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Current Notes

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CURRENT NOTES

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Study of Penal Systems—Mr. E. R. Cass, Member of the Commission to Investigate Prison Administration and Construction, State of New York, and General Secretary of the Prison Association of New York, is writing a series of articles on "Penal Systems of Europe and America." These articles are appearing in "On Guard" which is published by the Prison Keepers' Council of the New York City Department of Correction. The first article appeared in the July-August number and the others will appear in succeeding issues. He says, "There is no question that America is being challenged in whatever claim it makes for leadership in penal reform. The strong tendency in countries like England and Germany is toward an enthusiastic renewal of penal experimentation, and a desire to know more about the individual criminal."

Police Conventions—The joint annual convention of the Sheriffs' Association and Peace Officers' Association for the State of California was held at Salinas, California, September 24, 25 and 26. One feature of the program was the "Practical Use of State-wide Telephone-Typewriter System," by Clarence S. Morrill, Superintendent State Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation, and Mr. F. C. Bran-

deburg, Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company. Other topics of general interest discussed were "Women in Police Work," "Committees on Public Safety," "Identification of Weapons," etc.

The International Association of Chiefs of Police met at St. Petersburg, Fla., October 12. Among those listed on the Program were Dean Justin Miller of Duke University Law School; J. Edgar Hoover, Chief of the Bureau of Investigation for the Department of Justice; Bruce Smith, Director of the Committee on Uniform Crime Records; and Col. Calvin Goddard, ballistics expert of Northwestern University.

Juvenile Delinquents—Dr. Harold S. Hulbert, associate-editor of the *JOURNAL OF CRIMINAL LAW AND CRIMINOLOGY*, writes that "the Canadian authorities are considering raising from 16 to 18 the age of juvenile delinquents who would be brought before the Juvenile Courts. The reasons are that many children of 16 to 17 are still in school, and should be regarded as school children and juveniles, and also that the juvenile Courts have more agencies for reform and education than the criminal courts have." He declares that in the United States it is realized that many offenders of 16, 17, and 18 are already serious and re-

civist delinquents, often incorrigible and, because of the arrest of development preventing further maturity, uneducable further; therefore there is no corresponding movement in the United States.

Study of Summary Jurisdiction—An important study entitled "The Rise of Summary Jurisdiction in English Criminal Law Administration," by Pendleton Howard, Professor of Law, University of Idaho, was printed in the July, 1931, issue of the California Law Review. He discusses the obsolescence of the criminal jury, the summary disposition of petty offenses, the summary jurisdiction of indictable offenses, appeals from summary conviction, and his concluding section is "Summary Jurisdiction or Trial by Jury." Mr. Howard thinks it only a question of time until the jurisdiction of summary courts will be further enlarged.

Nebraska Legislation—Eight bills embracing three chapters of the Model Code of Criminal Procedure in their entirety as well as other sections of the Code were passed by the lower house of the Nebraska legislature at its most recent session. These bills were introduced at the suggestion of Professor Lester B. Orfield of the University of Nebraska College of Law. Mr. Orfield appeared before the Judiciary Committees of both the House and the Senate in support of the bills. The bills adopted by the lower house included Chapter 12 on Waiver of Jury Trial, Chapter 17 on Insanity Proceedings, and Chapter 24 on Certification. The bills failed to be reported by the Senate

Committee and as a result were not enacted into law, but Professor Orfield plans to secure the introduction of the entire Model Code of Criminal Procedure at the next session of the legislature. Mr. Orfield has made a comparative study of the Nebraska and the Model Code provisions, entitled "Should Nebraska Adopt the Model Code of Criminal Procedure?", appearing in 9 Nebraska Law Bulletin 146.

Warner at Columbia—During the past year Professor Sam Bass Warner carried on his regular work at Harvard University conducting the seminar in the administration of criminal justice. In addition to this work he taught the course in Criminal Law at Columbia University where he substituted for Professor L. A. Tulin who has been ill. During this period Professor Warner was adviser to the National Commission on Law Observance and Enforcement.

Meyer at University of Missouri—Professor Robert L. Howard of the University of Missouri Law School is giving up the course in Criminal Law which he has taught for the past six years. He intends to devote his entire time to the courses in Constitutional Law, Taxation, and Administrative Law. His place will be filled by A. M. Meyer, a graduate of the School, who has had several years experience in the office of the Attorney General of the State of Missouri.

Burns Appointed to Bench—Professor John J. Burns, who has been conducting the course in Criminal

Law at Harvard University, has been appointed judge of the Massachusetts Superior Court by Governor Ely. Professor Burns is the youngest man ever to be appointed to that bench. He graduated from Harvard Law School in 1925 and took the graduate law degree in 1926. After leaving Harvard he practiced two years with the firm of Gaston, Snow, Saltonstall and Hunt, returning to the Law School in 1928 as assistant professor.

Colvin Studies Criminal Procedure in Europe—H. Milton Colvin, Professor of Criminal Law, Tulane University, spent the past summer in France and England visiting the courts of criminal justice in a study of their methods of procedure and practice. In Paris he was given the benefit of interpreters and advisers. Equal courtesies were extended to him at the Central Criminal Court, "Old Bailey" in London. During a portion of his study in London Sir Ernest Wild, Recorder of the Central Criminal Court and one of the ranking judges, had Professor Colvin sit on the bench with him so that he could observe from the bench the various steps taken in the progress of trial of criminal cases as they take place in England. Professor Colvin's report to his University commends the courts of both France and England for the rapid methods of disposing of cases, and is laudatory of the responsibility for jury service felt among the English people, and the consideration and humanitarian treatment accorded the accused by the barristers and the judge throughout the trial of the issues.

Pennsylvania Committee on Penal Affairs of the Public Charities Asso-

ciation—The following new studies of the Pennsylvania Committee on Penal Affairs of the Public Charities Association are now in process: "Study of Juvenile Delinquency and Corrections in Montgomery County," at the request of the Council for Social Welfare of Montgomery County, with the approval of the Board of Judges of the County; "Treatment of Adult Offenders and Children by the Courts of Dauphin County," at the request of the Pennsylvania Council of Churches, with the approval of Hon. William M. Hargest, President Judge, and Hon. Frank B. Wickersham of the Juvenile Court; "Treatment of Adult Offenders and Children in the Court of Lancaster County," at the request of the Juvenile Court Committee appointed by the Lancaster County Court, and with the approval of Hon. John M. Groff, President Judge.

The Board of Managers of the Allegheny County Workhouse has requested the Pennsylvania Committee on Penal Affairs of the Public Charities Association to make a survey of the Workhouse. This survey includes an analysis of the institution population, treatment of inmates, administrative policy, etc., and suggestions as to its future development. A draft report has been submitted to the Board.

At the request of the Board of Education of the Allentown School District and with the sanction of the judges of the Lehigh County Courts, a rather exhaustive study was made last year of behavior-problem children and juvenile delinquency in Allentown. The purpose of this survey, which has just been completed but not yet published, was to check up on the prevailing types of misconduct among children of compulsory school attendance age, predictable frequency of cases and probable

causes, together with an analysis of local methods and facilities, both public and private, for treatment of juvenile delinquency.

This survey was based on two groups of cases. Approximately 700 children were studied—about 500 school children already delinquent or with marked delinquent tendencies, and about 200 who have already been in juvenile court. A thorough study of the first group made possible a fair appraisal of types, frequency, and causes of delinquency among children in that community. An examination of the records concerning the second group and their relations to local social agencies revealed a fairly comprehensive picture of the community's policies and equipment for handling the problem.

The Pennsylvania Committee on Penal Affairs of the Public Charities Association has published seven different studies of county penal and correctional systems throughout Pennsylvania. These studies covering prison, juvenile court, probation and parole systems, court administration, etc., are made only at the request of public officials, judges, or social agencies.

The studies are made by the staff of the Pennsylvania Committee on Penal Affairs: Leon Stern, Director of Research; Curtis A. William and Ada L. Barnhurst, Assistants.

Psychiatrists Hold Annual Meetings—Two important meetings of psychiatrists were held during the summer. Meeting in Canada for the seventh time in its long history, the American Psychiatric Association, the oldest national medical society in the United States, held its 87th annual convention in Toronto, June 1-5. Directors of mental hospitals

and schools for the mentally defective, and psychiatrists in clinical and private practice from all parts of the United States and Canada attended the conference, contributing papers or taking part in the discussions.

The second biennial conference on mental health was held at Westminster, London, under the auspices of the National Council for Mental Hygiene and eighty-three cooperating organizations in Great Britain. At this Conference in discussing "The Human Factor in Crime," H. E. Norman, Secretary of the National Association of Probation Officers, said that crime, although "anti-social," was not necessarily "anti-human"; it was rather the effort of the individual to find expression for his human desires without proper regard for the interests of society.

Dr. Hara Visits United States—Dr. Sei Hara, Professor of Anatomy in the Nagasaki Medical College, Nagasaki, Japan, spent several weeks in this country during the summer of 1931, coming here from Germany where he has been studying criminal types. Dr. Hara visited the larger prisons of the United States and conferred with Mr. E. Stagg Whitin, Chairman of the Executive Council of the National Committee on Prisons and Prison Labor, and with the officers of the American Institute of Criminal Law and Criminology.

New Offices of National Committee for Mental Hygiene—The new office in New York City of the National Committee of Mental Hygiene is 450 Seventh Ave. Visitors to New York are invited to visit its

library there, in the Nelson Tower, 34th St. and Seventh Ave., just north of the Pennsylvania Railroad station. Correspondence on bibliography is welcomed.—H. H.

Behavior Clinic Case Presentation

—The Behavior Clinic of the Criminal Court of Cook County, Illinois, made a case presentation on September 19, in the court room of Chief Justice Harry M. Fisher of the Criminal Court. The case was presented with an introduction by Dr. Harry R. Hoffman, Director of the Clinic. Other members of the staff presented the case history, psychological tests, etc., and the recommendations of the Clinic were made by Dr. Harry A. Paskind after a discussion by the judges, psychiatrists and social workers invited to attend. Among the speakers were Professor E. H. Sutherland, President of the Chicago Academy of Criminology, and Judge Fisher. The presentation served to illustrate the work of the Clinic in a graphic way.

Judge Fisher recently said in Chicago that at present the chief aid of a psychiatric clinic in connection with the criminal courts was to help the judges to get away from snap judgments in disposing of cases eligible to probation awaiting sentence.

International Association of Identification Convention—The International Association of Identification convened at Rochester, N. Y., on July 21, 1931. Among the speakers was Dr. Walter M. Thayer, New York State Commissioner of Correction, who urged the wider use of the indeterminate sentence as a means of curbing crime. Colonel Calvin Goddard, Director of the Scientific Crime Detection Labora-

tory of Northwestern University, suggested establishment of central bureaus where fired shells and bullets could be sent for study. The beginnings of such a bureau already exist in his laboratory at Chicago, he explained.

Other speakers were Police Chief Andrew J. Kavanaugh, who traced the increasing value of science in police work, and Dr. Floyd S. Winslow, Monroe County coroners' physician, who recounted recent Rochester murders in which medical evidence played a vital role in trapping and convicting the criminal.

The Convention of the New York State Police Chiefs' Association was held at Troy, N. Y., on July 27, 1931. The opening address was by Dr. Carleton Simon, former deputy police commissioner of New York City.

Mandatory Special Grand Juries—

Mr. Robert Appleton, President of the Association of Grand Jurors of New York County, is engaged in supporting the plan proposed in "The Panel" of May-June, 1931, by Lloyd N. Scott of the New York Bar, which plan calls for a periodically appointed special Grand Jury at stated intervals, with special counsel, instead of the present practice of only impanelling special grand juries after "a vast accumulation of crime has occurred." He says, "The Association of Grand Jurors maintains that it would be far more economical for the community, and more healthful for criminal justice to have an annual audit, which would be kept up to date, rather than to follow the present practice of impanelling special Grand Juries, or having special investigations after damage has been done to the community by the ac-

cumulation of matters over a number of years."

New Journal of Police Science—Beginning last January, a monthly, with the title *Nordisk Kriminalteknisk Tidskrift*, is being issued in Stockholm by Dr. Harry Söderman, lecturer at the University of Stockholm, and chief of the state training course for detectives; Mr. E. Thune-Jacobsen, chief of detectives of Copenhagen; Hon. Gustaf Ignatius, governor of the province of Kuopio, Finland; and Mr. Reidar Sveen, chief of detectives of Oslo.

The February number includes an article by Professor Olof Kinberg on the task of public prosecutors with special reference to the new Swedish laws on abnormal and professional criminals, an article by V. Turunen, director of the criminal laboratory of Finland, on firearms identification, news items from the Scandinavian countries, and a book review section. The journal may be secured from Dr. Söderman, Bryggargaten 4, Stockholm.—T. S.

Proposed Ohio Bill—During the last legislative session in Ohio, Mr. Prentice Reeves of the Ohio State Board of Parole drafted a bill which was submitted to the Ohio Legislature. The bill "died in committee," but it is an interesting draft which should be better known. The introduction and first section of the bill is reprinted below:

A BILL. To regulate the collection, statement, publication and transmission of information, including statistics relating to crimes and delinquency, criminal justice and offenders; to amend section 2925; and to repeal sections 2895 and 2896 of the General Code.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio:

Section 1. The director of public welfare shall collect and compile information, statistical and otherwise, which will, so far as practicable, present an accurate statement of the number and character of crimes committed in the state, the extent and character of delinquency, the operations of police, prosecuting attorneys, courts and other public agencies of criminal justice and the operations of penal and reformatory institutions, probation, parole and other public agencies concerned with the punishment or treatment of offender. He shall collect and transmit such data in such form as may be required by the United States for the purposes of a national system of criminal statistics. He shall also gather such information concerning individual offenders as may be helpful to other public officials or agencies dealing with them. He may include such information as would be useful in the study of crime and delinquency and the causes thereof, in the administration of criminal justice, or in the punishment or treatment of offenders. Classifications of crimes, of offenders, of punishment or treatment, or of other pertinent data, and the form in which such information is to be reported, gathered, set up and distributed shall be determined by the director of public welfare.

Iowa Highway Legislation—On January 1, 1932, the Iowa Auto Drivers' License Law becomes effective. The license is gratis to owners of automobiles, but non-owners must pay a fee of twenty-five cents. The fee is divided between

the State and the County, the former receiving ten cents and the latter fifteen cents. State officials estimate that the State will lose between seventy-five thousand and one hundred thousand dollars in the issuance of the licenses, which expire in 1933. A striking feature of the bill is in the requirement that the operator must have the license with him at all times, with an added paragraph that if he does not have it when accosted by a peace officer that it shall be a defense that he produce it "within a reasonable length of time." The bill as originally planned was a companion bill to a state police bill. The license fee was \$1.00 and it was so planned that this money was to be used for financing a State Police Organization. The legislature refused to pass the police bill and lowered the fee to twenty-five cents in the driver's license law. The taking of applications has been handed to the Sheriffs, who are objecting to the added amount of work. Iowa Peace Officers in general are agreed that the law is difficult to enforce since the public highways are not patrolled, and there is no police organization created to do the work of enforcement.—G. C.

New York Statistical System Changed—In the official publication of the New York Department of Correction an announcement was made of an important change in the Statistical system employed in that state. Beginning with July 1, the Division of Probation has completely changed its system for the collection of statistics from probation officers and clerks of children's courts throughout the state. The most important changes in the forms on which probation officers and clerks send their monthly reports to

Albany have been made on those dealing with children's work.

The changes are intended primarily to show very clearly the types and numbers of cases coming before the children's courts, and their disposition. It will also be possible to determine more carefully from the new statistics the types of individuals placed on probation and the degree of success had in treating them. Heretofore no one has known exactly the number of cases passing through the children's courts in the state, and there has been little information on the methods of handling these cases. It is expected that the new system will give for the first time a complete picture of the state's children's courts and their operations.

The new system moreover will be of value to probation officers, judges and other interested persons, as it will make it possible to have available at any time during the year, all figures for the state up to that time. The information sent to the division by probation officers and clerks will be compiled in the future on cards which permit of machine tabulation.

Public Welfare Officials Form Association—The American Association of Public Welfare Officials, organized in Boston in June, 1930, held its first annual meeting in Minneapolis in June, 1931, in connection with the National Conference of Social Work. L. A. Halbert, director of state institutions, of the Rhode Island State Public Welfare Commission, is president of the association. Membership is open to all persons employed in any branch of public social work and all board members responsible for administering such work. The next meeting

of the association will be held in Philadelphia in 1932.

New York Medium Security Prison—In the August, 1931, issue of "Correction," which is published by the New York State Department of Correction, the statement is made that contracts for the new "medium security" state prison authorized by the last legislature to be constructed near Wallkill, Ulster county, have been let and construction is under way. The project was recommended by the Commission to Investigate Prison Administration and Construction as of major importance in the prison program for 1931 and the legislature appropriated \$1,500,000 for the new institution, which is designated for a population of 500.

The recommendations of the Commission's Preliminary Report were reprinted in "Current Notes," JOURNAL OF CRIMINAL LAW AND CRIMINOLOGY, May, 1931, pp. 154-156.

The new prison at Attica, said to be the last word in prison construction, will be opened in the autumn of 1931. It is designed for 2,000 population.

Prison Architecture—The National Committee on Prisons and Prison Labor late in 1930 called a general meeting of prison officials, penologists, and architects to consider extensive research into the subject of prison architecture. The result of the meeting was the formation of a Planning and Research Committee, consisting of two representatives of penal societies, two prison administrators, one engineer and one architect. The Committee has issued some preliminary statements and is ready to proceed with its research upon the design and construc-

tion of the various types of prisons. The chairman of the Planning and Research Committee is E. Stagg Whitin of the National Committee on Prisons and Prison Labor. Associated with him are Leon C. Faulkner, Ex-president, American Prison Association; Charles D. Osborne, President, National Society of Penal Information; M. M. Barnard, Superintendent, penal institutions District of Columbia; Colonel Tenney Ross, U. S. A., Commandant Disciplinary Barracks, Governor's Island, New York; E. P. Goodrich, consulting engineer; advisers: Colonel J. D. Sears, President, Eastern-Southern Conference on State Institutional Labor, and R. L. Davison, Director Housing Research, John B. Pierce Foundation.

The Training of Sheriffs in Iowa—The Seventh Annual School of Instruction of the Iowa State Sheriffs' Association will be held at the State House at Des Moines, in early December. The Iowa Association was among the first to adopt this method of training the County sheriffs. The school covers a four-day period. Courses in the handling of firearms and prisoners, evidence, criminal procedure, scientific methods of identification and bullet ballistics are fully covered.

More attention now is being paid to crime prevention and juvenile crime in Iowa. Due to the lack of probation officers in various counties juveniles are not receiving the proper attention and as this type of work is falling directly on the sheriffs, especially in counties of small population, the Association is becoming vitally interested in seeing that the law permitting the appointment of probation officers is

enforced. On the third day of the school the Midwest Peace Officers' Conference holds a secret conference. The personnel of this group is composed of the leading peace officers of the ten midwestern states. At this conference the members exchange confidential information on the many crimes committed in their respective states during the past year and also on the criminals then at large. All peace officers in the Mid-Western States are invited to attend this school.—G. C.

Indiana State Police—The state police department of Indiana is being completely reorganized and the force of patrolmen is being doubled. Another change being effected is the establishment of inter-communicating sub-stations by means of which the home office at Indianapolis will be able to keep in constant touch with the entire field force. The new plan is being inaugurated by Grover Garrett, Chief of the State Police Department, who has made a thorough study of the state police forces in neighboring states. The chief work of the reorganized state police will be to enforce traffic laws, but it will be available for emergency duties in emergency cases such as bank robberies and major crimes.

New York Commission—The New York State Commission to investigate and collect facts relating to the administration of justice in that State is headed by State Senator Walter W. Westall. The Commission was created by Chapter 186 of the New York Laws of 1931 and consists of sixteen members. The law provides that the Commission shall submit its preliminary report to the Legislature on or before

March 1, 1931, and shall submit its final report on or before January 1, 1933. Among the appointments made by the Governor are Dean Charles K. Burdick of Cornell Law School, Professor Raymond B. Moley of Columbia University, and Bruce Smith of the Institute of Public Administration.

Graduate Studies in Criminal Law and Criminology—Among the Doctoral Dissertations submitted during the past year in American Universities are several of interest to criminologists: "Waiver of Jury Trial" (Chicago) by Kenneth J. Martin; "Discipline in the Chicago Police Department" (Chicago) by Earl W. Garrett; "Police Organization in the Metropolitan Region of Chicago" (Chicago) by David G. Monroe; "History of Police in Chicago" (Chicago) by Burton F. Scott; "The State-wide Coördination of Police Authorities in the United States" (Northwestern) by Earl Howard DeLong; "The Administration of Criminal Justice in Rock Island, Illinois" (Iowa) by E. Maxwell Benton; "The Administration of Criminal Justice in Davenport, Iowa" (Iowa) by Cecil F. Marshall; "The Administration of Criminal Justice in Moline, Illinois" (Iowa) by William D. Moreland; "Causes of Delay in the Administration of Justice" (Iowa) by W. Valdo Weber; "The Development of Criminal Law by Judicial Decision in Texas, 1890-1928" (Columbia) by Keith Carter; "Legal Aspects of Mental Responsibility" (Columbia) by Wayne B. Morse; "The Legal Aid Bureau" (Pennsylvania) by John S. Bradway; and "Major Financial Problems in Public Care of the Insane" (Pennsylvania) by Bradford W. West.

Uniform Laws—The National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws began its forty-first annual conference on September 8, at Atlantic City. One of the proposed laws considered was a law which would enable the summoning from beyond State borders of witnesses to testify in criminal cases. The proposed act was prepared with the collaboration of the American Law Institute. The Conference also considered the drafting of a uniform law providing for the collection of criminal statistics as recommended in the Reports of the Wickersham Commission. The Uniform "Firearms Act" which was prepared at the 1930 session of the Commissioners has been adopted by Pennsylvania.

New List of Public Enemies—The Chicago Crime Commission, Henry Barrett Chamberlin, Operating Director, in making a report to Judge John P. McGoorty, Chief Justice of the Criminal Court, Judge John J. Sonstebly, Chief Justice of the Municipal Court, John A. Swanson, State's Attorney of Cook County, George E. Q. Johnson, United States Attorney, William D. Myering, Sheriff of Cook County, and John H. Alcock, Acting Commissioner of Police, concerning its activities against the original twenty-eight "public enemies," declared that the list was limited in order to make concentrated effort possible. It seemed desirable to expand the list so there was submitted a new list of twenty-eight "public enemies" as a continuation of the original inventory of "public enemies." In the report Mr. Gerhardt F. Meyne, Vice-President of the Commission, declared: "This is by no means a complete catalog of Chi-

cago's Who's Who in Crime and it will be amplified from time to time."

New Jersey Report—Commissioner William J. Ellis of the Department of Institutions and Agencies, Trenton, N. J., recently issued the following statement: The population of the state institutions for adult male offenders increased 96 per cent in the ten-year period from 1920 to 1930 according to a detailed statistical analysis by the State Department of Institutions and Agencies. The State Prison male population showed an increase of 98 per cent from 997 in 1920 to 1974 in 1930, and the male reformatory population an increase of 93 per cent from 504 in 1920 to 971 in 1930. The female adult population has increased 104 per cent, i. e., from 111 in 1920 to 228 in 1930.

The homicide or manslaughter and robbery charges showed the greatest increase from 1929 to 1930. Ninety-three were sentenced for manslaughter and homicide in 1930 as against 57 in 1929 and 223 were sentenced for robbery as against 135 in 1929. Almost one-fourth of the men (349) were committed for burglary and a slightly smaller number (330) for larceny. Thirty were sentenced for violation of the drug act and four for kidnapping.

Thirty per cent of the commitments to the state institutions for adult male offenders were under 20 years of age; 27 per cent were between 20 and 24 years old; 27 per cent between 25 and 34; and the remainder were over 35. There was a larger percentage under 20 in 1930 than in 1929 and a smaller percentage of 35 and over. Nearly two-thirds of those sentenced to the State Prison had definite terms of less than four

years; one-fourth had sentences under two years; 572 or 68.2 per cent had sentences of under five years; 144 or 17.1 per cent had sentences of five years up to ten; 13 had life imprisonment; 12 were sentenced to death and the remainder had sentences of more than ten years. There were smaller percentages committed for the shorter terms than in 1929. The reformatories receive prisoners on a maximum indeterminate sentence only. 15.2 per cent of these had maximum terms under four years; 63.4 per cent had maximums of five years and under ten; 20.6 per cent had maximums of ten years and under twenty, and six of twenty years and over.

The Prison during 1930 discharged 325 persons at the expiration of sentences and paroled 181. The reformatories discharged 86 from the institution and paroled 558 who had served part of their sentence in the institutions and were to remain under the custody of the institution and under the supervision of the Central Parole Bureau of the Department of Institutions and Agencies until their maximum term expired.

New York Investigation—The bar associations of New York City plan to cooperate with the recently appointed State Commission to investigate the administration of justice in the State of New York. Mr. John Godfrey Saxe is chairman of the cooperating committee. The members of the special committee are: Bar Association of the City of New York—John W. Davis, president; Charles H. Strong, John Godfrey Saxe, William N. Cohen; New York County Lawyers' Association—Henry W. Taft, president; Charles A. Boston, Charles E.

Hughes, Jr., Samuel Seabury; Brooklyn Bar Association—Fred L. Gross, president; William R. Bayes, Bruce R. Duncan, Robert H. Wilson; Bronx County Bar Association—Owen S. M. Tierney, president; Bernard S. Deutsch, Charles H. Friedrich, Douglas Mathewson; Queens County Bar Association—Frank A. Bellucci, president; Charles Golden, William J. Morris, Emile E. Rathgeber; Richmond County Bar Association—E. M. Garbe, president; Lester L. Callan, Charles B. Dullea, C. Ernest Smith; New York Patent Law Association—Charles Neave, president; William H. Davis, A. Parker-Smith; New York County Association of the Criminal Bar—Jacob Hamburger, president; Howard Spellman, Mann Trice.

Research Fellowship—Among the research fellowships awarded by the Social Science Research Council was one to Mr. J. A. Clifford Grant of the University of California at Los Angeles. Mr. Grant will work on the topic "The Bearing of the American Federal System upon Constitutional Guarantees Relative to Self-Incrimination, Illegal Searches and Seizures, and Double Jeopardy."

New Federal Hospital at Springfield, Mo.—Selection of Springfield, Mo., as the location for the new \$2,500,000 Federal Hospital of Defective Delinquents was announced by the Department of Justice August 10. The capacity of the institution will be 850 beds, of which 500 will be for insane and psychopathic patients, 150 for tubercular patients and 200 for chronic medical cases.

Department officials said that the hospital would have no counterpart in any part of the world. It will serve as a medical centre for the Federal penal system. The first prisoners to be transferred there will be the insane group now cared for in the Federal Hospital for the Insane in Washington, and the two groups of prisoners, insane and tubercular, now being held in the greatly overcrowded Federal penitentiaries. "Springfield, Mo., was chosen as the site for this institution because of its central location with reference to the widely scattered penal institutions in the Federal system," the announcement said.—N. Y. T.

Reports of the Wickersham Commission—The National Commission on Law Observance and Enforcement completed its work on July 1, 1931. For the convenience of the readers of the JOURNAL OF CRIMINAL LAW AND CRIMINOLOGY a list of the publications of the Commission are given below. All may be secured at a nominal price from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C.

- No. 1. Preliminary Report on Observance and Enforcement of Prohibition.
- No. 2. Report on the Enforcement of the Prohibition Laws of the United States.
- No. 3. Report on Criminal Statistics.
- No. 4. Report on Prosecution.
- No. 5. Report on the Enforcement of the Deportation Laws of the United States.
- No. 6. Report on the Child Offender in the Federal System of Justice.
- No. 7. Progress Report of the Study of the Federal Courts.
- No. 8. Report on Criminal Procedure.
- No. 9. Report on Penal Institutions, Probation and Parole.
- No. 10. Report on Crime and the Foreign Born.
- No. 11. Report on Lawlessness in Law Enforcement.
- No. 12. Report on the Cost of Crime.
- No. 13. Report on the causes of Crime.
- No. 14. Report on Police.

The Commission was in existence for more than two years and the reports published represent the most extensive single survey of crime ever undertaken.

Alcoholism and Suicide—Statistics compiled by the Illinois State Department of Public Health, Andy Hall, M. D., Director, show that the fatalities ascribed to alcoholism during 1930 in Illinois dropped to the lowest level recorded since 1921. Only 195 deaths were charged against this cause in 1930. This gave a rate of 2.5 per 100,000. In 1929 the number of deaths was 230 and the rate was 3.0. In each preceding year back to 1921 the number of deaths charged against alcoholism exceeded 200 and it reached 409 in 1927, the peak year. Since 1927 the decline has been steady and rapid. Furthermore, the deaths occur among men of mature and middle age. Only 12 per cent of the fatalities from alcoholism in Illinois are among people under 35 years old. This was true in 1930 and also in 1929. Last year only 26 of the 195 deaths were among people under 35 years old.

The highest suicide rate ever recorded in Illinois was established in 1930. A total of 1,382, greater

than the previous high record by more than 100, deaths were ascribed to this cause. The rate per 100,000 population was 18.0 against a previously high rate of 16.6.

Nearly one-half (608) of the suicidal fatalities were among men above 50 years old. Only 293 were among people under 35 years old. The voluntary taking of one's own life is almost exclusively a masculine affair. There were 1,085 suicides last year among males and only 297 among females.

The suicide rate per 100,000 males was 28.0. For females the rate was 7.8.

SUICIDES IN ILLINOIS

	— Suicide —	
	Deaths	Rate
1930.....	1,382	18.0
1929.....	1,087	14.4
1928.....	1,227	16.6
1927.....	1,125	15.4
1926.....	1,067	14.8

It is probable that the economic depression was an important factor in the sharp increase in the suicide rate.

A. B. A. Crime Section—At the meeting of the American Bar Association at Atlantic City, the Section of Criminal Law and Criminology met September 16, at the Municipal Auditorium. The Program of the meeting was as follows:

Report of Chairman and Secretary.

Report of Committee on Cooperation with the American Law Institute, by Howard B. Warren, Shreveport, La., Chairman.

Report of Committee on Psychiatric Jurisprudence by Rollin M. Perkins, Iowa City, Ia., Chairman.

Report of Committee on Medico-Legal Problems by Albert J. Harno, Urbana, Ill., Chairman.

Report of Committee on Unlawful Enforcement of the Law by Edgar W. Camp, Los Angeles, Calif., Chairman.

Report of Committee on Mercenary Crime by E. D. MacDougall, Chicago, Ill., Chairman.

Report of Committee on Prisons by James J. Robinson, Bloomington, Ind., Chairman.

Address by Thorsten Sellin, Editor, *Annals of American Academy of Political and Social Science*, Philadelphia, Pa., "Criminal Statistics."

Appointment of Nominating Committee.

Prison Committee Meets at Northwestern—Professor J. J. Robinson of Indiana University called a meeting of the Committee on Prisons of the Section of Criminal Law and Criminology of the American Bar Association on August 24 at Northwestern University Law School. The meeting was attended by Professor Robinson, Chairman, and members Esch, Grant, and Hazzard. The Committee invited Professors Bruce and Baker of Northwestern University Law School, President and Secretary of the American Institute of Criminal Law and Criminology, and Professor E. H. Sutherland of the University of Chicago to attend the session during which the report was prepared which was presented to the American Bar Association, September 16.

North Carolina Institute—The Public Welfare Progress, published by the North Carolina State Board of

Charities and Public Welfare reports that the "Public Welfare Institute" held at Chapel Hill was the most successful Institute which has been held in recent years. The Institute was conducted under the auspices of the State Board of Charities and Public Welfare and the School of Public Welfare of the University.

Attendance totaled, according to the registration, 194. It included 42 superintendents of public welfare, which was only six less than the entire number of full-time welfare officers in the state. In addition there were eight superintendents of schools, nine probation officers, five juvenile court judges, 14 institution heads and officers, and three members of county boards of public welfare.

Crime in London—Lord Byng, commissioner of the metropolitan police, on August 10 issued a crime report for 1930 which showed the highest adverse balance against the police in years. Indictable offenses in London jumped nearly 3,000 during the last calendar year to 20,503, against 17,664 in 1929. Burglaries, housebreakings and larcenies showed a "disquieting increase," according to Lord Byng's report. The commissioner lifts part of the blame for this, however, from the shoulders of the police and places it on the negligence of the public.

There were 7,000 larcenies last year, 3,052 burglaries, and 2,865 housebreakings. Even bigamy increased, there being 105 cases, against 89 the year before. Murders increased from 10 to 21. In nine cases the murderers committed suicide. Only one murder was unsolved.—C. T.

Study of Social Trends—One of the most important reports which will be presented by the President's Research Committee will be the one on "Social Trends in Crime and Punishment." Professor E. H. Sutherland of the University of Chicago and Professor C. E. Gehlke of Western Reserve University have been working together on the report during the summer and autumn. They expect to finish their work before January 1, 1932. The members of the Research Committee on Social Trends are: Welsey C. Mitchell, Chairman; Charles E. Merriam, Shelby M. Harrison, Alice Hamilton, William F. Ogburn, and Howard W. Odum. Edward Eyre Hunt, Department of Commerce, Washington, D. C., is Executive Secretary.

Report of Illinois Prison Group—The Illinois Legislative Commission on Parole, Probation and Prisons, which recently toured Canada and Europe, made public its recommendations when the Commission held a meeting September 12, at the Stateville Penitentiary shortly after its return.

The Commission's recommendations in part follow:

"1. That the conception that penalties must fit crime, which has influenced all of our legislation, should yield to the theory that the treatment of offenders should be governed by the character of the individual involved as well as the nature of the crime.

"2. That except for the most serious crimes, first offenders should be treated as a separate class and incarcerated in separate institutions.

"3. That probation should be more liberally granted to non-dangerous offenders, irrespective of age

or previous convictions for minor offenses.

"4. That parole should be less frequently granted to offenders whose probable future dangerousness is manifest, irrespective of the crime committed, and granted at the earliest possible time to all other prisoners.

"5. That the parole board should be nonpartisan, composed of men judicially minded and selected for their experience and fitness for this essentially human work; that they be required to devote their entire working time to their tasks; that their terms of office be fixed and considerably lengthened and that fair and adequate compensation be provided for them.

"6. That prison officials and prison guards be required to possess a fixed minimum education. They should possess the necessary personal attributes for the work and should be subjected to a special course of training to fit them for their positions.

"7. That steps be taken at once to reduce our prison population to a minimum.

"8. That measures be taken to provide the means for eliminating the unforgivable practice of housing two prisoners in a single cell.

"9. That a study of our available prison facilities be made at once with a view of ascertaining the best method of segregating the inmates according to type, and that such segregation be commenced without delay.

"10. That the prison authorities be required to put in operation a plan of grading prisoners within their institution with a system of rewards and promotions from grade to grade, based upon behavior of the prisoners.

"11. That in Stateville in particular the warden should experiment

with the grading of prisoners. That so far as possible each cellhouse should be a graded unit; that feeding should be in groups not larger than the number contained in each cellhouse.

"12. That in the construction of prisons in the future regard should be had to the building of large cell-rooms for the housing of groups of ten or twelve prisoners (commonly termed dormitories) wherever such housing can be done to the advantage of the inmates.

"13. In view of the fact that prisoners awaiting trial are often kept in jails for weeks and months, and that they finally make up the bulk of the penitentiary population, attention ought to be given to them while in jail with a view toward avoiding the formation of habits and practices which make them difficult inmates in penitentiaries and antisocially inclined when they are discharged. Work ought to be provided for them while in jail.

"14. The commission will, at a subsequent time, make further recommendations on the question of compensating prisoners for work in excess of given tasks.

"15. That efforts of the state should be directed toward the goal of ultimately having no prison with a population in excess of 1,000 inmates. Stateville, with its separate cellhouses, may be excepted from this plan.

"16. Steps should be taken to enlarge and improve the hospital and psychiatric facilities of our prisoners. Hospital space for insane criminals should be enlarged and prison authorities be given full power of transferring mentally deranged prisoners to such hospitals.

"17. This commission takes the privilege of making an additional recommendation which may not be

regarded as strictly within its scope, namely: That the laws dealing with the carrying of firearms be considerably strengthened; that the sale of firearms be restricted entirely to licensed dealers; that each sale be registered with proper authorities, who should retain a sample of the bullet discharged from the gun and the name and finger prints of the owner of the gun; and that all persons now owning firearms be required to register them with proper authorities.

"We feel that in this respect the State of Illinois should not rest content by adopting legislation looking toward this end. It should strive to create a national sentiment which should bring about co-operation of all the states in an effort to reduce to a minimum the crimes committed by armed men. Europe is virtually free from such crimes. America can likewise free itself of the gunmen by proper legislation and by the creation of wholesome public sentiment."

Illinois Prison Notes—The personnel of the Illinois State Penitentiary, Joliet, staff has been changed by adding two new positions, a first assistant warden and an assistant warden. These two appointees were Oren Coleman and Edward M. Stubblefield, two former sheriffs with outstanding records in the enforcement of the law. Mr. Coleman, under the direction of Warden Hill, is to have charge of the penitentiary plant at Stateville, and Mr. Stubblefield is to be in charge of the Old Prison at Joliet. The Women's Prison at Joliet has been merged with the Illinois State Reformatory at Dwight and as soon as the new Medium Security Building at Dwight is completed the 120

women at Joliet will be transferred to Dwight. The Welfare Department is preparing to install new industries to comply with the new prison labor law which was effective July 1. Some of the new industries probably will be departments for manufacturing auto tags, woolen textiles, cotton textiles, and soap. The Welfare Department is completing plans for the establishment of the Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation.—F. W.

Crimes Known to the Police in Denmark—The Statistical Department of Denmark has just issued its Report on Criminal Justice for the years 1916-25 (*Danmarks Retspleje i Aarene 1916-25*. 83* + 105 pp. Copenhagen, 1931). For the first time this series includes a table of crimes known to the police, beginning with the year 1921. A summary table is given wherein the following classification of offenses is used: burglaries, simple thefts, frauds, offenses against morals, assaults (*voldsforbrydelser: voies de fait*) and "other offenses." The average annual number of crimes known was about 47,000, of which 90 per cent were frauds, thefts or burglaries. From 1921 to 1925 an increase of almost one-third was recorded. Frauds increased about 63 per cent, and assaults about 46 per cent. About 39 per cent of all the crimes known occurred in the metropolitan area of Copenhagen and Fredericksberg, 33 per cent in the provincial towns, and 28 per cent in the rural districts. Over half the burglaries were reported from the capitol. Frauds were particularly common in the provinces and assaults relatively frequent in the rural areas.

"CRIMES KNOWN TO THE POLICE" IN DENMARK, 1921-25, *Op. cit.*, p. 48*

Offense	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	— Five-Year Average —			
						Copen- hagen & Fredr'ks- berg	Pro- vin- cial Towns	Rural Dis- tricts	Whole Country
Burglaries	6158	5374	5571	6079	7900	3443	1098	1675	6216
Simple Thefts..	24091	22925	25233	26725	30344	11311	8255	6298	25864
Frauds	6740	8467	8212	10062	11016	2020	3676	3204	8900
Moral Offenses.	1262	1190	1191	1306	1551	486	410	404	1300
Assaults	938	1092	1135	1329	1371	336	334	503	1173
Others	3061	3648	4243	3499	3515	694	1545	1352	3591
Totals	42250	42696	45576	49000	55697	18290	15318	13436	47044

The detailed table (No. III) on which this summary is based gives statistics by the police districts of the nation, 71 in number. That table gives in addition the number of arrests (apparently not classified so that they can be compared with "crimes known" except, perhaps, in the case of sex offenses), the number of persons involved in cases abandoned or brought to a conclusion by public prosecutors, and the number of persons fined. This table, furthermore, gives the annual data on which the five-year averages of the summary table are built.—T. S.

Recent Publications—Raymond Moley has an article entitled "The Racket: The Most Elusive of Crimes" in the Sunday New York Times, August 9, 1931. Professor Thorsten Sellin, Book Review Editor of the JOURNAL OF CRIMINAL LAW AND CRIMINOLOGY, wrote the article on "Crime" for the Encyclopedia of the Social Sciences. The Report and Recommendations of the Pennsylvania Commission on Penal Institutions, Hon. Wm. C. Alexander, Chairman, may be found in the Prison Journal, July, 1931. The Prison Journal is published quarterly by the Pennsylvania Prison Society. Hon. George W. McClintic, United States Judge for the Southern District of West Virginia,

discusses the provisions of the present Federal probation law in the American Bar Association Journal, September, 1931. The Department of Public Welfare of Virginia issues a monthly bulletin entitled "Public Welfare" each month. Arthur W. James is Editor. The September issue of the Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science is entitled "Prisons of Tomorrow." Professor Thorsten Sellin is General Editor of the series and to this volume he has contributed a "Brief Guide to Penological Literature." Particularly valuable is part II of "Prisons of Tomorrow" which is devoted to "Prisons Abroad." The preliminary report of the advisory committee to the New York State Commission to Investigate Prison Administration and Construction on the subject of "Problems of Prison Labor" is discussed in the June, 1931, issue of "Correction" published by the New York State Department of Correction.

Reports—The Eighty-Sixth Annual Report of the Prison Association of New York is of great value in that it is not only a review of the work of the New York organization but contains other information which will interest all criminologists. Chapter IV is entitled "Foreign Observations and Comments," Chapter

V is devoted to the "English Prison System," and Chapter VI presents a study of "The Grade System in Prison Administration in Prussia." The material in these three chapters covers 50 pages of the text. In addition to these features the Report contains the first reliable English translation of the "Commentaries, Questions and Resolutions" adopted at the Tenth International Prison Congress in Prague. Copies may be obtained from the General Secretary of the American Prison Association, and of the Prison Association of New York, Mr. E. R. Cass. Among other reports of general interest is the Report for the Second Quarter, 1931, of the Philadelphia Criminal Justice Association, T. A. Meryweather, Special Agent. This Report contains a wealth of statistical material. The Forty-First Annual Report of the Board of State Charities of Indiana for the fiscal year ending September, 1930, was issued in July, 1931. The Report was edited by John A. Brown, Room 416, State House, Indianapolis. The Thomas Skelton Harrison Foundation at Philadelphia recently published two important studies. One is "The Magistrates' Courts of Philadelphia" by Spencer Ervin of the Philadelphia Bar and the other is the "Statistical Department of the Municipal Court of Philadelphia," a report by the Bureau of Municipal Research of Philadelphia.

Juvenile Crime in Virginia—According to statistics compiled by the Department of Public Welfare of Virginia, Frank Bane, Commissioner, reports from adult penal institutions of the State for the year ending June 30, 1931, show a decided increase in the number of per-

sons committed over the previous year, but commitments of children in the juvenile and domestic relations courts in Virginia have decreased. Only 637 new commitments of children were received by the Department of Public Welfare during the year ending June 30, 1931, as contrasted with 685 for the year ending June 30, 1930. In fact, commitments of children to the State Department of Public Welfare for a number of years have declined or remained practically stationary.

Excellent work on the part of judges and superintendents of public welfare has kept many children in their homes and within their communities. With foster home placement becoming more difficult from year to year, due to hard times, welfare units have increased their efforts to handle social problems locally. Figures on crime and delinquency among children for the current year indicate not only the success attained by these efforts, but also the great social economic contribution which local welfare units are making in this state. Virginia's experience in handling juvenile delinquency without the necessity of greatly enlarging reform schools or constructing new institutions may point the way to a partial solution of the problem presented by the ever-increasing number of adult offenders, which make necessary the construction from time to time of new or larger jails and penitentiaries.

Commissioner Bane recently was asked by Walter S. Gifford, Director of the new Federal Relief Organization, to take charge of all welfare activities of that organization. The following table shows the number of commitments for the past six years:

COMMITMENTS TO STATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE						
Year	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931
Commitments	781	702	710	671	685	637