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Book Reviews

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BOOK REVIEWS

PSYCHOPHYSIOLOGIC MEDICINE. By *Eugene Ziskind*. Foreword by *John C. Whitehorn*. Lea and Febiger, Philadelphia, 1954. Pp. 370 with index, \$7.00.

Said a psychologist in his review of this book, "The style is easy and lucid . . . , there is a do-it-yourself quality to it. . . . This is one of its shortcomings." And the psychologist continues with a warning that the wisdom of using the book independently of supervision, is to be doubted seriously. This reviewer, too, was astonished at the ease with which Ziskind has mastered, not to say got the better of, an enormous mass of material, much of it in the notorious psychoanalytic gobbledygook. It is likewise felt that many physicians after reading this book might be relieved too much of their anxieties about treating psychosomatic illnesses—two thirds of all illness. Let it be said that the psychiatrist, M.D., will still be needed to look into most of these cases and to supervise their treatment.

Let it be said, too, that this book, whether used in or outside of supervised training courses, is one of the best extant. It does not start, as is usual, with the often confusing, at any rate subjective survey of the various psychotherapeutic systems. In the first chapters, those parts of the brittle material are described that are demonstrable in daily practice. The author forges ahead, after a good start, with diagnostic techniques used for psychotherapeutic purposes; they are expounded in detail, among them the intricacies of the psychotherapeutic interview. All this in a very readable style. The chapters that follow give important facets. Chapter 9, "Social Factors and Social Pathology," for all its shortness, reminds the sociologically untrained reader of such factors as class, religion, nationality, folkways and mores.

At the risk of repeating, I want to say that I marveled at the ease with which such difficult matters as the theories developed by the early psychoanalytic schismatics and the modern "Para-Freudians" are expounded.

Sum total: A highly readable although somewhat short guide to modern psychosomatic medicine, its methods, theories and relationships to neighboring disciplines.

W. G. ELIASBERG

New York City

CRIMINAL CODE OF JAPAN, AS AMENDED IN 1954.

By *Thomas L. Blackmore*. Tokyo. Charles E. Tuttle Company, 1954 (English and Japanese Text) Revised Edition. Pp. IX, 192, \$3.50.

The full impact of World War II on the Criminal Code of Japan may not be known for some years to come but Blackmore's "Criminal Code of Japan" as of July, 1954 reveals some of the modifications which have been taking place. In 1947 the earlier substantive law, based on the Criminal Code of 1907, was modified by deleting several crimes, by the increase of penalties for some offenses and the changing of certain considerations which were thought "unfavorable for the criminal". In 1953 and 1954 provisions created a system of supervision for criminals granted a suspended sentence. The Minor Offenses Law (1948) is new legislation and removes the authority of the Police Offenses Ordinance of 1908. This marks the transition from the police power to a codification of offenses and to the Judiciary.

Mr. Blackmore translates the Japanese Code chapter by chapter and article by article, 40 chapters and 264 articles together with Supplemental Provisions and 34 articles under the new Minor Offenses Law. The book carries the Japanese text on the left page and the English on the right in parallel paragraphs. Notwithstanding certain problems of language and the denotation of terms, Blackmore has done a service to the West in his translation of the code.

In spite of the Anglo-Saxon influence since the war the present code retains certain elements peculiar to the Orient. As an illustration, the killing of a relative (ascendant) carries

a heavier penalty than the killing of other persons. Article 199. (Homicide) "A person who kills another shall be punished with death or imprisonment at forced labor for life or for not less than three years. Article 200. (Killing an ascendant) A person who kills one of his own or his spouse's lineal ascendants shall be punished with death or imprisonment at forced labor for life."

Again there is reference to relatives in Article 105. "When a crime provided in this chapter is committed for the benefit of the criminal or fugitive by a relative of the criminal or the fugitive, the punishment may be remitted".

The author of the 'Criminal Code of Japan' is an American lawyer who has spent a number of years in Japan. In 1949, he resigned from United States Government Service and the same year was admitted to practice before the Japanese courts—the first foreigner to be afforded such a status.

WALTER A. LUNDEN

Iowa State College

PSYCHIATRY AND THE LAW. Edited by *Paul H. Hoch and Joseph Zubin*. New York and London: Grune & Stratton, 1955. 217 pp.

One can hardly doubt that there is a need for a clearer understanding and definition of the relations existing between psychiatry and the law. A volume like the present one can help towards such an understanding.

"Psychiatry and the Law" contains the proceedings of the Forty-third Annual Meeting of the American Psychopathological Association, held in New York City in June, 1953. Some of the better-known contributors, each of whom possesses expert knowledge of his subject, are David Abrahamsen, Samuel Polsky, Manfred S. Guttmacher, and Bernard C. Glueck, Jr. The papers by these experts cover a fairly broad range of topics, including "Conformity and Nonconformity," "Criminal Responsibility," "The Defense of Insanity in a Criminal Trial," etc. Although the relations between psychiatry and the law remain somewhat ambiguous and confused, it seems to be recognized throughout this volume that a number of so-called criminal offenders are sick persons who are not really

responsible, or else have but a diminished responsibility. As a result, therapy rather than incarceration should be indicated in appropriate cases.

The editors and the contributors deserve great credit for endeavouring to emphasize, even if sometimes only by implication, the ever-increasing need for psychiatry and the law to acquire a clearer and deeper understanding of each other. The book is therefore recommended to all who desire a better grasp of the relations obtaining between the two disciplines.

NATHANIEL THORNTON

New York

WORTERBUCH DER SOZIOLOGIE. By *W. Bernsdorf und Fr. Bulow*. Ferdinand Enke Verlag, Stuttgart, 1955, VII. P. 640, (price not given).

The undertaking to describe a given field of human knowledge in a cyclopedic way is meritorious and at the same time beset with difficulties, particularly so, if the available space is limited. Likewise intriguing and difficult is the task of the reviewer from his particular angle. This reviewer focused his interest on the article "Gruppe" and those dealing with Criminality. As for the latter, the method chosen by E. E. Hirsch is that of definition; he describes what is understood by Kriminalanthropologie, Kriminalbiologie, Kriminalgeographie, Kriminalität, Kriminalpolitik, Kriminalpsychologie, Kriminalsoziologie, Kriminologie.

One of the editors, Bernsdorf, in his article Die Gruppe, enlivens his discussion of German psychology, philosophy and sociology of the group by reference to the American literature with which he is sufficiently familiar. This cyclopedia (Wörterbuch) for all its shortness and notwithstanding the prevalence of the method of defining terms instead of a genetic (operational) treatment, is recommended as an available approach to present day German Sociology.

W. G. ELIASBERG

New York

OFFENDERS IN COURT AND IN PRISON. A STUDY OF CRIMINAL LITIGATION AND CORRECTIONAL

INSTITUTIONS IN IOWA. By *Walter A. Lunden*. (Ames, Iowa: College Book Store, Iowa State College, 1955.) Pp. 124, \$4.00.

In the words of the Preface, "This study has been prepared to help the interested citizen and student of criminology to understand what has been happening in the courts and prisons within the past twenty years." The work is restricted to the State of Iowa during the two decades from the depression of the early 1930s to the year 1952. As a statistical survey of Iowa criminality during this period it achieves its objective.

Part One, "Criminal Litigation," opens with an analysis of the cycle of Iowa criminal litigation from 1935 to 1952. The author examined all the criminal cases (74,953) which came before the Iowa courts during the period, noted the temporal fluctuations occasioned by depression, war, and postwar readjustments, and analyzed crime rates in relation to rural-urban population distribution, judicial districts, and case load per judge. A fourth chapter traces the disposition of cases during these years. It is noted that 16 percent of cases resulted in a prison term.

The second and longer part of the study deals with Iowa's institutions of correction. Like Part One, its approach is entirely statistical. A breakdown is given in terms of the various years of the period under study, penal institutions, commitments, birth place of men committed, urban-rural distribution, analysis of types of crimes, recidivism, age of offenders, length of sentence, marital status, occupational background (most of them were unskilled laborers), cost of prison maintenance, and methods of release from the institution, namely, expiration of sentence, parole, escape, and death.

The last three chapters are concerned with numerical data on parole violations and revocations, followed by a summary appendix of court cases and penal commitments by counties and county groups.

The investigation is replete with lucid charts and diagrams on all the topics treated, interspersed with summary statements of quantitative conclusions and findings. As a compact summation of recent data, it should be of in-

terest to Iowa criminologists, judges, and parole workers, and useful as a teaching adjunct in undergraduate criminology classes in the state. Researchers engaged in comparative studies on a state-by-state basis will also find it to be helpful.

JOHN E. OWEN

Florida Southern College

SEXUAL HYGIENE AND PATHOLOGY (A Manual for the Physician.) By *John F. Oliven, M.D.* J. B. Lippincott Company. Philadelphia, 1955. xiii + 481.

This book, as the sub-title indicates, is a theoretical and practical work of instruction for the physician. Actually it is an excellent reference for the practitioner who comes into contact with cases of a sexual nature comparatively infrequently. It would be of particular value to a young physician just starting his practice, since examining techniques, prescriptive devices, and follow-up methods as well as legal mandates are given in concrete and concise form.

Factually the text is divided into four main sections: "Sexuality in Childhood," "Sexuality in the Second Decade," "Sexuality of the Normal Adult," and "Sexual Pathology." Essentially the content is descriptive and proscriptive; that is, there is a theoretical discussion of what is constituted by "normalcy", followed by descriptions of the "abnormal". Each subsection is concluded with specific suggestions which the physician may make and the reasons for so doing, as well as a brief elucidation of the possible dynamics behind the behavior under consideration. The author does not at any point fall into the pattern of didacticism for its own sake; but rather has a logical explanation for the physician to give the patient for his emotional comfort. Certainly there are gaps in knowledge, and broad ones, concerning the dynamic behavior in the sexual area, but again the author has frankly stated when there is no knowledge, limited knowledge, or conflicting information concerning the particular matter under discussion.

The material is very well organized and is presented in chronological sequence from earli-

est infancy to senescence; from the answering of the first sexual questions to the principles of contraception; from the normal sexual play of children to frottage; and from childish overinhibition to psychotherapy.

The one area which has been neglected is the aged population. The book stops at the point of senescence and indicates only what medicinal measures may be taken for both men and women during the involutorial and post involutorial periods; but gives little or no indication as to how matters of a sexual nature could be handled in aged individuals. Since the aged population is fast becoming one of the major medical problems of the day, not to mention the psychological and sociological implications of such an increase, it seems to be a glaring omission in a work as comprehensive as this.

It should be emphasized again that this book is designed for the physician in order to enable him to know precisely what is available and advised in the area of sexual difficulties. The terminology, medicinal prescriptions, and examination techniques definitely limit the usefulness of this work insofar as any reader other than a physician is concerned.

A. STANLEY WEBSTER

State Hospital, Knoxville

RELIGION IN PRISON. By *J. Arthur Hoyles*.
New York: Philosophical Library, 1955. Pp.
146, \$3.50.

This little book deals with British experience in the interactions of religion and penology. With a few exceptions, its examples and cases are from Britain, and the short bibliography is of British works.

It opens with a review of pioneer work done in the 18th and 19th centuries by evangelists and reformers (John Bunyan, George Fox, and

the Wesleys), and traces the early history of the chaplaincy service in England and the development of cell treatment. A chapter on "Religion and Prison Reform" contains a great many facts on early prison inhumanities and the role of the church in seeking to alleviate penal conditions. Several cases are cited of "miracles" among prisoners, in the sense of personality-transformation evoked by religious experience. The author makes a brief plea that the representatives of religion clarify for themselves the purpose of punishment, and a chapter on "Religion and Psychology" outlines the elementary facts on types of personality disorganization. A final chapter points out some of the inherent inconsistencies and deleterious social effects of the death penalty.

The author's approach throughout is religious and humanitarian, rather than scientific or empirical. While the book contains little that will be new to professional criminologists, it is a welcome addition to the literature of an aspect of prison life that has not hitherto been extensively treated. It should be of interest to prison visitors, chaplains, and social workers, and might well be made required reading for wardens and officials charged with the actual work of handling prisoners.

The volume gives many glimpses of what the church has been doing over the centuries for the man in prison; yet it is surprisingly lacking in any suggestion of the role that religion might play in changing the socio-economic conditions and cultural valuations that lead to crime. Few criminologists would quarrel with the church's taking its ministrations to the man in prison, but a mature religion would help to create an environment that would keep him out.

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