

individuals have poor training and poor environment, as well as the handicap placed upon them by nature, we often find them reacting poorly to their environment.

In this particular case it would seem practical to consider two elements, first, the intellectual capacity does not appear to me to be as low as the public believe or as many of his actions would seem to indicate, altho I do recognize that his capacity is not that of the average individual. His reactions, therefore, are not entirely explained because of this lowered intellectual capacity. He has been known as a character for years, therefore it is well to consider him as a constitutional psychopath.

The symptoms he now manifests are very often noted in early Dementia Praecox reactions. Therefore I believe that as a result of his makeup and as a result of his poor adaptation to environment especially his present environment, that this man is beginning to show more pronounced peculiarities, which in time will totally unfit him and make it necessary for him to reside in a mental institution. However sometimes a bettering of environment will help these symptoms and ward off or prolong the evil day. Therefore, considering all the facts in this case it seems that one would be justified in trying to help this unfortunate man. There are two or three ways that perhaps this could be done.

First, maybe he could be made a trusty (I do not think he would run away). As you probably recognize he would be incapable of doing very much work, especially without supervision, so in making him a trusty it would only be for the purpose of treatment. In this respect it might be wise to tell him how trustworthy you consider him and how important you consider the trivial duties which might be thought up for him to perform.

Second, perhaps thru legal channels a parole could be had, as this man is not fundamentally dangerous and as there exists in the minds of many a feeling that perhaps he has already been punished enough for his misdeeds. The drawback to a parole and a serious one, is that I do not know and perhaps you do not know any one who would be responsible for him and I do not consider him capable of earning much of a living and even with the parole there are grave doubts as to his future mental state, altho as stated above it might indefinitely prolong the evil day.

The third, would be a commitment to the State Hospital for the Insane. Perhaps after all that would be a practical solution and yet his symptoms at this time are not sufficiently developed so that I could go on the witness stand and state without reservation, that he is a Dementia Praecox case, altho I do feel that he is mildly exhibiting such symptoms at this time.

Sincerely,

*Foster J. Curtis*

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