

1950

Current Notes

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

Current Notes, 41 J. Crim. L. & Criminology 201 (1950-1951)

This Note 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.

CURRENT NOTES

V. A. Leonard, Editor.

University of Louisville Enters Police Training Field—Financed by grants from the General Education Board of the Rockefeller Foundation and the Carnegie Corporation of New York, the Police Training Institute of the University of Louisville will offer three twelve week terms a year in the fundamentals of police science to police officers of the southern region of the United States. Students selected will receive a stipend covering living expenses and a travel allowance. The course of instruction will include not only such subjects as investigation, identification, patrol, communications, records, etc., but also administration, law, crime prevention, human relations, and police problems of the South. The Institute is currently seeking to engage the services of a qualified Director at \$8,000 per year and an Instructor at \$6,000 per year. Duties of the Director include the administration of the program of the Institute, under the general direction of the Policy Committee, planning of the course of study, the selection and supervision of instructors, the recruitment of students, public relations, and financial control. Qualifications for the position of Director are: a. Graduation from a recognized college or university, or an equivalent education (additional credit for graduation with a bachelor's degree in police science, or for completion of institutes or courses in police science); b. progressive experience in the police field of five years or more, with at least one year in command, supervisory, administrative, or training duties; c. the capacity to administer the broad training program and carry on public relations activities for the recruitment of students; d. suitable personality. The principal duties of the instructor are to teach and to assist the Director in his administrative responsibilities. His qualifications include: a. a minimum of a high school education (additional credit for college or university training, or for the completion of institutes or courses in police science), b. progressive police experience of not less than three years; c. experience in or potentiality for teaching police science; d. ability to function in the broad training program of the Institute, and e. suitable personality.—*From a printed announcement of the University of Louisville.* EDITOR'S NOTE—All inquiries should be addressed to Dean Howell V. Williams, Chairman, Planning Committee, Police Training Institute, Administration Building 300, University of Louisville, Louisville 8, Kentucky.

Directory of University and College Criminology Programs—At the Third Annual Meeting of the Society for the Advancement of Criminology held in Berkeley, California, on December 29, 1948, a resolution was adopted authorizing a survey of the curricula of American universities and colleges to determine what institutions had pre-professional training programs in the field of criminal justice administration. Frank M. Boolsen, Professor of Police Science and Administration at Fresno State College, Fresno, California, was appointed by President O. W. Wilson of the Society as Chairman of a Committee to conduct the survey. Professor Boolsen and his Committee have completed this important project and have just released one of the most exhaustive reports of its kind, in which will be found an inventory of the organized programs of instruction and research in twenty universities and colleges which offer degrees or their equivalent in this area. In an introduction to the Directory, August Vollmer, noted social

scientist and police authority, states: "The Directory of University and College Criminology Programs is an attempt to bring before the institutions of higher learning in the United States the facts regarding the advancement that has been made in recent years in the field of criminology, and in the professional training of law enforcement and correctional officials. Professor Boolsen, the author of this report has made careful inquiries throughout the nation with the end in view of discovering how active the institutions have been in the promotion of knowledge concerning the cause and the prevention of crime, and the management and the development of law enforcement and correctional agencies. It is hoped that this directory will serve not only as a supplement of what already has been done, but will contribute to the further advancement of criminology in this country." It is the general purpose of the directory to record the various criminology curricula offered in American educational institutions for the convenient use of educators, educational administrators, and police officials and should provide an indispensable guide for future research on such problems as a. standardization of criminology curricula; b. standardization of course content; c. evaluation of existing training programs; d. standardization of programs at comparable institutions; e. expansion of existing training programs; f. transference of students and credit from one institution to another; and g. coordination of pre-employment and in-service training programs. The mechanics of the survey included a questionnaire which was sent to all universities and colleges in the United States. Some three hundred institutions replied that they offered no organized training program in the field of criminology. About twenty-five schools advised that they had an organized training program in some aspect of criminology or that some of their students had obtained employment in some phase of criminology. These programs were investigated, and it was finally determined that the twenty universities and colleges listed in the directory had an organized program i. e., a minimum curriculum of two years comprising a major as listed in the college catalog in the field of criminology, as defined in the Preamble of the Society. Copies of the Directory may be obtained by addressing Frank M. Boolsen, Professor of Police Science and Administration, School of Criminology, Fresno State College, Fresno, California.

Art Therapy for Reform of Delinquents—The following, from a British experimenter with behavior therapy in prisons is in line with similar work in U. S. Federal prisons. "When I was a military prisoner in North Africa in 1942, I spent a couple of hours each day drawing, and afterwards I always felt relief from boredom. Besides, the activity gave me an incentive to study the camp surroundings from a painter's point of view. I spent a lot of time standing and watching the shapes of my fellow prisoners as their outlined figures merged subtly against the walls of the huts. I used to memorize their attitudes, the bend of their necks, the way their arms were stuck into their trouser pockets, and their backs huddled in the cold. Later I worked out these impressions on large sheets of paper. This serious creative work gave me a definite aim and its therapeutic effect was, I think, very great.

"On my return from the prison camps I found myself wondering what went on inside our civilian jails, and whether the strengthening escape through creative work, which I had found, was also being discovered by the inmates of his Majesty's prisons. I was encouraged to inquire further into this matter on being told that my own experience as a prisoner of war was not just the result of personal idiosyncrasy, but that art as a form of psychotherapy, had already achieved recognition, especially in the field of child welfare and had been applied with benefit to the handling of young delinquents. Art therapy for

delinquents can be divided into two different categories. The first would be for certain star prisoners and Borstal boys, young men, boys and girls, neurotic or maladjusted by a combination of unstable constitution and a bad upbringing. They would be sent to a special center where their work would be done with psychological treatment. The second category is already represented to a certain extent in Britain in connection with the general educational program of prisons and Borstals. Its purpose is to maintain the personality in a state of health while in prison, whereas the first category would be directed toward the treatment of pre-existing maladies.

"I was recently fortunate enough to visit the Latchmere Reception Center for boys. Here the Borstal boys, many of them illiterate, neurotic, blighted members of society, become relatively happy and self-confident, when compared with contemporaries in other centers. They undergo an eight-week course of extensive medical, psychological and vocational examination and treatment. For the first time in their lives these boys are being treated with understanding and kindness. They are encouraged to be creative and they respond. The Educational Guidance Officer finds that, although talent is limited, practically every boy has some creative side latent in him, and will happily get down to making some attempt at a work of art when provided with pencil, chalk, clay or gouache. This new method of art therapy is described by Mr. Otto Shaw, the well known lay psychotherapist in the following words: 'As part of the object of any psychotherapy is to bring the conscious and the unconscious into harmonious cooperation, the process is facilitated by any artifices that can be provided. It seems true that in the art room, delinquents are brought partly intellectually and partly intuitively, without necessarily any conscious expression, to a realization of the existence of a basic problem. Apart from the therapy, art has certain diagnostic values which can be seen, for example, in the violent characteristic colors from certain extroverted types and in the most characteristic tones and shapes of shizoid work. Let us avoid over-statement. Art therapy must be regarded as supplementary to other therapeutic procedures. Furthermore, the quality of the teacher is all-important. Understanding and sympathetic people will do more good than highly qualified experts who do not realize that the main aim should be to bring out the individuality of each person and encourage him to work in his own way, rather than to drown his individuality in a series of inhibiting conventions. Mr. Shaw states that although to a very limited extent facilities for art exist in prisons, these are partially spoiled by a. over-attention to craftsmanship and draughtsmanship and to reproductive and imitative work, and b. ignorance on the part of staff or instructor as to the function of art for delinquents.'—*From Earl Haig through the British Information Services.*

Penal Reform and the United Nations—The Howard League for Penal Reform (London), whose objects are to promote the right treatment of delinquency and the prevention of crime, has been recognized by the United Nations as one of the Non-Governmental Consultative Organizations since October, 1947. At the Paris Conference in October 1948, of societies having consultative status, a resolution was passed containing, among other points, a recommendation that the United Nations might usefully consult the Howard League for Penal Reform on—"measures to stimulate, educate and guide public opinion regarding rational treatment of offenders and potential offenders in order to bring about improvements in the organization and working of penal administration, and progress in cooperation to this effect between nationals of different countries." At a meeting of the representatives of the principal international organizations concerned with the problem of the pre-

vention of crime, held at Lake Success in March 1949, the problem of juvenile delinquency in all its phases was discussed. The Howard League was asked to: a. report on practical measures to stimulate, educate and guide public opinion in the various regions of the world in order to promote modern methods in the prevention of juvenile delinquency and in the treatment of juvenile offenders and b. to make suggestions for minimum standards and the best procedure to be adopted in the practical application of probation, with special emphasis on regional differences, as well as suggestions and comments on the report now being prepared by the Secretariat of the United Nations.

While in these instances particular stress is laid on juvenile delinquency and probation, the Howard League is recognized as having a special contribution to make to the whole field of the treatment of offenders. The League bases itself on the principle that a healthy penal organization is only possible where progressive officials are supported by an enlightened public opinion, ready where necessary to press for reforms, and capable also of cooperating in measures for combating crime by rational and humane methods. It is essential, therefore, that through the United Nations, expression should be given to the views of ordinary citizens in various countries upon this most important subject. For the furtherance of this aim, the Howard League for Penal Reform desires to extend its relations with Societies, Groups and individuals of similar interests overseas. Correspondence is invited and as a further device to promote international contacts in this area, the League proposes to issue a half-yearly informal bulletin, circulated to correspondents, containing short communications sent by them referring to penal matters in their own countries. All inquiries should be sent to The Howard League for Penal Reform, Parliament Mansions, Abbey Orchard Street, London, S. W. 1. *Editor.*

Legal Aid for Defendants—President Whitney North Seymour of the New York Legal Aid Society reports that during 1949 the Criminal Courts Branch of the Society, under the effective leadership of Miss Florence M. Kelley, handled 9,075 cases, as compared with 8,288 in 1948. A breakdown of the total appears as follows: General Sessions—1,748; Special Sessions—2,962; Felony Court (Magistrate)—3,221; Youth Term (Magistrate)—1,144. This impressive figure takes on additional meaning when compared with the total number of cases handled by the separate courts. Thus, for example, in the General Sessions Court the Society's representatives handled approximately 66% of all the cases of that court, 48% of the total of cases in Special Sessions Court, exclusive of those involving charges of gambling, about 41% of all cases brought into the Felony part of the Magistrate's Court, and almost 80.6% of all cases in the Youth Term Part of the Magistrate's Court. The Society takes appeals wherever merits of a particular case warrant. Consideration of such problems is worked out between the staff and an able volunteer Criminal Courts Committee under the Chairmanship of Timothy N. Pfeiffer and the Vice-Chairmanship of Peter H. Kaminer. Appeals taken are usually handled by volunteers and they have rendered outstanding service. President Seymour states that the work of the Criminal Courts staff is now also extended into the Federal Courts Branch of the Brooklyn Felony Court, with rotation in the various courts, providing experienced service in all. The 550 cases assigned to lawyers of the Society represented 95.6% of all assignments—*Seventy-fourth Annual Report of The Legal Aid Society (1949)*, 11 Park Place, New York, N. Y.

Pilot Project—Complete details of New York City's plan to prevent and check juvenile delinquency developed through the Bronx Pilot Project last year have been released by Nathaniel Kaplan, chairman of the New York City Youth Board which sponsored the project. Entitled *Citizens' Report*, the 100 page printed and illustrated volume is the culmination of five months work by over 150 citizens of the Bronx who joined in the project. In releasing the report, Mr. Kaplan said, "While the Project was conducted in the borough of the Bronx, we believe that a good many of the citizens' findings and recommendations as well as the method of the project itself, are adaptable to most American communities." The area chosen for the survey was one of many national and racial extractions, a cross section of the city. In some parts of it delinquency rates run consistently high. In organizing the project the Youth Board sought out community leaders and formed a steering committee. This group in turn obtained the cooperation of other community leaders, representatives of all faiths and races, as well as the clergy, public officials, parents, youth, educators, police, social workers, who were formed into several panels. Their mission was to determine the causes of juvenile delinquency in that area through the most frank and searching inquiries at all levels, and to report their findings and recommendations to the board. The panels met, debated fundamental principles, sought out problems in their area, and after five months brought in recommendations on the following topics: school and teacher responsibility, church and home responsibility, courts dealing with children and youth, the role of the police, recreation and group work, treatment resources, as well as housing, employment and living standards. After publication of the *Citizens' Report*, the Youth Board issued a supplementary report "to illustrate how the recommendations of the citizens' panels were translated into action and to indicate how the effort invested in the Pilot Project brought dividends in the form of increased services not only to the project area in the Bronx, but to other areas throughout the city as well." Included in the list of achievements were the opening of eleven additional recreation centers under auspices of the Division of Community Education of the New York City Board of Education, the development of twenty-three group work projects located in private recreation agencies and the opening of child guidance clinics in an elementary school, a junior and a senior high school, with group casework for parents as part of this program. City-wide effects of the full scale program have been similar to those observed in the Bronx, according to the supplementary report. "New resources are being created; overtaxed services are being expanded. The Youth Board Program has also furnished a stimulus to other services to tap added sources of community support, discover unused resources and develop new ways of serving youth. In accordance with the citizens' report, the emphasis is on prevention through constructive activity, and treatment of maladjusted youth who are potential juvenile delinquents."—*Focus*, May 1950.

The Quiet One—If you missed *The Quiet One* during its period of theater circulation, the opportunity is now presented to obtain it for showing in communities in the 16 millimeter form. This is the story of a Harlem child, neglected and drifting into rebellious delinquency, who is sent to a small institution where the psychiatrist and the skilful counselor guide him along the road to acceptance of his problems and an understanding of himself. This film which runs for sixty-seven minutes is superior in photography, appealing in its human story, and masterly in its interpretation of work with a troubled and wayward child. For information on rental, write to Athena Films, 165 West 46th Street, New York, N. Y.