

Summer 1934

Book Reviews

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Recommended Citation

Book Reviews, 25 *Am. Inst. Crim. L. & Criminology* 144 (1934-1935)

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BOOK REVIEWS

THORSTEN SELLIN [Ed.]

ONE THOUSAND JUVENILE DELINQUENTS. By *Sheldon Glueck* and *Eleanor T. Glueck*. Harvard Law School Survey of Crime in Boston, Volume I. xxix+341 pp. Harvard University Press, Cambridge, 1934. \$3.50.

Juvenile courts and child guidance clinics developed during the last thirty years because of a belief that behavior is more easily modified in childhood than in adult ages and that desirable modifications in behavior can be secured if policies of treatment are based on intensive studies of individual juvenile delinquents. Among the courts and clinics operating upon this hypothesis the Juvenile Court of Boston and the Judge Baker Foundation in Boston have generally been regarded as highly efficient.

Sheldon and Eleanor Glueck demonstrate by a study of one thousand juvenile delinquents who came under the care of the Boston Juvenile Court and the Judge Baker Foundation during the years 1917-1922 that the results in reformation have been "highly disappointing." They find that 56.8 per cent of these boys were convicted of serious offenses during the five-year period subsequent to juvenile court action and an additional 31.4 per cent had other records of delinquency, making a total of 88.2 per cent who persisted in delinquency to a greater or less extent subsequent to the juvenile court action.

This finding is undoubtedly shocking. The authors present their

findings boldly and make no effort to mitigate the severity of the shock. In doing so they lay themselves open to criticism of exaggerations, and they have certainly omitted information which is essential for an accurate appraisal of their findings. In the first place, they have not adequately described their sample in relation to the total juvenile court load from which it was taken. This is a cardinal omission in any statistical study. They do, to be sure, explain that they included all boys referred by the juvenile court to the Judge Baker Foundation for study during the years 1917-1922 and they explain that these boys were not limited to the ones deemed to be especially difficult (p. 49). The casual reader might infer from this that the thousand cases which were studied were a random sample of the court cases, and the careful reader would find no additional assistance in understanding the principle of selection, or even in learning the proportion of court cases which were referred to the Foundation. It is probable that, though not limited to the boys deemed to be especially difficult, they were selected to a very great extent on the principle of difficulty and that they were from one-half to one-third of the entire number of boys in the Juvenile Court during those years.

Second, the authors nowhere describe the territorial jurisdiction of the Juvenile Court of Boston. Persons unacquainted with that court think that it includes the entire city

of Boston and perhaps also the suburbs. As a matter of fact it handles about one-fifth of the juvenile delinquency cases in Boston, the others being handled by seven district courts. Its territory covers an area within about a mile and a half from the center of the business district. The residential portions of this territory are almost entirely of the "slum" type except the portion south of the Commons which is a good residential area from which practically no boys appear in the Juvenile Court. This court may have jurisdiction, also, over juveniles arrested in this area regardless of their places of residence. The authors give no information regarding the number of boys not residing in the territorial area of the Juvenile Court who are included in their study. From a study made by Henry D. McKay for the Wickersham Commission it is probable that less than one-third of the boys handled by the Juvenile Court reside outside this deteriorated area.

In spite of these omissions of information which might have reduced somewhat the disappointment in the findings, it must be admitted that the juvenile court procedure has not been highly successful, at least, in the "difficult" cases. Moreover, this study shows that all methods of treatment failed in a very large proportion of cases. The outcomes were better when the recommendations of the Foundation were carried out than when they were disregarded, but the difference was not great enough to give encouragement to those who want to extend the intensive studies of personality. The failures were almost as numerous when probation was used as when institutional confinement or some other method was used, and were almost as numerous when the

period of treatment was long as when it was short. The most significant difference in outcomes is between those with a larger and those with a smaller number of favorable factors, but even here 74 per cent of those with more than 20 favorable factors were recidivists. The authors believe that efficiency can be increased somewhat by adoption of their recommendations for modifications in the organization and procedure of the court and the clinic and the social agencies, but do not expect "tremendous results" from modifications of this nature.

Because the study was restricted largely to juvenile delinquents residing in slum areas, there is little spread between the most favorable and the least favorable factors. Consequently there is a very high percentage of failures and a very narrow base on which to calculate predictions. Six factors were found to have the greatest significance in relation to the subsequent behavior, namely, discipline by father, discipline by mother, school retardation, school misconduct, age at first behavior disorder, and length of time between onset of delinquency and examination by the Judge Baker Foundation. An appraisal of these factors taken separately or in combination is difficult for the reader, for information was not secured on several of these items for about a third of the boys and the absolute number of cases used in the predictions is not stated. The number of cases in the extreme classes is probably small, and a considerable amount of undescribed statistical manipulation must have been used in arriving at predictions.

The fact that a study of this nature could have been made is a great tribute to the social agencies and official departments of Massachu-

setts. The absence or incompleteness of records would make similar studies impossible in most other states. It is noteworthy, for instance, that only 3 per cent of the subsequent delinquencies discovered by the authors were discovered outside of official records.

This is the first volume of the long-awaited report of the Harvard Law School Survey of Crime in Boston. It is a notable contribution which has already raised doubts in the minds of many people regarding the accomplishments of accepted methods of dealing with delinquents and started them in the search for better methods. Some persons are inclined to experiment with "deeper analysis," some with neighborhood organization, and some with the broader economic and social organization.

EDWIN H. SUTHERLAND.
University of Chicago.

THE DETECTION OF CRIME. By *Walter Martyn Else*, in collaboration with *James Main Garrow*. 195 pp. The Police Journal, London, 1934. (A. O. Knoll, 469 E. Ohio St., Chicago.) \$2.65.

For many years criminal investigators have appreciated the need for adequate and comprehensive publications dealing with the various scientific methods of crime detection. Hans Gross' "Criminal Investigation," translated from the German, was practically the only source of information in the English language treating of the subject generally. But time itself placed a very serious limitation upon its use; and there were no subsequent editions to keep it apace with modern scientific achievements.

A few other valuable books appeared, such as, "Forensic Chemistry

and Scientific Criminal Investigation," by Lucas, and Shore's "Crime and Its Detection," but there still remained the need for a concise yet adequate publication which should run the gamut of most of the methods of scientific aid in criminal investigations, and present them to the uninitiated police officer and investigator in a truly intelligent and comprehensive fashion. "The Detection of Crime" was written to fulfill this requirement, and it does come very close to accomplishing this purpose.

The authors of "The Detection of Crime" did not intend to offer an exhaustive study of each of the scientific crime detection methods discussed. Their primary object, as stated in the preface, was to place in as simple form as possible some of the elementary scientific methods applicable to the work of the investigator, together with an exposition of the more advanced practice of scientific technique now applied in all cases in which the aid of the expert is sought. By this means the authors anticipate that police officers and other investigators of crime "will gain an insight and consequent inspiration and knowledge to search for, safeguard and even prepare for examination material which in the end may prove of vital importance in the chain of evidence."

The following titles of several chapters appearing in Part 1 of the book indicate the type of material discussed: "How and Where to Search for Blood Stains, Seminal Stains, Dust and Soil"; "Fibres"; "How Firearms, projectiles and Cartridge Cases Are Identified"; "Some Points in Finger-Print Evidence With Which the Officer Should Be Conversant"; "The Preservation and Examination of Burnt or Damaged Paper and and Docu-

ments"; "Identification of Handwriting and Typescript"; Procedure in Poisoning Cases"; "Principles of the Precipitin or Serological Test"; etc. In Part II, dealing with "Technique for Students and Police Technical Departments," the following chapter titles appear: "Microscopy—Choice of Instrument and Accessories"; "The Use of the Microscope in Criminal Investigation"; "Methods of Preparing Drawings, Diagrams and Photomicrographs for Production as Evidence. Ultra-Violet Light Used in Photography and Detection"; etc.

Unfortunately for the criminal investigator in the United States the book is written by police officers in England to meet the special needs of English investigators. A striking example of this is the list of names and addresses, after each chapter, of qualified experts in the particular field there discussed to which the investigator is referred for competent advice and aid. Nevertheless, this fact does not seriously detract from the merits of the book as a valuable one to investigators in the United States. It deserves a prominent place on the reference shelf or in the library of every criminal investigator.

FRED E. INBAU.

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION. By Charles W. Fricke. 265 pp. O. W. Smith—Law Books, Los Angeles. 1933. \$2.50.

In this book the reader will find an interesting discussion of various phases of criminal investigation by an author who obtained his information primarily through experience in the criminal courts as defense counsel, prosecuting attorney, and judge.

Judge Fricke's treatment of the subject is extremely non-technical—in fact, too much so. However, as indicated in the preface, he does not profess to present any erudite exposition of the scientific methods involved in the detection of criminal offenders. His main object was to offer certain suggestions to the police officer regarding his original investigation and the preparation of the case for actual court trial—viewing the situation as a member of the legal profession rather than as a trained scientific investigator.

The book begins with a couple of chapters devoted to "the importance of accurate detailed information," and to "previous preparation," followed by a discussion of "the scene of the crime," with advice and suggestions as to the type of evidence to seek and how to preserve it for subsequent use. Another chapter treats of "evidence in specific crimes," in which the author defines and discusses various crimes such as burglary, robbery, forgery, conspiracy, rape, murder, etc., and outlines the precautions a police officer should take in building up his case so that it will stand the test of a judicial trial. Judge Fricke then explains briefly what evidence and information is of importance in cases of self-defense.

Approximately half of "Criminal Identification" is devoted to the foregoing topics. The latter half deals principally with scientific evidence, such as finger-prints, blood tests, firearms identification, photography, and poisons—all treated superficially as far as the pertinent sciences are concerned. But apparently Judge Fricke was unable to resist the temptation to scatter here and there a chapter or two on legal problems which probably were more suitable to the first portion of the

book. Such, for instance, are the chapters dealing with "witnesses," "statements of witnesses," and "criminal evidence."

Although "Criminal Investigation" is very elementary in nature, it does contain some very helpful hints for the criminal investigator.

FRED E. INBAU.

Scientific Crime
Detection Laboratory,
Northwestern University.

DIE KINDERSCHÄNDUNG (Ravishing of Children). By *Albert Guenther Hess*. (Kriminalistische Abhandlungen, edit. by Dr. Franz Exner, Vol. XX.) 56 pp. Ernst Wiegandt, Leipzig, 1934. Rm. 2.80.

This study deals with 315 (male) cases of "lascivious actions with persons under 14 years of age, and incitation to perpetrate or tolerate such actions" (par. 176, German Criminal Law). Hess discriminates between "intentional situations" and "accidental situations" (*Absichts- und Zufalls-Situationen*). On the basis of a careful and comprehensive statistical analysis of the various concomitants of the crime, he reaches the conclusion that the intentional (premeditated) situation is characteristic of homosexual perpetrators, and of (heterosexual) recidivists. These groups are similar in some other regards, and the impression arises that they are representatives of dominantly endogenetic crime, while the accidental situation seems to indicate dominantly exogenetic crime. But—concluding from other findings of his study, Hess points out that the consideration of the mere type of the situation does not suffice for the determination of causative factors.

And there lies the problem. The situation should not be defined as the "sum of all phenomena temporally and spatially grouped around the action," as the "external configuration of the crime"—but as the specific total configuration in which individuals, milieus, general conditions and special tensions are inseparably and dynamically integrated. Individual case-studies based on the general background given by Hess are therefore to be suggested.

WALTER BECK.

Boston University.

CASE STUDIES IN THE PSYCHOPATHOLOGY OF CRIME. By *Ben Karpman*. 1042 pp. Mimeograph Press, Washington, D. C., 1933. \$12.50.

The five case records published by Dr. Karpman must open the eyes of many a reader to a surprising material that confronts one if one cares to do reasonable justice to a human being called criminal. It must be even more startling to many to hear a critic suggest that there should be even more work put into it, in the way of checking up and a final sifting of it all. Yet this is exactly the criticism one has to make. It becomes urgent that the data should ultimately be condensed; but they can be evaluated only with painstaking revision. For this purpose a limited number deserve such publication in full, but it should be done with that sense of motive and also of economy that will save the reader the repetitions of the lesson; for that it is.

German literature has a great deal of material of medico-legal expertise. That there is room for very much fuller studies of criminological nature and value is obvious. For

the "prosecutor" and the judge and the penologist more pointed, selective and concise case reports are needed. For the court simplicity is essential if it is not to confuse the issues. All this shows that even science cannot eliminate human judgment in matters of such complexity; and the practical workers will stand or fall according to whether a balance of common-sense can be reached.

With all this the work of Dr. Karpman is valuable pioneer work.

ADOLF MEYER.

Johns Hopkins University.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MENTAL HYGIENE. Edited by *Frankwood E. Williams*. Vol. I, xviii +803 pp.; vol. II, iv+840 pp. The International Committee for Mental Hygiene, Inc., New York, 1932.

These two substantial volumes are the record of progress in a relatively new branch of social science up to 1930. When supplemented by the Congress issue of "Mental Hygiene" for April, 1930, "The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science" for May, 1930, and the "Survey" for May 1, 1930, they will give" . . . as accurate and as comprehensive a picture of the status of mental hygiene in 1930 as it would probably be possible to obtain." (Preface, Volume I, p. xiii.)

The term "social science" is used advisedly. Psychiatry is certainly a branch of medicine, psychology is for some a biological science, and "mental hygiene" smacks of the realm of prophylaxis; but the materials of these volumes suggest that we are witnessing a new synthesis

of the data of social problems, if not, indeed, of social organization and social control in general, from the point of view of personality development. Whether it is logical to proceed from a study of the abnormal to an understanding of the normal is a problem for the pundits. Such has been the order of events in the story of mental hygiene, and here we find the leaders of the discipline applying their methods to the family, industry, schools, religion, recreation, health, crime, dependency, sex, and eugenics. But most of them appear to be refreshingly extroverted. There is little evidence of internal conflict as to whether there is a "science of personality" or, assuming the existence of such a field, what its limits and desiderata shall be. Rather these courageous gentlemen drive ahead with the zeal and confidence of those possessed of a new idea.

The genesis of the Congress and its admirable administration constitute a significant case study in social planning, with the implicit suggestion that the mental hygienists have applied their techniques to their own affairs. "Schematically, the program topics fell into three main divisions: community problems, clinical and sociological problems, and administrative problems. From another angle, the program proceeded from end results to preventive aspects. As the Congress days succeeded one another the program topics dealt first with adult problems; then with those affecting college, high-school, and adolescent groups; and next with grade school and pre-school children, ending with prevention as the key-note." (Vol. I, p. 24.)

Students of crime and penal affairs will be most attracted to articles by Franz Alexander on "Men-

tal Hygiene and Criminology"; Bernard Glueck on "Psychoanalysis and Child Guidance"; Lothar Frede on "The Educational System in the Penal System of Thuringia"; and Sanford Bates on "The Prison of the Future." Articles by Karl Birnbaum on "The Social Significance of the Psychopathic," and Douglas Thom on "Treatment of Special Problems in the Pre-School Period" are of related interest. The discussions of these papers are in some cases also quite significant and it may safely be said that there is very little of these forty-five papers and subsequent discussions that is not related to problems of behavior.

Geographically the Congress represented forty-five countries; professionally, it brought together psychiatrists, psychologists, sociologists, social workers, nurses, educators and preachers; historically it placed a milestone in the progress of mental hygiene; and intellectually it soared far above the level of mediocrity.

W. WALLACE WEAVER.

University of Pennsylvania.

CURRENT SOCIAL PROBLEMS. By *John M. Gillette* and *James M. Reinhardt*. 819 pp. American Book Company, New York, 1933.

This book is, as it purports to be, a compilation of facts, largely statistical, concerning social problems. Following an introductory section devoted to the definition, causes, and nature of social problems, the treatment is divided into "Problems More Immediately Related to Geographic and Economic Conditions," "Problems Arising Out of Psychological Conditions," "Problems Connected With Race and Nativity," "Problems Centered in the Domes-

tic Institution," and "Problems of General Social Control" (including crime). There are thirty-one chapters of which by far the best are three on population, four on the distribution of wealth and income, and four on race problems and immigration.

Two chapters (pp. 652-718) and some scattered sections from others are devoted to crime. The treatment is superficial and there seems to have been some fear lest a conventional topic might be omitted. Two egregious errors appear on page 654, where Césaire Lombroso is referred to as "Ferrere Gini Lombroso" and is credited with having been "the first criminologist to employ a purely objective method of investigation."

The reviewer has a sincere respect for facts and finds this book a veritable compendium, conscientiously collected from such sources as "The Report of the President's Committee on Recent Social Trends," the "Publications of the National Commission on Law Observance and Enforcement," reports of the "Committee on the Costs of Medical Care," publications of the "White House Conference on Child Health and Protection," publications of the United States Bureau of the Census, the "Statistical Abstract," and "The World Almanac." However, some question may be raised as to whether it is well-adapted for use as a textbook by the undergraduates for whom it was prepared.

W. WALLACE WEAVER.

University of Pennsylvania.

THE COMMUNITY AND SOCIETY: AN INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY. By *Loran David Osborn* and *Martin Henry Neumejer*. 468 pp. Amer-

ican Book Company, New York, 1933.

This first volume of the new American Sociology Series by the American Book Company, with Kimball Young as general editor, starts from the assumption that the community includes the essential social groups and social relationships, while concrete enough for first-hand study. Part One takes up definitions and types of communities and the relationships embodied, with three chapters on maladjustment including one on crime. Part Two, on social processes and sociological principles, is not directly related by the authors to the first section. Each chapter is accompanied by "projects and exercises" and selected references. There is an index.

In the 16-page treatment of crime and delinquency the authors can only list and outline: a half-page of definitions; statistics on extent and costs; one page on causation; four on the handling of crime, following Sutherland's text; less than a page, quoting Gillin, on prevention. Juvenile delinquency gets five pages touching on causation, the juvenile court, and community control, with mention of the Los Angeles County Plan of Coordinating Councils. The references cited are standard works published not later than 1931.

DAVID K. BRUNER.

University of Pennsylvania.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SIXTY-THIRD ANNUAL CONGRESS OF THE AMERICAN PRISON ASSOCIATION—1933. viii+401 pp. American Prison Association, New York, 1933.

As usual, these proceedings are rich in material on many phases of the problem of crime as it impinges

on or occupies the field of work of the prison administrator. The papers and addresses given at the 1933 sessions are classified under the general headings of law enforcement; crime prevention; the judiciary and crime treatment; probation and its problems; the jail; prisons and penal policies; individualization of treatment through case work; the significance of education in institutional treatment; the health of the prisoner; should prisoners be idle?; parole; and statistics in prison administration. In addition there are several committee reports, and the minutes of the business meetings. The executive officers of the Association should be commended for having greatly improved the printing and the arrangement of the contents of the volume.

BEHAVIOR PROBLEMS OF PUBLIC SCHOOL CHILDREN IN ALLENTOWN AND IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF LEHIGH CO., PENNSYLVANIA.

The review of this study as published in the November-December (1933) number of this Journal seems to the undersigned to be misleading. It is not within the purview of the report to present a community study nor an analysis of attitudes of groups toward social institutions.

The study was made in a unified field by Curtis A. Williams and Ina D. Eddingfield, the authors, who were selected because of the contributions they could bring, one from the field of the social treatment of delinquents by community agencies, the other through experience with visiting teacher and other school services. The reviewer's complaint, therefore, that the study was made

by separate investigators having divergent bases of attack and terminologies, is as sound as would be a criticism of the fact that architects, carpenters, masons, structural steel workers, etc., have different contributions to make in the building of a home.

The study gives, against a background of natural and economic resources of the community and its facilities for dealing with problems of delinquency and behavior, an appraisal of the juvenile court and visiting teacher services with special reference to 463 school children presenting behavior problems. An analysis of the relationship between the children and their schools, the schools and homes of the children, lead to consideration of causal factors and their relation to the local situation and conditions. In a very high percentage of the problem cases studied, it was evident there was no sympathetic or understanding coop-

eration between the school and the home. Parents were indifferent or ignorant of the school's policies and point of view, and the school lacked definite knowledge of the home conditions that might be contributing to the problem. Similarly, the juvenile court and other community agencies were studied. On this foundation, recommendations were made for the development of a program to better meet the problems of children adversely circumstanced and requiring social or educational treatment because of misbehavior or delinquency.

It seems quite beside the point that the establishment of a crime prevention bureau is not suggested, nor that the authors of the study did not approach the subject from the point of view of recreation.

LEON STERN.

Secretary, Pa. Committee
on Penal Affairs.