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Reviews and Criticisms

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REVIEWS AND CRITICISMS.

DIE ERGEBNISSE DER ZEITLICH ABGEMESSENEN BESCHRAENKUNG DER FREIHEITSSTRAFFEN IN IHRER ANWENDUNG AUF VORBEISTRAFE RECHTSBRECHER UNTER BESONDERER BERUECKSICHTIGUNG DER JUGENDLICHEN RECHTSBRECHER (The Results of Confinement of Recidivists for a Limited Time, with Special Regard to Minor Delinquents). *Gustav Beck*. Zeitschrift fuer schweizerische Statistik, 47. Jahrgang, 1911, 165-208.

This statistical analysis of the criminal records of those convicted in Bern, Switzerland, for ten years from 1896-1905 has been prepared by a physician who has unusual insight into the current problems of reformatory punishment. His psychological classification of the forms of offenses is particularly suggestive in connection with a possible discrimination between the treatment of those guilty of more aggressive and intentionally disorderly offenses as distinguished from those guilty of offenses committed for financial profit or showing less of the element of public disorder. For the former group of offenders he recommends institutional treatment which shall emphasize discipline. He notes an analogous distinction between reformatories and industrial schools in the United States. Omitting those who are older before repeating, the aggressive disorderly group is almost unrepresented among minor women delinquents. The latter need mainly compulsory industrial training to correct their attempts at getting easy money. This type of institution should also care for those boys who are not of aggressive, disorderly disposition.

Dr. Beck also thinks that he presents telling evidence against using, with older minors, limited times of confinement graded according to the seriousness of the offense. After these limited sentences the first offender is three-fourths as likely to repeat within five years on the average as within fifteen years on the average. This type of punishment has little deterrent effect by twenty years of age. Of those convicted during the ten-year period more than half were repeaters. For these he concludes that their continued delinquency is at least partially caused by society's failure to train them properly when they were first convicted.

The paper contains a statement of Dr. Beck's conception of punishment, which he believes might harmonize the conflicting classical and modern points of view. There are appendices giving comparisons with the German statistics and supplementing in part his classification of those who committed their first offense during their minority, by those in Bern who began their careers at older ages during the same ten-year period.

Carnegie Institute of Technology.

J. B. MINER.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF NEGLECTED CHILDREN OF THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA, DEPARTMENT OF ATTORNEY GENERAL. 1914. By *J. W. Jeffery*, Government Printer, Edmonton. pp. 82.

This report from Alberta is a well-written, systematically arranged report, filled with interesting information. The first sentence shows that the writer of the report realizes that child-welfare problems are community problems and are not confined for their solution to juvenile courts, charity organization societies, or any other individual agency. The opening sentences read as follows: "The report of a department dealing with the child problem must of necessity be a report dealing with practically the whole social machinery, working against community irresponsibility and mitigating those tendencies that have a bearing-down influence on the life of the community. * * * The correction of wrongs against children, and the prevention of conditions becoming serious, which would soon result in criminality and pauperism are the two main objects of this work. The fact that Alberta has been conducting this work *practically without the use of institutions* is significant, inasmuch as the system is new and gradually breaking down old traditions that expensive institutions with a great deal of machinery are necessary for handling neglected and delinquent children."

The principal methods which Alberta has used in handling the cases of neglected and delinquent children without housing them in institutions have been (1) probation, (2) placing permanently or temporarily in foster homes, and (3) the prosecution of adults who have offended against children. Out of 490 delinquent cases coming before the juvenile courts of Alberta, it was found necessary to send only fifty-seven children to institutions. Out of 821 dependents, 265 were adopted, 282 were returned to relatives, eighty-one were placed at work, twenty-eight were placed with farmers, fifteen died, eleven were deported, and the remainder, 139, were cared for in different kinds of institutions.

Brief comment is made in the report on the various types of children and on the different methods of work. Some of the chapters are: Children's Aid Societies.

Juvenile Courts.

Means of Correction and Prevention.

Crimes Against Children.

Mental Defectives.

Physical Defects.

Home Finding.

Throughout the report the close co-operation of public and private agencies in Alberta is shown.

The reviewer regrets that the text of the Children's Protection Act, the Juvenile Courts Act and the Dominion Delinquents Act was not included in the report, as without it it is difficult to understand just what the responsibilities of the different public officers are.

Chicago.

JOEL D. HUNTER.

THE ILLINOIS SENATE VICE COMMITTEE'S REPORT. By *Lieutenant Governor Barratt O'Hara*, Chairman, and *Senators Juul, Beall, Torsey and Woodward.* 1916. pp. 978.

Seldom has a Vice Committee stirred up such publicity as the Illinois Senate Committee aroused both in its investigations and in its report. The report, published January 18, 1916, has throughout a central purpose, i. e., to show that prostitution is the direct outgrowth of poverty. In its hearings the questions of the Committee were designed to secure evidence supporting this thesis, and in its report the Committee states "That poverty is the principal cause, direct and indirect, of prostitution." The press has taken issue with the Committee particularly upon this statement and upon the parallel statement "That thousands of girls are driven into prostitution because of the sheer inability to keep body and soul together on the low wages received by them." Much of the press comment is, as might be expected, unintelligent and uninformed, showing a lack of real information regarding the limitations and definitions which are, in the body of the report, placed about the two statements quoted above. The report specifically states that by "poverty" is meant not only insufficient food and clothing, but also those other by-products of poverty, such as bad housing, dangerous and vulgar recreation, and child labor, and quotes as authorities in support of its conclusions such writers as Miss Jane Addams, Dr. Abraham Flexner, and Miss Sophonisba Breckenridge.

Less categorically and less sweepingly stated, the findings of the Committee would have the endorsement of many people who know the problems of girls and boys in industry. But there is much support for the criticisms which have been pointed at the brief and dogmatic statement of findings made by the Committee. Poverty is undoubtedly one of the great conditions making an available supply, but the active force at work in the business of commercialized prostitution is not poverty, but ruthless and selfish greed for money on the part of those who exploit the supply. There are also social factors, having little relationship with wages as such, which are vigorously effective as, for example, in the case of the domestic servant who, with food and shelter furnished in addition to wages, is still quite as frequently a recruit for commercialized vice as is the underpaid shop or factory girl.

In the case of prostitution, as in other complex and intricate social problems, it is hazardous to the actual facts involved to state causes and results narrowly and specifically. One does not find simple solutions to entangled problems.

WALTER CLARKE.

American Social Hygiene Association, Chicago.

DEFECTIVE CHILDREN. Edited by *T. N. Kelynack, M. D.*, New York. William Wood & Co., 1915. Pages 454. Price \$3.00.

This volume is a sequel to *Medical Examination of Schools and Scholars*. Its aim is to provide reliable and authoritative in-

formation to workers in Great Britain and elsewhere regarding the several classes of defective children requiring special medical supervision and educational care. The volume on Medical Examination of Schools and Scholars dealt mainly with methods of investigation, and was intended to assist the body of school doctors who are working in a practically unexplored field of medico-sociological work. It was published in 1907, shortly after the Education Act of England came into force. The book under review is made up of contributions from many hands. Following is the list of authors:

- Konrad Biesalski, Defective Children in Germany.
 George Arbuckle Brown and Katharine Chisholm, Defective Girls in Secondary Schools.
 Walter S. Cornell, Defective Children in the United States.
 Lewis D. Cruickshank, School Clinics.
 E. Deutsch, Defective Children in Hungary.
 Louis Dufestel, Defective Children in France.
 B. C. Elmslie, Schools for Crippled Children.
 Theodore Fisher, Cardio-vascular Defects in Children.
 Kate Fraser, Defective School Children in Scotland.
 H. G. Gauvain, Tuberculous Cripples.
 Hastings Guilford, Defective Growth and Development in Infancy, Childhood and Youth.
 N. Bishop Harman, Defects of Vision.
 Andrew Fergus Hewat, The Epileptic Child.
 E. W. Hope, Defective Children and The War—Relation of the Public Services.
 Douglas William Hunter, Idiots and Imbeciles.
 Walter N. Jordan, Paralytic Cripples.
 James Alexander Lindsay, The Defective Child in Ireland.
 James Kerr Love, The Deaf Child.
 Alexander S. Macgregor, The Rachitic Child.
 Helen MacMurchy, Defective Children in Canada.
 Hamilton C. Marr, The Mentally Defective Child.
 L. Storrow Shennan, Dental Clinics for Children.
 William C. Sullivan, Criminal Children.
 Lewis H. F. Thatcher, Speech Defects in Childhood and Early Adolescence.
 A. H. Tubby, Spinal Defects in Young Subjects.
 Lewis Williams, Open Air Schools and Residential Schools for Defective Children.
 Northwestern University.

ROBERT H. GAULT.

THE INTELLECTUAL STATUS OF CHILDREN WHO ARE PUBLIC CHARGES.

By *J. L. Stenquist, E. L. Thorndike and M. R. Trabue*. Archives of Psychology, No. 33. September, 1915. The Science Press, New York.

This monograph is a study of 265 children, including 183 boys and 82 girls. These comprised about three-fourths of the children from nine years and no months of age to sixteen years and no

months, who were at the time of the investigation public charges in a certain unnamed county. The selection was by random, excepting that none of the dependent children under investigation sent by the county to the state institution for the care of feeble-minded were included. The measurements of the children who were committed for delinquency, compared with those committed because of destitution, shows no difference either in the tests of abstract intellectual processes or in the mechanical tests. The Stenquist test of mechanical ability is first reported in this monograph. It aims at what is rarely ever accomplished by the tests now in use; namely, an ability to select the necessary parts from among a variety of pieces and to put them together according to a prearranged plan to make certain mechanical devices. The child is provided, not only with the parts, but also with several models which may be constructed from the pieces provided. Photographs are furnished with the tests to show how the scoring is to be accomplished. Thirty minutes was allowed for completing the test, and an extra credit was allowed for each minute saved by the child. Thus the test is one by which the authors hope to avoid wholly the error that is so well recognized in the Binet test; namely, that arising from the effect of previous training and also from a greater or less facility in the use of language.

The Trabue completion test, consisting of a series of 56 sentences with omitted words to be filled in, was used also with the same group of children. Each child was directed to "put one word in each blank so that the sentence will sound right and make good sense." This was a thirty-five minutes test. The standards of performance of this test were obtained from the results of testing 850 children in two public schools in New York. Each paper was given a score for each of the fifty-six sentences. Each sentence received a grade of five if correctly completed, and zero if not sensible at all. If the sentence as completed was slightly imperfect, a grade of four was given, etc.

The Goddard revision of the Binet test was employed also with the same group of children. "The standards of performance to be counted as satisfactory and the credit to be given for each test, as well as the form in which the test was presented, were those described by Dr. Goddard, except where a study of the methods used by others and the examiner's own experience convinced him that modifications were desirable." The Binet examiner did not give all the tests belonging to any year group excepting those between the point where the examinee showed full ability to do the easier tests and the point where he showed complete inability to go higher.

The final test was of ability to read certain passages and to answer questions or to perform acts based upon these questions. The passages and questions were selected from those found in the Teachers' College Record, September, 1914. This test, the authors think, is in some degree a means of distinguishing between constitutional dullness and lack of training.

The investigators find that the children under investigation are "much below ordinary children of corresponding ages in the sort of

abilities tested by the Binet completion and reading tests. They differ, of course, among themselves. We find one child of much promise, forty-nine of nearly average ability or better, while forty-eight are four years or more behind, and the remaining three-fifths are from half a year to four years behind." The inferiority of these children is both in the mechanical ability and the ability to handle abstract ideas. The older children, as might be expected, are dull in excess of the younger. From the point of view of social economy, this excess of dullness of the older children means that being a public charge is more and more symptomatic of dullness the older the child is. Probably the adults up to beyond the prime of life who are public charges would be found to be even duller than these children of 14 to 16.

A supplementary chapter on heredity versus environment as the cause of the low intellectual status of dependent children is interesting. Here we have the report of a measurement of nine pairs of siblings who have been in institutions for five years or more. These are compared with nine other pairs of siblings who have been in institutions for but one to three years. It might be inferred in advance that the equal opportunities enjoyed by children in institutional life would cause a greater uniformity among siblings who have been in the institution for a long period than is found among those who have been in the institution but a short period. This inference of hypothesis, however, is not borne out by the observations reported in this monograph. Nevertheless, the authors do not consider their results upon this point as conclusive in any sense. The conclusion, they say, should be tested with a larger group of children and also by repeated measurements of the same pairs of siblings. The reviewer gravely doubts whether the hypothesis referred to can be tested at all adequately by the method invoked in this supplementary chapter, however large the group on which the experiment is made. Powerful influences have played upon each child throughout a critical period before he reaches our institutions.

Northwestern University.

ROBERT H. GAULT.

THE NEXT GENERATION. By *Frederick A. Rhodes*. The Badger Press, Boston. 1915. Pages 290. Price \$1.50.

This little volume is an interesting attempt to show how it is possible "by prevention and education to eliminate much of the misery, sorrow, and crime in the world." The book contains brief chapters on such subjects as the following: Eugenics; Theories of Inheritance; What Conditions are Inherited; Insanity and Alcoholism; Syphilis and Tuberculosis; Immigration; Church and Eugenics; The Church, Society and The Social Evil; Race Suicide; Teaching Sex Hygiene; Marriage and Eugenics; A practical study of the social evil.

Northwestern University.

ROBERT H. GAULT.

REPORT OF THE LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY, VICE COMMISSION. By B. S. Washer, *Vice-Chairman*, Louisville, Ky., 1915. pp. 94.

The Louisville Vice Commission was appointed by Mayor J. H. Buschemeyer in March, 1915, and made its report to the mayor and to the council on November 10, 1915, in a document of ninety-four pages.

"We desire to state, with all the positiveness at our command," says the Commission in its foreword, "that we approached this task free from bias or prejudice for or against the conflicting ideas or methods of control which had been advanced by thinkers and students here and in other parts of the country" (page 7), and the Committee arrived at some rather unprecedented conclusions. That which distinguishes the report from other similar pieces of work is the methods recommended by the Commission for dealing with commercialized prostitution. Where other Commissions have suggested the immediate, unconditional, and absolute wiping out of segregated districts, the Louisville Commission, after advising that the prostitutes should be given warning "that they must go" and "that there will not be permitted to exist in the city of Louisville a single known house of commercialized prostitution," says: "Most urgently, however, we recommend that reasonable time shall be given to the women to accommodate themselves to changed conditions. We do not believe in sporadic, spasmodic campaigns. We do not believe in giving general publicity to the method and progress of the campaign by the officials. We urged that all possible means be adopted to avoid even the appearance of sensationalism." (Page 14.)

The Commission gives two years of grace to the immoral women. During that time restrictive measures are to be imposed on the business of prostitution. The task of repression is set before the mayor and chief of police for them to work out during the period of two years.

The Louisville Vice Commission is the only Commission, so far as we know, on which the chief of police of the city to be investigated served as a member. The position is paradoxical; the chief of police served as a member of a Commission which investigated police problems. But the Commission speaks in terms of the highest esteem of Chief of Police Lindsey.

The report does not dwell on length on the causes of prostitution; it does not go into the relation of mental deficiency, and of poverty to prostitution. The frivolity of our day and generation is heartily condemned and charged with being an important cause of immorality among women. "With the development of Twentieth Century invention; with the commercialization of almost every phase of human interest; with means of quick transportation at hand; with the invention of the telephone and the telegraph, the moving picture, the phonograph, modern drama and a thousand other things of convenience and amusement, the old order of things has changed. The hours of labor are shorter. Opportunity for recreation is greater; and the commercialization of human interest has brought people to the condition where the main business of life is the seeking of pleas-

ure. This condition of life has been productive of an increase of immorality among women. The modern-day craze for pleasure has made easy and has accentuated the opportunity for women to be exploited." (Page 20.)

There are some constructive suggestions regarding recreation that are especially worthy of attention. As important reasons for the recommendations regarding the improvement of recreational facilities, the Commission gives the following:

"(1) Most young men and girls who go wrong do so first during their recreation hours, and as a part of their recreation.

"(2) Vicious influences on the young are chiefly exerted through companionships formed during recreation.

"(3) The ideals of women in the minds of young men and of men in the minds of girls determine largely whether these young people live clean or vicious lives. These sex ideals are largely formed by the companionships of recreation hours." (Page 73.)

There are eighteen recommendations to the public authorities and to the citizens of Louisville. These are here quoted in full:

"(1) That a general plan of suppression of commercialized houses of prostitution be immediately inaugurated.

"(2) That the so-called red-light district be destroyed as the rendezvous for immoral traffic within a period not exceeding two years.

"(3) That all known houses of prostitution outside of the so-called segregated or red-light district be closed at the earliest possible date.

"(4) That the police department and the several courts having jurisdiction over such matters proceed toward the suppression of commercialized prostitution in a manner as free from sensationalism and spectacular procedure as possible.

"(5) That the sale or free distribution of liquor in houses of prostitution be promptly discontinued, under police orders, and that rigid enforcement of this regulation shall be compelled.

"(6) That the use of pianos or any other musical instruments, whether played by hand, propelled automatically, by electricity, or in an other manner, shall be forthwith forbidden in houses of prostitution.

"(7) That the rule be rigidly enforced that new recruits shall be denied the privilege of entering any known house of prostitution from and after the time when this report shall be made.

"(8) That all known prostitutes, resident in the city at the time this report is made, shall be forbidden to move their place of residence from their present abode to another abode within the city unless such person desires to abandon the business in which she has theretofore engaged.

"(9) That during the period of suppression of houses of public prostitution, said houses shall be compelled to close their doors to patrons after the hour of midnight.

"(10) That strict supervision of all places of public amusement, whether commercialized, municipal, or quasi-public, shall be enforced.

"(11) That a recreation commission shall be created, with power to supervise, direct and control, through paid employees, all commercial or public recreation within the city.

"(12) That all public parks be policed later than 11 o'clock p. m., as at present, and that, so far as possible, the public shall be denied admission to said parks after the hour of 11 o'clock p. m.

"(13) That social service departments be established in all places where girls are employed in large numbers, particularly in manufacturing establishments, department stores, factories and other similar institutions.

"(14) That courses of sex hygiene, carefully planned, shall be included in the curricula of night schools for adults, of the high schools, normal schools and colleges, and that neighborhood classes, conducted in public school buildings, for the study of these subjects, be inaugurated under the direction of the Board of Education.

"(15) That the State Legislature, at its next session, be urged to establish a reformatory for women.

"(16) That more adequate provision be made in conjunction with the work of the juvenile court for the treatment and care of delinquent girls who may be under the surveillance of the court in temporary detention. That, if possible, a suitable institution be established in the city of Louisville for this important purpose. That separation be made of delinquent and semi-delinquent girls, and that proper education and guarded and enlightened methods be provided for them.

"(17) That the county authorities be urged to co-operate with the municipal authorities in the campaign against commercialized vice, and that the attention of the county authorities be particularly cited to the danger of the growing prevalence of roadhouses of an undesirable type.

"(18) That the city health department be empowered to conduct a campaign of education for the purpose of enlightening the public on the dangers of venereal disease to offset the fallacious advertisements of fake and quack medical remedies."

WALTER CLARKE.

American Social Hygiene Association, Chicago.

MEDICAL JURISPRUDENCE. A STATEMENT OF THE LAW OF FORENSIC MEDICINE. By *Elmer D. Brothers, B. S., LL. B.* C. V. Mosby Co., St. Louis. 1914.

It is with great delight that one turns to this little volume, filling as it does a long-felt need among physicians.

The author, a very lucid and systematic writer, presents the various phases of the physician's relation to the law in a clear and concise manner, and in a language devoid to a large extent of that legal phraseology so confusing to the average physician. The work

is furthermore singularly free from theorization and the bulk of the text is based upon judicial decisions on the various questions under consideration. In recommending the book we can truly say that it is a text book in the truest sense of the term on medical jurisprudence; and should be in the library of every physician and jurist.

BERNARD GLUECK.

Government Hospital for the Insane, Washington, D. C.

GENERAL STATISTICS OF CITIES; U. S. CENSUS REPORT ON AMERICAN POLICE DEPARTMENTS. Washington, D. C., Census Bureau, 1915.

I. STRENGTH OF FORCES.

INTRODUCTION. The report of the United States Census Bureau on American police departments is contained in the volume entitled, "General Statistics of Cities 1915," which was recently issued by that Bureau. The table of police statistics will be found on pages 59 to 106 inclusive and the analysis of these statistics will be found on pages 17 to 32 inclusive. The report gives statistics for 204 cities having a population of more than 30,000 and divides these cities into five groups with a minimum population of 500,000; 300,000; 100,000; 50,000 and 30,000 respectively. There were 9 cities in Group I, 10 cities in Group II, 43 cities in Group III, 60 cities in Group IV and 82 cities in Group V.

NUMBER OF MEN. Of the total number of policemen in these 204 cities more than one-fifth are employed in New York City and more than one-half in the nine cities of Group I. Atlantic City, N. J., and Washington, D. C., stand out as having an unusually large police force and Cleveland, O., as having an exceptionally small force. Unfortunately the report does not give a strength-population index for each city, which would be of much practical value to police officials and to students of municipal science.

The report gives the number of men in each city who are performing patrol duty, detective duty, and special duty. The analysis of the statistics of the men detailed to such special duties as driving, clerical work, turnkeys, telephone operating, harbor duties, sanitary duties, parks and courts is illuminating. The attempt which has been made to give the statistics of the number of officers of each rank is of comparatively small value because the duties attached to the various ranks differ in many cities and the statistics appear to have been compiled according to nominal titles rather than according to the functions performed by the officers.

DETECTIVES. Detective duty is performed in American cities, according to the report by officers, by detailed patrolmen and by civilians, and the report shows for each city the number of detectives of each class. In fourteen cities no men were assigned to detective duty and in seventeen cities all the detectives were of officer rank.

COMMISSIONERS. Fifty cities had police commissioners, this term being used by the Census Bureau to include members of police

boards and deputy commissioners. Nine cities had one commissioner, eighteen cities had three commissioners and the city of Atlanta, Ga., had twelve commissioners.

MOUNTED MEN. The report gives for each city the number of policemen on patrol duty who are unmounted, mounted on horses, on motorcycles and on bicycles and calls special attention to the fact that the use of the motorcycle has increased at the expense of both horses and bicycles. Chicago and Philadelphia appear to have discarded the bicycle entirely and Berkeley, Calif., has all of its patrolmen mounted.

POLICEWOMEN. Much space is devoted to the statistics relating to the seventy policewomen employed by twenty-five cities, of whom twenty-one are employed in Chicago. The data concerning policewomen, though elaborate, is far from complete. It does not attempt to include the matrons who perform police duties other than the custodial care of female prisoners, nor does it give any statistics of the women employed by departments of the municipal government other than the police department to perform the duties of policewomen.

ROUNDSMEN. The 137 police officers employed by 21 cities under the title of roundsman are classified in this report as performing miscellaneous duties, although from a functional point of view their duties are the same as those performed by sergeants in other cities. This failure to distinguish between nominal and functional titles detracts much from the practical value of the report in many cases.

COMPARATIVE STRENGTH. A table of considerable interest and value is the one which shows the strength of the police force of each city in 1905, 1907 and 1915, together with the percentage of increase or decrease for this decade. The cities of Group III having a population of from 100,000 to 300,000 show the greatest percentage of increase. Of individual cities mention may be made of Oakland, Calif., having an increase of 212 per cent. and of Chicago with an increase of 112 per cent. Eleven cities show a decrease in their police force during this decade, the largest decrease being the 29 per cent. decrease of Haverhill, Mass. This table gives the percentage of increase from each census to the next succeeding census only. Accordingly percentages are given from 1905 to 1907 and from 1907 to 1915, but not for the entire decade. It is evident that the practical value of the table would have been enhanced by the inclusion of these percentages for the decade.

OUTSIDE PAYMENTS. The street railway companies of Washington, D. C., paid the salaries of 56 crossing policemen who were members of the regular police force and in several other cities the salaries paid to crossing and depot policemen were paid by railway and street railway corporations. In each case the policemen were appointed, directed and paid by the municipality and the amount of their salaries was reimbursed to the city. In Rockford, Ill., and in Aurora, Ill., on the other hand the merchants paid salaries directly to policemen detailed as watchmen.

• New York City.

LEONHARD FELIX FULD.