

Chapter 11 — The Delusion of the “Melting Pot”

from *Long Heads and Round Heads: Or, What’s the Matter with Germany* (1918)

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Sources for Chapter 11, in the order in which they first appear

- (1) Madison **Grant**, *The Passing of the Great Race: Or, The Racial Basis of European History* (New York: Charles Scribner’s Sons, 1916)

Key

- (a) **Green** indicates where a source first appears, or where it reappears.
- (b) **Yellow** highlights most parallelisms.
- (c) **Tan** highlights parallelisms not occurring on the same row, or parallelisms separated by yellowed parallelisms.
- (d) An underlined word or words indicates where the source and Sadler pointedly differ from one another.
- (e) **Pink** indicates passages where Sadler specifically shares his own experiences, opinions, advice, etc.
- (f) **Red** indicates an obvious mistake, in most cases brought about by Sadler’s miscopying or misunderstanding his source, or an otherwise questionable statement.

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XI — THE DELUSION OF THE “MELTING POT”

11:0.1 I THINK by this time the results of the war have taught us the delusion of the “melting pot.” In our younger days, both as individuals and as a nation, we entertained the belief that we could swallow up into our American civilization the misfit elements of all Europe, and yet be able so to digest and assimilate them as to cause them to functionate in a manner compatible with American institutions; but the war, I think, has very successfully and very generally dispelled this delusion. As a nation we are beginning to awake from our dream. I think we are beginning to realize that the Alpine and Mediterranean races are not at once assimilable into the American body politic. We are even beginning to appreciate that the round-headed German does not readily fit into our program as the long-headed German.

In this connection it should be borne in mind that we have a large population in America of very high class, which borders on the round-head when it comes to actual measurements, but which represents a blended stock. Some of our best Irish stock, in head measurements, approach the round-heads, but they are so thoroughly Nordicized—that is, they have such an admixture of the Nordic strain of the British Isles—that they are really more Nordic than Alpine,

[In Bavaria and the Tyrol the Alpines are so thoroughly Nordicized that their true racial affinities are betrayed by their round skulls alone (G 126).]

and this is also true of many Germans who to outward appearance appear to be round-heads but who are also quite thoroughly Nordicized.

FALSE IDEALS OF DEMOCRACY

11:1.1 Neither are we able immediately to absorb into our civilization, and gracefully fit in with our institutions, the more marked specimens of the Mediterranean race even though they happen to be of the long-headed type. At the close of this war it behooves the American people thoroughly to reconsider the doctrine of the “melting pot” and to revamp the immigration laws in accordance with our experience in the present world-war.

I, II: THE PHYSICAL BASIS OF RACE (Grant 11)

There exists to-day a widespread and fatuous belief in the power of **environment**, as well as of **education and opportunity** to alter heredity,

11:1.2 Much of the present-day belief in **environment** is fictitious.

Education and opportunity will work wonders for the stock that has the right stuff in it from an hereditary standpoint, but the so-called doctrine that “all men are born equal,”¹ when looked at from the standpoint of race and eugenics, does not prove itself to be biologically true. We are, of course, willing to subscribe to the teaching of “equality under the law;” that is, equality of opportunity and full political rights for all men; but as a race truth there are

which arises from the dogma of the **brotherhood of man**,

some doctrines and dogmas regarding the political **brotherhood of man**

derived in turn from the loose thinkers of the **French Revolution** and their American mimics (G 14).

which originated in the days of the **French Revolution**

SOURCE

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and which no nation has ever been able to work out in a practical way, though Russia seems now about to start upon another similar experiment to that which failed in the French Revolution.

THE NEGRO PROBLEM

Thus the view that the negro slave was an unfortunate **cousin of the white man,**

deeply tanned by the tropic sun,

and denied the **blessings of Christianity** and **civilization,**

played no small part with the **sentimentalists** of the **Civil War** period,

and it has taken us **fifty years** to learn that

11:2.1 The doctrine that the negro slave of Civil War days was an unfortunate distant **cousin of the white man,**

who had simply been **deeply tanned** because he had long lived under the tropical sun,

and that his social and intellectual status was entirely the result of

being denied the privileges of **civilization** and the **blessings of Christianity,**

is still believed by many honest and well-meaning sentimentalists.

This was the prevailing **sentiment** in **Civil War** days,

and, mind you, I believe the Civil War was worth fighting either to save the Union or to free the black man.

The black man deserved his freedom,

but it has taken the white people of America almost **half a century** to wake up to the fact that

more or less political freedom, a little education,

SOURCE

speaking English, wearing good clothes, and going to school and to church, does not transform a negro into a white man (G 14).

We shall have a similar experience with the Polish Jew, whose dwarf stature, peculiar mentality and ruthless concentration on self-interest are being engrafted upon the stock of the nation (G 14).

What the Melting Pot actually does in practice,

can be seen in Mexico,

where the absorption of the blood of the original Spanish conquerors

by the native Indian population

has produced the racial mixture which we call Mexican, and which is now engaged in demonstrating its incapacity for self-government.

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good clothes, and ability to speak and write English and go to church has not been able to transform the negro into a white man

or even into a black man with anything like equal powers and prerogatives of citizenship;

and we are going to have similar experiences in this country with our Polish and Russian Jews and other Balkan immigrants.

The unfortunate thing about the “melting pot” is that it does not melt. Race is still the determining factor of civilization and citizenship.

RACE DOMINATES CIVILIZATION

11:3.1 What the “melting pot” actually does,

and what it threatens to do in this country,

can better be seen by an ethnic study of Mexico and its people.

Here the blood of the original Spanish conquerors

(who, like all the world’s explorers, were Nordics)

has been absorbed by the inferior native Indian population,

resulting in a race admixture which we now observe in the present-day inferior Mexican people;

SOURCE

The world has seen many such mixtures of races, and the character of a mongrel race is only just beginning to be understood at its true value (G 15).

[contd] It must be borne in mind that the specializations which characterize the higher races are of relatively recent development, are highly unstable and when mixed with generalized or primitive characters, tend to disappear.

Whether we like to admit it or not, the result of the mixture of two races,

in the long run, gives us a race reverting to the more ancient, generalized and lower type.

The cross between a white man and an Indian is an Indian; the cross between a white man and a negro is a negro;

and the cross between any of the three European races and a Jew is a Jew (G 15-16).

[contd] In the crossing of the blond and brunet elements of a population, the more deeply rooted and ancient dark traits are prepotent and dominant.

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and from the days of Rome down to the present,

these mongrel types

have always represented retrograde movements in the civilization of the day.

11:3.2 It must be borne in mind that some of the more desirable specifications in the civilized races are of relative recent origin,

and that when two greatly dissimilar races mix, the usual result is

a quick gravitation downward to the more ancient, primitive, and lower type of man.

The cross between a white man and a negro is not a white man, but a negro.

The cross between a white man and a Hindu is a Hindu;

and a cross between any of the three more modern European races and a Jew is always a Jew.

In crossing the more recent blonde Nordic race with the older brunet Mediterranean race, it will be found that the older brunet type predominates.

If the thoroughbred, blue-eyed Nordic man marries a thoroughbred, black-eyed Mediterranean woman, the children will all have either black or dark-colored eyes. There will be no blue-eyed offspring,

SOURCE

This is matter of everyday observation, and the working of this law of nature is not influenced or affected by **democratic institutions** or by religious beliefs (G 16).

[See 9:0.1.]

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and we must recognize that

all the ministrations of a Christian civilization, and all the environment and education of **democratic institutions**, cannot now or ever will be able to alter these fundamental laws of human heredity.

HEREDITY VS. ENVIRONMENT

11:4.1 In ancient Rome we see that it was a race substitution that led to the downfall of the empire. So today in Germany we see results of an ethnic substitution which has been going on for several hundreds of years and resulting in a gradual decline in Nordic stock.

In America we already begin to see the political effects of the race substitution which is going on in our midst, and many are looking with alarm to the American future, unless something is done to counter-work these things which have undermined and overthrown one civilization after another during past ages.

11:4.2 We must accept it as a demonstrated fact that the “melting pot” of Institutional Democracy cannot turn an individual of inferior racial tendencies into a citizen who can functionate on a level with those individuals who are descended from the racially superior human stocks, and this is just as true of America as it is of Germany or any other nation.

SOURCE

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11:4.3 The results of education, civilization, and Christianization are not directly transmissible by heredity. Modern biologists believe that so-called acquired characteristics are not inherited. Morality is functional and not organic, and the intellectual status of a race or nation is, after all, determined more by the racial stock and heredity than by environmental institutions and a political atmosphere of even so-called democracy.

1. Philanthropy and noble purpose dictated the doctrine expressed in the Declaration of Independence, the document which to-day constitutes the actual basis of American institutions. The men who wrote the words, “we hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal,” were themselves the owners of slaves, and despised Indians as something less than human. Equality in their minds meant merely that they were just as good Englishmen as their brothers across the sea (G xvi).