

"I am still at the mercy of words, though sometimes now, knowing a little of their behavior very well, I think I can influence them slightly and have even learned to beat them now and then, which they appear to enjoy."

- Dylan Thomas



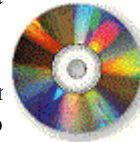
1785

We who are accustomed to the present “one-drop rule” convention, whereby anyone with any black ancestry at all is categorized as “a black,” need to remind ourselves that in colonial Virginia the conventional distinction between black and white had been considered to be 1/8th black ancestry. In this year that social and legal convention was altered from 1/8th to 1/4th, which meant that in the state of Virginia in this year there would have been some enslaved individuals who were to be considered white, and over and above that there would have been free white citizens who nevertheless had noticeable African heritage. After Nat Turner’s insurrection, there would be legislation in Virginia to allow “white” citizens who had some African ancestry, **if they were free** (which wasn’t necessarily the case, as it was quite all right under Virginia statutes for a white person to be a slave of someone else), to obtain a document from a county court, certifying to the fact that whatever they looked like they were “not a negro.” By [Thomas Jefferson](#)’s own explication of this convention, it appears ambiguous whether he considered his sex slave [Sally Hemings](#) to be black or to be white, although, black or white, she would be nevertheless for life his slave (he would not release her from [slavery](#), although he did honor the bargain he had made with her that some of their children would in his will be granted [manumission](#) documents).<sup>1</sup>“It is simply crazy that there should ever have come into being a world with such



, in which a man is set apart because of his color — the superficial fact about a human being — is not such a world? For an American fighting for his love of country, that the last hope of the world from its beginning have swallowed [slavery](#), is an irony so withering, a justice so intimate in its rebuke of pride, as to measure only with God.”

— Stanley Cavell, MUST WE MEAN WHAT WE SAY?  
1976, page 141



M

NO-ONE’S LIFE IS EVER NOT DRIVEN PRIMARILY BY HAPPENSTANCE



1. Is the earliest beginning of the [Eugenics](#) agenda in America to be traced to this hot conceit of white slavemasters such as Jefferson — that they might inseminate mulatto females who were their property, and inseminate them progressively through generations of less and less dusky little girls, until eventually their offspring would become treatable as if they were white?

1808

December: [Monticello](#) advocated intermarriage between Indians and whites, in part because this would involve the white acquisition of Indian territory without resort to the expense and chanciness of warfare. In a speech to a group of Delawares, Mohicans, and Munsees in this month he offered that “you will unite yourselves with us, join in our Great Councils and form one people with us, and we shall all be Americans; you will mix with us by marriage, your blood will run in our veins, and will spread with us over this great island.”<sup>2</sup> Notice now how the slave Isaac Jefferson described [Sally Hemings](#), Jefferson’s mistress at [Monticello](#) who had borne Jefferson’s mulatto slave child during this year, as “mighty near white,” “very handsome,” with “long straight hair down her back.” Straight hair might well indicate that she was part native American rather than or in addition to being part black African. We can consider Hemings to have been not more than  $\frac{1}{4}$ th colored, possibly  $\frac{1}{8}$ th, on the basis of the probable frequency of general master/slave sexual contact. Had it not been for her enslaved status, this woman might even have been able to qualify under Virginia statutes as legally white. However, a man in Jefferson’s position would have been unable to publicly acknowledge having taken a mistress regardless of his mistress’s coloration, which may help us understand Jefferson’s comment on his sexual situation in 1801 in a letter to James Monroe. Of the accusations being leveled against him by Callender, which had not at that point yet risen to the level of newspaper denunciations, he wrote: “He knows nothing of me which I am not willing to declare to the world myself.” There is here an unexplored possibility that [Thomas Jefferson](#) was able to allow himself to miscegenate with Hemings because he was regarding her as part Indian rather than as part African, and that the situation has been artificially simplified for us by generation after generation of white historian to whom any person not entirely white fell into the same pot category of “other.” I am not myself inclined to that theory, but I do suggest that if possible it should be checked out — rather than merely ignored.



2. Is the earliest beginning of the [Eugenics](#) agenda in America to be traced to this supposition that eventually the offspring of the American tribes would become so “amalgamated” by the mingling of white “squaw men” with their native “squaws” (never of course the mingling of white women with native men, which would by way of invidious contrast amount to an abomination), that eventually the tribes would be treatable as if they were groups of white people?

## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

1815



Former president [Thomas Jefferson](#) drew up his famous genetic chart, with its sickening white-racist imputation that “a third cross clears the blood.”<sup>3</sup>



3. Is the earliest beginning of the [Eugenics](#) agenda in America to be traced to this hot conceit of white slavemasters such as Jefferson — that they might inseminate mulatto females who were their property, and inseminate them progressively through generations of less and less dusky little girls, until eventually their offspring would become treatable as if they were white?

1839

➡ In America, volumes 3 and 4 of [Thomas Carlyle](#)'s CRITICAL AND MISCELLANEOUS ESSAYS were being put through the presses:

MISC. ESSAYS, VOL. III

MISC. ESSAYS, VOL. IV

Copies of these volumes would of course be in [Henry Thoreau](#)'s personal library.

The Chartist petition presented in the previous year having gotten exactly nowhere, a "charter" of political reforms was presented to Parliament by workers and was likewise rejected. [Ebenezer Elliott](#) renounced Chartism. A pamphlet entitled CHARTISM was being produced in England:



[[Carlyle](#)'s] "might is right" argument presupposes ultimately benevolent and uncorrupt aims behind the might; those reading Carlyle now find it hard to share such assumptions, as indeed many of his contemporaries did. He justified his view by saying that a purely brutal conquest would never last, but would be flung out; in modern times, the fate of Nazism and Stalinism supports his view, and the Terror in France had proved it to him. The true strong man, for that reason, was always wise; his strength lay in the soul rather than the body, and was drawn from God.

One true inheritor of this tradition of thought:



"I cannot see why man should not be just as cruel as nature."

— [Adolf "Mr. Natural" Hitler](#)



[Charles Darwin](#) saw the raw effects of this Carlylean reasoning process and the alleged or eponymous founder of "Social Darwinism" was at once fascinated and bemused — and repelled.<sup>4</sup>



The Fuegians ... struck Darwin as more like animals than men.... Thoreau's single overt citation of Darwin in WALDEN refers to one of Darwin's few concessions to the Fuegians' superior powers, their adaptation to the cold climate (WALDEN, pages 12-13). This is but one among many spots where WALDEN undermines the hierarchies of civilization/barbarity (the villagers are bizarre penance-performing Brahmins) and humanity/animal (the villagers as prairie dogs, himself competing with squirrels for fall forage). Such instances of undermining do not reflect Thoreau's attempt to quarrel with Darwin as much as Thoreau's desire to accentuate tendencies already present in Darwin and other travelers' accounts. ...Darwin, like Thoreau albeit to a lesser degree, was prepared to relativize moral distinctions between "advanced" and "backward" cultures and between human and animal estates.

"It is impossible to reflect on the state of the American continent without astonishment. Formerly it must have swarmed with great monsters; now we find mere pygmies compared with the antecedent, allied races."



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

4. The guy who was absolutely fascinated by this hatemongering was not Darwin, a man who still had hope for human decency, but the headmaster of Rugby, Dr. Thomas Arnold.



EUGENICS



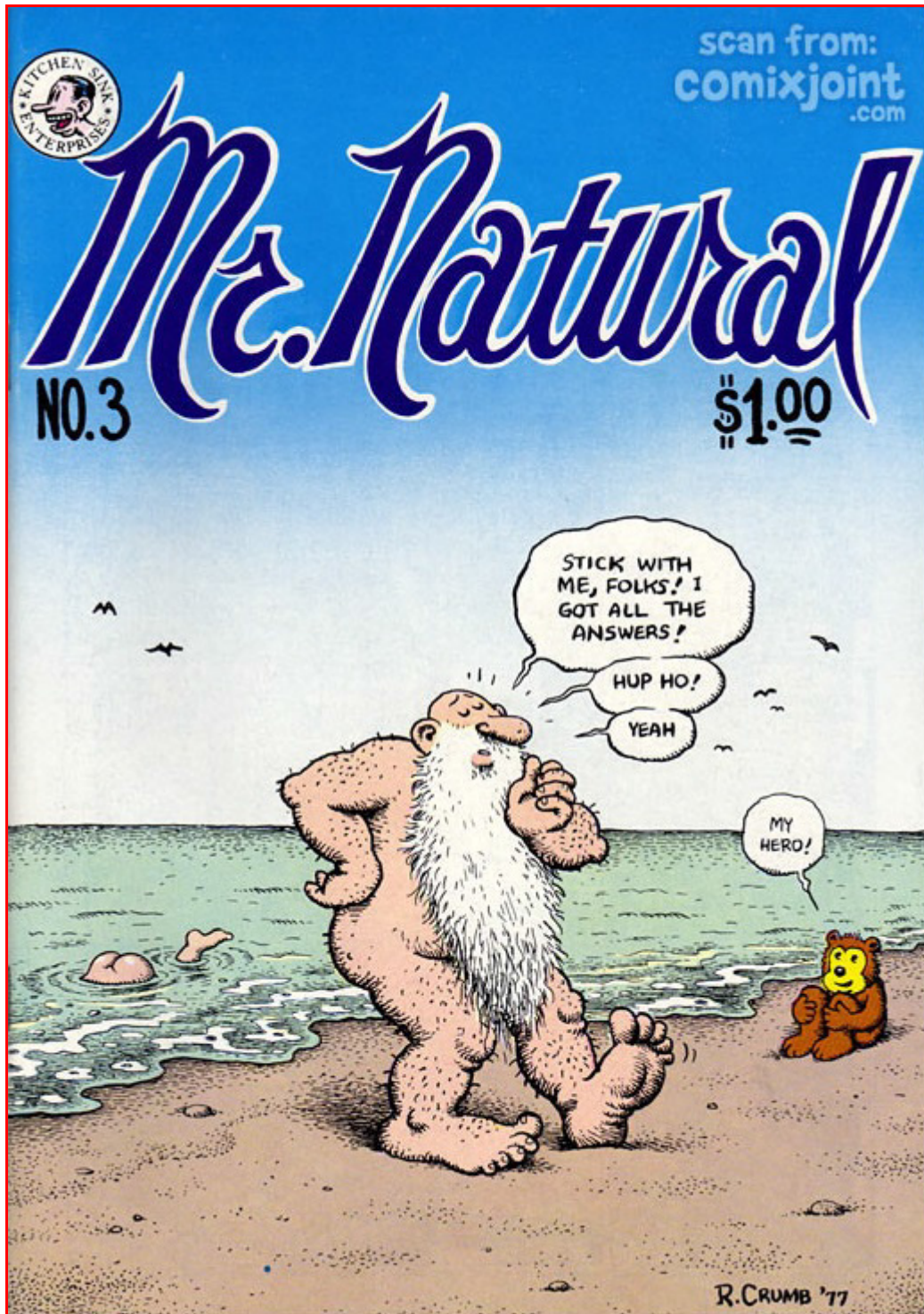
HDT

WHAT?

INDEX

EUGENICS

EUGENICS





## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

1859

November 24, Thursday: The firm of John Murray published the initial 500 copies of THE ORIGIN OF SPECIES BY MEANS OF NATURAL SELECTION by Charles Darwin, in London.

La Gloire, the first ironclad battleship, was launched for the French navy at the arsenal of Mourillon, Toulon (this vessel had been designed by Stanislas Dupuy de Lôme).

Henry Thoreau wrote to Calvin H. Greene.

*Concord Nov. 24. '59*

*Dear Sir,*

*The lectures which you refer to were reported in the newspaper, after a fashion, the last one in some half dozen of them, and if I possessed one, or all, of those reports I would send them to you, bad as they are. The best, or at least longest one of the Brown Lecture was in the Boston "Atlas & Bee" of Nov 2<sup>d</sup>. May be half the whole—There were others in the Traveller—The Journal &c of the same date.*

*I am glad to know that you are interested to see my things, & I wish that I had them in a printed form to send to you. I exerted myself considerably to get the last discourse printed & sold for the benefit of Brown's family—but the publishers are afraid of pamphlets & it is now too late.*

*I return the stamp which I have not used.*

*I shall be glad to see you if I ever come your way*

[One-third page missing]

*Yrs truly  
Henry D. Thoreau*

JOHN BROWN



ON THE ORIGIN OF SPECIES BY MEANS OF NATURAL SELECTION, OR THE PRESERVATION OF FAVORED SPECIES IN THE STRUGGLE FOR LIFE was published to acclaim and controversy by a gentleman naturalist with whose work Thoreau was already familiar. Have you ever wondered how [Charles Darwin](#) ever got his ORIGIN book, with its so utterly novel and abhorrent thesis, through the London presses? The standard accounts merely say that he sent off his MS and it was published.



### ON THE ORIGIN OF SPECIES

But what actually happened was that Charles Lyell fronted for him with a publisher, John Murray, and based on this recommendation Murray, being himself an amateur geologist, accepted the MS sight unseen. Once he got his hands on the actual manuscript, he became quite disenchanted at what he had committed himself to. He commented, in fact, that this new theory of descent with modification was like “contemplating the fruitful union of a poker and a rabbit.” The new theory was “absurd.” Pointing out to Darwin that “everybody is interested in pigeons,” he urged that the MS be entirely rewritten to limit the author’s remarks to pigeons, with only a brief reference to general principles. His recommendation, he confessed, was based upon a standard publishers’ fantasy, that of placing a copy of his book on the tea-table of every pigeon-fancier in Britain. The publisher was willing to put out only an edition of 1,250 copies, which at 15 shillings was quickly sold out.

The argument about this had driven Darwin to one of those English water-resorts for “the cure.” While at this resort he was reading a new novel, ADAM BEDE, and on the evening of this day on which ORIGIN came out, George Eliot ([Herbert Spencer](#)’s girlfriend, sort of, although we have room to hope that they were never

## EUGENICS

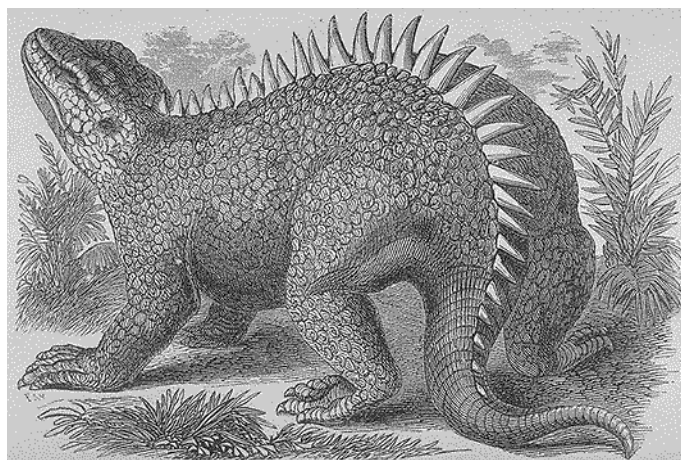
## EUGENICS

intimate) read Darwin's book.



We don't know either what he thought of her fiction or what she thought of his nonfiction. We do know that the publisher's trepidations would prove to have been unwarranted, that two pirate editions would quickly roll off the American presses without the formality of permission or the forwarding of any royalties — and that at Cambridge College, William Whewell would not tolerate such a treatise as the *ORIGIN* to be placed in the library stacks.

The natural history encyclopedias of the 19th Century rarely included extinct animals. An exception was Samuel Goodrich's *ILLUSTRATED NATURAL HISTORY* published in this year, in which, upon a notice of the common chameleon, the audience suddenly found itself in the presence of "fossil lizards." Below is its woodcut of the *Hylaeosaurus*. Other illustrations show the *Iguanodon*, the *Megalosaurus*, and a collection of marine reptiles such as *Ichthyosaurus*. All these illustrations had been copied from the Crystal Palace concretions. *Hylaeosaurus* had been discovered by Gideon Mantell in 1832 and had been announced in his *GEOLOGY OF THE SOUTHEAST OF ENGLAND* in 1833. It was one of Richard Owen's original 3 dinosaurs and stood proud on the relocated Crystal Palace's grounds:



[HDT](#)[WHAT?](#)[INDEX](#)

## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

[Friend Daniel Ricketson](#)'s journal for this day reads:

*Clear and fine for the season. Left Concord at 8<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> A.M.*



[Frederick Douglass](#)'s ship was arriving on this day in Liverpool harbor.



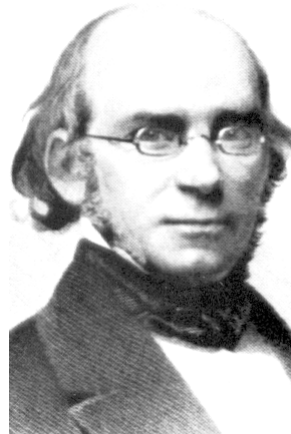
In a private letter, the Reverend [Theodore Parker](#), who was entirely unfamiliar with evolutionary theory, confessed on this day to [Francis Jackson](#) (the namesake grandfather of the mentally imbalanced [Francis Jackson Meriam](#) of the [Harpers Ferry](#) raid whom Thoreau would help escape, supposedly toward [Canada](#)) that the reason he did not like slavery was, that if these inferior colored people were allowed to have any place at all in human society, they would merely take the opportunity to **fecundate**. To be kind to them was merely to create more of them that one would need to be kind to. The Reverend was an Aryan possessed of Aryan common sense, a veteran of preaching in downtown Boston to other Aryans possessed of Aryan common

## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

sense, and so of course he belabored the obvious, that:

*An Anglo-Saxon with common sense does not like this Africanization of America.*



Brit horrified at slavery

User horrified at slavery

EUGENICS

Confusing Darwinism with Spencerism and triumphalism (that is, with “Social Darwinism,” as is so very usual), the Reverend [Parker](#) would eventually get around to congratulating himself that on account of his deeply ingrained racism he had been “Darwinian before Darwin” (actually, in this “Anglo-Saxon” Aryan race-soulism of his, what he was in fact was Hitlerian before Hitler).<sup>5</sup>



November 24. The river has risen considerably, at last, owing to the rain of the 22d. Had been very low before.

See, on the railroad-slope by the pond, and also some days ago, a flock of goldfinches eating the seed of the Roman wormwood. At Spanish Brook Path. the witch-hazel (one flower) lingers.

I observe that ferns grow especially where there is an abrupt or broken bank, as where, in the woods, sand has been anciently dug out of a hillside to make a dam with and the semicircular scar has been covered with a sod

5. [Adolf Hitler](#), a Catholic, understood something about Christianity which few Christians are able to accept. “Christianity is a rebellion against natural law, a protest against nature” (HITLER’S TABLE TALK, Weidenfield and Nicolson, London 1963). Many German Christians supported Hitler because they had the spirit of Hitler within them while they supposed they had the spirit of Christ within them. Even today some Christians are unable to accept the truth of this remark, because they have the spirit of Hitler, or the Emperor Constantine, within them while they suppose they have the spirit of Christ within them. That sort of Christianity was in fact the only sort of Christianity which my mother in Indiana had ever known, which is why she could not consider me a Christian but needed to agonize over me as an “atheist” howevermuch I insisted that I was attempting to follow the way of Jesus as I construed it. If someone were to tell these “Constantinian” Christians that Hitler said that two plus two equals four, they would try to find some perversity in this remark by which to dismiss it (the guy lost a war, and that has forever discredited him as the leader of the state church), and if someone told them that the problem is not that Hitler did not know what true Christianity is, but that the actual problem is that they themselves do not know what true Christianity is, they .... My mother was in fact, like E.O. Wilson the Harvard sociobiologist, an admirer of Ronald Reagan. Wilson perceived President Reagan as the model of the “soft-core altruist,” which is the good because fake kind of altruist who does not qualify as a Christian “enemy of civilization” (Edward O. Wilson, ON HUMAN NATURE, Harvard UP, Cambridge MA 1978, page 157) because he does not operate out of a mere mindless death-wish. As Mary Midgley has pointed out, “Social Darwinism or Spencerism is the unofficial religion of the west. The official western religion, Christianity, is well known to be rather demanding and to have its eye on the next world rather than this one. In such situations, other doctrines step in to fill the gap. People want a religion for this world as well. They find it in the worship of individual success” (Mary Midgley, EVOLUTION AS A RELIGION: STRANGE HOPES AND STRANGER FEARS, Methuen, London 1985, page 140). The mock altruist is a person whose calculating “good behavior” is well rewarded. His “psychological vehicles are lying, pretense and deceit, including self-deceit, because the actor is most convincing who believes that his performance is real” (page 156). The real altruist, the hard-core one, “irrational,” would in fact be Social Darwinism’s enemy, sociobiology’s enemy, and the enemy of civilization. There were some German Christians, a few, to leaven Hitler’s loaf; they insisted on their right to die by way of the cross rather than the sword. There are some American Christians, a few, to leaven America’s loaf; they are of course condemned, but here they are.



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

and shrubs again. The shelter and steepness are favorable when there is shade and moisture. How pretty amid the downy and cottony fruits of November the heads of the white anemone, raised a couple of feet from the ground on slender stalks, two or three together,—small heads of yellowish-white down, compact and regular as a thimble beneath, but, at this time, diffusive and bursting forth above, somewhat like a little torch with its flame,—a very neat object!



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

1865

The Oneida Community of perfectionists, in their The Circular, came out in favor of perfecting the human species through [Eugenics](#):

[H]uman breeding should be one of the foremost questions of the age, transcending in its sublime interest all present political and scientific questions.





## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

1869

[Francis Galton](#)'s HEREDITARY GENIUS: AN INQUIRY INTO ITS LAWS AND CONSEQUENCES. Our upper classes not only suppose themselves to be superior, they are superior. Your father left you money, you genius you.

EUGENICS

**1870**

During the following couple of decades the conservatory attached to the [White House](#) in [Washington DC](#) would be expanding to great size, rambling beside and over the West Wing and thus providing the protective environment of a spring garden all year long for the favored residents of this edifice.

For the following two decades Social Darwinism would be on the rise in the USA, and social welfare policies of benefit to the poor would be under siege as representing not only a burdensome present expense placed on the shoulders of the provident by the improvident, but also a threat to the future health and wellbeing of our society. ([Adolf Hitler](#) didn't get this from us, because of course he wouldn't have any need to — vicious [proto-Nazis](#) can easily dream up stuff like this all on their lonesome, 7 days a week before breakfast, without ever breaking into a sweat.)

**EUGENICS**

"I cannot see why man should not be just as cruel as nature."

— [Adolf "Mr. Natural" Hitler](#)



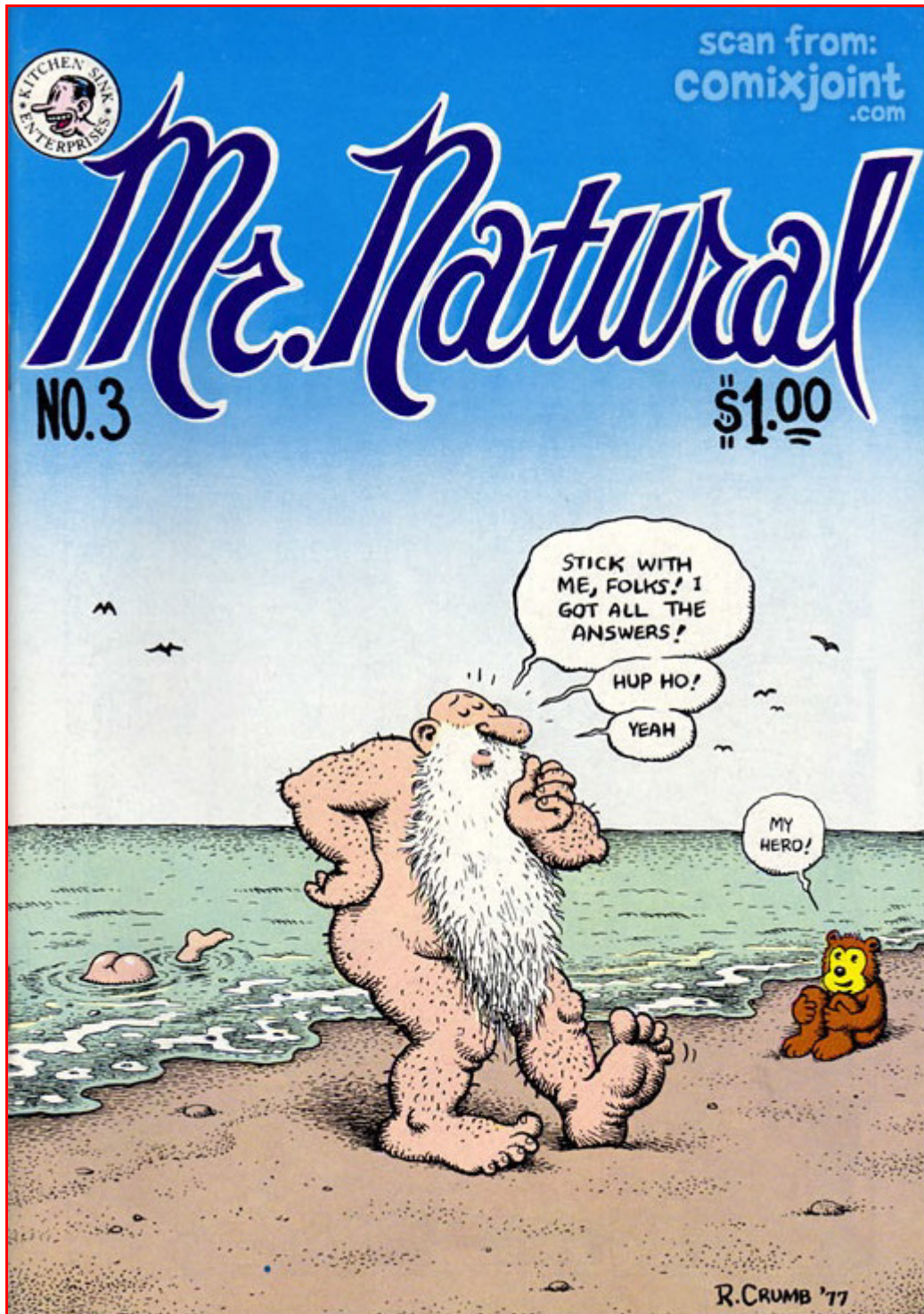
HDT

WHAT?

INDEX

EUGENICS

EUGENICS





EUGENICS

EUGENICS

1873

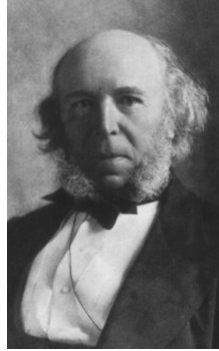


[HDT](#)[WHAT?](#)[INDEX](#)

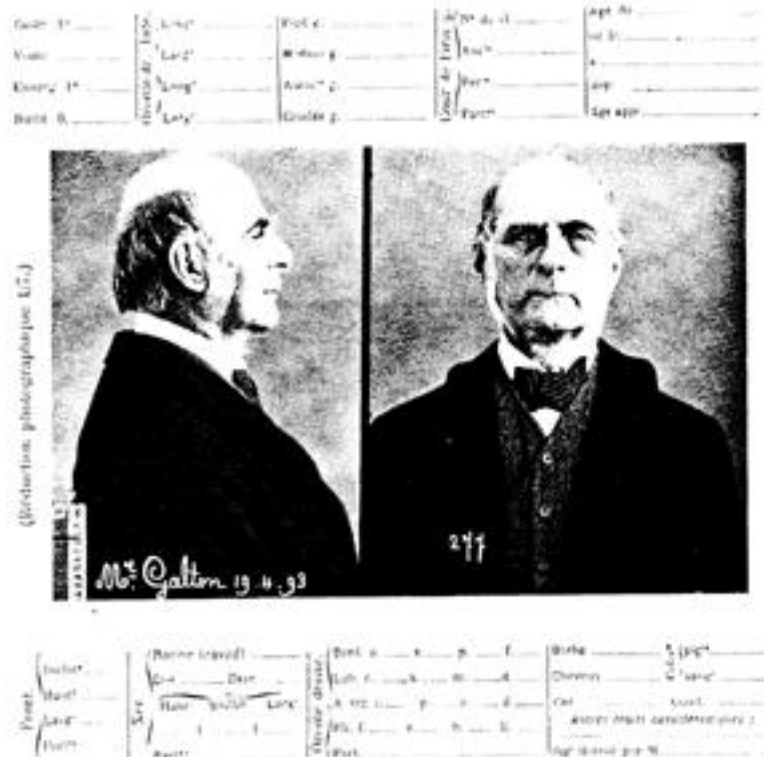
## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

In the “Slaughter-House Cases” 83 U.S. (16 Wall.) 36, 21 L.Ed. 394, the Supreme Court discussed the purpose of the Reconstruction Era’s XIIIth Amendment to [the federal Constitution](#) and the meaning of “involuntary servitude” in a manner which is totally unintelligible unless one takes into account the *Zeitgeist* of the age as expressed in the sociological ruminations of that age’s philosopher of record, [Herbert Spencer](#), and as



expressed in the scientific ruminations of that age’s pseudoscientist of record, [Francis Galton](#). (For an illustration of how this Amendment is treated even today in consequence of the neglect of subsequent enabling legislation by the federal congress, consider Jones v. Alfred H. Mayer Co. (1968) 392 U.S. 409, 88 S.Ct. 2186.)



Effectively, what the XIIIth had outlawed was a mere word, a mere concept. From the point of enactment of this amendment forward, anything referred to within the law of the United States of America as “slavery” would be ipso facto vulnerable to legal interception; however, all one needed to do to avoid these legal



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

cancellations of one's dominion over others here was, to carefully refrain from ever referring to these dominations by employment of that legally proscribed term, "slavery." This situation had been implemented very simply, merely by our never having assigned to the constructs "slave," "slavery," and/or "enslavement" any specific legalistic definition within our state and/or federal criminal statutes, or within our body of case-law precedent. In all of America in all of the years subsequent to our [Civil War](#), not one single American citizen has ever been punished, or even convicted, or even arraigned, or even taken under arrest, for any crime of having enslaved another American citizen. It is as if this never ever was the case. The perfect out has been, that whatever we do to others, we are very simply not ever to refer to this as an "enslaving" of them. You're home free regardless of who you exploit or of how you exploit, so long as you watch your mouth while you do so.



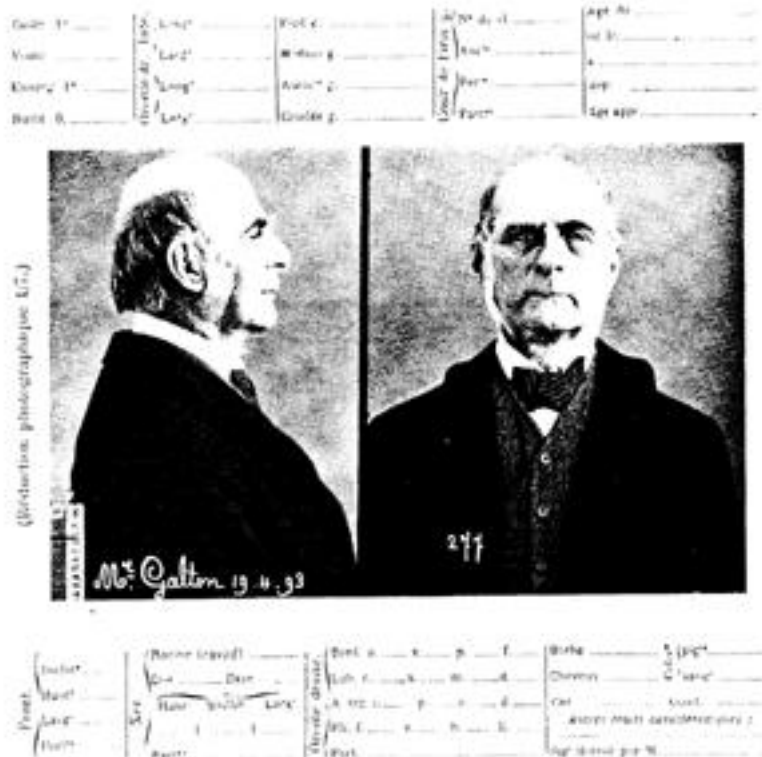


## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

Alphonse Louis Pierre Pyramus de Candolle's *HISTOIRE DES SCIENCES ET DES SAVANTS DEPUIS DEUX SIÈCLES* (Geneva) made a case for environmental influences rather than hereditary influences on the achievement of eminence among scientists, in direct opposition to the biologicistic determinism of [Francis Galton's](#) "[Eugenics](#)" movement. Although he acknowledged a role for heredity in the transmission of mental ability, Candolle provided statistical evidence implicating a number of environmental factors in the production of eminence. Great scientists were in actual fact more likely to derive from countries with more moderate climatic conditions, more democratic governments, more tolerant religions, more well-developed commercial interests, yada yada yada. The environment in which they were being produced was demonstrably more influential than any certificates of noble birth. [Galton's](#) reaction would be to gather more pseudo-data and present this in 1874 in another book on the topic, *ENGLISH MEN OF SCIENCE*.

In his essay on "Hereditary Improvement," the data-faking founder of the pseudoscience of human [Eugenics](#)—the discipline which would eventually "cash out" during the eugenicist years of Virginia, [California](#), Indiana, Vermont, and 27 other states as a legitimator of the sterilization of the institutionalized and then during the [Nazi](#) regime in Germany as a legitimation of genocide—demonstrated that one result of the [Irish Potato Famine](#) was that the "Irish type of face" had become noticeably "more like the Negro type of face." That is, the surviving [Irish](#), because they had been selected by starvation for "a low or coarse organization," had developed the type of protruding (prognathous) lower jaw that was typical of our primitive ancestors and is still typical of the present-day inferior races. "These people lead with their chin — which is why we have to strike them."



SLAVERY  
PEONAGE

THE SCIENCE OF 1873

## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS



According to Noel Ignatiev's **HOW THE IRISH BECAME WHITE**, "To be acknowledged as white, it was not enough for the Irish to have a competitive advantage over Afro-Americans in the labor market; in order for them to avoid the taint of blackness it was necessary that no Negro be allowed to work in occupations where Irish were to be found."



IRISH PHYSIOGNOMY.

According to the jokes that were going the rounds in those days among non-Irish white racists (the bulk of the population, actually), the Irish were "Negroes turned inside out" while the American free blacks were "smoked Irish."

It has been well said, that inside the charmed Caucasian chalk circle it is the sum of what you are not -not Indian, not Negro, not a Jew, not Irish, etc.- that make you what you are. And, that's as true now as it was then.

Galton's "Hereditary Improvement" argued that people "of really good breed" ought to be being encouraged to reproduce themselves, while their inferiors ought to be being discouraged from so doing. We selectively breed our livestock, it goes without saying — and are we not at least as important as our livestock?

Two Quaker reformers in Indiana, learning that female prisoners at the state's penal institution were being sexually abused, pushed for a gender-segregated "Indiana Reformatory Institute for Women and Girls." For years Friend Rhoda Coffin lobbied for the prison, and then joined its 1st board of visitors, and then Friend Sarah Smith became the founding superintendent. Their story was that Friends Rhoda and Sarah had created an institution that was all about reform rather than punishment. Their approach was, however, invasive and constrictive in that the new institution focused on reintegrating females into the gender roles available to them in the current society, training them, as described in their prison's 1876 annual report, to "occupy the position assigned to them by God, viz., wives, mothers, and educators of children." Later there would be hints of financial irregularities as well.



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

March 2, Sunday: The United States federal Congress passed a “Comstock Act,” making the us the only Western nation that provided criminal penalties for disseminating birth control or information about it. It became a crime to import or distribute any device, medicine, or information designed to prevent conception or induce abortion, or to mention in print the names of sexually transmitted diseases. Nurses and physicians acting in their official capacity were stripped of their freedom of speech: under sanction of punishment they were never to mention such information to their patients.<sup>6</sup>

Petite Suite for orchestra by Georges Bizet is performed for the first time, at the Theatre de l’Odeon, Paris. The audience accorded it polite applause.

6. Such pro-quantity, anti-birth-control government agendas would of course give rise to their opposite — a pro-birth-control reform countermovement known as “[eugenics](#)” that would be construable as righteous because pro-quality and anti-quantity.



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

1877

The botanist [Harland Coultas](#) died in Hackney, London, England.

A sociological study of the Juke family was unleashed in the US. Unfortunately, because there were so very many Americans who were pleased at the legitimization that this offering provided for all their hottest fantasies and most morbid agendas — it would take us many decades to dope out just how faked and tendentious this scholarship had been.

EUGENICS

British traders sent seed of the rubber tree (*Hevea brasiliensis*) from Brazil to Malaya, to be followed three decades later by development of Dutch plantations in Sumatra. (By 1930 Brazil would have lost the rubber market to plantations in Malaya and elsewhere; the work of 150,000 rubber trappers would slowly dry up, returning the Amazonian city of Manaus to obscurity. In the 1920s the US company Firestone would transform the American near-colony of [Liberia](#) into a land of rubber, in the process gaining from the Liberian government a concession of 1,000,000 acres. In 1943 the US dollar would become Liberia's currency. During WWII the US government, recognizing the importance of rubber harvest to the war effort, would maintain there a staff of plant pathologists to help prevent importation of a leaf blight disease from South America.)

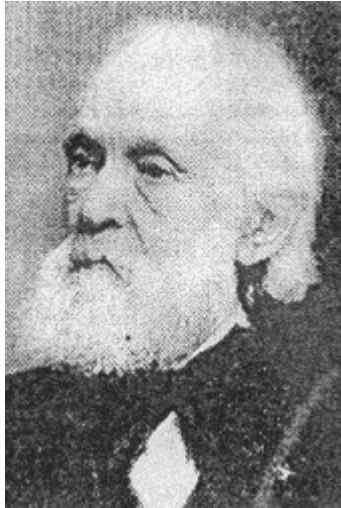
BOTANIZING

Frederick William Burbidge was sent to Borneo by James Veitch & Sons to collect orchids and other exotic plants. He met with Peter C. M. Veitch and they went to Kina Balu, Borneo's Sugar Loaf Mountain (returning to England in 1879). The trip would be recorded in *THE GARDENS OF THE SUN*.

W. J. Beal, working at Michigan Agricultural College (now Michigan State University) made the first controlled crosses of corn in an effort to increase yield. (Later workers would experiment with inbred varieties, devising a system of "double crossing" to produce large quantities of hybrid seed. In 1935 only one percent of US corn would come from hybrid seed but today virtually all corn grown in the US is hybrid, giving increased yields with reduced manpower.)

1879

[August Bondi](#) was register clerk in the United States Land Office. He was also a police judge.



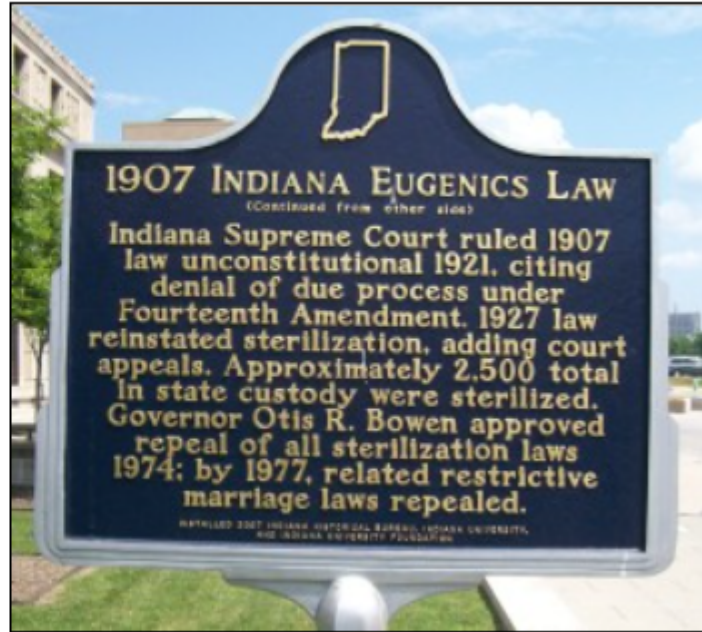
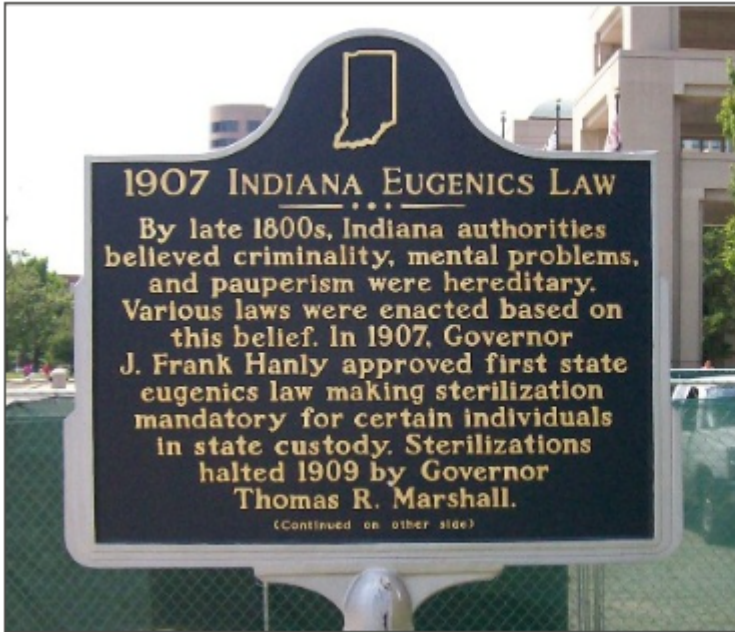
A large exodus of Southern blacks to [Kansas](#) begins as restrictions against former slaves increase in states of the old Confederacy. Many of the ones who come to Kansas do so because they cannot afford to join the movement to return to Africa and found the new country of [Liberia](#). That state is viewed favorably by blacks because of the Kansas abolitionist John Brown; earlier migrants have already founded the town of Nicodemus.

In “The Education of Idiots and Imbeciles,” a paper presented to the Social Science Association of Indiana, Harriet M. Foster asserted that, oftentimes, imbeciles and the feeble-minded inherited their conditions from their parents. Foster stated that the most frequent causes for these types of mental problems “intermarriage of consanguineous persons, and intemperance of one or both parents.” She demonstrated a great facility at

[HDT](#)[WHAT?](#)[INDEX](#)

## EUGENICS

making this oh-so-convenient stuff sound oh-so-so scientific!



EUGENICS





## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

1880

November 27, Saturday: In Boston, [Loring Moody](#), who had become enamored of the pernicious prejudices of the pseudoscientist [Francis Galton](#), issued a manifesto for the creation of an Institute of Heredity (part school, part library) that would promote the techniques of “negative eugenics” (his term) as the cure for our manifest social ills.<sup>7</sup> “[Our] reproductive forces ... are terribly clogged and out of gear ... the time has fully come ... to move forward in the great work of delivering our race from this terrible waste, suffering and ruin.” His manifesto would come to the attention of Elizabeth Thompson (1821-1899), a New York philanthropist, and she and Moody would correspond, with a volume *HEREDITY: ITS RELATION TO HUMAN DEVELOPMENT* reproducing a selection of their letters. The Institute of Heredity would “reconstruct and establish the foundations of social order upon natural laws of human life and relations” (this agency would be sponsoring crowd-pleasingly

7. Positive eugenics is the encouragement of parenthood on the part of the worthy, whereas negative eugenics would be the discouragement of parenthood on the part of the unworthy. For instance, as was fully recognized in such progressive states as North Carolina, Indiana, and California as have mandated involuntary sterilization, it would do no long-term good for us merely to segregate and confine our feeble-minded, if we were merely then to allow them the potential of breeding with one another at public expense after such a separation from normal human society.

[HDT](#)[WHAT?](#)[INDEX](#)

## EUGENICS

discriminatory lectures as late as 1888).

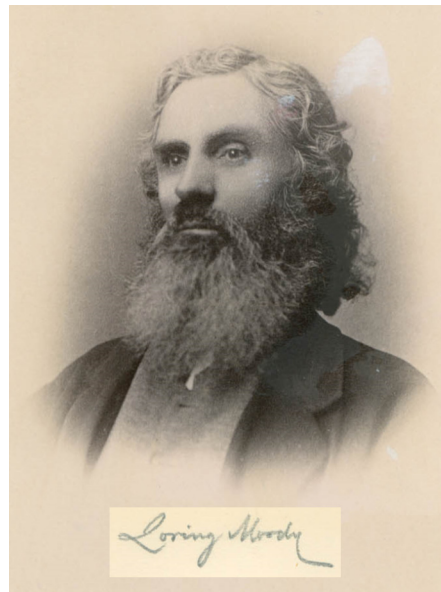
## EUGENICS

[EUGENICS](#)

Height 5' 10"	Weight 150 lb	Build 1	Age 45	Sex M
Complexion 1	Hair 1	Eyes 1	Teeth 1	Signature
Birth 1	Parents 1	Education 1	Occupation 1	Address 1



Height 5' 10"	Weight 150 lb	Build 1	Age 45	Sex M
Complexion 1	Hair 1	Eyes 1	Teeth 1	Signature
Birth 1	Parents 1	Education 1	Occupation 1	Address 1



1881

In [Rhode Island](#), the [Smithfield](#) meetinghouse of the [Religious Society of Friends](#) burned, and would be replaced by the present structure:



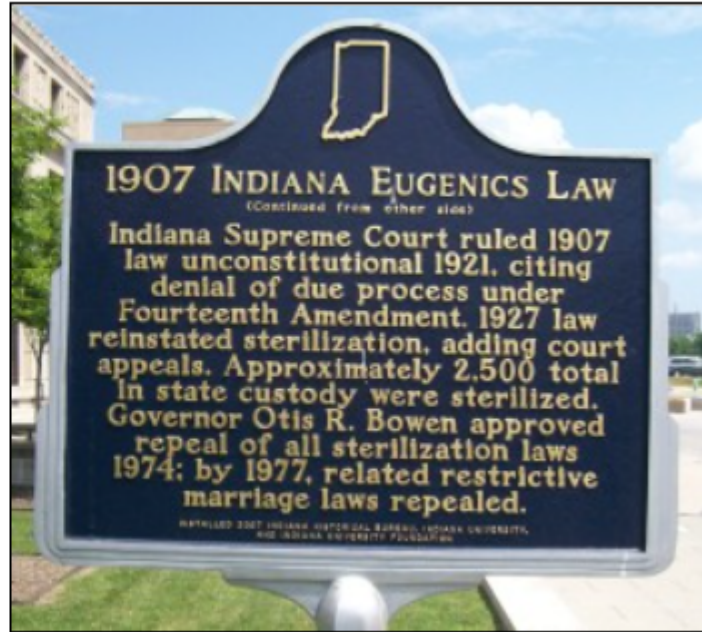
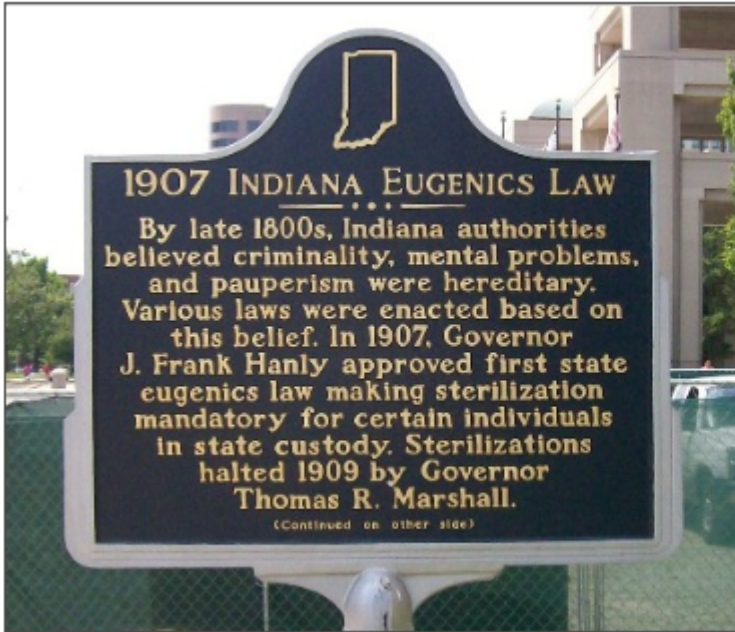
When Clark Shove of Fall River offered to donate a grand piano to the [Yearly Meeting School](#) in [Providence, Rhode Island](#), the School Committee of the New England [Yearly Meeting](#) of the [Religious Society of Friends](#) took his proposal as an opportunity for the Society to reappraise its attitude toward the arts. After serious consideration, the elders decided that this gift would be accepted, it being understood that “music lessons should be given at the school only to those pupils whose parents specifically requested it.”

During this year Friend Rufus Matthew Jones was completing his studies at the school.

Relying on records from 1840, the Reverend Oscar C. McCulloch studied a group of families around Indianapolis, Indiana, a group that he was referring to as the “Tribe of Ishmael.” Such records demonstrated, to him, human degradation through heredity. His A STUDY IN SOCIAL DEGRADATION, printed in Indianapolis, showed that mental weakness, pauperism, licentiousness, and poor morals were problems created and perpetuated by bad genetics: “Note the force of heredity. Each child tends to the same life, reverts when taken

## EUGENICS

out.”



EUGENICS

October 31, Monday: [Loring Moody](#) asserted in a letter that “As a means of eliminating the inherited effects of disorders from posterity, I would have the government establish and maintain good, comfortable, attractive hospital homes for the care, treatment and life residence of all habitual drunkards, confirmed criminals, idiots and incurable lunatics, who should be treated as people suffering from dangerous congenital diseases, liable to propagation through heredity; and so they should be strictly guarded from having any offspring, as far as possible by moral, and the remainder by legal, restraint. So the hereditary transmission of innumerable disorders would soon come to an end.”

EUGENICS



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

1882

The [Reverend Professor James Legge](#)'s "the religious portions" of the [Chinese](#) BOOK OF POETRY, Volume 16.

The US implemented the [Chinese](#) Exclusion Act.

[Loring Moody](#)'s and Elizabeth Thompson's 159-page HEREDITY. ITS RELATION TO HUMAN DEVELOPMENT. CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN ELIZABETH THOMPSON AND LORING MOODY (Boston and New York: The Institute of Heredity) advocated that for the improvement and welfare of our race, human breeding must be placed under strict controls:

Having from early manhood been actively and earnestly engaged in various humane labors for the improvement and welfare of our race; having set on foot and organized several reformatory and benevolent movements; and having been a close observer of the practical workings and effects of these during nearly half a century; and from these having been led to a larger survey of the field, including all of our public and private charitable, benevolent and corrective institutions, - the conclusion is unavoidable that all of these institutions are at best only temporary expedients, for, while they afford some relief and a few instances of reform, they leave the roots and sources of evil untouched by their operations. This conclusion only led to another, viz., that in order to make any successful warfare against social disorders we must advance directly upon their strongholds, and dry up the fountains from which they spring. So I drew up the following circular, which with the aid of judicious friends -among them were Henry W. Longfellow, Samuel E. Sewall, and Mrs. Horace Mann- was printed and sent widely over the country - to the editors of several publications among others.

...

The generative power must be educated, trained and guided by the highest wisdom and scientific culture, as the only sure reformation of effective and permanent reform.

...

The causes are congenital. People who are born with theft and murder in the blood will steal and kill. The jailor and hangman neither cure them, nor check their tendencies, nor thin their ranks. For, as fast as we imprison and hang criminals others are born to take their places; so that all our conflicts with evil result in a long-drawn battle. The true way of regenerating the race is through scientific generation. The demand of the time is, that we lay the right foundations of character by fixing the organic tendencies of children, in moral and physical health, before birth.

EUGENICS



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

1883

November 13, Tuesday: In a lecture before the National Academy of Science that would be published as [MEMOIR UPON THE FORMATION OF A DEAF VARIETY OF THE HUMAN RACE](#) (New Haven CT: National Academy of Science, 86 pages), [Alexander Graham Bell](#) promoted his own teaching technique, oralism, to the point at which he considered his opposition to any use of American Sign Language to amount to a matter of scientific and moral principle. His appeal was to hearing parents of deaf-mute children who needed for their impaired children to be more like them, and to [proto-Nazis](#) who considered that the human species must not be held back in its advance toward superiority and progress. He poured into the ready ears of both these groups the attitude that without being able to converse fully with hearing and speaking persons, such human defectives could never be successful in life. His belief in his oralism sprang from his belief in [eugenics](#). He described the manner in which unions between persons who were both congenitally deaf was annually increasing the number of children born congenitally deaf. He feared that what we were doing by allowing congenitally deaf persons to share a language and culture of their own, was tolerating the generation of a race of defectives:

Sexual selection is at work among the deaf and dumb.... Those who believe as I do, that the production of a defective race of human beings would be a great calamity to the world, will examine carefully the causes that lead to the intermarriages of the deaf with the object of applying a remedy.

The human species must not be held back in its progress out of compassion, or by an appeal to a principle of fairness. Permitting the teaching of American Sign Language, and permitting social clubs and programs for the deaf, and exposing young deaf children to deaf adults and administrators, was going to result in a constantly growing number of substandard people who could only be a greater and greater burden upon the productive normals of human society. It was therefore necessary that deaf children be assimilated into mainstream hearing society. You can't just allow defectives to clump together. Since we should not simply sterilize them (a topic on which he did not discourse) or persuade them to refrain from producing offspring who may become burdens like themselves (another topic on which he did not discourse), we must enact legislation to forbid marriage to any person who is congenitally deaf, and in addition to forbid intermarriage among those "belonging to families containing more than one deaf-mute." To become excellent, we must not be burdened!





## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

1888

April 30, Monday: Count Kiyotaka Kuroda replaced Marquis Hirobumi Ito as prime minister of [Japan](#).

[Alexander Graham Bell](#) posted from 1,336 Nineteenth Street in Washington DC a circular letter of inquiry to the superintendents and principals of all American and Canadian Schools for the Deaf. He asked about 5 specific matters, the 3d of which was “your opinion relating to the intermarriages of the deaf, and the inheritance of deafness by the offspring; and any statistics relating to the subject.” Pages 42 through 106 of the 195 pages of responses, published as [FACTS AND OPINIONS RELATING TO THE DEAF FROM AMERICA](#) (London: Spottiswoode & Co., New-street Square), related to that singular matter. Most of the institutions would not respond at all, and a number of the institutions that did respond provided factual material that could only be characterized as unhelpful to the [eugenics](#) cause:

Frank Lamont Cole, now of Pawtucket, R.I., attended this school from February 1877 (at its founding) to June 1880. Was 13 when admitted. Became deaf from scarlet fever at 2½ years. After leaving school married a deaf-mute, Jennie Bragg, who was *not a congenital*. They had twins, who died soon after their birth. Mary Emily Bauer, now living at Green, R.I., married Frank Brown, congenital deaf-mute. They have 1 child, now nearly a year old, *not deaf*. Emily Bauer attended the R.I. School from April 1877 to May 1880.

Anna M. Black, *Principal*.

However, listing these actual responses from people who knew the particular cases provided Bell with occasion to produce long letters from scientists with ample theories and ample attitudes, scientists of impressive position and impressive title such as Professor Edward D. Cope, Editor of the “American Naturalist” and Member of the National Academy of Sciences, Professor Alpheus Hyatt, Professor in Harvard University, Member of the National Academy of Sciences, Dr. Bowditch, Professor in Harvard University, Member of the National Academy of Sciences, Professor William H. Brewer, Norton Professor of Agriculture in Yale University, Member of the National Academy of Sciences, Professor Simon Newcomb, Superintendent of the United States “Nautical Almanac,” Member of the National Academy of Sciences, and Professor W.K. Brooks, Professor of Morphology in John Hopkins’ *[sic]* University, Baltimore, Med. *[sic]* and Member of the National Academy of Sciences. All these evolution-theory folks agreed, really agreed, that Bell’s evolution-theory could not conceivably be tendentious:

According to my view of evolution it is quite possible for a deaf or deaf-mute variety of man to arise and be perpetuated. It is not more improbable than that blind species of animals should arise and be perpetuated, a circumstance which has often occurred in the evolution of animals.

...

It would be a very strange contradiction of experience and theory if a deaf-and-dumb race were not produced by continual intermarriage of persons afflicted in this way.

...

...as I understand the doctrine of evolution, there can be no doubt that you are perfectly right....



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

...

In the light of present biological science, and of the breeder's art, it is inconceivable that the process of selection of deaf parents should not establish a deaf variety of the human race.

...

That the continual intermarriage of persons possessing any peculiarity tends to make that peculiarity permanent is, I believe, a recognized law, constantly applied by breeders of new species in the animal and vegetable world.

**PROTO-NAZISM**



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

**1885**

White policy makers in the Britain and North America began to warn of “racial suicide,” fearing the rapid growth of immigrant peoples, deemed intellectually inferior, would displace their own populations. (This sort of racist preoccupation would continue until at least 1923.)

**EUGENICS**



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

1889

[Alfred Russel Wallace](#) was awarded an honorary doctorate by Oxford University. He had described what we now term the “Wallace effect,” the process of selection for reproductive isolation. He had emphasized the significance of symmetrical color patterns in animals. He had presented a criticism of the popular field of [eugenics](#). He had developed a model of “human selection” that emphasized our crying need to improve the economic status of adult human females. He attempted to publicize important work being done by others in the investigation of glaciation episodes in the Southern Hemisphere.

### THE SCIENCE OF 1889

#### PALEONTOLOGY

Heinrich Gustav Reichenbach died in Leipzig, Germany, leaving his orchid herbarium to the Vienna museum with instructions that it should remain closed for 25 years. Because the British had expected his collection to go to either Kew or the British Museum, this action, clearly designed as it was to thwart upcoming British orchid taxonomists, stirred up a tempest in a teapot.

The Pajaro Valley Evaporation Company of Watsonville, California began small-scale production of dehydrated onions. (In 1950 tins of their product, deemed still enjoyable, would be discovered in a storeroom

[HDT](#)[WHAT?](#)[INDEX](#)

## EUGENICS

in Skagway, Alaska.)

*Amorphophallus titanum*, a gigantic aroid from Sumatra, flowered for the first time in cultivation at Kew.

[PLANTS](#)

The Reverend Oscar C. McCulloch, author of 1881's *A STUDY IN SOCIAL DEGRADATION*, helped one of his associates, Alexander Johnson, obtain the post of the initial secretary of Indiana's new Board of State Charities. Johnson would note in his memoirs in 1923 that "Generation after generation many of the families to which these defective people belonged had been paupers, in or out of the asylum; their total number and the proportion of feeble minded among them steadily increasing as time went on." (Alexander Johnson, *ADVENTURES IN SOCIAL WELFARE: BEING REMINISCENCES OF THINGS, THOUGHTS AND FOLKS DURING FORTY YEARS OF SOCIAL WORK*, pages 144-45.)

[EUGENICS](#)



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

1891

March 6, Friday: [Alexander Graham Bell](#) addressed an audience of deaf-mutes at the Literary Society of Kendall Green in Washington DC on the topic of marriage. He spoke on such a topic, he told the members of his audience, because he was aware that no subject lay closer to their hearts, and also aware that “an idea has gone forth, and is very generally believed by the deaf of this country, that I want to prevent you from marrying as you choose, and that I have tried to pass a law to interfere with your marriages.” His next statement was “But, my friends, it is not true. I have never done such a thing, nor do I intend to.... I myself, the son of a deaf mother, have married a deaf wife.” This would appear in the same year in [Science](#), volume 17, pages 160-163, and then in 1898 as [MARRIAGE: AN ADDRESS TO THE DEAF. WITH AN APPENDIX UPON CONSANGUINEOUS MARRIAGES](#) (Washington DC: Sanders Printing Office).

He was lying through his teeth, of course, lying like a trooper (or like a [Nazi](#)), for it was a matter of record that he had been repeatedly sponsoring [eugenic](#) legislation in Canada, the USA, and Great Britain to prevent pairs of congenital deaf/mutes from being able to marry. He in fact believed that because the deaf were defective human beings, it was entirely inappropriate for them to be allowed to have any social contact at all with one another — thus it was that he maintained that the ideal deaf school “would contain only one deaf child.”



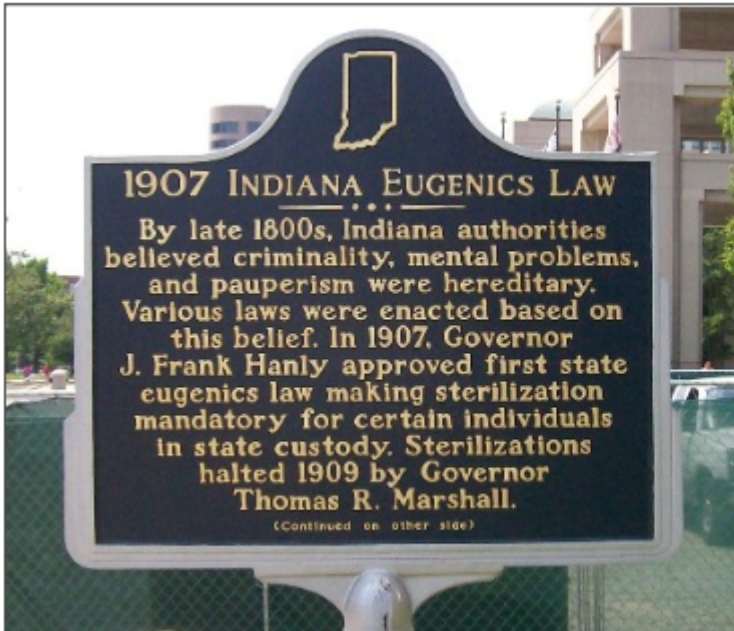


## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

1896

March: In an official report, Ernest Bicknell, secretary of Indiana's Board of State Charities, lamented the hereditary condition of pauperism. (Board of State Charities, The Indiana Bulletin, pages 7-8.)



EUGENICS

W.E. Burghardt Du Bois's *THE SUPPRESSION OF THE AFRICAN SLAVE-TRADE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA 1638-1870* (Harvard Historical Studies, NY: Longmans, Green, and Co., 1896) was also his PhD dissertation at [Harvard University](#).





## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

"It behooves the United States, therefore, in the interest both of scientific truth and of future social reform, carefully to study such chapters of her history as that of the suppression of the slave-trade. The most obvious question which this study suggests is: How far in a State can a recognized moral wrong safely be compromised? And although this chapter of history can give us no definite answer suited to the ever-varying aspects of political life, yet it would seem to warn any nation from allowing, through carelessness and moral cowardice, any social evil to grow. No persons would have seen the Civil War with more surprise and horror than the Revolutionists of 1776; yet from the small and apparently dying institution of their day arose the walled and castled Slave-Power. From this we may conclude that it behooves nations as well as men to do things at the very moment when they ought to be done."

— W.E. Burghardt Du Bois, 1896



**EUGENICS**

**EUGENICS**

**THE SUPPRESSION OF THE  
AFRICAN SLAVE-TRADE  
TO THE  
UNITED STATES  
OF AMERICA  
1638-1870**

**Volume I  
Harvard Historical Studies  
1896  
Longmans, Green, and Co.**



**EUGENICS**

**EUGENICS**

## **CONTENTS**

### **CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTORY**

- 1. Plan of the Monograph**
- 2. The Rise of the English Slave-Trade**

### **CHAPTER II: THE PLANTING COLONIES**

- 3. Character of these Colonies**
- 4. Restrictions in Georgia**
- 5. Restrictions in South Carolina**
- 6. Restrictions in North Carolina**
- 7. Restrictions in Virginia**
- 8. Restrictions in Maryland**
- 9. General Character of these Restrictions**

### **CHAPTER III: THE FARMING COLONIES**

- 10. Character of these Colonies**
- 11. The Dutch Slave-Trade**
- 12. Restrictions in New York**
- 13. Restrictions in Pennsylvania and Delaware**
- 14. Restrictions in New Jersey**
- 15. General Character of these Restrictions**

### **CHAPTER IV: THE TRADING COLONIES**

- 16. Character of these Colonies**
- 17. New England and the Slave-Trade**
- 18. Restrictions in New Hampshire**
- 19. Restrictions in Massachusetts**
- 20. Restrictions in Rhode Island**
- 21. Restrictions in Connecticut**
- 22. General Character of these Restrictions**

### **CHAPTER V: THE PERIOD OF THE REVOLUTION, 1774-1787**

- 23. The Situation in 1774**
- 24. The Condition of the Slave-Trade**
- 25. The Slave-Trade and the "Association"**
- 26. The Action of the Colonies**
- 27. The Action of the Continental Congress**
- 28. Reception of the Slave-Trade Resolution**



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

29. Results of the Resolution

30. The Slave-Trade and Public Opinion after the War

31. The Action of the Confederation

CHAPTER VI: THE FEDERAL CONVENTION, 1787

32. The First Proposition

33. The General Debate

34. The Special Committee and the “Bargain”

35. The Appeal to the Convention

36. Settlement by the Convention

37. Reception of the Clause by the Nation

38. Attitude of the State Conventions

39. Acceptance of the Policy

CHAPTER VII: TOUSSAINT L’OUVERTURE AND ANTI-SLAVERY EFFORT, 1787-1807

40. Influence of the Haytian Revolution

41. Legislation of the Southern States

42. Legislation of the Border States

43. Legislation of the Eastern States

44. First Debate in Congress, 1789

45. Second Debate in Congress, 1790

46. The Declaration of Powers, 1790

47. The Act of 1794

48. The Act of 1800

49. The Act of 1803

50. State of the Slave-Trade from 1789 to 1803

51. The South Carolina Repeal of 1803

52. The Louisiana Slave-Trade, 1803-1805

53. Last Attempts at Taxation, 1805-1806

54. Key-Note of the Period

CHAPTER VIII: THE PERIOD OF ATTEMPTED SUPPRESSION, 1807-1825

55. The Act of 1807

56. The First Question: How shall illegally imported Africans be disposed of?

57. The Second Question: How shall Violations be punished?

58. The Third Question: How shall the Interstate Coastwise Slave-Trade be protected?

59. Legislative History of the Bill

60. Enforcement of the Act

61. Evidence of the Continuance of the Trade



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

62. Apathy of the Federal Government

63. Typical Cases

64. The Supplementary Acts, 1818-1820

65. Enforcement of the Supplementary Acts, 1818-1825

CHAPTER IX: THE INTERNATIONAL STATUS OF THE SLAVE-TRADE, 1783-1862

66. The Rise of the Movement against the Slave-Trade, 1788-1807

67. Concerted Action of the Powers, 1783-1814

68. Action of the Powers from 1814 to 1820

69. The Struggle for an International Right of Search, 1820-1840

70. Negotiations of 1823-1825

71. The Attitude of the United States and the State of the Slave-Trade

72. The Quintuple Treaty, 1839-1842

73. Final Concerted Measures, 1842-1862

CHAPTER X: THE RISE OF THE COTTON KINGDOM, 1820-1850

74. The Economic Revolution

75. The Attitude of the South

76. The Attitude of the North and Congress

77. Imperfect Application of the Laws

78. Responsibility of the Government

79. Activity of the Slave-Trade, 1820-1850

CHAPTER XI: THE FINAL CRISIS, 1850-1870

80. The Movement against the Slave-Trade Laws

81. Commercial Conventions of 1855-1856

82. Commercial Conventions of 1857-1858

83. Commercial Convention of 1859

84. Public Opinion in the South

85. The Question in Congress

86. Southern Policy in 1860

87. Increase of the Slave-Trade from 1850 to 1860

88. Notorious Infractions of the Laws

89. Apathy of the Federal Government

90. Attitude of the Southern Confederacy

91. Attitude of the United States

CHAPTER XII: THE ESSENTIALS IN THE STRUGGLE

92. How the Question Arose

93. The Moral Movement





## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

94. The Political Movement

95. The Economic Movement

96. The Lesson for Americans

### APPENDICES

A. A Chronological Conspectus of Colonial and State Legislation restricting the African Slave-Trade, 1641-1787

B. A Chronological Conspectus of State, National, and International Legislation, 1788-1871

C. Typical Cases of Vessels engaged in the American Slave-Trade, 1619-1864

D. Bibliography

## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

**1898**

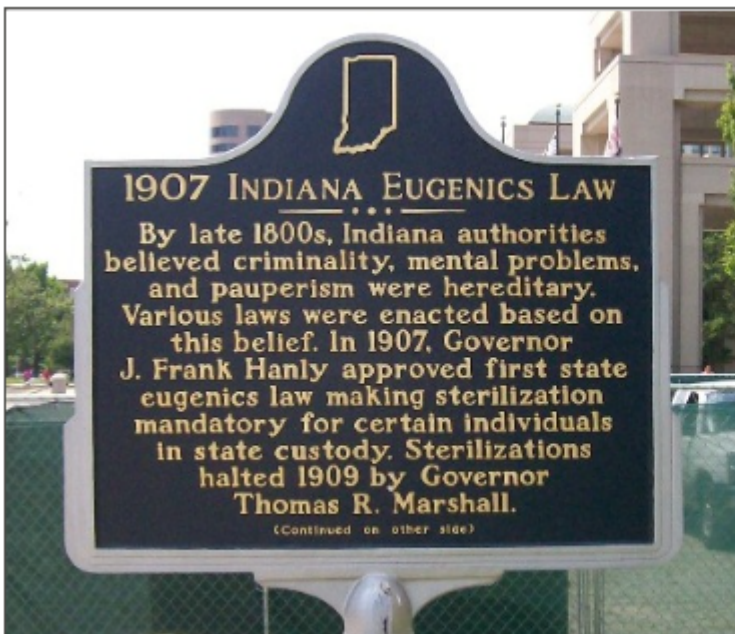
January 1, Saturday: The whistling buoy at the mouth of San Francisco Bay was superseded by a lightship.

The 2d inquest into Major Esterhazy concluded that there was insufficient evidence for a court martial. General Saussier, military governor of Paris, created one in order to clear Esterhazy's name.

The boroughs of Brooklyn and Manhattan were joined, to form greater New York City (it has come to be about time to desist from hyphenating the name as "New-York").

[Cuba](#) was granted limited autonomy by Spain.

Amos Butler replaced Ernest Bicknell as secretary of Indiana's Board of State Charities. It would be he who would make the initial reference to sterilization as a way to prevent insanity and "defectives," that has so far been located in an official Indiana state document: Board of State Charities, [The Indiana Bulletin](#) (June, 1900), 90.



**EUGENICS**

## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

1900

In [London](#), the [Wallace Collection](#) was placed on display in its current location, in Manchester Square.

In [London](#), the Mount Pleasant postal sorting office opened.

In [London](#), the Passmore Edwards Museum in Stratford opened.

In [London](#), the Russell Hotel opened.



LONDON

Simultaneous rediscovery of [Gregor Mendel](#)'s laws of genetic inheritance, by [Hugo de Vries](#) and [Carl Erich Correns](#) (De Vries made his discovery while studying the common American evening primrose *Oenothera lamarckiana*, originally named for Jean Baptiste Lamarck, that he had found growing in the disturbed soil of a "waste space" in his back yard; Correns had been a student of [Karl Wilhelm von Nägeli](#), the eminent botanist whose incomprehension had discouraged Mendel from continuing his work, and discovered that Mendel had in fact been correct in his evaluation of the genetics of the hawkweed *Hieracium*).

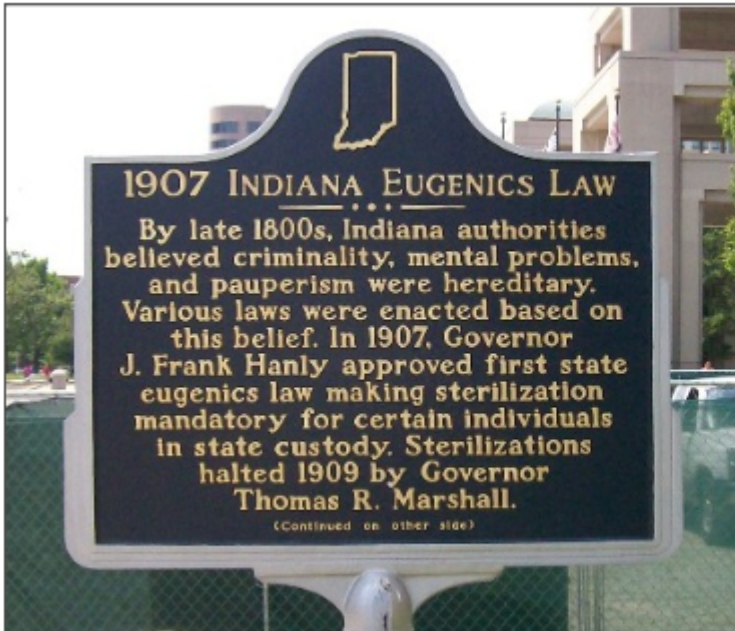
A copy of [Mendel](#)'s paper on genetics was discovered in the library of the Linnean Society in [London](#).  
The pages were uncut.<sup>8</sup>

EUGENICS

8. There is a persistent textbook-tale that this unperused copy of the paper had been discovered in [Charles Darwin](#)'s library. No evidence supports this.

## EUGENICS

June: Secretary of Indiana's Board of State Charities Amos Butler referred on page 90 of The Indiana Bulletin to sterilization as a way to prevent insanity and "defectives" (this is the 1st such reference to sterilization that has so far been located in an official Indiana state document).



EUGENICS



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

1901

May: [Dr. David Starr Jordan](#)'s THE BLOOD OF THE NATION: A STUDY OF THE DECAY OF RACES THROUGH SURVIVAL OF THE UNFIT first surfaced as an article in [Popular Science Monthly](#).

### SURVIVAL OF THE UNFIT

EUGENICS



May 8, Wednesday: A British investigating commission found that 1,250,000 Indians had starved to death since 1899. They indicated that overpopulation was the cause (which would indicate that they considered depopulation to be the solution?).

Indiana Governor Winfield Taylor Durbin approved a law that made unsupervised, feeble-minded women from age 16 to age 45 wards of the state, a law sponsored by the Indiana Board of Charities, in order to prevent them from producing future generations of feeble-minded persons (LAWS OF INDIANA, 1901, pages 156-59).



EUGENICS



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

1902

The Reverend Thomas Dixon, Jr.'s *THE LEOPARD'S SPOTS: A ROMANCE OF THE WHITE MAN'S BURDEN*.

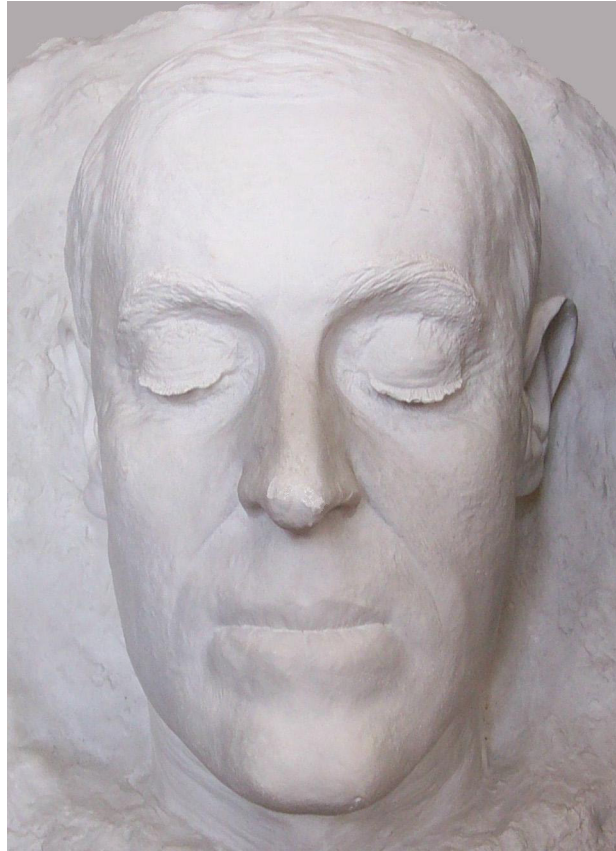
Racial conflict is an epic struggle with the future of civilization at stake. Maybe we can't have human slavery anymore but American blacks cannot be allowed to be politically equal with American whites as that would lead to social equality, and social equality would lead to miscegenation, and miscegenation would lead to the destruction of the family, and the destruction of the family would lead to the destruction of civilized society. Everything we admire and respect would fall like a row of damn dominoes, you fool.

US CIVIL WAR

Woodrow Wilson, Class of 1879, was elected 13th president of Princeton University. As president of that university he would turn away black applicants because, uh, black (such a desire for education was –his term– “unwarranted”). Meanwhile, his multi-volume *HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE* would be greeted warmly by reviewing white scholars — except for a few to whom it would reveal, guess what, “lazy scholarship and a cloying style.”







(deathmask)

**VOLUME ONE**

**VOLUME TWO**

**VOLUME THREE**

**VOLUME FOUR**

**VOLUME FIVE**

When the film *The Birth of a Nation* would be shown in the White House, it would be the 1st film ever to be shown there, and President Woodrow Wilson the national historian's reaction to the screening was "it is like writing history in lightning. My only regret is that it is all so terribly true." It is reported that Wilson's scandalously tendentious history book has now been cited in the background material for Hollywood's *Amistad* film, as academic support for its historical accuracy! (I cannot vouch for this, and it may very well be a mere urban legend.)

However, I must add that President Wilson's ethos would not be found attractive, by [Dr. Sigmund Freud](#):

When a pretension to free the world from evil ends only in a new proof of the danger of a fanatic to the commonweal, then it is not to be marveled at that a distrust is aroused in the observer which makes sympathy impossible.<sup>9</sup>



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

[Dr. David Starr Jordan](#)'s THE BLOOD OF THE NATION: A STUDY OF THE DECAY OF RACES THROUGH SURVIVAL OF THE UNFIT (Boston: American Unitarian Association) originated the notion of "[race and blood](#)" according to which human qualities and conditions such as talent and poverty were passed through the blood. Rome fell because of the degeneration of its people. What the empire of the United States of America needs in order to avoid what happened to the Roman empire, and take over the whole world and run it right, according to this Unitarian Universalist author who was a biological scientist and therefore an evolutionist, is government compulsory sterilization of the less fit among us. We don't really need to go all the way to Adolf Hitlerland, we don't need to poison anyone, for we can get this accomplished over a period of generations without actually going all the way to extermination. We could eventually recreate ourselves as a nation of 100% makers, with 0% takers and mooches to drag us down:

Our Republic shall endure so long as the human harvest is good, so long as the movement of history, the progress of science and industry, leaves for the future the best and not the worst of each generation.

### SURVIVAL OF THE UNFIT

### EUGENICS

9. Freud would spend his final years, while dying of cancer in England, in the writing of a Presidential biography in which his observations may now be generalized from President Wilson into remarks about a President not yet born, George W. Bush.

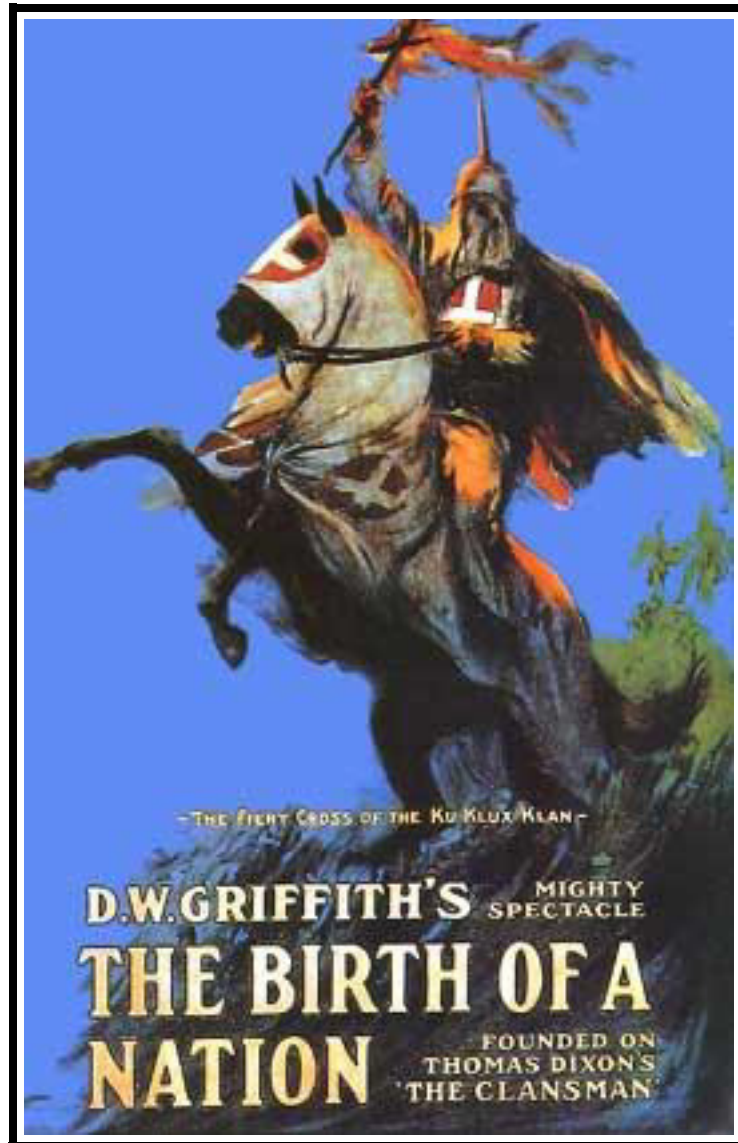
[HDT](#)

[WHAT?](#)

[INDEX](#)

EUGENICS

EUGENICS





## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

1904

Louis Comfort Tiffany built himself a mansion on Paumanok Long Island's Oyster Bay.

What else can I tell you about the Year of Our Lord 1904? It was a fairly rancid year. It wasn't rancid so much because of the development in this year of the Binet-Simon intelligence test, that established that different races had vastly different Intelligence Quotients — IQ-testing has, at least, some pretense to be based upon Science! However, it was in this year that 1.) George Bernard Shaw declared in England that nothing but a "eugenic religion" could save our civilization and, 2.) in Germany, Dr. Alfred Ploetz founded the *Archiv für Rassen- und Gesellschaftsbiologie*, and meanwhile, 3.) in America, land of the free and home of the brave, on Paumanok Long Island, the Carnegie Institution established a laboratory complex at Cold Spring Harbor in which researchers such as the infamous biologist [Charles Davenport](#) would stockpile millions of index cards on ordinary Americans, carefully plotted the removal of families, bloodlines, and whole peoples, they were very much acting in accord with the ideas pioneered by [Dr. David Starr Jordan](#) in 1902 in his *THE BLOOD OF THE NATION: A STUDY OF THE DECAY OF RACES THROUGH SURVIVAL OF THE UNFIT* (Boston: American Unitarian Association), and 4.) the Reverend Alfred Sereno Hudson published about the history of [Concord](#), with gratuitous racist [eugenicist](#) asides:

"It is the rule in history that a superior race supplants the weaker." — Pages 433-4

Alfred S. Hudson. *COLONIAL CONCORD: MIDDLESEX COUNTY MASSACHUSETTS*. Concord MA: Erudite Press, 1904

Alfred S. Hudson. *THE HISTORY OF CONCORD, MASSACHUSETTS, VOLUME I*. Concord MA: Erudite Press, 1904 (only Volume I of this was published)

### HISTORY OF CONCORD MA

He confidently described [Emerson's \(Thoreau's\) shanty](#), many years after it had ceased to exist, as:



The building which was ten feet wide and fifteen feet long stood upon slightly rising ground about twenty rods from a small cove. It had a garret, a closet, a large window on each side, a door at the end and a brick fireplace.

## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

(Clearly, he overlooked the fact that out at [Walden Pond](#), before the 2d winter in the shanty, [Thoreau](#) had installed a more energy-efficient metal stove, presumably at the same time closing off his fireplace to transform it into a mere brick chimney.)



The Reverend local historian and eugenicist condescended to notice, on pages 314-5, of the “weaker” races of the human species, that:

There are in ... the New England townships districts now abandoned to a wild vegetable growth, which may once have resounded with the activities of busy life. Illustrative of this is what Thoreau says of Walden pond. He informs us that in that vicinity were dwellings which in his day were nearly obliterated. Among those who lived there as he gives them were Cato Ingraham, Zilpha, Brister, Freeman, Stratton, Breed, Gondibert, Nutting, Le Grosse and Hugh Quoil. Of the homes in which they lived he says:



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

WALDEN: Now only a dent in the earth marks the site of these dwellings, with buried cellar stones, and strawberries, raspberries, thimbles-berries, hazel-bushes, and sumachs, growing in the sunny sward there; some pitch-pine or gnarled oak occupies what was the chimney nook, and a sweet-scented black-birch, perhaps, waves where the door-stone was. Sometimes the well dent is visible, where once a spring oozed; now dry and tearless grass; or it was covered deep, -not to be discovered till some late day,- with a flat stone under the sod, when the last of the race departed. What a sorrowful act must that be, -the covering up of wells! coincident with the opening of wells of tears. These cellar dents, like deserted fox burrows, old holes, are all that is left where once were the stir and bustle of human life, and "fate, freewill, foreknowledge absolute," in some form and dialect or other were by turns discussed. But all I can learn of their conclusions amounts to just this, that "Cato and Brister pulled wool;" which is about as edifying as the history of more famous schools of philosophy.

Still grows the vivacious lilac a generation after the door and lintel and the sill are gone, unfolding its sweet-scented flowers each spring, to be plucked by the musing traveller; planted and tended once by children's hands, in front-yard plots, -now standing by wall-sides in retired pastures, and giving place to new-rising forests;- the last of that stirp, sole survivor of the family. Little did the dusky children think that the puny slip with its two eyes only, which they stuck in the ground in the shadow of the house and daily watered, would root itself so, and outlive them and house itself in the rear that shaded it, and grown man's garden and orchard, and tell their story faintly to the lone wanderer a half century after they had grown up and died, -blossoming as fair, and smelling as sweet, as in that first spring. I mark its still tender, civil, cheerful, lilac colors.

PEOPLE OF  
WALDEN

CATO INGRAHAM

BRISTER FREEMAN





## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

1905

[Percival Lowell](#), utterly convinced of what by squinting forcefully he could perceive with his own eyes, published his 1st amorphous photographs of the famous canals of Mars.

In 1876 the [telephone](#) had made it unnecessary to rely on any such scheme as the [telegraph](#), and its Morse Code, by enabling the intact transmission and reception of the human voice. The existing telegraph wires and telegraph poles could at this point be repurposed as [telephone](#) wires and [telephone](#) poles. However, as this year saw the birth also of radio broadcasting, making the wires and poles themselves quite superfluous. The newspapers and gazettes could remain in circulation, however, simply because at 2 cents per copy this was a cost-effective way in which to transfer bulk quantities of information to the general public, plus it was a marvelous device for translating funding into political influence.

[Albert Einstein](#) became able to explain the photoelectric effect on the basis of an assumption that light is a quantized phenomenon, occurring in packets. This was Einstein's *annus mirabilis*, during which he would be authoring pioneering articles not only on the concept of the quantum of light but also on special relativity and on Brownian motion. His quanta of light would subsequently receive the name "photons."

### HISTORY OF OPTICS

In [Germany](#), Alfred Ploetz founded the *Gesellschaft fuer Rassenhygiene*.

The high aptitude of the Jews and their outstanding role in the progress of mankind considering men like Jesus, Spinoza, Marx has to be kindly acknowledged without hesitation... All this Antisemitism is a flop which will vanish slowly in the light of scientific knowledge and a humane democracy.

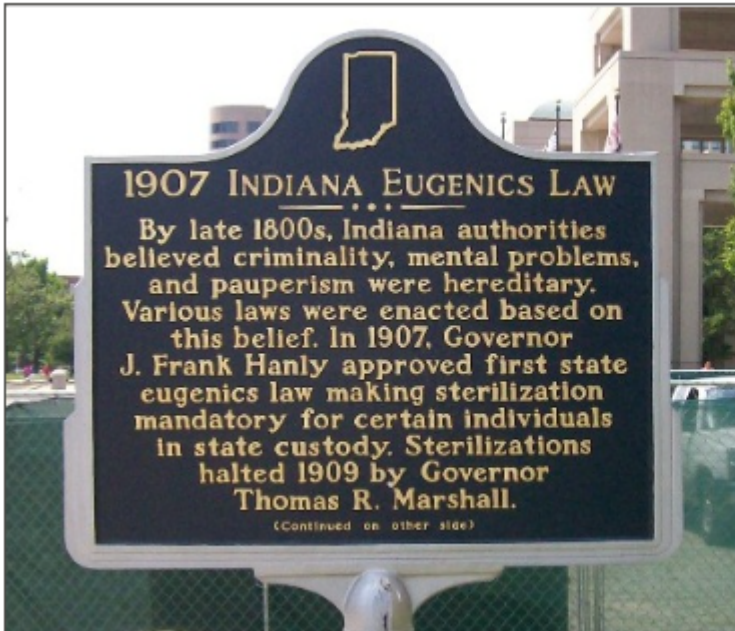
*„Die hohe Befähigung der Juden und ihre hervorragende Rolle in dem Entwicklungsprocess der Menschheit muss angesichts der Namen Jesus, Spinoza, Marx ohne Weiteres mit Freude anerkannt werden... Der ganze Antisemitismus ist ein Schlag in's Wasser, dessen Wellenkreise in der Fluth der naturwissenschaftlichen Erkenntniss und der humanen Demokratie langsam vergehen werden.“*  
(DIE TÜCHTIGKEIT UNSERER RASSE UND DER SCHUTZ DER SCHWACHEN: EIN VERSUCH ÜBER RASSENHYGIENE UND IHR VERHÄLTNIS ZU DEN HUMANEN IDEALEN, BESONDERS ZUM SOCIALISMUS, pages 141-2)

EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

March 9, Thursday: In order to reduce reproduction by the feeble-minded, Indiana Governor J. Frank Hanly signed a ban on the issuance of marriage licenses to imbeciles, epileptics, and those of unsound minds (LAWS OF INDIANA, 1905, pages 215-16).



EUGENICS

**1906**

[Alexander Graham Bell](#)'s LECTURES ON THE MECHANISM OF SPEECH. NY: Funk & Wagnalls. (First delivered as lectures to a meeting of the American Association to Promote the Teaching of Speech to the Deaf. Contains treatment of vocal structures; descriptive analyses of sounds, his father Melville Bell's visible speech symbols and an appended paper on vowel theories.

"Lectures upon the mechanism of speech: Review." Nature, 75: 196.

"Special report upon the deaf, based on the returns of the twelfth census." Volta Review, 1906, 8, 351-370; 442-469 (also 1907, 9, 336-356; 427-444; 533-545; 1908, 10, 36-47; 138-147; 240-255; 349-364; 455-464).

Bell, who had spent many years breeding sheep to have multiple nipples, would be a prominent member of a group formed during this year, the American Breeding Association's Committee on Eugenics, a group that was proclaiming its mission to be "to investigate and report on heredity in the human race [and] to emphasize the value of superior blood and the menace to society of inferior blood." [Dr. David Starr Jordan](#), President of Leland Stanford University, would chair this group.



*David Starr Jordan*

**EUGENICS**

Can we formulate practical plans that might lead to the breeding of better men and better women? This is the great question we are called upon to consider.... We have statistics which indicate very clearly that consanguineous unions should not be contracted by defective persons ... there is considerable



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

liability to the production of deaf offspring where a deaf-mute marries a blood relative, even in cases where the original deafness was not congenital.... In any large aggregation of individuals the vast majority will be of the average type of the race. Some few will be markedly superior and some few inferior.... There would be a larger proportion of superior children among the offspring of the superior than of the average or inferior, and a larger proportion of inferior among the offspring of the inferior.... I am much struck by the thought that neither the quantity nor quality of the superior element would be increased by cutting off the inferior element from reproduction, and I begin to suspect that students of eugenics have overrated the importance of legislative interference with the marriages of the inferior. ...it is mainly through the use of thoroughbreds that we improve our stocks of domestic animals. In the case of men and women who are thoroughbred in respect to the point of superiority, it is obvious that their descendants, spreading out among the population and marrying into average or inferior families, would prove prepotent over their partners in marriage in affecting the offspring.... Why should not Congress provide for an ethnical survey of the people of the United States. We should have definite and reliable information concerning those foreign elements which are beneficial to our people and those which are harmful. ...the process of evolution should be carefully studied, and then controlled by suitable immigration laws tending to eliminate undesirable ethnical elements....



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

1907

Formation of the Eugenics Education Society that in 1926 would become the Eugenics Society. Charles Davenport of the Cold Spring Harbor, Long Island institute for “eugenics research” hired Harry Laughlin to determine which Americans were unfit because of their “germ-plasm” (curiously, the fact that Laughlin was himself epileptic didn’t slow him down one bit in his eagerness to eliminate the unfit).

[Woodrow Wilson](#) campaigned in Indiana for the compulsory sterilization of criminals and the mentally retarded. The state put in place the 1st law in the USA for mandatory sterilization of “the unfit” (“Hoosier” is short for “Who’s your father, little boy?”). According to Harry Bruinius’s *THE SECRET HISTORY OF FORCED STERILIZATION AND AMERICA’S QUEST FOR RACIAL PURITY* (Knopf, 2006), Indiana’s law was “the first law in human history allowing doctors to operate on otherwise healthy citizens against their will.” In all, 15 states would follow this lead before the 1917 *Internationale Gessellschaft fuer Rassenhygiene*.

PROTO-NAZISM

Subsequently, some 15 more states would enact such legislation. Indiana and [California](#) would lead the nation in involuntary sterilizations until the setting up of the eugenic courts of Nazi [Germany](#) from 1934 onward would lead to gradual abandonment of such practices among Germany’s potential military opponents.

ASSLEY

[Dr. David Starr Jordan](#)’s *THE HUMAN HARVEST: A STUDY OF THE DECAY OF RACES THROUGH THE SURVIVAL OF THE UNFIT* (American Unitarian Association).

Our Republic shall endure so long as the human harvest is good,  
so long as the movement of history, the progress of science and  
industry, leaves for the future the best and not the worst of  
each generation.

THE HUMAN HARVEST

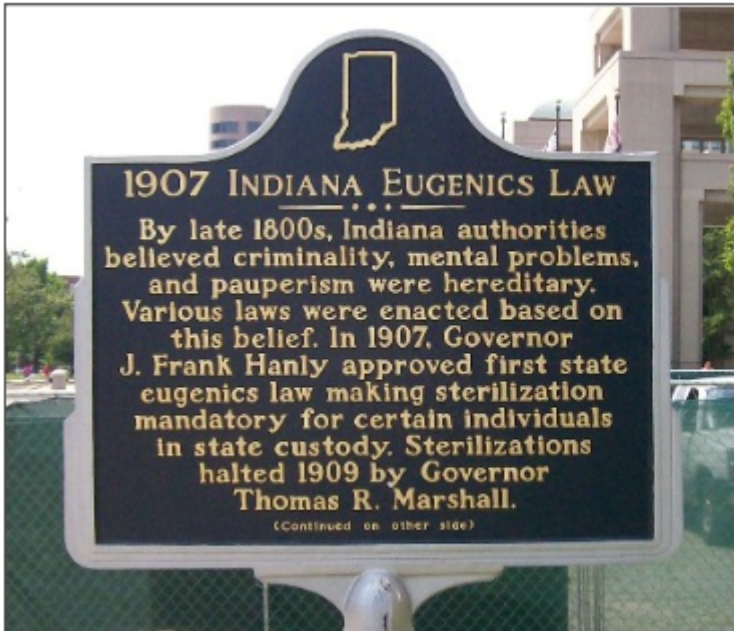
EUGENICS



## EUGENICS

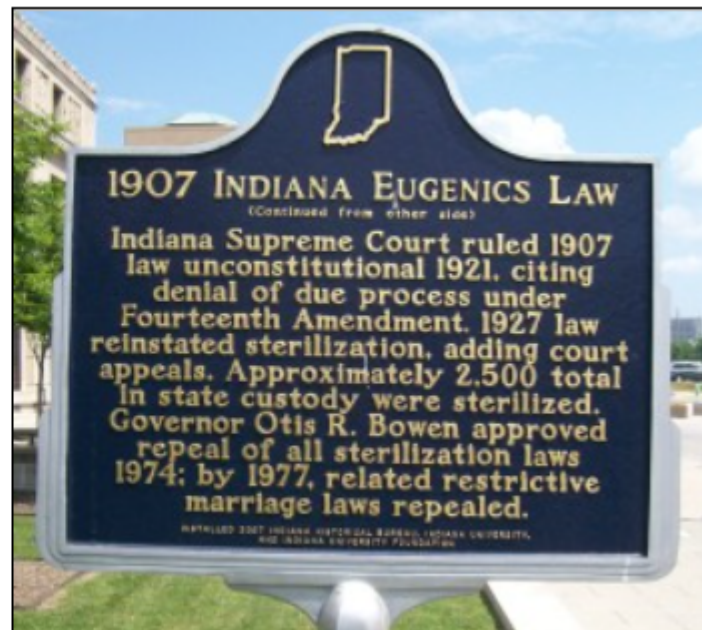
## EUGENICS

March 7, Thursday: According to page 10 of the Indianapolis Morning Star, the Indiana State Reformatory's Dr. Harry C. Sharp and Superintendent W.H. Whittaker were lobbying for a mandatory-sterilization bill applying to inmates of state institutions.



### EUGENICS

March 9, Saturday: Indiana Governor J. Frank Hanly signed his state's initial Eugenics law, one that made sterilization mandatory for criminals, idiots, rapists, and imbeciles in state custody (LAWS OF INDIANA, 1907, pages 377-78).





## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

1908

Goddard introduced the Binet-Simon intelligence test into the United States of America.

EUGENICS

[Francis Galton](#)'s MEMORIES OF MY LIFE.<sup>10</sup>

**[Eugenics](#) — Passages from my early writings — Original sin — Breeding dogs for intelligence — Great extension of my work by Professor Karl Pearson — Eugenics laboratory — Duty towards race improvement**

The subject of Race Improvement, or Eugenics, with which I have much occupied myself during the last few years, is a pursuit of no recent interest. I published my views as long ago as 1865, in two articles written in Macmillan's Magazine, while preparing materials for my book, Hereditary Genius. But I did not then realise, as now, the powerful influence of Small Causes upon statistical results. I was too much disposed to think of marriage under some regulation, and not enough of the effects of self-interest and of social and religious sentiment, Popular feeling was not then ripe to accept even the elementary truths of hereditary talent and character, upon which the possibility of Race Improvement depends. Still less was it prepared to consider dispassionately any proposals for practical action. So I laid the subject wholly to one side for many years. Now I see my way better, and an appreciative audience is at last to be had, though it be small. As in most other cases of novel views, the wrong-headedness of objectors to Eugenics has been curious. The most common misrepresentations now are that its methods must be altogether those of compulsory unions, as in breeding animals. It is not so. I think that stern compulsion ought to be exerted to prevent the free propagation of the stock of those who are seriously afflicted by lunacy, feeble-mindedness, habitual criminality, and pauperism, but that is quite different from compulsory marriage. How to restrain ill-omened marriages is a question by itself, whether it should be effected by seclusion, or in other ways yet to be devised that are consistent with a humane and well-informed public opinion. I cannot doubt that our democracy will ultimately refuse consent to that liberty of propagating children which is now allowed to the undesirable classes, but the populace has yet to be taught the true state of these things. A democracy cannot endure unless it be composed of able citizens; therefore it must in self-defence withstand the free introduction of degenerate stock.

What I desire is that the importance of eugenic marriages should be reckoned at its just value, neither too high nor too low, and that Eugenics should form one of the many considerations by which marriages are promoted or hindered, as they are by social position, adequate fortune, and similarity of creed. I can believe hereafter that it will be felt as derogatory to a person of exceptionally good stock to marry into an inferior one as it

10. Reprinted here for your dismay is his Chapter XXI, on "Race Improvement."





## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

is for a person of high Austrian rank to marry one who has not sixteen heraldic quarterings. I also hope that social recognition of an appropriate kind will be given to healthy, capable, and large families, and that social influence will be exerted towards the encouragement of eugenic marriages.

Confusion is often made between statistical and individual results. It sometimes seems to be held seriously that if the effect of a particular union cannot be accurately foretold, the application of the rules of Eugenics is vain. This is not the case. Statistics give us assurance concerning the fate of such or such a percentage of a large number of people which, when translated into other terms, is the probability of each of them being affected by it. From the statesman's point of view, where lives are pawns in the game and personal favour is excluded, this information is sufficient. It tells how large a number of undesirables or of desirables can be introduced or not into a population by such and such measures. Whether their names be A, B, or C, or else X, Y, or Z, is of no importance to the "Statistician," a term that is more or less equivalent to that of "Statesman."

In accordance with one principal purpose of these pages, which is to show the fundamental coherence of most of my many inquiries, I will quote several Passages from the above-mentioned articles written in 1865. They expressed then, as clearly as I can do now, the leading principles of Eugenics. They will each be followed by a remark as to how I should wish to modify them.

"The power of man over animal life, in producing whatever varieties of form he pleases, is enormously great. It would seem as though the physical structure of future generations was almost as plastic as clay, under the control of the breeder's will. It is my desire to show, more pointedly than, so far as I am aware, has been attempted before, that mental qualities are equally under control."

Then follows a discussion of inherited abilities, of the same character as that which was afterwards developed more fully in Hereditary Genius. If I were to re-write the above passage, it would be modified by limiting the power of the breeder to perpetuating and intensifying qualities which have already appeared in the race. The possibility would at the same time be recognised of the unforeseen appearance of "sports" or "mutations" of a kind not hitherto observed, but which for all that may become hereditary. Such in past times may have been the electric organs of certain eels and rays, the illuminating capacity of glow-worms, fire-flies, and inhabitants of deep waters, the venom in certain snakes, and the power of speech in man.

After some pages of remarks, the latter of them on the physical attributes of very able men, the article continues:-

"Most notabilities have been great eaters and excellent digesters, on literally the same principle that the furnace which can raise more steam than is usual for one of its size must burn more freely and well than is



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

common. Most great men are vigorous animals with exuberant powers and an extreme devotion to a cause. There is no reason to suppose that in breeding for the highest order of intellect we should produce a sterile or a feeble race."

I should now alter the last sentence to "There is no reason to doubt that a very high order of intellect might be bred with little, if any, sacrifice of fertility or vigour."

"Many forms of civilisation have been peculiarly unfavourable to the hereditary transmission of rare talent. None of them were more prejudicial to it than that of the Middle Ages, when almost every youth of genius was attracted into the Church and enrolled in the rank of a celibate clergy."

This argument was largely developed in Hereditary Genius.

"Another great hindrance to it is a Costly tone of society, like that of our own, where it becomes a folly for a rising man to encumber himself with domestic expenses, which custom exacts, and which are larger than his resources are able to meet. Here also genius is celibate, at least during the best period of manhood.

"A spirit of clique is not bad. I understand that in Germany it is very much the custom for professors to marry the [sisters] or daughters of other professors, and I have some reason to believe, but am anxious for fuller information before I can feel sure of it, that the enormous intellectual digestion of German literary men, which far exceeds that of the corresponding Class of our own countrymen, may, in some considerable degree, be due to this practice."

I have not even yet obtained the information desired in the last paragraph, the correspondents who partly promised to give it not having done so. As many members of our House of Lords marry the daughters of millionaires, it is quite conceivable that our Senate may in time become characterised by a more than common share of shrewd business capacity, possibly also by a lower standard of commercial probity, than at present.

"So far as beauty is concerned ... it is not so very long ago in England that it was thought quite natural that the strongest lance at the tournament should win the fairest or the noblest lady. The lady was the prize to be tilted for. She rarely objected to the arrangement, because her vanity was gratified by the *éclat* of the proceeding. Now history is justly charged with a tendency to repeat itself. We may therefore reasonably look forward to the possibility, I do not say the probability, of some such practice of competition. What an extraordinary effect might be produced on our race if its object was to unite in marriage those who possessed the finest and most Suitable natures, mental, moral, and physical!"

The last paragraph must of course be interpreted in the semi-



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

jocular sense in which it was written.

I may here speak of some attempts by myself, made hitherto in too desultory a way, to obtain materials for a "Beauty-Map" of the British Isles. Whenever I have occasion to classify the persons I meet into three classes, "good, medium, bad," I use a needle mounted as a pricker, wherewith to prick holes, unseen, in a piece of paper, torn rudely into a cross With a long leg. I use its upper end for "good," the cross-arm for "medium," the lower end for "bad." The prick-holes keep distinct, and are easily read off at leisure. The object, place, and date are written On the paper. I used this plan for my beauty data, classifying the girls I passed in streets or elsewhere as attractive, indifferent, or repellent. Of course this was a purely individual estimate, bat it was consistent, judging from the conformity of different attempts in the same population. I found London to rank highest for beauty; Aberdeen lowest. In another article, after some further discussion, I say:

"I hence conclude that the improvement of the breed of mankind is no insuperable difficulty. If everybody were to agree on the improvement of the race of man being a matter of the very utmost importance, and if the theory of the hereditary transmission of qualities in men was as thoroughly understood as it is in the case of our domestic animals, I see no absurdity in supposing that, in some way or other, the improvement would be carried into effect.

"Most persons seem to have an idea that a new element, specially fashioned in heaven, and not transmitted by simple descent, is introduced into the body of every new-born infant. It is impossible this should be true, unless there exists some property or quality in man that is not transmissible by descent. But the terms talent and character are exhaustive; they include the whole of man's spiritual nature, so far as we are able to understand it. No other class of qualities is known to exist, that we might suppose to have been interpolated from on high."

The article concludes as follows:-

"It is a common theme of moralists of many creeds, that man is born with an imperfect nature. He has lofty aspirations, but there is a weakness in his disposition that incapacitates him from carrying his nobler purposes into effect. He sees that some particular course of action is his duty, and should be his delight; but his inclinations are fickle and base, and do not conform to his better judgment. The whole moral nature of man is tainted with sin, which prevents him from doing the things he knows to be right.

"I venture to offer an explanation of this apparent anomaly which seems perfectly satisfactory from a scientific point of view. It is neither more nor less than that the development of our nature, under Darwin's law of Natural Selection, has not yet overtaken the development of our religious civilisation. Man was



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

barbarous but yesterday, and therefore it is not to be expected that the natural aptitudes of his race should already have become moulded into accordance with his very recent advance. We men of the present centuries are like animals suddenly transplanted among new conditions of climate and of food; our instincts fail us under the altered circumstances. "My theory is confirmed by the fact that the members of old civilisations are far less sensible than those newly converted from barbarism, of their nature being inadequate to their moral needs. The conscience of a Negro is aghast at his own wild impulsive nature, and is easily stirred by a preacher; but it is scarcely possible to ruffle the self-complacency of a steady-going Chinaman.

"The sense of Original Sin would show, according to my theory, not that man was fallen from a high estate, but that he was rapidly rising from a low one. It would therefore confirm the conclusion that has been arrived at by every independent line of ethnological research, that our forefathers were utter savages ... and that after myriads of years of barbarism our race has but very recently grown to be civilised and religious."

The above paragraphs appeared also in Hereditary Genius. These views published by me forty-five years ago are still up to date, owing to the slow advance of the popular mind in its appreciation of the force of heredity. My fault in other parts of these articles was a tendency to overrate the speed with which a great improvement of the race of mankind might, theoretically, be effected. I had not then made out the law of Regression. With this qualification the above extracts express my present views. Before concluding with these magazine articles, I will make yet another extract in reference to a subject which a friend urged upon me quite recently as a worthy subject of experiment, namely, the breeding of animals for intelligence. The following extract shows that I considered it long ago. I have frequently since thought of making an attempt to carry it out, but it would have occupied more time and money than I could have spared. As it is just possible that the idea may now catch the fancy of some one, and induce him to make a trial, I reprint the passage here:-

"So far as I am aware, no animals have ever been bred for general intelligence. Special aptitudes are thoroughly controlled by the breeder. He breeds Dogs that point, that retrieve, that fondle or that bite; but no one has ever yet attempted to breed for high general intellect, irrespective of all other qualifications. It would be a most interesting subject for an attempt.

"We hear constantly of prodigies of dogs, whose very intelligence makes them of little value as slaves. When they are wanted, they are apt to be absent on their own errands. They are too critical of their master's conduct. For instance, an intelligent dog shows marked contempt for an unsuccessful sportsman. He will follow nobody along a road that leads to a well-known tedious



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

errand. He does not readily forgive a man who wounds his self-esteem. He is often a dexterous thief and a sad hypocrite. For these reasons an over-intelligent dog is not an object of particular desire, and therefore I suppose no one has ever thought of encouraging a breed of wise dogs. But it would be a most interesting occupation for a country philosopher to pick up the cleverest dogs he could hear of, and mate them together, generation after generation – breeding purely for intellectual power, and disregarding shape, size, and every other quality.”

The phrase “regardless of every other quality” is too strong, some regard should be paid to the physique and to the character of the dogs. Perhaps twenty females, ten males, and a fluctuating population of puppies would be enough for an experiment. The cost of this would not be very great, and would be sensibly diminished in time by money derived from the sale of pups.

The idea of the improvement of the human race was again mooted in 1884, and the term Eugenics was then first applied to it in my Human Faculty. Afterwards it was strongly emphasised in my “Huxley Lecture” before the Anthropological Institute in 1901, on the “Possible Improvement of the Human Breed under the existing conditions of Law and Sentiment.”

Great steps towards estimating the values of the influences concerned in effecting it had been made in the meantime by Professor Karl Pearson. He took up my work on Correlation, vastly extending its theory, and adding largely to the data. I had gone no further than to obtain simple results based on the Gaussian law of distribution; he worked out those results with great mathematical skill and elaboration. He also generalised them so as to deal with other laws of distribution than the Gaussian.

Moreover, Professor Karl Pearson established a Biometric Laboratory in University College, where accurate computations are made, and whence a quarterly publication, Biometrika, is issued. It was established by him and Professor Weldon, whose untimely death has been a deep sorrow to many friends and a serious loss to the science of heredity. I also was nominally connected with Biometrika as “Consulting Editor.”

The ground had thus become more or less prepared for further advance; so, after talking over the matter with the authorities of the University of London, and obtaining their ready concurrence, I supplied sufficient funds to allow of a small establishment for the furtherance of Eugenics. The University provided rooms, and gave the sanction of their name and various facilities, and I provided the salaries for a Research Fellow and for a Research Scholar. The Eugenics Laboratory of the University of London is now situated in University College, in connection with Professor Karl Pearson’s biometric laboratory, and I am glad to say he has consented to take it, for the present at least, under his very able superintendence; as I am too old and infirm now to be able to look properly after it. Valuable memoirs are being published by the Laboratory from time to time, and the young institution promises to be a permanent success.



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

The authorities of the newly established Sociological Society were disposed to take up the subject of Race Improvement, so I gave lectures at two of their meetings in 1904 and 1905, which are published in Vols I and II of the Sociological Papers. The subjects were on, "Eugenics, its Scope and Aims," "Restrictions in Marriage," "Studies in National Eugenics," and "Eugenics as a Factor in Religion." Eugenics is officially defined in the Minutes of the University of London as "the study of agencies under social control that may improve or impair the racial qualities of future generations, either physically or mentally." Skilful and cautious statistical treatment is needed in-most of the many inquiries upon whose results the methods of Eugenics will rest. A full account of the inquiries is necessarily technical and dry, but the results are not, and a "Eugenics Education Society" has been recently established to popularise those results. At the request of its Committee I have lately joined it as Hon. President, and hope to aid its work so far as the small powers that an advanced age still leaves intact may permit.

A true philanthropist concerns himself not only with society as a whole, but also with as many of the individuals who compose it as the range of his affections can include. If a man devotes himself solely to the good of a nation as a whole, his tastes must be impersonal and his conclusions so far heartless, deserving the ill title of "dismal" with which [Thomas Carlyle](#) labelled statistics. If, on the other hand, he attends only to certain individuals in whom he happens to take an interest, he becomes guided by favouritism and is oblivious of the rights of others and of the futurity of the race. Charity refers to the individual; Statesmanship to the nation; Eugenics cares for both.

It is known that a considerable part of the huge stream of British charity furthers by indirect and unsuspected ways the production of the Unfit; it is most desirable that money and other attention bestowed on harmful forms of charity should be diverted to the production and well-being of the Fit. For clearness of explanation we may divide newly married couples into three classes, with respect to the probable civic worth of their offspring. There would be a small class of "desirables," a large class of "passables," of whom nothing more will be said here, and a small class of "undesirables." It would clearly be advantageous to the country if social and moral support as well as timely material help were extended to the desirables, and not monopolised as it is now apt to be by the undesirables.

I take Eugenics very seriously, feeling that its principles ought to become one of the dominant motives in a civilised nation, much as if they were one of its religious tenets. I have often expressed myself in this sense, and will conclude this book by briefly reiterating my views.

Individuals appear to me as partial detachments from the infinite ocean of Being, and this world as a stage on which Evolution takes place, principally hitherto by means of Natural Selection, which achieves the good of the whole with scant regard to that of the individual.

Man is gifted with pity and other kindly feelings; he has also



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

the power of preventing many kinds of suffering. I conceive it to fall well within his province to replace Natural Selection by other processes that are more merciful and not less effective.

This is precisely the aim of Eugenics. Its first object is to check the birth-rate of the Unfit, instead of allowing them to come into being, though doomed in large numbers to perish prematurely. The second object is the improvement of the race by furthering the productivity of the Fit by early marriages and healthful rearing of their children. Natural Selection rests upon excessive production and wholesale destruction; Eugenics on bringing no more individuals into the world than can be properly cared for, and those only of the best stock.

February: Alexander Graham Bell's "A few thoughts concerning eugenics." National Geographic, 19, 119-132.

This was the speech Bell had made in the previous month before the American Breeders' Association in Washington DC. Actually this magazine would run 3 articles on eugenics, 2 of which would be authored by Bell, who had spent many years breeding sheep to have multiple nipples, and had become a prominent member of the American Breeding Association's Committee on Eugenics, established in 1906 "to investigate and report on heredity in the human race [and] to emphasize the value of superior blood and the menace to society of inferior blood."

**EUGENICS**



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

1909

[Francis Galton](#)'s ESSAYS IN [EUGENICS](#).

Eugenics Review.

Doctor Harry C. Sharp of the Indiana State Reformatory claimed in a pamphlet that he had sterilized around 500 inmates since 1899.

Indiana Governor Thomas Riley Marshall halted sterilizations in the state of Indiana.



EUGENICS

1910

The family of [Margaret Louise Higgins Sanger](#) and [William Sanger](#) relocated from Hastings into New York because the husband was dissatisfied with his architectural work as a draftsman and was seeking to become a painter (the wife returned to nursing to help support the family). The Sangers would become immersed in Greenwich Village culture, joining a circle of intellectuals, activists, and artists that included Max Eastman, John Reed, Upton Sinclair, Mabel Dodge, and Emma Goldman.

[Eugenics](#) Record Office, Cold Spring Harbor.

Charles Davenport's HEREDITY IN RELATION TO [EUGENICS](#).

In "Contribution to the Theory of Periodic Reaction," [Alfred J. Lotka](#) initiated the [Lotka-Volterra predator-prey logistic model](#) that has proven so useful in [ecology](#).

[Dr. David Starr Jordan](#)'s suspicion that Rome had fallen because of the degeneration of its people, plus his Unitarian Universalist conviction that the United States of America needed, in order to avoid what happened to Rome, to install government compulsory sterilization of the less fit among us, plus, on the basis of a similar reasoning process founded in the scientific fact of evolution, a fear that the tendency of war was to remove from the human gene pool the strongest rather than the weakest among us, led to his being chosen as president of the World Peace Foundation.

THE QUAKER PEACE TESTIMONY

WAR RESISTERS LEAGUE



Republication, by the Unitarian Universalists, of Dr. Jordan's 1901/1902 THE BLOOD OF THE NATION: A STUDY OF THE DECAY OF RACES THROUGH SURVIVAL OF THE UNFIT.

SURVIVAL OF THE UNFIT

EUGENICS



**EUGENICS**

**EUGENICS**



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

1911

John Ervin Kirkpatrick's [TIMOTHY FLINT](#), PIONEER, MISSIONARY, AUTHOR, EDITOR, 1780-1840; THE STORY OF HIS LIFE AMONG THE PIONEERS AND FRONTIERSMEN IN THE OHIO AND MISSISSIPPI VALLEY AND IN NEW ENGLAND AND THE SOUTH (Cleveland, Ohio: The Arthur H. Clark Company).

### TIMOTHY FLINT, PIONEER

[Professor Woodrow Wilson](#) of [Princeton University](#) ran for Governor of New Jersey with the support of Democratic Party political insiders, and won the popular vote by a margin of almost 50,000 votes. While Governor he would sign eugenic sexual sterilization legislation whereby criminals or adults considered to fall within the category "feeble-minded, epileptics and other defectives" were to be sexual sterilized, and appointed a 3-man board of examiners that was to investigate the inmates of the state poorhouses and decide whether to sterilize such inmates.

### EUGENICS

A New Jersey newspaperman writing under the pen name Victor Appleton (actual name Howard Garis) created the boy's book TOM SWIFT AND HIS ELECTRIC RIFLE, an updating of Jules Verne's 1875 underwater weapon of TWENTY THOUSAND LEAGUES UNDER THE SEA (in 1969, when the **TASER** would be developed by Jack Cover, what would this initialism stand for? —Thomas **A.** Swift's **E**lectronic **R**ifle).

Republication, by Charles Scribner's Sons, of [Theodore Henry Hittell](#)'s THE ADVENTURES OF [JAMES CAPEN ADAMS](#), MOUNTAINEER AND GRIZZLY BEAR HUNTER, OF [CALIFORNIA](#), issued originally in 1860, with its original woodcuts by Charles Nahl.



JAMES CAPEN ADAMS

## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

1912

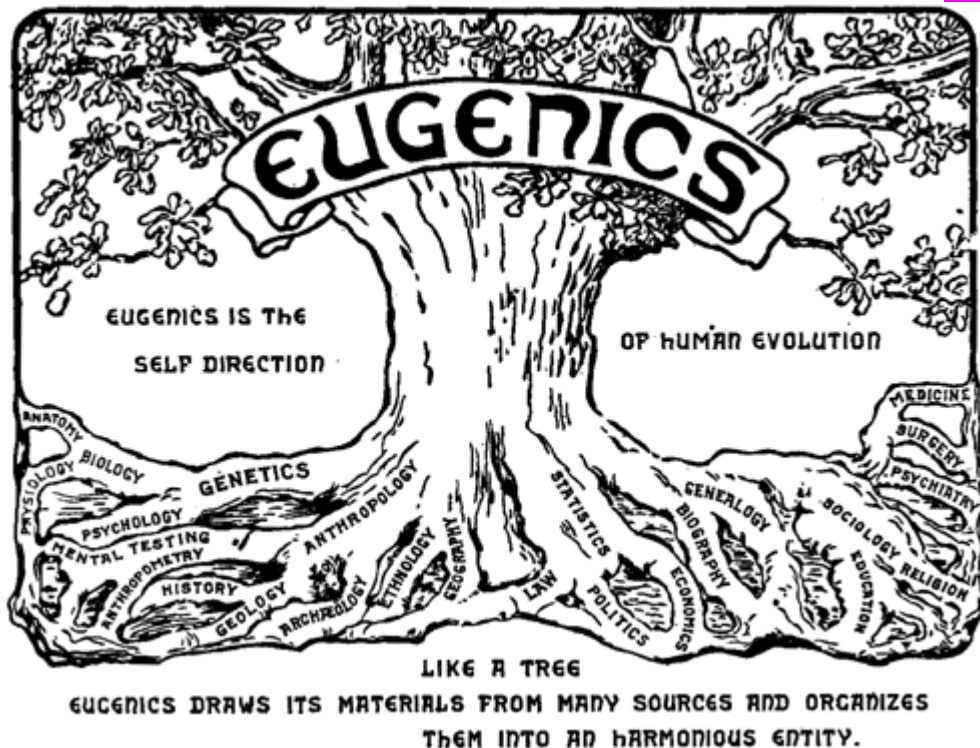
[Major Leonard Darwin](#), Charles Darwin's son, launched a campaign to "stamp out feeble-mindedness" through eugenic laws as to who might and who might not exercise the privilege of reproducing themselves.

THE TREASURY OF HUMAN INHERITANCE.

The French Eugenics Society.

Henry Goddard's THE KALLIKAK FAMILY: A STUDY IN THE HEREDITY OF FEEBLE-MINDEDNESS.

EUGENICS



July 29, Monday: Emperor Mutsuhito of [Japan](#) died after a reign of 45 years and was succeeded by his son, Yoshihito.

Fighting began between Liberals and disaffected Conservatives on one side against the Conservative government of Nicaraguan President Adolfo Díaz. The US Minister to the country, George Weitzel, personally led a reorganization of the Managua police force to help meet the threat.

This was the final day of the First International Eugenics Congress, at the Hotel Cecil in [London](#). The congress had been organized by the British Eugenics Education Society and was dedicated to [Francis Galton](#), the eugenics fraud who had died during the previous year. [Major Leonard Darwin](#), son of Charles Darwin and a relative of [Galton](#), had presided. The 5-day meeting had assembled about 400 dignitaries, such as Winston



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS



Churchill, First Lord of the British Admiralty, and Lord Alverstone, the Chief Justice, Lord Balfour, the ambassadors of Norway, Greece, and France, etc. In his opening address Darwin had spoken bravely about the fact that the introduction of principles of better breeding procedures for humans was going to require moral courage. An exhibit sponsored by the American Breeders' Association had demonstrated the incidence of hereditary defects in human pedigrees. A report by Bleeker van Wagenen had brought the world up to date about improvements in American sterilization laws. Mr. Van Wagenen had spoken bravely about the need for sterilization to be compulsory –no matter how unpleasant a thought this was– in order to eliminate “defective germ-plasm.” In his final address on this day, Major Darwin extolled [eugenics](#) as the practical application of the principle of evolution. For the Second International Eugenics Congress, in 1921 in New York City, the American eugenicist [Alexander Graham Bell](#) would be honorary president.

**PROTO-NAZISM**





## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

1913

In [London](#), a baby was born that was the product of careful eugenic breeding. She was given the name “Eugenette.”

The Mental-Deficiency Act.

*Deutsche Gessellschaft fuer Rassenhygiene.*

[Dr. David Starr Jordan](#)’s “The Eugenics of War: Its Effect Principally on Heredity, and Wholly Pernicious – Military Training Cannot Compensate Because It Has No Effect on the Germ Plasm” appeared in Journal of Heredity (Vol. 4, No. 3, page 140).

Dr. Jordan’s WAR AND WASTE: A SERIES OF DISCUSSIONS OF WAR AND WAR ACCESSORIES (Doubleday, Page & Company).

EUGENICS

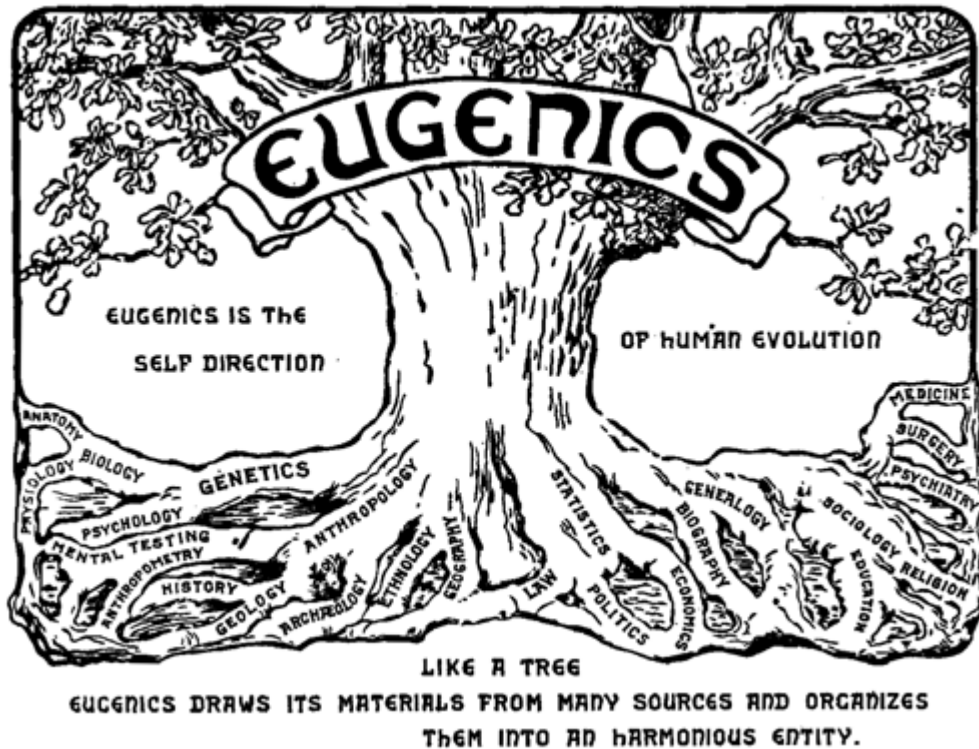


## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

1914

According to a “model eugenical sterilization law” promoted by an advocacy group, that later would be adopted in Virginia, and then in 30 other states including [California](#) and Indiana, the targets of our nation’s sterilization effort ought to include the “feeble-minded, insane, criminalistic, epileptic, inebriate, diseased, blind, deaf, deformed and dependent,” including “orphans, ne’er-do-wells, tramps, the homeless and paupers.”



EUGENICS

1916

Terman's revision of the Binet-Simon test at Stanford; "I.Q.," was introduced.

Eugenical News.

Paul Robeson matriculated at Rutgers College.

During the First World War, Professor Robert Yerkes of Harvard University would persuade the US Army to let him administer Alpha and Beta IQ tests to nearly 2,000,000 recruits, in order to select candidates for officer ranks. This would help the IQ movement build up a statistical record that could be used for general comparisons. The goal of the IQ testers did not necessarily have to do with any reform of the educational process, but was to identify the most innately intelligent people of our society, so they could be helped to take charge of affairs. One of Professor Yerkes's assistants was a young psychologist, Carl C. Brigham, who had become interested in mental testing while a student at [Princeton University](#). Brigham would become a psychology professor there, and an enthusiastic member of the pernicious [eugenics](#) movement. After WWI, Professor Brigham would begin adapting the Army Alpha Test for use as an objective admissions test for students applying to Princeton, primarily by making it more and more difficult.





## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

1917

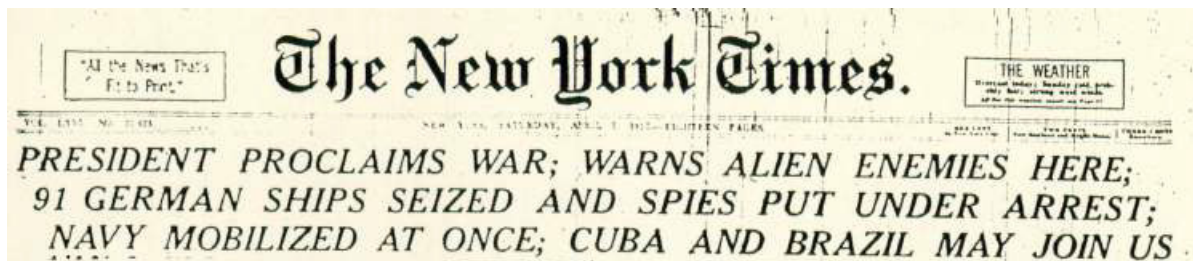
April 7, Saturday: Kaiser Wilhelm II promised universal suffrage for Prussia.

The Finnish Senate gave cautious approval to independence from the Russian provisional government.

Sergei Rakhmaninov gave a charity concert at the Bolshoi Theater, performing three concertos: his own 2d, Tchaikovsky, and Liszt, the proceeds to go to army relief. This was his final performance in Moscow.

El corregidor y la molinera, a pantomime by Manuel de Falla to words of Martínez Sierra after Alarcón, was performed for the initial time, in the Teatro Eslava, Madrid, conducted by Joaquín Turina. It was wildly popular.

The United States of America, [Cuba](#), and Panama entered [World War I](#).



US MILITARY INTERVENTIONS

There would be an US Army testing program headed by R. Yerkes.

EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

Lenin would occur. The Russian Revolution would occur. Russia would capitulate and withdraw. Etc.

James Montgomery Flagg, a notorious stage-door Johnny (womanizer), for the nonce painted himself in an Uncle Sam costume. Instead of depicting himself saying, for purposes of sexuality, “I want your sweet ass” to one or another chorus-line cutie, for purposes of war he depicted himself as our national government saying “I want YOU for U.S. Army” to a young male victim:



We would lose far more of our boys to disease than to any bullet or shrapnel or [poison gas](#):



Of the 118,497 men from [Minnesota](#) who would serve in the war, 1,432 would die in uniform. At the end of the war, the so-called Spanish [influenza](#) pandemic which would begin on our troopships bringing the boys home would spread to Minnesota and kill 7,521 initially and 4,200 more over the following two years.

It is possible to go to almost any cemetery in the world and find a similar cluster of graves from the fall of 1918. Between September and November of that year, as the First World War came to an end, an extraordinarily lethal strain of influenza swept the globe, killing between twenty million and forty million people. More Americans died of the flu over the next few months than were killed during the First World War, the Second World War, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War combined. The Spanish flu, as it came to be known, reached every continent and virtually every country on the map, going wherever ships sailed or cars or trucks or trains traveled, killing so many so quickly that some cities were forced to convert streetcars into hearses, and others buried their dead in mass graves, because they ran out of coffins.

— Malcolm Gladwell, “The Dead Zone,”  
in The New Yorker for September 29, 1997



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

1919

After WWI, Haldane, (Julian) Huxley, and Hogben began an anti-mainline assault against eugenics.

EUGENICS

H.S. Jennings (in USA) later joined the British colleagues in the anti-mainline assault.

C. Richet, *LA SELECTION HUMAINE*.



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

1920

A final report was made by the Comptroller of the Currency in regard to the affairs of Freedman's Savings and Trust Company.

The Fitter Families contests began.

Laughlin (Eugenic Record Office) got involved in the House Committee on Immigration.

The concept of "social hygiene" began to dominate French [eugenics](#).

November/December: [Alexander Graham Bell](#)'s "Is [race suicide](#) possible?" [The Journal of Heredity](#), XI, #8, 340.

After the fall of the Roman Empire there was a great religious revival among the nations. The Middle Ages saw Europe filled with monasteries and nunneries, where enormous numbers of people took vows of celibacy, and renounced all home and family ties. Even outside of the religious houses the *celibate life* was everywhere held up as the ideal one to be followed by the best and purest elements of the population. Instead of helping the church this produced the very opposite effect, and actually paved the way for the Reformation! ...where the best and noblest led celibate lives, they left no descendants behind them to inherit their virtues, whereas the worst elements of the population continued to multiply without restriction. It is now felt that the interests of the race demand that the best should marry and have large families; and that any restrictions upon reproduction should apply to the worst rather than to the best.

...



The only hope of producing higher and better types of men and women lies in the multiplication of the better elements of the population. There is now a great fear of what people call "race suicide" in America. Foreign-born parents are begetting more offspring than American. The United States to-day is in a critical position. Its birth-rate is declining and the tendency to avoid maternity is growing; the immigrant races are increasing at a much greater rate than our own. The only solution for a true American race lies in the restriction of immigration. The desire to avoid maternity is a characteristic associated with lack of offspring, and cannot therefore go on increasing indefinitely in a community. So long as some people (no matter how small the percentage may be) desire children and have them, complete race suicide is impossible. These people would pass on the characteristic of desire for children while those who are indifferent would restrict themselves and thus eliminate this characteristic from the race. In several generations' time, the American race would be composed almost totally of those people who desire progeny, the opposite type having eliminated itself by its very character.



## EUGENICS

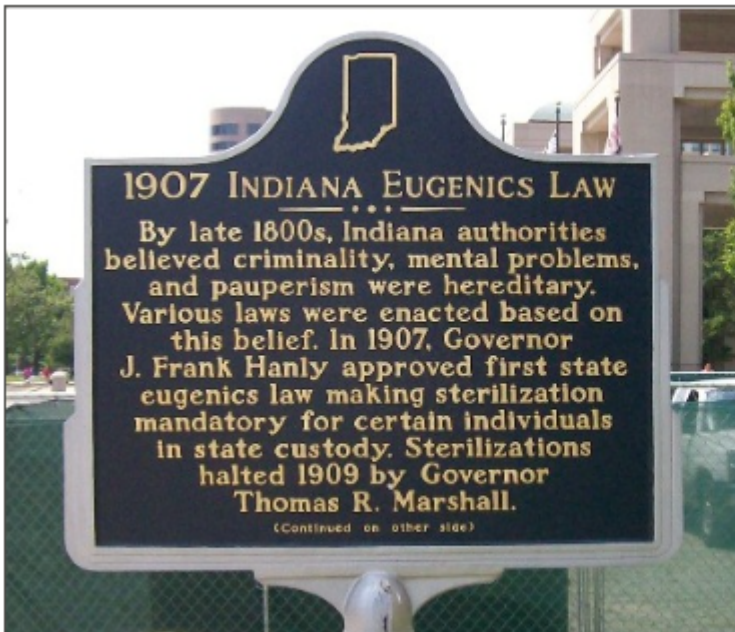
## EUGENICS

1921

The 1st [St. Helenians](#) left to work on Ascension island.

Emergency Restriction Act for US immigration.

The Indiana Supreme Court ruled that the state's 1907 sterilization law was unconstitutional in that it denied to inmates the due process of the law guaranteed by the XIVth Amendment to the United States Constitution (Williams et al. v. Smith, No. 23, 709, Supreme Court of Indiana, 190 Ind. 526; 131 N.E. 2; 1921 Ind.).



In a speech to the Indiana General Assembly, new Governor James P. Goodrich deployed the nonce term “desexualization” while deploring the previous state governor’s failure to enforce the state institutional-sterilization law: “Ever since Governor [Thomas Riley] Marshall raised the question as to the constitutionality of the present law authorizing the desexualization of inmates of certain institutions, it has been a dead letter and no serious attempt has been made to enforce it” (INDIANA SENATE JOURNAL, 1921, page 23).

National Academy of Sciences, Psychological Examining in the United States Army.

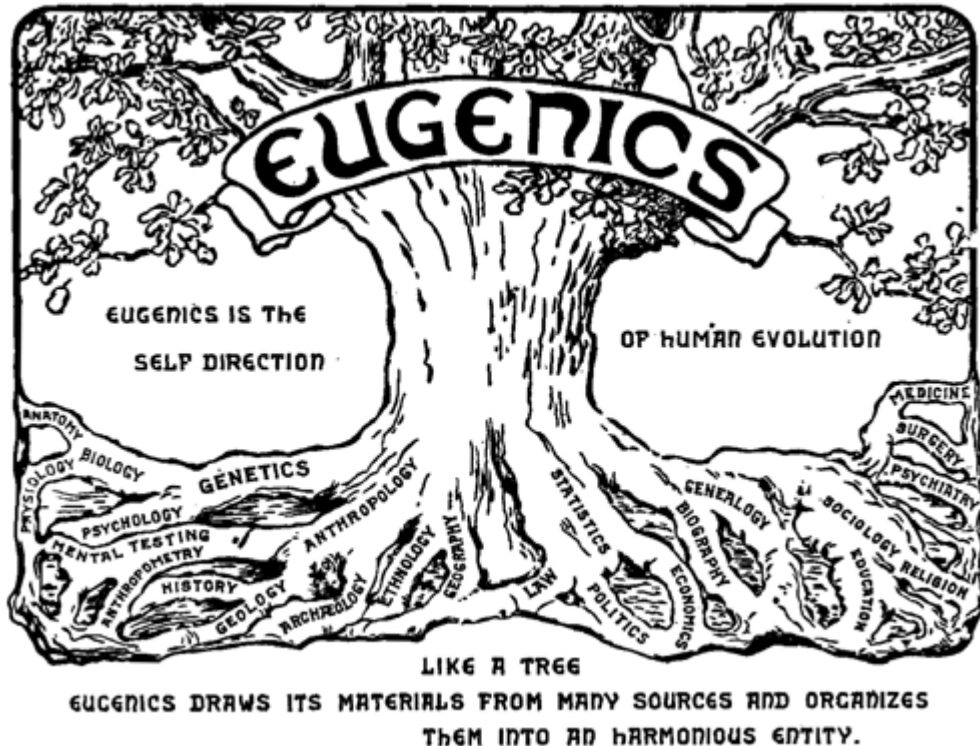
EUGENICS



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

September 25, Sunday-27, Tuesday: The Second International Eugenics Congress met at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City, with [Henry Fairfield Osborn](#) presiding. [Alexander Graham Bell](#) was honorary president and the US Department of State mailed invitations around the world. Under American leadership and dominance—41 out of 53 scientific papers—the work of the eugenicists disrupted by World War I in Europe needed to resume. Delegates participated not only from Europe and North America, but also from Latin America (Mexico, Cuba, Venezuela, El Salvador, and Uruguay), and Asia (Japan, India, Siam). The honored guest speaker, [Major Leonard Darwin](#), son of Charles Darwin, spoke in favor of [eugenic](#) measures that cried out to be now taken, such as “elimination of the unfit” and discouragement of births among the “ill-endowed,” accompanied by a program to encourage increased numbers of infants among the “well-endowed.”



[PROTO-NAZISM](#)

## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

1922

The Trinity Park School associated with [Trinity College](#) in [Durham, North Carolina](#), that had been preparing young white scholars for the rigors of college, shut down because due to more robust local whites-only public schools, there were fewer and fewer local white children in need of such help, and in consequence they had been suffering a declining enrollment.

[Margaret Sanger](#) had little but contempt for the “Asiatic races,” as she and her [eugenicist](#) friends called them, and proposed that in some way their numbers be drastically reduced. If white civilization was to fulfill its promise of “more without end,” it would also need to involve a “war without end” upon the weak and unworthy among us. In this year Sanger visited [Japan](#), and that didn’t help even one little bit, except that in her autobiography she would single out the [Chinese](#) in particular among the people of Asia, as a phenomenon resembling plague, writing that “the incessant fertility of [the Chinese] millions spread like a plague.”



Well Adjusted White Woman, the Hope of Our Future

However, in this year this white-lady-with-attitude’s preoccupation went beyond racial inferiority to include individual inferiority as well. In her PIVOT OF CIVILIZATION she asked not only that the “genetically inferior races” be sterilized, but also, so that the “weeds ... overrunning the human garden” would be extirpated, that all “morons, misfits, and the maladjusted” be segregated out of the general human population, which is to say, institutionalized.

RACISM

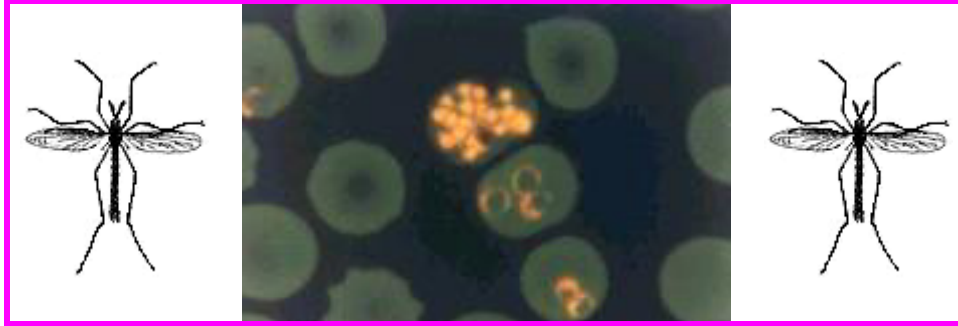
(And after all, wasn’t this lady right about the Chinese people? –For instance, between April 1922 and November 1923 our marines would be forced to venture onto China’s soil **fully five times** in order to adequately protect USers and their interests during various periods of native restlessness! ;-)

US MILITARY INTERVENTIONS

## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

For the following three decades the sickle cell trait would be being viewed as a “latent” disease. Some US physicians would promote the idea that sickle cell disease could be spread into the general populace by “disordered Negro blood.”



MALARIA

(The physicians who would be promoting this theory would be, by some odd coincidence, white men. But now you look here — this has nothing to do with that.)

In this year [Margaret Sanger](#) got married with oil magnate James Noah H. Slee, presumably just as racist as she, but did so on her own terms, insuring her financial and sexual independence. (Slee, who would die in 1943, would make himself the main funder of the birth control movement.)

FEMINISM

[HDT](#)[WHAT?](#)[INDEX](#)

## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

1923

Fritz Lenz became chair of *Rassenhygiene* at München, [Germany](#).

[NAZISM](#)

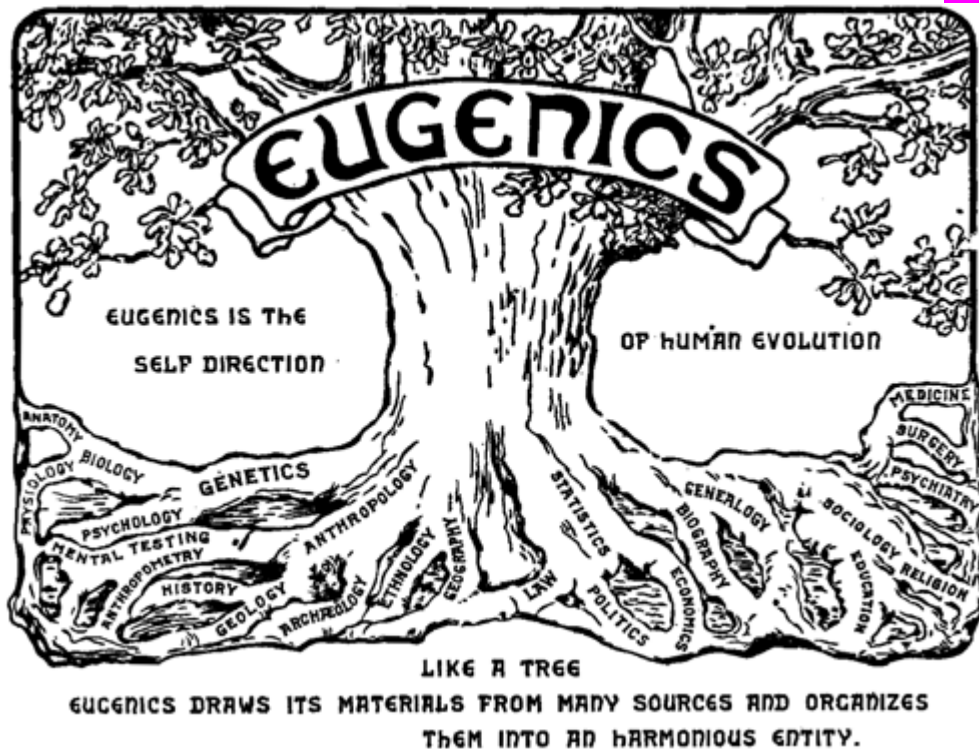
Lenz's *GRUNDRISS DER MENSCHLICHE ERBLICHKEITSLEHRE UND RASSENHYGIENE* (with Erwin Bauer and Eugen Fischer).

[EUGENICS](#)

## Race hygiene for Germany!

The formation of the American Eugenics Society.

[EUGENICS](#)



## Race hygiene for America!



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

**1924**

Immigration Act. The US introduced a National Origins standard.

Sterilization Law in Virginia, and the Buck vs. Bell Case began (eventually, in 1927, the Supreme Court would uphold this law).

**EUGENICS**



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

1925

Annales of Eugenics.

EUGENICS

Raymond Dart's description of *Australopithecus africanus* (the "Taung child," a hominid child's skull from Africa) challenged Osborn's theory of the Asian origin of man. He considered it to be the missing link between humans and apes.

PALEONTOLOGY

John Thomas Scopes was the defendant in the famous "Scopes Monkey Trial" for teaching children about evolution in the public school. Two-time presidential candidate William Jennings Bryan led the prosecution. Labor lawyer Clarence Darrow, who led the defense, goaded Bryan into declaring that in his humble opinion humans weren't mammals (the Scopes conviction would be overturned on a technicality but the anti-evolution law would remain on the books for decades).

THE SCIENCE OF 1925



**EUGENICS**

**EUGENICS**

**1926**

*Deutscher Bund fuer Volksaufartung und Erbkunde.*

**EUGENICS**

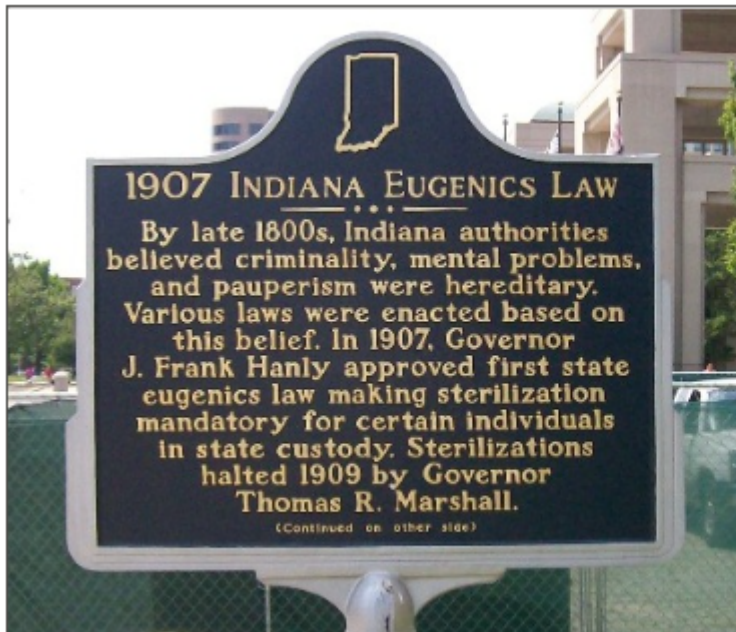


## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

1927

Indiana Governor Edward Jackson signed a re-enactment of its previous law of sterilization, that had been found unconstitutional, with the addition of the possibility of court appeals in order to satisfy the due process of law requirement of the XIVth Amendment to the United States Constitution (LAWS OF INDIANA, 1927, pages 713-17). Although the fragmentation of the records makes it difficult to estimate, it seems that under this new face-saving arrangement for negative [Eugenics](#), in all likelihood some 2,500 in state custody, give or take, were sterilized. The sterilization law would be amended several times from 1931 into the 1950s (LAWS OF INDIANA, 1931, pages 116-19; LAWS OF INDIANA, 1951, pages 649-653).





## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

May 2, Monday: This was the year of the foundation of the *Kaiser Wilhelm Institut fuer Anthoropologie, menschliche Erblehre und Eugenik*. According to a “model eugenical sterilization law” that had been being promoted in America by an advocacy group since 1914 and had been adopted in Virginia in 1924, the “feeble-minded, insane, criminalistic, epileptic, inebriate, diseased, blind, deaf, deformed and dependent,” including “orphans, ne’er-do-wells, tramps, the homeless and paupers,” were to be targets for sterilization. This [Eugenics](#) movement in the United States came to its shameful apogee on this day, when Chief Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr., speaking for the eight-member majority of the Supreme Court of the United States of America, declared that it was appropriate for the government to sterilize the rape victim Carrie Buck because “three generations of imbeciles are enough.” The court had been informed, quite falsely, that Carrie was mentally inadequate, that her mother had been mentally inadequate, and that she had born a child, Vivian, who was mentally inadequate. Over and above the clear record that no evidence had been produced of any such mental inadequacy either in the case of the mother, or in the case of Carrie, or in the case of Vivian, it now seems evident that ample evidence might have been made available, had anyone bothered to make an inquiry, that all three persons were within the range of normal intelligence. However, the court blindly rubber-stamped the idea that “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. ... Three generations of imbeciles are enough.” It had allowed itself to be systematically lied to by institutional authorities, and had been blind to the structure of institutional deceit and institutional self-serving which had produced such total prevarication.

Carrie Buck is a feeble minded white woman who was committed to the State Colony above mentioned in due form. She is the daughter of a feeble minded mother in the same institution, and the mother of an illegitimate feeble minded child. She was eighteen years old at the time of the trial of her case in the Circuit Court, in the latter part of 1924. An Act of Virginia, approved March 20, 1924, recites that the health of the patient and the welfare of society may be promoted in certain cases by the sterilization of mental defectives, under careful safeguard, &c.; that the sterilization may be effected in males by vasectomy and in females by salpingectomy, without serious pain or substantial danger to life; that the Commonwealth is supporting in various institutions many defective persons who, if now discharged, would become [p\*206] a menace, but, if incapable of procreating, might be discharged with safety and become self-supporting with benefit to themselves and to society, and that experience has shown that heredity plays an important part in the transmission of insanity, imbecility, &c. The statute then enacts that, whenever the superintendent of certain institutions, including the above-named State Colony, shall be of opinion that it is for the best interests of the patients and of society that an inmate under his care should be sexually sterilized, he may have the operation performed upon any patient afflicted with hereditary forms of insanity, imbecility, &c., on complying with the very careful provisions by which the act protects the patients from possible abuse.

The Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, Mark R. Warner, has since been forced to formally apologize to Carrie Buck and some 8,000 other victims that it had involuntarily sterilized between 1927 and 1979. There is even a roadside marker, in Virginia, honoring Carrie Buck, the victim of institutional deceit.

“The eugenics movement was a shameful effort in which state government never should have been involved.”



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

The governor would issue this apology on the 75th anniversary of this Supreme Court decision, after the death of this victim. Virginia was, of course, not alone, as 30 states had adopted this practice of involuntary sterilization of the “unfit,” and an estimated 65,000 Americans had been sterilized, many of them in [California](#) and Indiana, states that were leading among the offenders.



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

1930

GENETICAL THEORY OF NATURAL SELECTION (R. Fisher: first major work to argue for the Modern Synthesis).

*EUGENIK* (by Deutscher Bund)

Pope Pius XI's "Encyclical Letter on Christian Marriage."

EUGENICS



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

1931

After her mother, Carrie Buck, had been sterilized for giving birth to her as a supposed idiot child, Vivian Buck made the Venable School's honor roll. She had been proclaimed an idiot at the age of seven months — simply because that fitted the needs of the institutionalists (actually, as it turned out, she was very much within the range of normal intelligence).

EUGENICS

1932

Aldous Huxley's *BRAVE NEW WORLD* was written at Sanary, near Toulon. This was a dark vision of dystopia in which the author turned upside down the scientific optimism of H.G. Wells. Margaret Mead's *COMING OF AGE IN SAMOA* of 1928 was among the books he read while preparing the novel.



"I met, not long ago, a young man who aspired to become a novelist. Knowing that I was in the profession, he asked me to tell him how he should set to work to realize his ambition. I did my best to explain. 'The first thing,' I said, 'is to buy quite a lot of paper, a bottle of ink, and a pen. After that you merely have to write.'" ("Sermons in Cats," MUSIC AT NIGHT)

This nightmarish black comedy of a future society was a cry of warning. In it, the "Nine Year War," a global holocaust, has reshaped the world. In the year 632AF (632 years "after Ford," that is, the 26th century) the world has attained a kind of scientifically balanced communist utopia. Universal happiness was being preserved by psychotropic medications known as soma. We had been mutated into five distinct types of humans, ranging from intellectually superior Alpha functionaries to semimoronic laborer Epsilons. The Alpha-Plus point-of-view character, Bernard Marx, was resisting soma, and eventually got himself exiled to Iceland. John the Savage, raised in a reservation of American Indian primitives, abandoned by his mother in a primitive outpost, came into that world. John was thinking and feeling as an individual. Bernard brought John and his Beta-Minus mother Linda to England. When his mother died of an overdose of the feel-good drug, John initiated a violent revolt. He engaged in a dialogue with World Controller Mustapha Mond in regard to the merits of freedom and passion. He was harassed as a freak of the accepted social order. In the end the Savage yielded to the temptations of the carefree world, and then offed himself in disgust.



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

August 22, Monday-23, Tuesday, 1932: The Third International Eugenics Congress took place at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City, dedicated to Mary Williamson Averell who had provided significant financial support, and presided over by Charles Davenport. [Henry Fairfield Osborn](#)'s address emphasized birth selection over birth control as the method to better the offspring. F. Ramos from Cuba proposed that immigrants should be carefully checked for harmful traits, and suggested deportations of their descendants if inadmissible traits would become later apparent. [Major Leonard Darwin](#), son of Charles Darwin, now 88 years old, was unable to attend but sent a report presented by Ronald Fisher predicting the doom of civilization unless adequate [eugenic](#) steps were taken. The congress would publish "A Decade of Progress in Eugenics" in SCIENTIFIC PAPERS OF THE THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF EUGENICS. However, for obvious reasons, although there would be international meetings in 1934 and 1936 there would never be a Fourth International Eugenics Congress.

**PROTO-NAZISM**



1933

With the coming of [Adolf Hitler](#) to power in [Germany](#), active persecution of Jews would be starting.



"My feelings as a Christian points me to my Lord and Savior as a fighter.... As a Christian I have no duty to allow myself to be cheated, but I have the duty to be a fighter for truth and justice ... and if there is anything which could demonstrate that we are acting rightly, it is the distress that daily grows. For as a Christian I have also a duty to my own people."

– [Adolf Hitler](#), April 12, 1922



WORLD WAR II

GERMANY

The great wise poet and culture icon T.S. Eliot gave a university lecture. His audience was making a serious mistake, he indicated. They were allowing safe harbor to a "large number of free-thinking Jews." These people, he pointed out, were "undesirable." Why were these people undesirable? –Because a sensible nation will insist upon a "unity of religious background." Racially, ethnically, and religiously, the "population should be homogenous."

Go figure. The great wise poet and culture icon T.S. Eliot was not delivering this lecture at the University of Heidelberg, in the benighted Third Reich! He was delivering it, instead, at the University of Virginia, in the benighted United States of America!<sup>11</sup>

ANTISEMITISM

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer released the film "Gabriel over the White House" in which a fascist president takes control of the United States of America. The [Nazis](#) got a lot out of this, as it seemed to be an American version of [Adolf Hitler](#)'s rise to power in [Germany](#).

The [Nazi](#) party, rising to power in Germany, was beginning to implement eugenic laws. American eugenicists were also busy busy.

EUGENICS

During the 1920s a Hollywood scriptwriter, William Dudley Pelley, son of a Protestant minister of Lynn, Massachusetts, had "experienced death" for 7 minutes and made contact with an oracle. His oracle was guiding

11. Some of Eliot's friends, not his best friends but friends nevertheless, were Jews.

[HDT](#)[WHAT?](#)[INDEX](#)

## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

him to become “the Chief” of a secret Silver Shirts Legion in California, the Pacific northwest, and the deep south, 15,000 to 50,000 strong. He was clearly modeling himself on *Der Führer*. The gazette version of this American [Nazi](#) movement was being termed the [Liberation](#).



JEMIMAH WILKINSON

Meanwhile, in Germany, with the coming to power of the Nazis, a stab-in-the-back *Dolchstoßlegende* was being promulgated, that the German Army had not lost World War I on the battlefield but had instead been betrayed by the republicans who overthrew the monarchy during the German Revolution of 1918/1919, known as the “November Criminals” (*November-verbrecher*). Although such imagery was of course evocative of Richard Wagner’s 1876 opera *Götterdämmerung*, in which Hagen murders his enemy Siegfried with a spear in his back, it had in fact been suggested to German General Erich Ludendorff during Fall 1919 by the head of the British Military Mission in Berlin, General Sir Neill Malcolm.

## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

July 14, Friday: A Glorious Day op.48 for brass by Albert Roussel was performed for the initial time, in Paris.

The [German](#) government issued a Law Establishing the Cinema Office, giving the minister of propaganda power to decide who could make films in [Germany](#).

The [Nazi](#) Party was declared to be the sole legitimate political party in a unified nation of [Germany](#). (In union there is strength, and strength leads to triumph, but in dissension there can be only weakness and disloyalty and defeat. Everybody knows that, so you shouldn't be surprised to find out that we're not going to put up with any defeatism.)

**WORLD WAR II**



As the Nazi Party became [Germany](#)'s only legal political party, political opposition of course became punishable under the law.

Eastern European Jews and Gypsies living in [Germany](#) were stripped of citizenship under a new Law regarding Revocation of Naturalization and Annulment of German Citizenship.

In [Germany](#), also, a program of sterilization of "unfit" parents and potential parents, and "euthanasia" of the "defective" and of "useless eaters," began under a new Law for the Prevention of Offspring with Hereditary Diseases dealing with people who fell into the category of "life unworthy of life" (*lebensunwertes Leben*).<sup>12</sup>

July 25, Tuesday: Not wasting any time, the *Reich* Cabinet announced, in accordance with [Germany](#)'s new Law for the Prevention of Offspring with Hereditary Diseases dealing with people who fell into the category "life unworthy of life" (*lebensunwertes Leben*), that they were instituting compulsory sterilization for both men and women suffering from certain hereditary diseases.

12. This new law was endorsed by the [American Eugenics Society](#).

## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

1934

[Margaret Sanger](#)'s CODE TO STOP THE OVERPRODUCTION OF CHILDREN. On page 71 we find the following: "Feeble-minded persons, habitual congenital criminals, those afflicted with inheritable diseases, and others found biologically unfit should be sterilized or in cases of doubt be isolated as to prevent the perpetuation of their afflictions by breeding."



Not all Fools are Feebleminded

During the early Hitler years, as Germany's sterilizations were coming to exceed 5,000 per month, American eugenicists were largely in favor of his agenda to purify the race through the elimination of imperfections. This was particularly true in California, where a display was set up in the Los Angeles County Museum for the annual meeting of the American Public Health Association. The eugenicist C.M. Goethe when he returned from an inspection tour of Germany pronounced that "You will be interested to know, that your work has played a powerful part in shaping the opinions of the group of intellectuals who are behind Hitler in this epoch-making program. Everywhere I sensed that their opinions have been tremendously stimulated by American thought.... I want you, my dear friend, to carry this thought with you for the rest of your life, that you have really jolted into action a great government of 60 million people." Virginia had had such a sterilization act for a decade and yet Joseph DeJarnette, superintendent of Virginia's Western State Hospital, would complain in the Richmond Times-Dispatch "The Germans are beating us at our own game."

EUGENICS

Is that so amazing? In this decade the State of Maine was officially sponsoring tourism by advertising itself to potential [tourists](#) as a region possessing a high percentage of "native-born white stock." The State of Maine was pointing out that tourists (who of course were white) would meet there a remarkably small number of persons of "foreign parentage," and boasting that in fact there were in the entire state "only a thousand Negroes and less than a thousand Indians."



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

July 14, Saturday: The *Reich* Cabinet enacted a “Law for Averting Hereditarily Diseased Progeny,” legalized forced sterilization (this would be the infamous “[Aktion T-4](#),” so designated from the [Tiergartenstraße No. 4](#) address of the [Kanzlei des Führers der NSDAP](#) in which the [Nazis](#) would coordinate their “negative eugenics” [euthanasia program](#)).

EUGENICS



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

1935

October 8, Tuesday: The *Reich* Cabinet enacted a “Law to Safeguard the Hereditary Health of the German People,” which legalized abortion in cases of pregnancy where either of the parents suffered from certain hereditary diseases.

EUGENICS

The eugenics craze peaked in the US but opponents were becoming more numerous and increasingly outspoken.



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

1939

July 25, Tuesday: Under the direct authority of [Führer Adolf Hitler](#) and the child's parents, [Dr. Karl Brandt](#) put [Gerhard Herbert Kretschmar](#) to death. For many years, allegedly to protect the privacy of the Kretschmar family and their relatives near Leipzig, this child, this [lebensunwertes Leben](#) who was being used as the test case for the [Aktion T-4](#) agenda, would be known only as "Child K." The [Nazi](#) father of this family had written directly to his [Führer](#), asking that their deformed son be "put to sleep," referring to him as "This Monster."

[WORLD WAR II](#)  
[STATE MURDER](#)  
[EUGENICS](#)

September 1, Friday, 4:45AM: Artillery opened up all along the border between [Germany](#) and Poland, and from a [German](#) cruiser in Danzig harbor to a Polish military installation nearby. Later, [German](#) armored and infantry units entered Poland while the Luftwaffe bombed Warsaw and other Polish cities.

Danzig (Gdansk) was incorporated into the [German](#) Reich. Italy announced its neutrality while Great Britain and France demanded that the [Germans](#) withdraw. [Germany](#) annexed Danzig, West Prussia, Wartheland, and Upper Silesia. The Second World War had begun. The London Proms were canceled because the BBC Symphony Orchestra has been evacuated to Bristol. The BBC stopped television broadcasts for the duration of the war. Plans to evacuate hundreds of thousands of children from London and other major British cities to rural areas went into operation.

Joaquín Rodrigo and his wife returned to Madrid from Paris to take up permanent residence. He had spent the Civil War abroad and now returned to take up a position in the music department of Spanish National Radio. In his suitcase was the manuscript of Concierto de Aranjuez.

Concerto for Horns by Carlos Chávez was performed completely for the first time, in the Palacio de Bellas Artes, [Mexico City](#).

The head of the SS, swordsman Heinrich Himmler, would comment "All Poles will disappear from the world."

### Skilled Swordsmen

<a href="#">Saint Ignatius Loyola</a>	<a href="#">President Harry S Truman</a>
<a href="#">Michel Angelo</a>	<a href="#">General George Patton</a>
<a href="#">Sir Walter Raleigh</a>	<a href="#">Heinrich Himmler</a>
<a href="#">René Descartes</a>	<a href="#">Hermann Göring</a>
<a href="#">John Milton</a>	<a href="#">Juan Péron</a>
<a href="#">George Frederick Handel</a>	<a href="#">Francisco Franco</a>
<a href="#">Johann Wolfgang von Goethe</a>	<a href="#">Benito Mussolini</a>





## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

Skilled Swordsmen	
<u>Karl Marx</u>	Oswald Mosley
<u>Sir Richard Burton</u>	Reinhard Heydrich
Aleksandr Pushkin	

The largest town in Pomerania, Bydgoszcz (Bromberg) had a population of around 140,000. In the area around this city during the first four months of the [Nazi](#) occupation of Poland about 10,000 non-Jewish Polish civilians would be executed. First its priests, lawyers, teachers, and industry leaders would be taken to the town's square and executed by machine-gun. Then about a hundred 12-to-16-year-old Boy Scouts would be machine-gunned on the steps of the Jesuit Church. For every German soldier shot, from 50 to 100 Polish civilians would be randomly executed. Participating in the execution of hostages on September 10, 1939 were members of Police Battalion 6 (Berlin). In the provinces of Lodz and Warsaw, the SS conducted a total of 714 execution operations which took the lives of 16,376 Polish civilians, mostly the leading intelligentsia and aristocracy, civil and political leaders. The class of Polish society most often selected for execution was the clergy. In Pomerania, only 20 of its 650 priests would be allowed to remain, the rest either being executed or sent to concentration camps. In Wroclaw, 49% of the priests were killed, in Chelmno, 48%, in Lodz, 37%, and in Poznan, 31%. In Warsaw itself, 212 priests were executed.

The free city of Danzig was united with [Germany](#).

[Führer Adolf Hitler](#) addressed the *Reichstag*, and issued a warning about what awaited the Jews who had provoked him to this violence:

... this war will not end the way the jews would have it, namely with the extermination of all European and Aryan peoples, but the result of this war will be the annihilation of the Jewish race.

### WORLD WAR II

Poland had a Jewish population of 3,351,000. Only 369,000 would be alive at war's end.

You probably thought that since the Nazis were wicked, the Poles were nicey-nice. Well, guess what? In advance of the onrushing irresistible [German](#) armies, Polish soldiers and civilians were fleeing eastward, and as they fled, they were diverting themselves by attacking any ethnic German civilians, the *Volksdeutsche* resident in Poland for many years, that they could readily detect. To come across a German home was to enter it and slaughter its occupants. Before execution, it goes without saying, many of the *Volksdeutsche* women were raped. Not all these ethnic Germans were merely shot, of course, as that would have been too easy — many were the inventive tools of death, and the bodies were being severely mutilated. The civilians who helped the Polish army in this would remain behind to plunder what they could before putting whatever was not worth carrying off to the torch. Polish soldiers, together with their civilian irregulars, were during this retreat responsible for the deaths of around 6,000 *Volksdeutsche*. At a later investigation, the testimonies of 593 witnesses would establish that at least 3,841 ethnic Germans (by individual name) had been in this manner



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

executed by Poles prior to the full German investment of their nation.

In response to this the *Volksdeutsche* of Poland were forming themselves into Self-Protection units known as *Selbschutz*, units which eventually would come first under the influence of the SS and later under the influence of the *Ordnungspolizei* or Order Police. (The infamous reputation achieved by this *Ordnungspolizei* would cause it to be disbanded on November 30, 1939.)

It seems the poet W.H. Auden was swept up in the affairs of this day and wrote a poem which he would first attempt to extensively revise, and then later disavow as dishonest. We may speculate as to what he came to consider dishonest about his poem:

I sit in one of the dives  
On Fifty-second Street  
Uncertain and afraid  
As the clever hopes expire  
Of a low dishonest decade:  
Waves of anger and fear  
Circulate over the bright  
And darkened lands of the earth,  
Obsessing our private lives;  
The unmentionable odour of death  
Offends the September night.

Accurate scholarship can  
Unearth the whole offence  
From Luther until now  
That has driven a culture mad,  
Find what occurred at Linz,  
What huge imago made  
A psychopathic god:  
I and the public know  
What all schoolchildren learn,  
Those to whom evil is done  
Do evil in return.

Exiled Thucydides knew  
All that a speech can say  
About Democracy,  
And what dictators do,  
The elderly rubbish they talk  
To an apathetic grave;  
Analysed all in his book,  
The enlightenment driven away,  
The habit-forming pain,  
Mismanagement and grief:  
We must suffer them all again.

Into this neutral air  
Where blind skyscrapers use  
Their full height to proclaim  
The strength of Collective Man,  
Each language pours its vain  
Competitive excuse:  
But who can live for long  
In an euphoric dream;  
Out of the mirror they stare,  
Imperialism's face  
And the international wrong.

## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

Faces along the bar  
 Cling to their average day:  
 The lights must never go out,  
 The music must always play,  
 All the conventions conspire  
 To make this fort assume  
 The furniture of home;  
 Lest we should see where we are,  
 Lost in a haunted wood,  
 Children afraid of the night  
 Who have never been happy or good.

The windiest militant trash  
 Important Persons shout  
 Is not so crude as our wish:  
 What mad Nijinsky wrote  
 About Diaghilev  
 Is true of the normal heart;  
 For the error bred in the bone  
 Of each woman and each man  
 Craves what it cannot have,  
 Not universal love  
 But to be loved alone.

From the conservative dark  
 Into the ethical life  
 The dense commuters come,  
 Repeating their morning vow;  
 'I will be true to the wife,  
 I'll concentrate more on my work,'  
 And helpless governors wake  
 To resume their compulsory game:  
 Who can release them now,  
 Who can reach the dead,  
 Who can speak for the dumb?

All I have is a voice  
 To undo the folded lie,  
 The romantic lie in the brain  
 Of the sensual man-in-the-street  
 And the lie of Authority  
 Whose buildings grope the sky:  
 There is no such thing as the State  
 And no one exists alone;  
 Hunger allows no choice  
 To the citizen or the police;  
 We must love one another or die.

Defenseless under the night  
 Our world in stupor lies;  
 Yet, dotted everywhere,  
 Ironic points of light  
 Flash out wherever the Just  
 Exchange their messages:  
 May I, composed like them  
 Of Eros and of dust,  
 Beleaguered by the same  
 Negation and despair,  
 Show an affirming flame.



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS



Führer Adolf Hitler signed an order for his personal physician, Dr. Karl Brandt, with Chief of the Reichskanzlei Philip Bouhler, “to widen the authority of individual doctors with a view to enabling them, after the most critical examination in the realm of human knowledge, to administer to incurably sick persons a mercy death (*Gnadentod*).” As Hitler had pointed out in *MEIN KAMPF* in 1924, such measures of racial hygiene were going to, in a future saner era, “appear as a deed greater than the most victorious wars of our present bourgeois era.” Reichsleiter Philip Bouhler and Dr. Karl Brandt would coordinate this euthanasia program with Reichsbeauftragter für die Heil-und Pflegeanstalten Dr. Herbert Linden, head of the Heredity and Race sub-department of the Department of National Health and plenipotentiary for state hospitals and nursing homes. Reichsleiter Philip Bouhler and Dr. Karl Brandt would then compile a list of physicians to administer this “Aktion T-4.” The preferred term for the killings themselves would be “disinfection.” Prof. Dr. Werner Heyde, professor of neurology and psychiatry at Würzburg University, would be the 1st medical director of Aktion T-4. He would be succeeded by Prof. Dr. Paul Nitsche, professor of neurology and psychiatry at Halle University, the program’s senior expert. Prof. Dr. Carl Schneider, professor of neurology and psychiatry at Heidelberg University, would also participate in Aktion T-4. Other physicians included Dr. Ernst Wentzler, Dr. Hellmuth Unger, University of Berlin psychiatry professor Dr. Max de Crinis, Jena University psychiatry professor Dr. Berthold Kihn, Dr. Valentin Falthäuser, Dr. Hans Heinze, Dr. Hermann Pfannmüller and Dr. Bender from the Buch State Hospital in Berlin. SS-Oberführer Viktor Brack (AKA “Jennerwein”), a civil servant on the Führer Chancellery (Kanzlei des Führers der NSDAP) staff, would take up responsibility for making the decisions as to who would be killed specifically or categorically. SS-Oberführer Viktor Brack’s deputy would be Werner Blankenburg (AKA “Brenner”), who would participate in such decisions. The decision as to how to effect this killing would be made by the Criminal Technology Institute of the Reich Criminal Police Department, headed by SS-Standartenführer und Kriminaldirektor Dr. Walter Hesse.) that would be used. SS-Hauptsturmführer Dr. Albert Widmann, head of the chemistry section of the Criminal Technology Institute, would provide the carbon monoxide gas that would be used. SS-Untersturmführer Dr. August Becker of the Criminal Technology Institute would become responsible for resupplies of the gas. Transportation to the euthanasia facilities would be handled by the Gekrat Charitable Society for the Transportation of the Sick headed by Reinhold Vorberg (AKA “Hintertal”), administrative director of the Kanzlei des Führers der NSDAP. Dietrich Allers would succeed Dr. med. Gerhard Bohne as Director of the Central Compensation Office for Sanatoria and Nursing Homes, taking care of the bookkeeping and allocation of expenses amongst various facilities after 1940. He is presumably the “All., August Eduard Ernst Dietrich” who was put on trial by a West German court at Frankfurt-am-Main on charges of participation in the killing of mentally ill patients as part of the euthanasia program (Aktion T-4) during 1939-1945 while serving in the Kanzlei des Führers der NSDAP, and with participation in the killings of unfit and invalid prisoners in German concentration camps in Special Handling Action (*Sonderbehandlungsaktion*) “14f13,” who received a sentence of 8 years imprisonment.

STATE MURDER

This Aktion T-4 euthanasia program was to include children. Chief of the Reich Committee for the Scientific Registration of Severe Hereditary Ailments Hans Hefelmann would initially supervise the killing of the children, until this portion of the program would be taken over by Richard von Hegener, chief of the Reich Committee for the Scientific Registration of Severe Hereditary Ailments.

EUGENICS



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

October: The [Nazis](#) began a program of [euthanasia \(negative eugenics\)](#) for the permanently sick and disabled of [Germany](#).

Stuttgart's *Grafeneck* Castle asylum had been operated by the Samaritan Foundation but was at this point taken over by the [Aktion T-4 euthanasia program](#). It would begin [executing](#) its patients during January 1940. Dr. Horst Schumann was director, followed by Dr. Ernst Baumhardt (AKA "Dr. Jaeger") and Dr. Guenther Hennecke (who may have been AKA "Dr. Ott"). It was closed in December of 1940 and replaced by the asylum at Hadamar.

EUGENICS



"If positive Christianity means love of one's neighbor, i.e. the tending of the sick, the clothing of the poor, the feeding of the hungry, the giving of drink to those who are thirsty, then it is we who are the more positive Christians. For in these spheres, the community of the people of National Socialist Germany has accomplished a prodigious work."

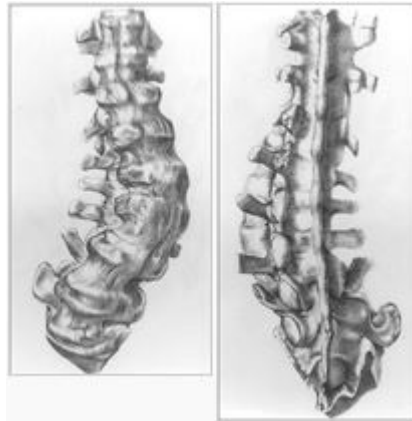
— [Adolf Hitler](#), February 24, 1939



WORLD WAR II  
GERMANY

1941

June 1941 to Fall 1942 (age 3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> to 5): During this period my family resided near Fort Knox, Kentucky where Dad was stationed as an Army chaplain, and then my mother and I went to what was to become the family's "pit farm" near Cory and Center Point and Clay City, Indiana, to live with my Mattox grandparents. It was during this period that I became deformed due to Pott's Disease ([bovine tuberculosis](#)) twisting my lumbar spine.<sup>13</sup>



***Deformitas vincit omnia***

13. What happened was that my grandfather, Charley Mattox, was out in the barn milking the Jersey cows, and I was watching him do this, and he playfully squirted some warm cow's milk straight from the teat into my face. Grandfather didn't believe in germs — he supposing this stuff about mandatory vaccination of cows to be just another story that suits tell to legitimate themselves, when they come out of the city to victimize and cheat God-fearing people.





## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

What happened was that I went out to the barn, at the “pit farm” near Cory and Center Point and Clay City, Indiana (it wasn’t the “pit farm” yet, for the steam shovel had not yet arrived and the barn and chicken coop were still standing), and watched my grandfather Charley Mattox milk his Jersey herd. Playfully, he squirted milk straight from the cow’s teat onto my face. He kept teasing me by squirting it until I, fastidious city boy, opened my mouth and swallowed some. It is important for me to point out –because this will relate to something that happened later in regard to my mother Mildred Geraldine Mattox Smith– that I never tattled on my grandfather. If he ever realized that he had been the cause of his grandson’s bodily deformity, that knowledge was not something that ever made its way from me to him. He hadn’t been trying to spoil my life, and as far as I was concerned this was our little secret.

During this period, after some 36,000 Americans had been “fixed,” the Indiana state law for the involuntary sterilization of the unfit was being repealed — lucky for me this happened, it would have been terrible to have been forced by society to live my life as a deformed person without having been able to have a family with loving children to appease my loneliness, especially since my deformity anyway wasn’t of the sort to be passed on to my offspring!<sup>14</sup>

ASSLEY



“Autobiography is only to be trusted when it reveals something disgraceful. A man who gives a good account of himself is probably lying, since any life when viewed from the inside is simply a series of defeats.”

— Eric Arthur “George Orwell” Blair  
“Benefit of Clergy: Some Notes on Salvador Dali” in THE SATURDAY BOOK  
FOR 1944 (London: Hutchinson)



14. My maternal grandmother Sylvia Mae Long Mattox would characterize my deformity as a “Sign of the Devil.” –This Lutheran terminology would be brought forward again in 1966 upon the birth of my 1st daughter, Cara Maria Meredith, as she would be born with a slight red crescent mark on her forehead (something which, fortunately, would disappear during childhood).

1943

March 1943-January 1944 (age 5 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 6): 1st Grade while Dad (Benjamin Bearl Smith) was Chaplain at Brown Military Academy in La Jolla, [California](#).



Due to the influx of military personnel and factory workers, housing was at a premium. Some war families were living in their cars. For awhile I lived with Mom in a dormitory at BMA. There I had the scarlet fever,

[HDT](#)[WHAT?](#)[INDEX](#)

## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

the wartime blackout curtains on all the windows coming in handy to protect my eyes from the light.



While I was recovering from the scarlet fever, after it was possible for me to go out in the sunlight again after several weeks in the dark, I was wandering through the area when I noticed something bobbing and jerking and twitching on the side of the building. Fascinated, I watched it for awhile and then touched it. I would have occasion to find out that this was a triple-hook fishing lure being dangled out of an upstairs window by a pair of the BMA students. When I touched it, they jerked, impaling the triple-hook in my fingers. The laughing and hooting indicated that this was a tremendous joke. The doctor had to push the barb completely through my



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

thumb to get it out.

Morning formation was a misery for me at BMA, because the DI was constantly shouting at me to throw back my shoulders and pull in my chin and stand up straight. Of course, I simply couldn't, as my spine was hopelessly twisted.

Convinced that the Japs were about to land, and conquer America, San Diego was in the war panic that would be described in the John Belushi movie "1941":



Highway 101 was covered by camouflage netting from Rosecrans Avenue to downtown, the entire length of



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

the Convair plant. This made for a spooky drive.



Consolidated Aircraft's strategic location near the airport and harbor made the company especially vulnerable to air attack. To minimize this threat, workers suspended acres of chicken wire over building roofs to camouflage the activity taking place below. Chicken feathers glued to the wire completed the effect. Unfortunately for employees, the feathers were

infested with lice and fleas. Many workers suffered from fleabites or the unpleasant experience of having to undergo frequent delousings. Periodic spraying finally ended the infestations. Today, many former Consolidated workers recall their problems with these itchy pests and the eerie sensation of walking to work beneath the nets that stretched across company buildings and much of Pacific Highway.



People were fabricating Potemkin-Village siding for the walls of factories, to make them appear from the air as if they were a series of small shops. And, we all needed, as never before, to join together in conformity to

## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

the Protestant Work Ethic:



The Belushi movie is exceedingly accurate to the spirit of the times, while the necessary task of routing all Americans of Japanese ancestry into the new concentration camps in the inland desert was still going on, and the utter cooperation of the civilian (white) population, real Americans, was vitally needed by our government authorities. The vicious little yellow Japs were going to invade, the newspapers were reporting that already they might be lurking just out of sight offshore in their submarines, and in a port city on the Pacific Ocean we were on the front lines and we needed to be utterly ready to defend our soil with our blood.

We all pitched in and dug a row of foxholes along the seaward edge of the school's football field, and they had us heaving rocks the size and heft of hand grenades out of these holes in the ground, and then ducking our heads and pretending that there were explosions. We were issued wooden rifles and taught to march in formation. We went through bayonet drill, although these little wooden rifles had no bayonet attachment on the black-painted wooden dowel that served as a "barrel." One day the other boys did their bayonet practice on me, and one of them slugged me on the side of the head with the butt of his rifle, knocking out one of my baby teeth.<sup>15</sup> Since I had been attempting to shield myself with my arms, my left forearm long bone was also cracked. The drill instructor, a full adult, ordered me to stop crying and, when I couldn't stop, threatened me with a court-martial, and he warned that if I told my mother how my tooth had gotten knocked out, I would be

15. At the age of 64, during routine dental X-rays, the dentist became exercised over a line he supposed he could see on the film, and was wondering whether he ought to schedule root canal surgery. [Austin Meredith](#) had to explain that this had been the tooth socket from which his baby tooth had been knocked more than half a century before. With this information of prior trauma, the dentist was able to agree that the mark he was looking on the film at was probably a trace of that trauma within the jawbone, rather than an indication that the adult root was now separating from the jaw — and so, thank goodness, the root canal surgery was not scheduled.



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

in serious trouble — for disobeying a lawful order from my superior officer.



(This was the first time that I experienced a “bashing” for the crime of being deformed in America — but would not be the last time.)

When the flag got stuck at the top of the flagpole on the parade ground, Dad volunteered to climb the latter and free it from the splinter on which it had gotten tangled. Since the flagpole was somewhat split some ways up, this was a rather dangerous thing for him to have attempted, but he pulled it off successfully.

In the messhall, everything was by the numbers. You marched in and single-filed to your seats, did a left face, uncovered, and seated yourself upon order. You sat on the first two inches of your chair, bolt upright. You began to eat only when the permission was given, after the prayer. Each bite had to be square, that is, had to be lifted straight up from the plate to mouth level before being brought horizontally to the mouth. One day they served pulverized pig-foot fat and I just couldn’t eat that pure-white stuff. It was like pure lard, it was disgusting! They made me sit there for a long time after all the other cadets had gone out, and all I was able to do was pick out and eat two or three tiny shreds of pink meat that were here and there in the white mess on my plate — but finally for some reason they relented (I have not retained a memory of any reason they offered for



[HDT](#)[WHAT?](#)[INDEX](#)

## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

relenting).



Dad got himself a San Diego girlfriend, who had a son Hank and lived in a stucco subdivision house designed to look like a little hacienda. They had a pair of Great Danes, that Dad would exercise by allowing them to run after the car. I have a distinct memory of an abalone that Dad tried to cook in the fireplace, that was all black on the outside, that I was supposed to eat in a hamburger bun except that it was like a piece of tire rubber and could not be chewed to bits no matter how hard I tried. I also have a distinct memory of my father shoving me

[HDT](#)[WHAT?](#)[INDEX](#)

## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

back up against a doorjamb and telling me to stand there until I could make the small of my back touch the wood, and then going away. Of course, I couldn't make the small of my back touch the wood, ever, no matter how hard I strained, and as Dad didn't come back, finally I gave up and went out and played.

When I started going to school, I took the trolley every day, getting aboard at the downtown terminal. There was a little grocery store where I got off, that offered a kind of long black nut that was labeled "niggerfinger." I very well remember how hard they were to crack with your teeth:



(Nowadays I think they are termed "Brazil nuts.")

Finally, disgusted with my spinal deformity, Dad put me on the train and sent me to Mom in Indiana.

***Deformitas vincit omnia***



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

This experience makes me need to make a general comment, about the overwhelming vastness of the reservoir of unfairness over which we would need to triumph were we to accomplish our agenda of bringing fairness into this wicked world. Here's my general comment: We tell each other that America is a land of equal opportunity for all, and we repeatedly demonstrate that this is true by enacting pieces of legislation the ostensive impact of which, if truly and effectively implemented, would be to correct one or another particular practice of injustice against one or another identified minority. I have come to believe, after some three score years of experience with this agenda, that we have been able to afford to continue this sort of practice only because it has been an utter sham. In fact there is such an undiminished reservoir of convenient unfairness in this nation, that it would seem that such cheap demonstrations of fairness could have been achieving only one objective, that of repeatedly demonstrating how fair our system already is, and of repeatedly reassuring ourselves that we are on track. The impact of this, of course, to date, has been to enable us to continue our practice of unfairness, unabated. My life has been an example of this. At every turn I have been discriminated against because of my disgusting bodily appearance, which was the result merely of a single episode of childhood illness, not my fault at all. At no point has anyone ever offered to correct any of the discriminations routinely practiced against me. I am not a politically influential minority and I have no lobby; therefore, nothing that happened to me ever set off anyone's alarm bells.

Hey! If there's anybody out there who wants our fairness to amount to something more than a feel-good sham: you've got work to do, so get busy.

ASSLEY



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

1945

The rise of human genetics as a scientific discipline in the West. There has been a distinct move away from the study of eugenics as people realize the extent to which certain eugenic ideas had been invoked in Nazi Germany.

EUGENICS

May 29, Tuesday: The [Psychology](#) Branch of the Aero Medical Research Laboratory, the 1st human engineering laboratory in the Army Air Forces, was approved and Lieutenant Colonel Paul M. Fitts became its Chief. Its 1st studies were of instrument legibility, movement of controls, instrument reading under acceleration, and shape coding of controls — one of the problems they would solve was of flyers raising their landing gear while still on the runway.

The final child to be [executed](#) under the Nazi [Aktion T-4 euthanasia program](#) was 4-year-old Richard Jenne, in the children's ward of the [Kreis-, Heil- und Pflegeanstalt für Geisteskranke Kaufbeuren-Issee state hospital](#) in Bavaria, Germany, more than 3 weeks after US Army troops had occupied that city.

EUGENICS

American B-29 bombers obliterated 85% of the metropolitan area of [Yokohama](#).

Fighting erupted between French and Syrian troops in Damascus. French artillery reportedly shelled the city.

United States naval vessels damaged, Okinawa area:

- High-speed transport *Tatum* (APD-81), by [Japanese](#) Kamikaze suicide plane, 26 degrees 40 minutes North, 127 degrees 50 minutes East
- Motor minesweeper YMS-81, by grounding, 26 degrees 16 minutes North, 127 degrees 52 minutes East
- LST844, by grounding, 26 degrees 17 minutes North, 127 degrees 51 minutes East

WORLD WAR II



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

1948

December 10, Friday: President Chiang Kai-shek extended martial law to all of [China](#) held by his government, except Taiwan and the western provinces.

The United Nations General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

A major Israeli offensive in the Negev desert broke through [Egyptian](#) lines.

The General Assembly of the United Nations adopted and proclaimed Resolution 217 A (III), the “Universal Declaration of Human Rights.” The United States of America was a signatory. Sounds great, huh? Although Article 4 of this Universal Declaration outlawed what has subsequently been done to me, Austin Meredith (“No one shall be held in slavery or servitude; slavery and the slave trade shall be prohibited in all their forms”), the federal government of the United States of America in fact never has taken any step to implement this agreement into which it so freely entered. It is impossible to obtain succor or redress in the USA, simply because enslavement is a construct to which we have never assigned any federal legislative or federal juridical meaning. The extent of the federal government’s involvement has been negative, has been the insistence that, **whatever** slavery might be, if you **aren’t** black you **aren’t** going to be allowed any protection against whatever this might be.

READ THE FULL TEXT

ASSLEY

This declaration also allowed that “Men and women of full age, without limitation due to race, nationality or religion, have a right to marry and found a family.” However, this was merely federal law, and therefore brought no change whatever. Under state law, in all of the southern states, plus the state of Oregon, plus the state of Arizona, plus all of the states of the northwestern heartland such as Wyoming and Nebraska, and plus (of course) Indiana, the marriage of men and women of differing races would continue to be interdicted. The United States federal government signs an international treaty, huh, that’s merely **external** hoo-hah and has no force or effect **internally** — since this is (it goes without saying) no foreigner’s business but our own business!<sup>16</sup>

EUGENICS

16. Overturned by the supreme court case of Loving v. Virginia in 1967 and finally accepted in the holdout states, South Carolina and Alabama, in the Years of Our Lord 1998 and 2000 respectively.



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

1954

July 1954-June 1955: My job working the soda fountain at Gackenhaimer's Pharmacy was coming to an end because Mr. Gackenhaimer's son was reaching the age of 12 and needed to have my job so as to gain work experience. At the fountain I met a cross-eyed man came to town to sell Fuller Brushes door-to-door. At the time there was a "Green River Ordinance" prohibiting cold calls at people's homes, but this was effective only when they posted a "NO SOLICITATION" sign. In this period, also, an "Ugly Law" made it an arrestable offense for a deformed person to solicit alms from members of the general public, but this applied to beggars rather than to someone offering goods in exchange. His trick, therefore, was to ring someone's front door bell, and then make them uncomfortable after gaining entry by allowing his right eye to rotate until he was staring at his nose — they would quickly purchase a brush to get him out the door. On one of my last evenings behind the soda fountain I met this cross-eyed Fuller Brush man and he offered me a job "on his team." He would work one side of a street while I worked the other, and at the end of the evening he would buy my sales tickets at half price. He explained that according to a common belief what a pregnant woman saw might create a "maternal impression" that would imprint itself on her embryo. He mentioned that when a pregnant woman in Chicago witnessed a streetcar accident in which a child's head was crushed, her infant was born with no skull. He taught me how to get my foot in the door and then make a Wabash wife uncomfortable by turning sideways to reveal my deformity. This worked well.

However, I blew this job away. His had gotten his girl friend expelled from public school for pregnancy, so he paid me to tutor her in mathematics. She was sickly, with what she described as a "prolapsed uterus" after childbirth, but she and I got sweeter and sweeter on each other until one evening after her little girl had gone to sleep, we moved from the table to the bed that was right next to it. I couldn't get anything more than the glans of my penis into her vagina, because the shaft of my penis due to my spinal deformity was too far back between my legs. Because I was in her by only less than an inch or so, the glans kept slipping out despite the fact that I had a rigid erection, and she had to keep reaching down and positioning me so that I could re-enter. I managed an ejaculation before my boss came home unexpectedly. He acted all hurt and his eye was crossing badly when I met him in his car to give him back his heavy suitcase full of brushes and samples, so I tried to explain that I had needed to find out whether with my bodily configuration — my penis being way back between my legs where it could hardly protrude at all, and my lordosis making it difficult for me to arch my back at all — I was capable of entering a woman. He asked me "Well, could you do it?" and I confessed "It kept slipping out of the hole and she had to keep putting it back." I got the impression this made him feel better (which is to say, his eye stopped crossing).

Then I went to work in the spectrography lab at Wabash Smelting Company for 75 cents an hour. Having constant unsupervised skin contact with metallic mercury and breathing unvented metal alloy vapors, I began having delusions and became depressed. Molten aluminum exploded up a scrap piece of wet aluminum tubing being fed into the furnace, and hot metal was sprayed onto the underside of the roof and it caught on fire. At that plant there was constant labor unrest. When my boss Hans Theodore Zink demanded a raise and got fired, the plant manager promoted me to his job as the plant's spectrographer but I lasted only a week or so before they realized that although I had been taught to run samples, and expose and develop film, and read the densitometer and fill out alloy reports, I had no idea whatever of how to calibrate the laboratory equipment in between furnace batches.

At the time my mom [Mildred Geraldine Mattox Smith](#) was pitching the woo with [Garland Jester](#), a widower farmer whose farmhouse and chickenhouse and barn were north of Wabash, near Lagro. The farmer had a little daughter I don't remember much about, plus a teenage daughter [Sharon Ann Jester](#) who had had some rather serious ailment (perhaps rheumatic fever, how would I know?) and who was still repulsively sickly and ratty-



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

looking. Sharon was somewhat older than me and it goes without saying, she despised me. Mr. Jester also had a older son Max Eugene Jester, who had been haying when his “Greetings” letter had arrived notifying him that he would be drafted into the US Army during the Korean “police action.” He had seen this at noon when he came into the kitchen for lunch. The story I was told was that Max had then gone back out to the hay-baler, placed his trigger finger on the cutting edge, and allowed the reciprocating shear to slice it off (Max was out of the picture by the point at which we arrived, and I did not personally meet him or sight his hand that was minus the trigger finger).

Mother explained to me that [Mr. Jester](#) was willing to adopt my little sister [Carolyn Jane](#) but was understandably hesitant to adopt me, [John Paul](#), a sexually deformed teenage male. We went over this at great length, my mother and I, and daydreamed alternative scenarios in which I would complete my high school years in California with my father, or in southern Indiana with my grandparents, or would use the rent money I paid weekly to my mother from my high school night earnings to get myself a room somewhere in Wabash, et cetera ad infinitum. Something needed to be done, so that [Mr. Jester](#) would become willing to propose to [Mother](#), and adopt [Carolyn](#), and give our family a new lease on life and a new grasp on respectability.

We would drive out to the Jester place and after a decent interval my mother would vanish upstairs with [Mr. Jester](#). To pass the time [Carolyn](#) would run around with the younger daughter whom I only vaguely remember, while I would play on the upright piano in their living room.<sup>17</sup>



On the last of our visits I was at the piano, and singing, and the women were in the kitchen. At the time as I remember my voice had changed or was in the process of changing. I had used to sing with a quaver when I was soloing “The Lord’s Prayer” in church before my voice began to deepen — but I suspect that this alto quaver must have been gone by this point in time. Among the pieces of sheet music they had was the currently popular “Moon River.” All of a sudden the elder daughter, [Sharon Ann](#), came at me from behind and I felt a click against my teeth. In reaction I sort of let out a blast of air, or spit or something, and suddenly there were yellowish and grayish corn bits all over the sheet music in front of me. I had not actually taken into my mouth any of this stuff she had had on her spoon, but some of it had touched my lips and my mouth quickly became numb. I went into the kitchen and there sat my mother with that Mason or Ball jar of home-canned corn kernels open on the table in front of her. Of course I recollected this jar of corn, it had been for the longest time sitting

17. Googling, I discover that [Garland Jester](#) had been born on December 8, 1905 in Wabash County and had married with Lucile Kathryn Urschel, born on June 22, 1908 in Huntington County. This couple produced a son Max Eugene Jester born in 1932 who became a veterinarian, a daughter [Sharon Ann Jester](#) born on December 14, 1935 in Lagro who would die on June 27, 2002, and a daughter [Sandra D. Jester \(Hartman\)](#) born on February 29, 1940 in Lagro who would die on April 17, 2011. Lucile Kathryn Urschel Jester had died in 1945 at age 36. [Garland Jester](#) never remarried, and died in Lagro during August 1983 at the age of 77.



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

at the very back of the shelf in our basement at 723 Spring Street in Wabash, Indiana. Clearly, [Mother](#) had brought this jar in particular out from our basement to the Jester farm. The corn in that Mason jar or Ball jar had been blanketed on top with the most deadly and immediate poison in existence, anaerobic botulism, a nerve toxin that can be counted on to immediately and completely paralyze the breathing muscles.<sup>18</sup> Mother was literally rolling with nervous giggles at the Jester kitchen table, bent over in hilarity at her and Sharon's "practical joke." I had never before seen her, and would never again see her, in such a paroxysm.

### Divorce Rate in the United States

(per 1,000 population)



1944 My spine twisted and our father abandoned his family.

1954 My mother attempted to poison me with botulin toxin.

1961 I discovered on my wedding night that I was unable to produce more than about an inch of penetration, at best.

1965 Cara Maria Meredith

1967 Anna Michelle Meredith

1969 Gregory Austin Meredith

1971 Guy Duramen Meredith

1972 My wife divorced me, informing our children that they were the products of four different unidentified men, rather than being my daughters and sons.

The explanation arrived, that "they" had wanted to find out whether the corn was still fit to eat, and Sharon had "suggested" that they should try it out on me. The layer of mold had been carefully spooned off to get at some kernels that looked more or less OK. By this point in the explanation of their "practical joke" my tongue wouldn't work and I could hardly breathe. Mom, she simply couldn't stop giggling.

***Deformitas vincit omnia***

18. This was the same botulinum toxin that the CIA would put on the butt of a cigar intended for [Fidel Castro](#) some 6 years later — what goes around comes around.



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

Clearly, I had not ingested enough of the poison for my breathing apparatus to be paralyzed. I went out and stood on the gravel between the chickenhouse and the barn while I tried to get lips and my tongue to work again. They were numb, I could not enunciate words. It took a few hours of my head spinning, really for me to grasp that my own mother had attempted to put me to death. —Perhaps then I ought to die. It would take a few days after this for me to figure out that what had been going down was, hoping that Mr. Jester would propose, my mother had recognized that her deformed son was a decided liability. The two of them, she and [Garland](#), had been adding up the months, how long they would need to wait for my high school graduation ceremony upon which I should go away — and then Mr. Jester could get married with her without needing to consider adopting a deformed son.

### BIOTOXINS

Mother had miscalculated, in particular she had miscalculated by involving Sharon. Sharon would of course relate all this to her father, Mr. Jester. That would prove to be our final contact with the family, our final visit to their farm. I consider that what most assuredly happened was that Mr. Jester recognized that it wouldn't be safe for him or his children to be in a relationship with a mother who would attempt to poison her own child. (I have no evidence of course, but have turned this over and over in my mind for many years now without being able to come up with any alternative scenario for why it would have been that our relationship with the Jester family was so abruptly terminated, and why all that maneuvering about marriage and about his adopting my little sister Carolyn Jane had evaporated into the thin air.)

Previously, my mother's purchase of a Prudential insurance policy, to pay for my burial should I decease, had not had any particular emotional impact — that might have been interpretable as mere parental concern, or might have been mere susceptibility to a smooth Rock-of-Gibraltar insurance salesman out of Chicago. I had been regularly paying the 25-cent premium out of my pay for washing dishes at night at the Penguin Point drive-in, a job that was worth 35 cents an hour. I hadn't thought of a child burial policy as alarming or unusual. After this abortive joke, however, somehow the nature of my thinking came to be altered. I realized the harm that my existence was doing in my mother's life. I did not exactly become suicidal but I had come fully to recognize that the world would be a better place for my loved ones —easier— were I to somehow become no longer a part of it. I purchased, at the army surplus store across the street from our home at 723 Spring Street in Wabash, a small metal ammo can, pint size maybe, and purchased at a hardware store downtown a metal gate clasp and a key padlock, and took these items to a metal shop in Wabash to have this clasp roughly spot-welded onto this can. I purchased rat poison, cyanide, at the Gackenhaimer's Drug Store and kept this under my bed in my new little locked container. I was never inclined to unlock the can and make use of my escape mechanism but, somehow, it was comforting to have it at hand (upon graduation from Wabash High School, the final thing I did before putting on my backpack and beginning to hitchhike to Los Gatos, California was flush this stuff down the toilet — in order to ensure that my little sister [Carolyn Jane](#) wouldn't be getting into it).



I had never tattled on my grandfather [Charlie Mattox](#) for having sprayed untreated cow's milk into my mouth, causing me to contract bovine tuberculosis and producing in my spine a lordotic configuration. At this point I somehow decided that I needed to keep as well my mother's secret, that she had attempted to murder her own son. I needed to make sure that my little sister [Carolyn Jane](#) never found out about this — she loved her mother and her mother loved her and she wasn't causing any problem in the family that would put her in any danger that Mother might try to do to her what she had tried to do with me. In point of fact now, as of 2017, This was “family values” and it was “family values” big time. Our mother had risked all, she had risked facing the ultimate condemnation by her little local Evangelical United Brethren church and by Indiana proper society and by American society as a whole —a condemnation as a monstrous mother who would murder her own child— and she had done this out of love for us and out of love for our Savior the Lord Jesus Christ, and out of hope for creating our new existence as a proper upright family. I was not upright, and thus could not contribute, and I needed to go rather than face a lifetime of societal abuse as a deformed man. I have kept my mother's secret through her lifetime and [“Janey,”](#) who is still alive, has never been faced with this awareness.



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

What would happen soon after I hitchhiked to California was, Mother would get married with Wilson Turner, and it would be Mr. Turner who would adopt Janey. (She despised the man on account of his stupidity and filth, and despised the son and daughter who came along with him and became her new brother and sister, on account of their obesity and general fecklessness. At some point before I die I am going to need to explain to her why it was that she wound up being adopted by the brutal Mr. Turner rather than by the pleasant Mr. Jester — and hope that she doesn't go into shock. However, I plan to wait until just before I kick the bucket, before I face up to the necessity of telling her that all this was due to the fact that Mr. Jester had been told by his daughter Sharon that Mother had tried to poison [John Paul](#), and cut off relations.)

Had my mother attempted to poison me out of love, rather than out of a greed to again obtain for herself the honorable married status? Had her act been an act of charitable concern intended to spare her son a lifetime of being persecuted for his deformity? —Or was it merely that because I lacked a father's love and attention I could not bear the thought of also lacking also a mother's love and attention? —That's a question to which I truly do not know the answer, even now, even at the age of 80.

PS: On February 27, 2017 Professor Alexander George of Amherst College contributed a piece to the New York Times's "Stone" column that resonated with me. I sent him an email expressing my thanks, to which he has kindly but briefly responded:

> "... poisoning the wells. In the context of reasoning, the technique stems from the following fact: We do not assess whether a claim is reasonable simply by thinking about that claim in isolation. Usually, we relate the claim to a body of beliefs we already hold. Relative to that corpus of accepted beliefs, we decide whether the new claim is a reasonable one to make. Given this feature of reasoning, one sees how our very capacity to assess claims can be radically undermined if one poisons the body of beliefs relative to which we normally judge matters. If we don't know which of our background beliefs to trust, then how can we appeal to them in deciding whether to believe a new claim? And since that is usually the only way of deciding these matters, such a poisoning of the wells of belief leaves us powerless to make any further decisions about what to believe. Behind every great philosophical skeptic there lies a well poisoner. And there is no more bravura performance in the history of philosophy than René Descartes's 'Meditations on First Philosophy.' He begins by trying to show that none of his beliefs about the everyday world around him can be maintained. These include such obvious beliefs as that he has two hands, that there are other people moving around him, that mountains do not fly, and so on. How does he do this? He poisons the wells! What are the wells in this case, what is the source of our confidence in such beliefs? Our confidence in these beliefs rests on our confidence that our sensory apparatus, our eyes and ears, delivers accurate information about the natural world. What Descartes proceeds to do is sow doubt about the reliability of our senses through a series of ingenious arguments, which includes famously raising the possibility that we are dreaming. He proceeds like the



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

enemy army that sees the inefficiency in denying individual households access to the communal water supply and instead opts for the expedient of well poisoning, which in one fell swoop achieves the general goal. In fact, Descartes eventually does such a thorough job of poisoning the wells of belief that he is left with virtually nothing he can believe at all."

Professor George, I've just read your "Stone" column of today, and it really resonates with me. I am a 79-year-old retired man now, but once upon the time I was a 15-year-old venturing out into the world with a severely twisted spine. I experienced this poisoning-of-the-wells phenomenon, because my family of origin in Indiana was Lutheran and had been attempting to beat Satan out of me in order to make my spine straight. Failing to beat my spine straight, my maternal grandmother supplied my mother with botoxin poison from her home canning of creamed corn, and my mother took out a life insurance policy on me and attempted to poison me. She failed because I locked my teeth and refused to allow the spoonful of corn into my mouth – the very click of the metal of the spoon against my teeth was enough to produce a temporary paralysis of my lips and tongue. The result of this betrayal by my family and my religion was that I began to equate religion with hypocrisy. I began to search for something upon which I could safely construct a connection with the real world. Reading about Descartes's "I think, therefore I am," I became a teenage solipsist, determined to credit nothing that could be doubted. It took me 5 years of college study of philosophy to work myself out of that trap. For a period I became a "foundationalist" believer in symbolic logic and logical positivism, until eventually I was able to get myself out of that by considering the Gödel/Turing/Church proof that such foundationalism was inherently and inescapably self-contradictory.

Well, that was all many many years ago, I have spent my working life as a database expert in Silicon Valley, and this morning I read your column where you talked about such matters, and believe you me, I really related to it. Wow, isn't that the story of my life? Thank you.

**1965**

*Polizeioberleutnant* Fritz Tauscher, who had been an administrator at the *Heil- und Pflegeanstalten Sonnenstein* [Nazi Aktion T-4 euthanasia facility](#), and then an administrator at *Konzentrationslager Belzec* from October 1942 until March 1943, committed suicide in custody.

*SS-Obersturmführer* Josef Kaspar Oberhauser was put on trial by a West German court at *München* “for the crime of acting as an accessory in the common murder of 300,000 people and for his role in the common murder of 150 people” at *Konzentrationslager Belzec* in 1942, and was sentenced to 4½ years imprisonment. (He had in 1948 been sentenced to 15 years imprisonment by an East German court at *Magdeburg* but had been granted amnesty during April 1956 before these new atrocities surfaced.)

**WORLD WAR II**  
**EUGENICS**

A decision of the US Supreme Court, *Griswold v. Connecticut*, made birth control legal for married couples. Only a few months later, on September 6, 1966, [Margaret Sanger](#), the founder of the birth control movement, would die in a Tucson nursing home at the age of 86.





## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

Austin Meredith's rancid comments:

The joke's on us, because we insist upon supposing that someone who is antislavery must also be antiracist when that fairly often has simply not been so, when we insist upon supposing that someone who is egalitarian and an advocate of fairness must also be opposed to the extermination of the unfit when that fairly often has simply not been so, when we suppose that someone who is in favor of careful birth control is in favor of the careful nurturing of children, etc. We need to own up to the fact that we live in a world in which an antislavery, abolitionist attitude can and often does spring from a feeling that persons of color have no business even existing, or have no business being here in our nation with us. Prime examples of that attitude would be Hinton Rowan Helper's *THE IMPENDING CRISIS* and Hinton's white hero, good ol' boy [Waldo Emerson](#).

We need to own up to the fact that we live in a world in which an egalitarian attitude of fairness toward all can and often does spring from a feeling that we are being bothered by the presence of unfitness and incompetence. Prime examples of that attitude would be [Adolf Hitler](#) and [Margaret Sanger](#).

I wonder why it is that we have such difficulty appreciating this.

We live in a world in which, very often, people come at us posturing with Righteous Attitude A and come at us posturing with Righteous Attitude B — because these accumulating righteousnesses constitute their cover story for their clutching at Unrighteous Attitude C. For instance, from time to time we discover that someone who is vehemently antiracist and loud about it also happens to be covertly antiSemitic. From time to time we discover that someone who is vehemently antisexist also happens to be covertly speciesist. Etc. This is a hard world. It is a strange world. But it is very real. In this real world when the devil comes visiting us, he comes quoting Scripture.

It may be from time to time that we notice **even ourselves** “putting our best foot forward” in this manner in our search for acceptance and for personal acceptability. —We're a mixed bag, we humans are.

EUGENICS

September 3, Friday: *SS-Unterscharfuhrer* Willi Mentz, who had been at *Heil- und Pflegeanstalten Hadamar* from 1941 into Summer 1942, was sentenced to life imprisonment for his participation in that [Nazi Aktion T-4 euthanasia facility](#). (During the period from June 1942 to November 1943 he had been Chief of the agricultural labor squad at *Konzentrationslager Treblinka* and during December 1943 had been at *Konzentrationslager Sobibor*. He had on that account already been sentenced on August 24th, 1965 to life imprisonment for participation in the lethal gassing of at least 700,000 Bulgarian, German, Greek, Yugoslavian, Austrian, Polish and Czech Jewish and gypsy men, women, and children, lethal mistreatment of prisoners, and the [execution](#) of prisoners by [shooting](#) and [hanging](#).)

STATE MURDER

WORLD WAR II

EUGENICS



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

1967

During this year and the following one, anti-miscegenation laws would finally be overturned by the US Supreme Court. Soon some blatantly racist aspects of immigration laws would likewise be amended.

EUGENICS





## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

1970

At some point early in this decade the US Library of Congress acquired several manuscript maps that were thought to possibly have been sketched by [Henry Thoreau](#). These materials would lie in a maps drawer there unexamined for something like three decades (historical materials being preserved for a grateful posterity, one supposes).

CARTOGRAPHY

During the 1970s, a special room would open in a [Naples](#) museum to display the [Roman](#) pornography of [Pompeii](#) but this room would soon be closed for a lengthy period of time “for renovations” (more historical materials being preserved for a grateful posterity, one supposes).

During this decade the rise of sociobiology (society, among non-humans) would again blow open the eugenics debate.

EUGENICS



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

1971

June 28, Monday: *SS-Hauptsturmführer* Franz Paul Stangl died in prison. He had been the police superintendent at the *Heil- und Pflegeanstalten Schloss Hartheim* [Nazi Aktion T-4 euthanasia facility](#) during 1940, had been the commandant of *Konzentrationslager Sobibor* from May to September 1942, and had been the commandant of *Konzentrationslager Treblinka* from September 1942 to August 1943. Captured by American troops in 1945, they had turned him over to an Austrian court at *Linz* but he had escaped from a POW camp at *Glaisenhach* in late 1947 or 1948 and fled into Italy. He had continued from Italy to Syria to Brazil and been arrested at Sao Paolo after many years of evasion, on February 28th, 1967. Extradition had been requested by Austria on March 3d, 1967, by West [Germany](#) on March 14th, 1967, and by Poland during April 1967. He had fought this until his impending extradition to West Germany was announced by Brazilian government on June 7th, 1967. He was extradited to *Düsseldorf* in West Germany where he was accused of complicity in the [murders](#) of, give or take, 700,000 persons. He was convicted of complicity in not less than 400,000 [murders](#) between April 1942 and August 1943 of Bulgarian, Greek, Yugoslavian, Dutch, Austrian and Polish Jews and gypsies (*Zigeuner*). On December 22d, 1970 he had been convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment.

WORLD WAR II  
EUGENICS  
STATE MURDER

The US Supreme Court was unanimous in overturning the 1967 draft conviction of [Cassius Marcellus Clay](#) ([Muhammad Ali](#)).

2 copies of the [Pentagon Papers](#) sent by President [Richard Milhous Nixon](#) were received by the federal Congress. The source of the [Pentagon Papers](#) leak, [Dr. Daniel Ellsberg](#), a RAND employee, surrendered to federal authorities at the federal courthouse in Boston, and publicly affirmed that it had indeed been he who had passed a copy of this [Vietnam War](#) material to [Senator J. William Fulbright](#). A federal grand jury in Los Angeles indicted Ellsberg on 2 counts, violation of the Espionage Act and theft of government property. [E. Howard Hunt](#) wrote a memo to [Special Presidential Counsel Charles Wendell "Chuck" Colson](#) under the headline "Neutralization of Ellsberg." The memo proposes building an oppositional-research file on Ellsberg, to damage his credibility. Among the memo's suggestions: "Obtain Ellsberg's files from his psychiatric analysis." A "Plumbers" unit would be created in the White House to gather materials with which to discredit this man.



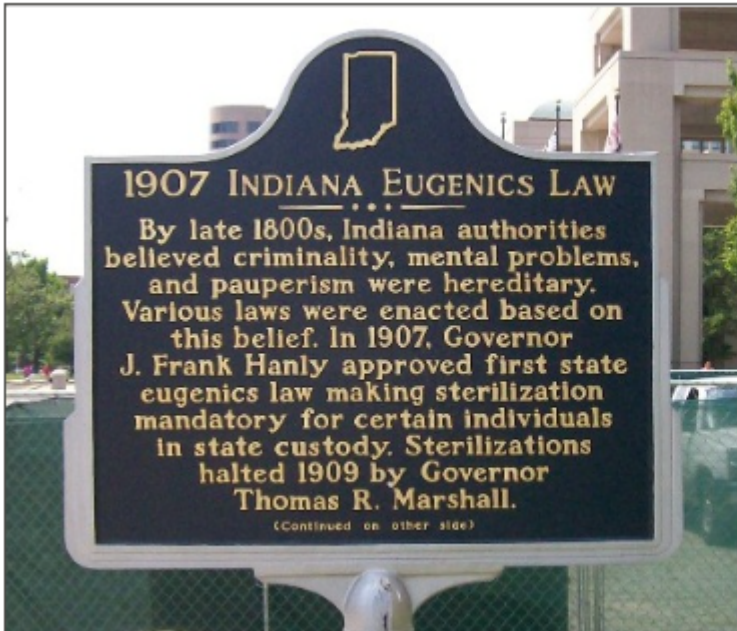
WATERGATE  
GOVERNMENT SCANDALS

## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

1974

February 13, Wednesday: Indiana Governor Otis R. Bowen signed Public Law No. 60 repealing all state laws concerning sterilization of the mentally ill (LAWS OF INDIANA, 1974, page 262).



EUGENICS

March 20, Wednesday: *SS-Obersturmführer* Dr. med. Kurt Borm, allegedly the Director (AKA "Dr. Storm") of the *Heil- und Pflegeanstalten Bernburg-an-der-Saale* [euthanasia facility](#) in 1940, and allegedly the Director and head of the "killing service" at *Heil- und Pflegeanstalten Sonnenstein-bei-Pirna*, who had been arrested and put on trial by a West German court at *Frankfurt-am-Main* in 1972 on charges of complicity in the [euthanasia murders](#) of thousands of mentally ill persons at the *Heil- und Pflegeanstalten Sonnenstein* in Saxony in 1940, had been acquitted of these charges on June 6th, 1972, and on this day his acquittal was upheld on appeal by the Federal Supreme Court.

STATE MURDER

WORLD WAR II

EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

1975

[Professor Edward O. Wilson](#), SOCIOBIOLOGY: THE NEW SYNTHESIS (Harvard UP) argued that genetics was ultimately more responsible for our beings than alterations in our social environment.

EUGENICS



"No good ever came of obeying a law which you had discovered."

— [Henry Thoreau](#), JOURNAL, March 19, 1851





## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

Mary-Claire King and Allan Wilson calculated that human and chimpanzee DNA sequences differed by roughly 1%, meaning humans have more in common with chimps than chimps do with gorillas. King and Wilson suggested that humans and chimps differ largely in the DNA that switches genes on and off.

### THE SCIENCE OF 1975

Equipped with an old geological map, Joan Wiffen found, in the Maungahouanga Valley New Zealand's 1st recognized dinosaur fossil, a *theropod* tail vertebra.

#### PALEONTOLOGY

January 4, Saturday: Dr. med. Otto Hebold of the [Nazi Aktion T-4 euthanasia program](#), who had been *Vollstreckungsarzt* at the *Zuchthaus Brandenburg-Görden* and had been arrested and put on trial by an East German court at *Cottbus* for crimes committed between May 1940 and March 1943, and in 1944 at Berlin, *Konzentrationslager Sachsenhausen*, mental institution *Heil- und Pflegeanstalten Bautzen-Seida*, *Heil- und Pflegeanstalten Bernburg*, *Heil- und Pflegeanstalten Eberswalde*, *Heil- und Pflegeanstalten Pfaffenrode*, *Heil- und Pflegeanstalten Schussenried*, *Heil- und Pflegeanstalten Sonnenstein*, and *Zuchthaus Brandenburg-Görden*, consisting of the evaluation of approximately 6,000 registration forms for patients at mental institutions, the [murders](#) by gassing of 25,000 German and foreign patients at mental institutions in *Sachsen*, *Sachsen-Anhalt*, *Württemberg*, *Lippe-Detmold*, *Thüringen*, *Schlesien*, and *Altmark*, as well as "selektions" at *Konzentrationslager Sachsenhausen*; had been convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment. On this day he died.

#### STATE MURDER

#### EUGENICS

#### WORLD WAR II

April 21, Monday: At the age of 44 while awaiting a Methodist pastorate, upon an invitation of the Vietnamese Committee for Solidarity with the American People, the Reverend William Jeffries of the [American Friends Service Committee](#) purchased a round-trip ticket to fly from JFK Airport near New York City aboard an Air-India flight bound for Calcutta, with his ostensible destination being to travel by surface to Dacca, Bangladesh. The actual destination was [Hanoi, North Vietnam, Hai Phong, and Thai Binh Province](#). He would be there from April 30th through May 10th, and would witness the city bedecked in its victory lights. He would explain, upon his return to [Durham, North Carolina](#), that the purpose had been to display to the North Vietnamese people some Americans with decent motives, and to learn what might bring reconciliation.

During a rambling 90-minute TV speech to the people of [South Vietnam](#), the bitter and tearful [President Nguyen Van Thieu](#) resigned. He read from a pledge President [Richard Milhous Nixon](#) had made in 1972 that if South Vietnam were ever threatened we would take "severe retaliatory action." He condemned the Paris Peace Accords, he condemned [Secretary of State Henry Kissinger](#), and he condemned the United States of America: "The United States has not respected its promises. It is inhumane. It is untrustworthy. It is irresponsible." Then, shepherded by our CIA agents, he made his escape into exile in [Taiwan](#).



"Power is not for the nice guy down the street  
or for the man next door."

— [Richard Milhous Nixon](#)



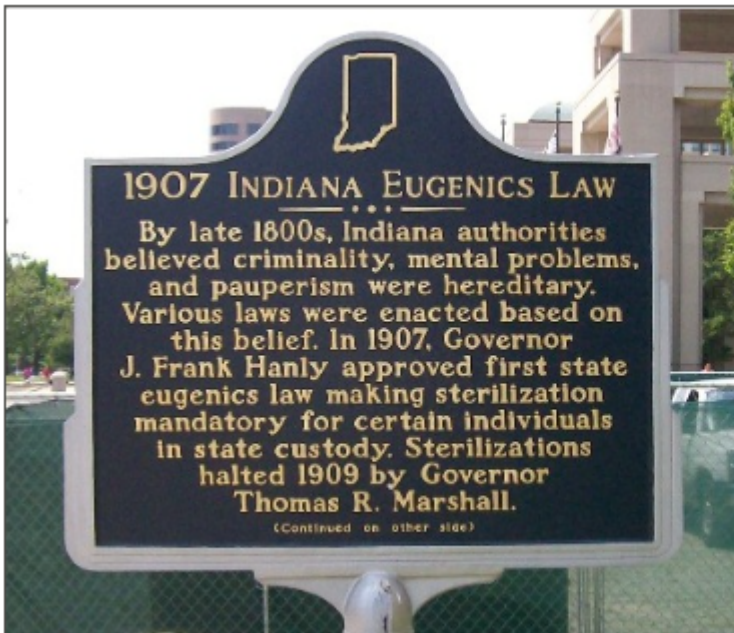


## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

Thieu was replaced by Tran Van Huong, who apparently was neither the nice guy down the street nor the man next door.

Indiana Governor Otis R. Bowen signed Public Law 111 amending the state's 1905 marriage law by removing language that prohibited the issuance of a license to people "under guardianship as a person of unsound mind" and males who in the past 5 years had spent time in a county asylum or home for indigent persons (LAWS OF INDIANA, 1975, page 738).



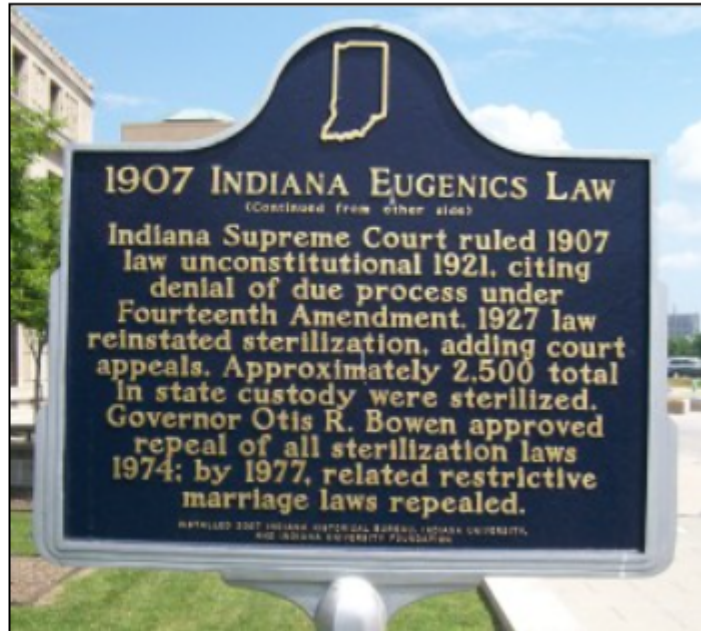
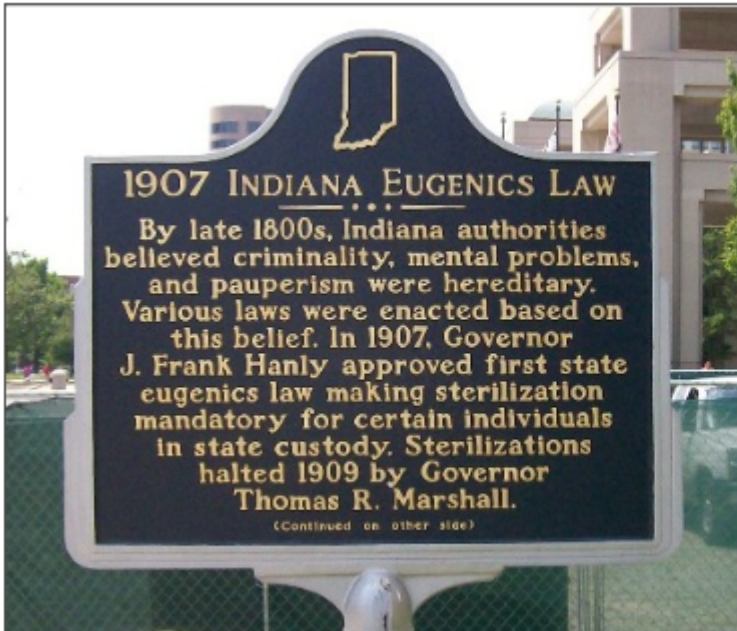
EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

1977

May 4, Wednesday: Indiana Governor Otis R. Bowen signed Public Law 303, amending the Indiana Code to eliminate a clause that forbade the issuance of marriage licenses to “imbeciles” LAWS OF INDIANA, 1977, page 1,378).



EUGENICS

Former President [Richard Milhous Nixon](#) spoke with interviewer David Frost in the 1st of 4 television interviews. Nixon had been in seclusion for the 2 previous months, obviously doing intensive practice in the telling of the truth.



"Let us begin by committing ourselves to the truth – to see it as it is, and tell it like it is – to find the truth, to speak the truth, and to live the truth."

– Republican Presidential nominee

[Richard Milhous Nixon](#), 1968  
(a birthright Quaker)



WATERGATE





## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

1980

France exploded a [neutron bomb](#).

### TIMELINE OF EXPLOSIONS

Mount St. Helens in the state of Washington erupted.

VOLCANISM

Louis W. Alvarez, Walter Alvarez, Frank Asaro, and Helen V. Michel presented their asteroid impact theory of an extrinsic cause for dinosaur extinction (they appeared to be entirely unaware that there was a distinction to be made between an extrinsic event which would in itself produce a mass extinction, versus an extrinsic event which would serve as a mere trigger influencing the timing of an intrinsically caused mass extinction, just as they appeared to be entirely unaware that the time-spread from the initial portion of this mass extinction to the last dinosaur species to become extinct during this event amounted to some tens of thousands of years — and we wonder what reasons there might have been for such appalling obtuseness).

PALEONTOLOGY

Christiane Nüsslein-Volhard and Eric Wieschaus describe genetic mutations affecting the body plan of the fruit fly *Drosophila*, and identify genes controlling the basic body plans of all animals. These genes will eventually be known as Hox genes.

### THE SCIENCE OF 1980

When Kim Il-sung asked for [nuclear weapons technology](#) from China and the Soviet Union, both refused. The USSR would, however, provide aid in building a [nuclear power plant](#) at [Yongbyon](#). There, during the 80s, [North Korea](#) would begin attempting to manufacture [weapons-grade uranium and plutonium](#).

During this decade the rise in molecular biology would point to the possibility of mapping a variety of genomes, including the human genome.

EUGENICS



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

1983

Carrie Buck, a Virginia rape victim who had been sterilized for supposed mental deficiency, died. Had she been mentally deficient? No. It was merely that as a child she had been raped by a relative and her family, ashamed, had dealt with their problem situation by committing her to an institution.

EUGENICS

May 5, Thursday: *SS-Sturmbannführer* Dr. Horst Schumann was able to die a natural death in *Frankfurt-am-Main*. He had been the Director of the *Heil- und Pflegeanstalten Graefeneck* [Nazi Aktion T-4 euthanasia program](#) from January 1940 to Summer 1940, had been the Director of the *Heil- und Pflegeanstalten Sonnenstein-bei-Pirna* [facility](#) during April 1940, had conducted sterilization and castration experiments at *Konzentrationslager Auschwitz* during 1942 and 1944, and had in 1951 evaded a West German arrest warrant. Requests by West [Germany](#) for his extradition had initially been rejected by Ghana but then on November 4, 1966 that government announced that it would extradite him to West Germany. Put on trial in West Germany for war crimes during September 1971, the trial had been indefinitely suspended during April 1971 due to his ill health.

STATE MURDER

WORLD WAR II

EUGENICS

October 2, Sunday: Reinhold Paul Karl Robert Vorberg died, who had been during [World War II](#) the administrative director of the [Kanzlei des Führers der NSDAP](#) and head of the *Gekrat* Charitable Society for the Transportation of the Sick, and who had under the code name “Hintertal” been responsible for transportation of mentally ill patients to the [Nazi Aktion T-4 euthanasia program execution facilities](#), and had for those atrocities been sentenced to 10 years imprisonment.

STATE MURDER

EUGENICS



**EUGENICS**

**EUGENICS**

**1994**

The publication of THE BELL CURVE by Herrnstein and Murray rekindled the debate about race and intelligence.

**EUGENICS**



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

1995

[China](#) introduced its Maternal and Infant Health Protection Law by which “inferior births” were to be prevented from becoming a burden on the state and society (before it received this name, it had been laboring under the rubric “Eugenics Law”).

EUGENICS

In his extreme age (his 79th year), without adequate editorial support or pre-publication review despite the fact that his memory was failing (he would die early in the following year), Professor Emeritus [Walter Roy Harding](#)’s annotated edition of [Henry Thoreau](#)’s [WALDEN](#) had been put out by [Houghton, Mifflin](#) Company, a trade-press publisher with more greed than good sense. The text of [WALDEN](#) that this publisher had sneaked into this volume, to accompany Professor Harding’s notes, turned out to be far more corrupt than that of any edition previously published by [The Riverside Press](#), or for that matter by any publisher anywhere, and the commentary would have benefited from more review and analysis from any other Thoreau scholars — who would of course have been able and eager to pitch in under such circumstances. All in all, this was a fairly nasty sort of trick for a for-profit corporation to play on a helpless old man. This edition of Thoreau’s [WALDEN](#) is so thoroughly corrupt a text as to excite awe, and as such it could not possibly have been seen by Walter prior to publication. It may well turn out to be the most corrupt [WALDEN](#) text every produced. This sort of egregiousness is particularly alarming in close proximity with a commentary which repeatedly waxes picky about printer errors in the 1854 first edition, errors which have long ago been set right and should long ago have been forgotten (such as the fact here placed on record that in the 1854 edition the word “occasionally” had in the chapter on “Visitors” been spelled “occcasionally”). Among the errors which one may detect upon a chance scan of the pages there are misspellings, omissions of punctuation, incorrect punctuations, absence of spaces, and so on and so forth.<sup>19</sup> On the following screen I will recite a few of the more obvious and egregious errors of this edition:

19. Fortunately, this edition has now been replaced by the superior work of Jeffrey S. Cramer, in *THOREAU’S WALDEN: A FULLY ANNOTATED EDITION*, put out by Yale UP during August 2004.

- Page 7: the text should read “bones” rather than “hones”
- Page 44: Trinity Church did not burn, but fell into disrepair and (if my source is correct) was replaced between 1839 and 1846.
- Page 55: The 2nd Bank of the US building in Philadelphia is not Egyptian, but Greek Revival.
- Page 111: “tantivy” — Harding gives it as an adverb, “at full gallop,” which I think does not fit the context very well, even when rendered as his “fast flying.” The OED puts Thoreau’s “tantivy” under the noun definition, “a rapid gallop.” I have always assumed, however, that Thoreau meant by tantivy, a sound. This fits the sentence, “the tantivy of wild pigeons ... gives a voice to the air.” The OED provides two meanings of a tantivy as a sound.
- Page 163: the text should read “homœopathic” rather than “homeopathic”
- Page 171: the text should read “life” rather than “line”
- Page 216: In a context in which Walter is expostulating in the margin about the fact that in some editions an erroneous hyphen has been allowed by editors to creep into Thoreau’s word “recreate,” this text represents the word as “re-create”.
- Page 248: the text should read “pertinent” rather than “pertinent”
- Page 251: Presumably in Note 3, Thoreau’s “orchading” is a printer’s typo for “orcharding.”
- Page 277: In note 2, the philologist studied by Thoreau was Richard Trench, not Richard Trent. (Incidentally, in Note 4 on this page, referring to the “Waldenses,” it had been in the Lyon, France of the **12th Century** that Pierre Waldo attempted to live a life similar to the life of Jesus, and Thoreau surely would not have been referring to anything that was going on to the remote inheritors of this movement of the Holy Poor as of the **15th Century** in particular.)
- Page 42: “morning which” should be “morning: which”
- Page 120: The word “vale” should have a period after it.
- Page 120: adjust the length of the line ending “trivial words”
- Page 158: One of the right curlyquotes should be a left curlyquote.
- Page 199: there should be a space after the comma in “nobles,and”
- Page 226: the title of the Huber work speaks of “Mours” rather than “Moeurs” and of “Fourmis,” ants, not “Fournis.”
- Page 262: there should be a space after the period in “serenity.I”
- Page 288: Note 1 on this page refers the reader to a note 2 on page 292, and there is no such note.
- Page 312: Note 9 should specify “1838 to 1842” rather than “1839 to 1842.”

Harding unhelpfully glosses the following passage in [WALDEN](#) by supplied the irrelevant and false and demeaning disinformation that Friend [George Fox](#) had **lived in a hollow tree**:

Better not keep a house. Say, some hollow tree;  
and then for morning calls and dinner-parties!  
Only a woodpecker tapping.



This sort of gloss—even were it accurate and relevant, rather than false and demeaning—would do nothing much to enhance anybody’s rereading of [WALDEN](#); it speaks not only to the low quality of some academic contributions today but also to the fact that a trade press like Houghton Mifflin will publish literally anything



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

to turn a buck. We had cause to wonder how Harding might have acquired his strange notion that Friend Fox while in process of founding the [Quakers](#) had been living in a hollow tree. We were tempted to put this errant piece of nonsense down as a piece of Cavalier calumny casually passed along by a poor scholar by way of a mere unscholarly trade press — but in Book III, Chapter 1 of [Thomas Carlyle's SARTOR RESARTUS](#) we can see how Harding might carelessly have acquired such a notion:

*"I can neither see nor move: not my own am I, but the World's; and Time flies fast, and Heaven is high, and Hell is deep: Man! bethink thee, if thou hast power of Thought! Why not; what binds me here? Want, want! — Ha, of what? Will all the shoe-wages under the Moon ferry me across into that far Land of Light? Only Meditation can, and devout Prayer to God. I will to the woods: the hollow of a tree will lodge me, wild-berries feed me; and for Clothes, cannot I stitch myself one perennial suit of Leather!"*<sup>20</sup>

Evidently Harding had been merely taking with blank uncomprehending seriousness a mere piece of fun that a 19th-Century British journalist and racist had once poked at the [Religious Society of Friends](#) in the pages of a literary magazine in 1834!

The only known reference for Carlyle's conceit, so eagerly bought into by Harding, would be a passage in Fox's writings in which he commented that "I fasted much, walked abroad in solitary places many days; and often took my Bible, and sat in hollow trees and lonesome places till night came on." That passage would of course be evidence merely for a practice of frequent retirement for private devotional meditation and prayer not at all uncommon in Fox's day and age, and as such entirely innocuous, and definitely not material that would support any sort of derogation.

[Walter Roy Harding's](#) jottings in this so-called "VARIORUM" edition of [WALDEN](#)<sup>21</sup> suffer from a fatal ambiguity as to the sorts of person who make up his audience. Is this an audience for whom the reading experience is to be further enriched, even enhanced, by the provision of connections to other cultural materials, or is this, very distinctly different, an audience for whom [Thoreau's](#) offerings are to be "dumbed down" to the lowest common denominator?

An example of the former category above, material for an audience that is seeking the enrichment and enhancement of its reading experience, would be found in Harding's pointing from certain unscribed quotations in the "Solitude" chapter to specific points in the FOUR BOOKS of [China](#). An example, by way of contrast, of the latter category above, dumbing WALDEN down to the lowest common denominator for an audience consisting of dunderheads, would be found in Harding's glossing of Thoreau's "With thinking ... friends sometimes" by means of the stupidly simplistic remark "Thoreau was constantly aware of the fact that he was never able to lose himself completely in any emotion." Again, I find it utterly pointless for Harding to attempt to gloss a sentence such as this one from the "Solitude" chapter, "The farmer can ... form of it," by an observation that in the 1st edition of 1854 an inappropriate comma had crept into the text after the word

20. [Thomas Carlyle's](#) source for this may well have been merely the following innocuous passage from [George Fox's](#) description of his troubled adolescence, in his [JOURNAL](#):

*But my troubles continued, and I was often under great temptations; and I fasted much, and walked abroad in solitary places many days, and often took my Bible and went and sat in hollow trees and lonesome places till night came on; and frequently in the night walked mournfully about by myself, for I was a man of sorrows in the times of the first workings of the Lord in me.*

Needless to say, there is no connection whatever between this and [Thoreau's](#) passage in [WALDEN](#), which [Walter Roy Harding](#) supposedly was in the process of elucidating:

Better not keep a house. Say, some hollow tree; and then for morning calls and dinner-parties! Only a woodpecker tapping.

21. An edition using such a name as "Variorum" should have been one citing textual variations between drafts of the manuscript, as Ronald Earl Clapper has done — but instead this is merely a garden-variety "Annotated" edition, mistitled.



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

“remunerate” — especially when, in the previous paragraph of this utterly corrupt 1995 Houghton Mifflin reprinting, the word “dervish” has been misspelled as “dervis.” Again, why in this blue-eyed world does the contemporary reader need to be distracted, in a book that itself contains so many egregious printer errors, with the utterly irrelevant and inconsequential detail that in the 1st edition “occasionally” had been set into type by the printer as “occasionally”? And to whom —heaven help us— is it of use to be informed, alongside Thoreau’s remark “I have heard of a man ... believed to be real,” that Walter Roy Harding has “been unable to discover the source of this story”? —Is it somehow informative, to be apprised of the fact that even the most diligent citation-checker may sometimes fail to uncover the single source for a remark which clearly had been allowed to remain by its originating author in an indeterminate condition?

The marginal notations of this edition are sometimes quite poorly edited. For instance, in the context “in whose odorous herb garden I love to stroll sometimes, gathering simples and listening to her fables,” a marginal notation such as “Simples are medicinal herbs” would be considerably more straightforward than a cryptic remark such as “Medicinal herbs” alone.

At one point, Professor Harding seems to suggest that Thoreau had been prevaricating when he wrote that he lived a mile from any neighbor, lying because although he makes no mention of this in WALDEN, the families of the Irish laboring men who were creating the railroad embankments and tracks were still living along the tracks alongside the pond while he was in residence at the pond. However, Harding provided no evidence for his conceit that anyone was still living there in that temporary Irish settlement, nor has anyone we have contacted seen any evidence for this.

All in all, this edition is as flawed in execution as it was in conception.

One can find some excuse for the annotated edition of [WALDEN](#) that Philip Van Doren Stern prepared in 1970, because that volume was conceived and executed well prior to the invention of an adequate publication technology. But what is the excuse for such a retrograde maneuver as this one, as of 1995?

It has been a waste of publishing money, money which might have been much better allocated.

And the egregious error of this edition has compounded itself, for year after year, the good folks in Concord who purport to be today’s representatives of Thoreau had been putting this crapulent edition out onto their shelves for sale to new generations of unsuspecting customers, at outrageous purchase prices — have, indeed, been **recommending** it to their unsuspecting newbie tourist customers!





## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

In an appendix to this “variorum [WALDEN](#)” volume, [Walter Roy Harding](#) offers a series of the more stupid and pointless and simplistic analyses of [Thoreau](#)’s parable of the hound, the bay horse, and the turtledove.

[WALDEN](#): In any weather, at any hour of the day or night, I have been anxious to improve the nick of time, and notch it on my stick too; to stand on the meeting of two eternities, the past and future, which is precisely the present moment; to toe that line. You will pardon some obscurities, for there are more secrets in my trade than in most men’s, and yet not voluntarily kept, but inseparable from its very nature. I would gladly tell all that I know about it, and never paint “No Admittance” on my gate.

I long ago lost a hound, a bay horse, and a turtle-dove, and am still on their trail. Many are the travellers I have spoken concerning them, describing their tracks and what calls they answered to. I have met one or two who had heard the hound, and the tramp of the horse, and even seen the dove disappear behind a cloud, and they seemed as anxious to recover them as if they had lost them themselves.

To anticipate, not the sunrise and the dawn merely, but, if possible, Nature herself! How many mornings, summer and winter, before yet any neighbor was stirring about his business, have I been about mine! No doubt many of my townsmen have met me returning from this enterprise, farmers starting for Boston in the twilight, or woodchoppers going to their work. It is true, I never assisted the sun materially in his rising, but, doubt not, it was of the last importance only to be present at it.



In this regard it is informative to consider two points:

- Each and every one of the numerous stupid and pointless and simplistic analyses of the hound/ horse/turtledove paragraph included by Harding has the unfortunate effect of pre-emptively excluding and delegitimizing each and every other one of those analyses, as if the function of such literary detective-work were to capture a criminal rather than to reap from the reading of the text a spiritual benefit.
- It is clear that the function of Thoreau’s paragraph in the flow of his chapter, the function of his chapter in the agenda of his book, and the function of his book in our silly lives, have been entirely left out of consideration by these various commentators and annotators during more than a century

## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

and a half of speculative readings of this mysterious paragraph, in such manner as to suggest that for them, text and context have been situated in two entirely separated universes.

Harding was, of course, not a disinterested source — it was not per his agenda, for Thoreau's passage about the lost hound, the lost bay horse, and the lost turtle-dove to receive any appropriately meaningful and important interpretation. For example, in 1958 he had predicted:



[It] will probably never be solved to everyone's satisfaction.

— [Walter Roy Harding](#) and Carl Bode (eds.)  
THE CORRESPONDENCE OF HENRY  
DAVID THOREAU. NY, 1958, page 749





## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

1999

April 24, Saturday: Dr. med Heinrich Gross, physician at the *Am Steinhof* Children's Hospital and a participant in the [Nazi Aktion T-4 euthanasia program](#), had been arrested and put on trial by an Austrian court for manslaughter in 1951 and had been duly convicted, but this conviction had been reversed on appeal and the case had eventually been dropped. On this day a new trial, on charges of [executing](#) handicapped children by means of luminol injections, was announced by the Austrian Ministry of Justice.

WORLD WAR II  
EUGENICS  
STATE MURDER



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

**2003**

March: The Governor of California issued a public apology on behalf of the state, for having in the past program of [Eugenics](#) forcibly sterilized some 20,000 citizens. None of the people who had been forcibly sterilized under the eugenics program were at hand to receive this official apology.<sup>22</sup>

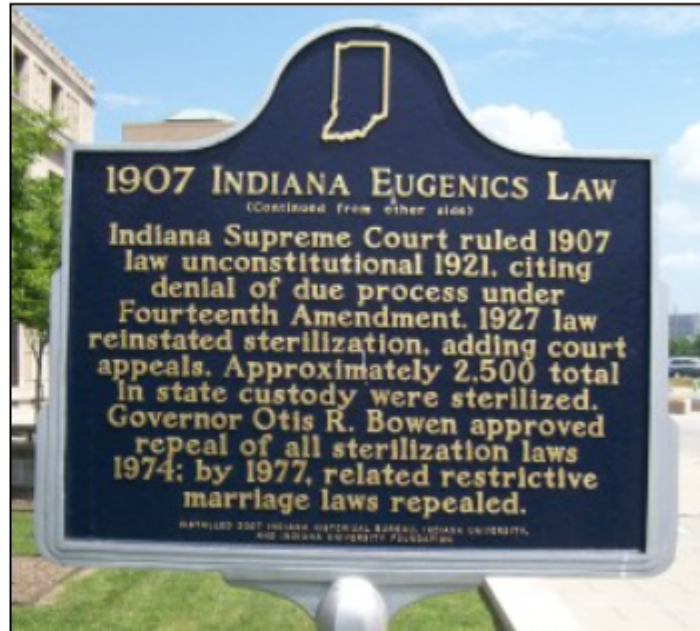
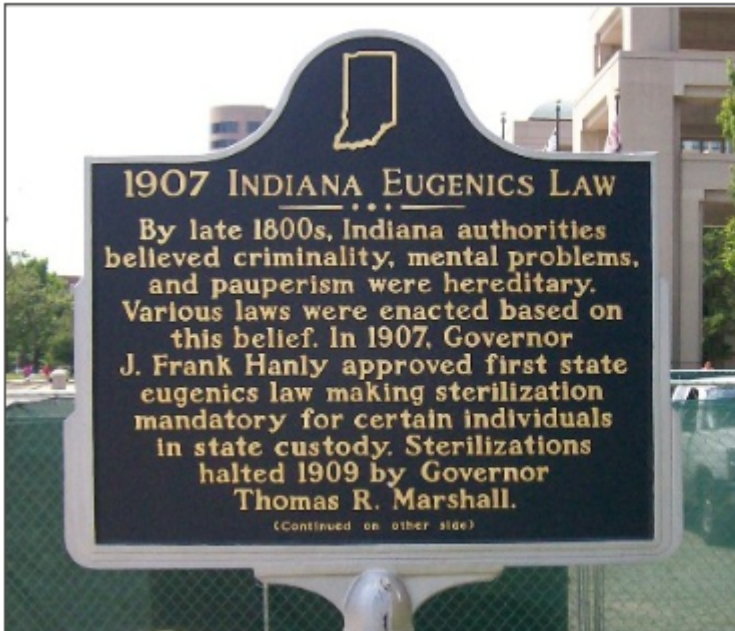
22. Four other states have to date issued similar apologies. No apology has been forthcoming from the state of Indiana.

## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

2007

April 12, Thursday: A roadside marker was dedicated to the memory of the many “defective” Indiana citizens, that over the years this state government had forcibly sterilized.



By late 1800s, Indiana authorities believed criminality, mental problems, and pauperism were hereditary. Various laws were enacted based on this belief. In 1907, Governor J. Frank Hanly approved first state eugenics law making sterilization mandatory for certain individuals in state custody. Sterilizations halted 1909 by Governor Thomas R. Marshall. Indiana Supreme Court ruled 1907 law unconstitutional 1921, citing denial of due process under Fourteenth Amendment. 1927 law reinstated sterilization, adding court appeals. Approximately 2,500 total in state custody were sterilized. Governor Otis R. Bowen approved repeal of all sterilization laws 1974; by 1977, related restrictive marriage laws repealed.

EUGENICS



## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS



COPYRIGHT NOTICE: In addition to the property of others, such as extensive quotations and reproductions of images, this "read-only" computer file contains a great deal of special work product of Austin Meredith, copyright ©2017. Access to these interim materials will eventually be offered for a fee in order to recoup some of the costs of preparation. My hypercontext button invention which, instead of creating a hypertext leap through hyperspace –resulting in navigation problems– allows for an utter alteration of the context within which one is experiencing a specific content already being viewed, is claimed as proprietary to Austin Meredith – and therefore freely available for use by all. Limited permission to copy such files, or any material from such files, must be obtained in advance in writing from the "Stack of the Artist of Kouroo" Project, 833 Berkeley St., Durham NC 27705. Please contact the project at <Kouroo@kouroo.info>.

"It's all now you see. Yesterday won't be over until tomorrow and tomorrow began ten thousand years ago."

- Remark by character "Garin Stevens"  
in William Faulkner's INTRUDER IN THE DUST



Prepared: February 25, 2018

# ARRGH AUTOMATED RESearch REPORT GENERATION HOTLINE



This stuff presumably looks to you as if it were generated by a human. Such is not the case. Instead, someone has requested that we pull it out of the hat of a pirate who has grown out of the shoulder of our pet parrot "Laura" (as above). What these chronological lists are: they are research reports compiled by ARRGH algorithms out of a database of modules which we term the Kouroo Contexture (this is data mining). To respond to such a request for information we merely push a button.





## EUGENICS

## EUGENICS

Commonly, the first output of the algorithm has obvious deficiencies and we need to go back into the modules stored in the contexture and do a minor amount of tweaking, and then we need to punch that button again and recompile the chronology – but there is nothing here that remotely resembles the ordinary “writerly” process you know and love. As the contents of this originating contexture improve, and as the programming improves, and as funding becomes available (to date no funding whatever has been needed in the creation of this facility, the entire operation being run out of pocket change) we expect a diminished need to do such tweaking and recompiling, and we fully expect to achieve a simulation of a generous and untiring robotic research librarian. Onward and upward in this brave new world.

First come first serve. There is no charge.  
Place requests with <Kouroo@kouroo.info>. Arrgh.