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## Comment from the Philippines/Appointment of Mr. Bates

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## EDITORIALS

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### COMMENT FROM THE PHILIPPINES

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It is pleasant sometimes to read an approving comment. In an address delivered last May before the third annual convention of "The Provincial Fiscals of the Philippines," printed in the May, 1927, number of the Philippine Prisons Review, Acting Governor General Eugene Allan Gilmore said,

"A number of years ago I had an active part in the organization and control of the American Institute of Criminal Law and Criminology. The organization of this Institute was the outcome of the severe criticism which prevailed in the United States at that time concerning the failures of the administration of the criminal law. This Institute was one of the agencies which contributed very much to the correction of the evils and deficiencies of the criminal law and of placing penal justice upon a higher and more intelligent plane. Branches of the Institute were organized in various states which made valuable contributions to the improvement of the local administration of criminal law. A scientific journal dealing with criminal law and criminology was published under the auspices of the Institute. A close cooperation was established among the various agencies dealing with crimes and delinquents. I venture to suggest that a Philippine Branch of this Institute might be an effective agency for bringing together those who are interested in and willing to contribute to the improvement of the administration of our criminal law."

ANDREW R. BRUCE.

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### APPOINTMENT OF MR. BATES

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In no instance has President Hoover evidenced better judgment than in his selection of Mr. Sanford Bates of Boston, Massachusetts as Superintendent of the Federal Prisons. The position requires a man of character, experience and attainment and all of these qualifications are to be found in the new appointee. Not only has Mr. Bates been a student of criminology and penology for many years, but he has had much practical experience in his chosen field. He has been a practicing lawyer, a member of the legislature, a member of the Massachusetts Constitutional Convention of 1917, a Commissioner of the

Penal Institutions of his state and a Commissioner of the Department of Corrections. He has also been a useful official and member of numerous scientific societies in which he has rendered valuable services, among the offices held by him being those of: President of the American Prison Association, Vice-President of the American Institute of Criminal Law and Criminology and an Executive-Director of the American Crime Study Commission. It is indeed an encouraging fact that men of his attainments and qualifications are now coming to be appointed to public office.

ANDREW R. BRUCE.

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### THE CRIMINOLOGIC LABORATORY

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During all but twenty years this JOURNAL has steadfastly set its face toward the Criminologic Laboratory and all that the term implies: psychological, medical, neurological, and sociological analyses of individual criminals; penal institutions, penal methods, the laws and courts, the police and detective bureaus; all from the viewpoint of their suitability for the work they have in hand. We have constantly and at cost resisted the temptation to popularize our pages because we have believed that there were enough popularizers in the field while too few were after the fundamentals that count in the long run.

On our editorial staff and among our contributors from the beginning have been those who have been most influential in the sciences with which we are concerned. It is a source of great gratification to us, therefore, that public spirited citizens of Chicago have guaranteed a Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory that, in affiliation with Northwestern University, will begin its activities in October under the direction of Colonel Calvin Goddard, a well known expert in firearms who has contributed to our pages. It is equally gratifying that our distinguished Associate Editor, Mr. August Vollmer will at the same time become associated with the University of Chicago as Professor of Police Administration. These are departures in university work and other similar ones are likely to follow soon.

ROBERT H. GAULT.