

Report to the board of trustees of the Human betterment foundation for the year ending February 8, 1938.

REPORT TO THE BOARD OF THE TRUSTEES of the HUMAN BETTERMENT FOUNDATION For the Year ending February 8, 1938

The executive staff of this Foundation submits the following summary of results of its activities during the last year:

After a close study of our educational program, our annual letter of inquiry last fall was addressed to a revised list of 7,000 college professors offering our brief publications. In reply we received requests for and sent 73,000 pamphlets and 65,000 leaflets for use in their classes. These requests for pamphlets come from every state in the Union in reasonable proportion to the number of professors addressed. The previous year we had similar requests for 45,000 pamphlets, showing an increase in pamphlets ordered by college professors for 1937 over orders for 1936, of 28,000 or 62%. The leaflet was not offered in 1936.

Beside the above, we have sent out 48,000 letters and printed circulars with enclosures, to selected lists of lawyers, doctors, Protestant ministers, High School teachers, other professional people, and various organizations. In addition, in response to requests, we sent out during the year by mail and express approximately 25,000 copies of pamphlets and other publications. The reports from all of these shipments, which total more than 200,000 copies, have been most gratifying.

We have frequent requests for speakers on our work. At such meetings, our pamphlets and leaflets are eagerly sought.

College libraries and students continue to call for our "Collected Papers," "Sterilization for Human Betterment," and other former publications.

The second survey and case study of results of official sterilizations in California state institutions, was made by this Foundation and the Bureau of Juvenile Research at the request of Dr. Toner, then Director of State Institutions of California. After many delays it is now complete, and its results are summarized in a booklet, "Twenty-eight Years of Sterilization in California" just off the press. We have placed on this booklet the nominal price of twenty-five cents delivered. This we have done for two reasons; to make it available to all interested people practically at cost, and to prevent orders being made for mere curiosity. The second survey in all material findings proved to be in complete accord with the first survey made by this Foundation.

Our tabulated report of official sterilizations in the twenty-nine states shows 2,466 sterilizations in the year 1937, and a total of 27,869, of which California has sterilized 12,180—not counting some 300 sterilizations by consent in the state penitentiaries. The complete table will be found on page 8 of “Human Sterilization Today” enclosed herewith.

The Treasurer reports that all expenses of the Foundation to date have been paid without drawing on the Foundation's capital, and in addition a substantial gift by a member was made during the year 1937.

It is the present purpose of this Foundation to concentrate its work on the educational program, to bring to intelligent citizens of our country the facts proven by California's twenty-eight years of experience in eugenic sterilization.

Dr. Paul Popenoe was practically in charge of both the first and second surveys of results in official sterilizations in California, a work for which he was eminently qualified. At the close of the first survey, with the aid of this Foundation and persons connected with it, at considerable expense he organized and built up for several years the “Institute of Family Relations.” At the close of the second survey and report a year ago, he resigned from this Foundation and since then has been giving his full time to the Institute, where he is in much demand. Our best wishes are with him.

Respectfully submitted.

E. S. Gosney , *President* .

Gift Foundation July 23, 1938

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