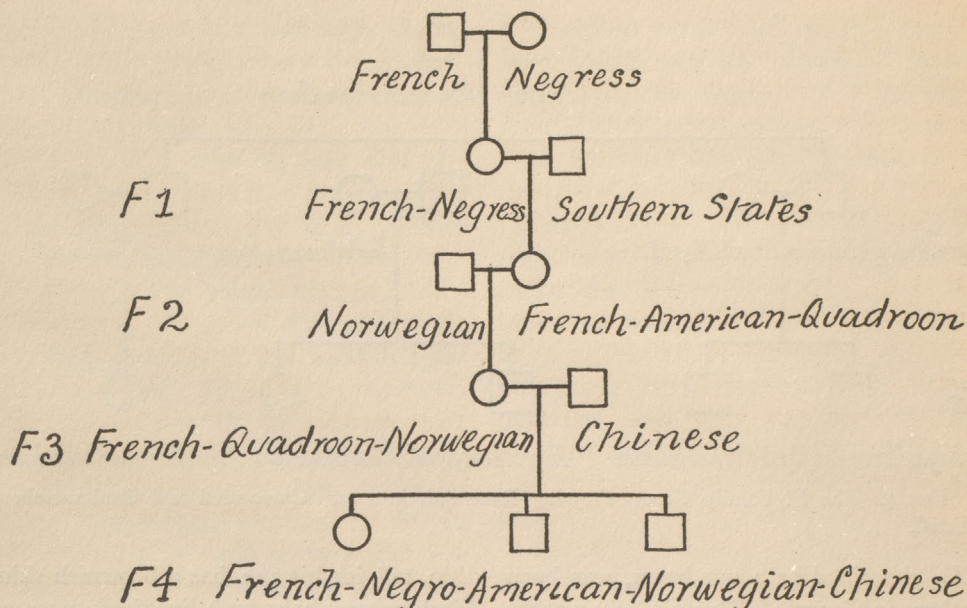


FIG. 5. The W. Family Group showing Race Admixtures.

According to her sons, she was a "red woman." Their F₁ family consisted of three sons. J.S., the eldest F₁ son, has a coppery skin, very high cheekbones and a Roman nose, but otherwise is Chinese in appearance and temperament. He is about 48 years old. His wife, W.P., is described as a Polak, but actually came from the Ukraine. They have two sons and two daughters. The elder F₂ son, M.S., is tall and dark, has high cheekbones and a Roman nose. The younger F₂ son, G.S., aged 15, is well grown, is darker than either of his parents, has very oblique orbits and a Roman nose. The F₂ daughters are twins, aged 12, and are small and dark, and have flat features and flat noses. They look more Chinese than their brothers. These children combine Chinese, Indian and Ukrainian blood.

The second F₁ son, J.S., is aged about 40. He has a Roman nose but otherwise looks Chinese. His wife, S., is about 42. She describes herself as a gypsy or Hungarian or Magyar. They have no family.

The third F₁ son, C.S., is a typical Chinese, aged about 36. His wife, M., born in Quebec Province, has a white father and a mother with some Indian blood; she knows no further details. They had five children, of whom three small boys, forming the F₂ generation, are living. The eldest F₂, a boy of 9, has the Roman type of nose but is otherwise Chinese in appearance. The features of the two younger boys, who are twins, are too unformed to be able to allow of detailed statements, as they were only ten months old when seen. These children combine Chinese, two types of American Indian and some undetermined European blood.

GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS.

In addition to the family groups showing race admixture among the fifty family groups investigated, there are French, Italian, German, Scandinavian, Ukrainian and British families. Of these the French are most numerous, then the Ukrainians

and the British are the least numerous, in fact, there is only one British family (Anglo-Irish) living in this neighbourhood. The French element keep to themselves more or less. The few Italian families are also somewhat isolated and are very friendly with the Anglo-Irish family. The German families keep to themselves very largely; they are relatively newcomers and do not try to assimilate either with their neighbours or with Canadian habits and customs. They also have restricted themselves to the occupations pursued in their own land, and chiefly engage in the clothing trade. Among themselves they are ardent enthusiasts for Germany and all things German—yet they have left the country and come to live in Canada. Among the Central Europeans and Ukrainians, not only in this series of families but in a number of others known to us, the process of assimilation can only be described as slow and very painful. Life in Canada has plunged them into a different social world, their social habits are upset and their social inheritance is in conflict with the new life. This is seen even in the third generation in some cases. As will be seen from the families showing Ukrainian admixture, they have intermarried chiefly with members of the more northern European groups or with people of mixed northern European blood, with one intermarriage involving Chinese and Indian admixture. Outside this community, Negro admixture is also beginning to occur. The Central Europeans and Ukrainians in the neighbourhood investigated still use the special clothing for their festivals and holidays that is in use in their own hands. The older members also preserve the speech of their homelands largely, but where race admixture has occurred, they have tended to

use English as the common means of intercommunication, as shown in several of the families described. Some of the younger members hardly know the language of their parents at all. They have learned English and French; in other cases, they know nothing but their parents' tongue.

An interesting light on the language problem is shed by our experience during a few hours in Winnipeg in June 1937. We secured copies of newspapers published in Swedish, Norwegian, Icelandic, Polish, Danish, German, Hungarian, Ukrainian, Russian, one stated to be Georgian and Yiddish from one shop, and our thanks are tendered to the lady who sold us the papers from her stock and who searched out therefrom some of the papers less in demand and not exposed on her racks. Incidentally, she called herself Scottish, but was obviously Ukrainian. It turned out that she was a naturalised British subject and she and her husband had acquired British nationality when living in Scotland after the Great War. Both man and wife were born in the Ukraine and lived there for thirty years. Practically all the newspapers then acquired by us were published in Winnipeg or even further west in Canada.

With regard to food, among the Ukrainians and Central Europeans national dishes prevail among the older people; the younger generation prefer tinned foods to a large extent. More meat and cereal are eaten by the older members than in their own land. Fish is a popular article of diet. There is a general deficiency of green vegetables and too much bread and cereal proportionately are consumed among all classes in the community.

The members of the northern European

group, including the Scandinavians and their allies, have adapted themselves well to Canadian life. The older members speak a characteristic type of English, not always easily understood, and they keep the steady religious habits of their homelands. National dishes are in great demand and are well-balanced. The younger members are steady young people. The northern admixture has had a stabilising influence in mixed marriages.

With regard to sanitation, the northern element is clean and has good sanitary sense. The Central European and Ukrainian vary considerably, but in a number of them the sanitary sense is not well-developed, and in families with such admixtures, on the whole, a better sanitary sense is desirable.

With regard to morals, among the mixed families there is a general tendency to a lower standard. Among the men with Indian, Russian and Ukrainian admixture there is a tendency to the use of too much alcoholic liquor, but they could not be described as habitual drunkards—apart from the cost of such liquor being a consideration. Also, as with racial admixtures in other parts of the world, there is quarrelsomeness and some instability, due to non-fusion of racial traits and upset of inherited social traditions.

A relatively recent admixture has brought in Chinese blood. The families described, that show this Chinese admixture, are among the cleanest in the district. The men and women alike are industrious. They are quiet, unpretentious people and are well-liked by their neighbours.

It must be recalled that all the family groups discussed herein live in a small section of a large city. As a possible generalisation, such race admixtures do not seem really an advantage. While the

families are poor, independent and hard-working, neither they nor many of the ancestral stocks are assimilating with the general population as they ought to do, if a Canadian nationality is to be established. As is well known, many of the people of Central Europe and the Ukraine are of mixed origin and some Asiatic elements are incorporated in them. The result is that in them and also in many of such admixtures, there is a certain amount of stoicism and indifference to the sufferings of others, amounting, in fact, to indifference to human life and a sort of fatalistic cruelty in their outlooks.

The effect of racial admixture on the physique of the families concerned varies considerably. The progeny of the Central European and Ukrainian admixtures show many variations, as indicated, but on the whole, the squat build, flat features and rather coarse type of skin seem to be persistent and noticeable. Chinese and Indian admixtures show their origins plainly, as noted earlier in the family histories. Finn, Lapp and Norwegian elements have revealed themselves in unexpected fashions in some cases. The physique of the succeeding generations is apparently better than that of their parents, but they seem to be less resistant and to have less powers of endurance than their parents, though they have more leisure and amusements.

SOME GENERAL OBSERVATIONS ON SOCIAL REACTIONS.

Some general observations have been made by us on the social reactions of Central Europeans and Ukrainians in other areas in Montreal and in other parts of Quebec. On the whole they do not differ much from those already described. In Western Canada, where settlements of these peoples have been made, they seem

to form isolated communities judged from the literature on the subject and the settlement system would seem, to some extent, to be producing a perpetuation of the social habits of the home lands and not the wholehearted assimilation of Canadian life and outlook, so desirable for a nation. Isolation, even of settlements, adds to the difficulties inherent in new adjustments. In our own small experience, it seems that these Central European, Ukrainian and Russian groups of people, who have come relatively recently to Canada, do not understand the outlook of the Anglo-Saxon, Scandinavian and French elements of the population. They have arrived from countries where they have been suppressed to a greater or less extent, brood upon their former treatment and, expecting similar treatment here, they see oppression where none exists, assume that they are being badly treated and, consequently, become discontented and agitators, openly or in secret. It is noticeable that many of the extreme anti-social and communistic views are voiced by young people, born in Canada, who have never known the oppression and hardships of which they speak so glibly. We have observed a similar manifestation among some of the young Afrikaners in South Africa, in respect to events that happened many years before they, and sometimes even their parents, were born.

In another and poorer neighbourhood, not far removed from the one in which we were more interested, there is another group now fairly well known to us. More than 80 per cent. of the inhabitants of this district are of other than Anglo-Saxon or French origin. A social worker there told us that 30 languages are in use in part of this district. So far, noticeable cases of race admixture there are very few, as the participants in such

admixture have moved elsewhere. There is a peculiar atmosphere of smouldering suspicion and distrust among the inhabitants and the young people are easy prey to some communistically inclined men and women who visit the area regularly. In this district at present there are a number of Central Europeans who originally came to work on the land or in the lumber industry or on railroad work (construction). After a few years' work in these occupations, they have lost interest, have become discouraged at agricultural misfortunes, fluctuations in industry or the general depression and have drifted back to the city, there to swell the ranks of the unemployed and the relief payrolls. Some are willing to try occupations other than work on the land, but many are quite unfitted for other occupations, even if such were available. They are willing to share what little they have with one another, but are fatalistic and resentful, which militates against them on the one hand and, on the other hand, leaves them an easy prey to the fulminations of the professional agitator and the subterranean, typewritten, antisocial literature that circulates among them. It is fairly evident that the Slavonic temperament is not easily assimilable with those of the Anglo-Saxon and French.

A sad feature of this drift from the land to the city is the deterioration in moral fibre and standards that can be noted. Some freely admit that, in the country, they did well and lived well, but they tired of the regular and necessary work and, in very many cases, had no mental occupation or interests to fill the time when climatic conditions prevented outside work. The radio has helped to some extent to combat this loneliness and lack of interest but it is not available to many. Better education in the rural dis-

tracts and of all who emigrate into rural or undeveloped areas is essential before the drift can be checked. In this connection, a better knowledge and appreciation of the living world around would do much to add interest to life and, to this end, we would suggest that definite instruction in biology, and especially animal biology, in schools would not only give new zest but would be of practical value. Such would include information and observation of the facts of heredity in animals and in man, attention being directed to

both physical and social sides and to the maintenance of ethical standards. It would also seem advisable if there were more encouragement of immigration into Canada of British and Scandinavian settlers as there would be greater chances of assimilation into a loyal cooperative community. As we have stated elsewhere, race admixture between peoples widely separated in language, social development, religion and ideals does not seem desirable in the interests of the race as a whole.

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