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CURRENT NOTES

V. A. Leonard, Editor

Correctional Psychotherapy—On November 20, 1953, The Hacker Foundation for Psychiatric Research in Beverly Hills, California, offered the fifth in its series of Medico-Legal Seminars. It was a Forum on Correctional Psychotherapy presented in co-operation with the Southern California Chapter of Correctional Service Associates. This list of speakers included the men in charge of correctional psychotherapy at the Medical Facility of the California State Department of Corrections in Terminal Island, San Pedro, California, and at the Metropolitan State Hospital in Norwalk, California.

The State of California, considered one of the most advanced in reforming correctional methods, has developed extensive facilities for the psychological treatment of offenders. In its Medical Facility at Terminal Island, the State Department of Corrections has about 650 offenders in group treatment, and the Metropolitan State Hospital at Norwalk, California, has been treating sexual psychopaths in a special program. Up to now about 300 sex offenders have participated in correctional group psychotherapy at this institution. The Langley Porter Clinic of the California State Department of Mental Hygiene located in San Francisco has been engaged in special research on sex offenders for the California State Legislature, and the Hacker Psychiatric Clinic in Beverly Hills, California, has a separate department for the treatment of offenders in individual as well as group psychotherapy and for criminological research.

Marion R. King, M. D., Superintendent, and Nathaniel Showstack, M. D., Director of Clinical Services, of the Medical Facility in Terminal Island, reported on the observations, experiences and gratifying results of their group psychotherapy program. According to Dr. Showstack 85 such groups are running now at Terminal Island under the leadership of psychiatrists, clinical psychologists and specially trained sociologists. The Medical Facility has retained as a special psychiatric consultant H. Michael Rosow, M. D., who reviews and discusses therapeutic techniques with the group leaders. Born out of the lack of sufficient qualified therapists for individual treatment, group therapy for offenders has now developed as a tremendously important tool for rehabilitation of lawbreakers on its own merits and has demonstrated that the treatment of behavior problems in groups has, especially in certain types of cases, a psychodynamic advantage over individual psychotherapy.

Dayrel D. Smith, M. D., Director of the Sexual Psychopaths Program at the Metropolitan State Hospital, reviewed the excellent results obtained from group treatment of sexual psychopaths, while Frederick J. Hacker, M. D., Chief of Staff of the Hacker Psychiatric Clinic, reported on individual psychotherapy with offenders which has been extensively and successfully offered at his clinic over the past six years under the supervision of Marcel Frym, J. D., Director of Criminological Research of the Hacker Foundation.

The President of the Southern California Chapter of Correctional Service Associates, Deputy Probation Officer Sidney L. Wachs, discussed correctional psychotherapy from the point of view of the probation officer, and David Gerecht, Senior Sociologist, and Louis Sparer, Senior Sociologist, both at the Reception-Guidance Center of the Department of Corrections of the State of California, in Chino, reported on specific features of correctional treatment and their experiences at the State Institution for Men in Chino, California.

The Forum was moderated by A. LaMont Smith, Executive Officer of the

Board of Corrections of the State of California and Chairman of its Research Committee, who spoke on certain studies made by his department, especially on criteria for the successful rehabilitation of offenders. In conclusion, Dr. Marcel Frym summarized the views presented and stressed the pioneering work done by the State of California in departing more and more from a merely punitive approach to delinquency and substituting enlightened scientific methods of treatment of the underlying psychological causes of crime.—Dr. Marcel Frym, The Hacker Foundation, Beverly Hills, California, to the Editor.

The Irresistible Impulse—The British Royal Commission on Capital Punishment in a recent report has recommended that the McNaghten Rule be amplified if not completely abrogated by adding Irresistible Impulse as a defense. It will be good to keep in mind that the impulsive character of an action does not make it unpunishable under our present law—nor is the unpunishable impulsive action always abnormal. The problem is how to differentiate clinically, the irresistible impulse from the non-resisted impulse in a verifiable and demonstrable way.

How can we avoid the circle by which we come to assume that any perpetrated, i.e., non-resisted impulsive action, is by this very fact an action by irresistible impulse? "In any situation in which variable A is said to cause variable B, A is of no value as a predictor of B, unless we establish the existence of A apart from the existence of B."¹ The same problem is present in the evaluation of conscientious objectors and the practice here is not to accept the exception to military service unless there are established facts antedating the induction that would prove the presence of conscientious objection.

In a previous paper it was shown that there are a number of such clinical and demonstrable factors.² They are listed as:

1. Developmental factors: early appearance; infantilism; no integration with the personality; no sublimation; no relationship to the milieu.
2. Peculiarities of the aims of the urges; analogies in comparative psychology.
3. Periodicity (stereotypic repetition); intensity; peculiarities of inhibitions; constitutional factors; biological factors, including age; pathological processes.
4. Phenomenology, the irresistible impulse in psychological experience: a) emotional graph; b) consciousness; restriction of the biological milieu; c) multidimensionality; self-evaluation; self-control; d) characterology; e) characterological inheritance; f) the observer empathy; g) expressive psychology of the impulse action.
5. Motive, Motivation and irresistible impulse.

It is the writer's firm conviction that among all these the motivational factor is of prime importance for future research. Sociology, social psychology, psychiatry and the law may find a useful field for teamwork in elucidating the problem of the irresistible impulse.—From W. G. Eliasberg, M.D., Ph.D., 151 Central Park West, New York 23, N. Y.

International Course in Criminology—This Course has been organized by International Society of Criminology with the support of UNESCO under the

1. AMERICAN SOCIOLOGICAL REVIEW, 18, No. 6, P. 606.
 2. IRRESISTIBLE IMPULSE AND CRIME PSYCHIATRY, QUARTERLY SUPPLEMENT, 21, Part 1, 1947.

direction of Dr. Denis Carroll and Dr. Herman Mannheim, of London, England. The general subject: "Recent Advances in the Study and Treatment of Offenders". The Course was given from March 24 to April 13.

Inaugural addresses were given by Dr. Denis Carroll, President of the International Society of Criminology, Dr. Hermann Mannheim, University of London, and by M. Jean Pinatel, Secretary General of the International Society of Criminology.

The topics for discussion, and the discussants, were as follows: English Experience with the Treatment of Persistent Offenders in Prison, (Sir Lionel Fox, C.B., Prison Commission for England and Wales); Experiences in Open Prisons, by Duncan Fairn, (Prison Commissioner, U.E.); French Prisons and Reformatory Systems, by M. Charles Germain (Prison Administration, Paris); Borstal Treatment by R. L. Bradley, M.C. (Prison Commissioner, U.K.); Approved Schools for Juvenile Delinquents by John Ross, C.B., (Home Office, U.K.); Classification in Institutions for Juvenile Delinquents by John Gittens, M.A., (Aycliffe School, England); Institutions for Juvenile Delinquents on the Continent by D. Q. Mulock Houwer (Children's Institute, Woestijgerweg, Holland); After Care by the Rev. Martin Pinder, and/or Frank Foster (Central After-Care Association) and Hugh Klare (The Howard League for Penal Reform); Probation Work for Juveniles and Adults by Peter W. Paskell (Principal Probation Officer, Nottingham); Juvenile Courts and Corresponding Agencies by Basil Henriques, C.B.E., M.A., J.P. (East London Juvenile Court and Professor Erwin Frey, Penal Law, Zurich); Report on Research on the Policy of the London Juvenile Courts Carried Out at the London School of Economics by Dr. Hermann Mannheim (University of London, and G. W. Lynch, London School of Economics); The Home Office Prediction Study of Borstal Lads, by Dr. Hermann Mannheim and L. T. Wilkins, (Central Office of Information, London); Investigation of Juveniles in Custody and the Work of a Remand Home Psychiatrist by Dr. Peter Scott (Maudsley Hospital, London); Detention Centers and Attendance Centers, by Vernon J. Elvey (Detention Center, Kidlington, Oxfordshire) and Inspector Byssell (Metropolitan Police, London); Provisions for Maladjusted Children by Dr. Howard Jones, (University College, Leicester); Police Technique in the Field of Crime Prevention by Christopher Williams (Police College, Rypon-on-Dunsmore, Warwickshire, U.K.); Electroencephalographic Studies of Offenders by Dr. Denis Hill, (Institute of Psychiatry, London); The Role of Intelligence Defects in Juvenile Delinquency: A Survey of Literature and Case Studies at the I.S.T.D. and the Portman Clinic by Dr. Denis Carroll and Miss M. Woodward, I.S.T.D.; The Psychiatric Treatment of Prisoners by Dr. H. K. Snell (Prison Medical Service, Prison Commission); Typological Research on Adolescent Offenders by Dr. D. A. Ogden (H. M. Borstal Institution, Portland); The Ambulant Study and Treatment of Offenders by Dr. Denis Carroll; Legal Reforms Relating to the Treatment of Habitual Offenders and to the Psychiatric Treatment of Offenders by Professor Paul Cornil and Dr. Mannheim; Recent Psychoanalytic Developments in the Field of Juvenile Delinquency by Dr. Edward Glover, (Scientific Committee, I.S.T.D.); Group Treatment of Aggressive Psychopaths by Dr. Maxwell Jones, (Social Rehabilitation Center, Belmont Hospital U.D.); Community Studies and Juvenile Delinquency by Dr. John Spencer, (Carnegie Research Project, Bristol University). From J. Pinatel, Paris, France; Secretary General of the International Society of Criminology.

Follow-up of Sex Offenders—During the 46 month period from June, 1949 through April, 1953 there were 206 patients committed under the sex offender law to the three state mental hospitals in New Jersey. By the end of April, 1953, 57 of these sex offenders had been released on parole or discharged without parole either from one of the hospitals or from a penal institution after transfer from a hospital. Twenty-two were discharged outright without parole, 28 were paroled and are still on parole, and seven were paroled and subsequently discharged.

A study of the subsequent records of these 57 offenders released by parole or discharged shows that no offender violated his parole and necessitated his return to the paroling institution. One offender, a chronic alcoholic, discharged after having spent 32 months in a mental hospital has been recently committed to the State Prison on a charge of arson. As regards the previous delinquency record of these 57 released individuals it was found that a large proportion, 68.4 percent, had a prior record of arrest, time in jail, or commitment to a penal institution. Included in this number were 47.4 percent whose record included sex offenses.

Of the 35 who were released on parole before being discharged, or released on parole and remaining on parole at the end of the period studied, 16 (45.7 percent) were on parole less than six months, 11 (31.4 percent) were on parole from six to 11 months, and eight (22.9 percent) were on parole a year or longer. The number released whose later conduct can be considered in a study of adjustment-outcome includes those who have been paroled (from whatever institution) and those who have been discharged without parole. The 35 offenders who are either still under parole supervision in the community or were under supervision prior to discharge were supervised in nine districts.

The following analysis points out some pertinent facts concerning the 206 sex offenders committed to the three state mental hospitals.

A study of some of the personal characteristics of the 206 offenders admitted to mental hospitals under the sex offender laws shows that almost eight percent of them were Negroes. Over 34 percent of the total were under 30 years of age and another 30 percent were in their thirties at the time of their commitment. Almost 53 percent of the total number were single. The custody status of the 206 at the end of the period covered by the study—April 30, 1953—was as follows: On parole from hospitals, 27; from penal institution, one. Discharged without parole from hospitals, 20; from penal institutions, two; recalled, six. Resident in hospital, 119; in penal institution, 17; in New Lisbon, two. Died, two; on escape, three.—From New Jersey Department of Institutions and Agencies.

Sex Perversions As Psycho-Cultural Products—Through the exercise of taboos and regulated sex practices all cultures tend to channelize and fixate sex behaviors. These fixations form the basis of inner tensions wherever appropriate releases are not provided. Under prolonged tension-producing conditions, the release demands assume the character of self generating psychic forces within the organism and the behavior accordingly becomes compulsive. Sexuality as an aspect of the total life impulse is widely diffused over the organism and thus under appropriate stimulators may form gratifying associations with certain culturally defined objects and body movements. These, apart from the conditioned stimuli, would bear no relation to the sex act. The pearl lip-ornaments, in the Kotzebue Straits, the lip-discs in certain African tribes, bustles, ear-rings, small feet, female breast shapes, are examples of sexualizing objects and forms. Whether or not a perversion develops as a

result of the attention focused on such secondary sex attractions depends in some way upon the cultural values attached to the object or form and the cultural definitions of the behavior. It is contended that so long as these attractions remain secondary stimulators and do not become substitute gratifiers the behavior does not defensibly fall under the definition of perversion.

Moreover, comparative studies strongly suggest that criminal tendencies and personal feelings of inadequacy so often associated with perversion in the United States are not constitutionally related casually to the perversion.—Abstract, by the author, of a manuscript by Professor James M. Reinhardt, Chairman, Department of Sociology and Criminology, University of Nebraska.

Institute on Child Psychiatry—The International Association for Child Psychiatry will hold an International Institute on Child Psychiatry on August 13 and 14, 1954 in conjunction with the 5th International Congress on Mental Health. The theme of the Institute is: Emotional Problems of Children Under Six. Members of the Institute will discuss prepared clinical case studies and research reports related to the treatment of young children. It is hoped that some broad principles of child psychiatry will emerge which will be useful to workers in the field of delinquency.

Papers will be submitted from the United States and other countries which illustrate a variety of treatment methods and different professional and cultural points of view. A large attendance from this country is being encouraged. Full information on the forthcoming Institute may be obtained by addressing Helen Speyer, Executive Officer, International Association for Child Psychiatry, 1790 Broadway, New York 19, N. Y.

Unique Criminology Program At Baylor Law School—The Baylor University School of Law of Waco, Texas now offers a lecture and demonstration course in Scientific Criminology and Forensic Science as a required part of its Law School Curriculum. This course was founded two years ago by C. Gordon Martin, Consulting Criminologist of Dallas, Texas with the cooperation of Dean Abner McCall, former F.B.I. Special Agent, now Dean of the Law School. The course is incorporated into the standard work on Evidence and final examinations on the subject matter must be passed by all candidates for the L.L.B. degree. All major phases of Forensic Science are included, i.e., Legal Medicine and Chemistry, Physical Evidence, Questioned Document Examination, Deception Diagnosis, the Ethics and Practices of Forensic Science and similar related subjects. To our knowledge this is the only course of its kind now being offered in the Southwest and represents the first effort to introduce education in scientific criminology on the University level in this area. It is felt that this procedure may make possible further developments that will contribute to much needed improvements in the present status of knowledge and appreciation of Forensic Science among the legal profession and law enforcement personnel.—BULLETIN OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF CRIMINOLOGY, February 1, 1954.

Standards for a State Correctional System—The American Prison Association, 135 East 15th Street, New York 3, N. Y., announces that its revised and enlarged edition of its *Manual of Suggested Standards for a State Correctional System* will be ready early in 1954. It has been in preparation during more than two years. The book will be in 416 pages—27 chapters. It represents the most up-to-date practical thought and experience of leading penologists.

Nowhere else can such a wealth of technical detail relating to penology be found within the covers of one book. The volume can be obtained at the above address—From E. R. CASS, General Secretary of the American Prison Association.

Child Homicide—Published material on juvenile homicide is too often only the reporting of a sensational case. A recent pamphlet, *A Group Study of Juvenile Homicide*, is a welcome addition to the sparse literature on the subject. The pamphlet, written by C. H. Growdon, research director for the Ohio State Bureau of Juvenile Research, is based on a study of 54 such cases referred to the bureau for study and observation during 1921 to 1947, inclusive. The group studied was made up of 48 boys and 6 girls ranging in age from nine to nineteen years, of whom 42 were white and 12 were Negroes. The 1940 census reports and a group of unclassified delinquents similarly studied by the bureau were used as comparative data. The outstanding observation of the study was the great similarity between children involved in homicide and those involved in other types of delinquency. It was difficult to establish that the homicide group is materially more inferior, or more unusual or more abnormal than juvenile delinquents involved in other offenses. But victims of juveniles were found to include in comparison with those of adults more blood relatives and fewer of those slain in connection with other crimes. Revenge (12 cases) led the list of motives most clearly established in the 54 cases. The pistol was the weapon most frequently used, and murder was seldom premeditated over a long period of time. The treatment history of the group leads easily to the assumption that, given the same degree of constructive attention given to other delinquents, children who commit homicide are as good a social risk as those who commit any other form of serious delinquency.—*Focus*, July, 1950.

Manual of Criminal Statistics—Readers of the JOURNAL will be interested in the recently published *Manual of Criminal Statistics* compiled by the American Prison Association's Committee on Research and Planning. Under the Chairmanship of Dr. Walter C. Reckless of the School of Social Administration, Ohio State University, the committee has expressed the hope that the manual ". . . will help to stimulate the collection of statistics on the adult offender in a more uniform and realistic way." Compiled by Ronald H. Beattie of the California Department of Corrections and a member of the publishing committee, the author states that the manual attempts to "present the basic factors which must be considered in any plan to set up a system of criminal statistics." Three chapters are broken down as (1) the scope of criminal statistics, (2) a central bureau of criminal statistics and (3) the collection of criminal statistics. Those familiar with the field of criminology have long realized the need for vast improvement in the collection of adequate as well as accurate statistics. The publication of this manual is a noteworthy step forward toward clarification of a complex subject.—THE PRISON WORLD, September-October, 1950.

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

Illinois Academy of Criminology

The second meeting of the Illinois Society of Criminology for the year 1953—1954, was held on Monday, November 23, 1953. The program consisted

of a discussion of: "The Jury as a Working Institution." Judge Jacob M. Braude served as Moderator.

Mr. Victor J. Stone, of the University of Chicago Law School, the principal speaker, began by indicating the background for the present jury project which is being conducted at the University of Chicago under a Ford Foundation Grant.

The jury system has been subjected to constant criticisms: 1) that the method of trial is poorly designed to promote effective functioning; 2) that the most qualified persons are often not available for jury service; 3) that the average juror cannot be expected to perform the complex functions of applying law to evidence; 4) that the unanimity rule may support the weakest members of the jury. As against this, some arguments which have been placed in favor of the jury system are: 1) that it may be a check against corrupt judges or against oppressive legislation (e.g., prohibition law); 2) that the jury has a degree of anonymity and limited responsibility which permits more forthright decisions; 3) that because it consists of more than one person, the jury is better able to evaluate the facts, independent of individual prejudices or limitations.

Mr. Stone then described the attempts of the Research Group to determine and isolate criteria. The University of Chicago project has selected a number of areas to investigate. For example: How are trial court jurors selected? How is it possible to obtain a "representative" group from the community? One of the procedures utilized is a questionnaire widely distributed to various communities, the intent being to determine what categories of persons are selected for jury duty. Another problem is to investigate the critical factors affecting the decision process for the individual juror. What is the interplay of the group, the dynamics of the jury room? The research project plans to interview jurors immediately after their service. This procedure, of course, presents many problems. The juror may be unable to describe his own state of mind over the long period of a trial; however, it may be possible to learn what factors tended to influence the juror. Another problem to investigate is the effects of the unanimity rule. Should a majority rule be substituted? Also, what effect does the particular judge have upon the juror? A comparison of the results of judge and jury decisions is also planned. These are some of the ways in which the research project will attempt to survey the jury system and to determine how this procedure meets the basic needs in our society.

Mr. Leon Despres then discussed the report. He cited his own court experience with various types of jurors. He commented that the present research does not really evaluate basic assumptions that the jury system is the most effective method for obtaining justice. Mr. Despres suggested also that the questionnaire procedure may have limited value, citing as an illustration, a study by Fisher 25 years ago in which 10,000 questionnaires were sent out on the working of the jury in felony cases. It may be more important to study what goes into the decision process. How does the group of jurors interact? What personality features and differences in social background enter into their reactions to each other and into their decisions? What is needed is more of the perceptiveness of a James Joyce.

Mr. Despres suggested a number of points which a study of the jury system might well cover. For example: What is the role of the juror in developing interpretations of law in advance of present practice? For example, the law of comparative negligence, or the law of insanity as a defense. What effect does the law against self-incrimination by witnesses have in trial pro-

cedure? Another question to study is that of fitness for jury service. Also, what effect does the newspaper have on the juror in cases of shocking crimes?

The third meeting of the Illinois Academy of Criminology for 1953-54 was held on Friday, January 22, 1954. The general subject of the round table program was: "Prison Riots—Analysis of Their Causes and Methods of Prevention."

PARTICIPANTS: Hon. Joseph B. Bibb, Director, Illinois Dept. of Public Safety. Dr. Groves B. Smith, M.D., Psychiatrists, Illinois State Penitentiary, Menard, Illinois. Mr. Joseph D. Lohman, Lecturer, Department of Sociology, and Law School, University of Chicago. Prof. S. Kirson Weinberg, Research Center for Social Psychology, Roosevelt College.

MODERATOR: Mr. Arthur V. Huffman, Member Classification Board, Division of the Criminologist, Illinois Dept. of Public Safety.

Mr. Huffman, as moderator, outlined the tasks of the speakers in reviewing the complex phenomena in terms of basic causes and possibilities for prevention.

Mr. Joseph Bibb discussed some of the practical causes of disturbances in prisons with special reference to the subject of political domination over prison administrations. Political influences produce a constant shifting of leadership and the employment of political workers. Some other problems are the lack of civil service provisions, and the absence of an in-training program. The recent training program started by the University of Chicago for prison administrators, represents a step in the right direction.

Dr. Groves Smith discussed his on-the-spot experiences during the Menard Prison riots. He pointed out that riots do not just happen, that they are like volcanic eruptions, the rumbling of which may be noted over a period of years. Riot conditions had existed at Menard for some time previous to the actual explosion. Particularly important was the change of philosophy from an easy-going southern atmosphere to a tightly administered institution. There was an over-emphasis on discipline. Recommendations by the professional group were ignored. Many inmates resented having received different sentences for the same offense. The inmates misinterpreted what the Parole Board was trying to do. There was also the problem of prison guards of limited intelligence or education and of varying political affiliations. Menard, as a single prison unit, provided no opportunity for quick transfer of individuals who might be seen as potential danger sources. The second riot at Menard was led by psychopaths. Menard Prison tends to be a "dumping ground" for the immature, psychopathic, and unstable element of the prison population. Also the prison was neglected in terms of appropriations. The six months prior to the riot was a period of indecisiveness and poor administration. Part of this reflected the forthcoming election which created tension between prison administrators and opposed political groups.

Mr. Joseph Lohman compared the recent riots to those of earlier periods. Similar explanations reappear as popular theories; mistreatment by the guards, poor food, concentration of power, and psychopathic personalities. The professionals may not have much new to offer; even if they had greater authority, there might still be riots unless there was a change in the basic situation. Riots occur in prisons with both loose and tight disciplines. The sheer size of prisons in the United States is conducive to outbreaks. Individuals en masse are under tension. Prisoners who have assumed power

can, if they are motivated toward irresponsible behavior as a means of improving their own lot, mobilize and organize the other prisoners. No single force is important in preventing riots. Large size prisons must necessarily be run under maximum security conditions including use of techniques such as surveillance and discipline, but the price paid for such control is a reduction of possibilities for rehabilitation. Only about 15 per cent of the prison population really require maximum security. Penologists recommend that prison units contain less than 500 men each. There would be much less likelihood of riots in Illinois if the institutions were reduced to minimum size, with segregation of those needing maximum security. For at least 50 per cent of inmates, the prison-type of incarceration is not only unnecessary, but is contrary to total social good.

Prof. S. Kirson Weinberg believes that poor conditions and psychopathic personalities alone are not the cause of riots. The rehabilitating forces within most prisons, he said, are not strong enough to prevent development of a conflicting situation. The Illinois riots occurred during an election year when the authority of the guards was particularly uncertain and unenforced. The term "riot" is not technically correct as applied to prison outbursts, that is in the sense of equal groups pitted against each other. Prison riots are really improvised mutinies. They result from circumstances which are of a social-psychological nature. The prisoners do not really know what they want; collective attitudes are more important than material factors. Severe disciplining no doubt diminishes rioting, but at the same time, it reduces rehabilitative forces.—From A. A. Hartman, Secretary-Treasurer.