

1954

Publications Received

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The present volume can be conscientiously recommended not only to students and practitioners of clinical psychology in relation to delinquents and criminals, but also to persons with a less specialized interest in techniques of personality study.

New York City

NATHANIEL THORNTON

WOMEN IN PRISON. By *Joan Henry*. Garden City, New York: Doubleday and Company, Inc., 1952. 189pp. \$2.50.

Writing under the assumed name of Joan Henry, a British woman has set down a presumably fact-based account of eight sordid months she served as an actual inmate in the strange, sad world of a woman's prison. As Prisoner 6425 in London's infamous Holloway prison and York's Askham Grange, the so-called "prison-without-bars," she mingled with a strangely assorted group of rejected, terrified, and miserable women, and recorded their frustration and loneliness. All these characters had forfeited their rights as individuals and faced the deadening monotony of prison existence.

Miss Henry has achieved a ring of authenticity through the steady, objective, and undeluded gaze with which she has viewed the mental terror, self-pity, and bitterness of being locked up. Interwoven with her story are the

stories of her fellow prisoners who inhabited the same mean and narrow little world of nightmare. In the bitter surroundings of Holloway and even in the progressive boarding school environs of York, these convicted thieves, abortionists, blackmailers, prostitutes, murderers, and bigamists relived shattered pasts, learned vicious lessons of sadism, lesbianism, and favoritism, and formed a hateful revulsion against authority.

Without questioning the factual character of the author's experience, this reviewer must report that Miss Henry has made it sound suspiciously like fiction. Other than mentioning a husband and two children she tells us nothing of her past or the offense for which she was sentenced. Rather than an actual prisoner, Miss Henry often appears to be a well-trained feature writer intent upon sneaking into a penal institution in order to probe the emotions and mentalities of its characters and to record their stories and conversation for future publication. The book is well-written, clever, and undemanding reading. Miss Henry's psychological observations and sociological indictments are many; her suggestions and recommendations for the betterment of the penal environment are few.

HAROLD M. HELFMAN

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PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

(Titles listed here are not thereby precluded from later review)

THE VAN WATERS CASE. By *Thomas H. Eliot* (The Inter-University Case Program. I.C.P. Case Series, No. 22.) University of Florida Press, 1954 (Paper), Pp. 50. \$0.50.

PSYCHOLOGY OF PERSONNEL IN BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY (2nd ed.). By *Roger M. Bellows*. Prentice-Hall, 1954. Pp. 467. \$4.68.

FEDERAL PRISONS—1953. Report of the Federal Bureau of Prisons, 1954. Pp. 111.

REVISTA PENALE Y PENITENCIARIA, Vol. XV, Numbers 55-58, Jan.-Dec. 1950. Ministry of Justice, Buenos Aires, Pp. 793.

PRISONS IN TRANSFORMATION (THE ANNALS OF THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF POLITICAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCE, Vol. 293, May, 1954. University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.

HEARINGS BEFORE THE SUBCOMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE JUVENILE DELINQUENCY OF THE

- COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY, UNITED STATES SENATE, 83rd. CONGRESS. Pursuant to S. Res. 89. Part 1. November 19, 20, 23 and 24, 1953. Pp. 302. The same, Part 2, January 14, 15 and 16, 1954. Pp. 167.
- THE CAUSES AND TREATMENT OF BACKWARDNESS. By *Sir Cyril Burt*. Philosophical Library, 1954. Pp. 128. \$3.75.
- THE JUVENILE IN DELINQUENT SOCIETY. By *Milton L. Barron*, Alfred A. Knopf, 1954. Pp. 349. \$5.00.
- TOWARDS AN UNDERSTANDING OF JUVENILE DELINQUENCY. By *Bernard Lander*. Columbia University Press, 1954. Pp. 143, \$3.00.
- PREVENTION OF CRIME AND TREATMENT OF OFFENDERS, SUPPRESSION OF TRAFFIC IN PERSONS AND OF EXPLOITATION OF THE PROSTITUTION OF OTHERS. U. N. Legislative and Administrative Series. Vol. II, No. 2. Columbia University Press, 1954, \$1.00.
- FINAL REPORT ON CALIFORNIA SEXUAL DEVIATION RESEARCH, 1954. By *Karl M. Bowman, M.D.* State Department of Mental Hygiene, Sacramento, Walter Rapaport, M.D., Director. Pp. 160 (Paper).
- LETTERS TO MY DAUGHTER. By *Dagobert D. Runes*. Philosophical Library, 1954. Pp. 131, \$2.50.
- BAR ASSOCIATION ORGANIZATION AND ACTIVITIES. By *Glenn R. Winters*. (Published for The Survey of the Legal Profession and the Conference of Bar Association Presidents.) American Judicature Society, Ann Arbor, Mich., 1954. Pp. 243.