

1952

Current Notes

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CURRENT NOTES

V. A. Leonard, Editor

Crusade Against Crime—A communication from Mr. Julius N. Cahn, Executive Secretary to U. S. Senator Alexander Wiley of Wisconsin, announces a new half-hour radio program which is given as a public service. It is entitled "Crusade Against Crime—The Citizen Strikes Back." Mr. Cahn invites suggestions from interested persons across the nation regarding current anti-crime developments which could be usefully described in the program, and, in particular, regarding constructive efforts which deserve public commendation. He should be addressed in care of The Hon. Alexander Wiley, Senate Office Building, Washington, D. C.

The program is heard over Station WOOK, Washington, Saturday nights, and by transcription over more than a dozen stations in the Baltimore-Richmond areas and in the Midwest. The purpose of the program is to inform the public of the facts relating to crime in the United States to the end that we all may better carry our responsibilities for law observance and crime prevention.

Program No. 1 featured a tape-recorded interview with the Honorable Charles W. Tobey, U. S. Senator from New Hampshire. The Senator was a prominent member of the former U. S. Senate Crime Investigating Committee. Other distinguished crime fighters will be heard throughout the series. News and interpretations of current developments will be presented on the program as well as comments on constructive new books and magazine articles on the critical problems of crime.

Mr. Cahn is the originator and producer of the program. He is a leading fighter in the anti-crime war. As a writer, columnist, lecturer and teacher, as well as Executive Secretary to Senator Wiley, he has had active experience on Capitol Hill during seven years. This includes his service with the Kefauver Committee during a year and a half. Mr. Cahn was commended by the Committee for his "helpful advice in formulating policy" decisions. His most recent magazine article in the January, 1952 issue of the magazine "Public Service" was on the subject, "Crime and Communism—Twin Menaces of 1952."

His radio program relates to the changing story of crime "as it affects you—not just the guy down the street." Here, therefore, is a helpful sign of what—and *what alone*—can break up the death-dealing "What do we care" attitude. It's always the dramatic story that goes over, that sticks and gets itself thought about and talked about.—V. A. L.

Annual Conference of National Probation and Parole Association—Chicago was, for the first time, the meeting place of the National Conference of Social Work, and consequently of the NPPA. The location assured a large attendance. The Association program again preceded that of the larger conference, special meetings running from May 22-24, with headquarters at the Congress Hotel.

As we go to press, we can give only an "inkle" of a rich and varied program. Dr. Alfred C. Kinsey, author of "Sexual Behavior in the Human Male," delivered a paper on the origins of sex offenses. The parole division of Illinois presented dramatically the orientation program for men ready for release on parole from the state penal institutions. Current concern over

the increase in adolescent narcotic addiction was reflected in a session on the subject, another program subject that has become increasingly important. Bridging the gap between the prison and the community, which includes special projects in this intermediate zone of treatment and supervision, was considered also. Other topics included a plan for statistical reporting, and the new uniform reciprocal legislation in support proceedings—From Sol Rubin, Legal Consultant to the National Probation and Parole Association, New York City.

The First Spanish-American Congress of Criminal Law and Penology—The Congress will meet July 6-11 of this year in Madrid to celebrate the centennial anniversary of the Supreme Court of Spain. A committee of Spanish, Italian, French and Belgian scholars and professors from Cuba, Argentine, Venezuela, Chile, Uruguay is inviting students of criminal law and criminology to attend at the sessions of the Congress. Railroads and steamship companies offer transportation at considerably reduced fares. Penal institutions will be inspected. There will be excursions to places of artistic or historical interest. Programs will be sent and all information given by the Instituto de Cultura Hispanica, Ciudad Universitaria, Madrid, Spain—From the *Journal's* European liaison officer, Hans von Hentig. Bonn, Niebuhrstr 19.

Home Leave for Prisoners—Last November the Prison Commission (England) introduced a scheme of Home Leave which is at present limited to star prisoners serving three years and over, and consists of five clear days at home—which count as part of the sentence—taken between four and two months before release. The scheme has a double purpose, one, to help to restore the prisoner's self-confidence by placing trust in him (or her) in conditions of freedom, and, two, to allow him to meet prospective employers, deal with domestic problems, renew home ties and help the process of re-absorption into society.

This constructive and important announcement was received by the press—so quick to report crime and its punishment—in a fairly loud hush. Is there no "story" in this acknowledgment of the plunge which must be taken at the moment of release, the abrupt adjustment which has to be made from an existence so ordered and controlled by others that self-confidence (and perhaps self control) is threatened? It is "outside" which is tough for so many delinquents, not "inside," and the stricter the prison regime the harder it is to live up to freedom and withstand its temptations. The scheme of home leave is a bridge between two worlds. May it soon be widened.—*The Howard Journal*.

The Attendance Centre in England—An Experiment—The first of three Attendance Centres in England was opened during the second week of July, 1950, on the premises of Peel House, Victoria, London, which is the training school of the Metropolitan Police. Two other Centres were subsequently set up at Smethwick, in Staffordshire, an accommodation provided by the police, and at Hull, where the facilities were provided by the remand home. It is clearly far too soon to attempt any accurate assessment of the value of this new method of treatment, but there are, nevertheless, a number of important points to be made.

Unlike the Bill of 1938 the Criminal Justice Bill of 1947 did not include any reference to Attendance Centres, and the clause was added during the

passage of the Bill through the House of Lords, largely through the efforts of Lord Templewood. Many penal reformers have not shared the enthusiasm of the protagonists of the Centre. It is not altogether a new method. Under the Criminal Justice Act of 1914 courts of Summary Jurisdiction were given the power under section 12 to order the detention of an offender within the premises of a police station until such time as the court might direct, and not later than 8 p.m. of the day of his conviction. Under section 13 they were empowered to order detention in a suitable place such as a police station for a maximum period of four days. The Departmental Committee on the Treatment of Young Offenders in their report in 1927 learned that it had chiefly been used in Liverpool, and that in fact throughout the whole country only 115 police stations possessed cells which had been certified as suitable for the detention of young delinquents. Although the Committee was impressed with the use of deprivation of leisure as a method of punishment, no recommendation for the extension of the system in its existing form was made in view of the very limited opportunities for exercise or employment.

The great Prison Commissioner, the late Sir Alexander Paterson, in the evidence which he gave to the Persistent Offenders' Committee, 1931, wrote as follows:

“Borstal and Probation will not, however, meet all the problems an Adolescent Court must face, and other weapons must be set in its hand, if imprisonment for all save extreme cases is to be avoided. Therefore I recommend to the attention of the Committee the deprivation of leisure as a means of dealing with the troublesome adolescent. The lad who commits a street offence, breaks some bye-law or refuses to pay a fine, should not have his roots torn up and be sent away from home and work to prison or institution. His future should not be handicapped by the dislocation or the stigma of such a sentence. It will be a salutary reminder to him if he is compelled to surrender himself at 7 p.m. every evening for detention till 10 p.m., or at 2 p.m. on Saturday till 10 p.m. on Sunday. He would be incarcerated in a central lock-up in the city, and required to chop wood or scrub or clean or wash. The process would do him no harm, and might well remind him of the power of the law to interfere with this liberty if he does not conform with its requirements.”

Although the Criminal Justice Act of 1948 removed the possibility of imprisonment for young offenders, the institution of Attendance Centres for boys between the ages of 12 and 21 was permitted by section 19. The Rules made under the Act are loosely worded and allow a diversity of interpretation. “The occupation and instruction given at a centre shall be such as to occupy the boys during the period of attendance in a manner conducive to health of mind and body.” The experiment applies only to the age-group between 12 and 17.—*Howard Journal*.

In-Service Training Standards for Prison Custodial Officers—The American Prison Association has announced publication of a new manual, entitled *In-Service Training Standards for Prison Custodial Officers*, compiled by the association's committee on personnel standards and training. Under the chairmanship of Richard A. McGee, director of the California Department of Corrections, the committee has met a longfelt need to publish the most up-to-date thinking and experience on institutional personnel training. Spearheaded by a resolution adopted by the delegates to the 79th Annual Congress of Correction, Milwaukee, September, 1949, the manual contains a compre-

hensive discussion of training problems and needs, together with suggested course outlines. Ten basic courses are outlined, including such titles as "Introduction to Institutional Correctional Service," "Custodial Duties and Skills," "Supervision Techniques," "Physical Conditioning," "Self-Defense," "Firearms," "Control and Treatment of Abnormal Prisoners," and related subjects. The manual has been made possible through the generosity of the Carnegie Corporation, which made funds for publication available through the interests of the Osborne Association. The manual is obtainable at the price of \$1.50 per copy through the office of the American Prison Association, 135 East 15th Street, New York 3, N. Y.—*The Prison World*, January-February 1952.

Prisoner Transportation—The California State Board of Corrections issued a manual in May, 1951, entitled *Prisoner Transportation Manual*, which describes methods of transporting prisoners under restraint. The demand for this manual by those responsible for the transportation of prisoners, as well as those who actually transport them, has been so great that the original supply was quickly depleted. The forty-six page booklet is well illustrated, both with pictures as well as with real incidents which describe very clearly the principles discussed. The first chapter discusses the importance of the attitudes of the transporting officer, while the second chapter shows weaknesses and limitations of the restraint equipment and emphasizes the precautions that are necessary when a transporting officer carries a gun. The choice of the proper type of vehicle and the problems related to their use, comprise the material of the third chapter. Transportation of special types of prisoners is discussed in chapter four. How to prepare for, and execute the trip is described in the last chapter.

In order to meet the continuing demand for this booklet, the division of printing of the California State Department of Finance has printed additional copies and is placing them on sale. The price has been set at fifty cents per copy, which includes postage, with a 5 percent reduction for requests totaling fifty copies or more. Orders should be forwarded to Printing Division, Documents Section, 11th and O Streets, Sacramento, California.—*The Prison World*, January-February 1952.

NOTES FROM PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Illinois Academy of Criminology

"THE ILLINOIS PENAL AND CORRECTIONAL SYSTEM"

The Illinois Academy of Criminology, in cooperation with the University of Illinois, has sponsored an Institute on "The Illinois Penal and Correctional System" held at the Allerton Park Estate (near Monticello, Illinois) Saturday to Monday, May 17-19, 1952. The purpose of the Institute was to critically examine important problem areas in the operation of the Illinois penal and correctional system, and to recommend appropriate legal and administrative remedies.

During the current year, the Academy has presented programs dealing with practical problems in the correctional field. It is thought that the prestige of the Academy and its members should be actively employed to effect improvements in correctional practices. The program of the Institute affords an opportunity for Academy members to address themselves to several

critical correctional problems and to recommend specific programs of action for the guidance of the public and the responsible public officials.

PROGRAM

Saturday, May 17

AN INTEGRATED SCIENTIFIC APPROACH TO CORRECTIONAL TREATMENT

"The Implications of a Psychiatric Approach for Correctional Treatment." Dr. George J. Mohr, Psychiatrist, Institute of Psychoanalysis, Chicago, Illinois.

"The Implications of a Sociological Approach for Correctional Treatment." Prof. Donald R. Taft, Department of Sociology, University of Illinois.

DINNER—Comments by Hon. Michael F. Seyfrit, Director, Illinois Department of Public Safety.

OPERATION OF THE INDETERMINATE SENTENCE LAW IN ILLINOIS SINCE THE 1943 AMENDMENT.

"Changes in Sentencing Practices in Illinois under the Current Indeterminate Sentence Law." Don T. Blackiston, Department of Sociology, University of Chicago.

"Effect of the Current Indeterminate Sentence Law on the Parole System in Illinois." Joseph D. Lohman, Chairman, Illinois Parole and Pardon Board.

Sunday, May 18

PROBLEMS AND TRENDS IN CORRECTIONAL CLASSIFICATION AND TREATMENT

"Classification and Treatment in Federal Correctional Institutions." John Galvin, Associate Warden, Federal Reformatory, Chillicothe, Ohio.

"Classification and Treatment in the Illinois State Penitentiary System." Dr. Groves B. Smith, Psychiatrist, Division of the Criminologist, Illinois Department of Public Safety.

PROGRAMS FOR THE CONTROL AND TREATMENT OF SEX OFFENDERS

"Objectives in the Social Control of Sexual Behavior." Prof. Alfred C. Kinsey, Institute of Sex Research, Inc., Indiana University.

"The Role of Psychiatry in Programs for the Control and Treatment of Sex Offenders." Dr. Edward J. Kelleher, Director, Psychiatric Institute of the Municipal Court, Chicago.

DINNER—Comments by Hon. Fred K. Hoehler, Director, Illinois Department of Public Welfare.

AN APPROPRIATE LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE CONTROL AND TREATMENT OF SEX OFFENDERS

General discussion session in cooperation with the recently created Illinois Commission on Sex Offenders, Senator Marshall Korshak, Chairman.

Senator Marshall Korshak, director of the Illinois Sex Offender Commission was chairman of the general discussion session participated in by Judge Julius J. Hoffman of the Cook County Court, Mr. Joseph D. Lohman, Dr. Edward J. Kelleher, Director of the Municipal Court Psychiatric Clinic in Chicago, and the following members of the staff of the Sex Research

Institute at the Indiana University: Professor Alfred C. Kinsey, Dr. W. B. Pomeroy, Dr. C. E. Martin and Professor Davis. Formal papers were read by Dr. Alfred C. Kinsey and Dr. Edward J. Kelleher during the second part of the final session. Informal talks were given at dinner meetings by the Director of the Department of Public Welfare, Fred K. Hoehler, and by Michael F. Seyfrit, Director of the Illinois Department of Public Safety which has jurisdiction over the prisons, state Bureau of Identification, State Fire Marshal, state police, Pardon and Parole Board, the Division of Supervision of Parolees and the office of the State Criminologist.

Monday, May 19

RESOLUTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Discussion and consideration of the report of the resolutions committee concerning recommended improvements in the operation of the Illinois penal and correctional system.

The Academy elected the following to serve as officers during 1952-1953:

President: Mr. Joseph D. Lohman, Department of Sociology, University of Chicago and Chairman, Illinois Pardon and Parole Board, Springfield;

Vice-Pres.: Dr. Edward H. Stullken, Principal, Montefiore Special School, Chicago;

Vice-Pres.: Professor Donald R. Taft, Department of Sociology, University of Illinois, Urbana;

Vice-Pres.: Arthur V. Huffman, Supervising Sociologist, Division of the Criminologist, Joliet and Associate Executive Director, Illinois Sex Offenders Commission, Chicago;

Sec.-Treas.: Lloyd E. Ohlin, Supervising Research Sociologist, Illinois Pardon and Parole Board, Department of Public Safety, Chicago;

Archivist: Dr. Henry D. McKay, Supervising Sociologist, The Chicago Area Project, Institute for Juvenile Research, Chicago.

The new Executive Committee consists of the officers and Don T. Blackiston, Professor Frank T. Flynn, Captain John I. Howe, Harvey L. Long, Mrs. Sarah B. Schaar, Judge Jacob M. Braude, Dr. A. Arthur Hartman, Ben S. Meeker, Eugene S. Zemans and the out-going president of the Academy, Professor Fred E. Inbau of the School of Law, Northwestern University.