

Sterilizations This Year Increasing

Over 100 Operations Reported During First Half of Year

If eugenic sterilizations for the last six months of 1938 keep pace with those reported up to June 30, this year bids fair to surpass 1935, when feeble-minded and mentally diseased persons in North Carolina undergoing operation reached a nine-year high of 178.

Reports reaching R. Eugene Brown, secretary of the North Carolina Eugenics Board, showed that 102 operations performed for the first half of 1938, twenty-six under the total for the entire twelve-month period of 1937.

All but five of the 128 sterilization operations undergone by the feeble-minded and mentally-diseased of the State last year were consent cases in which the parents, guardians, or next of kin of the patient gave written consent to the procedure.

Members of the State Board as it is at present constituted are Mrs. W. T. Bost, commissioner of public welfare; Dr. Carl V. Reynolds, secretary to the State Board of Health; Dr. J. V. Ashby, superintendent of the State Hospital in Raleigh; Harry McMullan, attorney general, and Dr. F. M. Register, superintendent of the Caswell Training School at Kinston.

From 1929 through 1937, a total of 518 sterilizations have been performed, 246 of this number having been persons between the ages of 10 to 19, and 174 being 20 to 29 years old. The total is divided, 86 males and 432 females.

Two hundred and ninety-four of the nine-year total of 518 cases were

inmates of a State institution, 194 being private cases, while 30 have been inmates of a county institution at the time of the operation.

Ninety-eight of the total cases have been epileptics, 118 insane persons, while the majority of the cases have been feeble-minded with 302 listed in this class up to the first of the year.

North Carolina first went into the practice of sterilization of its mental defectives in 1929, following part of the procedure of other states, some of which adopted the practice as far back as 1909. In February 1933, the 1929 act was held unconstitutional by the State Supreme Court.

While the 1919 General Assembly passed an act intended to serve as a sterilization measure, so far as can be ascertained no operations were performed under its provisions.

The State Board is now operating under the act of the 1938 legislature as amended during the two succeeding sessions, with right of appeal to the courts established under the new procedure.

Under the N. C. law it is the duty of the superintendents of Public Welfare and the heads of public charitable and penal institutions to petition the Eugenics Board for sterilization of any mentally diseased, epileptic, or feeble-minded person when in the opinion of such official: It is to the best interest of the mental, moral, or physical improvement of the patient.

For Public Good
The patient would be likely to procreate a child having the same mental deficiency.

When requested in writing by the guardian, parent or next of kin of the patient to have the operation performed.

Complete medical and social histories of the patient are required to be filed with the Eugenics Board before

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BEST OF THE WEST



Pat O'Brien, Priscilla Lane and Dick Powell head the cast of "Cowboy from Brooklyn," hilarious new musical comedy at the Taylor Theatre, Edenton, today (Thursday) and Friday.

fore hearing is held on the case.

Whenever possible in the North Carolina procedure, and it has been true in the vast majority of the operations to date, desexing of the patient is avoided since modern methods of preventing procreation without removal of any organ or glands of the body is the practice followed.

TYNER

Misses Anna Mae and Mamie Hollowell, Rev. R. T. Mallory, Mr. and Mrs. C. B. White and daughter were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. T. White and daughters on Wednesday evening.

Misses Anna Mae and Mamie Hollowell entertained a few of their friends at a picnic at Holleys Wharf Friday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Coffield and children, of Edenton, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. T. White Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Hollowell, of Belcross, spent Sunday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Hollowell.

Little Miss Novella White spent Saturday with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. J. T. White.

Misses Vivian Wiggins, Lillian and Dorothy Privott spent Saturday night and Sunday with Novella White.

Mrs. J. T. White, Misses Beulah and Camilla White, Anna Mae and Mamie Hollowell spent Monday visiting friends at Colerain and Harrellsville.

LEAVE FOR CANADA

Mr. and Mrs. Fulton Driggs and son, Bobby, left recently for a two months vacation in Canada. They will visit Niagara Falls while away.

CROSS ROADS

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Perry had as their guests Sunday Mr. and Mrs. B. M. Hollowell, Jr., and children.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Hoffer and children, of Gates County, spent Sunday afternoon with Mrs. Hoffer's parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Craft.

Misses Esther, Helen and Marguerite Etta Evans spent the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. Frances Lindley, at Guilford. They attended the wedding of Miss Mary Motsinger and Raymond Evans, of Greensboro on Saturday afternoon. Miss Helen Evans played for the wedding, and Miss Marguerite Etta Evans sang.

Justin Tune and Everett Faulkner, of Manteo, spent Monday and Monday night with Misses Willietta, Esther and Helen Evans.

Mr. and Mrs. E. N. Elliott spent Sunday afternoon and evening at Colerain with Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Perry.

Misses Orene Hollowell and Esther Cobb, and R. H. Hollowell and Bertram Hollowell attended The Lost Colony pageant at Fort Raleigh on Sunday night.

Mrs. J. G. White, of Center Hill, spent the week-end with Miss Willietta Evans.

Mrs. Drew Welch, who has been sick at the home of her mother, Mrs. R. C. Bunch, Sr., is much better and has returned to her home.

accompanied home by Mrs. Baber and children, who had spent a month here with her parents.

Miss Sarah Winborne left Tuesday for Wagram to visit her sister, Mrs. W. G. Shaw.

Mr. and Mrs. E. N. Elliott left Tuesday for Miami, Fla., to be away a couple of weeks.

Mrs. A. B. Hollowell and son, Asa, Jr., and Miss Esther Elliott, of Aulander, are staying at the E. N. Elliott home, while Mr. and Mrs. Elliott are in Florida.

Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Bush were the supper guests of Mrs. Lula Rountree, at Hobbsville, Sunday night.

Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Bush spent Tuesday in Norfolk, Va., and were accompanied home by their daughter, Miss Louise Bush.

Miss Evelyn Byrum visited Miss Estella Ward, at Center Hill, Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Tommie Griffin, of

Greensboro, visited Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Byrum on Sunday afternoon.

Miss Esther Cobb has returned to her home at Fremont, after a visit with Miss Orene Hollowell.

Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Hollowell and son, Mrs. Bill Bunch, Mr. and Mrs. Jennings Bunch visited Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Leary Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. J. C. Leary, Mrs. Wilbur Hollowell and daughter were guests of Mrs. C. J. Hollowell on Saturday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Hollowell, of Greenhall, visited Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Hollowell Sunday afternoon.

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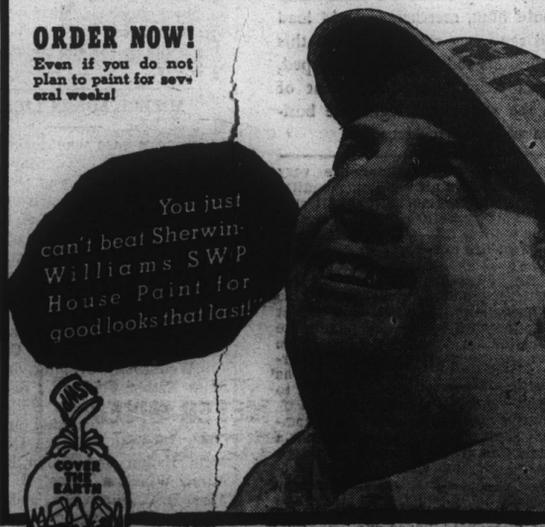
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