ETHNIC CENSUS IN MINNEAPOLIS

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Two and a half years ago an investigation was started in Minneapolis with the object of preparing an ethnic map of the city. Just short of 40,000 blanks have been filled out from individual canvass giving the ethnic composition of the 40,000 families studied; that is, we learned whether both husband and wife are, say, pure Irish, one Norwegian and the other German, or whether the amalgamation process has gone so far that the person does not know his ethnic composition, and as a result calls himself an "American." The blanks also show whether husband and wife are foreign-born or native American-born, and, if the latter, what generation of American birth the person is. The number of unmarried children in the family is also shown.

Some of these blanks have been worked over to see what they mean in the process of ethnic amalgamation in America. Some facts which are new to us, I believe, have already been obtained, and others are prophesied from the investigation in its present stage.

The term "race" we cannot wisely use here, so I use the word "people" for such groups of persons as are known by the name of Swede, Irish, Pole, etc. That such separate groups of peoples, mixed more or less as we know them to be, are yet sufficiently pure so that marriages within a people are easily distinguishable from mixed marriages between two such peoples is readily seen by their relative fecundity.

FORCES OF ETHNIC COHESION AND AMALGAMATION

Of the slightly less than 80,000 heads of families whom we have under consideration, not one pure-blood individual of the fourth generation American birth has been found who has married with another pure-blood person of his own people, no matter what the generation of this second individual may have been. In other
words, the force of ethnic cohesion has broken down completely after the third generation of American birth, and the amalgamation process is then given full rein. This is true of the 80,000 heads of families coming originally from 37 distinctive peoples whom our investigation has found in Minneapolis; and, strange as it may seem, it is as true of the Jew as of the others. We have found 713 pure Jew families in the city.

It is an ethnic law today in Minneapolis that among the varied white citizens "ethnic cohesion practically ceases after the third generation of American birth." It is quite probable this ethnic law will be found to be more than local. In large population centers, like New York City, Chicago, etc., in which groups of the same peoples to the number 100,000 or more are found congregated closely together perpetuating many of their own unique phases of life, ethnic cohesion will persist longer than in some less congested areas.

Only a few separate peoples have been worked over as yet for the facts showing their tendency toward ethnic cohesion and amalgamation, but the Irish, Scotch, Norwegian, Swede, and Welsh have been so studied. We have 4,372 pure-blood Irish heads of families; 2,120 of these Irish have married other pure Irish; the others, 2,252 in number, have married persons other than pure Irish. In the form of an equation I can perhaps well present the relative forces of ethnic cohesion and amalgamation among the five peoples above named. Let us say that "the force of ethnic cohesion is to the force of ethnic amalgamation as 100 is to x."

The specific application of this law in the case of the Irish is as follows: 2,120:2,252::100:x, while the completed problem becomes: 2,120:2,252::100:106.2. The completed problem for the Scotch becomes: 288:902::100:245.1; for the Norwegian it becomes: 6,046:2,249::100:37.03; for the Swede it becomes: 9,722:2,087::100:21.4; for the Welsh it becomes: 154:245::100:159.

Glancing at these "x" quantities, we see that in the case of the Irish, Scotch, and Welsh the force of ethnic cohesion has more than half given way to that of amalgamation, and in the case of the Scotch it has given way precipitately, while with the Norwegian
and Swede the force of cohesion is respectively about 2½ times and 4½ times as strong as the force of amalgamation. However, the Scandinavians are relatively recent American citizens, while the Irish, Welsh, and Scotch have been in America in comparatively large numbers since colonial times. Another set of facts points directly to the conclusion that the Scandinavian will in a reasonable length of time be greatly dominated by the force of amalgamation. The Irish in marriage have made 67 ethnic combinations other than Irish; the Scotch have made only 46 different ethnic combinations; the Welsh have made only 31 different ethnic combinations; while in the case of the two Scandinavian peoples we find a revelation of the force of ethnic amalgamation, since the Norwegians have made in marriage 74 different ethnic combinations, and the Swedes have made 60.

The Teutonic and Celtic peoples are very generally amalgamating, as we all know. In addition we find such ethnic combinations as Spanish + English, Spanish + Canadian, Spanish + Indian, Spanish + Welsh, Finn + French, Finn + Chinese, Italian + Russian, Bohemian + Norwegian, Roumanian Jew + Norwegian, German Jew + Welsh, and Jewish woman + Scotch man, etc. In spite of this extensive process of amalgamation unifying not only the various peoples of northern Europe but also those of practically all of Europe, yet there are apparently strong hereditary factors the identity of which the amalgamating process does not always destroy. The force of ethnic cohesion is a product of similar hereditary and cultural factors, together with consciously or unconsciously idealized physical factors—which we will not here consider. Further, these factors seem commonly to encrust one with a strong or weak prejudice against other peoples. In the process of developing amalgamation it seems that the unique and historic hereditary factors, contributing to ethnic cohesion, are the most persistent and are the last to break down; but the force of cohesion loosens its hold and the force of amalgamation takes firmer hold in direct proportion as ethnic prejudice weakens between the two peoples and as the cultural factors become mutually common. But different hereditary factors persist for generations in different proportions in the several offspring of the same parents, and
probably (as we are accumulating evidence to show) they frequently persist long afterward as dual hereditary factors in the same individual. As I see it, then, long after the force of ethnic cohesion has ceased to operate, i.e., after ethnic prejudice is dead, even after direct trace of one's ethnic descent is lost, there is frequently a hereditary residue remaining with the individual among an otherwise amalgamated people—which residue has lasted as hereditary factors from one or other or both of the original ancestral peoples before amalgamation began.

**FECUNDITY**

The pure-blood family is more fecund than the first generation of mixed blood. There are 60 different half-blood combinations ranging from 963 families of Norwegian+Swede down through the 20 families of American+Irish Canadian, and in only two of these half-breed combinations, namely, the Irish+French with 105 families, and the Pole+German with 26 families, is the average number of children per the half-blood family greater than the average of both the ethnic components, and in each of these two cases the increase is very slight. The figures for the Irish+French combination being 2.371, and 2.367 for the average of the two pure-bloods (Irish and French), and for the Pole+German combination the figures are 2.615 for the half-blood group, and 2.600 for the average of the two component pure-bloods (Pole and German).

Two peoples, the Irish and the Scandinavian, stand out prominently in the matter of influence of each on fecundity. The Irish people tend to increase the fecundity of the groups with which they amalgamate, while the Scandinavians, namely, Norwegian, Swede, and Dane, tend to decrease the fecundity of the groups with which they amalgamate.

The pure-blood Irish families, of which we have 1,060, have an average fecundity of 2.612 children. The 74 families composed of one pure-blood Irish person, while the other has Irish blood in combination, have the next highest fecundity, or an average of 2.486. The 2,252 families of one Irish person, the other being all other ethnic combinations—as Irish, German, French, Scandinavian,
etc.—have the next highest fecundity, or 2.039. Thus far we have seen the fecundity decreasing as the Irish blood has been gradually diluted. We at once see the power of the Scandinavian to decrease fecundity in the 1,995 families composed of one pure-blood Irish person, while the other is of all combinations except Scandinavian, because we find the fecundity increasing to 2.075. This fact that the Scandinavian decreases fecundity is seen more plainly, however, in the 257 families having one head pure Irish and the other Scandinavian, since the fecundity drops to an average of 1.762.

The pure-blood Norwegian families, of which we have 3,023, have an average fecundity of 2.471. The 2,249 families composed of one pure-blood Norwegian while the other is all combinations other than Norwegian have a lowered fecundity of 1.799. The 1,607 families composed of a Norwegian and some other Scandinavian have an increased fecundity of 2.047. The 1,142 families composed of one pure Norwegian head while the other is of all ethnic combinations other than Scandinavian have a still lower fecundity, or an average of 1.559. That the Irish increase the fecundity of these Norwegian families is clearly shown when we note the fecundity of 999 families composed of one pure Norwegian while the other is of blood other than Irish or Scandinavian, since the fecundity drops to an average of 1.524. That it is the Irish blood which increases the fecundity with the Norwegian is proved beyond dispute when we note the 143 half-breed families of Norwegian and Irish blood, the fecundity of which increases to an average of 1.804.

The potency of the Irish is seen again clearly when we study the Swedes in their various ethnic marriage relations. The 4,861 pure Swede families have the high fecundity of 2.532. The 2,087 families of all possible Swedish combinations have the relatively low fecundity of 1.801. There are 978 families composed each of a Swede and a Scandinavian other than Swede, thus eliminating all blood except the Scandinavian in the offspring, and the fecundity increases to 2.043, considerably higher than the average of 1.801 for the Swede and all other combinations. That the Scandinavian blood in combination with Scandinavian blood tends to prepotency as against other bloods, however, is clearly seen in the 1,072
families composed of one Swede and another of any blood except Scandinavian, where the fecundity is pulled down to 1.621. That the Irish are potent with the Swede is shown in the 150 families composed of one Swede and one Irish, where the fecundity rises to 1.666. That it is the Irish blood operating in combination with the Scandinavian, and Scandinavian blood backing up the potency of other Scandinavian blood, is seen conclusively when we note the 959 families composed of one Swede and another person other than Irish and Scandinavian, in which fecundity drops to 1.575.

The lifting power of the Irish and the pulling-down power of the Scandinavian is seen again when we consider the Scotch. There are 184 families of pure Scotch with an average fecundity of 2.233. There are 902 families composed of one Scotch and another person of any other combination, and they have a lowered fecundity of 1.789. There are 98 families composed of a Scotch and a Scandinavian having a lowered fecundity of 1.673. There are 158 families of one Scotch and one Irish with the increased fecundity of 2.145. This potency of the Irish is seen very markedly when contrasted with the families, only 8 in number, however, composed of one pure Scotch while the other individual is of Scotch and other blood, where the fecundity is only 1.875.

Again we see the same lifting power of the Irish, and the pulling-down power of the Scandinavian in contrast when we consider the Welsh. There are 77 families of pure Welsh with a fecundity of 1.623. There are 30 families of one Welsh and one Irish head with the remarkable increase in fecundity to 2.400. There are 18 families of one Welsh and one Scandinavian head with the low fecundity of 1.611. Contrary to all cases so far studied, the Welsh race is weaker in its pure state than in its half-breed states; not only do we find that in combination with the Irish the fecundity is increased marvelously, but in the 245 families of Welsh and all possible combinations, there results a fecundity of 1.751, or higher than that of the pure Welsh.

In the most conclusive manner the pulling-down power of the Scandinavian is exhibited in the two following sets of data: There is only one half-breed ethnic combination made with any one of the three Scandinavian peoples (Norwegian, Swede, and Dane),
in which the resulting fecundity is not less than that of each of the component ethnic elements. That exception is found in the 90 Norwegian+English families with an average fecundity of 1.977, as against 2.471 for the pure Norwegian families, and 1.929 for the pure English families. In fact, the pull-down of each of the three Scandinavian peoples seems entirely to kill the uplift of the Irish, because in the 120 Norwegian+Irish families, in the 110 Swede+Irish families, and the 22 Dane+Irish families, the fecundity is less than that of each of the component ethnic elements. At last the Irish have found a load, in the Scandinavian, which they cannot lift.

LAW OF FECUNDITY FOR CERTAIN PEOPLES

The Irish blood tends to increase fecundity and Scandinavian blood tends to decrease fecundity of other peoples in amalgamation.