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EDITORIAL

SURVEY OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

The American Bar Foundation has embarked upon a research program designed to be one of the most far-reaching and significant activities attempted by the legal profession. Planned as a study of the operation of the system of criminal justice in the United States, the project is to be conducted as a fact-finding survey in representative jurisdictions, both state and federal, throughout the nation.

The purpose of the project is to collect and to make available to the profession and to the public a comprehensive and accurate description and evaluation of the processes of criminal justice in order to provide what will be accepted as an authoritative foundation upon which sound and lasting remedial measures may be based.

The research project has been made possible by a Ford Foundation grant of \$200,000 to finance the initial stages of the study. The complete project will continue for a five-year period.

The plan for the survey divides the field of investigation into four main divisions: the police function; the prosecution and defense of criminal actions; the criminal courts; and probation, sentence and parole. The project will be under the direction of a headquarters staff composed of professionally skilled individuals in each of the areas of study. Pursuant to their general supervision, field research teams will be organized, trained and sent into the various jurisdictions selected for field operations to study, observe and describe the operations of the system of criminal justice. Their reports will form the basic research product of the survey which will be made available not only to the American Bar Foundation's Advisory Committee on the Administration of Criminal Justice for the purpose of making its reports, findings and recommendations but which also will be prepared for distribution to bar associations, professional societies and all other groups or individuals interested in the subjects of the study.

At the beginning, the operations and methods proposed for the survey will be tested in a relatively small-scale pilot project conducted in three jurisdictions. This first step will embrace each phase of the study and provide a standard by which the hopes and expectations of the Advisory Committee and its research staff may be measured. From this starting point, an orderly and systematic expansion is contemplated until the project reaches the peak of its operations.

Professor Arthur H. Sherry of the University of California Law School is the Project Director. The Assistant Project Director is Mr. John A. Pettis, Jr., also of the University of California Law School. The Director of Field Research is Professor Frank J. Remington of the University of Wisconsin School of Law, whose assistant

will be Dr. Lloyd E. Ohlin, Director of the Center for Education and Research in Corrections, University of Chicago. The consultants who will direct the operations of the survey in each of the four main areas of inquiry are:

Sanford Bates, Pennington, N. J., consultant in probation, sentence and parole. He is a former Superintendent of Prisons, and retired recently as Commissioner of Institutions and Agencies for the State of New Jersey.

Fred E. Inbau, Highland Park, Illinois, consultant in prosecution and defense. He is Professor of Law at Northwestern University and a former Director of the Chicago Police Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory.

Benjamin A. Matthews, New York City, consultant in criminal courts. He is a former Assistant U. S. Attorney in southern New York, former Special Assistant Attorney General of the U. S., and former Chief Counsel of the New York State Crime Commission.

O. W. Wilson, Berkeley, California, consultant in police administration. He is Dean of the School of Criminology of the University of California and a former chief of police of Wichita, Kansas.

An Advisory Committee of the American Bar Foundation will have general supervision of the project. This Committee consists of the following:

General William J. Donovan, Chairman, New York; Dean Albert J. Harno, Vice-Chairman, University of Illinois Law School; Walter P. Armstrong, Jr., Secretary, Memphis, Tennessee; Judge Bolitha J. Laws, U. S. District Court for District of Columbia, Washington, D. C.; Warren Olney, III, Department of Justice, Washington, D. C.; Floyd E. Thompson, Chicago, Illinois; G. Aaron Youngquist, Minneapolis, Minnesota; and Chief Justice Earl Warren, Adviser, Washington, D. C.

In his explanation of the project, President Loyd Wright of the American Bar Foundation emphasized that the survey will be restricted to a study of the organization and operation of systems and institutions involved in the administration of criminal justice and that the survey will not undertake to appraise the competency or integrity of individual officers.