

IN *The Golden Age* for May 27 (No. 305) is an article by A. J. West, of Denmark, on "Eugenics", in which he defends a part of the eugenic program on the ground of necessity, the plea that has always served tyrants in abusing their subjects and robbing them of their rights and liberties. He compares enforced eugenics to the isolation of a case of so-called infectious disease which we submit to, "not because we enjoy it, but for the good of others."

This is an apt comparison. We submit to quarantine, not for the good of others, but because superstition, brought down to us from remote antiquity, tells us that there are contagious diseases that we can "catch" from another. We will submit to compulsory eugenics for the same reason: because ignorance, born before Mendel and Weissman, before Morgan and Bateson, leads us to believe that there are hereditary diseases.

Mr. West quotes 'statistics', which recalls Carlyle's exclamation that there are three kinds of lies. Statistics may be quoted on both sides of the matter, and both groups will be equally impressive. But statistics give effects, not causes.

"Eugenics" may mean "well-born"; but then, "democracy" means "government by the people". We should not allow ourselves to be hypnotized by the meaning of a word. Let us look back of the scenes and see what we can find there. When this is done, we find a group of medical men seeking to increase their incomes by compelling the public to submit to their fads and damaging practices. The eugenic program is only part of the broader plan to establish state medicine and set up a medical inquisition. Mr. West should not forget that the Dark Ages have not passed, and that if the medical priesthood is given the power it will be every bit as evil as the ecclesiastical priesthood.

Mr. West also quotes President Hoover's table of the number of defective children in this country. His use of this table in this article implies that he thinks that the eugenic program will remedy this condition. He does not advocate killing off these defective children, as Sparta did, and I assume that he would sterilize them by surgical methods, as the surgeons desire.

Imagine remedying malnutrition by sterilization! The nature cure remedy would be the eradication of poverty and would spread dietary knowledge. Both of these elements in our pre-

scription would aid in putting the doctors out of business, and this no eugenist is seeking. It is true that many doctors are opposed to eugenics. This opposition grows out of their fear that the program might be successful and that, while it would immediately increase their incomes, it would spoil their incomes in the future.

There are idealists in the camp of the eugenists who delight in painting a rosy future for the race as soon as the methods of the breeding-stable have been instituted in human society; but there were also idealists among the pre-war prohibitionists who did the same kind of painting. Idealism is a great thing, but it ought to be hitched to something besides enthusiasm and ignorance.

Mr. West mentions so-called "syphilis". Why does he not prove that there is such a disease? He simply accepts the existence of the protean monster on faith. Here in Texas, before a man can get a license to marry he has to present a certificate from a licensed physician that he is free from venereal and supposed hereditary diseases. As I write this letter there is a young lady under treatment, by a physician friend of mine, for gonorrhoea contracted a few days after her marriage to a man certified by a doctor to be free of venereal disease. The man paid his money to the profession, and this is what the law is for, but the woman has the disease just the same.

We do well to bear in mind that among the drugs, serums, vaccines, surgical operations, etc., of the medical profession, there is nothing of value save an occasional surgical procedure. Their whole so-called "science" grew out of Egyptian black magic and has not lost its demonologic character. By their own admissions, more deaths are caused by their practices every year in this country than from any other cause. We shall be in a sad plight when we place the welfare of the race in their hands.

Readers of *The Golden Age* know the unpleasant truth about the clergy; they should also know the truth about the medical profession, which sprang from the same demon-worshipping shamans (doctor-priests) as did the "doctors of divinity". Fudge! These readers know the truth about the politicians, who also descended from the same line of "children of God" or children of the Sun" as did the priests and medicine men. Hippocrates was the grandson of Apollo, and

Alexander the Great (great murderer) was the "Son of Zeus".

Medicine originated in demonology and spent its time until the last century and a half trying to exorcise demons. During the past half century it has tried to exorcise germs. Its methods are the same in both efforts at exorcism, and instead of injuring the demon or the germ, the injury is often to the patient.

We ought to confine the whole eugenic scheme to the Methodist "hell" and leave it there in torment forever and forever. If we do not, it will sooner or later be used against the common peo-

ple in this country to maintain the *status quo* for the benefit of the little tin gods on quality hill. It is about time we awake from our nightmare of anti-naturalism and cease efforts to build a satisfactory and enduring world system on artificial and anti-natural principles.

For instance, the flapper who does nothing more than remove the grease from her nose has to remove the grease several times a day every day. She is not improving on nature by her cosmetic foolishness. She is only kidding her own half-conscious self. A return to nature would mean the removal of the causes of greasy noses.

### Cuba's Debt to Mrs. Ryder

**A**N AMERICAN military order, still in effect, forbids bullfights in Cuba. For years attempts were made to renew them. Every time it was tried an American woman who knew of the law, and who made Cuba her home, appeared

in the ring single-handed and in the name of the law demanded that the fight be stopped. She finally won out, and today Cuba honors her memory. She died in April of this year, loved and respected. It shows what a woman can do.

### Odd Fellow and Masonic Prayers

**T**HE Grand Lodge of Odd Fellows for Massachusetts, having asked the Sovereign Grand Lodge of the World, "Is it lawful for a chaplain to commence and finish his prayer in the name of Christ?" received the following answer, which is chiefly remarkable because most ministers are members of lodges and because every minister familiar with the Bible knows that in prayer to Jehovah God "There is none other name under heaven given among men" and "Whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it".—Acts 4: 12; John 14: 13, 14.

Our Order only requires a belief in the existence of the Supreme Being as a qualification for membership, and has no affinity with any religious sect or system of faith; hence everything savoring of sectarianism is not to be tolerated. The words 'system or sect' do not have reference merely to the sects within the pale of Christianity, but have a far broader significance and include all the religions of the world. In this sense Christianity is a sect; hence it is inexpedient, and I think *unlawful* to make prominent reference to it in lodge work. We have Jews, and may have Moham-

medans and others of non-christian sects within our Order, and the rule applies to them equally with members of the Christian faith.

A similar attitude toward prayer is maintained by the Masonic order. Thus the *Encyclopedia of Freemasonry* contains the statement:

Hutchinson and Oliver, I am constrained to believe, have fallen into great error in calling the Master Masons' degree a Christian Institution. If Masonry were simply a Christian Institution the Brahmin, the Moslem and the Buddhist could not conscientiously partake of its illumination, but its *universality* is its *boast*; in its language citizens of every nation may converse; at its altars all religions may kneel, and to its *creed* every faith may subscribe.

Despite this open admission that Masonry is not a Christian institution, the same book says of prayer:

Freemasonry is a religious institution, and hence its regulations inculcate the use of prayer as a proper tribute of gratitude to the beneficent Author of life.

The religion of masonry is nonsectarian. It admits men of every creed within its hospitable bosom. It is not Judaism, though there is nothing to offend the Jew.