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## Reviews and Criticisms

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## REVIEWS AND CRITICISMS

THORSTEN SELLIN, EDITOR

A NEW WAY WITH CRIME. By *A. Fenner Brockway*. Williams and Norgate, London, 1928.

Mr. Brockway is well qualified to write this book both by experience and by training. He spent twenty-eight months behind British prison walls. With Stephen Hobhouse he was joint secretary of the Prison System Enquiry Committee, the results of which were published as *English Prisons Today*. This was the most searching inquiry ever made of any prison system. As a result of it many of the evils there described were eliminated. That study was critical and on the whole destructive. This book gives Brockway's constructive suggestions as to how to remedy the evils still remaining.

Brockway sets out with two general principles—(1) that citizens should be given by society a fair opportunity to refrain from crime, and (2) that the criminal code should adequately reflect anti-social conduct. Neither of these principles hold to-day. Society accepts an organization of society which makes a larger proportion of poor folks criminals than of the rich. However, he makes no comparison between the relative proportions of poor and rich in the population. The criminal law does not reflect anti-social conduct because it puts no penalty upon the one-ninth of the population which receives one-half of the nation's income, although no one has ventured to suggest that these able-bodied and able-minded men and women who appropriate this income do half of the nation's work. This fact only reflects the anti-social attitude which dominates society from top to bottom. Hence the criminal law does not reflect anti-social conduct. It hardly needs to be noted that in America at least it is an open question whether owners of capital do not perform a service to society. That question is not as settled as Mr. Brockway seems to assume. However, his illustration does not invalidate his principle in other respects. Nor does his lack of good statistical method in making his point about the large number of prisoners who are from the poor invalidate his principle that society should make it easy for individuals to refrain from criminal conduct.

His new penal theory contains two points (1) that penal treatment must be based on the question as to what treatment is best for the individual offender and (2) what is best for society. He utterly rejects the other theories—retribution and deterrence. The authorities have no consistent or coherent theory. The laws themselves reflect various theories. Here, however, Brockway is as dogmatic as those he criticises. The only argument he presents on the theories he rejects is that with so many recidivists punishment does not deter.

Brockway's strength lies not in the field of theory but in his constructive suggestions for practical changes which will remedy the

present abuses in the treatment of criminals. Hence Parts II and III of this book are the most valuable. In Part II, devoted to the juvenile offender, the chapters on causation are largely taken from Burt's *The Young Delinquent*. The author's positive and most challenging suggestions concerning the juvenile delinquent are: (1) that "to emphasize the attitude towards Juvenile Offenders, and to express it in a suitable environment, we should transfer the responsibility of dealing with them from the Judiciary to the Education Office," with consequent separation of the Juvenile Courts from the ordinary courts, differently qualified judges and a changed procedure; (2) that from six to twelve observation centers should be established in various parts of Britain besides psychological clinics in every place where delinquent juveniles are handled; the observation centers are suggested on the basis of the Belgian centers at Moll for boys and at Namur for girls; (3) that fines be used as non-punitive methods of paying the costs of the case and the damages done; (4) that probation be much more widely extended; (5) that whipping should be entirely abolished for juveniles; (6) that in the case of unfit parents guardians for the children should be used; (7) the present places of detention should be abolished and for them substituted boarding out of provision made for detention at the psychological clinics (8) special arrangements should be provided for mental defective delinquents in addition to the present two state institutions; (9) the present industrial and reformatory schools should be taken over from private auspices by the educational authorities; (10) the various existing institutions for destitute and delinquent children should be coordinated under the state educational authorities; (11) hostels should be established to provide a decent place for many of these young delinquents after they have been discharged from the training institutions until they find employment.

As to adolescent offenders (1) new courts should be established under the education authorities; (2) all offenders under 21 should be excluded from prison; (3) capital punishment for these should be abolished; (4) Borstal institutions would care for all these, but the Borsals would have all penal features eliminated; (5) a new institution should be provided for mentally deficient adolescents; (6) the state should find them employment after the period of training ends.

As to adult offenders Brockway suggests (1) the establishment of a public solicitor for the defense, or what we call in the United States the public defender, available when the defendant is unable to hire one; (2) police should be prohibited from examining a suspect save in the presence of his lawyer; (3) bench and legal profession should be democratized by appointment of men and women of working class experience. He suggests as alternatives to imprisonment (1) that persons awaiting trial should not be in the prisons; if necessary to detain them, do so in hostels; (2) probation for first and petty offenders; (3) adequate opportunity to pay fines in installments; (4) establishment of work centers for those unable to pay fines; (5) inebriate homes for habitual drunkards; (6) detention of debtors in work centers and release on license; (7) removal of prostitution from penal code; (8)

vagrancy removed from penal code; (9) The residuum of about 1000 professional and habitual criminals should be kept in self contained communities on indeterminate or long sentences and some released on license; (10) abolish the death penalty; (11) treatment should be based on a mental examination.

This skeleton of Brockway's points do not do justice to him because it is impossible to state his reasons for the suggestions. Most of the suggestions seem in line with modern criminology and penology. However, one wonders whether he has considered the farm colonies for petty offenders in some of our states, and the use of penal colonies as in India, the Philippines and some of our Southern states. He ignores entirely the problem of prison labor, one of our most perplexing problems in America, and the qualifications of the personnel dealing with delinquents, a most important matter in our system. He does not seem to know that in the United States at least civil debtors are not imprisoned, therefore suggests methods of caring for them in separate institutions. One also wonders how he will get working class lawyers and judges in a society where such people have little or no chance to be trained as lawyers.

However, in spite of these minor defects and his lack of a broad basis in penological theory the author has made constructive, practical suggestions which students in every country will welcome.

University of Wisconsin.

J. L. GILLIN.

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RECONSTRUCTING BEHAVIOR IN YOUTH. By *William Healy, Augusta F. Bronner, Edith M. H. Baylor and J. Prentice Murphy*. Alfred A. Knopf, New York, 1929.

In this volume, Healy and his co-workers have presented a comprehensive analysis of several years of placing problem children in foster homes, instead of committing such cases to correctional institutions. The general thesis of the book and of the entire study is that the foster home when properly selected and supervised meets the fundamental needs of the problem child in a much more effective way than could possibly be done even in the best of the institutions.

The case material in this book is based on a study of the results obtained from the placement of 501 children in foster homes. These cases were placed and supervised by a variety of private and public agencies in Boston cooperating with the Judge Baker Foundation, where the psychiatric studies were made. The book is divided into three parts, with an introductory statement of perspectives in point of view. In this chapter the authors have reviewed a little of the history of the child placing work in this country, and discussed in a rather general way its advantages over institutional care. The first and last parts of the book deal with a description of the problems handled and an analysis of the results. In the chapter on Treatment of Special Problems, the authors have discussed some of the more frequent types of behavior that have been dealt with. Special chapters have been devoted to stealing, truancy from home and school, sex problems and certain habit problems, such

as enuresis. In these chapters the authors have discussed some of the special difficulties that have been encountered in dealing with these different types of behavior and have devoted one chapter to a discussion of their treatment, philosophy and technique. In their treatment, emphasis has been placed on three general things: "(1) A knowledge of the problem. (2) The physical and mental make-up of the child. (3) A special inquiry into causes." In a discussion of the treatment methods, however, it seems that greater emphasis is placed on modifying behavior than on altering and understanding fundamental causes.

In this first part of the book there is one chapter devoted to problems of mentality and personality, with considerable emphasis placed on the relations of success and failure to the "psychopathic personalities" or the "mentally abnormal." There has been a great deal of discussion among psychiatrists as to the value and meaning of these classifications, particularly when they are used to describe definite behavior, which is different from other forms of personality deviations. In this study, considerable weight is placed on this classification, and the percentage of failures of the normal mental group is found to be rather higher than in the other groups.

The authors have pointed out that foster homes must be regarded from that point of view which has been greatly influenced by modern psychiatry. Such psychiatric principles as they point out have been helpful in understanding children in their own homes and in shedding light on causation of conduct difficulties. They point out, therefore, that it should be equally useful in understanding the needs and relationships of the child in the foster home. In order to emphasize some of the psychiatric principles which they have found useful, a chapter is devoted to a review of some of the "schools of psychiatry." They have given a brief statement of the principles of the behavioristic schools of psychology, and the views of Adler, Freud and Jung have also been included in the principles outlined by Thomas in his views on "The Unadjusted Girl."

The middle half of the book is concerned with a detailed description of technique of child placement. In these chapters, the writers have gone into considerable detail regarding the selection of homes, preparation of the foster parents for the child, the work with the child in the home, the work of the visitor in her relations to the child, foster parents, relatives, etc. The discussion of the selection of homes stresses particularly the importance of locality, economic status, educational facilities, the personalities of the foster parents and the general atmosphere of the home. In this discussion one misses the statement of any studies made on factors which have motivated foster parents to take children—a type of study which is coming to receive a great deal of attention in child placement work. They have discussed the relation of the child to his new community and the efforts taken to work out harmonious adjustment to school, recreational facilities, etc. They have also gone into considerable detail of the important problem of changing the child from one foster home to another, with a discussion of some of the factors which make changes necessary and how

they can be made with the least disturbance to the security of the child.

In the final chapter they have discussed the results of their experiment in the placing of 501 children and have analyzed and commented on the results obtained. Two interesting conclusions are given: (1) "That good standards of work and high degree of success in the placement of problem children is possible." (2) "The fine promise of this type of work is dependent upon the introduction of scientific methods and discrimination." Among other things operating against success they note as particularly important: (1) "Family interference." (2) "Too short a period of placement." (3) "The placing of the 'mentally abnormal.'" They further state that "for normal children we have not found conditions or factors, whether of sex, age, heredity or type of delinquency, that prove great obstacles to a favorable result." For "normal personalities" the chances for success are five to one.

The book shows evidence of careful and continued co-operation between clinic, court and social agency. If more communities could have this type of co-operation there could be a more effective use of constructive facilities for the intelligent handling of the problem child, whether the case work thus made available is done through a foster family or in his own home. It would make an interesting supplement to this study to have a statement concerning the case work efforts that had been expended in attempting to adjust these cases in their own homes and some of the criteria that lead to a decision to place the child. It is to be generally recognized that it is a serious matter to remove the child from his home either for foster home or institutional placement. This is a matter somewhat beside the purpose of this book, as one is left to assume that in these 501 cases it was either a choice of sending the child to a foster home or sending him to an institution. We are left to assume that continued work with the child in his own home was no longer possible.

This book is evidence of the careful work that has been expended in meeting individual needs of delinquent children. It points to the fact that the meeting of these problems can only be effectively done when there is this type of co-operation between the court, clinic and both public and private agencies, whose work bring them into contact with the child. Such co-operation greatly broadens the rather limited treatment facilities possessed by most courts. Placement of problem children in carefully selected foster homes represents a real attempt to meet the needs of the delinquent child whose behavior is frequently the expression of their absence. That our institutions for delinquents frequently fail to meet these needs is apparent, and where they have succeeded it is due to their ability to approximate the things which family life and home care can give. It remains for studies of this type to show what careful case work and attention to fundamentals can do to meet these needs, whether the child be in an institution, foster home or in their own home.

Philadelphia Child Guidance Clinic. FREDERICK H. ALLEN, M.D.

LA RÉFORME PÉNALE EN ITALIE. Étude sur le Nouveau Project Préliminaire. By *Henry G. J. Maas Geesteranus*. 166 pp. Recueil Sirey, Paris, 1929.

Italy, of all European countries, has furnished the most fertile soil for theories on the subject of crime in recent years. At least more theories have come out of Italy than any other country. What manner of changes in the Penal Code Fascist Italy proposes is therefore of considerable interest to criminologists. This book discusses them.

A project for a code which was prepared by a Commission appointed in 1919 under the presidency of Enrico Ferri and which embodied many of his ideas, such as substituting for the classical concept of responsibility what Ferri designated as "imputability" was completed and published in 1921. Political events prevented any further progress with this project and caused it to be laid aside. In 1925, the Italian parliament authorized the Government to frame a new Penal Code, among others. A "preliminary project for a new Penal Code," largely the work of the Minister of Justice, Alfredo Rocco, was presented and published in 1927. It is this project which is examined in the present work.

The author subjects the project to a critical analysis and discussion, devoting particular attention to the provisions in respect to responsibility, justification and excuse for crime; in regard to recidivists, habitual and professional criminals; conditional sentence and pardon; and punishments, their application and execution.

In general the new project follows the traditional views of crime, particularly as to moral responsibility and punishment. However, it adopts certain ideas of the Positive School which were embodied in the project of 1921. The results are sometimes, according to the author, not only illogical but practically indefensible. For example, the project adopts the conception of the born criminal, wholly or partially irresponsible for his acts, and yet imposes on him a more severe penalty for the same offense than it provides for the fully responsible delinquent. Apparently it is, like most legislation, a patchwork of opposing and conflicting ideas and provisions.

Warren, Pa.

EDWARD LINDSEY.

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QUESTIONED DOCUMENTS. By *Albert S. Osborn*, 2 ed., XXIV+8+1026pp. Boyd Printing Company, Albany, 1929.

The second edition of "Questioned Documents," by Albert S. Osborn, is an outstanding contribution to the science of criminal investigation; more particularly that branch which deals with problems involving the genuineness of documents. In fact, no other work than this fascinating and interesting volume need be consulted because the author has so thoroughly and completely covered the whole field.

The new edition contains ten new chapters dealing with the preliminary examination of a questioned document; the process of comparison or reasoning regarding similarities and differences; guided hand or assisted signatures, marks as signatures, ballot marks, check

marks and rubrics; the proof of genuineness; proof that a disputed writing was not written by an alleged writer; pen and pencil printing as a disguise of handwriting; graphology and the identification of handwriting; the law and legal procedure in disputed document cases; the physical preparation of documents; the signing or execution of wills and other documents.

There have also been added 275 pages of citations with a topical arrangement into twenty sections. Each topic is subdivided alphabetically by the name of the state in which the opinion was rendered. A number of new illustrations are interspersed throughout the book, and the bibliography has been amplified.

Students of this science will find Chapter Fifteen, "The Process of Comparison, or Reasoning Regarding Similarities and Differences," of especial interest. In their efforts to establish the identity of two writings, beginners are prone to seek only similarities and, finding many, reach the conclusion of identity without giving thought to significant differences. In this chapter, Osborn aptly points out that "similarities may be superficial and differences may be fundamental, and where a conclusion of identity is reached, there must not remain significant differences that cannot reasonably be explained."

In Chapter Fourteen, "Variety of Forms in Handwriting and Mathematical Calculations Applied to Questioned Handwriting," he also shows how the question of identity is susceptible of mathematical solution.

This book should be read by every judge, attorney and police official.

Berkeley, California

AUGUST VOLLMER.

DIE WIRKUNGEN DER FREIHEITSSTRAFE UND UNTERSUCHUNGSHAFT AUF DIE PSYCHE DER GEFANGENEN. Phänomenologische Studien an literarischen Selbstzeugnissen ehemaliger Häftlinge. By *Rudolf Sieverts*. (Hamburgische Schriften zur gesamten Strafrechtswissenschaft, herausgegeben von Dr. M. Liepmann, Heft 14.) xv+, 187 pp. J. Bensheimer, Mannheim, 1929.

Several hundred autobiographies of prisoners have been published. Dr. Sieverts has analyzed forty-five of these, including the classical memoirs of Pellico, Dostojewski, Wilde, Liebknecht, Kropotkin and Berkman, and has used, also, the miscellaneous compilations by Friedrich Auer and Johannes Jäger. This book may be characterized as an attempt to generalize regarding the attitudes of prisoners toward their imprisonment.

The general thesis of the book is that imprisonment means isolation from society, compulsion and monotony, and that these prison conditions affect practically all of the mental mechanisms, and generally produce reactions different from those which are customary in free society. The impulses and drives are inhibited by an almost unbroken circle of restrictions, thus producing necessarily a conflict which distorts and perverts the mental processes. An adaptation is produced

either in the form of fierce rebellion or apathetic submission. Suicide is especially likely to occur in the early period of imprisonment before any adaptation is made. The author has analyzed the evidence in regard to the attitudes toward specific conditions in prison, such as labor, the officials, the library, music, education, letters and visits. The effects of imprisonment are classified under conventional psychological rubrics such as perception, imagination, conception, emotion, impulses, will, the self. Imprisonment before conviction is treated separately from imprisonment as a punishment, and solitary confinement separately from congregate imprisonment.

The evidence presented in this book is highly significant. It gives an insight into effects that cannot be determined by objective behavioristic studies. On the other hand, the reliability of the evidence may be questioned in two respects: (1) The authors selected are clearly not a fair sample of all prisoners. All except two of the forty known authors were in the professional classes—authors, lecturers, teachers, government officials, etc. It is possible that the reactions of prisoners in general might be significantly different from the reactions of this particular group. (2) It is possible that the facts as known to the authors were distorted for purposes of publication. In a recent American memoir a prisoner describes the frequent modifications he made in the content and style of his manuscript, in the effort to adapt it to the requirement of *The American Mercury*. In addition this series of autobiographies refers without differentiation to prisons in Russia, Italy, Germany, the United States, and other countries; the dates of publication are scattered over a century. Moreover, it is extremely difficult even if these things are overlooked to secure generalizations from a group of sources, some of which mention and some of which do not mention particular conditions. In spite of these difficulties this book furnishes a body of evidence regarding the injurious effects of imprisonment as seen by the prisoners themselves.

University of Minnesota.

E. H. SUTHERLAND.

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POLITICS AND CRIMINAL PROSECUTION. By *Raymond Moley*. XII+238 pp. Milton, Balch & Company, New York, 1929. \$2.50.

One takes up a book on the criminal administration by Professor Moley with more than ordinary interest. For a number of years his name has been prominently identified with most of the important crime surveys which have been made in various parts of the United States. He was one of the pioneers in adopting purely objective methods in the study of criminal matters. Having completed a series of valuable studies, he is well qualified to turn his attention to an interpretation of certain phases of administration upon which the surveys have shed much light.

The book deals with the effects of politics upon the administration of criminal law, particularly as respects the office of public prosecutor. The principal point which he wishes to make is that the state's attorney has, by a process of evolution, come to occupy a position of transcend-

ent importance in the criminal administration. He believes, and demonstrates with convincing clarity, that the prosecutor overshadows in influence all of the other officials and agencies which play a part in the criminal process. He says: "In the midst of the decay and impotence of his official associates, the prosecutor rises to infinite mastery. To a considerable extent he is police, prosecutor, magistrate, grand jury, petit jury, and judge—in one." This epitomizes the contents of the book. Each stage of the prosecution is discussed, and almost everywhere the pre-eminent position of the prosecutor is apparent. At first thought this might be considered a desirable condition—as tending to center responsibility, but it does not work out that way. Politics intervene, and it results that loyalty to the public weal is only one of many considerations.

Under the title of "Symptoms" is described the political background of the criminal administration in the large cities, with interesting comments upon several notorious murder cases of recent years. Under "Perspective" he presents certain statistical data taken from the "mortality" tables of the crime surveys. These tables are the most important contribution which the surveys have made to the study of the criminal administration. They provide the background which makes possible such books as Professor Moley's. The chapter on the "American Prosecutor" describes the multifarious duties of the district attorney, and makes clear why the existing system so often fails to accomplish effective results. "When Politics Seasons Justice" is an interesting chapter, showing the effect of political considerations in determining the policies of the prosecutor. "The Medieval Colleagues of the Prosecutor" discusses the place of the sheriff and coroner in the existing order and concludes that both leave much to be desired as effective agencies for law enforcement. The grand jury is the subject of another chapter. It is revealed as a largely useless relic of the past. In another chapter the decline in the relative importance of the petit jury is discussed. "Justice by Compromise" is an interesting account of how the concentration of business in the prosecutor's office results in hurried and careless methods in disposing of large numbers of cases. A chapter on the systems of prosecution in England and Canada discloses many notable differences in the organization of the agencies of prosecution, and points out that a more professional attitude toward the functions of the prosecutor is observable there than in the American states. There is a final chapter entitled "Reflections Upon Reform."

Professor Moley presents his subject in a very interesting style. His statistical material is concise and well selected and is interspersed with enlightening descriptions of political conditions in different cities, and with vivid accounts of instances in which there have been scandalous breakdowns in administering criminal justice. While his criticisms are frequently severe, they are temperate in tone and—what is more important, are based upon carefully ascertained fact. One is somewhat disappointed that he does not discuss at greater length projects for improving existing conditions. These he modestly leaves "to others." The book is a valuable one, and entertainingly written. It is to be hoped

that it will be followed by others on different phases of the criminal problem.

University of Pennsylvania.

CLARENCE N. CALLENDER.

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DIE ZEUGENAUSSAGEN JUGENDLICHER PSYCHOPATHEN. Ihre forensische Bedeutung. By *Dr. med. et phil. Paul Plaut*. Ferdinand Enke, Stuttgart, 1928. pp. 84.

This short, compact and very valuable treatise is number eight of the publications edited by the distinguished Dr. Albert Moll of Berlin and dealing with subjects from the domain of "Psychoterapy and Medical Psychology." For the specialist in legal medicine Dr. Plaut's work is of the greatest importance. It deals with the testimony of young, psychopathic individuals and its forensic value. The author has not only a wide and complex knowledge of his subject as one may see from a glance at the Bibliography, but he has also had a great deal of personal experience in dealing with young psychopaths and is able to quote definite cases that are very helpful to the reader. After a brief introduction the writer discusses the important subject of young witnesses in sexual cases such as cases of assault, carnal knowledge, etc. The second section deals with the concept and the nature of psychopathic reactions. The third section is the most important of all and discusses the objective truthfulness and the tendency to lie that are met within psychopathic children and the means by which truth and falsehood are to be distinguished. Section four is of interest primarily to those of us who are called upon occasionally to make an examination of a child witness and to give a report to the Court that will enable it to determine what weight and what credence is to be given to the child's statements. We can most heartily recommend this publication to all those men and women who are connected with Juvenile Courts and to all prosecuting officers who are obliged to deal more or less frequently with the testimony of children.

Baltimore, Maryland

JOHN RATHBONE OLIVER.

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A GUIDE TO MATERIAL ON CRIME AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE. Prepared By *Augustus Frederick Kuhlman*, for the Committee on Survey of Research on Crime and Criminal Justice of the Social Science Research Council. 633 p. New York, H. W. Wilson Company, 1929.

This is an attempt, as stated in the subtitle, to provide a "classified and annotated union catalog of books, monographs, pamphlets, and of periodical articles relating to criminology, the administration of criminal justice, criminal law, police, judicial organization, criminal procedure, punishment, institutional treatment of offenders in prisons, jails and reformatories, pardon, parole, probation, the juvenile court and crime prevention." It is intended as a guide for the research student, and its objects are: "First, to index, describe, and classify

as completely as possible, existing material on crime and criminal justice in the United States in a single volume; and second, to show by means of the Union List library symbols, libraries in which the research student may gain access to this material." The subject matter is limited to material on crime and criminal justice in the United States, published or in manuscript before January 1, 1927.

This certainly was an ambitious project resulting in a volume, which one would not wish to criticize captiously. In fact, we are disarmed for such criticism by the words of the preface in which various limitations of the *Guide* are acknowledged and explained. It was well nigh impossible to overcome these limitations (inconsistencies in form and style of entries, duplication of entries, incomplete designation of the holdings of libraries, and inconsistencies in form of references to periodicals), the editor explains, because of differences in methods of cataloging in libraries and of indexing periodical literature. This situation grew out of the method of preparing the book: viz., copies of pertinent cards in the catalogs of thirteen libraries were obtained; items were drawn off from periodical indexes and from bibliographies; duplicate cards were then removed and the Union list symbols transferred to the remaining card for each item; annotations were added; and the whole was sorted according to a scheme of classification. All titles of books and monographs found in the library catalogs were retained, but a selection was made from titles in periodical indexes.

This was a difficult and intricate process requiring executive ability on the part of the editor and his staff, and, at the end, a printer as skillful as the H. W. Wilson company. The completed work will be useful—as useful as a book so compiled could be. It could have been much improved if more money and, what amounts to the same thing, more time had been available. These are the identical desiderata which prevent librarians from fully cataloging their libraries, or when this has been done, from recataloging them to conform to the catalogs of other libraries so that the compiling of bibliographies may be simplified. One of their shortcuts to efficiency, or let us say, one of their unavoidable economies, is the use of printed lists and bibliographies, in which the items held by their respective libraries are checked, as a substitute for the card catalog. Some of them have printed catalogs of their collections up to a certain date, and others have printed lists of books in well-defined parts of their collections. Often the material contained in these printed catalogs and lists does not appear in their card catalogs. They would prefer complete card catalogs; but, nevertheless, they are able to serve the ordinary run of their readers with considerable efficiency. Some libraries not among the chosen thirteen may, for example, check their holdings in the Kuhlman *Guide* instead of elaborately cataloging by subject the material covered by it. This device has been advocated by experts in library economy as a justifiable means of reducing the unwieldy bulk of card catalog.

These facts make it necessary to emphasize even more than Mr. Kuhlman has done in his preface the point that the *Guide*, being made up chiefly from card catalogs, comes far from listing all of the holdings

of the co-operating libraries, and far from listing all of the existing material on the subdivisions of the respective subjects. For example, the section on Criminal law, subdivision 2, section 2, lists by states material on the criminal law of those jurisdictions. The Revised or Compiled laws of the respective states, because they contain statutes on crime, are included, if cards for them happened to be among those that were obtained. The result is a very misleading representation of the existing material and of the holdings of libraries. There is, as far as discovered, no mention of the fact that in 1913, the Massachusetts State Library, one of the thirteen libraries whose holdings purport to be shown, published a "Hand list of legislative sessions and session laws, statutory revisions, compilations and codes . . . of the United States and its possessions and of the several states to May, 1912." In it the holdings of the Massachusetts State Library are indicated by one kind of type and those of other libraries by another kind. Most law libraries have used it as a checking list to indicate their own holdings. Within its time limit, and for the kind of material that it covers, it is an infinitely better list than that contained in the *Guide*. The latter, extensive as it is, should be taken only as a starting point for the further researches of students, even within the period covered by it.

Despite the emphasis which the reviewer has placed on the limitations of the work, no one can study it without being impressed with its possibilities for usefulness. Particularly commendable is the arrangement of material in its functional relationships, attempting thus to follow through the whole process of the administration of criminal justice. Many will wish, however, that there could have been added an author index.

Yale Law School, New Haven, Conn. FREDERICK C. HICKS.

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CRIMES OF VIOLENCE AND REVENGE. By *H. Ashton-Wolfe*. xii 360 pp. Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston, 1929. \$2.50.

The author of this book has evidently had rare opportunities for contact with the most varied kind of crimes and criminals. Some of them came to him when he was interpreter in the French and British courts or assistant to Alphonse Bertillon; others he has sought during his travels. In this book he presents an extraordinary assortment of dramas in a delightful style which makes his stories better reading than ninety per cent of our detective fiction.

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THIRTEEN DAYS. By *Jeannette Marks*. 132 pp. Albert and Charles Boni, New York, 1929.

A sincerely told story of the work of the Sacco-Vanzetti Defense Committee during the last days preceding the execution.