

of excitement are not reprehensible, as those told deliberately, since the man speaks before he can reflect. The judgment function is more or less inhibited. All acts and thoughts under the influence of this social inhibition are impulsive, like those of the hypnotic subject.

In its last analysis timidity is found to be due to a lack of sympathetic correspondence between the individual and his social environment. "The subject is not responsive to social magnetism, unable to divest himself of his own peculiar ways of life and thought." In short he is unable to imitate others. He may be intensely conscious of the defect and may feel keenly the need of the sympathy which he fails to exercise and to receive. This lack of responsiveness to social suggestion shows itself in several ways. First, in the attitude of the *timide* toward the *crowd*, further in his treatment of those whom he judges his *superiors*, and lastly in his general unwillingness to *confide* in others. This spontaneous timidity-feeling, which M. Dugas calls *intimidation*, to distinguish it from reflective timidity, is 'due to the distress arising from the realization of the lack of sympathy between ourselves and our environment.' Reflection is apt to create a certain exaggeration of this feeling, so that the person affected 'begins to despise himself, to exaggerate his perplexities, and to pet his anger.' He is apt to isolate himself intellectually. While his thinking may be original, it will lack social adaptiveness. On the affective side there is a tendency to conceal sentiments of his own, and to distrust the sympathy of others. Hence the reserve that is characteristic of timidity. He may be further affected by a certain *maladie d'idéal*, or tendency to despise the things of ordinary life in comparison with his fancies. On the volitional side his acts are apt to be impulsive, and are often incomprehensible to himself, mainly because he no longer has the power of deliberate judgment.

Finally, in its spontaneous form timidity marks a normal state in mental growth, that stands midway between the pure reflex life of the child and reflective mental life. Between the more abnormal form and genius a possible relation is suggested. The exclusiveness which the *timide* seeks, while it cannot of itself inspire art, may give occasion for its development.

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*The Popular Aesthetics of Color.* JOSEPH JASTROW. Pop. Sci. Monthly, January, 1897. Pp. 361-368.

This is an application of statistical methods to the determination of color preferences. The material for the study—about 4,500 records—

was collected in connection at the Psychological Laboratory of the World's Fair. By means of a convenient system of cards those who were sufficiently interested to stop recorded age, sex, favorite color, and favorite combination of two colors. Twenty-four single colors were displayed from which to choose: red, orange, yellow, green, blue and violet, with six intermediate, and the twelve lighter shades of these. Twenty-four combinations were also shown, presenting as wide a range as possible. The most important as well as the most interesting results are these:

1. The general favorite of all colors is blue, more than one-fourth of the voters choosing this. Red holds the second place, though it is preferred by less than half as many. Then follow lighter blue, blue-violet, red-violet, lighter red (pink) and violet, while the least favorite colors are orange and its shadings toward red and yellow.

2. Darker colors are decidedly preferred to the lighter shades of the same colors, and primary colors (red, orange, etc.) to intermediate (red-orange, orange-yellow, etc.).

3. The difference between the average male and female chooser is striking. The women's favorite color is red, the men's is overwhelmingly blue: "of every thirty masculine votes ten were for blue and three for red; while of every thirty feminine votes four were for blue and five for red." Men confine their choice to relatively fewer colors and have a much less marked tendency than women to choose the lighter and daintier shades.

4. Among the combinations of colors the two most frequently chosen are red with violet, and red with blue; and the most generally avoided are orange with green, violet, or lighter blue. In these combinations the same colors, on the whole, are preferred and avoided as in the single color-preferences.

5. Preference according to age shows (*a*) that blue is least selected by the youngest group (below 18 years), decidedly preferred by the oldest (over forty years), and equally chosen by the groups between these ages; (*b*) that violet is gradually avoided as age increases; (*c*) that lighter red is the preference of the young girls; (*d*) that relatively more persons between twenty-five and thirty than at any other age have 'no choice.'

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