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# CONSTITUTIONAL PSYCHOPATHIC INFERIORITY IN RELATION TO DELINQUENCY\*

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## *Introduction*

The law must practice medicine at times, among its other multiple and complex functions. The burden is great and assistance invaluable. Where the bone of contention is tangible as in personal injury cases and the issue is one or the other of two alternatives the law may do fairly creditably and acceptably. Where the data are few and largely unverifiable as in the overlap of psychiatry and law in wills contested on the grounds of Senile Dementia the law admits considerable self-dissatisfaction. In adjudications in cases of definite psychoses falling into the larger and more clearly cut categories the law does well enough to gain some confidence.

In dealing with the delinquent or offending borderline psychopaths, and especially the Constitutional Psychopathic InferiORITY (C. P. I.) cases (which are not to be confused with the slightly demented insane with deterioration, e.g., the old alcoholic bum, the dementia praecox vagabond, etc., etc.) the law is confronted with problems needing the greatest firmness. Mistakes here have vast social and personal implications: mercy or vengeance, over-patience or impatience, all are disastrous and reflect discredit and bring loss of reputation to all concerned be they the relatives or the judge, jurymen, prosecutor, defense attorney, police officer, jailer, warden, guard, parole board member, parole officer or welfare worker, or reporter and editor.

For identical understanding, first the terms as used need definition. "Constitutional" means born with and not acquired, i.e., a person is constitutionally blonde, a person is constitutionally reactive, color blind, pacific from too low blood pressure, etc., etc. Constitutional conditions are irreversible, i.e., incurable or irremediable, and their modification is tedious and slight if possible at all. "Psychopathic" means in the realm of the mind and emotions, not

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\*\* Chicago, Ill., Associate Editor of the Journal.

insane certainly (but cases of C.P.I. do go insane more easily than do normal persons, yet the insanity of the C.P.I.'s is usually brief after which they return to their poor psychopathic normal). Usually a psychopath is regarded as neither insane nor sane but in the "no man's land between the trenches." A psychopath is not necessarily feeble-minded either, for psychopaths may have any I.Q., from low and obviously feeble-minded to high enough to be placed high in society. "Inferiority" means sub-standard, especially in function and adaptability and self-progress without sacrificing others. It does not mean sub-standard structure, for there is another group of persons known as Constitutional Inferiors (C.I.), and they are born to be physically inferior, frail or deformed or of weak constitution or weak in several systems (cardiac, eye, urogenital, skeletal, gastrointestinal, etc.): some few of these C.I.'s may also have from birth defects in stability or growth of the mental-emotional life, in which case they would be called C.I., C.P.I.—Constitutional Inferiority with Constitutional Psychopathic Inferiority.

It must not be inferred that all constitutionally psychopathic personalities offend the law, but a great many of them are more or less violators at frequent intervals of their lives. Often they are only domestic burdens and neighborhood nuisances or disappointments. The higher the position the psychopath attains, i.e., the more people his psychopathy affects, the more disastrous for the rest of us. (Cf. *infra*, Cranks.)

### *Generalization*

In reviewing a large number of these cases and the literature and trying to find some characteristic that they all share, I think it may be said that the *least common denominator* is that they are *forever socially maladaptable*. They never can fit in with other persons or associations for the mutual benefit of themselves and society.

The law regards them as responsible for their acts, and there are some reasons justifying the law's attitude. These are negative reasons; they are legally regarded as responsible because 1) they have no irresistible impulse, 2) they have no delusions nor hallucinations, 3) they have no memory defects, 4) they have no ablation or disappearance of emotions or loss of capacity to react emotionally (wherein they are not like case of *Dementia Praecox*), and 5) because there is no organic disease of the central nervous

system (which conditions usually are enduring and progressive. cf. paresis).

Attempts have been made to classify constitutional psychopathic inferiority on the basis of distortion of impulse, distortion of temperament, or distortion of character. Others have classified them into three large groups: the delinquent, the general incompatibility types of personalities, and inadequate personalities.<sup>1</sup>

These deviated personalities may perhaps be better understood if they are classified not into large groups but into types. There are many types, and this paper uses them for classification and description. It is recognized that some of these types might be combined, that there are still others, and that these types might be subdivided.

#### *Types of C. P. I.*

Constitutional psychopathic personalities or psychopathic inferiority of *inadequate personality types* are described by Dr. Charles F. Read, medical superintendent or managing officer of the Elgin, Illinois, State Hospital, thus: "They appear impressive and trustworthy and convincing especially if 'verbalists' and pretentious but by blunders prove themselves to be without (personality if not without material) resources, insignificant and untrustworthy . . . a charming psychopath . . . they are given chance after chance, friends forgive them, judges let them off, employers give them another job, they take the cure and cures, BUT all efforts end in betrayals, broken homes, and family tragedies. The psychopath is not personally touched by the devastations he or she causes, but smiles, promises, boasts of powers of self-control, and then does it all over again."

It is worth while to pause here for a moment to see why these inadequate types are not insane but are not normal, how he may have any I.Q., how from alcohol or from depression he is temporarily insane, how he is ever socially maladaptable, how it is better to regard him as responsible for his acts and how he shows distortion of impulse and distortion of temperament and of character. Particularly it is worthy of notice how neither courts nor sanitariums

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<sup>1</sup> Since this paper was written but before it was printed a new and excellent book has been published. It is reviewed in our book review section. The literature on psychopathy is quite scattered, mostly to be found in brief chapters in many books; hence it is a pleasure to be able to refer interested readers to something that is reliable as Dr. Henderson's published Thomas W. Salmon Memorial Lecture, delivered before the New York Academy of Medicine recently, "*Psychopathic States*," Henderson; Norton, N. Y., 1939, \$2.00, pp. 170.

nor religion, nor appeal to reason can modify their constitutional weakness any more than those agencies and methods could modify a physical cripple's deformity.

Most persons are inadequate in many, if not in most, ways of life or at least in scholarship, skill, or appreciation of the fine arts and the games that they play, golf, swimming, bridge, poker, etc., which some experts, by doing well, prove are within normal human capacity, and yet are adequate socially and within themselves. The inadequate psychopath is not necessarily inadequate in absolutely everything, and he may be able to do some few things with passable skill, but in his social relationships he fails just as a quarter horse fails.\*

The *agitators* or chronic scolds used to be suspected of being witches and were treated by the ducking stools. Now they foment strife sincerely, although they are so susceptible to suggestion that they are easy prey of hired propagandists. They are not constructive. Rather they seek to hurt and to destroy. They are persons of mean importance who have never distinguished themselves nor do they desire to do constructive work. The person who is agitating for public tenements built with public funds is almost certain to be a person who has never built his own home. A few agitators are persons who have aged prematurely; they talk about the good old days "when Ben was in charge of the office or shop, he did it this way" and they destroy the loyalty of other employees. Many of these agitators are short-sighted as well as fault-finding.

Closely allied to them are the Greenwich Village amateur brain trusters, the soap box orators, the *verbalists*, the *sophists*; they are usually run down at the heel in personality; they are noisy; they are shallow; they usually have severe personal eccentricities; and neither is their domestic life typical nor admirable. They feel they have a mission in life to perform and in carrying out that mission they are above the law; hence they feel that it is right for them to do wrong if thereby it aids their mission.

The *conscientious objectors* are very psychopathic in their religious life and in their sexual life. They deviate far from generally accepted standards. They are not particularly cowardly. They have symptoms of psychasthenia and hysteria. For example, one such conscientious objector gave a great deal of thought to the

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\* A quarter horse runs very well the first quarter of the race but thereafter all the rest pass him and he never regains position or leadership among the other race horses.

remarkable advantage which would occur if in some way he could be married to himself. Their maladaptability shows itself mostly in their inability to adjust or adapt themselves to changing ideas which men must accept at times, e.g., at time of war.

When a person has unusual ideas which he shares with many other persons who belong to the same religion, cult, or denomination there is nothing psychopathic about it. We do not say that they are psychopathic because of group belief although many psychopathic persons do shop around until they find a group which believes some of their opinions. These objectors, either as individual or group objectors, must be dealt with objectively by society and not humored. By objectively I mean deafly: be deaf to their words and excuses, and regard them as they act, as they seem to be.

*Bigots and worshippers of dogma* are persons who have no continuing mental growth, but rather there has been an arrest of development. They are as blind and deaf to the expressions of any ideas by others as color blind persons are blind to certain things (colors), or tone deaf persons are deaf to certain pitches or sounds. The height of folly is for an intelligent person like a judge to attempt to modify a bigot by appealing to his reason. Let us assume that the bigot or dogmatist feels that it is his duty to go without clothes because of some religious revelation. Since he will not wear clothes and we can not make him wear them and since the absence of clothing is against the conventions of society, he should not only be sequestered in a dungeon vile or on a desert island but not even be permitted to associate with other nudists. The individual who hurts others, especially children, must be isolated. When such persons appear before the goddess of justice it would be well if she were deaf just as the soldiers of Ulysses were rendered deaf so that they could not be misled by the sirens.

The *fanatical* psychopathic personality is very hard to define. If a person becomes fanatical about something which a large group speaks about emotionally, such as the Red Cross in time of war, the individual is regarded as normal. Candid camera fiends are normal. However, if an individual is very enthusiastic about something which is unique to himself but not to others and he has always been of this disposition, he may be regarded as constitutionally psychopathic. Fortunately most of these fanatics are not a public menace: unfortunately many of them are a public nuisance. They should be told, "Go fly your kite, Sonny." At least that gets them outdoors where the population is not so dense.

*Notoriety cravers* usually are inoffensive. They mistake notoriety for fame or for reputation: they do the silliest things. Many of them are impulsive, non-judicial, very young women. Others, like the flagpole sitters, have some courage but never have distinguished themselves in ordinary ways. Many of these are hyper-suggestible, and if someone had not set an example before them they would no doubt continue to live inconspicuous and well-ordered lives. It is a mistake for the ordinary person to contribute to their notoriety.

Another group are the *indecisive, unsettled personalities*. They are not guided in judgment by past experiences or past decisions. Every time an issue confronts them they are entirely unorganized and are thrown into a flutter. They need rule of thumb, explicit directions given without the reasons. Now it is true that all of us are unable to make certain decisions in our lives, for example, such as during a falling market, "Shall I sell one stock to give me money to increase my margin so that I can hold another stock?", or restated, "Shall I take a little licking now to save a big one later?" Another illustration is the indecisiveness of a girl who has received proposals from two men at the same time if there are reasons why she should accept the first and other reasons why she should accept the second man instead. But that is a unique experience, or at least it is an initial experience. The psychopathic indecisive person, however, is in doubt about almost everything. There is one form of indecisiveness, and that is the inability to abide by previous decisions; such persons may write a dozen or two wills or codicils in the course of a lifetime, or they may let others change their minds for them very easily. Such indecisive persons if moderately delinquent or followers in a petty gang do not improve by either probation or incarceration or parole. They remain unsettled. How cruel it is to condemn wardens and parole boards and judges for not shaping the lives of these delinquents into decisive and well-ordered citizens!

*Egocentric personalities* are very very hard to describe. They all think of themselves first, and most of the time others are very unimportant. Their own rights and privileges are very important, but their duties, obligations, required restrictions and the rights of others are so unimportant that it is doubtful if they truly perceive them. They go through life with this warped attitude of a childish, crippled mind.

The *paranoid* and the *hostiles* are among the worst of all forms

of psychopathic personalities. By paranoid we do not mean people who have delusions of persecution, but we mean those character assassins who, when things go wrong, accuse others and excuse themselves because they are constantly blind to their own faults and overly alert to the shortcomings of others.

In this day and age all paranoids are more or less divorced (deserted or deserting). No person could live with a paranoid. Therefore, these paranoids have very small families, usually no children. This is doubly fortunate, as, generally speaking, the paranoid tendency is likely to be hereditary. Many of them are of poor physical structure, but others are normal or quite prepossessing. They too feel that they have a mission in life to perform. They are very painstaking. They write anonymous letters and letters to the President attacking some person's reputation. They may be litigious—they keep the county surveyor busy with their suits about their boundary line fences, etc. I should say that the courts do worse in handling these paranoids and their contentions than they do in handling any other type of psychopath. Much that the paranoid says is true and all that he says is plausible. For a while it was believed that many of these paranoids were homosexual, but now it is believed rather that they are so in love with themselves and so autosexual that they have no interest in others and they are unable to see or appreciate attractiveness in anyone else.

Many senile persons become paranoid: they start or support humanitarian "isms" that engage the interest and support of many other persons usually to the detriment of their supporters.

Another group is the *emotionally unstable*. They are "in the heights" or "down in the dumps," or very very irritable. This emotionalism is periodic in nature. At this time it is well to recognize the fact that many psychopathic personalities have several psychopathic traits. They may be inadequate, egocentric, paranoid, and unstable, or they may have other combinations of any of the above or subsequently mentioned types of abnormality.

It should also be mentioned, and this is as good a place as any to state it, that these deviated characteristics may appear in several degrees in these persons, for instance, one may be slightly paranoid and be quite egocentric.

There are the opposing types of psychopaths including the *non-persistent personality* and the *overly persistent personality*. A great many of the non-persistent as well as the overly persistent



are poor because of this deviation of persistence. Unfortunately they are not particularly non-persistent in making mistakes, nor are they overly persistent in doing the right thing. I had one patient, a young man who had been in seventeen automobile collisions. He said, "When I see a collision is impending I always drive as fast as I can so it will be a real good smash." I had a woman patient who was the wife of a judge and who had had a series of collisions. She consistently discovered a charm (?) in driving headfirst against any approaching car at night if the approaching car had only one headlight lit.

The *insecures*, of whom there are many, are persons who are chronically insecure. They not only can not meet stress, but in anticipation and in fact they can not meet the ordinary requirements of life. In a great many of these cases there is poor health, low blood pressure, low blood sugar, anemia, poor muscle tone and low vitality reserves. The best antidote for these insecure personalities is a physical health program and their accumulation of ten per cent of all the money that passes through their hands until they have accumulated enough actual "hard money" cash to finance themselves for three months if they should have no other income.

There are two other, rare types of psychopaths known as the *emotionally frozen* and the *emotionally explosive*. The names are descriptive, probably adequately so. The emotionally explosive are not those who over-compensate about some one thing but who are overly emotional about everything. Proper allowances should be made for them. The Sicilian child, adopted from an orphanage into a swarthy Danish family, would of course be regarded as emotionally explosive whereas if the child had not been orphaned and adopted he probably would not be so regarded. The inheritance of most people is not too certain. Let us in politeness say we know only the last few generations of one's ancestors. If a child resembles some unknown remote ancestor the condition should not be regarded as abnormal. The temper tantrums of childhood should not *per se* be regarded as psychopathic. Temper tantrums of adult life are rather pathognomonic of psychopathy, either constitutional or acquired psychopathy. Eugenically speaking, temperament should be grounds for dissolving a marriage if the conjugal mates are of child-bearing years.

There are two types of *polygamy* and this is not to be confused with adultery, which is secret. In polygamy the man publicly has several wives; one type has them all at the same time, and the

other type has them in sequence although this is usually not called polygamy. The psychopathy, for such it is, here is so fascinating that he tends to become progressively less tender, more cruel, and may *a la* Bluebeard engage in a series of murders.

There are a great many personalities who are *dependent*. They are unable to stand on their own feet or unsupported walk through life. They need something to bolster them; it may be an aspirin which they take constantly, or it may be drugs, or it may be alcohol. A chronic alcoholic is a psychopath, but may not be constitutionally psychopathic although usually he is so. This illustrates that there may be acquired psychopathy. Rarely does a normal person through adversity of one kind or another become alcoholic.

Some of these dependent persons lean on others for advice and support. I have rarely seen a lazy child; certainly less than one per cent of the children are lazy: I have seen many lazy adults. Laziness by definition is imposing on others to do things which an individual is perfectly able to do himself. I hasten to add that the so-called lazy child is usually found to be anemic or to have Bright's disease or some other enervating condition.

There are some persons who are the opposite from the fixed bigots. These are the persons who are always joining some group which is hectic about some *ism*. They go from one church group to another, from one political party to another, usually on the fringe of an orthodox or of the regular. May we coin a term and call them "*ism-ites*"?

The *delinquent* is rarely psychopathic. The career criminal is *not* psychopathic; he makes his living in criminalism. The psychopathic delinquent is one who shows psychopathy in other walks of life as well as in anti-social conduct. The psychopathic delinquent is more certain to be a recidivist than the delinquent thief.

Over-compensation is a characteristic of everyone but the *extreme over-compensation* is a characteristic of some psychopaths. They are transparent but apparently do not know it. They show poor judgment in their over-compensating. They seldom are offensive to the law; they always are offensive to good taste.

There is another type of psychopathic inferiority, those *who can not meet stress*. They are emotionally bewildered. They tend to suicide or to escape by any means. They are not particularly self-pitiful although self-pity does increase inferiority. These persons who can not meet stress rarely have the good sense to build

up an estate or to build up health reserves or to build up strongly knit family ties to enable them to share stress. The world generally regards these persons with very transient sympathy and then with contempt. This condition is not to be confused with a condition which the French call the "reaction of exasperation," like the thoroughly exasperated wife who takes a shot at the husband who nagged her.

Another group is the *wilful perverse*. They have a very dismal future, and sooner or later are treated objectively and rather ruthlessly, which is the proper way for them to be treated. The wilful perverse are not persons that fail to do the right thing: they are persons who have compulsions which force them to do the opposite of the right thing. This trait appears in childhood and lasts a lifetime in the psychopathic, but in ordinary persons it appears and disappears in childhood. An example of the wilful perverse was a patient who had no children of her own but who made a very complete and embroidered layette for her sister's expected child. When the telegram came saying that the baby had been born she threw all these exquisite articles of clothing into the toilet and flushed it. Still more serious cases of wilful perverse are women who kill their own children. Less serious are persons who talk themselves out of their jobs.

Cruelty may show itself in either of two forms, *sadism* or *masochism*. The sadist is a person who inflicts cruelty upon others and gets the same degree of thrill that a normal person gets when beneficial to others. The masochist is a person who desires to receive the thrill of pain from others (or from himself and then is called a flagellist), which compares to what the normal person enjoys when he receives tenderness and benefits from others or is tender to himself. Both sadism and masochism are intertwined with sexualism and particularly with masturbation.

*Pyromaniacs*. Fire bugs have a compulsion to visit fires. In the normal person there are always mixed attitudes toward fires: one is awe of its grandeur, another is fear of its power, another is apprehension that the fire loss may hurt the individual himself. When this risk is absent then the excitement persists and appeals. Adding up these and all other attitudes there is normally an aversion to destructive fire. In typical psychopaths the emphasis is placed on the thought which is a minority thought in the average mind: the psychopathic pyromaniac continues to have no aversion

but has a desire for fire, to see fires even if he must start them himself.

Most children pass through a phase of being excited about fires and exploring the starting of them. There is one standard remedy, and that is a severe whipping after the first time the individual has been caught starting a fire. The biological application is best because the fire has so many effects on the body, thrilling the nervous system in so many ways. A generalization may be made here, namely that whipping until the pain of the occasion is greater than the physical enjoyment has a place in penology; whipping should be reserved for those offenses which have a great physical component or factor. In the average non-psychopathic persons, because of good inheritance, the tendency to be normal is three times as great as the tendency to be deviated. In all persons the setting of fire followed by a whipping suffices to have that person take a normal attitude toward fires for the rest of his life. The psychopathic person needs to have the benefit of whipping, but if he can not take a normal attitude thereafter, then he should be incarcerated as a socially dangerous psychopath. Let me make myself clear. Though a boy or girl has set several fires there is in that fact no indication that the child is psychopathic, but if he has set several fires after having been thoroughly whipped it is an indication that he is psychopathic.

The commercial criminal arsonist is not a psychopath; he is a normal who has become depraved. Loss of profit is the way to handle such a case. That is, if he was paid \$500.00 for setting a fire and the fire does \$25,000.00 worth of damage he should serve time until he has worked out a \$25,000.00 fine.

The *sex perverse* psychopath is constitutionally unwilling to give sex satisfaction to his partner or her partner even if he has to forego thereby normal sex satisfaction to himself or herself.

It is hardly fair to so label the exhibitionist or the homosexual, for there is no selfishness in their conduct.

The exhibitionist as a rule is either in his first or second childhood. There is every gradation in form of exhibitionism from the socially tolerated beauty contest (cf. the Easter parade) to what is socially offensive. Immaturity or decadent maturity of mind is associated with growing maturity or decadence of body. The horrid sex exhibitionist is incurable until time has matured him or has rendered him more senile.

Homosexuality is definitely an immaturity or an arrest at an

immature level of development. It is essentially cowardly. Many normal persons have been exposed to homosexuality but have outgrown it or have passed it over. The true homosexual was either suggestible at the time of the experience which arrested the psychological development of the sex instinct or the individual is psychopathic.

The correct attitude for society to take is to be tolerant of all sexuality which could or might lead to the creation of children in their own permanent homes and to be intolerant of all other forms, especially when they are or could be hurtful, with the exception that society should be indifferent to the sexual life of couples past the child-bearing age provided their life is a carrying on of what had been normal.

The psychopathic *incompatible personality* is generally incompatible. He can not get along with others, and consequently others can not get along with him. He may be a common scold type. He is more than pessimistic: he is fault-finding.

The psychologists say that over sixty per cent of the people tend to say "Yes" or to agree to all neutral questions which might be answered "Yes" or "No," provided the question is phrased in positive terms. For example, a good trial lawyer in selecting a jury in a personal injury case if he represents the plaintiff should ask, "You know that there are a lot of careless drivers, don't you?" whereas if he represented the defending insurance company he should ask the prospective jurymen, "You know a lot of careful drivers, do you not?" The tendency of normal persons is to say "Yes" to each of these questions although, of course, there is a minority reservation in their mind which may not be very sharply crystallized.

This is not so with the incompatible; their mind dwells on the exception rather than on the generalization. Long engagements prevent divorces. Especially in these incompatibles long engagements prevent marriages and hence prevent divorces. No normal, sane person could spend a married lifetime tied to an incompatible.

These incompatibles frequently are so "acid" and "bitter," as we call them, that their health is poor. Hippocrates knew nothing of litmus paper, but he knew something of acid and bitter dispositions and he was not totally wrong when he said they had alterations of body fluids which he called humors. We doctors hate to have these non-cooperative fault-finders for patients because they are so predisposed to complications. Perhaps nature

is right in selecting suicide-by-degrees for them: they are sickened by their own dispositions.

The *quarrelsome*. There are many persons who are constitutionally quarrelsome. With them a desire for argument is greater than the desire for peace, and to that extent they are rather the reverse of normal persons. Almost every fight is a public fight as far as they are concerned. I am not speaking here of the Irish, nor am I speaking of the epileptics, for the epileptic persons are very quarrelsome. These quarrelsome persons provoke a fight if no fight is otherwise available. They are incurable as the normal persons who are called optimistic, pessimistic, futilists, etc. I would say that the quarrelsome are constitutionally myopic to harmony. They are not to be confused with the defensive, self-justifying quarrelsome persons nor with the explosive quarrelsome nor what the French call the reaction of exasperation. Cf. *supra*.

*Pathological liars, swindlers, and embezzlers* are infrequently met. Everyone knows the person who lies from fear because he is too weak to tell the truth: there is a common saying that "it takes two to tell a lie," namely the liar and the person he is afraid of. The lie in that case is self-defense and is normal, not pathologic. There are other lies which are still more common, namely to please oneself or to enhance one's standing. There are other normal lies, and they are as much a part of life as the lies that a mother tells to protect her children from their "come-uppance."

There is another type of misstatement, tales told for self-entertainment: The so-called "outlawed" daydream. Those are normal and fill a gap in the life of the individual. The risk of them is that some day they may be believed by the narrator, whereupon the person is insane and has delusions, e.g., the poor, hungry, unemployed boy who wistfully told himself once too often that he was Henry Ford's adopted son. When he had come to believe the delusion he made no work efforts for the rest of his life. (*Dementia Praecox*.)

Then there are racial differences and cultural differences in lying, e.g., the negro, Scandinavian, Armenian, etc.

Now pathological lying is quite distinctive from all these above mentioned. It gains the individual no profit—that is its characteristic. It has the thrill of masturbation.

The same is true with pathological stealing and swindling and embezzling, namely there is no profit to the individual. A con-

densed case history might illustrate this. A boy of seventeen, a pathological thief, went to one store downtown, selected an overcoat and charged it, took it to the railroad station, checked it and threw away the stub; then he went downtown to another store, got another overcoat by the same method, took it to his father's club and checked it in the cloak room; then he got another and another overcoat and left them in different places, but for the rest of the day and for the rest of the season he wore his old overcoat. There was no profit which accrued to him, but there was excitement; it was a peculiar thrill, it was less than an adventure, it was not bold for there was no risk, but particularly there was no profit.

A *kleptomaniac* is a person who steals not for profit and not for thrill but for self-satisfaction. Kleptomania is a masturbation sequel. Every kleptomaniac follows his own unique pattern, for example the man who stole Monday mornings and Monday noons, who stole from laundry lines, and who stole brassieres. He said he had the finest collection in the county. He had no notebook of good telephone numbers which a more or equally passionate man might have use for. Kleptomania is not to be associated with shop lifting. Shop lifting is for profit. I had a shop lifter patient who was quite depressed. She averaged from the time she began shop lifting until the present time, some twenty years later, an annual income from three to six thousand dollars, and that included the time she had spent in seventeen institutions. She came to me because she was depressed; she had rheumatism of the hands and her fingers were stiff; she was as much depressed as a pianist would be under similar circumstances. She was not kleptomaniac; she was a career thief.

Distinction should also be made here from hobby-riders, e.g., stamp collectors or rock gardeners: they are not kleptomaniacs. We probably are all thieves when it comes to ideas: only the exceptional will give footnotes citing the author whence he got his ideas. Outstanding lawyers are exceptional persons.

The psychology of *gambling* has been studied; when a person gambles away his surplus it is one thing but when he gambles away his so-called "bread and butter" money or rent money it is abnormal. The psychopathy is clearly shown in the fallacy of deviated or phantasy thinking. An illustration from dice could be paralleled by the reader audience with illustrations from horse racing etc. "Seven come eleven, the baby needs a new pair of shoes." Analyzed, because the baby needs a new pair of shoes, seven is more apt to

come than otherwise. Seven is more apt to come than eleven because the baby must have a new pair of shoes. The stronger the wish the more likely that seven will come, is a fallacy. Wishing has no way of deviating momentum, gravity, and friction. Wishing in a grandstand that a certain horse would run faster is not going to lend strength to his legs running out on the track. Hard wishing does not affect equine physiology. When a person thinks so fallaciously he indulges in another fallacy, namely, that it is legitimate and proper for him to be crooked to win his bet. This loss of perspective leads to sorry complications, alcohol, and substandard and inferior complexes. The woman gambler at a "booky dump" gets gonorrhoea from her negro chauffeur, neglects her home, in fact loses the ability to appreciate the ordinary pleasures and activities in life and shirks her duties and obligations. I would prefer that such persons, the victims of professional gamblers, be called "Gamblees" instead of the flattering term, "Gamblers." The gamblers themselves are great "gamblees" and have deteriorated until they think it is legitimate to be protectors of other career criminals. Where gambling flourishes crime flourishes. Police departments are not so efficient as fire departments are in putting out their smoldering fires.

It should be understood that the chronic gambler becomes psychopathic from gambling and is not necessarily constitutionally psychopathic. It is an acquired psychopathy but is nevertheless permanent. He no more can be made into a normal person than can a man who is crippled and has lost a leg or a person who has swallowed lye and has scar tissues of the throat be made into a healthy person again.

*Cranks.* These psychopaths are hard to define. It may be said that they put great emphasis on things which most people regard as relatively unimportant. The trouble with them is that they do not have any private opinions; they publicize their opinions and bother the rest of the world with concomitant duty to listen. It is very peculiar how our gentle world diagnoses these cranks so accurately and then politely gives them ear. So often but not often enough these cranks become hermits—it is best that they be allowed to remain as such. A visiting nurse recently encountered a hermit living with some relatives; for the last three years he had been in bed with his clothes on and without changing his clothes or having the bed made fresh. She "dug him out"—he died in three weeks. I



do not know the scientific moral if there is such a thing as a scientific moral.

Cranks are addicted to proposing either: "There ought to be a law against," or "There ought to be a law to *make* 'em do it!" Or what is worse these cranks if in administrative offices or positions may 'make a law by edict.' They crankily believe that their ideas should be impinged and inflicted onto everyone. Juries pay less attention to crank laws than most lawyers, especially prosecutors and judges, do.

*Degenerates.* There is an unfortunate condition in that the popular meaning of the word 'degenerate' and the scientific meaning of the word are not at all related. Scientifically, a degenerate is a person who is of poor stock, growing worse with each generation or as tissues degenerate from alcoholism or cancer. We have seen flowers go to seed and become puny and unable to survive well in a world of neglect. Well, so family trees can degenerate. A degenerate truly is a poorly born person unable to transmit even his limited degree of mortality. This handicap usually is in the biological realm but may be in the mental or emotional. The pathology in a degenerate is not in any one realm but usually shows in sexual inferiority and in social inferiority and in a mixture of these two inferiorities.

The word 'moron' scientifically means borderline feeble-minded, but popularly it means a person who makes public, sneaking, sex thrusts. These sex offenders are commonly also called degenerates. There is some degeneration in fact in many such cases, but the generalization is apt to be misleading. Many of these morons are cowards: it takes a lot of courage for a young man to bring himself to a state of mind of burdening himself with a future home by proposing marriage to some girl. In lieu of this normal courage there is apt to be furtiveness and later a bold cruelty.

The *bloody-handed killer*, that is, the person who gets blood on his hands from the killing and murdering which he does, is one hundred per cent inevitably a recidivist. The world rather senses this: almost always the juries will inflict the maximum penalty on the bloody-handed killers who come before them. There is a compulsion to repeat the thrill of bloody murder, and this thrill is so great that the person's inhibitions are inadequate. To that extent he is constitutionally psychopathic or has become an acquired psychopath.

*Vagabonds* are constitutional psychopaths. However, vagabonds

should be differentiated from the restless youths who are truant and later bum around awhile. Vagabonds also should be differentiated from the wandering, deteriorated, demented praecox, or alcoholic deteriorated bum. A true vagabond is neither very masculine nor feminine, and the girl vagabond often wears man's clothing. A true vagabond seems to be more restless than ambitious, more passive than demented. For some reason, recognized but not understood, vagabonds travel a rather small orbit. For example, they spend their lives in Grand Rapids, South Bend, and Chicago, making the rounds of those cities in their neighborhood rather endlessly. It must be recognized that there are some persons of means who are also restless: they are the so-called trailer camp gypsies and they are not psychopathic.

#### *Discussion*

There is nothing in this effort to classify psychopathic personalities which should be personal to any auditor or reader. Restated, the ordinary person must not look to find anything about himself in this wing of the museum of psychopathology. There are times when normal people have queer behavior, and that is one of the characteristics of normality. Another point which should be borne in mind is that there have never been two persons who have been identical, and everyone is indeed very unique. I would say more than that, namely that no one individual is exactly identical with himself at other times and under other circumstances. I must say, however, that even excluding mistakes normal persons are predictable.

In the differential diagnoses of psychopathic inferiority from other conditions there must be explained several allied states. One is the true *inferior*. These are persons inferiorly born with inferior biologic endowment; these are cases of C.I. (cf. supra). Another condition is *organ and system inferiority*. Nature does not produce persons as well balanced in every characteristic and as well enduring in all characteristics as the one-horse shay. We all have some parts in our bodies which are inferior to the rest. This inferiority usually runs in families. One person or family may have weak heart, another weak eyes, another weak digestion as the inferior structure and inferior function. That does not imply that there is psychopathic inferiority.

The *inferiority complex* is not psychopathic inferiority: it is an unwarranted under-selfevaluation. The inferiority complex

is from a sense of shame plus a specific comparison. If a child is told, "You ought to be ashamed of yourself for having such dirty hands! Why don't you keep your hands clean like little Marie from Kansas City?", then and there an inferiority complex is born.

Many sicknesses are partial and are painless and lead to general weakness, lack of initiative, lack of endurance. Such persons do not measure up to others who are healthy; they and others know it. These are not constitutionally psychopathic personalities. *Asthenic* persons are weary and may be emotional and can not adapt to lives of others or to the speed of life as it goes on.

*Immature personalities* often are based upon internal or endocrine gland dysfunctions. Immaturity does not constitute psychopathic personality: it constitutes immature personality. No person is fully mature: no person is well balanced in maturity. We are all annoyed at the immaturity in ourselves and in others. Psychopathic inferiority or psychopathic personalities are almost always constitutional, and that means not acquired, not achieved, and not inflicted. Every personality has from before birth certain tendencies toward strength and others toward beauty, and they are intermingled; we all have certain tendencies toward health in some lines and others toward disease in other component parts of our makeup.

The course of psychopathy is constant: that means that under the same circumstances the individual will react psychopathically, and nothing more or less should be expected of him. On the whole that is rather gloomy. This seems hard to believe. Possibly one of the reasons why it is so is that individuals who have always been of certain makeups and without any change do not realize that there is anything about them which differs from the expected. They regard other persons as "different," e.g. as insufficiently aggressive or too placid, etc., etc. Therefore they have no feeling nor desire to change or to correct in themselves what the vast majority of persons call deviations from the accepted norm. For example, the constitutionally quarrelsome think that quarreling is natural and so he continues to quarrel. But a person who realizes in himself a change, that he is getting quarrelsome and irritable or getting gray or getting too soft or too fat or too thin or has too much distress after meals which he did not use to have, will make an effort to invoke a change, and in his case his prognosis is not necessarily bad for it might be a changeable, reversible condition. The prognosis therefore in all psychopaths is that they will always

be the same as they always have been and that nothing can be done about it. Certainly psychopaths should not be regarded as wilfully psychopathic any more than a thick-necked, heavy person would be regarded as wilfully short instead of tall. He is what he is, whether we know the reasons or not.

The treatment, then, is to remove pain: if possible remove the pain from the individual, but if necessary remove pain or burden or menace from the community by removing him.

There is an *opposite condition* to psychopathy. There are *aristocrats*: these are persons who have been successful in adapting themselves to their benefit. There is another condition also, the *patricians*. Patricians are inherited thoroughbreds: they even have certain facial characteristics. They are never propositioned: never is a shady proposition brought to them, for it is generally known that they do not and will not make mistakes. I find that these patricians do not do much of anything. They are leaders, not fighters; they are only conservative and ethical leaders.

Nature has little approval for them and has little for the psychopaths, but prefers the rugged middle group as long as personally and socially they "do not hurt" themselves or others and remain rugged.

#### CONCLUSIONS

A small but obnoxious per cent of the population may be diagnosed and regarded as cases of Constitutional Psychopathic InferiORITY or of Psychopathic Personality. Their maladaptation socially is perpetual and is to be expected as unmodifiable. Legally, therefore, it is of importance for all persons in authority, especially the legal profession and its assistants and associates, to know something about the types of psychopathy and the characteristics of these non-insane, non-sane deviates.

An effort has been made to divide them into many groups rather than into a few large categories.