

1943

Book Reviews

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarlycommons.law.northwestern.edu/jclc>

 Part of the [Criminal Law Commons](#), [Criminology Commons](#), and the [Criminology and Criminal Justice Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Book Reviews, 33 J. Crim. L. & Criminology 328 (1942-1943)

This Book Review is brought to you for free and open access by Northwestern University School of Law Scholarly Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology by an authorized editor of Northwestern University School of Law Scholarly Commons.

Book Reviews

PROBATION AND PAROLE IN THEORY AND PRACTICE. A Study Manual. By *Helen D. Pigeon*. New York: The National Probation Association, 1942. Pp. 420.

This study manual may well become a classic in its field, for it is the first compendium of the correctional program and service which can be used as a practical textbook for the in-service training of all correctional workers. It is a store of information from a variety of scientific disciplines which can be applied to the treatment of offenders.

The manual covers not only the techniques of probation and parole, adult and juvenile, but also related services with which probation and parole officers should be familiar, such as the police, detention, the courts and the social work of institutions. It also discusses generally the psychiatric problems and social case work as necessary for the understanding and treating of delinquency. One cannot read this book without gaining a better appreciation of the history and function of the many services concentrating on correction. Correctional workers have been no exception to the American antipathy toward the police, but after going through the courses in this manual one finds that police work and social work are complementary and not mutually exclusive functions; nor can a policeman take this course and not find the need of social case work in the performance of his duty. An adult probation officer, for example can, through the pages of the manual, take a look at the work of the Juvenile or Domestic Relations Probation Officer, or at the judge, the prosecutor, the sheriff, the jailor and the warden; or vice versa. From this better understanding of various functions comes better co-operation and consequent efficiency.

The text is not academic—yet it is scientifically accurate. It actually tells in simple terms what can be done for the rehabilitation of offenders. Technical jargon is reduced to a minimum and all scientific concepts are clearly defined. One is not burdened by having to read unnecessary detail, and there is a refreshing open-mindedness about the book, which stimulates thought and encourages the discussion method of teaching.

Professional workers as well as the average readers and laymen, many of whom are in probation, parole and correctional work and have been eager for more usable information, will want to add this manual to their libraries and to study its text.

CHAS. H. Z. MEYER

U. S. Probation Officer, Chicago, Illinois

PRINCIPLES OF ANTHROPOLOGY. By *Eliot Dinsmore Chapple* and *Carleton Stevens Coon*. N. Y.: Henry Holt and Company, 1942. Pp. 718. \$3.75.

Readers of this JOURNAL will be especially interested in the application of the authors' descriptive scheme to law. It can best be set forth by quoting from their summary of the chapter on law:

"Just as ritual helps restore equilibrium, so law helps maintain it. Laws define the kinds of behavior a 'reasonable man' might be expected to follow. The legal machinery is set up to determine whether or not the accused has acted outside the limits of tolerance defined for the interaction of individuals in a state of equilibrium. Punishment is a way of conditioning the individual to the required behavior, or of removing him so that he cannot continue or repeat the disturbance. . . . In any society in which there is more than one institution, a distinction may be made between law and

custom: law is the system of rules for a society as a whole, custom for a single institution. Legal procedure includes the discovery of the law and its application. The discovery of the law is simply the process of finding out the habitual procedure in a given circumstance. There are two ways of doing this: by the creation of a statute law, made by a law-giving body at the time of disturbance to meet the new conditions, and by the establishment of the common law, or law of precedent, by which the court or judge finds a precedent for a similar case in the past. The application of law consists of the determination of guilt or innocence, the sentence, or the execution of justice. The determination of guilt has nothing to do with the fact that a disturbance was created; if the action of the accused fell within the bounds of reasonable behavior, he is not guilty no matter how great the disturbance he may have caused. If he passed these bounds he is guilty, whether or not a disturbance resulted."

It is apparent to the legal student that there is here not only over-simplification but distortion of legal concepts in order to fit them into the authors' scheme. The definition of custom is one example. A case could be made out for the proposition that law helps to restore equilibrium as well as that it helps maintain it. But the authors have assigned the former function to ritual; and while they recognize that restoration of equilibrium does sometimes result from legal procedure, though not invariably, they insist that is not law's real function. Of course it is doubtful if the notion of equilibrium can be anything more than a metaphor in such connections. It is apparent too, that they treat all law as penal law though they do not so define it.

There will doubtless be differing opinions as to whether the authors' descriptive scheme increases our knowledge of man and his social relations. That their presentation is a thoughtful and thought-provoking piece of work cannot be questioned. There is much in it that is suggestive and of absorbing interest to students of man and his institutions, including law.

EDWARD LINDSEY

Warren, Pa.

SOCIAL RESEARCH. By *George A. Lundberg*. 2nd edition, 1942; Longmans Green and Co., Inc., New York, London, Toronto. Pp. XX + 426. \$3.25.

Sociology has settled down. It has come down from the clouds of splitting of concepts and philosophy to what the final chapter of this book calls: "Social bookkeeping." Nor is Lundberg's *Social Research* concerned with social psychology, with the processes of personal adjustment, with the "mechanisms," the driving forces, the human urges that make up such books as *Social Psychology* by William McDougall. It is characteristic of the book that this author is not quoted once. Emphasis is laid on securing facts for the final purpose of their statistical and mathematical evaluation. In this regard, the book is excellent and can be recommended as a reliable and very cleverly written introduction, although it does not go into detail of the mathematical statistics. The criminologist, though he will miss examples dealing with his particular field, will otherwise be richly rewarded.

In connection with the statistical interest, the methods for dealing with the individual cases that are not neglected, are treated somewhat scantily. I should like to remind the author, who is very much quotation minded, of a word by Leibnitz, 1696:

"There is a certain art of questioning in such occasions when queer things or quaint persons can be seen or spoken to, that bid fair to let the examiner learn very much; in order to make wisely use of such fleeting occasions, and not to have reason to reprimand oneself, that one has not questioned and examined this or that."

This is the method of being all set for the individual case which cannot be omitted in social research.

W. ELIASBERG, M.D.

New York City

PERSONALITY AND MENTAL ILLNESS. An Essay in Psychiatric Diagnosis. By *John Bowlby*. Emerson Books, Inc., New York City, 1942. Pp. 288. \$2.75.

For the reviewer this is one of the most interesting and stimulating books in the psychiatric field that has been published in several years. Dr. Bowlby, starting as a clinical assistant in psychiatry at Maudsley Hospital, found himself fascinated by the question, "What sort of a person was this patient before he became ill?" Then, as a result of this special interest and study he "gradually came to recognize certain characteristic personalities who seemed specially liable to develop a functional mental illness."

Dr. Bowlby describes in some detail a schedule of traits and symptoms and presents the results of this schedule as applied to 36 psychotic cases and 29 cases diagnosed as either psychoneurotic or psychopathic.

An hypothesis is presented, (not new, but as yet not accepted) with experimental evidence, although admittedly rather limited, as a check on its validity. This hypothesis is that our present use of outstanding symptoms as criterion for psychiatric classifications, as developed by Kraepelin, is unsatisfactory and should be superceded by a classification based on the pre-psychotic personality of the subject as well as the type of symptoms shown. After all, it has been recognized for some time that the Kraepelinian classification into rigid psychotic symptom types modeled upon the classification of the specific disease entities of internal medicine has not been satisfactory, and hence Bowlby's theories are a step forward and suggest future research.

Bowlby suggests two methods for checking the validity of his theories: 1.) the method used in his present preliminary essay can be extended; i.e. a large number of patients specially selected on the grounds of unassailable diagnosis can be used; and 2.) "normal" people and those suffering from psychoneurotic symptoms can be studied and grouped into genetic types and personality sub-types. The careers of these people could then be followed over a period of years and any psychotic symptoms which might develop could be noted.

To the reviewer this book appears to be a "must" for anyone interested in research in psychiatry or abnormal psychology as well as for all those who wish to keep up with advances in the field of clinical psychiatry.

PHYLLIS WITTMAN

Elgin, Illinois State Hospital

INTELLIGENCE IN MENTAL DISORDER. By *Anne Roe* and *David Shakow*. *Annals of the N. Y. Acad. Sci.*, Vol. XLII, 1942. Pp. 361-490. \$1.25.

The results of this painstaking investigation will be reviewed here only as far as they are related to criminology. The criminalist, for his own purposes, may be interested in the problem whether there is already available a reliable standard test battery for the evaluation of adult intelligence. Our authors' answer to this is that we are in the process of approaching it. It is chiefly a financial and administrative problem and we are reminded in this regard of the method of sampling small but properly selected populations (Gallup polling). As to the relationship between psychosis and intelligence, the material of 827 cases enables the authors to formulate: a.) the type of psychosis developed is rarely dependent, to any extent, on the intellectual level. b.) In the presence of psychotic processes, certain changes in mental functioning may occur in the direction of lowering of the level, both general and specific in nature. The authors have found tests that are specific of the

lowered level. Interested readers should look for this in the publication. As might have been expected, the manic depressive psychosis, the paranoid condition, the psychoneuroses and the psychopathic personality offer practically normal test results. Dementia praecox in all its forms differs only in a few items significantly from the normal. As to the technique, and the suggestions of the authors for further development, the reader must again be referred to the original. It should be mentioned that one of the authors, Anne Roe, was contributor to the investigation on adult intelligence, published by the late Dr. Weisenberg and Dr. McBride in 1936.

W. ELIASBERG, M.D.

New York City

PSYCHIATRIC SOCIAL WORK. By *Lois Meredith French*. Published by the Commonwealth Fund. New York. 1940. Pp. 344. \$2.25.

The American Association of Psychiatric Social Workers has sponsored this book. From data secured between 1931-1938 the reader is given an account of the inception of this newest phase of social work, the directions of its growth, its influence on the whole field, and areas needing further study.

In Chapter II, *Growth of Psychiatric Social Work*, Mrs. French revealed that early in the twentieth century this special field of work evolved, following two developments; the first a shift within psychiatry which extended its functions beyond diagnosis and classification to include possible rehabilitation of mental patients, and a program for preventing mental breakdowns. These then new functions were to be attained through the "study of personality in relation to environmental situation." Hence psychiatric social work meant a "working relationship with psychiatry." First, workers in this field served in mental hospitals. Psychoanalysts were then emphasizing the importance of childhood emotions and experiences. Within the decade preventive efforts were directed against juvenile delinquency by working with school children, these workers were later known as Visiting Teachers. Beginnings for child guidance become evident in hospital clinics and in juvenile courts where offenders were studied by psychiatrists serving those courts. The mental hygiene movement was crystallizing into several state organizations and the National Committee for Mental Hygiene. By 1914 the Boston Psychopathic Hospital offered training courses. In 1918-1919 training was provided at Smith College to prepare for adequate psychiatric care of men in Army and Navy hospitals. The profession was given publicity by its participation in post war care of injured men.

During the twenty-five years, psychiatric social workers have drifted away from hospitals for mental disease, preferring positions in clinics of educational institutions, in child guidance clinics and in public health nursing agencies. The author has commented that "educational institutions offer one of the largest fields of opportunity for psychiatric social workers in mental hygiene education." Well equipped workers can serve education in two capacities: as case workers studying and modifying individual problems and as leaders in mental hygiene education.

Discussion in Chapter VI *Some Trends in Social Work Treatment*, shows that psychiatric social workers have learned techniques from psychoanalytical psychiatrists, which they in turn have shared with all social workers. Three terms regarding these techniques have been listed and defined, "Relationship Therapy," "Attitude Therapy," and "Passive Technique." Some workers have felt confused regarding the widespread use of therapeutic procedures. That confusion has been cleared, however, when the author cited that only three per cent of a family welfare worker's case load needed therapeutic

treatment. Then the functions and techniques of the specialized psychiatric case worker were integrated into the whole field of social case work by recognition that "Therapy does not revolutionize casework; it is an extension of it into the area represented by a group of clients who did not respond to any other means." Continued study is recommended for all phases of social treatment "including the experimental work with the therapies."

Psychiatric Social Work has interest appeal for a large group of professional workers, including judges of the juvenile court and of the domestic relations court, other court workers, court psychiatrists, those engaged in educational research, educational administration and pupil personnel work.

The book is readable because it is well written. Logically organized data, extensive use of footnotes, pertinent references in the bibliography mark this research as thoroughly done.

ELSIE M. FREDERIKSEN

Gary, Indiana, Public Schools

THE PATIENT AS A PERSON: A STUDY OF THE SOCIAL ASPECTS OF ILLNESS. By G. Canby Robinson. Commonwealth Fund, N. Y., 1939. Pp. 423. \$3.00.

This book reports an objective study of the relationships between the social environment of the individual and physical disease. Dr. Robinson's laboratory is not the cloistered halls of the university but the individual's social environment. The method does not detract from the objectivity of the study since the case reports are well documented, and the problems with which the author deals can be attacked in this fashion.

The general purpose and the reason for undertaking the study can be quoted in the author's own words: "In their devotion to science, leaders of medicine have had little time or energy for the consideration of the patient as a person, as a unit in a complex society and as an organism subjected to many strains and stresses from his environment." (p. 9). This statement is of interest because it comes from a medical man who according to his own statement has had little formal training in psychiatry. Considering this fact some of the conclusions are even more startling. Of the 174 patients studied, adverse social conditions were found in 80 per cent of the patients, and in 26 per cent the adverse social conditions produced emotional reactions which were considered to be the chief cause of the illness. In addition, 10 per cent of the group had emotional disturbances which caused the illness, but for which no definite social conditions could be found. These conclusions gain in importance when it is considered that the individuals used in the study represented a random group of hospital patients who showed circulatory, respiratory, digestive, etc., symptoms of an organic nature.

The emphasis of the research is on the social environment of the individual. For this reason objective analysis of the characteristics of the individual at the time he was studied was not made. In this respect the treatise is incomplete. If objective psychological test methods had been used, information could have been obtained as to the effects of the social environment on individual characteristics, and the manner in which these characteristics were related to the kind of illness. Furthermore, the reasons for the emotional disturbance of those individuals who had no adverse social conditions, but whose emotional upset was responsible for the illness, could have been determined. For this reason, the study does not actually consider the patient as a person, as the title implies, but the manner in which unfavorable social conditions in the life of an individual are related to certain diseases.

G. K. YACORZYNSKI

Northwestern University