

THE EUGENICS LABORATORY AND THE EUGENICS EDUCATION SOCIETY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES.

Sir,—It is frequently implied, especially by lecturers and writers of articles on alcoholism, and the belief appears to be widely entertained, that the Eugenics Laboratory of the University of London and the Eugenics Education Society are connected. Sometimes it seems to be thought that the laboratory is partly under the control of the society, or, on the other hand, that the two are more or less antagonistic. Permit me, as the founder of the one and the honorary president of the other, to say that there is no other connexion between them. Their spheres of action are different, and ought to be mutually helpful. The laboratory investigates without bias, and with the help of highly-trained experts, large collections of such *data* as may throw light on some of the many problems of eugenics. The business of the society is to popularize results that have been laboriously reached elsewhere, and to arouse enthusiasm in the public. It is active in doing so. I wish to take this opportunity of saying that I wholly approve of the fairness and scientific thoroughness of the laboratory work under the direction of Professor Karl Pearson.

It is unfortunate that much of the criticism on the work of the laboratory is by those who write under a strong bias. That on the effect of alcoholic parentage upon offspring is an instance of this. I have neither need nor wish to say more about this question, because I understand that a discussion of these criticisms will appear in a second edition of the Memoir in question, which is now at the press. Also that a new Memoir on extreme alcoholism in adults will appear in a few weeks.

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