INTELLIGENCE AND NATIONALITY OF WISCONSIN SCHOOL CHILDREN*

From the Psychology Laboratory of The University of Wisconsin

RUTH BYRNS

To determine whether significant differences in mental capacity exist between racial and nationality groups is difficult because of certain disturbing factors which are difficult to control, to isolate, or to measure. Chief among these factors are differences in selection. in social and economic status, in educational and cultural experience. and in facility with the language of a test, where a verbal test is employed. It is because of these disturbing factors that studies of the differences in intelligence between ethnic groups show inconclusive and unsatisfactory results. An example of this is found in the inferences drawn from the wide differences between nationality groups shown by the intelligence tests used in the United States Army during the World War and the contradictory conclusions drawn from subsequent research. The material presented here is a study of natio-racial differences in mental ability with two of the disturbing factors-variation in education and in the ability to use language--definitely minimized. With these two factors practically eliminated it is significant to note that there is a considerable shift from the rankings of the nationalities determined by the psychological examinations in the United States Army.

The nationality of each of 133,289 pupils in Wisconsin high schools and the percentile ratings of these pupils on standardized intelligence tests are the data on which this study is based. The fact that all of these pupils have tenth- and twelfth-grade standing, and have completed approximately ten to twelve years of schooling, minimized the influence of educational differences and tends to eliminate the differences due to language difficulty. It is recognized that neither of these two factors is completely eliminated, however. Social and economic differences contribute as well as schooling to educational

^{*}Accepted for publication by Carl Murchison of the Editorial Board and received in the Editorial Office, August 29, 1935.

and cultural experiences. A number of the children undoubtedly were handicapped in their use of English because they came from homes where a foreign language was spoken.

The data are a part of information collected by the Wisconsin Cooperative Testing Committee under the general direction of V. A. C. Henmon. The entire group of 133,289 is composed of 23,165 high school seniors who were given the American Council Psychological Examination in December, 1931, 25,839 seniors and 25,812 sophomores who were given Form A of the Henmon-Nelson Test of Mental Ability in December, 1932, and 26,403 seniors and 32,070 sophomores who were given Form B of the Henmon-Nelson test in December, 1933. The nationality of each of these pupils was found by including this question on the information blank:

The psychological test scores were tabulated according to the natio-racial groups and the median and quartile points were found for each group. The groups were then arranged in order according to the size of the median. Thirty different nationalities were reported with frequency. Indians, Mexicans, Japanese, and Chinese were found so infrequently that they were classed in the miscellaneous group which also includes Turks, Armenians, Spanish, Portugese, and a large number of racial mixtures which were reported so infrequently as not to justify a separate heading.

Of the 133,289 pupils, 78,560 reported both parents of the same nationality and 49,145 reported that the two parents were not of the same nationality. Of this latter group 5516 reported three or more nationality strains. The number of students who did not report nationality was 5584. Excluding those tabulated under miscellaneous, 83 classifications were found fifty or more times.

The psychological test ratings of the 78,560 boys and girls of single natio-racial strains are listed in Table 1. The thirty groups are arranged according to the size of the medians and with the data grouped in decile divisions.

The wide range in the average mental ability of the different natio-racial groups is shown by the 30-point range in the medians given in Table 1. The high median of 60.40 for the large group of Jewish pupils and the low median of 30.36 for the large number

| Psychologics percentiles | al Jewish | Irish | Danish | Hun- garian | Dutch | Scotch | Ameri- can |
|-----------------------------|--------------|-------|--------|----------------|-------|--------|---------------|
| 90-100 | 248 | 396 | 116 | 44 | 92 | 35 | 1826 |
| 80-89 | 166 | 351 | 111 | 38 | 100 | 30 | 1804 |
| 70-79 | 137 | 298 | 92 | 36 | 90 | 30 | 1558 |
| 60-69 | 136 | 243 | 104 | 37 | 78 | 16 | 1813 |
| 50-59 | 161 | 318 | 124 | 36 | 99 | 28 | 1705 |
| 40-49 | 111 | 258 | 113 | 42 | 96 | 26 | 1892 |
| 30-39 | 112 | 227 | 99 | 26 | 78 | 37 | 1677 |
| 20-29 | 102 | 276 | 81 | 24 | 74 | 24 | 1539 |
| 10-19 | 96 | 256 | 89 | 40 | 83 | 25 | 1813 |
| 0-9 | 94 | 239 | 53 | 31 | 65 | 18 | 1648 |
| Total | 1363 | 2862 | 982 | 354 | 855 | 269 | 17,275 |
| Q* | 84.4 | 80.9 | 77.9 | 78.1 | 77.5 | 79.2 | 75.5 |
| Median | 60.4 | 55.5 | 54.5 | 53.8 | 53.1 | 51.6 | 50.4 |
| Q1 | 34.3 | 27.9 | 32.2 | 27.2 | 28.8 | 30. | 25.5 |
| Q | 25. | 26.4 | 22.8 | 25.4 | 24.3 | 24.5 | 25. |

 TABLE 1

 NATIONALITY AND MENTAL ABILITY OF 78,560 WISCONSIN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

TABLE 1 (continued)

| Psychological percentiles | Welsh | German | Czeck | Aus- trian | Jugo- slav | Finnish | Swed- ish |
|---------------------------|-------|--------|-------|---------------|---------------|---------|-------------------|
| 90-100 | 22 | 2716 | 35 | 61 | 21 | 36 | 178 |
| 80-89 | 29 | 2911 | 23 | 59 | 31 | 49 | 189 |
| 70-79 | 13 | 2737 | 28 | 56 | 30 | 49 | 164 |
| 60-69 | 23 | 2768 | 40 | 64 | 31 | 37 | 170 |
| 50-59 | 18 | 3213 | 52 | 59 | 30 | 46 | 178 |
| 40-49 | 29 | 3101 | 32 | 73 | 38 | 50 | 190 |
| 30-39 | 29 | 3055 | 42 | 70 | 33 | 41 | 160 |
| 20-29 | 13 | 2770 | 38 | 57 | 21 | 46 | 207 |
| 10-19 | 17 | 2972 | 40 | 65 | 36 | 52 | 183 |
| 0-9 | 18 | 2763 | 35 | 55 | 27 | 44 | 204 |
| Total | 211 | 29,006 | 365 | 619 | 298 | 450 | 1823 |
| Q^* | 78.6 | 74. | 68.6 | 73.7 | 72.5 | 74.3 | 74.5 |
| Median | 49.8 | 49.4 | 48.5 | 48.5 | 48.4 | 48.4 | 48.2 |
| Q1 | 31.6 | 25.4 | 24.2 | 26.1 | 25.4 | 23.5 | 23.3 [.] |
| Q | 23.5 | 24.3 | 22.2 | 23.8 | 23.5 | 25.4 | 25.6 |

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| Psychological percentiles | Lithu- anian | Russian | Nor- wegian | Can- adian | Croa- tian | English | Bo- hemian | Greek |
|---------------------------|-----------------|---------|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------|---------------|-------|
| 90-100 | 30 | 67 | 459 | 18 | 12 | 537 | 74 | 14 |
| 80-89 | 29 | 70 | 546 | 15 | 13 | 480 | 84 | 22 |
| 70-79 | 46 | 55 | 533 | 12 | 5 | 514 | 105 | 19 |
| 60-69 | 47 | 78 | 542 | 10 | 9 | 471 | 98 | 11 |
| 50-59 | 52 | 63 | 604 | 16 | 6 | 523 | 107 | 19 |
| 40-49 | 64 | 72 | 608 | 10 | 14 | 522 | 107 | 28 |
| 30-39 | 45 | 77 | 613 | 22 | 9 | 563 | 107 | 27 |
| 20-29 | 36 | 61 | 544 | 12 | 9 | 557 | 112 | 20 |
| 10-19 | 46 | 80 | 664 | 15 | 12 | 645 | 120 | 20 |
| 0-9 | 41 | 85 | 630 | 19 | 13 | 696 | 118 | 22 |
| Total | 436 | 708 | 5743 | 149 | 102 | 5508 | 1032 | 202 |
| Q³ | 69.1 | 72.7 | 71.9 | 76.4 | 79. | 73. | 70.4 | 72.3 |
| Median | 47.8 | 47. | 46.9 | 46.5 | 45.7 | 45.6 | 45.5 | 44.2 |
| Q1 | 26.1 | 21.9 | 22.6 | 22.7 | 20.5 | 20.6 | 21.7 | 24.2 |
| Q | 21.5 | 25.3 | 24.6 | 26.8 | 29.2 | 26.1 | 24.3 | 24. |

TABLE 1 (continued)

TABLE 1 (continued)

| Psychologic percentiles | al Swiss | Slavic | Bel- gian | Polish | French | Negro | Syrian | Italian | Total |
|----------------------------|-------------|--------|--------------|--------|--------|-------|--------|---------|--------|
| 90-100 | 35 | 12 | 14 | 262 | 59 | 3 | 4 | 46 | 7472 |
| 80-89 | 56 | 14 | 32 | 307 | 56 | 5 | 6 | 70 | 7696 |
| 70-79 | 49 | 29 | 30 | 334 | 65 | 15 | 6 | 82 | 7217 |
| 60- 69 | 43 | 26 | 33 | 354 | 61 | 9 | 7 | 97 | 7456 |
| 50-59 | 39 | 25 | 29 | 436 | 65 | 12 | 10 | 133 | 8206 |
| 40 -49 | 58 | 35 | 39 | 568 | 95 | 12 | 8 | 128 | 8419 |
| 30-39 | 60 | 20 | 36 | 471 | 93 | 17 | 10 | 154 | 8010 |
| 20-29 | 61 | 35 | 34 | 509 | 89 | 10 | 9 | 162 | 7532 |
| 10-19 | 62 | 31 | 43 | 536 | 104 | 18 | 16 | 225 | 8404 |
| 0-9 | 52 | 29 | 48 | 613 | 139 | 23 | 14 | 312 | 8148 |
| Total | 515 | 256 | 338 | 4390 | 826 | 124 | 90 | 1409 | 78,560 |
| Q^{*} | 72.3 | 66.5 | 67.4 | 64.5 | 65.6 | 61.1 | 60.7 | 55.7 | 73.8 |
| Median | 43.8 | 43.7 | 42. | 41.1 | 38.7 | 36.4 | 36. | 30.3 | 48.5 |
| Q1 | 22.4 | 21.1 | 18.4 | 19. | 16.4 | 14.4 | 15.3 | 11.7 | 24.1 |
| 0 | 24.9 | 22.7 | 24.4 | 22.7 | 24.5 | 23.3 | 22.7 | 21.9 | 24.8 |

of Italian pupils presents this range of average ability in a striking manner. The 17,275 pupils who named their nationality simply as American may be regarded more or less as a control group. It would seem that this American group would represent a cross section of all abilities and all nationalities. Table 1 shows that this is the case and that the "American" pupils contain the full range of mental ability with the median and quartile points practically identical with the median and quartile points of the whole distribution of cases.

This table also shows that each nationality group, regardless of its position in the scale, has a considerable proportion of cases in each decile in the mental ability distribution. In other words, the full range of ability is found within every natio-racial group and the ability differences within each group are much greater than the differences between the average ability of the groups. Among the pupils in Wisconsin high schools different nationalities have contributed different proportions of pupils of superior, average, and low ability but every nationality has contributed some students of all ability levels.

To compare the mental ability ratings of the various nationalities found in this study with the ratings made in connection with psychological testing in the United States Army, the fifteen nationalities which appeared in both studies are listed in Table 2 in rank order according to the results found in each study. One of the most significant differences shown in this table is the drop of English and Canadian from first and fourth places in the Army study to eleventh and tenth places in the Wisconsin study. Superior ability in the use of the English language no doubt gave these two nationalities an advantage among the adult soldiers which did not operate among The shift upward in the Wisconsin study the high school pupils. of the Russians and Austrians may also be partly explained by the Seven of the fifteen nationalities had the same language factor. rank in both studies or shifted only one place up or down.

It will be noted that among the fifteen nationalities the same four-Greeks, Belgians, Polish, and Italians-fell into the lowest places in both studies. In all four of these nationalities the extensive use of a foreign language outside of school may be a factor contributing to the low rank in the psychological tests. The high rank of the Irish and Danes in the Wisconsin study may be due to a selective

| Average sco scale for th given b | ores on the ne Army r by Brigham Average | combined esults as (2) | Median percent W | i psychologica ile scores in isconsin stud Median | al test 1 the y |
|--|---|------------------------------|------------------------|--|-----------------------|
| Country | Score | Number | Country | percentile | Number |
| England | 14.87 | 411 | Ireland | 55.5 | 2862 |
| Scotland | 14.34 | 146 | Denmark | 54.52 | 982 |
| Holland | 14.32 | 140 | Holland | 53.18 | 855 |
| Germany | 13.88 | 308 | Scotland | 51.61 | 269 |
| Native-born | | | | | |
| White | 13.77 | 81465 | America | 50.4 | 17275 |
| Denmark | 13.69 | 325 | Germany | 49.49 | 29006 |
| Canada | 13.66 | 972 | Austria | 48.56 | 619 |
| Sweden | 13.30 | 691 | Sweden | 48.29 | 1823 |
| Norway | 12.98 | 611 | Russia | 47.08 | 708 |
| Belgium | 12.79 | 129 | Norway | 46.92 | 5743 |
| Ireland | 12.32 | 658 | Canada | 46.50 | 149 |
| Austria | 12 27 | 301 | England | 45 61 | 5508 |
| Greece | 12.02 | 423 | Greece | 44 20 | 202 |
| Pussia | 11 34 | 2240 | Belgium | 42.05 | 228 |
| Tealer | 11 01 | 4000 | Polond | 41 16 | 4200 |
| Poland | 10.74 | 382 | Italy | 30.36 | 1409 |

TABLE 2

TABLE 3

| Army Percentage who r | Test (1) eached or exceeded | Wiscons | in Test |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| the average Am | of native-born erican | Percentage who re the median | ached or exceeded percentile |
| Country | Percentage | Country | Percentage |
| England | 67.3 | Ireland | 56.1 |
| Scotland | 58.8 | Denmark | 55.7 |
| Holland | 58.1 | Holland | 53.6 |
| Germany | 48.7 | Scotland | 51.6 |
| Denmark | 47.8 | Germany | 49.4 |
| Canada | 47.3 | Austria | 48.3 |
| Sweden | 41.7 | Sweden | 48.2 |
| Norway | 37.3 | Canada | 47.6 |
| Belgium | 35.3 | Russia | 47. |
| Austria | 28.2 | Norway | 46.7 |
| Ireland | 26.2 | England | 45.8 |
| Turkey | 25.3 | Greece | 42. |
| Greece | 21.3 | Belgium | 40.8 |
| Russia | 18,9 | Poland | 38.5 |
| Italy | 14.4 | Italy | 30.3 |

factor. At the time of the heaviest migration from Ireland and Denmark the hard frontier life of Wisconsin probably tended to select the most able among the immigrants.

The natio-racial differences as found in the two studies are shown in Table 3 by the percentage from each nationality group who reached or exceeded the average of the native-born whites on the Army tests and the percentage from each group who reached or exceeded the median in the Wisconsin study. This table shows that the differences are much smaller between the natio-racial groups in the Wisconsin study than in the Army test results as far as the relative number of those above the average is concerned. The range of the percentages in the Wisconsin study is only 25.8 as compared with 55.1 in the Army results. From this it might be inferred that differences between natio-racial groups tend to shrink when the factors of variation in education and in the ability to use the language are minimized.

The question that arises from an inspection of the data is whether or not the differences between the various groups are reliable differences. The reliability of a measure of central tendency—the median in this case—is dependent upon both the size of the sample and the variability of the separate measures within the sample. The following formula was used to test the reliability of the differences between the medians:

$$PE_{difference} = \sqrt{\begin{array}{c} P E^{s} & -P E^{s} \\ median^{s} & median^{s} \end{array}}$$

Table 4 presents $\frac{D}{P E_{diff.}}$ between the medians of all the natioracial groups. Where $\frac{D}{P E_{diff.}}$ is equal to 4 or higher it may be interpreted to mean that the obtained difference between the medians is completely reliable and a true difference greater than zero between the samples is insured. Where $\frac{D}{P E_{diff.}}$ is equal to 1.9 the chances are 90 in 100 that there is a difference greater than zero between the true median scores of the nationalities; where the figure is 3.00 the chances are 98 in 100 that a true difference greater than zero exists.

From Table 4 it may be seen that many of the differences in the medians are significant and true differences. Between the Jews and

| | Lithuanian | | | | | | | | | 4 | ، ف | 4 vi | 1.6 | 1.4 | 1.4 | ~ | 1.8 | 2.7 | 4.8 | 5.4 | 3.8 | 3.6 | 11.7 |
|----------|------------|---|------------------|----------|------------|----------|----------|---------------------|------------|---------|-------------|----------------------|---------|----------|-------|-------|------------|-----------------|--------|--------|------------|--------|---------|
| | deibow2 | | | | | | | | e.j | ø, | 1.6 | ٩Ŀ | ų | 2.2 | 1.7 | 2.8 | 2.3 | 3.4 | 8.2 | 7.3 | 4.3 5 | 3.9 | 17.1 |
| | deianiT | | | | | | | .07 | ų | ý. | ئ ہ | ف به | 1.7 | 1.6 | 1.5 | 2.2 | ~ i | 2.8 | 4.6 | 5.2 | 3.9 | 3.7 | 10.8 |
| udents | veleogul | | | | | | ġ | 0.0 | 9 | 9 | ~, · | 'nά | 1.6 | 1.4 | 1.5 | 6 | 1.9 | 2.6 | 4.1 | 4.8 | 3.8 | 3.6 | 9.7 |
| hool St | asitteuA | | | | | | 0. | ° | 4. | ø; | 1.3 | <u>ن</u> ہ | 2.3 | 1.9 | 1.7 | 2.5 | 2.2 | 3.1 | 5.8 | 6.1 | 4.2 2.4 | 3.9 | 12.9 |
| ligh Scl | Czeck | | | | | .02 | 8. 8 | <u>, i</u> | 4. | œ, | : :` | ن ہ | 1.9 | 1.7 | 1.6 | 2.3 | 2.1 | 2.9 | 4.9 | 5.4 | 4. | 3.7 | 11.2 |
| nsin H | German | | | | 9 | | ، ف | 1.5 | 1.2 | ~ | 5.7 | ≓≓ | 8.1 | 4 | 2.4 | 4. | 3.2 | 4. 4 | 17.7 | 9.9 | 4.9 | 4.5 | 25.4 |
| Wisco | delsW | | | - | i vi | ν, | vì r | | ø, | 1.1 | 1. 4. (| نه نر | લં | 1.9 | 1.8 | 2.4 | 2.2 | 2.9 | 4.1 | 4.8 | 4 | 3.8 | °. |
| 133,965 | пвзітэтА | | | °; | 1.2 | 1.5 | 1.1 | 2.6 | 1.9 | 2.7 | 7.3 | + 7 - 7 | 9.5 | 4.8 | 2.8 | 4.6 | 3.7 | 4.9 | 18.6 | 10.6 | 5.2 | 4.8 | 26. |
| lity of | Scotch | | 9 | , e , | 1.2 | 1.3 | 1.2 | 1.6 | 1.6 | ~ | 2.4 4 . | : t | 3.1 | 2.8 | 2.5 | 3.3 | ų. | 3.8 | 5.4 | 5.9 | 4.7 | 4.4 | 10.5 |
| tal Abi | Dutch | | .7 2.6 | 1.4 | 2.5 | 2.9 | 2.3 | 3.8 | 3.2 | 3.8 | 5.6 | 1.9 | 6.7 | 5.3 | 3.7 | 5.4 | 4.6 | 5.6 | 10.6 | 9.7 | 5.9 | 5.4 | 17.9 |
| Ment | asiısyauH | | ^ر و ا | 1.5 | 32 | 2.5 | 27 | + v e | 2.8 | 3.2 | 4,0 | N 0 | 4.7 | 4.2 | 3.5 | 4.5 | 4.1 | 4.9 | 7.2 | 7.5 | 5.5 | 5.2 | 12.7 |
| lity and | deinsU | m 0 | 4.1 | 2.1 | 4.8 | 3.9 | 3.1 | 5.2 5.2 | 4.2 | 4.9 | 7.6 | 2.3 | 8.8 | 6.7 | 4.4 | 6.4 | 5.4 | 6.5 | 13.2 | 11.2 | 6.5 | 5.9 | 20.6 |
| Vationa | lrish | ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~ | 1.9 | 2.6 | , 4 . 6 | 5.1 | 3.9 | 4 7 7 4 5 | 5.3 | 6.2 | 11.5 | 3.1 2.6 | 13. | 8.6 | s. | 7.7 | 6.2 | 7.5 | 18.9 | 13.5 | 7. | 6.3 | 26.2 |
| - | Jeiwəl | 4.4 7.4 4.6 | 4.2 | 4.8 | 7. | ø, | 6.3 | 10.7 | 8.1 | 9.1 | 14.3 | 8.4 8.6 | 15.4 | 11.5 | 7. | 10.2 | 8.4 | 9.8 | 20.1 | 15.8 | 8.6 | 7.8 | 26.8 |
| | | Jewish Irish Danish Hungarian Durch | Scotch | Welsh | Czeck | Austrian | Jugoslav | r noniso Swedish | Lithuanian | Russian | Norwegian | Canadian Croatian | English | Bohemian | Greek | Swiss | Slavic | Belgian | Polish | French | Negro | Syrian | Italian |

TABLE 4 RELIABILITY OF MEDIANS r and Mental Ability of 133,965 Wisconsin High Scho

462

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| | Italian | 58 58 |
|----------------|-----------|---|
| | Syrian | 80 |
| | Negro | 4. F. |
| | French | ¢, %, 4 |
| | Polish | 2.1 1.7 12.6 |
| | Belgian | 5,11 5,11 6,12 |
| | Slavic | 8.4.4.0 8.4.4.0 9.00 |
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| ABLE | Bohemian | 23.54 25.52 |
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INTELLIGENCE AND NATIONALITY

463

all other nationalities the differences in medians are sufficiently high to be taken as completely reliable. Between the Polish, the French, and the Italians and all the other nationalities the differences in medians are nearly all sufficiently high to be considered reliable. Between the Croatians and no other nationality is the difference between medians high enough to be taken as reliable. Likewise, the table shows that many of the other differences which appear to be large between medians are not high enough to be regarded as completely reliable.

In viewing this table it must be remembered that the reliability formula measures only the effects of errors due to sampling. Any errors which may result from the failure to get a random sample of the population are not detected by the formula used, and consequently, although the differences in this study between natio-racial groups may be considered completely reliable, it does not allow that differences exist between the nationalities if the entire population were considered. It is extremely unlikely that the sample considered here—tenth- and twelfth-grade pupils—is perfectly representative for any racio-nationality group. In other words, any degree of reliability between the medians refers only to the sample considered—Wisconsin high school pupils—and not to the entire, unselected population.

The psychological test ratings of the entire group of 133,289 seniors and sophomores according to all of the nationality groups are listed in Table 5. The groups are arranged according to the size of the medians.

Perhaps the most striking result of this tabulation is the great range in the medians which means, quite obviously, a tremendous variation between the racio-nationality groups as far as a measure of central tendency in mental ability is concerned. The range in the medians of the nationality groups, from 28.33 to 63.72 for seniors and from 28.82 to 67.50 for sophomores and from 30.3 to 64.06 for the whole group, is in all instances about one-third of the whole percentile range. In most cases, except in some groups where the sample is small, the quartile deviation is rather close to 25 which means that mental ability within the groups tends toward a normal distribution around the median.

Although the psychological test scores of the sophomores and the seniors were tabulated separately as a matter of convenience, this

| | | • | | | | | |
|-----------------------|------|-------|------------|-------|-------|--------|-------|
| | | | Percentage | Canit | | Conton | |
| Nationality | No. | Med. | median | No. | Med. | No. | Med. |
| Miscellaneous: | | | | | | | |
| three strains | 5516 | 64.06 | 64.3 | 3006 | 63.72 | 2510 | 65.38 |
| Scotch and English | 770 | 62.77 | 63.5 | 432 | 60.42 | 338 | 67.5 |
| American and Russian | 61 | 62.14 | 62.3 | 36 | 60. | 25 | 63.75 |
| Norwegian and Dutch | 66 | 61.5 | 56.5 | 41 | 55. | 58 | 63.75 |
| English and Swiss | 95 | 61.5 | 63.1 | 45 | 58.33 | 50 | 66.67 |
| Welsh and English | 252 | 60.8 | 65.07 | 153 | 60.38 | 66 | 61.25 |
| Jewish | 1363 | 60.4 | 62.2 | 828 | 57.68 | 535 | 65.5 |
| Irish and Scotch | 633 | 60.29 | 59.8 | 328 | 60.71 | 305 | 59.84 |
| Dutch and English | 374 | 60.24 | 58. | 189 | 60.65 | 185 | 59.67 |
| German and Austrian | 309 | 59.98 | 57.6 | 196 | 60. | 113 | 59.55 |
| American and Dutch | 122 | 59.05 | 65.5 | 68 | 62.67 | 54 | 56. |
| American and Danish | 247 | 59.04 | 59.5 | 157 | 57. | 90 | 63.33 |
| American and Scotch | 100 | 59. | 59. | 61 | 57.86 | 39 | 61.25 |
| Irish and English | 1929 | 58.15 | 57.7 | 1043 | 60.75 | 886 | 55.52 |
| English and Danish | 284 | 58. | 61.2 | 137 | 60.83 | 147 | 55.75 |
| German and Welsh | 264 | 56.93 | 56.06 | 149 | 54.06 | 115 | 58.64 |
| American and Irish | 241 | 56.61 | 58.5 | 154 | 54.71 | 87 | 58.93 |
| German and Swiss | 708 | 56. | 57.2 | 415 | 53.1 | 293 | 60.24 |
| German and Dutch | 858 | 55.91 | 56.41 | 441 | 54.71 | 417 | 57.44 |
| English and Swedish | 411 | 55.5 | 55.4 | 224 | 61.82 | 187 | 51.46 |
| Irish | 2862 | 55.5 | 56.1 | 1593 | 56.68 | 1269 | 54.1 |
| American and Canadian | 220 | 55.24 | 55. | 173 | 56.64 | 47 | 53.13 |
| American and French | 92 | 55. | 57.6 | 43 | 55. | 49 | 55. |
| English and Norwegian | 1033 | 54.85 | 56.24 | 538 | 54.5 | 495 | 55.14 |
| Bohemian and Irish | 124 | 54.71 | 56.4 | 58 | 45. | 99 | 59.09 |
| Danish | 286 | 54.5 | 55.7 | 514 | 54.5 | 468 | 54.5 |
| Irish and German | 4364 | 54.47 | 55.06 | 2254 | 54.24 | 2110 | 54.67 |
| Irish and Danish | 171 | 54.33 | 53.8 | \$ | 57.5 | 77 | 50.71 |

465

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Sophomores No. Med. 54.91 54.91 54.23 53.67 53.59 53.37 53.37 53.37 53.37 53.37 53.37 53.37 54.58 55.55 55.55 55.18 55.18 55.18 55.09 55.09 55.09 55.09 55.09 55.09 55.09 55.09 55.09 55.09 55.09 55.09 55.000 378 134 134 303 40 40 71 158 158 430 433 433 80 Med. 52.56 60. 53.33 53.33 53.33 55.29 55.29 55.29 55.29 55.29 55.29 55.29 55.29 55.29 55.29 55.29 49.72 550.57 51.05 51.05 550.57 550.57 552.55 552.55 552.55 552.55 552.55 552.55 552.55 552.55 552.55 568 572 50.31 50.31 Seniors 438 378 378 344 44 44 44 425 428 428 428 428 88 °N Percentage above median 52.57 552.57 552.55 552.13 552.13 552.13 51.61 51.61 51.61 51.61 51.61 51.62 50.33 50.10 50.13 5 54.4 53.9 54.05 54.05 54.05 54.12 53.6 53.10 53.10 53.10 53.10 53.23 52.25 55.216 55.215 51.16 51.18 51.18 51.18 51.16 51.1 53.91 53.81 53.75 53.67 53.67 53.67 53.67 53.67 53.67 53.67 53.67 53.67 53.67 53.59 53.53 52.53 52.53 Med. 816 354 681 74 74 115 364 855 855 931 168 νo. German and Scotch American and Bohemian Irish and Polish English and French American and English Norwegian and Swedish German and Norwegian German and Bohemian Norwegian and Scotch Miscellaneous: American and German Norwegian and French Welsh Norwegian and Danish Irish and French French and Scotch Irish and Dutch German and English rish and Norwegian rish and Swedish German and French American and Swiss German and Swedish German and Danish **Total:** two strains two strains Nationality Hungarian American German Scotch Dutch

466

TABLE 5 (continued)

RUTH BYRNS

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| | | | Percentag above | 5 | Seniora | | Sol | ohomores | |
|------------------------|-----|-------|--------------------|-------|---------|-------------|--------------|----------|------------|
| Nationality | No. | Med. | median | | No. | Med. | S. o. | Med. | |
| French and Dutch | | 66 | 48.75 | 49.4 | 30 | s, | 3.33 | 69 | 45. |
| Czeck | | 365 | 48.5 | 48.7 | 214 | ~ | 2.5 | 151 | 39.32 |
| Total: single strains | | 78560 | 48.5 | 48.4 | 44933 | 4 | 7.9 | 33627 | 49.31 |
| Austrian | | 619 | 48.5 | 48.3 | 370 | -4- | 7.4 | 249 | 50.86 |
| Jugoslav | | 298 | 48.4 | 47.9 | 150 | 4 | 9.13 | 148 | 47.33 |
| Finnish | | 450 | 48.4 | 48.2 | 281 | 4 | 9.05 | 169 | 46.54 |
| Swedish | | 1823 | 48.2 | 48.2 | 1054 | 4 | 7.86 | 769 | 48.97 |
| Lithuanian | | 436 | 47.8 | 46.7 | 242 | 4 | 6.76 | 194 | 49.26 |
| American and Norwegian | | 781 | 47.78 | 47.5 | 524 | 4 | 8.17 | 257 | 46.18 |
| German and Belgian | | 252 | 47.42 | 46.4 | 149 | 4 | 8.91 | 103 | 44.78 |
| Russian | | 708 | 47. | 47. | 513 | 4 | 8.67 | 195 | 43.7 |
| Norwegian | | 5743 | 46.9 | 46.7 | 3155 | 4 | 5.47 | 2588 | 49.46 |
| Canadian | | 149 | 46.5 | 47.65 | 119 | 4 | 8.5 | 30 | 30. |
| American and Swedish | | 296 | 46. | 47.29 | 208 | 4 | 5.79 | 88 | 46.67 |
| Croatian | | 102 | 45.7 | 44.1 | 47 | Ś | 1.67 | 55 | 40.71 |
| English | | 5508 | 45.6 | 45.8 | 2714 | 4 | 5.78 | 2794 | 45.4 |
| Bohemian | | 1032 | 45.5 | 45.3 | 541 | 4 | 5.07 | 491 | 46.35 |
| German and Polish | | 1277 | 45.08 | 45.02 | 656 | 4 | 3.08 | 621 | 48.14 |
| Not Indicated | | 5584 | 44.34 | 44.39 | 3555 | 4 | 5.19 | 2029 | 42.13 |
| Greek | | 202 | 44.2 | 42.07 | 102 | 4 | 8.18 | 100 | 41.76 |
| Swiss | | 515 | 43.8 | 43.1 | 276 | 4 | 4 | 239 | 43.7 |
| Slavic | | 256 | 43.7 | 41.4 | 129 | 4 | 3.41 | 127 | 44.23 |
| French and Swedish | | 128 | 43.33 | 43.7 | 52 | ~ | 7.14 | 76 | 48.57 |
| Belgian | | 338 | 42. | 40.8 | 174 | 4 | 3.08 | 164 | 40. |
| American and Polish | | 346 | 41.63 | 39.59 | 175 | 4 | 2.62 | 171 | 40.68 |
| Polish | | 4390 | 41.1 | 38.5 | 2242 | 4 | 3.89 | 2148 | 37.21 |
| French | | 826 | 38.7 | 37. | 406 | 4 | 1.79 | 420 | 35.42 |
| Negro | | 124 | 36.4 | 35.4 | 57 | 6 73 | 4.64 | 67 | 43.14 |
| Syrian | | 90 | 36. | 36.6 | 41 | 63 | 8.33 | 49 | 41. |
| Italian | | 1409 | 30.3 | 30.3 | 661 | ŝ | 2.58 | 748 | 28.82 |

INTELLIGENCE AND NATIONALITY

TABLE 5 (continued)

467

presentation does offer a certain measure of the reliability of the data. Consistency of rank for the different racio-nationality groups in both senior and sophomore listings would indicate a degree of reliability of the rankings. To find whether the rankings were consistent the following divisions were made.

| Group I | Median above 65 | Very High |
|----------|-----------------------------|-----------|
| Group II | Median from 55 through 64.9 | High |
| Group II | Median from 45 through 54.9 | Average |
| Group IV | Median from 35 through 44.9 | Low |
| Group V | Median below 35 | Very Low |

Only 23 of the classifications shifted from one group to another and had a difference of five points or more in the medians. Of this number, 13 were groups with less than 100 cases and very likely did not represent adequate samples. Of the ten larger classifications which shifted to a considerable degree, explanation can be offered only in the case of the Jews. It will be noted that the median for the 828 senior Jews is 57.68 while for the 535 sophomore Jews it is 65.50. This may be explained by the fact that in 1931, when the data were first being collected, the question asked the high school seniors concerning nationality of father or mother did not include the suggestion "Jewish" among the several listed. In the information from that year it was found that less than 20 students listed Jewish In 1932 and 1933 the suggestion "Jewish" as their nationality. was listed in the nationalities named in the questionnaire and a much larger proportion of students listed this nationality. It seems likely, therefore, that, because many Jews were not correctly listed among the seniors in 1931, the sophomore group represents a more complete sample than the senior group.

It is interesting to note that the students who listed three or more nationality strains had the highest median among the seniors and one of the highest among the sophomores. The significance of this is doubtful, however, as it may mean that a combination of several nationality strains tends to produce superior mental ability or it may simply mean that the students of higher mental ability tended to know and report more complete information concerning their nationalities. It is likewise interesting to note that the group of students who did not indicate their nationality fell well below the median among both seniors and sophomores.

The 43,629 children who listed two natio-racial strains had a

median of 52.59 while those of a single strain had a median of 48.5. Above the median mental ability we find 64.3 per cent of the children who listed three or more natio-racial strains, 53.1 per cent of those who reported two natio-racial strains, and only 48.4 per cent of the children who reported that both their parents were of the same nationality. This indicates that for the cases considered here children of "mixed" natio-racial groups surpassed in mental ability the children of "single" strains.

CONCLUSIONS

It is impossible to judge whether the results presented here have general significance or whether they hold only for that portion of the population which survives ten to twelve years in Wisconsin schools. Although the factors of language handicap and differences in education are minimized, they are not eliminated, and the factors of selection and differences in social and economic status are in no way eliminated. The factor of selection in this study is a peculiar one and includes the selective influence that enters into the migration of peoples as well as the selective influences that the schools play in different nationalities. In other words, high school pupils do not necessarily represent the same sort of sample for all the natioracial groups.

With all the limitations taken into consideration there are, nevertheless, certain significant conclusions which may be drawn from these data. The rank of the Jewish children with a median higher than that in any other "single-strain" group (see Table 1) supports the general conclusion of previous studies that the Jews in this country surpass the average mental ability in America. Likewise, the low rank of the Greeks, Belgians, Polish, and Italians supports the general conclusions of other studies that these natio-racial groups as found in America tend to test low in mental ability. The Russians, Hungarians, Danish, Irish, and Austrian groups in this study rank higher than these groups are generally reported to rank, and the English and Canadians ranked lower than in other published studies. The children who reported three nationality strains ranked highest of all, and those who listed two strains were considerably above those of a single strain.

Perhaps the most revealing conclusion that may be drawn appears

when a comparison is made between the percentage in the natioracial groups who reached or exceeded the average in the Army test and in the Wisconsin study. The differences are conspiciously smaller in the Wisconsin study. This points to the conclusion that, when language handicap and variation in education are eliminated, the differences in intelligence between natio-racial groups decrease. The fact remains, however, that, even though the differences have decreased, a wide range of statistically reliable differences were found to exist between the average mental ability in the natio-racial groups.

References

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