

Chapter 25 — Looking Facts in the Face

from *Race Decadence:*
An Examination of the Causes of Racial Degeneracy in the United States (1922)

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Sources for Chapter 22, in the order in which they first appear

No sources have been found for this paper.

Key

- (a) **Green** indicates where a source author first appears, or where he/she 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) **Bold type** indicates passages which Sadler copied verbatim, or nearly verbatim, from an uncited source.
- (f) **Pink** indicates passages where Sadler specifically shares his own experiences, opinions, advice, etc.
- (g) **Light blue** indicates passages which strongly resemble something in the Urantia Book, or which allude to the Urantia phenomenon.
- (h) **Red** indicates an obvious mistake, in most cases brought about by Sadler's miscopying or misunderstanding his source.

Work-in-progress Version 26 Dec. 2025
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XXV: LOOKING FACTS IN THE FACE

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25:0.1 WE HAVE completed our examination of the data respecting both the physical and mental status of present-day civilization in general and the American people in particular. We have endeavored, in an unbiased manner, to examine the evidence and interpret the facts concerning the whole great problem of race degeneracy. It has been our intent to reach conclusions which were fair and to formulate opinions which were unprejudiced, and while we began this research optimistic and hopeful as regards the future of the American people, we cannot look all the assembled facts in the face and not experience a feeling of concern regarding the future status and development of the race.

25:0.2 While the author discerns no occasion for panic or hysteria; while the immediate welfare and continuity of the race is not actually and seriously threatened; while both natural and artificial influences already may be working in a small way toward correcting some of the evils recognized; nevertheless, the whole picture of the physical, intellectual, and racial status of the American people presents a group of problems of sufficient seriousness and gravity to challenge sober thought and command the earnest attention of every serious-thinking American.

25:0.3 Blind optimism and ignorant patriotism will avail us nothing in meeting the issues of physical decadence or in stemming the tide of mental degeneracy.

SOURCE**25: RACE DECADENCE**

A blind and unreasoning belief in a magnificent destiny for the American people will not serve to correct or remedy the ills which are appearing in our body politic as the result of the insidious racial changes which are slowly, but surely, taking place.

25:0.4 As compared with many other nations, we are reasonably sound and our future, barring the passing unrest of the hour, would seem to be bright and hopeful; but such satisfaction and assurance is only comparative, for, when we look into the actual drift of things American, when we fearlessly face the known facts in the case, we are compelled to recognize that all is not well; that Uncle Sam does not, to a sufficient degree, possess the ideal of a “sound mind and a sound body.” The scientific study of our physical, mental, and racial status discloses sufficient departure from the ideals of what we should be and may be, to arouse in every sincere student the conviction that positive effort must be put forth, in the very near future, to correct the existing evils which afflict us as a nation.

HIGHEST PATRIOTISM

25:1.1 The truest patriotism—the highest citizenship—is evidenced not by blind devotion to the thought of our national greatness and destiny, but rather by an honest willingness to learn the truth, sincerely to examine the facts,

and then fearlessly and bravely face the issue, grapple with the difficulties, and by perseverance and common sense seek scientifically and thoroughly to overcome any handicap which the errors of the past and the mistakes of former generations may have placed upon the people of the present day, all the while keenly recognizing our great duty so to conduct our social, political, and other affairs as to prevent the further handicapping of succeeding generations as the result of the passing on to them added or cumulative burdens of the same, or a worse, nature than those we labor and suffer under at the present time.

25:1.2 Philanthropy and altruism need a new birth and an enlarged viewpoint. While we would not stop any of our present-day efforts to relieve suffering, commiserate misery, or ameliorate human woe, we would so widen the horizon of the modern philanthropist that he would recognize that much of our charitable ministration is of but passing value, and that it contributes little or nothing to elevating the race—that it avails not a thing toward the uplifting of the next generation. The time has come for the powerful forces of science, the humanitarian ministrations of the physician, and the uplifting efforts of the reformer to coordinate and correlate their influence—to recognize that we have long since largely lost the protection of the operation of the laws of “natural selection” and that we are threatened with the dire consequences of our failure to establish some sort of “artificial selection,” based on our scientific know-ledge, in some measure to take the place of the biologic law of the “survival of the fittest,” which modern civilization is so effectually annulling.

25:1.3 One thing is certain, if we do not give willing thought to these problems of race decadence, now or in the near future, some day this generation, or the next, will be forced to attend to some of these matters with haste and with but immature consideration; whereas now the threat of evil is far enough away to permit us to give careful, deliberate, and scientific consideration to the problems which confront us, and work out painstaking and sane methods of regulation, suppression, prevention, and control. Do we believe that prevention is better than cure? Do we not believe in preparedness in anything as regards our state and nation? Will the American people always go on heedlessly until they stand on the brink of a precipice, before they will consent to discern danger and prepare for eventualities? Can we not open our eyes and see whither we are drifting, and before the current becomes so swift as to bear us dangerously near the evil shoals, can we not reverse the engine of civilization, or at least stop in our national activities a sufficient length of time to take stock, to ascertain the truth, to assemble the facts, and then having looked them squarely in the face, to take hold of our health, eugenic, and racial problems, with an earnest will to bring about the scientific and systematic solution of the difficulties which they present?

**THE SOLEMN CALL TO
THINK**

24:2.1 American conditions call for study—for thought. The facts heretofore presented demand recognition. The problems of the hour challenge our sincere study. Our national life needs to be studied in the light of the rise and downfall of other nations. We are, as governments go, but a young people, and now is the time, in our adolescence as it were, carefully to take stock, earnestly to inquire into and recognize our fundamental defects, and then with that patriotic courage and stalwart bravery born of the optimism and national confidence which has for its foundation that body of accumulated scientific facts and biologic wisdom which is the heritage of the dawn of the twentieth century, let us as one man consecrate our hands to the task and dedicate our minds to the cause of turning away the menacing tide of physical decadence and mental defectiveness, before this dire threat of degeneracy shall have time to assume more serious proportions, and before the racial deterioration which now looms in the distance shall have further undermined the stability and intellectual greatness of America and Americans.

24:2.2 The call now to the citizenry of America is for the reading, thinking half to become students of the great problem of race betterment: to formulate their ideas, revise their opinions, reach their conclusions, and then in turn become teachers of the other, the unthinking, heedless, and careless half, that is driving on heedlessly toward racial decadence and national ruin.

This is the age, today is the time, for education and agitation. Tomorrow, perhaps even another generation, may be the time for the more drastic legislation which shall seek to purify our stream of national life. We must possess more knowledge, and more people must possess the knowledge which we today have, before we can begin the more sure and positive purging of the nation by corrective legislation. But today we already know enough of heredity, we already are aroused—at least a thinking minority is sufficiently aroused—concerning the menace of decadence and the threat of degeneracy, as to make certain that the time has come, the hour has struck, to sound the rallying call, to blow the bugle for the summons into action of the men and women who have dared to uncover the causes which are operating to threaten our national integrity; and who are willing to face the facts which so unerringly point out our slow but sure drift toward national degeneracy. Yes, the hour is here to sound the rallying call for that part of our citizenry which is willing to “look the facts in the face” and then with intelligence and determination lay the ax of prevention to the root of the tree which is responsible for this increasing harvest of human unfitness, defectiveness, and degeneracy.

24:2.3 The reader may be interested in knowing that this book on “Race Decadence” is the first of a series of four volumes which will cover, in their discussions, the whole field of Race Hygiene in general and the racial status and prospects of the American people in particular.

This series of books will cover the fields of race degeneracy, heredity, eugenics, and the more direct application of these biologic facts to the present problems of the American people, including a study of immigration in relation to eugenics.

23:2.4 Briefly outlined, these volumes will cover these subjects in a manner somewhat after the following scheme:

23:2.5 *Vol. I. Race Decadence.*—This phase of Race Hygiene is covered in the present volume.

23:2.6 *Vol. II. Genetics: The Science of Heredity.*—The subject of genetics will be covered in the second volume of this series, which fully discusses the laws of inheritance as applied to plants, animals, and the human species, presenting a practical, popular, and scientific portrayal of this extremely interesting subject.

23:2.7 *Vol. III. Race Betterment; or, Applied Eugenics.*—This volume will be devoted to making a practical application of the laws of heredity to the human race. It will present a full and frank discussion of eugenics, with a sane and practical program for Race Betterment. It will present the medical man's view of the problem of Race Hygiene.

23:2.8 *Vol. IV. American Problems.*—Lastly, the fourth volume will take up the sociological, educational, industrial, and political aspects of Race Hygiene in relation to the American people. This volume will give careful consideration to the problems of immigration, philanthropy, and other sociological and reformatory questions in their relation to applied eugenics.