

1953

Current Notes

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CURRENT NOTES

V. A. Leonard, *Editor*

Correction—At the top of page 362 Sept.-Oct., 1952, (end of note entitled "Penology—The Philippine Colonist Family System") reference was wrongly made to the *Prison Journal* for May-June, 1952. This should be corrected to read *The Prison World* for May-June, 1952. Sorry! Ed.

Support for the Glueck Studies—Dean Erwin N. Griswold has recently announced that the Ford Foundation has made a grant of \$200,000 to the Harvard Law School in support of the researches into the causes and treatment of juvenile delinquency conducted under the direction of Professor Sheldon Glueck and his wife, Dr. Eleanor T. Glueck.

"The Ford grant will enable the Gluecks to accelerate the development and validation of their diagnostic tests designed to reveal early tendencies to delinquency in children," Dean Griswold said. "If the tests are as successful as initial studies give promise, preventive and remedial measures can be taken while the children having these tendencies are still young enough to respond readily to treatment."

Dean Griswold explained that the Gluecks' present research, the latest in their 25 year series of studies, is based on detailed comparisons of 500 delinquent boys with 500 non-delinquent boys. The boys compared were matched as to age, ethnic origin, environment, and general intelligence. Each boy was then examined by a physician-psychiatrist, a psychologist, an anthropologist, and social investigators, working under the Gluecks' direction.

"The initial examinations and the follow-up studies which are still continuing have amassed an unparalleled body of facts concerning human behavior," Dean Griswold said. "Analysis of the data may lead to important reforms in criminal law and penology. The Gluecks have summarized their latest findings to date in their recent books *Unraveling Juvenile Delinquency* and *Delinquents in the Making*, now being translated into several languages. Widely hailed as a major contribution to the study of human behavior, their work is being discussed by criminologists and other behavioral scientists here and abroad."

In addition to degrees in law, Professor Glueck has a Ph.D. in psychology and sociology from Harvard and has written extensively on the relationship of criminal law to psychiatry and on war criminals. He has been a member of the Advisory Committee of the Supreme Court on Rules of Criminal Procedure; adviser to the American Law Institute on the Youth Correction Authority Act and the Model Penal Code; consultant to Justice Robert H. Jackson, American Chief of Counsel, on the Nuremburg trial of war criminals, and an official United States delegate to the International Penal Congresses at Prague and The Hague. Mrs. Glueck, who received her Doctorate in Education at Harvard and is a graduate of the New York School of Social Work, is an authority on the community use of schools and on social research.

Dean Griswold pointed out that the Harvard Law School has long been a pioneer in the study of crime as part of the teaching and research in the criminal law. In 1922, Dean Roscoe Pound (now Emeritus) and Professor Felix Frankfurter, now a Justice of the Supreme Court, directed the famous *Survey of Criminal Justice in Cleveland*. At Harvard Dr. Sheldon Glueck holds the first professorship in criminology to be established in any American law school. Recently he was appointed to the newly created Roscoe Pound Professorship—From Personal Correspondence.

The Gluecks are already under way in the study of certain atypicalities among the delinquents reported upon in UNRAVELING JUVENILE DELINQUENCY.

The first research along these lines is in a study of the delinquents in their sample who stem from non-delinquent families as contrasted with those non-delinquents who come from families among whom there are delinquent members. Another piece of work in which they are presently engaged is designed to throw additional light on the role of constitution in delinquent behavior—*Editor*.

Conference on Lie Detection—The New York University Conference on Lie Detection was held November 8 in Vanderbilt Hall, New York University, New York City, from 9:00 A.M., to 5:00 P.M. It was sponsored by the Graduate Division of Public Service, The Law School, The Society for the Advancement of Criminology, and the Association for Psychiatric Treatment of Offenders. General chairman of the Conference was Donal E. J. McNamara. Serving on the Conference Committee were Dr. Marcel Frym, Dr. Wladimir Eliasberg, James Barrett, Paul Trovillo, Dr. Richard Steinmetz, Dean William Roman, and Miguel de Capriles. Information concerning the Proceedings of the Conference may be obtained by addressing Dr. Martin Dworkis, 31 University Place, New York City, who was Conference Secretary—From Program Announcement.

Correctional Conference—A four-day Workshop for improving educational facilities in penal institutions was held on July 21-24 at Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana. The Workshop was sponsored by the Division of Education and Applied Psychology and the Division of Adult Education. It included a well-organized program of discussions and talks covering the field of educational techniques and approaches recommended for use in institutions. Both theory and practical applications were stressed. A conference of wardens and superintendents followed the final meeting of the Workshop. Dr. H. W. Porter of the Division of Education and Applied Psychology of Purdue University was general chairman of the program—*JOURNAL OF CORRECTIONAL EDUCATION*, July-October 1952 (published by the Correctional Educational Association, and affiliate of the American Prison Association.)

1952 Police Yearbook Available—The 1952 edition of *The Police Yearbook*, containing papers and proceedings of the 58th Annual Conference of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, held at Miami, Fla., Oct. 28-Nov. 1, 1951, is now off the press. Copies are in the mail for IACP members. Interested persons wishing copies for police libraries, training programs and for other purposes, may address orders to the International Association of Chiefs of Police, 1424 K Street N. W., Washington 5, D. C. Price per copy is \$3.00. Chapter headings of the 267 page, paper bound volume, include arson, civil defense, cooperation, crime prevention and juvenile delinquency, education and training, legislation, public relations, traffic law enforcement and supervision, and state and provincial law enforcement. The material, while comprised of papers, reports and discussions of the annual conference, gives extensive treatment of each subject mentioned. Compiled and edited by L. J. McEnnis, director of publications, IACP Traffic Division, the 1952 *Yearbook* is a valuable source of information to police executives, and as a training text and reference manual for police training schools and colleges—*POLICE CHIEFS NEWS*, September, 1952.

Television as a Training Facility—Two mimeographed reports which describe the results of studies carried on by the U. S. Navy Special Devices Center and Fordham University in connection with the instructional use of

TV are now available. These publications may be ordered from the Office of Technical Services, U. S. Department of Commerce, Washington 25, D. C., price—75 cents for each report. Orders must be accompanied by check or money order made out to the Treasurer of the United States. The titles of the reports are (1) Training by television—the comparative effectiveness of instruction by television, television recordings, and conventional classroom procedures, and (2) Training by Television—a study in learning and retention—*JOURNAL OF CORRECTIONAL EDUCATION*, July-October, 1952.

Some Implications of the Federal Youth Corrections Act—The approval of the Federal Youth Corrections Act by the President on September 30, 1950 marked a culmination of ten years of effort to establish a flexible procedure for the correctional treatment of offenders as an alternative to conventional Federal sentencing. In 1942 the Committee on Punishment for Crime of the Judicial Conference of Senior Circuit Judges published a significant report recommending a new approach to sentencing both for youthful and adult offenders. This report led to the introduction in Congress in 1943 of the proposed Federal Corrections Act. While the bill attracted strong support, it also became the center of considerable controversy. Several of the courts were not in sympathy with those provisions which would have modified sentencing procedures for older offenders, and the proposal died in committee. However, the discussions of the proposed act indicated that nearly all interested persons were favorably disposed toward those provisions which affected the youth group. Thus it was decided to seek enactment of a statute which would deal exclusively with younger offenders. Hearings which preceded the passage of the new bill were held late in 1949 by a sub-committee of the Senate Judiciary Committee.

The Federal Youth Corrections Act places new tools in the hands of the United States district courts for dealing with offenders under the age of 22. Under the act the courts may, as heretofore, place more hopeful offenders on probation, or, if they elect to do so, sentence under the provisions of existing statutes. If, however, a court is uncertain as to the disposition which will most appropriately meet the needs of a youthful offender, he may commit him prior to sentence to the custody of the Attorney General for study, diagnosis, and a recommendation as to treatment needed. On the other hand, if the court determines that a youth requires treatment, he may commit him to the custody of the Attorney General for an indefinite period not to exceed six years, or if it appears that more than six years will be required, for an indefinite period not to exceed the maximum penalty provided for the substantive offense.

The act imposes new and important treatment responsibilities upon the Bureau of Prisons. The Bureau must establish classification centers which will make presentence studies of youth offenders for the courts and prepare diagnostic reports on committed youth offenders for the Youth Correction Division of the Board of Parole. In supplementing the act, the Bureau must also establish a wide variety of treatment facilities for the youth group, including institutions, camps, and farms, and must also arrange for the use of the facilities of other institutions and agencies, such as hospitals and specialized schools for vocational rehabilitation or training—*REPORT OF THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF PRISONS FOR 1951*.

New Arson Association Officers—Newly-elected officers of the International Association of Arson Investigators for the year July 1, 1952 to June 30,

1953 are: President, Wm. L. Martin, regional fire coordinator, Federal Civil Defense Administration, Avon Lake, Ohio; 1st vice president, Inspector Charles L. Haggerty, Buffalo, N. Y., Police Department; 2nd vice president, Sergeant Lawrence L. Priar, Pennsylvania State Police, Harrisburg, Pa.; secretary, G. H. Parker, Kentucky Inspection Bureau, Louisville, Ky.; treasurer, Lt. S. T. Sides, Columbus, Ohio, Fire Department; sergeant-at-arms, Detective Holly Palmer, Kansas City, Kan., Police Department.

Members of the board of directors for the year are: A. Bruce Bielaski, general manager, National Board of Fire Underwriters, New York City; Fire Marshal George W. Clough, Nassau County, Mineola, N. Y.; Lt. Col. E. Desjardins, fire marshal, Canadian Army, Ottawa, Ont.; Detective Inspector Roderic Goeriz, Detroit, Mich., Fire Department; Joseph L. Lingo, Public Safety Institute, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Ind.; Det.-Sergeant Thomas L. Moran, St. Louis, Mo., Police Department; and Chief Special Agent Richard C. Steinmetz, Mutual Investigation Bureau, Chicago, Ill. Mr. Steinmetz is also editor of the IAAI News Letter, a publication of technical information and news in the field of arson—POLICE CHIEFS NEWS, August, 1952.

Decline in Executions—One hundred and five executions were carried out in the United States under civil authority in 1951. Except for 1950, when there were only 82, fewer executions were placed in the record than in any of the years beginning with 1930 for which national data on executions have been collected. The 105 executions in 1951 may be compared with an average of 144 per year for the years 1930 to 1950. Of the 105 executions in 1951, 87 were for murder, 17 for rape, and one for armed robbery. For murder, 55 white persons, 31 Negroes, and one American Indian, were executed; for rape, two white persons, and 15 Negroes; and for armed robbery, one Negro. One of those executed for murder was a female, the first executed in the United States since 1947. The ages of those executed in 1951 ranged from 18 to 71, with the greatest concentration in the age group 25 to 29. However, for rape the greatest concentration—seven out of the 17—was in the age group 20 to 24. During the year, executions occurred in 26 of the 44 jurisdictions in which capital punishment may be imposed under ordinary circumstances. Seven of the 26 jurisdictions accounted for more than half, or 61, of the 105 executions. These were Texas with 13; Virginia with 10; Florida, Mississippi and New York with eight each; and Georgia and Louisiana with seven each. For the first time in the 22-year period Idaho imposed the death penalty; two executions for murder were carried out in the state.

During the 22 years 1930 to 1951, a total of 3,136 prisoners were executed by civil authorities in the United States. Of these, 2,732 or 87.1 percent, were for murder; 354 or 11.3 percent, were for rape; and 50, or 1.6 percent were for other offenses—18 armed robbery, 13 kidnaping, 10 burglary, six espionage, and three aggravated assault. Five of the 44 jurisdictions which carried out executions during the 22-year period were responsible for 1,237 or 39.4 percent, of the total. These were Georgia with 287, New York with 278, North Carolina with 251, Texas with 220, and California with 201. Only 17 of the executions were carried out by Federal authorities for violation of Federal laws or offenses committed on Federal reservations or territories. Method of execution—in 1951, 83 prisoners in 16 states were executed by electrocution; 15 in six States by lethal gas; five in three States by hanging; and two in one State by shooting. Of the 44 jurisdictions which authorize the death penalty, 26 prescribe electrocution; eight lethal gas; eight hanging; one shooting or

hanging; and one, the Federal Government, the method of the State in which the execution occurs—NATIONAL PRISONER STATISTICS, September 1952, Federal Bureau of Prisons.

Vice Loses Ground—"According to a 1951 survey of cities, America is winning the long fight against commercialized prostitution," Dr. Walter Clarke, American Social Hygiene Association's executive director, declared recently in a statement summarizing studies of prostitution conditions last year. He noted that according to ASHA surveys of 228 cities there were fewer communities with open and flagrant prostitution in 1951 than at any time since 1940 with the single exception of 1944. Dr. Clarke pointed out that each year ASHA surveys from 200 to 250 communities, including those near important military installations and all large cities in the country, to ascertain the amount and flagrance of commercialized prostitution. *Social Hygiene News* (organ of the American Social Hygiene Association) explains that the ASHA classifies conditions as satisfactory or unsatisfactory on the basis of three factors: (1) the size of the community, (2) the amount of prostitution discovered during the survey, and (3) the flagrance or accessibility of prostitutes—POLICE CHIEFS NEWS, August 1952.

The English Prison and Borstal System—Lionel W. Fox, C.B., M.C., Chairman of the Prison Commission for England, has just completed an account of the prison and Borstal systems in England and Wales, covering the period since the Criminal Justice Act of 1948. Complete with a historical introduction and an examination of the principles of imprisonment as a legal punishment, Mr. Fox's book was published on June 13, 1952. Published with the approval of the Home Office, the book provides for the first time a complete and authoritative account of the English system. Every aspect of training and treatment of prisoners is described, including a discussion of the new corrective training and preventive detection techniques. Mr. Fox has been with the Prison Commission for a number of years, becoming Chairman in 1942. For five years he was vice president of the International Penal and Penitentiary Commission, and in July, 1952, became president of the United Nations European Consultative Group on Penal and Penitentiary Affairs. Published by Routledge and Kegan Paul, Ltd., London, it may be obtained through any bookdealer in this country—PRISON WORLD, July-August 1952.

Canadian Penitentiary Staff College—Professional training is obtainable for a limited number of prison personnel in university departments of social work; trade training for industrial officers is also available through normal channels. But there is little or no opportunity for specialized or professional training for the rank and file of prison officers. It is, therefore, a prime responsibility for any prison administration, genuinely concerned in improving its service, to provide facilities for specialized training for its staff. The Canadian Penitentiary System was reorganized in September, 1947, the aim being to place a greater emphasis than previously on the rehabilitative function of the modern prison. It was necessary, in the shortest possible time, to acquaint present staffs with the objectives of the new program and techniques and procedures by which these objectives might be realized. After considerable thought and study, it was decided that in addition to any program of in-service training which might be developed in the individual institutions, it was essential to inaugurate a central training program in which

head office policies might be clearly enunciated and uniform procedures established for all prisons in the Canadian Federal system.

Accordingly, such a program was inaugurated in February, 1948. Groups of officers, approximately 25 in number, representing all branches of the service—custodial, industrial, clerical and administrative—were brought to Ottawa for six weeks of specialized training. The curriculum placed a major emphasis on elementary psychology and sociology, penology and physical training. The objective was not so much to instruct the trainees in the technical aspects of the prison officers' work as to instill an appreciation of the new but basic philosophy of a modern correctional system—that the true purpose of the prison is not merely to keep in custody those persons committed by the court, but rather to train, uplift and educate them for better and future citizenship. From the inception of the program in 1948 until June, 1951, some 475 officers participated in the courses and conferences. Subsequently, a commodious old residence contiguous to one of the penitentiaries near Ottawa was acquired; during the autumn and winter of 1951-52, the building was completely remodeled by inmate labor to suit its new purposes. Suitable furniture was designed and manufactured in the penitentiary shops and a small permanent staff was appointed. On March 1, 1952, the Penitentiary Staff College was opened at its new permanent location with a joint conference of deputy wardens and chief trade instructors; two weeks later the first course of custodial officers came into residence for a period of six weeks. General instruction is in the hands of Superintendent W. F. Johnstone, who had previously directed the training program in Ottawa, assisted by A. J. Jarvis, a penitentiary officer of 14 years' experience—from an article *Canadian Penitentiary Staff College* by Joseph McCulley appearing in *PRISON WORLD*, July-August, 1952.

NOTES FROM PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

ILLINOIS ACADEMY OF CRIMINOLOGY

The November meeting of the Academy was held in Chicago on the tenth of the month. The program was as follows:

“Organized Crime in Chicago.” By Charles A. Bane, former Chief Counsel to the Emergency Crime Committee of the Chicago City Council.

Comments and Discussion by:

Rollin B. Posey, Chairman, Department of Political Science, Northwestern University.

Bernard B. Meltzer, Professor of Law, University of Chicago.

Judge Jacob M. Braude, Moderator.