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Book Reviews

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BOOK REVIEWS

THE FIELD OF SOCIAL WORK, Third Edition. By Arthur E. Fink, Everett E. Wilson, and Merrill B. Conover. New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1955. pp. ix + 630. \$5.25.

New developments in the scope, theory, and practice of social work during the last decade and a half have been so rapid as to necessitate periodic revisions of any exposition of the field.

The addition of several new chapters, illustrative material, and newer bibliographies to this third edition of a leading text should enhance its usefulness in teaching introductory undergraduate social work courses. This book gives a compact history of social services and eleven further chapters treat the functional divisions of the field. The work opens with a synopsis of the type of problems that are presented to social workers, illustrated by almost thirty brief case-histories. Three following chapters trace the historical growth of social services, in terms of European and particularly British backgrounds, and the development of American public welfare and private agencies. The various angles of the case-work process are competently treated, and the chapters on family services and local welfare services, each, contain a long case-history with interpretative comments that should be of aid in teaching a beginning course. Excellent case-histories, marked by reader-appeal as well as academic suitability, illustrate the material of chapters dealing with other major branches of the field—child welfare services, psychiatric, medical, correctional, school, and group social work, together with a study of the increasingly important area of service to the aged. After outlining the role of probation officers, court functions, and community attitudes to offenders, a study of case-work in a New Jersey reformatory is woven around an actual case-record. A later chapter concerned with community organization for social welfare furnishes a record of the work of a community council. All these case-records,

longer than those found in many texts, should prove useful in supplementing classroom teaching and give insight to beginning students into the actual nature and problems of the work involved. Students will find the last chapter informative—regarding the profession *per se*, training, prospects, publications, and further sources of information.

The Field of Social Work is certainly one of the best introductions to the profession of social service. It contains a wealth of factual information and explanatory comment. This latest edition should solidify its already assured place as an important text, as well as constituting a general source of information for persons interested in the social work profession.

JOHN E. OWEN

Florida Southern College

GROUP THERAPY FOR MOTHERS OF DISTURBED CHILDREN. By Helen E. Durkin. Springfield, Illinois: Charles C. Thomas, 1955, Pp. xiv + 125, \$3.50.

S. R. Slavson, who prefaced this monograph, states that the author's basic assumptions are "group psychoanalysis at its best; the only thing that is lacking is the couch." Coming from the author's teacher and guide, the reader will accept such statement with a grain of salt. As a matter of fact, it appears that Dr. Durkin has deviated in "analytical" theory and practice of groups from Mr. Slavson considerably.

There are such group dynamic concepts, as "irrational attitudes are much easier to see in someone else than in oneself, yet the implications for one's own irrationalities are clear and forceful under the pressure of group interpretation," previously advanced by Lewin and his most prominent student in the marriage of group dynamics and group psychotherapy, George S. Bach. However, reading the monograph as a whole, one will perceive sound practice and principles, certainly "analytically

oriented," but not necessarily tied to any specific doctrine.

Dr. Durkin, through chapters 5-11, presents the history of group sessions with the mothers of children under treatment. Almost everything that is now commonly accepted as standard procedure and practice is incorporated here (always considering the personality of the therapist, which actually differentiates one group from another), such as the problems of transference and countertransference, dream material, sexual problems resistance in and by the group, and "acting out."

The all-too-brief "Introduction," aiming to present "historical" notes seems to be misplaced; it has little or no relation to the rest of the book, which it aims to "introduce." Furthermore, it seems to this reviewer anything but "historical." This and a few other considerations aside, the little monograph should go a long way to convince the still large number of practicing psychotherapists (as yet unconvinced) of the use and value of group psychotherapy, whether with "mothers of disturbed children" or with any other group.

HANS A. ILLING

Los Angeles

MANAGEMENT OF ADDICTIONS. By *Edward Podolsky*, M.D. (Ed.), Philosophical Library, New York, 1955, xvii + 413. \$7.50.

This book is a compilation of specific methods of treatment propounded by individual authors for the amelioration of symptoms arising in connection with addiction to alcohol and drugs. Roughly three-fourths of the book is concerned with alcoholism and the remainder with drugs; particularly morphine.

Although the statement on the jacket of the book warns the reader that the material is primarily intended for physicians, it is indicated also that it will be of interest to others concerned with the problems of addiction. Throughout the book this is an understatement. The value for physicians, in terms of the presentation of highly specific prescriptive methods for withdrawal, cannot be questioned, granting the assumption that the method advocated by each author is acceptable. For

others, however, the book is far too technical to be of any practical use. The enormous number of chemical compounds listed which are used in almost every sentence makes for an impossible task in reading for anyone other than a physician or chemist.

In general, throughout the book, documentation is poor, figures are unlabeled or unexplained, and unwarranted generalizations are made from small sample methods, or the works of previous experimentation which is not generally accepted is propounded as support for particular topics.

There are two excellent, although brief chapters on generalities, particularly concerning the necessity for prevention rather than many different types of treatment by Oskar Diethelm and M. J. Pescor on alcohol and drug addiction respectively. These chapters are easily understandable, well written, and expressive of the jumble, both theoretically and practically, in which these two areas find themselves. It is most questionable, however, as to whether the value of these two chapters offsets the difficulty anyone other than the two professional groups mentioned previously would find in attempting to read this book; particularly in view of the fact that the editor has written not one shred of material to tie together the diverse methods listed, nor has he written anything other than a two page "Foreword".

A. STANLEY WEBSTER

Knoxville, Tenn.

DELINQUENT BOYS. THE CULTURE OF THE GANG. By *Albert K. Cohen*. Glencoe, Illinois: The Free Press, 1955, Pp. 202, \$3.50.

Of the host of books that deal with delinquency, the present study will have to be taken most seriously, regardless of the reader's frame of reference. To be sure, Professor Cohen does not claim to have the cure-all or know *the* cause of delinquency. In speaking of the "culture" of gangs, he is, to my knowledge, the first scientist who has ever undertaken such a study, and a brilliant one to boot. His five chapters speak of cultures and subcultures; the latter seem to contain the nucleus of what

is commonly called a gang. Inside and outside the gang, all environmental influences play decisive roles, such as the family, school, church, etc., Chapter 3, "A General Theory of Subcultures," was to this reviewer a revelation, such as he has rarely encountered among scores of books on this subject.

Some of the points of Dr. Cohen can be outlined briefly here. He divides it, first, into the situation, which includes the physical setting in which the gang operates, and which the author thinks susceptible of a solution that "must entail some change in that frame of reference itself." Secondly, human problems are "not distributed in a random way among the roles that make up a social system." Dr. Cohen feels that there are always "conceivable alternative responses" towards the problem of adjustment. Thirdly, how do subcultural solutions arise? The author thinks that "the crucial condition for the emergence of new cultural forms is the existence, in effective interaction with one another, of a number of actors with similar problems of adjustment."

These points have been cited as illustrations of some of the "curious gaps" which the author attempts to fill in delinquency theory. The problem with which his theories are concerned is "to explain how that subculture is taken over by the child," or "why there is such a subculture," or "why the subculture arises and persists." Since the author feels that no subculture ever grew at random, this book is primarily concerned with the question of the subculture.

Written by a sociologist, the book is aimed at all social scientists. Why is it not specifically directed to either the legal or the psychiatric profession? It would seem to this reviewer that both could profit immensely from Dr. Cohen's book.

HANS A. ILLING

Los Angeles, California

DER GOETTLICHE SCHELM. EIN INDIANISCHER MYTHEN-ZYKLUS. By *Paul Radin*, *Karl Kerényi*, *C. G. Jung*. Zuerich, Switzerland: Rhein-Verlag, 1955, Pp. 219, Sfr. 60.

The word "Schelm" means, literally, a

prankster. But it can have several meanings and, while the word *goettlich* stands for divine or heavenly, the best translation of the title I can think of would be "The Eternal Delinquent," one who, in past generations, sometimes provoked anger and curses, but more often was a figure of love as he made people laugh over the tomfoolery of their neighbors. It can be safely assumed that people still like to be amused over the follies and failures of their neighbors, but the prankster who gets into conflict with the law is not anymore an object of love but of the community's concern.

The authors asked the chief of the Winnebago Indians (in Central Wisconsin and Eastern Nebraska), Sam Blowsnake, to translate for them the cycle of his tribe, which, in itself an important literary and anthropological document, comprises about one third of the book. The other two thirds are an interpretation of Sam's text by a historian, poet-philosopher, and a psychologist. Jung, e.g., feels that the cycle constitutes an archetypal psychic structure of very great age. It is "a reflection of a human consciousness which is still undifferentiated in every respect." Archetypes common in Europe, such as *Hanswurst* or *Dummer Hans*, occur here, thereby strengthening Jung's theory of the archetypal structure of peoples everywhere. Radin analyses the ethnology of the Winnebagos, and Kerényi compares the myth with some of those of the Greeks, which never proceeded from the archaic stage to the classical.

It is conceivable that some Americans are familiar with the European literature of pranksters (e.g., Till Eulenspiegel or Shakespeare's famous jesters); but few on both hemispheres can be said to know about the Winnebago myth, even in this country. The book should be more than just an occasional item on the reader's menu.

HANS A. ILLING

Los Angeles

1,000,000 DELINQUENTS. By *Benjamin Fine*. Cleveland: The World Publishing Company, 1955, Pp. 377, \$4.00.

The dust jacket carries a quotation from the

book (taken from an address by the Attorney General, Herbert Brownell) that "in the next twelve months 1,000,000 boys and girls under the age of 21 will commit crimes serious enough to cause them to be picked up by police..." The author, Education Editor of the *New York Times* and holder of a doctorate in education from Columbia University, covered Mr. Brownell's speech at the annual convention of the National Education Association in Miami, Florida, in 1953; an old newspaper correspondent, he was listening "with that half-ear that one assumes after hearing addresses at similar assemblies year after year without end," when Mr. Brownell came to the above-quoted statement, "something made him sit up in haste."

The "something" resulted in this book. Newspapermen write for the public and so does Dr. Fine. Fortunately for Dr. Fine and the reader, his background, while not exactly that of a criminologist, is that of a social scientist, an asset which most newspapermen covering similar subjects do not have. The benefit is evident in the orderly, pretty scientific, sixteen chapters, in the brief but highly selective scientific source material, and in the spirit of genuine scientific research, which stems clear of the sensationalism of the run-of-the-mill journalist.

This reviewer has not found anything new in the book, neither in the facts or the figures, nor in the methodology; but he is familiar with the author's subject, whereas the general reader presumably is not. Dr. Fine starts his book with the question, what delinquency means; then speaks about "the home," slums and gangs, delinquency's physical and moral roots, community resources, the police and the courts, and the various correctional institutions, public and private. The book contains numerous case materials, which make sad, though never dull, reading.

Books like this one should always be welcomed, no matter how many are published, as an excellent medium for the dissemination of important information about a subject for which the general public has always had a great distaste. This distaste is to be seen in the

burying of the head in the sand and the ignoring of the crying need for more and better facilities of detention of juvenile offenders and, above all, prevention of juvenile delinquency, for more and better trained specialists, and for a greater awareness in home and school of this ever-increasing menace to our country.

HANS A. ILLING

Los Angeles

THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF CHILD CARE AND GUIDANCE. *Sidonic Matsner Gruenberg*, Editor. Doubleday, 1954, Pp. 1016, \$7.50.

The first 604 pages of this book are in the usual form of encyclopedias; more or less brief entries arranged in alphabetic order. The composition is probably all within the level-of-reading-ability of the great majority of American parents, and the style is inviting. The book is rather profusely illustrated in pen and ink. In practically every instance the subject matter deserves vastly better drawings.

Between pages 607 and 672 is a list of "Agencies and Organizations" which deal with one and another aspect of child life and development, and also a list of "Further Readings."

Following these sections is Part II—341 pages. It includes 30 Chapters on "Basic Aspects of Child Development."

The book has been prepared for "Parents, Teachers, Social Workers, Youth Leaders and all others who work with children." The needs of fathers and mothers seem to have been the first consideration of contributors and editors. Indeed, the volume is described on the jacket as, "Doubleday's Parents' Encyclopedia." That is the angle from which the work should be studied by one who would assess its merits.

The authors and editors have succeeded well in avoiding the use of sixty-four dollar phrases. And at the same time they help the reader whose curiosity has been piqued by such terms as "comedos". On turning to an unusual word like that in its alphabetic order one finds a reference to—in this case—the familiar "acne" and "blackhead".

Many writers who are discussing the development of character and the prevention of

delinquency give parents and teachers the poor relations treatment. This is unfortunate. Homes and schools are in the strategic position. They are potentially the most powerful agencies for the promotion of the physical and mental health of the younger generation, and for establishing desirable patterns of behavior. All other agencies must be regarded as more or less necessary aids to parents and teachers. If any other viewpoint is tolerated there is something basically wrong with our western ideals.

In his examination of this book the reviewer turned first to the subject of character in Part II, Chapter 29—"Character and Spiritual values"—an article of eight pages. Here is a good statement of some of the fundamental things in the formation of character. But it lacks what the rank and file of both parents and teachers want and need. They would welcome a discussion of the natural characteristics of children in the raw which we oldsters can best use as handles when we are setting out on a campaign aimed at forming a sound character. Pride in his own strength? Skill and ability to do things? How about his tendency to heroize? There is a time in the life-history of the adolescent when idealism is very close under his skin. There are techniques for using these natural characteristics. Others can be designed if we will go all out to invent them.

There are no fewer than 83 titles in Part I which can be interpreted as relating to the fundamental that we should require of all

parents and teachers—development of sound character. There is such wide interest in education for this purpose that the segregation of titles like these in a distinct section might be considered. Entries that relate to the promotion and maintenance of physical and mental health are imposing also in both quantity and quality.

On the whole this is an excellent book. It is the sort that needs frequent revision and it is satisfying that the editors are planning to meet that requirement.

ROBERT H. GAULT

Evanston, Illinois

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

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

- RELIGION in PRISON. By *J. Arthur Hoyles*. Philosophical Library, 1955, Pp. 146. \$3.50.
- THE PHYSICIAN AND THE LAW. By *Rowland H. Long*. Appleton-Century-Crofts, 1955. Pp. 284, \$5.75.
- OP DE GRENZEN VAN HET STRAFRECHT. By *J. M. Van Bemmelen*. H. D. Teenk and Zoon (N. V. Haarlem), 1955. Pp. 270, f. 7.90.
- UNIVERSITEIT EN STRAFRECHT. By *J. M. Van Bemmelen*. (Address in honor of the 379th anniversary of the University of Leiden), Martinus Nijhoff The Hague, 1954. Pp. 47.
- GEDENKT DER GEVANGENEN. By *J. M. Van Bemmelen*. Martinus Nijhoff, The Hague, 1954, Pp. 126.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE PERIODICALS AND ARTICLES OF INTEREST IN THE FIELD OF CRIMINAL LAW AND CRIMINOLOGY*

Compiled by Kurt Schwerin†

ANNALES DE MÉDECINE LEGALE ET DE CRIMINOLOGIE. Paris. 34th year, no. 6, Dec., 1954. Keith Simpson, *Le rôle du médecin dans l'en-*

quête criminelle (The role of the physician in criminal investigation) (p. 242-47).

ARCHIV FÜR KRIMINOLOGIE. Lübeck. Vol. 115, no. 3/4, March-April, 1955.

K. Thoma, *Ein neuartiger nachweis von abortus- und geburtsblutspuren* (A new method to prove blood traces of abortions and births) (p. 61-64).—U. A. Puranen, *Neues verfahren*

* All periodicals listed are available in the Elbert H. Gary Library, Northwestern University, School of Law, 357 East Chicago Ave., Chicago.

† Assistant Librarian, Elbert H. Gary Library, Northwestern University, School of Law.

zum sammeln von kriminalistisch bedeutsamem staub (A new method to collect criminologically significant dust) (p. 65).—W. Katte, *Ein neuartiges verfahren zur raschen auffindung geringster brandmittel-spuren bei brandstiftungen* (A new method to find quickly most diminutive cases of incendiary agents in cases of arson) (p. 66–71).—M. Kornilakis, *Die Sichtbarmachung latenter fingerabdrücke auf papier* (How to make latent fingerprints on paper visible) (p. 84–90).

ARCHIVIO PENALE. Rome. Vol. 11, nos. 1–2, Jan.–Feb., 1955.

Benigno di Tullio, *Per una giustizia penale migliore* (For better criminal justice (pt. I, p. 110–20).

CRIMINALIA. Mexico. Vol. 21, nos. 7–8, July–August, 1955.

Dolores Heduán Virues, *La conducta de los reclusos. Sistema económico de las prisiones* (The conduct of prisoners. The economic system of prisons) (no. 7, p. 427–28).—No. 8 includes notes and articles on *Clasificación de reclusos* (Classification of prisoners) by Mariano Ruiz-Funes (p. 443–47), Leopoldo Chavez & Eduardo Gutiérrez Preciat (p. 454–63), and Melchor Dávila Aguirre (p. 477–78), and two notes by Mariano Ruiz-Funes, *La conducta de los reclusos: Su control* (The conduct of prisoners: Its control), p. 440–42, and *Delinquentes primarios y reincidentes* (First offenders and recidivists), p. 448–53.

DEUTSCHE ZEITSCHRIFT FÜR DIE GESAMTE GERICHTLICHE MEDIZIN. Berlin. Vol. 43, no. 5/6, Feb., 1955.

R. Lange, *Ist die anwendung von narco-analyse im strafverfahren zulässig?* (Is the application of narco-analysis in criminal procedure admissible?) (p. 552–61).

INTERNATIONAL REVIEW OF CRIMINAL POLICY.

United Nations, N. Y. No. 5, 1954.

Part I: Articles (Selection): Manuel López-Rey, *Cooperación de las Naciones Unidas en la prevención del delito y tratamiento del delinquentes* (Cooperation of UN in the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders), with

summaries in English and French (p. 1–8).—Julio Altmann-Smythe, *Juvenile delinquency in Latin American countries*, with summary in French (p. 9–18).—Summary of comparative survey of the treatment of juvenile delinquency, with summary in Spanish (p. 19–40).—Jean Dupréel, *La spécialisation des établissements pénitentiaires* (The specialization of penal institutions), with summaries in English and Spanish (p. 41–49).—

Part II: *United Nations activities in the field of the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders* (Sections in English, French, and Spanish (p. 73–115).—

Part III: *Notes, Communications, meetings.*

INVESTIGAÇÕES. São Paulo. Año 6, no. 54, Jan.–March, 1954.

João Amoroso Netto, *O equipamento "Wilde" e o levantamento de locais* (The "Wilde" photogrammetric equipment and the establishment of locations) (p. 7–14).—Heleno Claudio Fragoso, *Direito penal e criminologia* (Criminal law and criminology) (p. 31–48).

MENS EN MAATSCHAPPIJ. Amsterdam. 30th year, no. 1, Jan. 15, 1955.

B. Landheer, *American sociology, seen from a European viewpoint* (p. 34–48).

REVISTA DE LA ESCUELA DE ESTUDIOS PENITENCIARIOS. Madrid. Tenth year, no. 113, Nov.–Dec., 1954.

Jose A. Martinez y Viademonte, *El narco-análisis como procedimiento de investigación en materia legal* (Narcoanalysis as a method in legal investigations) (p. 18–24).

REVUE DE DROIT PÉNAL ET DE CRIMINOLOGIE. Brussels. 35th year, nos. 7–8, April–May, 1955.

L. Massion-Verniory, *Somnambulisme et criminalité* (Somnambulism and criminality) (no. 7, p. 589–606).—Robert Legros, *Considérations sur le vol* (Studies on larceny) (no. 8, p. 651–84).—Dr. Alexander, *À propos de la récidive des anormaux* (On recidivism of abnormal delinquents) (no. 8, p. 685–94).—J. Van Parys, *Un cas de criminalité hypnotique* (A case of hypnotic criminality) (no. 7, p. 607–12).