

A GUINEA PIG REMEMBERS

by D.L. Cuddy, Ph.D.*

The new book, Educating for the New World Order by B. K. Eakman, describes the psychological testing which has been done on American public school students over the past quarter century, and I would like to recount my own experience as one of the early "guinea pigs." In 1963, the Carnegie Corporation gave \$75,000 toward the first year (\$225,000 over 3 years) of the North Carolina Governor's School, the first of its kind in the country, where Time (June 28, 1963) said "Four hundred of North Carolina's most brilliant and creative high school students have been brought together for an intensive eight-week (summer) study program."

On May 6, 1963, Prof. George Welsh of the Department of Psychology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill wrote to The Psychological Corporation of New York indicating that at the Governor's School "we are planning to administer an extensive test battery including measures of aptitude, interest, and personality." On May 10, Harold Seashore, director of the Corporation's Test Division, replied to Prof. Welsh and indicated that if he used their test, "we would want a set of the cards filed with us, so that we can accumulate information on groups like this over the years."

I have no way of knowing to what extent Prof. Welsh followed up on this, but it is interesting to note that The Psychological Corporation was founded in 1921 with Directors W.V. Bingham of the Carnegie Institute of Technology, J. McKeen Cattell as president of The Psychological Corporation, G. Stanley Hall of Clark University, Charles Judd of the University of Chicago, Lewis Terman of Stanford University, Edward Thorndike of Teachers College at Columbia University, James R. Angell as president of Yale University from 1921 to 1937, and others. Many of these Directors were the very psychologists who, along with John Dewey, gave us the disastrous "progressive" education that we have today. And in "The Psychological Corporation" (The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, November 1923), J. McKeen Cattell writes that "the Corporation is not so much concerned with arranging specific contracts for work by it or under its auspices, as in promoting the extension of applied psychology....To get the best kind of people and to put them in the situations in which they will behave in the way best for themselves and for others, is more fundamental than any other enterprise of society. It is necessary to organize means by which this work can be accomplished....Psychology is concerned with the causes of conduct and its control."

Though I do not know to what extent, if any, Prof. Welsh continued to communicate with The

Psychological Corporation, I do know that he sent a memo to the Governor's School administrative staff indicating "we can collect detailed information (about family and so on) later from those in whom we are seriously interested (in attending the school)." In a monograph published about the first 2 years of the school, there is a description of an objective "to attain increased self-realization for the individuals," which uses words like those of Humanistic Psychology founder Abraham Maslow in his "hierarchy of needs." The monograph also described that there would be studies of man's beliefs and attitudes, the analysis of individual behavior (e.g., frustration, communality, conformity, philosophy, etc.), and an extensive battery of psychometric tests covering all the major areas of personality (e.g., value systems, emotional stability, etc.). Terman's Concept Mastery Test published by The Psychological Corporation was used (remember Lewis Terman was one of the original directors of the Psychological Corporation), as was the Allport-Vernon-Lindzey Study of Values test emphasizing key values such as "harmony" and religious "unity" (terms used by today's New Age Movement). Among 4 other tests administered was Gough's Adjective Check List where students would indicate whether they would describe themselves as cooperative or cruel or honest or despondent, etc. We were also given the Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory (The MMPI, according to Prof. Welsh and E. Earl Baughman as co-authors of Personality: A Behavioral Science, had as its original purpose in the late 1930s and early 1940s "to afford an objective assessment of some of the major personality characteristics related to psychiatric disability") published by The Psychological Corporation. In this latter test, we were asked to respond "true" or "false" to 771 statements, among which were the following 10:

- 1) I believe in the worth of humanity, but not in God.
- 2) We cannot know for sure whether or not there is a God.
- 3) One of the most important things children should learn is when to disobey authorities.
- 4) The best philosophy is to eat, drink, and be merry, for tomorrow we die.
- 5) In illegitimate pregnancies abortion is in many cases the most reasonable alternative.
- 6) Divorce is often justified.
- 7) The findings of science many some day show that many of our most cherished beliefs are wrong.
- 8) Most of our social problems could be solved if we could somehow get rid of the immoral, crooked, and feeble-minded people.
- 9) Organized religion, while sincere and constructive in its aims, is really an obstacle to human progress.
- 10) The only meaning to existence is the one which man gives himself.

There was another statement on this test, "Nowadays more and more people are prying into

matters that should remain personal and private," to which I might well have answered, "Yes, like those administering this test," because there was a place on the test for one to write his or her own name.

This is what happened to students at the highest end of the intelligence scale, but what about those at the lowest end? In the late 1970s, Dr. Harmon Smith of Duke University said that North Carolina had one of the most thorough involuntary sterilization programs in the nation. This is about the time that the Eugenics Board of North Carolina was disbanded. It was begun in 1933 when the General Assembly enacted a sterilization law (eventually about 38 states had such laws). Under this law, sterilizations were performed supposedly "for the public good." Most, but not all, of those sterilized were of an I.Q. under 70. In Moya Woodside's Sterilization in North Carolina (1950), it states: "The duty to institute sterilization proceedings is mandatory on 'the responsible head of any State penal or charitable institution,' (In practice, this means the correctional schools, county homes, and mental institutions.) or on the county superintendent of public welfare.... The law appears to have a compulsory character, since it is made the duty of institution or welfare superintendents to bring forward suitable cases for sterilization; and sworn consent is not required from the individual if he or she is a minor or inmate of a state mental institution." Under the law, the Eugenics Board had jurisdiction in cases of "feeble-mindedness," which should be remembered when one refers to statement number 8 above in the test given to Governor's School students.

Part of the eugenic sterilization movement was the Human Betterment League of North Carolina founded in 1945. Director and charter member of the League was Alice Shelton Gray, who had worked with the infamous Planned Parenthood founder Margaret Sanger. Alice Gray had a significant role in rearing Gordon Gray, son of Alice's cousin Bowman Gray, founder of the Bowman Gray Medical School in Winston-Salem. In 1940-41, C. Nash Herndon was a Carnegie Fellow there, and later worked with Alice Gray in the eugenic sterilization effort before succeeding her for quite a few years as Director of the Human Betterment League beginning in 1948. He was President of the American Eugenics Society from 1952 to 1955. This was during the same period that Gordon Gray was President of the Greater University of North Carolina (1950-1955) after being Secretary of the Army in 1949. While head of UNC, Gordon Gray (whose college degree was in psychology) was appointed by President Truman to be Director of the Psychological Strategy Board in Washington, D.C., in 1951. Gordon Gray was later made President Eisenhower's Special Assistant for National Security Affairs. He was also a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and a Democrat, though one of his sons, Boyden Gray, became a Republican in 1977 (after serving as a law clerk for Supreme Court Justice Earl Warren) and was counsel and Deputy Chief-of-Staff for Vice President George Bush for

8 years (and has been chief counsel for President Bush at the White House). It is not known to what extent Boyden Gray shares the eugenic philosophy of Alice Gray, or to what extent he disagrees with it, but it is interesting to note the high level of government contacts the Gray family has had over the years with both Democrats and Republicans.

On the national level, eugenics was at least part of one plan for the future of the United States. In August 1963, high-ranking officials in the Kennedy administration appointed a secret commission (called the Special Study Group) "to determine the nature of the problems that would confront the United States if and when a condition of 'permanent peace' should arrive, and to draft a program for dealing with this contingency." The work of the commission was later described in Report From Iron Mountain on the Possibility and Desirability of Peace (1967), which describes Iron Mountain, New York, as "an underground nuclear hideout for hundreds of large American corporations... such firms as Standard Oil of New Jersey, Manufactures Hanover Trust, and Shell." The commission concluded that "Lasting peace... would almost certainly not be in the best interests of a stable society.... War fills certain functions essential to the stability of our society; until other ways of filling them are developed, the war system must be maintained.... The following substitute institutions, among others, have been proposed for consideration as replacements for the nonmilitary functions of war---an omnipresent, virtually omnipotent police force,... massive global environmental pollution, fictitious alternate enemies,... new religions or other mythologies,... and a comprehensive program of applied eugenics...."

But eugenics was only the tip of the iceberg, because what was occurring was the development of a comprehensive population control strategy. Do you think the breakup of the family just happened to have occurred? In Many Missions (1991), C. X. Larrabee writes that the Research Triangle Institute of North Carolina and the Carolina Population Center "took the position that effective population control relies on aspects of national development that offer greater incentives to have fewer children, incentives such as... a bigger role for women in the workplace. It's no accident that 'Integrated Population and Development Planning' was the name of a decade long (1980-1988) RTI/USAID project that provided technical assistance on policy analysis and planning to 50 countries in all regions of the developing world." Larrabee's book also indicates that concerning education, RTI not only conducted and administered the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) from 1969 to 1983, but also that "RTI's association began in 1966, not 1969, and assessment's name then wasn't NAEP but ECAPE. This Exploratory Committee on Assessing the Progress of Education was already being financed by the Carnegie Corporation and Ford Foundation."

* D. L. Cuddy, Ph.D., was a Senior Associate with the U.S. Department of Education (1982-1988).