Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology

Volume 50
Issue 5 *January-February*

Article 17

Winter 1960

Police Science Technical Abstracts and Notes

POLICE SCIENCE TECHNICAL ABSTRACTS AND NOTES

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Abstractors

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Law Enforcement and the Handling of Bombing Cases—*FBI Bulletin, 28*(9) (September 1959) and *28*(10) (October 1959). Primary responsibility for the investigation of bombing cases which are acts of violence rests on local law enforcement. The FBI is fully cognizant of the absolute necessity of fully informed and closely coordinated liaison among local, state, and Federal agencies and conducted a series of conferences during late 1958. The articles are a result of suggestions, descriptions of explosive materials, and suggestions on investigations of bomb threats, suggestions as to what should be done when a bomb is found, laboratory assistance available in the investigation of bombings, suggested investigative techniques, and other pertinent information that should prove of great value in the investigation of such offenses. (WEK)

The Application of Neutron Activation Analysis to a Forensic Science—M. F. Kerr, *RCMP Gazette*, (September 1959). A very interesting discussion of a new scientific method applicable to hair identification. The author points out that neutron activation analysis is by no means limited to hair examination and is indeed becoming widely used for trace element studies in divers fields, particularly in metallurgy. For many purposes Neutron Activation can and should replace emission spectroscopy, as facilities become more readiiy available. For forensic purposes, its non-destructive properties are extremely valuable. The extreme sensitivity of the method argues its use in many applications since minute quantities in the order of 10^{-10} to 10^{-12} grams of an element may be readily determined.

The results of Neutron Activation analysis were used for court purposes in Canada in November 1958. In the case discussed, the Neutron Activation analysis was used only to supplement microscopic identification. As was pointed out, not enough data exists yet to enable one to use Neutron Activation separately without some means of corroboration. (WEK)

The Analysis of Paper, Determining the Origin of Unfamiliar Paper, Part I—E. Martin, *International Criminal Police Review*, 129: 162–172 (1959). A description of the microscopic, ash, and physical tests which may help in comparing or determining the origin of paper. For the most part, classical methods are used, and the interpretation of source is slanted toward Swiss needs. (JDN)

The Analysis of Paper—E. Martin, *International Criminal Police Review*, 130: 194–204 (August–September 1959). Specimens of paper were analyzed and compared by spectrographic method and paper chromatography. From this work, quantitative and qualitative similarity from beginning, middle, and end of a batch was shown. Different classes of paper could be distinguished and by rejecting surface specimens, printed or sized and used paper could be compared. The seasonal changes of ion content of water used in the manufacture of paper could be shown to effect the end product. (JDN)

The Detection of Fungus Poisoning—K. Jarosch and F. Stitz, *Kriminalistik, 13*(5): 205–6 (May 1959). A survey of toxic fungus and their classification into digestive, central nervous, and protoplasmic poisons. A fatal case is described in which the detection was based upon the identification of

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